

DREF operation update

Lao People's Democratic Republic: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRLA004	GLIDE n° FF-2016-000093-LAO
DREF operation update n° 2	Date of disaster: 11-20 August 2016
Date of issue: 25 November 2016	Period covered: 16 September – 15 November 2016
Operation start date: 26 August 2016	Expected timeframe: Three (3) months
Amount allocated from DREF: CHF 128,687	
Operation manager (IFRC): Hung Ha Nguyen, DRM Delegate, Bangkok CCST	Point of contact in Lao Red Cross: Dr. Kaviphone Southy, Director of DM department
Total number of people affected: 19,306	Number of people to be assisted: 5,160
Host National Society(ies) presence (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): Lao Red Cross (Lao RC) consists of a national office, 17 provincial branches and 47 district chapters. It has at least 3,295 volunteers and 350 paid staff members.	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: The Department of Disaster Management and Climate Change (DDMCC) and Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare	

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Heavy rains, which started pouring on 11 August 2016 and continued to 20 August 2016, have caused flooding in five provinces of Lao People's Republic. Initially, rains affected the provinces of Luang Prabang, Oudomxay, Saravan and Sayaboury on 11 to 18 August. As conditions began to improve, a week later there followed more rains fuelled by effects of Tropical Storm Dianmu, mainly affecting the province of Xiangkhouang.

According to information consolidated by the Lao RC, at least 19,306 people (10,438 males and 8,868 females) have been affected, with five casualties reported thus far. The largest number of affected population is in Oudomxay province. In addition, a joint assessment was convened by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare with other ministries and was conducted in the province of Oudomxay.



LRC DM and Health Directors at a distribution point in Baeng district.
Photo: IFRC

In some sections of Oudomxay and Xiangkhouang provinces, heavy rains caused localized landslides – in addition to flooding – with flooding also affecting some roads, slowing down the access to the impacted areas. As such access to remote communities and the poor road conditions were projected to present challenges for the operation.

The assessment report provided on Monday 29 August 2016 included the following numbers for Oudomxay province only, confirming the relevance of the LRC geographic targeting (the most affected area).

Table 1: Affected areas in Oudomxay province (source: Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare)

No	Name of District	Number of villages affected	Number of families affected	Number of people affected		
				Male	Female	Total
1	Baeng district	45	1,944	5,074	4,891	9,965
2	Houn district	42	4,342	3,494	5,299	8,793
3	Parbaeng district	1	20	73	81	154
4	Namor district	3	7	13	18	31
5	La district	4	50	101	198	299
Total		95	6,363	8,755	10,487	19,242

Following the assessment, the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare recommended the release of emergency fund for the province (LAK 200,000,000, equivalence of CHF 23,600).

Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society

The Lao RC is leading the implementation of this operation with technical support from IFRC, in particular through the deployment of a RDRT member from the Thai Red Cross Society (Thai RC) for an initial period of one month, as well as the deployment of a logistics staff member from the IFRC country cluster support team (CCST) office in Bangkok for 10 days.

Lao RC took the opportunity of a national workshop from 29 to 31 August 2016 with all Lao RC branches to arrange technical meetings for Lao RC colleagues from the Oudomxay branch office, focusing on the main features of the operation, the requirements and related plan of action. Furthermore, Lao RC leadership visited Oudomxay from 3 to 7 September 2016 as part of a high-level visit together with government officials. The following week was dedicated to the establishment of a Lao RC taskforce among departments at national level to manage this flood operation. Detailed assessments in the field for beneficiary selection were initiated on 12 to 22 September 2016, along with a survey of rice suppliers in Oudomxay province to inform the planned tendering process.

After the assessment, Lao RC coordinated with the Oudomxay branch office, and the local governor to distribute relief and hygiene items in Baeng district for 464 families (2,624 people) from 7 to 8 November 2016 and Houn district for 424 families (2,536 people) from 9 to 12 November 2016.

Overview of Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in country

The IFRC provides technical support to the Lao RC through its CCST office in Bangkok, Thailand. The Asia Pacific Regional Office in Kuala Lumpur also provides support if needed by the CCST. The ICRC and several PNSs – Danish RC, French RC, German RC, Luxembourg RC and Swiss RC – have bilateral programmes with Lao RC. Regular updates on the DREF planning and approval has been provided to in-country PNSs by the IFRC in the initial stage of the operation. French RC and Swiss RC have also provided information on the in-country situation as well as available tools for response (including technical support if required by Lao RC).

IFRC has directly supported Lao RC, in particular through the deployment of a Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) member from the Thai RC for an initial period of one month (from 4 to 29 September 2016), as well as the deployment of a logistics staff member from the IFRC CCST office in Bangkok for 10 days (from 4 to 14 September 2016). The second deployment of the same RDRT member from the Thai RC took place from 6 to 16 November to assist Lao RC with the organization and distribution as well as facilitation of hygiene promotion campaigns during the distribution of food and non-food items in Baeng and Houn districts. The RDRT has also provided support to the Lao RC with the preparation of the lessons learned workshop which will be taking place from 24 to 25 November 2016 in Oudomxay province. In addition, the CSST DRM Delegate visited Lao PDR in early October to provide technical support in terms of relief distribution organization and mobilization of Lao RC volunteers as well as the encouragement of women and children to participate in relief distribution and hygiene promotion campaigns.

Overview of non – RCRC actors in country

The Government of Lao PDR leads the overall coordination of disaster response through its National Disaster Management Office (NDMO) under the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. The Lao RC takes part in the coordination meetings held at NDMO as part of monitoring and information sharing at the national level. The ongoing detailed needs assessment and beneficiary selection process led by Lao RC has been well coordinated with NDMO and local authorities in Oudomxay province in general and in the most affected districts as well.

B. Operational strategy and plan

Overall Objective

The immediate needs of 1,000 flood-affected households are met through the provision of food, non-food and hygiene items.

Adopted strategy

Lao RC rolled out an immediate response in Oudomxay province, with priority on the provision of food items (rice, noodles and canned fish), non-food items (blankets and mosquito nets), essential hygiene items (soap and sanitary pads) and hygiene promotion sessions. The composition of the kit distributed to each household has followed Lao RC standard, which is in line with local culture and national standards.

Human resources

A Lao RC taskforce was established among departments to manage this flood operation.

A Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) member from the Thai RC was deployed to Lao PDR on 3 September for an initial period of one month together with a logistics officer from the IFRC CCST Bangkok office to support Lao RC with the launch of procurement processes and detailed needs assessment and beneficiary selection. The second deployment of the same RDRT member took place from 6 to 16 November to assist Lao RC with the organization and distribution as well as facilitation of hygiene promotion campaigns during the distribution of food and non-food items in Baeng and Houn districts.

The DRM Delegate of the IFRC CSST in Bangkok visited Lao PDR in early October to discuss with Lao RC on how best to speed up the procurement process to ensure relief items reach beneficiaries as soon as possible. In the meantime, the delegate also encouraged Lao RC to mobilize more Red Cross volunteers and women as well as children to participate in hygiene promotion activities in the villages and distribution points to be organized in all villages to enable women and children to be part of the campaign.

Logistics and supply chain

Logistics activities aim to effectively manage the supply chain in this DREF operation, including procurement, storage and transport of relief items to distribution sites in accordance with operational requirements and aligned to IFRC's logistics standards, processes and procedures.

The local sourcing of food and NFIs has been completed by the Lao RC logistics team with support of IFRC Bangkok CCST and IFRC Regional Logistics Unit in Kuala Lumpur. All food and NFI distributions have been completed as of this reporting period.

Communications

A web-story was published on 30 August 2016 on [IFRC website](#)

Planning, monitoring, evaluation & reporting (PMER)

Field assessments and coordination efforts are ongoing to inform the detailed planning of the distribution activities as well as related health/hygiene promotion sessions. Daily reports are sent by the RDRT member and logistics staff on loan to the IFRC CCST in Bangkok which in turns provides technical support through phone/skype /emails as per the needs.

Administration and Finance

IFRC signed a project agreement with Lao RC followed by a fund transfer to Lao RC on 31 August 2016.

C. Detailed Operational Plan

Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

Outcome 1: Immediate food needs of 5,160 individuals (1,000 households) are met)	Outputs		% of achievement
		Appropriate food items are distributed to vulnerable households	
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Identify, register, verify and mobilize beneficiary households for distributions	X		100%
Mobilise and transport the food items to the affected areas	X		100%
Distribute food items to beneficiary households	X		100%
Conduct post-distribution satisfaction surveys ensuring SADD is collected	X		50%

Progress towards outcomes

Distribution of food rations – each comprising 60kg of rice, 6 cans of fish and 10 packs of noodles – to the target 1,000 households has been completed. All beneficiaries were registered and received ration cards one week before the distributions. A ceremony was officially organized by Lao RC together with local authorities in Baeng district on 7 November which involved local medias and beneficiaries. Women and men attended the ceremony and distributions.

A post distribution survey was conducted right after the distribution to obtain beneficiary feedback on items they have received. The survey findings are being analyzed and will be included in the final report together with SADD.




Distribution of food and non-food items in Baeng and Houn districts.

Photo: Lao RC

Water, Health and Hygiene Promotion

Outcome 2: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities.	Outputs		% of achievement
		Output 2.1. Hygiene promotion activities which meet Sphere standards in terms of the identification and use of hygiene items provided to target population.	
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Collect and reprint existing IEC materials	X		100%
Conduct a briefing for LRC staff / volunteers on hygiene promotion sessions	X		100%
Conduct hygiene/health promotion sessions during	X		100%

distributions			
Progress towards outcomes			
Existing IEC materials on health education, hygiene promotion and disaster preparedness were reproduced by Lao RC and provided to affected people after the floods and during distribution of non-food items. Hygiene promotion sessions by Lao RC were supported by the RDRT member deployed and targeted mainly women and children in all villages reached. Topics covered included safe water handling, handwashing, disease prevention and vector control. Each of the 1,000 households provided with food and/or non-food items was reached with hygiene promotion.			
			
<p>LRC conducts hygiene promotion sessions in Baeng and Houn districts. Photo: Lao RC, Oudomxay Branch</p>			

Outcome 2: Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities.	Outputs		% of achievement
	Output 2.2: Hygiene-related goods (NFIs) which meet Sphere standards are provided to the target population.		100%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Identify, register, verify and mobilize beneficiary households for distributions	X		100%
Procure soap, detergents, mosquito nets and sanitary pads	X		100%
Organise the distribution of soap, detergents, mosquito nets and sanitary pads along with hygiene promotion	X		100%
Progress towards outcomes			
Selection and registration of the 1,000 target households were completed in September. After selection, each household identified received a ration card one week before the distribution date. Subsequently, the selected households were provided with bars of soap (two per family), detergent (four 400mg bottles per family), sanitary pads (six per family) and mosquito nets (two per family). Blankets were provided alongside hygiene-related NFIs. All the items provided met Sphere and national standards. Both women and men participated in the distributions.			
A post distribution survey was conducted after the distribution exercise to obtain beneficiary feedback on items they received, hygiene promotion campaigns undertaken and the IEC materials provided. The survey findings are being analyzed and will be included in the final report together with SADD.			

Shelter and settlements (and households items)


Outcome 3: immediate sleeping item needs of the target populations are met.	Outputs		% of achievement
	Blankets are provided to the target population		100%
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Identify, register, verify and mobilize beneficiary households for distributions.	X		100%
Mobilise and transport blankets to the affected areas	X		100%
Distribute blankets to beneficiary households	X		100%
Conduct post-distribution satisfaction surveys	X		50%

Progress towards outcomes

Blankets were provided alongside hygiene-related NFIs. Please refer to progress under Outcome 2 for details.

Quality programming

Outcome 4: Continuous and detailed assessments and analyses are used to inform the design and implementation of the operation.	Outputs		% of achievement
		Initial needs assessment are updated following consultation with beneficiaries	
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Initial assessment integrated across the three components above	X		100%
Continuous monitoring of community evolving needs	X		100%
Conduct one lessons learned workshop	X		50%
Progress towards outcomes			
Detailed needs assessment and beneficiary selection and registration were conducted in September following the guidelines from the Minimum Standard Commitments on Gender and Diversity, which were recently approved by the Lao RC (and translated in Lao language). The assessments have informed geographical targeting and selection of households to receive assistance.			
With distributions done, a 'lessons learned' workshop is planned to be held in Oudomxay Province on 24 to 25 November. In terms of methodology, a field visit will be organized on the first day (to validate post-distribution monitoring findings) followed a meeting in the second day to discuss lessons from the operation with the view of informing future improvements.			

Outcome 5: The management of the operation is informed by a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation system	Outputs		% of achievement
		Mechanisms are in place to facilitate two-way communication with and ensure transparency and accountability to disaster-affected people	
Activities	Is implementation on time?		% progress (estimate)
	Yes (x)	No (x)	
Provide appropriate information, including on the scope and content of the operation, to disaster-affected people	X		100%
Ensure that affected people can deliver feedback on the programmes and report any complaints, including protection and safety concerns, in confidence, and that such are actioned by Lao RC and its partners.	X		50%
Progress towards outcomes			
As part of the assessment, meetings with community members have been organized to understand their individual or unique household situations, to explain the scope of the response operation and to enable them understand the beneficiary selection criteria.			
<p>Children actively participated in hygiene sessions. Photo by IFRC</p>			

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

Lao Red Cross

- Khamhoung Heuangvongsy, president; phone: +856 21 216 610
- Amb. Thongphachanh Sonnasinh; phone: +856 20 5520 9474, email: tpcex@hotmail.com
- Dr Kaviphone Southy, DM department director; phone: +856 20 5568 2594; email: southy_lrc@yahoo.com

IFRC Bangkok country cluster support office

- Marwan Jilani, head of CCST; phone +66 61 417 5195; email: marwan.jilani@ifrc.org
- Hung Ha Nguyen, DRM delegate; phone +66 61 387 9480; email: hungha.nguyen@ifrc.org

IFRC Asia Pacific regional office

- Martin Faller, deputy regional director; email: martin.faller@ifrc.org
- Necephor Mghendi, operations coordinator; phone: +60-122-246-796; email: necephor.mghendi@ifrc.org
- Peter Ophoff, head of PMER; email: peter.ophoff@ifrc.org

IFRC Geneva:

- Cristina Estrada, response and recovery Lead; phone: +412 2730 4260; email: cristina.estrada@ifrc.org
- Susil Perera, senior officer, response and recovery; phone: +412 2730 4947; email: susil.perera@ifrc.org



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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.

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**.

Disaster Response Financial Report

MDRLA004 - Laos - Floods

Timeframe: 26 Aug 16 to 30 Nov 16

Appeal Launch Date: 26 Aug 16

Interim Report

Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2016/8-2016/10	Programme	MDRLA004
Budget Timeframe	2016/8-2016/11	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Funding

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
A. Budget		128,687				128,687	
B. Opening Balance							
Income							
<u>Other Income</u>							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		128,687				128,687	
C4. Other Income		128,687				128,687	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)		128,687				128,687	
D. Total Funding = B + C		128,687				128,687	

* Funding source data based on information provided by the donor

II. Movement of Funds

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
B. Opening Balance							
C. Income		128,687				128,687	
E. Expenditure		-86,330				-86,330	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		42,357				42,357	

Disaster Response Financial Report

MDRLA004 - Laos - Floods

Timeframe: 26 Aug 16 to 30 Nov 16

Appeal Launch Date: 26 Aug 16

Interim Report

Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2016/8-2016/10	Programme	MDRLA004
Budget Timeframe	2016/8-2016/11	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability		
	A					B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)						128,687		
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	27,926						27,926	
Food	56,336						56,336	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	6,071						6,071	
Teaching Materials	5,000						5,000	
Total Relief items, Construction, Sup	95,333						95,333	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Distribution & Monitoring	2,000						2,000	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	3,000						3,000	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	5,000						5,000	
Personnel								
International Staff			584			584	-584	
National Society Staff	3,500						3,500	
Volunteers	200						200	
Total Personnel	3,700		584			584	3,116	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	3,200		13			13	3,187	
Total Workshops & Training	3,200		13			13	3,187	
General Expenditure								
Travel	10,000		3,258			3,258	6,742	
Information & Public Relations	3,300						3,300	
Communications	300		22			22	278	
Financial Charges			909			909	-909	
Total General Expenditure	13,600		4,189			4,189	9,411	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			76,276			76,276	-76,276	
Total Operational Provisions			76,276			76,276	-76,276	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recove	7,854		5,269			5,269	2,585	
Total Indirect Costs	7,854		5,269			5,269	2,585	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	128,687		86,330			86,330	42,357	
VARIANCE (C - D)			42,357			42,357		