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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

Bangladesh: Flood



DREF Operation n° MDRBD017	Glide n° FL-2016-000075-BD
Date of issue: 16 August 2016	Date of disaster: 29 July 2016
Operation manager (responsible for this EPoA): Md. Adith Shah Durjoy; acting disaster operations coordinator, IFRC	Point of contact: Md. Belal Hossain, director, disaster response, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS)
Operation start date: 29 July 2016	Expected timeframe: 31 July 2017 (12 months)
Overall operation budget: CHF 1,637,374	DREF Allocation: CHF 248,701
Number of people affected: 3.7 Million	Number of people to be assisted: 105,000 people (21,000 families)
Host National Society(ies) presence: Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) – over 800 Red Cross Youth, volunteers and staff mobilised.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: American Red Cross, British Red Cross, German Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, Turkish Red Crescent and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government of Bangladesh, UN agencies and INGOs.	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Since 19 July 2016, heavy rains in the main river basins of Bangladesh and upstream catchments of India have caused severe flooding in the north and north-eastern parts of Bangladesh affecting an estimated 3.7 million people (740,000 families) across 19 districts. As of 11 August 2016, 106 people died as a consequence of the floods. It includes 96 from drowning and 10 from snake-bite. Around 7,400 people sought refuge in 69 flood shelters. The official estimates indicate at least 250,000 houses have been destroyed or damaged. Riverbank erosion has resulted in a large number of houses and homesteads being washed away. This year during the month of July 13% more rainfall than the previous year has been experienced in all 8 divisions of the country. Some of the reports have compared the flood to the 1998 flood which had affected up to 30 million people¹. It is reported that the water level in the rivers is decreasing and flood water has been receding; but this doesn't necessarily indicate an improvement in the humanitarian situation or reduction of needs.



Flood situation in Bogra districts, (Photo: BDRCS)



Flood situation in Kurigram, (Photo: RDRS)

¹ [https:// geobytesgcse.blogspot.com.au/2006/12/flooding-in-ledc-1998-floods-in.html](https://geobytesgcse.blogspot.com.au/2006/12/flooding-in-ledc-1998-floods-in.html) also Save the children 01/08/2016

The following are hardly hit districts by current flood and it covers almost 70% of the total affected people.

District	Number of affected people
Jamalpur	849,451
Kurigram	652,154
Sirajgonj	553,981
Tangail	351,035
Gaibandha	276,305

Out of the five districts, Jamalpur Kurigram and Gaibandha are the first affected and longest affected districts and with over 30% of the people living below poverty line². All of these districts were also badly affected during the flood 2014.³

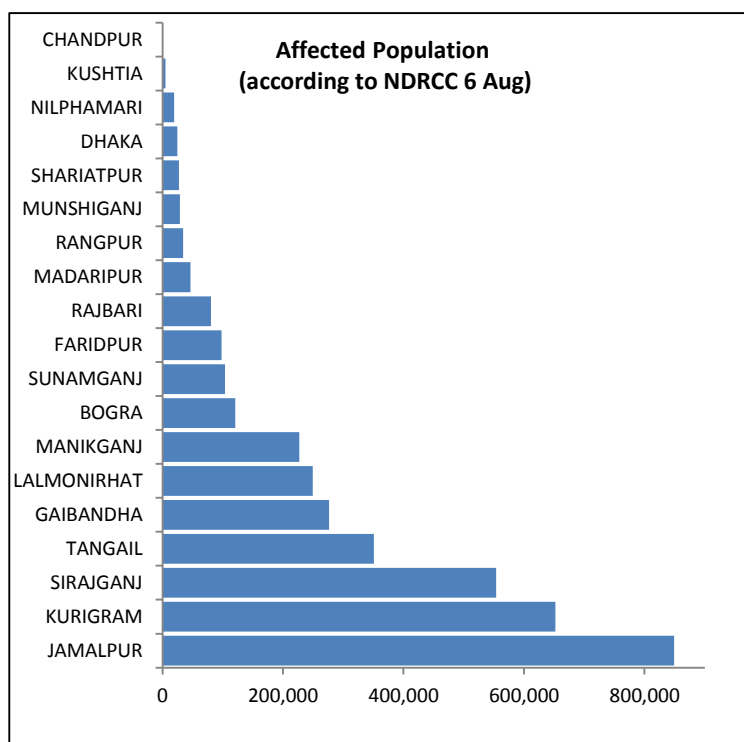
Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society (IFRC) Bangladesh country office completed a rapid assessment in nine (9) districts of the country's north and north eastern regions. The Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners present in the country have also extended their support in the assessment. Situation reports from the National Disaster Response Coordination Centre (NDRCC) and reports from BDRCS' local units as well as other NGOs brought attention to the seriousness of flooding in those districts clustered around the north (Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Nilphamari, Rangpur, Gaibandha, Bogra, Sirajganj, Jamalpur, Madaripur, Sariatpur, Sunamganj, Faridpur, Rajbari, Manikganj, Munshiganj, Tangail, Dhaka, Chandpur and Rajshahi).

Considering the severe deterioration of the situation, an inter-cluster meeting was organized on August 1st as well as an ad-hoc Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCTT) on August 4th that decided to trigger a Rapid Needs Assessment. The Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG) analysed the situation and reported their findings to the Department of Disaster Management (DDM) of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) on August 7th. Based on these findings, the clusters/sectors revised their draft response plan and the HCTT Humanitarian Response Plan was presented to the HCTT on August 11th.

During the HCTT meeting it was highlighted that the damage from this flood is more than the cyclone Roanu. Hence, the Prime Minister of Bangladesh has urged to all to stand beside the flood victims. The government assigned one Deputy Secretary rank official to each of the flood affected districts to coordinate the flood relief operations.

With the current flood situation, people's mobility has become a challenge. Due to increased flood water, overall mobility of char (island) dwellers has become limited. Livelihood of many has been suspended particularly for farmers whose crops have been heavily damaged. If the situation persists longer, the affected communities are likely to undertake negative coping means such as taking loans or selling out poultry and livestock for survival.

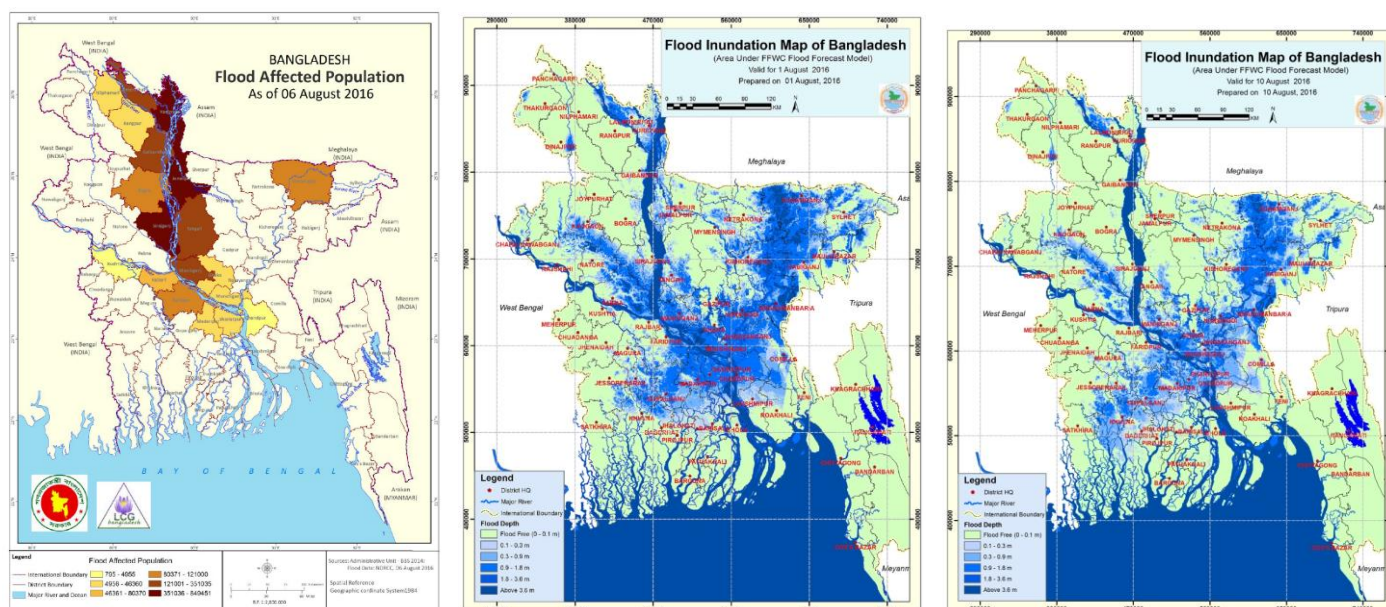
As mentioned, crops like paddy, jute, dhaincha, kowon and vegetables have been severely damaged; around 610,00⁴ hectares of standing crops have suffered damages under four districts.



² World Bank, GOB, WFP Poverty Mapping based on 2010 data

³ JNA, 08.09.2016

⁴ ECHO 01/08/2016



Water inundation maps in 10 days' interval (middle and right side maps) and the flood affected population (left map) showing the major damage occurs in the Jamuna river flood plain area.

While the flood inundates raised lands to protect livestock, such as cattle, and with lack of available fodder, there is high likelihood of cattle death in the coming days. Many farmers fear not being able to sell them during Eid Ul Azha with a lower market value. In chars and other areas, traditionally people rear cows (fattening) and goat to sell during this festival.

Most of the schools in chars have been inundated due to flood conditions. As mobility of char and village dwellers has been limited, attendance of students has fallen and in many cases shut down. According to the preliminary data from directorate of primary education, a total 1,500 schools have been directly affected by flood.

The markets have been affected by the flood initially but they are functioning well now. Prices of the some of the items were reported up to 25% higher compared to normal price; especially fish and vegetables. The supply chain has not been interrupted so far. So items are available on hiked price.

Water and sanitation situation is alarming. 25,000 water points were damaged according to DPHE report. Most of the latrines are inundated and safe drinking water facilities are contaminated with flood waters. It is anticipated that the water borne diseases are likely to go up if flood conditions retain. It is reported in the HCTT assessment that 12 216 people suffered from flood related diseases between 25 July and 09 August 2016⁵. Water and sanitation systems have been disrupted, triggering an increase in water borne disease such as diarrhoea, skin and eye infections. The floods have triggered other related issues such as reproductive health problems, mental health problems that require immediate emergency comprehensive health care services. The Health Cluster is already responding with its own resources (US\$ 560,000) in several ways: Intensification of health promotion; Ensure adequate support supply of Emergency drugs; Increase primary health care services; Provision of mental health and psychosocial support; availability or reproductive health services and ensure optimum level of coordination.

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) has been operating since the flooding started and has already reached more than 4,568 families with dry and cooked food, and around 3000 families through clean drinking water and water bucket. The government has allocated 10,050 metric tons of rice, BDT 42,450,000 (about CHF 544,230.00) in cash grants and BDT 22,500,000 (CHF 288,462) for dry food to support the affected communities in the 16 affected districts out of 19. Several other organisations, in addition to the BDRCS and IFRC, are also responding to the situation.

BDRCS is also currently implementing recovery activities in the aftermaths of Cyclone Roanu that hit in last May in different parts of the country (south-east).

⁵ Source: National Health Crisis Management Crisis Centre and Control Room, DGHS

Summary of the current response

Overview of host National Society

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) have been monitoring closely the overall floods situation. Local branch offices of BDRCS continued the collection of information through local Red Crescent volunteers and secondary sources (government officials and local government representatives) and shared the information with BDRCS national headquarters especially with response department. Based on field report, BDRCS allocated CHF 17,948 (BDT 1,400,000) from its contingency fund for procurement and distribution of dry food in fourteen flood affected districts (Kurigram, Bogra, Sirajganj, Gaibandha, Tangail, Jamalpur, Nilphamari, Lalmonirhat, Sunamganj, Faridpur, Madaripur, Shariatpur, Rajbari and Manikganj). Out of fourteen districts, nine districts already completed distribution of dry food among 4,568 families. The contingency plan will be activated officially if the forecast for mid-august is confirmed, which would suspend all other work from the NS and focus on the flood response.⁶ However, as the NS is currently managing another Emergency Appeal for Cyclone Roanu, they have assigned additional two staff for the Response Department to handle the two disasters.



BDRCS volunteers are loading the relief goods on boat to reach the most vulnerable community in Kurigram (left picture) and then distributing the relief items from the boat (right picture), (Photo: BDRCS)

Nilphamari Red Crescent unit distributed cash for dry food to 400 families, while Bogra Red Crescent unit distributed dry food to 400 families through their local fund. Bogra, Sirajganj, Jamalpur and Kurigram district Red Crescent units mobilised eight water treatment kits (capacity 1,000 litre/hour) to provide safe drinking water to the affected people in addition one kit-5 (capacity 4,000 litre/hour) was mobilized to Jamalpur district unit from NHQ, BDRCS. Using these water treatment kits, total 3,000 litres of water was treated and distributed among 3,000 families (10 litres per family) in four districts of Jamalpur, Kurigram, Sirajganj and Bogra. 3,000 buckets and 50 Rapid latrine distributed in four districts of Jamalpur, Kurigram, Bogra and Gaibandha.

The response department of BDRCS is coordinating with the respective Red Crescent units, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and other Movement partners. In addition, the response department has been compiling reports received from Red Crescent units, media, and other secondary sources, and sharing the information internally and with the Movement partners. To date, two situation reports on recent floods and one assessment report have been published and shared by BDRCS.

With food distributions ongoing and deployment of water treatment units, the overview of the situation has indicated clearly that the situation went beyond existing BDRCS resources. As such, BDRCS requested the IFRC to launch a DREF for **CHF 248,701** to support ongoing and expanded operations. IFRC launched the DREF on 8th August 2016.

⁶ It is to be noted that the NS did not revise the CP since last three years and after the pre-disaster meeting in last May, it was decided that it will be updated. It was not possible yet as cyclone Roanu hits the week after the Pre-Disaster meeting.

Table: BDRCS response as of 10 August 2016.

Sl. No	District	Dry food distribution (HHs)	Bucket distribution (Pcs)	Rapid latrine distribution (unit)	Water distribution (HHs)
1	Jamalpur	500	800	15	1,000
2	Bogra	200	700	10	200
3	Nilphamari	718			
4	Lalmonirhat	600			
5	Kurigram	700	800	15	1000
6	Gaibandha	800	700	10	
7	Sirajganj	400			800
8	Sunamganj	350			
9	Tangail	300			
Total 9 Districts		4,568	3,000	50	3,000



Distributing safe drinking water through water treatment plant, dry food and non-food items in Kurigram,
(Photos: BDRCS-IFRC)

Overview of Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in country

The IFRC has a country office presence in Bangladesh that is well-resourced and has highly experienced staff supporting the BDRCS in ongoing emergency operations, longer-term programming, capacity building and organizational development. The IFRC is supporting the BDRCS to coordinate with other humanitarian and UN agencies.

IFRC Bangladesh country office has been closely monitoring the situation and is on standby for further emergency response support. Currently, IFRC is supporting the response department of BDRCS to coordinate with the government and other agencies for collecting information updates, situation analysis as well as for assessing the needs of the affected people. IFRC Bangladesh country office provided CHF 1,000 (BDT 80,000) to the BDRCS for mobilisation of the water treatment kits.

American Red Cross, British Red Cross, German Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent have in-country presence focusing on supporting BDRCS in longer-term programming, including disaster risk reduction (DRR) programmes. They are also active supporters of BDRCS disaster response and as such, BDRCS looks forward to continued support for this plan of action.

Under the forecast based financing project, German Red Cross distributed cash grant (CHF 63 per family) to 1,704 families in two sub-districts (Sarikandi and Dhanut) under Bogra district unit and remaining 65 family's distribution is in under process. In addition, 1720 families of same beneficiaries were provided NFIs (Plastic storage containers 20 litre capacity: 1 nos, Plastic storage containers 15 litre capacity 1 no., Jerry can 10 Litre capacity 2 nos, Oral Saline 10 nos, PP woven laminated bags 2 nos, Plastic watertight bags 1 nos per family).

Table: Contribution to the emergency response from the longer term resilience programs

Contribution of long term program of BDRCS	District	Upazila	Union	No of family assisted	Support Package	Cost Equivalent to per HH	Plan for future / Relief	Volunteers contribution from program	Plan for Recovery action
Forecast based financing supported by German Red Cross	Bogra	2	3	1704	Cash grant	BDT 5000	67 families (cash)	50	-
				0	NFI package	BDT 5000	1,720 families (NFI)		-
V2R (Vulnerability to resilience) supported by British Red Cross	Kurigram	3	13	950	Food package	BDT 527	1050 families (food package)	575 CDRT and UDRT	10,000 families will receive seeds for kitchen gardening
DRRWASH supported by Swiss Red Cross	Gaibandha	2	3	9100	Safe drinking water to 549 HH	BDT 25,000 total	3 medical teams in Char	261 youths mobilized	NA
					Food package	BDT 400	-		

In the CBDRR programme, areas such as in Jamalpur districts where BDRCS has been working with communities to enhance capacities in responding to such recurring disasters, communities have proven capacity to undertake measures to respond to the disaster situation, a well-marked indication of preparedness to disaster. In Kulkandi of Jamalpur district, community disaster response team members swung to action based on the early warning messages received from the local UDMC and the increasing flood water identified by the flood marker. Community members acted upon the roles set out in the contingency plans as CDRT members supported the rescue of the old and children from flood waters to raised ground and providing first aid. Community has planned to roll out the community disaster response emergency fund which has now standing balance of BDT 50,000 (CHF 625). Communities have informed that they plan to purchase dry food to support the basic food needs for the displaced and affected households. The community keeps a close contact with BDRCS and other stakeholders to seek further support in reconstruction of the breached roads.

The Swiss Red Cross is supporting BDRCS to implement a DRR WASH project in Gaibandha districts. The DRR WASH project working area in three unions at Gaibandha (Kamarjani, Mollar Char and Haldia) are badly affected. Out of 8,828 households in 26 villages, 5,297 families have been affected. People living in some households that were not inundated by flood water had to stay apart and isolated as roads became damaged. To cope up with this flood situation, people initiated several mechanisms as follows:

- prepared portable stove (alga chula).
- preserved dry foods (corn, ground nuts etc.).
- built raft with banana trunks (kolar vela).
- constructed temporary bamboo platforms inside the house (macha).
- preserved fodder and firewood in elevated places.

The British Red Cross is supporting longer term resilience program in Kurigram district which is also affected by the current flood. British Red Cross has also provided BDT 500,000 (CHF 6,250) to BDRCS to support the ongoing response. Within these amount, 950 families assisted with dry food (Rice- 4kg, Dal- 1 kg, Oil - 1liter, Salt- 1 Kg, Sugar- 0.5 kg, Suji -0.5 kg, Potato -2kg, Biscuit - 2 packets, ORS 3 sachets family). Another 1050 families will be provided with same food package and 10,000 families will be provided seeds and develop kitchen garden.

ICRC has supported BDRCS with resources to conduct rapid assessment in Bogra, Gaibandha and Sirajganj.



Community people are engaging to protect flood in CBDRR community, Jamalpur, (Photo: BDRCS-IFRC)



Volunteers are distributing safe drinking water to the affected people, Gaibandha, (Photo: BDRCS-Swiss Red Cross)

Movement coordination

Regular Movement coordination meetings are taking place in Dhaka and are chaired by the BDRCS. All Movement partners are invited and participate actively to the Movement coordination meetings. In-country Movement partners extend their support during any emergency situations where IFRC plays a coordination role to assist BDRCS for scale-up response. An emergency meeting between the BDRCS deputy secretary general, BDRCS staff and IFRC staff took place on 31 July 2016 and BDRCS requested for DREF support to scale up the emergency operation. IFRC immediately coordinated with ICRC and in-country partner National Societies (PNS) to update on flood situation and action taken by BDRCS.

The existing coordination mechanism within the different PNS of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement involves a bi-monthly PNS coordination meeting. These cover the regular updates from the societies present, the immediate issues to handle and the plan of action forward. On 7th August 2016 a scheduled Movement partners' coordination meeting took place where the flood issue was discussed with high priority and the NS together with all movement partners decided to scale up the DREF into an emergency appeal. There is also practice of the annual pre-disaster meeting (PDM) among the Movement partners. On 11-12 May 2016, a PDM was held by BDRCS to discuss broader preparedness issues. Apart from this, coordination meetings between Movement partners will be organised whenever the need arise. In-country Movement partners extend their support during any emergency situations where IFRC plays a coordination role to assist BDRCS for scale-up response. BDRCS has pre-disaster agreements that need to be renewed with them (as agreed in last May pre-disaster meeting).

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The government has allocated 10,050 metric tons of rice, BDT 42,450,000 (about CHF 544,230.00) in cash grants and BDT 22,500,000 (CHF 288,462) for dry food to support the affected communities in the 16 affected districts out of 19. Various UN agencies and INGO/NGOs have also started responding to the immediate needs of the affected population with food packages, WASH activities and cash grants.

Considering the severe deterioration of the situation, an inter-cluster meeting was organized on August 1st as well as an ad-hoc Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCTT) on August 4th that decided to trigger a Rapid Needs Assessment. The Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG) analysed the situation and reported their findings to the Department of Disaster Management (DDM) of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) on August 7th. Based on these findings, the clusters/sectors revised their draft response plan and the HCTT Humanitarian Response Plan was presented to the HCTT on August 11th.

It is important to note that BDRCS does not have formal agreement with private sector and external partners. However, they receive support (mainly cash) from banks and other individual donors. The NS is trying hard to get local support to manage the initial crisis situation. As of now the NS has received BDT 1,000,000 (CHF 12820) which they are planning to utilise for food support.

Needs analysis, beneficiary selection, risk assessment and scenario planning

Need analysis

This needs analysis is based on the information received from BDRCS assessment, INGOs, different clusters, HCTT multi-sectoral rapid needs analysis and government situation reports. In general, it's worth noting that large parts of the affected areas, and particularly the current worst affected districts, have high levels of pre-existing vulnerabilities, including poverty, malnutrition and social deprivation.

Water level had increased in most of the rivers inundating low-lying areas/char lands. People stuck at their houses, some people have moved to relative houses, school and colleges for shelter. They remain in those shelters until the water started to recede but still there are people who couldn't come back to their home. Affected people are suffering for food, drinking water with daily necessities.

According to the findings of HCTT rapid need analysis⁷, it is reported the loss of HH food stocks and significant damage to HH food production. Reduction of number of meals per day already reported in some locations as a coping strategy. Lack of fodder for livestock (particularly cattle) may result in the loss of key productive assets. It is also reported that Longer-term recovery would be required to support to HHs dependent on livestock, agriculture as well as day labourers.

Due to displacement of people, loss of food stocks short term food security appears more imminent problem; however, there will still be a significant impact on long term food security due to the impact on agriculture crop and livelihoods. With less work opportunities follows reduce purchasing capacity of the vulnerable households which will result in a prolonged lean season and negatively affect their food security and nutrition status. Elderly, child headed households, pregnant and lactating women and those already relying on food aid (such as the VGF - vulnerable group feeding; a national safety nets programme) are the most vulnerable in terms of food security, in relief as well as in the recovery phase.

A large number of hand tube-wells have been contaminated by flood waters, forcing the affected population to seek alternative water sources. Department of public health and engineering (DPHE) reported a total of 25,000 water points damaged. Shortage of safe drinking water is a pressing concern. On the other hand, sanitation has been seriously affected as toilets have been inundated and washed away across the affected area. As a result, affected people has been defecating openly; hence contaminating pond waters and increasing the risks of spread of water-borne diseases. Emergency latrine has been reported as one of the pressing concern. Hygiene practices need to be promoted to alert the population to how to avoid water borne diseases and a subsequent negative impact on childhood nutrition. Substantial post flood support will be needed to recover sanitation facilities according to HCTT need analysis.

Communicable diseases have increased including, acute watery diarrhoea (AWD), acute respiratory infection (ARI), skin diseases and eye infections. According to Health cluster, partners have identified the need to increase focus on health promotion, meet reproductive and psychosocial needs.

According to government report⁸, more than 250,000 houses have been either fully or partially damaged across the affected districts. It is also reported that 16,770 houses⁹ were completely washed away due to river erosion. People displaced by floods are staying on the nearest high ground to their houses. This includes roof tops, roads, embankments as well as in flood shelters and schools. According to Shelter Cluster need analysis; emergency shelter support is required to people currently residing in makeshift arrangements and longer term recovery support is required to rebuild the houses.

Considering the major damage to housing, water and latrine facilities, health services, agricultural lands, harvest and thereby disruptions to regular livelihoods patterns, the early recovery/recovery needs following this flooding is significant as reported in HCTT need analysis and BDRCS assessment report. It is recommended that recovery interventions focusing WASH, health, shelter, food security, livelihood and DRR.

Beneficiary selection

The BDRCS and IFRC joint teams will meet the local administration, and follow up on government updates during the emergency phase with regards to present and future interventions and will continue this coordination throughout the operation. The population in temporary shelters or makeshift houses will be prioritized in the selection of beneficiaries

⁷ HCTT multi-sectoral rapid needs analysis published on 8 August 2016

⁸ NDRCC situation report published on 7 August 2016

⁹ DDM situation report published on 7 August 2016

in the affected locations. According to the BDRCS and other assessment reports and from previous operations' lessons learned, the vulnerability criteria focuses on the elderly women, marginal income farmers, women-headed families, lactating mothers and physically challenged people.

The whole beneficiary selection process will ensure community participation by holding consultation sessions, suggestions and feedback mechanism. BDRCS and IFRC works in close contact with other humanitarian actors to avoid potential overlapping in case of selection of geographical locations and beneficiary households.

Risk Assessment

Several risks are associated with the planned operations. The immediate risks are related to more flooding, as the monsoon season still continuous into October. Going forward, the second peak of the cyclone season starts in October and Bangladesh is likely to experience a few tropical depressions or cyclones towards the end of the year. According to a report from FAO¹⁰, in much of South and Southeast Asia, La Niña increases the probability of heavier rainfall, especially during the end of 2016 and start of 2017. This is particularly the case for Indonesia, Bangladesh and Malaysia, and these effects could extend to the Philippines, Papua New Guinea, areas of the Pacific and other countries in the region. Excessive rains could increase the risk of flooding for low-lying agricultural lands, produce extensive damage to standing crops, increase pest and diseases and heighten the potential for landslides.

In December and January, many of the affected areas experience cold waves with temperatures falling below 10 degrees Celsius, which annually causes a number of deaths and serious health problems. The cold wave season will be more challenging this year given that the areas will still be recovering from the floods.

Logistics and access is a challenge in the current situation and will to some extent continue to be so for the remainder of the operations, depending to some extent on the decisions of targeting for the recovery phase. A lack of coordination can also be seen as a risk, as it might lead to humanitarian actors can result in duplication of efforts.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall objective

The overall objective of the operation is to support BDRCS to ensure that immediate humanitarian needs of 21,000 families affected by the flood in 19 most affected districts¹¹ of Bangladesh are met through the provision of emergency food and non-food items, shelter, WASH and Health support. The recovery interventions will cover up to four of the most affected districts.

Proposed strategy

The BDRCS, utilising its staff and volunteers across the affected areas, has been actively engaged in response immediately after onset of disaster and they are in the affected areas rendering relief services. The current operation has started with the utilization of BDRCS' own funds to provide dry and cooked food in nine (9) affected districts. And gradually with the deteriorating flood conditions in more districts BDRCS has requested IFRC to launch DREF. The DREF support mainly focusing on supporting dry food package and safe drinking water and hygiene. The DREF has a budget provision to support the ongoing assessment and post distribution monitoring. Furthermore, the operation will support meeting of safe water needs through mobile water treatment plant. While the water buckets will be mobilized from the BDRCS disaster preparedness stock and will replenish from the operation budget.

¹⁰ <http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/a-i5853e.pdf> - FAO report on La Nina-early warning early action analysis for a potential La-Nina in 2016-2017

¹¹ Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Nilphamari, Rangpur, Gaibandha, Bogra, Sierajganj, Jamalpur, Madaripur Sherpur, Sariatpur, Sunamganj, Faridpur, Rajbari, Manikganj, Munshiganj Kushtia, Tangail, Dhaka, Chandpur and Rajshahi)

Table: Operational intervention summary

Sector	Intervention type	No. of families	Description
Emergency Relief – one to three months targeting 13,000 families			
Food	Immediate food assistance for 15 days.	8,000	Support to the food package equivalent to CHF 20.5 per HH
Non-food items	Essential household assistance		1 bundle rope, 1 box candle, 1 fire box per HH
Health	Distribution of ORS		ORS (packages of 10 sachets; one pack per family)
	Mobile Medical teams ¹²		4 medical teams
WASH	Hygiene parcel distribution	3,000	Contain bathing soap, laundry soap, washing powder, sanitary napkin and comb.
	Distribution of safe drinking water		15 litres of safe drinking water per HH (No. of days as per need)
	Distribution of Bucket		3,000 bucket
	Portable latrines installation		50 portable latrines
Food	Cash for food for 30 days	2000	Cash grant of BDT 4,000 (CH.51) per HH for one-month support
Shelter	Emergency shelter assistance		1 tarpaulin per HH
Early recovery –targeting 8,000 families 8 to 10 communities			
Shelter	Shelter repairing through implementing PASSA tools	800	Cash grant of BDT 22,000 (CHF 282)
	Shelter toolkits distribution	800	shelter toolkits worth BDT 2,400 (CHF 62.5) per HH
Livelihoods	Cash grant for income generating activities to restore livelihood	800	Cash grant of BDT 15,000 (CHF 190) per HH
	Cash for work	800	20 work days, providing BDT 8,000 to each family
WASH	Construction of new latrines	400	1 HH latrine per HH
	Repairing damaged water points, Construction of elevated platforms for tube wells/hand pumps and installing of new water points	8,000	80+40+40=120 tube wells
Disaster Risk Reduction	Tree planting and awareness training		10 seedlings per HH (among those who received other support)
	Provide training on DRR issues in 8 communities		8 communities

Based on the field findings of the Red Crescent and other organizations, the priority needs are live saving-food, followed by water and sanitation and livelihoods. Recommendations for relief operation are to provide the affected dry food, non-food items, safe drinking water and emergency health camps. While the cash grants were not feasible in all areas with non-functional market situation at the very beginning of the disaster but the recent market assessment by WFP shows that the markets are functioning and will improve in short time. Hence, the food package as stated below will be through equivalent cash support. Health support is included in this operation in a minimal level as the government has deployed medical teams and if the forecasted flood comes then BDRCS will deploy more medical teams. To address specific needs for women, sanitary articles such as sanitary napkins, soaps and washing soaps will be included in the hygiene item package. Information on menstrual hygiene practices can be disseminated through hygiene promotion activities and IEC materials.

Food Package Items	Kg/Pcs	Unit Price (BDT)	Total (BDT)	Total (CHF)
Rice	20	40	800	10.26
Pulse	2	130	260	3.33
Oil	2	95	190	2.44
Sugar	1	70	70	0.90
Shuji (baby cereal)	1	60	60	0.77
Salt	1	30	30	0.38
Chira (Flatten rice)	2	40	80	1.03
Gur (Molasses)	1	70	70	0.90
Packaging	1	20	20	0.26
Total cost			1,580	20.26

NFIs and Hygiene items	Pcs	Unit Price (BDT)	Total (BDT)	Total (CHF)
Candle	12	5	60	0.77
Fire Box	12	2	20	0.26
Laundry soap (130 gm)	1	16	16	0.21
Bathing soap (100 gm)	1	28	28	0.36
Sanitary Napkin	1	110	110	1.41
Comb	1	15	15	0.19
Packaging	1	16	16	0.21
Total cost			265	3.40

The food package mentioned above is equivalent to a two-week food ration and to meet other household requirement. This package has been considered based on the previous experiences as well as from government and food security cluster practices. The package will be given based on the market functionality of any particular area. If the operation needs to go through cash transfer programming, then the operation can use its vast experience on cash transfer programming (CTP). It is worth mentioning that BDRCS has started cash transfer programming (CTP) since cyclone Sidr operation back in 2007-2009. BDRCS implements diverse patterns of CTP in their programmes, like cash for work, cash for livelihood, cash and in kind combined programming, cash in shelter reconstruction based on the disaster and geographical context. In terms of disbursement modality, they are using cash in envelope, cash through bank, mobile money transfer as well as cash through bank cheque. BDRCS has capable staff, NDRT and RDRT with hands-on experience in cash-based programming. Recently, two RDRT members were deployed in the Nepal earthquakes operation to support CTP activities. There are some volunteers who have experience in the previous CTP implementation in the same geographical locations affected by flood. These volunteers will be utilised for the cash distribution activities planned under this DREF operation.

Along with the relief focus intervention, the operation has also looked into the early to midterm recovery needs and targeted to support shelter, livelihood and WASH sector. In all cases as well as through community driven approach the DRR has been considered in this operation.

Community Engagement & Accountability

Community engagement and accountability (CEA) will be ensured in the emergency response through provisioning relevant information to disaster-affected communities and creating accessible feedback mechanisms. While information needs are assessed on the ground, appropriate messages will be disseminated among wider population through reachable communication channels. BDRCS and IFRC will maintain coordination with the communication with communities (CWC) working group under the HCTT. The operation will involve participatory community selection process and implementation mechanism. A community mobilisation plan will be developed to establish processes that will increase beneficiaries' decision-making capacity on key aspects of the operation. A complaints and response mechanism (CRM), such as feedback desks at the distribution sites, provisioning complaints box or opening hotline services to reach the BDRCS, will be employed for communities to raise valid concerns and receive a response about the quality of aid. A beneficiary satisfaction survey will be conducted to evaluate the quality of service to communities.

Operational support services

Human resources

BDRCS will use its existing staff and volunteers for the response operation. BDRCS has already deployed 12 NDRT members for the operation and 4 NDWRT members to operate the portable water treatment plant. The district branches have deployed youth volunteers, and members of the executive committees are also working in assessment and beneficiary selection. A regional disaster response team (RDRT) member will also be deployed to support BDRCS for a period of one month. As the NS is implementing another EA, to absorb the flood operation the NS is assigning two staff to its disaster response department.

IFRC will use existing staff for the operation and has already deployed two staff to different field locations to assist BDRCS district branches for assessment and beneficiary selection. The in-country PNS and ICRC have also provided human resource support for assessment.

¹² The mobile medical teams are comprised of one doctor, one paramedic and two health volunteers. They visit the affected communities and give very basic treatment of the people in need. And if there is any case of major illness, then the team refer the patient to the nearest hospital, and sometimes facilitated the admission to hospital.

This EA covers travel, accommodation and per-diem costs related to the staff and volunteers mobilised as well as pre-positioning cost for BDRCS and IFRC staff. The EA will also cover insurance for the volunteers used in the operation through the IFRC global volunteer accident insurance scheme. The emergency operation centre (EOC) in both district and National Headquarters level are strengthened for the management and coordination of the operation through strategic deployment of dedicated staff to the field as well as coordination with various clusters and working groups.

Logistics and supply chain

The supply chain for the operation is designed prioritising national and local sourcing. If required, IFRC Regional Logistics Unit (RLU) in Kuala Lumpur - in constant and close contact with the National Society and IFRC in-country team is ready to mobilise stockpiles of relief items, conduct international procurement, replenish stocks from the BDRCS used since the initial emergency response and provide technical support.

IFRC country office will provide on-site logistics support to BDRCS as per standard systems and procedures, like for example the procurement of food package and hygiene items, distribution, tracking and reporting across the supply chain using standardized forms and documentation.

Existing fleet capacity from the National Society is expected to be enough to cover the needs of vehicles and transport of the operational teams in the field.

Information technologies (IT)

High speed WiFi internet is available in the IFRC country office as well as BDRCS NHQ. Staff and volunteers in the field will be supported by 3G modems and internet data packages on their smartphones which will enable them to communicate electronically with NHQ, send reports and pictures. Rapid assessments will be carried out electronically through mobile applications, e.g. Magpie. The prepositioned NDRT and RDRT IT telecom kits will be mobilised in the operational activities. Onsite and remote IT Telecom support will be ensured by both the IFRC and BDRCS ICT sections. Briefing sessions will be arranged as needed.

Communications

The IFRC communications team works closely with BDRCS to ensure the steady flow of information between operations in the field and major stakeholders including media, Movement partners and donors will provide regular and consistent updates on the disaster situation, and emergency and recovery operation. This is in addition to the already extensive media coverage on the situation and Red Cross Red Crescent response in the early days of the disaster. News stories on the disaster situation and beneficiary profiles will be highlighted in through international local media as well as on IFRC online channels such as the official website, www.ifrc.org and social media platforms. One [story from the field](#) has been published in the IFRC website.

The BDRCS district units are engaged and will continually engage the local media outlets to highlight the Red Cross Red Crescent response. Regular flow of information will also be maintained between beneficiaries, respective BDRCS district units and response departments at NHQ to maintain transparency and address the immediate needs of the most vulnerable communities. Prior to relief distributions, beneficiaries will be made aware about the distribution packages, services, and the Fundamental Principles of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. The relief operation will maintain visibility in the field through appropriate branding such as banners and BDRCS aprons to enhance awareness about the role of the National Society and IFRC in the operation. BDRCS will also take initiatives to document all media releases and videos on this operation. Best practices will be captured and all efforts made to record case studies as the operation progresses.

Security

Although Bangladesh is still reeling from the shock of two deadly militant attacks - at the Holey Artisan Bakery in the capital's Gulshan diplomatic area on 1st July 2016 and the country's largest Eid congregation at Sholakia Eidgah in Kishoreganj on 7th July 2016, it is believed that these incidents will have no potential impact on the implementation of the activities as RCRC movement in Bangladesh is not a particular target. The Bangladesh government has taken various initiatives to thwart further militant attacks and the IFRC Bangladesh Country Office has put in place a number of mitigation measures. Besides, the political situation in Bangladesh has been stabilized since the second quarter of 2015 and in 2016 so far only 6 hartals (shutdown) were called by the opposition parties, mostly by Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh in connection with the verdicts of the International Crimes Tribunal and these hartals were well controlled by the law enforcers with no reported casualty. Thus, the 2016 hartals had little impact on public lives in the capital or elsewhere and people were seen going about their business. RCRC staff members were able to attend work in office as usual. It is anticipated that in the future the security forces will increase efforts to ensure that normal life is not hindered. The IFRC Bangladesh country office security unit will continue monitoring to observe any change in the

situation and provide updates through real time SMS alert, information report and security advisories. All visitors will be provided a security welcome pack and on-arrival security briefing. An Operational Security Risk Assessment will be made with the support of the IFRC regional security coordinator. Safety and security of the volunteers and staff engaged in the operation will be ensured by adhering to the appropriate security procedures, e.g. wearing life jackets by all staff and volunteers travelling by water transports will be made mandatory.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting (PMER)

PMER activities will be rolled out to ensure the quality of implementation throughout the operational management cycle. BDRCS will be responsible for the day-to-day monitoring of the operation, primarily at the branch/unit level, however, it's NHQ and the IFRC team will be supporting the implementation team as and when required. BDRCS and IFRC monitoring teams, including the National Disaster Response Team, will visit operation sites on a regular basis to measure the progress of the implementation and provide support for the better accomplishment of the proposed actions in the intervention areas.

As a part of information management system, the beneficiary database will be developed to avoid duplication and to track assistance by the BDRCS team. The database along with the rapid needs assessment will be conducted using mobile based technology; RAMP (rapid assessment using mobile phone). The assessment will be carried out by the unit volunteers, so that there will also be scope to train unit volunteers on how to apply RAMP. This will contribute to capacity development of the respective unit.

Regular internal reporting and logbook-keeping by the field officers will help to gather information during day-to-day operational issues. The BDRCS PMER unit will be involved the planning and reporting of the operation at NHQ. IFRC country office in Dhaka, with support from the various technical units in Asia Pacific regional office in Kuala Lumpur, will provide technical support to BDRCS. The affected districts will be regularly visited jointly by IFRC and BDRCS monitoring teams. This will help to identify and, where possible and necessary, resolve issues.

Reporting on the operation will be carried out in accordance with the IFRC DREF minimum reporting standards. At least two updates will be issued during the operation's timeframe and a final report within three months of the end of the operation. A lessons learned workshop will be conducted for those involved in the response operation.

Administration and Finance

This operation will have a cash-based programming component and that will require smooth mobility of cash from NHQ to the Branches and to the field. IFRC and BDRCS programme and finance team will work closely to ensure the supply chain of cash towards the field. The RDRT cash profile is requested to support the cash-based programming.

The operation will rely on existing financial management and administration systems in BDRCS and IFRC. Provisions have been made for communication costs related to the operation as well as financial charges and general expenses (refer to attached budget).

Output 1.2: Provision of emergency shelter support to 2,000 families													
<i>Activities planned</i>	<i>Month</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Identification of distribution locations		x	x										
Beneficiary selection		x	x										
Procurement of tarpaulins		x	x										
Demonstration on fixing of tarpaulin and distribute flyer				x	x	x	x						
Distribution of Tarpaulins				x	x	x	x						
Outcome 2: 800 targeted families have durable and sustainable shelter and settlement													
Output 2.1: Provision of cash grants for household repair assistance to 800 families													
<i>Activities planned</i>	<i>Month</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Beneficiary selection and finalization of partially-damaged shelter categorization					x	x	x						
Provide cash grant in one/ two instalment for shelter solution according to BDRCS/IFRC CTP procedure standards in conjunction with PASSA					x	x	x	x					
Shelter toolkit distribution					x	x	x	x					
Orient BDRCS volunteers for supporting shelter repair work						x							
On-going monitoring and technical advice by BDRCS staff						x	x	x	x	x	x		
Beneficiary satisfaction survey											x		
Output 2.2: Training/awareness raising sessions provided to 800 target families on basic safe shelter and settlement for early recovery stage													
<i>Activities planned</i>	<i>Month</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Provide shelter improvement training (PASSA incorporating DRR elements) and guidance with appropriate IEC materials						x	x	x	x	x	x		

For most of the affected districts the main livelihoods are agriculture based daily wage labour. These communities suffer from high levels of chronic poverty. The previous IPC acute and chronic analysis conducted in the North West revealed a high level of acute & chronic food insecurity, indicating an underlying vulnerability to any shock including that which these floods present. Sunamganj and Kurigram are classified in chronic IPC level 4 (severe food insecurity) while the other most affected districts are classified in level 3 (moderate food insecurity). The food consumption pattern is poor with more than 30% of HHs in affected areas experiencing poor and borderline food consumption against a national average of 15%. Dietary diversity of women is particularly poor, with consumption of protein highly inadequate. Only 4% of children are meeting the minimum dietary diversity which compares poorly with the national average of 24 %.

- 6,200 families to be assisted with emergency dry food distribution in 14 district from BDRCS own fund
- 8,000 families to be assisted with food package or equivalent cash grant for two weeks
- 2,000 families to be assisted with cash grant of BDT 4000 for purchasing food
- 800 families to be assisted with conditional livelihoods cash grant of BDT 16,000
- 800 same families of livelihood to be supported through CFW scheme in lean period (20 work days, providing BDT 8,000 to each family)

[illegible]

Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

Need analysis: The rapid assessment revealed the adverse impact of the flood on WASH facilities in all the affected districts with varying degrees of severity. Access to safe drinking water dropped by as high as 50% in some of the affected districts due to extensive damage to water points (more than 25,000) while in some districts more than 50% of the household sanitation facilities have been washed away. The tube-wells serving as the main sources of drinking water in most of the affected districts have been damaged and heavy contaminated with effluents from household sanitation facilities. The hygiene and general environmental sanitation situations in the areas are poor with the high risk of occurrence of water and sanitation related diseases, if not urgently addressed. There were safety concerns especially for women on access to latrines and bathing facilities almost in all the affected districts. Efforts are being made by International NGOs, RCRC movement, National NGOs, UN agencies and governments to respond to the deplorable WASH situations in affected districts but to the magnitude and spread of the damage to WASH facilities, most of the affected population are still without safe drinking water and sanitation facilities.

Population to be assisted:

- Up to 6,000 families (30,000 people) in 4 districts provided with safe drinking water through deployment of nine water purification units, including 3,000 families provided with water buckets.
- 8,000 families will receive hygiene items and benefit from hygiene promotion awareness sessions including IEC materials.
- 100 tube-wells are repaired to improve access to safe water.
- 40 tube-wells have been fitted with elevated platforms to reduce the risk of contamination in future flooding.
- 40 new tube-well have been installed to improve access to safe water following analysis of hydrogeological survey data.
- Installation of 50 rapid latrines in four districts.
- 400 families to be supported with improved health and hygiene knowledge through seven health/hygiene promotion sessions (PHAST) in four districts in the recovery phase.
- Construction of 400 household latrines have been constructed with superstructure.

Outcome 5: The risk of water and sanitation related diseases are reduced

Output 5.1: Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population

Indicators:

- No. of people provided with safe water that meets SPHERE standards*
- No. of litres safe water distributed*
- No. of people provided with water storage containers*

Activities planned	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mobilization of NDWRT members		x											
Distribution of safe drinking water through nine water purification units (One Kit-5 and Eight mobile type water purification kits)		x											
Distribution of water buckets to 3,000 families (1 per family)		x											
Replenishment of 3000 water buckets					x	x	x						

Indicators: a) No of tube well repaired b) No of tube well platform raised c) No of new tube-well installed d) No of tube-well repair kits provided

Output 6.2: Improve access to sanitation facilities

a) No of portable latrine mobilized	
b) No of new latrines with superstructure installed	

Output 6.3: Improve sanitation practice hygiene knowledge and behaviour of 8,000 families

a) No of HHs participated in PHAST implementation

b) No of HHs received hygiene parcel.

[illegible]

Health

Needs analysis:

Water, sanitation and hygiene have been reported as a key issue in the current situation. To mitigate health issues arising from contaminated water and poor hygiene, clinical health services are needed in the flooded areas. Diarrhoea cases are being reported and ORS is needed for rehydration. To reduce risks longer term, health promotion to increase health awareness is needed, especially in the currently worst affected areas that get flooded regularly.

Population to be assisted:

- Affected people (target TBD) to be assisted with emergency health intervention through 4 medical teams in 4 districts for 7 days in two phases
- 8,000 families will receive ORS packages with 10 sachets as part of NFI distributions

Outcome 7: The immediate and medium term risks to the health of affected populations in 8 districts are reduced													
Output 7.1: Provision of medical assistance with 4 medical teams in 8 districts in the relief phase													
<i>Activities planned</i>	<i>Month</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mobilizing 4 medical teams from NHQ to 4 districts		x	x										
Providing emergency health support to the affected population for 7 days in two phase		x	x										
Output 7.2: Distribution of ORS to 8,000 families													
<i>Activities planned</i>	<i>Month</i>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Distributing ORS to the identified families (targeted with NFI's) ¹³			x										
Replenishing ORS following standard procurement procedures					x	x							

¹³ Distribution will be accompanied with sensitization session.

National Society Capacity Building

Population to be assisted:

- BDRCS staff and volunteer
- BDRCS district units

Outcome 8: National Society capacity to respond to disaster and crises is strengthened													
Output 8.1: Capacity of the BDRCS NHQ and districts branches in affected districts are strengthen on emergency response and disaster preparedness													
Activities planned	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Shelter technical skilled training for BDRCS staff and volunteers						X	X						
WatSan technical skilled training for BDRCS staff and volunteers						X	X						
Livelihoods technical skilled training for BDRCS staff and volunteers						X	X						
CTP training for BDRCS staff and volunteers						X	X						
Procurement of Mobile phone for NDRT and staff							X	X					
Desktop and printer for District branches							X	X					
Procurement NDRT equipment and personal gear						X	X						
DR/ DRR training for BDRCS UDRT members							X	X					
Construction of WASH warehouse in BDRCS NHQ												X	X
Development of RMS offline version											X	X	
Procurement vest/ red jacket, cap and T-shirt for volunteers				X	X								

Disaster risk reduction

Population to be assisted:

- 2,400 families to receive training on DRR issues in 8 communities (same beneficiaries of livelihoods)
- Water purification tablets (bucket with 150 tablets) for 25 mobile type water treatment kits are procured as preparedness stocks

Outcome 9: Community resilience to disasters is protected and restored													
Output 9.1: Targeted 10,400 families in 8 communities have improved knowledge and skills to assess risk, plan and implement disaster risks management measures													
Activities planned	Month	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Conducting DRR training sessions at different locations in 8 communities						X	X						
Develop and printing of IEC materials			X	X									
Distribution of IEC materials			X	X	X	X	X	X					
Tree planting											X	X	
Awareness raising campaign in 8 communities through street drama and pot song							X	X	X	X		X	X

[illegible]

Budget

EMERGENCY APPEAL

MDRBD017

12/08/2016

Bangladesh: Flood

Budget Group	Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	76,667
Construction - Housing	225,641
Seeds & Plants	56,000
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	157,045
Medical & First Aid	14,000
Cash Disbursements	510,583
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	1,039,935
Computer & Telecom Equipment	15,950
Total LAND, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT	15,950
Transport & Vehicle Costs	23,700
Logistics Services	4,000
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	27,700
International Staff	50,833
National Staff	112,160
National Society Staff	80,100
Volunteers	37,000
Total PERSONNEL	280,093
Professional Fees	6,250
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	6,250
Workshops & Training	45,282
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	45,282
Travel	19,200
Information & Public Relations	32,500
Office Costs	6,000
Communications	11,290
Financial Charges	5,000
Shared Office and Services Costs	48,240
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	122,230
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	99,934
Total INDIRECT COSTS	99,934
TOTAL BUDGET	1,637,374

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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 (NGOs) 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**.

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Saving lives, changing minds.



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

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.