

# **CAMBODIA: FLOODS**

3 April 2000

*appeal no. 18/99 (operation extended to 12 April 2000)*

*situation report no. 3*

*Period covered: 11 November 1999 - 23 March 2000*

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*More than 12,000 household kits have been distributed in the flood affected provinces, and disaster preparedness training has been introduced or developed in several areas. The longer term effects of the floods on food security are being monitored. The restoration of 45 water points is well under way, although the completion date will be two months later than originally scheduled.*

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## ***The context***

The tropical monsoon rainy season struck Cambodia with full force in 1999. Starting in late July/early August, torrential downpours caused flash flooding in Kampot and adjacent Koh Kong Provinces along the country's south-eastern coast. Additional flooding occurred in the provinces of Kompong Cham, Ratnakiri, Mondulkiri, Kratie and Stung Treng, in the north-east.

In late October, tropical depressions and storms streamed across Cambodia, causing swollen streams and rivers to overflow their banks and drain into already flooded rice fields.

On 3 November, further scattered downpours exacerbated an already serious situation. Flooding was reported in Kandal, Takeo, Kompong Speu, Kompong Chhnang and Pursat Provinces. Localised flooding also occurred in the municipality of Phnom Penh, in low lying areas along streams and river banks. The Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) estimated as many as 25,847 families were affected, 3,561 homes damaged or destroyed and 7,529 hectares of croplands were inundated. No deaths were reported.

Pursat Province was the most seriously impacted: 11,093 families were affected and communications were disrupted throughout the province.

## ***Latest events***

The renovation and repair of the 45 water points has not been entirely completed and the operation is therefore being extended from the original closing date of 10 February 2000 until 12 April 2000.

The long-term impact of flooding in Pursat Province on crop harvests and yields has yet to be fully assessed. CRC at the National Headquarters and branch level are co-ordinating with appropriate local authorities and other agencies to determine the effects on the food security and economic stability of the most vulnerable populations.

Two hundred newly trained RCVs in Kampot would benefit from the 10-day community organising and project planning training from the disaster preparedness point of view if the capacity of the CRC allows it to undertake this task.

## ***Government action***

In response to the November flooding the government carried out distributions of relief goods in and around Phnom Penh and in the other affected areas. Altogether, it provided a total of 245.65 metric tons of rice and food, 41,490,000 Riel, and 4,500 sarongs and kramars and four medical kits in the Phnom Penh area, Kompong Speu Province, Kandal Province, Takeo Province and Pursat Province.

Due to the immediate and focused response of CRC to the emergency needs of victims the RGC requested the Society to assume total responsibility for emergency relief actions in Pursat Province, while it concentrated on other areas.

## ***Red Cross/Red Crescent action***

The following action has been taken by Red Cross in consultation and close co-operation with the NCDM, the RGC, International Organisations (IOs) and NGOs:

### ***General***

- { A total of 12,242 emergency household kits comprising 21 items were distributed -- 6,047 kits in two districts of Kampot Province, August-October 1999 (*see attachment 1*), and 6,184 kits in five districts of Pursat Province in January-February this year (*see attachment 2*). They were purchased mainly with financial support from the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO).
- { CRC also received 500 kits from Oxfam GB in February for flood victims in Kampot Province. Because of the late arrival of this assistance, needs had already been covered with Federation funding. CRC has therefore agreed with Oxfam GB that the kits will be held as preparedness stocks.
- { CRC capacity has been strengthened by recruiting two development officers for the Red Cross Branch in Kampot. The search for a RCY Officer for the CRC National Headquarters is continuing.
- { A meeting with the General Secretary of the National Committee for Disaster Management (NCDM) took place on 10 November to continue the dialogue on planning, co-ordination and co-operation for flood response.

### ***Kampot, Sihanoukville, Kaep***

- { In mid-December, 200 RCVs from six districts in Kampot Province completed the 14-day Integrated Community Based Disaster Preparedness (CBDP) and Community Based First Aid (CBFA) Training Programme. Funding for this integrated training is covered jointly by the CBDP programme (American Red Cross funding) and the flood operation budget (ECHO funding) through the Federation. In mid-January the 200 RCVs began a community level programme of flood awareness, and preparedness campaigns in six Kampot Districts.
- { On 9 March, CRC National Headquarters conducted a review of Kampot Province preparedness activities and the RCV dissemination campaign. Recommendations for further training and follow on activities are being developed and will include training in community organising and hazard mitigation.
- { The Red Cross Youth (RCY) network has now been established in 12 target schools in Kampot Province (6 schools), Sihanoukville Province (3 schools) and in Kaep City (3 schools). A total of 600 RCY members (students) and 27 RCY Advisers (teachers) were recruited and trained in November - December on RCY policy, RC principles and basic First Aid. Also trained was an officer nominated from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports provincial office as a liaison person between the Red Cross Youth programme and the Ministry.
- { The new RCY members are now assisting the RCVs in their communities. They participated in their first major community activity in December -- two clean up campaigns, in the towns of Kampot and Kaep. Support was provided by local authorities and the opportunity was taken to raise awareness on disaster preparedness, response and related issues.
- { Assistance provided to the communities to restore existing water supplies and to replace those severely affected by the floods water is well underway. A total of 45 water points will be either reconstructed or rehabilitated/repared during the operation. The activities have been divided into three components:
  - { *The first component* is the rehabilitation and repair of 20 water points. These include 16 drilled wells and 4 hand dug wells. The hand dug wells have been rehabilitated and protected to minimise the impact of flooding in future. Fifteen of the 16 drilled wells have had pump repairs carried out and have been cleaned and disinfected, and one has been replaced with a new drilled well.
  - { *The second* component is the replacement of water points severely damaged by flood waters. This includes, in some villages, replacement of traditional unprotected hand dug water points with protected water points. All replacements are drilled wells: 21 wells have now been installed.
  - { *The third* component is the rehabilitation of surface water ponds. The Kampot areas is known for its high salinity and in some areas drilled or dug wells yield water of high salinity. During the flood several ponds were inundated with silt and contaminating matters. Some dykes were affected. The rehabilitation works include removing silt, extension of ponds where necessary to maximise access to water all year round, rehabilitation of dykes and the provision of fencing to prevent access by cattle and deter human access for bathing. In addition, filtration wells are being installed to further minimise the bacterial load in water drawn from these ponds.
- { Work has been completed on the construction and rehabilitation of three ponds and has begun on the fourth pond. Arrangements for fencing the ponds is currently being implemented. In all villages where there are water supply activities, the communities have selected committees to be trained and take responsibility for the ongoing maintenance of the water points. In addition, community hygiene education is being conducted in all villages, to enable the community to make informed choices about sources of potable water.

***Pursat***

- { After a new Federation application to ECHO in November, 5,000 emergency household kits were purchased, transported and distributed to the most vulnerable and needy flood victims in six districts (Bakan, Kravanh, Kandieng, Sampeov Meas, Krokor and Veal Veng) of Pursat Province from 8 November 1999 to 8 February 2000 (*see attachment 2*).
- { The Director of CRC Disaster Management Department travelled to Pursat on 9 November to assist the Pursat RC provincial branch in co-ordination efforts with local government, IOs and NGOs and oversee plans for aid distribution.
- { CRC HQ and Pursat Branch staff continue to assess and monitor the recovery efforts and further rehabilitation needs of the most impacted families.

***Action by other organisations or agencies***

- { USAID, Oxfam GB, Church of the Latter Day Saints and the Cambodian Peoples Party (CPP) donated goods or cash to the CRC relief operation.
- { WFP and CARE International distributed foodstuffs to families in Pursat province, while MSF provided food and health services

***Next steps planned***

The following steps are planned in relation to the initial floods in *Kampot* Province:

- { Complete the implementation of the 45 water points including a hygiene education package for the community members.
- { Monitor the additional longer term needs of floods victims in the country in co-operation with the NCDM, the RGC and other partners, for rehabilitation and development activities in the worst hit communities.
- { Continue follow-up of community assistance related to disaster preparedness provided by trained Red Cross volunteers and Red Cross Youth.

The following actions are planned in relation to the *Kampot* and *Pursat* flooding

- { Continuation of recovery efforts and assessment of longer term needs of flood victims in co-ordination and co-operation with the NCDM, RGC and other partners.
- { Discussion and exploration of means to expand the number of trained RCVs especially in remote and vulnerable areas.
- { Identification and further development of leadership within the RCV cadre.
- { Further strengthening of the co-ordination and co-operation for disaster management with the NCDM and other organisations and agencies involved in this sector.

***External relations - Government/UN/NGOs/Media***

Good co-operation and information sharing continues with the Royal Cambodian Government and especially with the NCDM as well as with provincial authorities, ECHO, Oxfam GB, Care International, MSF and others active in their emergency response. A well co-ordinated operation has been experienced especially in Pursat Province where organisations and agencies involved made an extra effort to share information and join hands for effective emergency response. Pursat Branch of CRC are working closely with local NGOs and WFP to monitor and assess the impact of flooding as it affects food security issues.

Local media covered the floods in the coastal area extensively and the two first joint Cambodian Red Cross/Federation distributions in Kampot District were on local TV news on all channels. Local media also relayed news from the newly flooded provinces. Regular programmes on CRC activities including assistance to the flood victims appeared on local TV channels prior to the CRC annual fund-raising Charity Bazaar and Gala Dinner, 5 to 6 November 1999.

## ***Contributions***

See Annex 3 for details.

## ***Conclusion***

The Cambodian Red Cross has played an active and important role, in co-ordination with others, in the emergency response to the floods. It will continue activities during the rehabilitation and reconstruction phase, emphasising the importance of community based disaster preparedness and flood mitigation.

The immediate response to flooding in Pursat Province, where there was a cadre of trained volunteers already in place prior to the November floods, demonstrated the ability of CRC to act decisively and efficiently in times of emergency. The effectiveness of CRC in organising and implementing provincial disaster preparedness training for volunteers and youth immediately after the Kampot floods has raised the awareness and ability of that province to respond more proactively when the next disaster strikes.

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**REVISED BUDGET SUMMARY**  
**CAMBODIA FLOODS**

Appeal No. 18/99

**IN CHF**

**RELIEF NEEDS**

**Emergency Kits** (12,000 Kits)

Shelter Kits	321,960
Cooking Sets	245,760
Clothing and Sleeping Kits	343,920
Others	39,600
Packaging and delivery of kits	36,000

**Water & Sanitation**

Treatment of water sources and rehab of 30 wells	160,000
Health Education	65,000

**TOTAL RELIEF NEEDS**

**1,212,240**

**Capital Equipment**

10,000

**Transport, Storage & Vehicle Costs**

75,000

**Personnel**

Personnel (6 expat staff/months)	60,000
Personnel (local staff)	24,000
Training	55,000

**Administrative, office & general expenses**

50,000

Assessment/Survey mission/Evaluation	5,000
Printing Costs/Information/Visibility	8,000
Secretariat operational support	53,110

**TOTAL OPERATIONAL NEEDS**

**340,110**

**TOTAL APPEAL CASH & KIND**

**1,552,350**

All items to be purchased locally

**CRC DISTRIBUTION REPORT OF HOUSEHOLD KITS TO PEOPLE AFFECTED BY FLOODS IN KAMPOT PROVINCE**

Date			27.08.99	11.09.99	19.10.99	23.10.99	28.10.99	
Item	Total no. of Kits (5000 Kits funded by ECHO)	Grand Total	Kampong Bay District	Kampot District	Kampot District	Kampot District	Kampong Bay District	To Distr
o net (2 pieces)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
(2 pieces)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
fat (2 pieces)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
2 pieces)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
2 pieces)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
piece)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
d (1 piece)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
d (1 piece)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
r (1 piece)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>		887	1,665	1,415	2,080	6,0
t no. 32	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
t no. 40	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
5 pcs)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>		887	1,665	1,415	2,080	6,0
cs)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>		887	1,665	1,415	2,080	6,0
water container	7,242	<b>7,242</b>		887	1,665	1,415	2,080	6,0
sheet	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
1 3 logo	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
carrier bag	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
um (1/2Kg)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
um (1/2Kg)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
ire (0.50 Kg)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0
pieces), Life Boy (same quality)	7,242	<b>7,242</b>	2,080	887	1,665	1,415		6,0

**Remarks:** CRC received 500 Kits from OXFAM GB in February 2000 for flood victims. The emergency needs of flood victims were already covered with the Federation assistance and therefore OXFAM GB donated kits will be kept at the CRC OBK Warehouse as an emergency stock for future disasters.

**RC DISTRIBUTION REPORT OF HOUSEHOLD KITS TO PEOPLE AFFECTED BY FLOODS IN PURSAT PROVINCE**

	Dec. 1999	Dec. 1999	Feb. 2000		05.01.00	07.01.00	11.01.00	13.01.00	15.01.00	04.02.00
	<b>Kits Remaining from Kampot</b>	<b>Total no. of kits (ECHO Funding)</b>	<b>OXFAM GB Kits</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>	Bakan District	Kravanh District	Kandieng District	Sampeov Meas	Krokor District	Veal Ver District
2 pieces)	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
es)	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
ieces)	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
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	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
ece)	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
ece)	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
ce)	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
)	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
ontainer	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
o	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
ag	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
Kg)	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
Kg)	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
0 Kg)	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072
, Life Boy quality)	1,195	5,000	500	<b>6,695</b>	1,385	812	950	1,161	804	1,072

**Remarks:** Mosquito nets are impregnated by K-Othrine 1% SC