

DREF operation update

Myanmar: Floods

DREF n° MDRMM007	GLIDE n° FL-2016-000058-MMR
DREF operation update n° 1	Period covered by this update: 18 to 31 August 2016
Date of issue: 4 October 2016	Operation start date: 18 August 2016
Amount allocated from DREF: CHF 317,098	N° of people assisted: Approximately 10,455 (2,091 families)
Host National Society presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches, etc.): Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) has one national head office and 334 branches with 30,000 active volunteers and 321 staff.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation (if available and relevant): IFRC, ICRC, Danish Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: UN OCHA, Save the Children, WFP, government departments of Relief and Resettlement Department, General Administration Department.	

The response to date

- July:** Heavy monsoon rains increase water levels in many rivers.
- 6 August:** MRCS activates its emergency operations centre.
- 9 August:** Floods intensify and some 377,000 people are to be evacuated to higher grounds and temporary sites, including monasteries and schools.
- 18 August:** DREF request by MRCS approved by IFRC.
- 26 August:** Floodwater have receded in most parts of the country.
- 28 August:** All evacuation centres are closed down and people move back to their homes.
- 29 August:** MRCS reassesses its plan of action in view of contextual developments, including closure of evacuation centres. The National Society determines the need to revise some aspects of the plan.



Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) has distributed 24,500 bottles of safe drinking water to affected people.

Photo: MRCS

Revisions to the emergency plan of action:

This operations update revises the initial EPoA, in line with contextual developments, and makes adjustments within budget lines. The adjustments to the plan and budget have taken into consideration that following the closure of evacuation centres, there is a lesser need for distribution of non-food items, including hygiene parcels. Following discussion between the disaster management department and senior leadership of MRCS, the National Society has deemed it most appropriate to shift the focus from distribution of non-food items to provision of unconditional cash transfers to at least 12,875 people (2,575 families). Cash transfers are deemed the most appropriate modality to support affected people to meet urgent household needs and to quickly get back on their feet as they return to their homes. The only in-kind items to be charged to this DREF operation are the 2,091 hygiene parcels already distributed.

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Floods brought by monsoon rains that have been pounding parts of Myanmar since late July 2016 affected a number of townships in Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Ayeyarwady, Magway and Yangon region and to some extent, Kachin State. According to figures released by the Relief and Resettlement Department (RRD) on 9 August, at least 377,000 people were displaced from their homes in the six states, with Magway being the most affected area – where some 60,000 people have been displaced. Five people died – two in Sagaing, two in Kachin and one in Yangon. Many schools remained closed across affected areas as floodwater gradually moved south towards the Ayeyarwady Delta.

Over the weeks that followed the initial flooding, it was clear that the swelling of rivers would recede fairly quickly. The Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) have monitored the situation closely until water levels went back to normal. All the temporary shelters were closed by 28 August, with affected people gradually returning to their villages.

In response to the floods, state and local governments led the response, sandbagging vulnerable areas along river banks and providing food, water, relief items, cash and shelter materials to affected people. The government's emergency operations centre was not activated and the response is mostly being managed at the state/regional level using existing resources. The government is coordinating with the Red Cross Red Crescent, civil society organizations and other actors who are providing relief supplies including food, water and oral rehydration salts.

Summary of current response

Local authorities at state and regional level, the Union Government, as well as the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) and local civil society organizations have responded to the situation, carrying out rescue operations and providing food, water, blankets, clothes, medical care and other basic necessities to those affected. Populations in flood-prone areas were evacuated to higher grounds and temporary sites, including monasteries and schools.

MRCS volunteers in branches throughout the affected areas were active and prepared to respond as monsoon rains continued to fall. In the aftermath of the floods, emergency response teams (ERTs) and the national disaster response teams (NDRTs) as well as emergency community volunteers were mobilized. They assisted in the evacuation of affected households to temporary sites and higher ground, in conjunction with local authorities and RRD.

MRCS also undertook inventory of its preparedness stocks in various warehouses.

In order to address the needs of affected people, MRCS launched its operational response plan aiming to cover five regions with 21 townships. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), upon request of the MRCS, allocated CHF 317,098 from the disaster relief emergency fund (DREF) to support the National Society response plan aimed at meeting the immediate humanitarian needs affected populations. Under the DREF operation, thus far MRCS has assisted approximately 10,455 people (2,091 families) with hygiene parcels.



Distribution by MRCS in Ingapu Township.
Photo: MRCS

Table 1: Distribution of non-food and hygiene-related items by MRCS

Item	Quantity distributed
Blanket	880
Dignity kits*	344
Drinking water (water bottle 1 litre)	24,500
Family kits*	78
Hygiene parcels* (funded by the DREF)	2,091
Hygiene kits*	448
Jerry cans	1,774
Kitchen sets*	6
Mosquito nets	933
Oral rehydration salts	7,600
Rope	190
Shelter toolkits	43
Tarpaulins	1,151
Water purification tablets	38,605

*refer to [Annex 1](#) for list of items in kit

The MRCS emergency operation centre (EOC) was activated on 6 August, together with the standard operating procedures for flood situations. The emergency task force had its first meeting on 7 August to plan for the response. MRCS staff – from multiple departments but coordinated by the disaster management department – are working from the EOC in national headquarters (NHQ) in Yangon, supported by the IFRC country office.

Over the first two weeks, daily meetings were conducted where information was shared and preparation of the operational plan was done. As the situation progressed and water levels went back to normal, the frequency of meetings was reduced to twice weekly. MRCS EOC is also keeping regular communication with government staff that normally belongs to the National EOC to ensure updated information.

Movement Coordination

A Movement coordination meeting was organized on 8 August, and daily updates provided to the Movement partners. MRCS and IFRC have worked jointly to assess the data that has come in and based on this, developed the operational plan. So far, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is indirectly supporting through the organizational development (OD) department with visibility material for volunteers and other contributions. They were on standby ready to discuss special requests and provide (RFL) disaster tracing support. In the case of expansion into States and Regions where they have an operational presence, further support and joint operations are foreseen.

Some Partner National Societies (PNS) present in Myanmar have provided further support the MRCS response plan with funds and their existing capacity in Myanmar.

Coordination with other stakeholders

MRCS and IFRC are closely coordinating efforts with local authorities (especially RRD), UNOCHA, other UN agencies and other humanitarian organizations in the affected townships and at Yangon level.

Among other efforts, MRCS and IFRC have been regularly sharing information and updates with RRD and UNOCHA. UNOCHA is utilizing MRCS data in triangulating figures of affected and needs.

At the township and state level, MRCS is regularly working in coordination with the local authorities especially General Administration Department (GAD). At the same time, MRCS has been receiving updates from OCHA and RRD. The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) has been sharing regular weather updates with MRCS.

IFRC regularly attends the meetings of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) in Myanmar. As government has not requested any assistance for INGOs and hardly any assistance from UN agencies, the risk of duplication is minimal. WFP will do some food distribution and UNICEF some assessment.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall Overview

The original overall objective was to ensure that the immediate needs of the 10,000 flood-affected families were met through provision of emergency relief items and safe drinking water over a three-month period. To this end, 2,091 families received hygiene parcels while they were still in shelters.

Due to the evolving situation, where floodwaters have receded and people have moved back to their homes, the objective is to ensure that the **urgent needs of at least 12,875 flood-affected people (2,575 families) are met through the provision of hygiene parcels and unconditional cash.**

Proposed strategy

The distribution of 2,091 hygiene parcels targeted displaced households in affected communities across Sagaing, Mandalay, Magway, Bago and Ayeyarwady), covering mainly families that were accommodated in temporary sites such as schools, monasteries and churches.

Moving forward, and as informed by assessments¹, MRCS will now aim to provide 2,575 most vulnerable households with unconditional cash transfers worth MMK 100,000 (CHF 85) per household for them to cover the most basic household needs. The value of the cash package is based on the minimum wage of MMK 3,000 per day – translating to MMK 90,000 per month – plus an extra MMK 10,000. The extra amount has been included based on lessons from the 2015 floods intervention. A lessons-learned workshop revealed the need to top up the amount.

Logistics and supply chain

Implementation of activities in areas of intervention will rely on existing logistics capacity of MRCS in country. All relief item procurement related to this DREF will be following IFRC standards procurement procedures and will be done according to procurement plan.

MRCS warehousing capacity is sufficient for current plan and will not require additional capacity. All transportation needs, both for relief items and staff, will be handled with MRCS current vehicle fleet or, when needed, with commercial transportation systems.

IFRC's regional logistics unit (RLU) in Kuala Lumpur will provide the technical support to the NS and IFRC Myanmar delegation, as per needed.

C. Detailed Operational Plan

Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

Needs analysis: Over the weeks that followed the initial flooding, it was observed that the swelling of rivers would recede fairly quicker than earlier projected. With floodwater having receded, all temporary shelters were closed on 28 August and affected people have returned to their villages. Cash transfers are, therefore, deemed the most appropriate to support the affected people to meet urgent household needs and to quickly get back on their feet as they return to their homes.

Population to be assisted: Approximately 2,575 families will be provided with unconditional cash transfers. The households may be a different caseload from those that received hygiene parcels although there may be possible overlaps. Selection of households to be assisted will be based on the selections criteria developed during the 2015 floods response.

Outcome 1: Immediate needs of the disaster affected population are met	Outputs		% of achievement
		Output 1.1 Unconditional cash transfers are provided to the target population	
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Conduct rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments	x		100%
Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance	x		10%

¹ Market survey was also conducted to ensure that markets were functioning and access to the market is available.

Conduct awareness/information sessions with appropriate CEA messages among targeted population	x		not started
Disburse cash to 2,575 households	x		not started
Post-distribution monitoring	x		not started
Progress towards outcomes			
The selection of intervention area has been determined. The preparatory work is still yet to commence but MRCS volunteers with practical experience from the 2015 floods response will support this intervention.			

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Needs analysis: In the initial phase, it was projected that there would be a greater need for hygiene-related non-food items and safe water. However, as floodwater receded quicker than projected and all temporary shelters were closed on 28 August, cash transfers are deemed the most appropriate to provide further support the affected people, including in prioritizing the household items they need. As such, no further distribution of items will be done.

Population to be assisted: The only in-kind items to be charged to this DREF operation are the 2,091 hygiene parcels already distributed.

Outcome 2: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 2.1: Hygiene-related goods (NFIs) are provided to the target population		100%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Distribute hygiene kits	x		100%
Progress towards outcomes			
A total of 2,091 hygiene parcels have been distributed mainly to families that were accommodated in temporary sites such as schools, monasteries and churches, in conjunction with the distribution hygiene promotion messages were distributed.			

Quality programming

Outcome 3: Continuous and detailed assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 3.1 Needs assessments are conducted and response plans updated according to findings		70%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Mobilize staff and volunteers for assessments (including Movement Partners' resources)	x		100%
Undertake assessments to determine specific needs of beneficiaries	x		100%
Develop detailed response plans with activities that will meet identified beneficiary needs	x		100%

Outcome 3: Continuous and detailed assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 3.2 Additional assistance is considered where appropriate and incorporated into the plan		100%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Ensure that any adjustments to initial plans are informed by continuous assessment of needs	x		100%

Outcome 3: Continuous and detailed assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 3.3: Mechanisms are in place to facilitate two-way communication with and ensure transparency and accountability to disaster-affected people		0%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Provide appropriate information, including on the scope and content of projects, to disaster-affected people	x		not started
Ensure that affected people can deliver feedback on the programmes and report any complaints, in confidence, and that such are actioned by MRCS and its partners	x		not started

Outcome 3: Continuous and detailed assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 3.4: Management and delivery of the operation is informed by an appropriate monitoring and evaluation system		0%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Develop and utilize an appropriate M&E system to support monitoring of the operation progress, including final evaluations and lessons learnt activities	x		not started
Conduct one lessons-learnt workshop	x		not started
Progress towards outcomes			
MRCS and IFRC have monitored the situation closely until water levels went back to normal. The operational strategy is being revised on the basis of the continuous monitoring of the situation and re-assessment of needs. Cash transfers are deemed the most appropriate modality to support the affected people to meet urgent household needs and to quickly get back on their feet as they return to their homes.			

D. Budget

This operations update makes adjustments within budget lines. The revised budget is attached [below](#).



Click here for:

[Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#)

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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.**

MDRMM007:

Myanmar Floods

Budget Group	DREF Grant Budget CHF
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	12,000
Cash Disbursements	218,875
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	230,875
Distribution & Monitoring	18,000
Transport & Vehicle Costs	4,325
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	22,325
National Society Staff	7,800
Volunteers	10,275
Total PERSONNEL	18,075
Travel	24,000
Communications	2,200
Financial Charges	270
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	26,470
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	19,353
Total INDIRECT COSTS	19,353
TOTAL BUDGET	317,098

Annex 1

1. Dignity Kit

No	Item Description	Quantity
1	Panties	1 Piece
2	Sanitary Napkin	1 Packet
3	T Shirt	1 Piece
4	Female Longyi	1 Piece
5	Bra (Lady Inner Wear)	1 Piece
6	Nail Clipper 3"	1 Piece
7	Rubber Slipper	1 Piece
8	Hair Brush or Comb	1 Piece
9	Shampoo	5 Sachets
10	Soap Bar	1 Bar
11	Bag (Dignity Kit)	1 Bag

2. Family Kit

No	Item Description	Quantity
1	Tarpaulin	2 Sheets
2	Blanket, woven	2 Pieces
3	Mosquito Net, LLIN	1 Piece
4	Male Longyi	1 Piece
5	Female Longyi	1 Piece
6	Boy Shirt	1 Piece
7	Boy Short Pant	1 Piece
8	Girl Blouse	1 Piece
9	Girl Skirt	1 Piece
10	Nylon Rope	1 Piece
11	Hammer	1 Piece
12	Kitchen Set	1 Box
13	Plastic Container Box	1 Box

3. Hygiene Kit

No	Item Description	Quantity
1	Bucket 20 Litres with Tap	1 Piece
2	Bucket with cover, 5 Gallon	1 Piece
3	Nail Clipper 3"	1 Piece
4	Sanitary Napkin	2 Packets
5	Tooth Brush	5 Pieces
6	Tooth Paste	5 Pieces
7	Towel	5 Pieces
8	Bath Soap	5 Pieces
9	Soap Cup	5 Pieces
10	Laundry Soap	5 Bars
11	Tissue Roll	3 Rolls
12	Napkin	2 Pieces
13	Detergent Powder	1 Packet
14	Shampoo	1 Bottle
15	Plastic Cup for drinking	2 Pieces
16	Hair Brush or Comb	1 Piece
17	Mirror	1 Piece
18	Water Purification Tablet	3 Strips
19	Disposable Razor	5 Pieces

4. Hygiene Parcel

No	Item Description	Quantity
1	Sanitary Napkin	1 Packet
2	Tooth Brush	5 Pieces
3	Tooth Paste	1 Piece
4	Towel	5 Pieces
5	Bath Soap	1 Piece
6	Laundry Soap	1 Bar
7	Tissue Roll	2 Rolls
8	Detergent Powder	1 Packet
9	Plastic Cup for drinking	2 Cups
10	Hair Brush or Comb	1 Piece
11	Cardboard Cartoon Box	1 Box

5. Kitchen Set

No	Item Description	Quantity
1	Steel Mug	4 Pieces
2	Steel Plate	4 Pieces
3	Steel Spoon	4 Pieces
4	Cooking Pot 9" with cover	1 Set
5	Frying Pan with cover	1 Set
6	Cardboard Cartoon Box	1 Box