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Emergency appeal

Sri Lanka: Floods and Landslides

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Appeal n° MDRLK005

40,000 people to be assisted

Appeal launched 24 May 2016

Glide n° [FL-2016-000050-LKA](#)

249,443 Swiss francs DREF allocated

Appeal ends 30 November 2017

3,622,689 Swiss francs current Appeal budget

This Emergency Appeal seeks **3,622,689 Swiss francs (CHF)** to enable the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to support the **Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS)** in delivering assistance and support to **40,000 people** affected by floods and landslides. The operation focuses on the following sectors: **essential household items; shelter (emergency and recovery); livelihoods; water, sanitation and hygiene; health; restoring family links, disaster risk reduction and institutional disaster response capacity enhancement.** The planned response reflects the current situation and information available at this time. It is likely to be adjusted based on further developments and detailed assessments. The appeal is being launched on a preliminary basis and may be revised if the context and assessments recommend it.

Click [here](#) for the Emergency Plan of Action.

The disaster and the Red Cross Red Crescent response to date

14 May 2016: A tropical depression in the Bay of Bengal brought heavy rains across the country, triggering floods and landslides that have affected thousands of lives and livelihoods, and caused widespread property damage. Initial reports indicated 22 out of Sri Lanka's 25 districts are reported to be affected, among them Colombo, Gampaha, Kegalle, Kurunegala and Puttalam.

14-20 May: The SLRCS mobilized volunteers to provide immediate assistance, including evacuation services. An update entry made on DMIS and an [information bulletin](#) published.

20 May: Sri Lanka Government formally requests assistance from its international partners through a letter to OCHA Geneva.

21 May: CHF 249,443 allocated from the IFRC's [Disaster Emergency Relief Fund \(DREF\)](#) to support SLRCS in addressing the immediate needs of up to 20,000 displaced people.

21-22 May: Joint teams with representation from the Disaster Management Centre (DMC), SLRCS, World Food Programme (WFP), and Family Planning Association (FPA) deployed to different areas (mostly heavily affected areas) for rapid assessments.

24 May: Emergency Appeal launched for CHF 3,622,689 to support SLRCS to scale-up the delivery of humanitarian assistance to 40,000 people.



A member of Sri Lanka Red Cross Society branch disaster response team (BDRT) assesses a village covered by a landslide in Aranayake.
Photo credit: SLRCS

Coordination and partnerships

The IFRC country team in Colombo is providing in-country coordination and operation support to the SLRCS, complemented by the IFRC country cluster support team (CCST) in Delhi and the Asia Pacific regional office (APRO) in Kuala Lumpur. The CCST disaster preparedness manager in Delhi is accompanying an ECHO delegation for an assessment in Sri Lanka on 22 to 25 May. APRO will also deploy an operations coordinator to provide in-country support to the operation, as well as a regional disaster response team (RDRT) member.

SLRCS has a longstanding working collaboration with the IFRC and the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) in implementing various programmes, including during conflict situations. Movement Coordination meetings involving SLRCS, IFRC and ICRC have been organized. ICRC and IFRC have been working together in close coordination to provide technical support to SLRCS and sharing information at regional and sub-regional levels. The IFRC CCST in Delhi and the APRO are also providing further coordination support for information sharing and resources mobilization across the Movement partners. Some Partner National Societies have shown interest to support this Emergency Appeal while dialogue with external partners continues.

The operational strategy

According to a situation report issued by the DMC Emergency Operation Centre on 22 May, at least 427,918 people belonging to 105,360 families have been affected by floods and landslides. Out of the affected people, 319,507 – from 64,308 families – have been evacuated and are currently accommodated in 602 safe locations. At least 474 houses are reported to be destroyed and 3,674 houses partially damaged by floods and landslides. Thus far, SLRCS has assisted over 140,000 flood-affected/displaced persons¹ since the onset of the floods. As the situation unfolded, SLRCS branches activated their branch disaster response teams (BDRTs) which have been supporting operations since 14 May. National disaster response teams (NDRT) are supporting the branches. As well as conducting assessments, SLRCS teams have undertaken distribution of non-food relief items (NFRIs), distribution of dry food and dry rations, evacuation, provision of first aid, coordination meetings with the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL), DMC and INGOs. Further SLRCS is leading the joint rapid-needs assessment together with DMC, WFP and FPA.

Given the situation outlined above, the plan seeks to support the SLRCS provide immediate and early recovery support to the most vulnerable affected families in the worst-affected districts of Colombo, Gampaha, Kegalle, Kurunegala and Puttalam, in a timely, effective, and efficient manner and ensure that they are supported to recover with increased disaster resilience. The operation will be implemented over an eighteen-month period.

Needs assessments

Based on information gathered through the initial assessments as well as analysis of secondary data, identified needs include non-food relief items, safe drinking water, water and sanitation (WASH), health and hygiene awareness, emergency shelter items, rebuild permanent shelter and support to recover livelihoods.

After meeting immediate needs, SLRCS will have to support the affected population in getting back on their feet and starting the process of rebuilding their everyday lives. However, more information will be available when assessments are concluded. This appeal is, therefore, being launched based on preliminary information and will be revised in the coming weeks once ongoing and detailed assessments are completed.

Beneficiary selection

SLRCS will prioritize the most vulnerable households among affected populations in the five target districts. The selection will be carried out involving in close coordination with the local authorities. Priority will be given to the people displaced by floods and landslides who are living in temporary shelters/evacuation centres and affected people returning to their houses. Close coordination among partners will ensure collaboration and avoid duplication.

In its responses, SLRCS will ensure that programmes under this operation are aligned with its gender commitments as well with the IFRC minimum standard commitments to gender and diversity in emergency programming. Specific considerations will include the elderly, people with a disability, pregnant and lactating women, women-headed households, and households with infants or young children. These groups are more vulnerable to challenges related to access to nutrient-rich food and safe water and are more susceptible to diseases/infections. Other considerations are households that have lost all their livelihoods and are unable to recover without resorting to risky coping strategies and farmers who have lost their seed and livestock and unable to reinvest in farming, and small- and medium-scale businesses

Overall objective: This operation aims to assist 40,000 people affected by floods and landslides attributed to heavy rains in the worst affected districts of Colombo, Gampaha, Kegalle, Kurunegala and Puttalam with appropriate relief and recovery assistance. The operation will be implemented over an 18-month period, with the possibility of extension.

¹ Quoted in SLRCS press release dated 25 May 2016

Proposed strategy: The proposed floods and landslides response operation will run for the next 18 months and cover the immediate relief and recovery phase. The focus will be on providing support to 8,000 affected families through the distribution of relief items during the initial phase followed by provision of conditional cash grants for shelter and livelihood recovery along with preventive health, and water and sanitation interventions and focus resilience building in the longer term. SLRCS notes that some harder-hit families may already be receiving assistance in different sectors from the authorities and other actors. The interventions will focus primarily on five districts; Colombo, Gampaha, Kegalle, Kurunegala and Puttalam, although these may be adjusted according to the needs and coordination with other key players. SLRCS, utilizing its presence of staff and volunteers across the affected areas, has been actively engaged in disaster response since last week.




The operation consists of closely integrated sectors aiming to provide:

- **Essential household** assistance via distribution of NFRI, school items and first aid kits to 5,000 households.
- **Emergency and recovery shelter** support through distribution of tarpaulins and ropes to 500 households and provision of conditional cash transfers in the recovery phase for 250 households to build their houses under the owner driven concept, complemented with awareness session on safer shelter construction techniques.
- **Livelihoods assistance** via conditional cash grants (of CHF 400) for 600 households to restart or diversify income sources.
- **Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion** interventions focusing on improving access to safe water (by providing water purification tablets), safe water storage (by installing 30 water tanks in camps), reducing risks associated with poor sanitation (by building 50 emergency toilets in camps) and improving hygiene behaviour (through hygiene awareness sessions delivered using PHAST for 4,000 households), and cleaning of 1,000 wells.
- **Health** interventions focusing on community-based disease prevention with focus on risk of dengue outbreaks (through CBHFA and ECV sessions for 4,000 households). Further organize 5 medical points for diagnosis and treatment.
- **Community-based risk reduction:** Provide group cash grants (of approximately CHF 2,500) for 50 rural committees and schools to set up small projects including repair of damaged irrigation canals and renovation of infrastructure.
- **Institutional disaster response capacity enhancement** (DRCE) measures aimed at increasing SLRCS' preparedness for future potential disasters, through 3 specialized response trainings.

Five key aspects are factored in the strategy for this operation:

- **The National Society leadership:** SLRCS is responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of the humanitarian response operation, supported by the IFRC and in-country Movement partners.
- **Implementing lessons from previous operations:** Over the years, SLRCS has implemented various large or medium scale operations that provided various lessons from which this response will draw. These include the large-scale operation in response to the massive damage and resultant needs caused by the 2004 Tsunami, support to populations who were internally displaced due to conflict through the Post Conflict Recovery Assistance Programme (PCRP) 2010-2016, and a medium-scale intervention following floods and landslides of 2011.
- **A Movement-wide approach:** SLRCS is responsible for the overall coordination and implementation of the disaster response operation, supported by all components of the Movement. Considering the nature and scope of the response, IFRC will mobilize international resources via this Emergency Appeal on behalf of SLRCS but at the same time coordinating with the ICRC. The latter has long-time presence in Sri Lanka and will, among others, support restoring family links (RFL) interventions which – although included in this plan to reflect the totality of actions – are not factored in the budget. The budget for RFL interventions will be covered by ICRC outside of this Emergency Appeal.
- **Flexible community-led response:** The design of the intervention, particularly cash transfers, will give affected people the flexibility to prioritize their immediate and diverse needs. It is important to note that CHF 365,000 (125,000 for DRR and 240,000 for household items) of the total appeal budget is allocated for cash transfers provided directly to affected people to allow them to make appropriate decisions for their respective needs. All the materials required for repairing the damaged houses are available locally. In addition to shelter support, livelihood grants will enable families to buy seeds as well as repair and replace their farm and other equipment and tools according to their need.
- **Integrated programming and resilience-building:** The recovery phase (to be defined in detail in the revised plan) will involve integrated, multi-sectoral support to communities to build community resilience.

Proposed sectors of intervention

	Emergency shelter and non-food relief items
Outcome 1: The immediate shelter and settlement needs of the target population are met	
Output 1.1: Essential household items are provided to the target population	
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify, register, verify beneficiaries for distributions • Procure non-food relief items adequate to meet the needs of 5,000 households • Mobilize volunteers and provide orientation on distribution protocols • Distribute non-food relief items to 5,000 households • Undertake post-distribution monitoring 	
Output 1.2: Emergency shelter assistance is provided to the target population	
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify, register, verify beneficiaries for distributions • Procure tarpaulins and ropes adequate to meet the needs of 500 households • Mobilize volunteers and provide orientation on distribution protocols • Distribute tarpaulins and ropes to 500 households • Undertake post-distribution monitoring 	
Outcome 2: The target population has attained durable shelter solutions	
Output 2.1: Durable shelter solutions that meet agreed standards are provided to the target families	
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define beneficiary selection criteria in coordination and collaboration with the government • Select target households according to set criteria and prepare beneficiary lists • Organize awareness raising campaigns and training sessions on safer shelter construction techniques • Provide conditional cash transfers (CHF 5,000) in tranches to enable 250 households to build through an owner-driven approach • Undertake monitoring to approve further instalments of conditional cash transfers to compliant households • Undertake monitoring to ensure that target households have rebuilt to appropriate quality and standard 	
	Livelihoods
Outcome 3: Economic security of the target worst-affected households is restored	
Output 3.1: Affected households have restored livelihoods after receiving working capital to resume activities	
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct assessment to ensure that local markets are accessible and able to supply livelihood inputs • Consult and agree the criteria for selection of target households (through a participatory process) • Select beneficiary households, prepare beneficiary lists and sensitize them on the assistance process • Conduct a baseline survey of household income and expenditure • Engage target households in business plan process (including agriculture, livestock and small and medium businesses) • Provide cash transfers (CHF 400) to 600 households in two instalments, for restoring or diversifying income generation sources to target households • Undertake monitoring to ensure that households and groups that receive assistance have utilized them for intended purpose • Undertake end-line assessment of household income and expenditure 	
	Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)
Outcome 4: The immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities	

Output 4.1: Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere and WHO standards is provided to target population
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate with the authorities to ensure affected people in camps have access to safe water • Distribute water treatment tablets in camps and affected communities • Provide safe water storage containers to target families in camps and affected communities • Procure and install 30 water tanks (2,000L) in 15 camps • Monitor the installation of water tanks • Cleaning of 1,000 wells
Output 4.2: Target population is provided with access to adequate sanitation facilities meeting Sphere standards
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procure materials adequate for building 50 emergency toilets • Mobilize community members to build 50 emergency toilets in 5 camps • Monitor the building of emergency toilet in camps
Output 4.3: Hygiene promotion activities which meet Sphere standards provided to target population
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize and (re)train volunteers and train them on the PHAST methodology • Identify 5,000 households (25,000 people) to be reached with hygiene promotion through the PHAST methodology • Promote environmental sanitation through <i>shramadana</i> (volunteer community labour) during PHAST sessions • Reproduce information, education and communication materials for hygiene promotion • Conduct hygiene promotion activities using the PHAST methodology in target communities • Monitor hygiene practices in target communities through knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) surveys



Health

Outcome 5: The immediate and medium-term risks to the health of affected populations are reduced
Output 5.1: Target population is reached with community-based disease prevention, epidemic preparedness and health promotion measures
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilize and (re)train volunteers and train them on conducting community-based disease prevention activities • Organize disease prevention and health education sessions for 2,500 households (12,500 people) in target communities • Distribute first aid kits for 2,500 households and baby kits to 2,000 households in target communities • Procure first aid kits for 2,500 households and baby kits to 2,000 households as part of replenishment • Distribute disease prevention promotion materials alongside disease prevention and health education sessions • Conduct disease prevention and health promotion activities in camps using CBHFA and ECV • Organize 5 medical camps in severely-affected areas




Restoring Family Links (RFL)


Outcome 6: Family links are restored whenever people are separated from, or without news of, their loved ones because of the disaster
Output 6.1: Contacts are re-established between family members separated by the disaster
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate communication for people in affected areas to re-establish contact with their families • Active tracing is considered in support to persons who have not succeeded in re-establishing contact with loved ones • Measures are taken to identify and register vulnerable individuals (minors, injured) without contact with their families, to trace their families and facilitate their return home



Institutional disaster response capacity enhancement

Outcome 7: National Society capacity to respond to disaster and crises is strengthened
Output 7.1: SLRCS headquarters and branches have improved staffing and office facilities
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recruit project staff at the national headquarters and requesting branches (if gaps are identified) Provide essential items and personal protective equipment to the national headquarters and branches
Output 7.2: Capacity of SLRCS headquarters and branches to respond to disasters is strengthened
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organize refresher training for SLRCS national and 5 branch disaster response teams and 3 specialized trainings Procure and preposition preparedness stocks adequate to meet the needs of 5,000 households (20,000 people) Procure 4 dingy rubber boats and 50 life jackets

 Disaster risk reduction
Outcome 8: Community resilience to disasters is protected and restored
Output 8.1: Target communities have improved knowledge and skills to assess risk, plan and implement disaster risks management measures
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure integration of risk reduction initiatives across all recovery sectors Conduct awareness raising sessions on preventable disaster risks in target communities Provide group cash grants (CHF 2,500) for 50 rural committees and schools to set up small projects including repair of damaged irrigation canals and renovation of infrastructure

 Quality programming
Outcome 9: Continuous and detailed assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation
Output 9.1: Needs assessments are conducted and response plans updated according to findings
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobilize staff and volunteers for assessments Undertake assessments to determine specific needs of beneficiaries Develop detailed response plans with activities that will meet identified beneficiary needs
Output 9.2: Additional assistance is considered where appropriate and incorporated into the plan
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that any adjustments to initial plans are informed by continuous assessment of needs Conduct post-action surveys to determine the level of satisfaction among beneficiaries
Output 9.3: Mechanisms are in place to facilitate two-way communication with and ensure transparency and accountability to affected people
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide appropriate information, including on the scope and content of projects, to affected people Ensure that affected people can deliver feedback, report complaints in confidence and that such are actioned by SLRCS
Output 9.4: Management of the operation is informed by an appropriate monitoring and evaluation system
Activities planned: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and utilize an appropriate M&E system for the operation

 Programme support services

Based on the demand for the technical and coordination support required to deliver in this operation, the following programme support functions will be put in place to ensure an effective and efficient technical coordination: **human resources, logistics and supply chain; information technology support (IT); communications;**

security; planning, monitoring, evaluation, and reporting (PMER); partnerships and resource development; and finance and administration. More details are in the Emergency Plan of Action.

€ Budget

The appeal budget is **CHF 3,622,689**. See attached [IFRC Secretariat budget](#) (Annex 1) for details.

Garry Conille
Under Secretary General
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Reference documents



Click [here](#) for:
Emergency
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(EPoA)

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote social inclusion
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.

EMERGENCY APPEAL

23/05/2016

MDRLK005 Sri Lanka : Floods and Landslide

Budget Group	Appeal Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	15,500
Shelter - Transitional	1,257,700
Clothing & Textiles	116,500
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	82,281
Medical & First Aid	44,632
Utensils & Tools	48,000
Other Supplies & Services	245,290
Cash Disbursements	245,000
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	2,054,904
Computer & Telecom Equipment	25,025
Office/Household Furniture & Equipment	3,000
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	28,025
Storage, Warehousing	7,200
Distribution & Monitoring	21,750
Transport & Vehicle Costs	98,560
Logistics Services	1,400
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	128,910
International Staff	380,000
National Staff	64,800
National Society Staff	184,950
Volunteers	40,375
Total PERSONNEL	670,125
Consultants	20,000
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	20,000
Workshops & Training	66,600
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	66,600
Travel	43,310
Information & Public Relations	52,143
Office Costs	1,750
Communications	8,100
Financial Charges	16,470
Other General Expenses	179,832
Shared Support Services	131,418
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	433,023
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	221,103
Total INDIRECT COSTS	221,103
TOTAL BUDGET	3,622,689