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# Emergency Plan of Action Final Report

## Bangladesh: Displacement due to Embankment collapse

 International Federation  
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

<b>DREF operation</b>	<b>Operation n° MDRBD021</b>
<b>Date of issue: 29 April 2019</b>	<b>Glide number: (not available)</b>
<b>Date of Disaster: 13-19 September 2018</b>	
<b>Operation start date: 25 September 2018</b>	<b>Operation end date: 25 January 2019</b>
<b>Host National Society: Bangladesh Red Crescent Society</b>	<b>Operation budget: CHF 314,122</b>
<b>Number of people affected: 43,550</b>	<b>Number of people assisted: 15,000</b>
<b>N° of National Societies involved in the operation:</b> Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) and International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) are involved in this operation.	
<b>N° of Other partner organizations involved in the operation:</b> Government of Bangladesh, Christian Aids, Shariatpur Development Society (SDS) – a local NGO who was involved in this crisis.	

## A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

### Description of the disaster

Shariatpur district, which is situated along the Padma river, the biggest river system in Bangladesh, has been severely affected by riverbank erosion caused by heavy rain and floods in some parts of India. The rise of water level in Padma river during the first two weeks of September 2018 caused major damage to the riverbank which led to collapse of embankments. According to the Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre of Bangladesh water development Board (BWDB), the water level near Naria upazila (sub- district) increased from 5.6m to 6.6 between 13-19 September. This resulted in huge damage and significant impacts on the collapse of embankments, and many houses and shelters across about 5 km stretch of Padma river were washed away. The river has struck hard to the vulnerable points at that time because of its increased water level and velocity, hence the vulnerable portions of the embankments could not withstand it and collapsed along with farmlands, houses and infrastructures.



Riverbank erosion is an endemic natural hazard in Bangladesh. Every year, millions of people in Bangladesh are affected by erosion that destroys many kinds of resources and infrastructures such as standing crops, farmland, buildings and others. In Naria upazila, Shariatpur district the effect of river erosion is clearly enduring, which has resulted in huge damage and significant impacts on the collapse of embankments, and many houses and shelters. (Photo: BDRCS)

Four unions and one municipality of Naria upazila and Zajira upazila had been affected to an extent that is unusual in the country. In both upazilas, an estimated 8,710 families or approximately 43,550 people (8,595 families in Naria upazila and 115 families in Zajira upazila) were displaced, and all their houses were washed

away<sup>1</sup>. Many people were unable to shift their houses and household items in time. Over 8,000 families (40,000 individuals) were living on the road and public lands after the displacement from their own houses. Affected families had lost everything including agricultural resources, cash and other assets and sources of livelihood. Agricultural laborers experienced seasonal unemployment, low demands for labor due to single crop farming, low wage in the lean season (September to October)<sup>2</sup>. Furthermore, all existing facilities such as tube-wells, latrines were washed away into the river, therefore there was a dire need for safe drinking water and access to sanitation facilities.

According to a detailed assessment conducted in January 2019, most of the focus group discussion (FGD) participants are either renting land or renting shelter and land, while some are temporarily living in their relative's house or in emergency shelters set up on their relative's land. Those who are living in rented shelter or land also have to reduce their "food basket" in order to pay for rent. In addition, common latrines have also been reported as insufficient in the same communities. Likewise, livelihood opportunities remain unstable after the displacement. Most of the men shared that they used to be shopkeepers and farmers prior to the embankment collapse, but after the disaster they have little choice but to turn to daily labour (e.g. manual labour) as their main source of income. They have shared that paid daily labour is usually available only for 15 days per month or less, hence income is lower compared to what they would usually get prior to their displacement. Despite of so many challenges, participants from displaced households did not report any major health issues within their communities.

## Summary of response

### Overview of Host National Society

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) is one of leading humanitarian organizations in Bangladesh with its branches (unit offices) having presence in all 64 districts. These branches are actively involved in disaster monitoring and response. In Shariatpur, the district branch had been monitoring and sharing the updated information with BDRCS NHQ regarding the river erosion situation since it began. On 11 September 2018, BDRCS issued the first situation report on huge displacement of families due to the river erosion. Subsequently on 13 September, an emergency coordination meeting took place among BDRCS, IFRC and in-country PNSs. During the meeting it was agreed to conduct a joint need assessment to understand more situation in the affected area. An assessment team was formed and comprises of BDRCS, IFRC, British Red Cross and German Red Cross representatives and the team conducted a rapid assessment from 14-16 September in Shariatpur district. Secretary, EC member and RCY of BDRCS Unit office-Shariatpur, also joined with the assessment team. The assessment report was shared with partners on 17 September.



Briefing by BDRCS staff prior to the distribution of tarpaulin and shelter toolkits among the affected people. (Photo: IFRC)

The following are the key achievements under this DREF operation:

- Distribution of 998 pieces of tarpaulin and 998 sets of shelter toolkits in the affected area from existing joint disaster preparedness stock of BDRCS and IFRC.
- Distribution of IEC materials to the community regarding the process of distribution of unconditional multipurpose cash grant.
- Deployment of one Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) member to support PGI issues of the operation. The National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) was also mobilised and oriented on basic PGI and CEA.
- Training of volunteers and staffs on the use of tarpaulin and shelter toolkits.
- Multipurpose cash grant of BDT 4,500 (approximately CHF 56.25) for each family had been provided among 2,949 families.

<sup>1</sup> Situation Report- District Relief and Rehabilitation Office (DRRO), Shariatpur and [www.daily-sun.com](http://www.daily-sun.com)

<sup>2</sup> [Start Fund, Bangladesh: briefing note, 17 September 2018](#)

- Detailed assessment on 'Displacement and HLP (housing, land and property)' was conducted in January 2019.
- Lessons learned workshop was organized on 24 January 2019.

### **Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country**

IFRC Bangladesh Country Office (CO) has highly experienced staff supporting BDRCS in emergency operations, longer-term programming, capacity building and organizational development. For this emergency operation, IFRC has been supporting BDRCS with the initial mobilization of funds and personnel, as well as in preparing situation reports and providing technical inputs for a coordinated operation. IFRC maintains active coordination with the humanitarian community and has been actively participating in different coordination meetings, including the Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCTT).

IFRC and BDRCS have been closely monitoring the situation and actively coordinating with all in-country Partner National Societies (PNSs). American Red Cross, British Red Cross, German Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent have in-country presence for supporting BDRCS in longer-term programming, including disaster risk reduction (DRR) programmes.

### **Overview of non-RCRC actors in country**

National Disaster Response Coordination Centre (NDRRC) of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) was monitoring the situation and publishing daily situation alerts. Deputy Commissioner of Shariatpur had been broadcasting information about further risks to the affected populations, which allowed for evacuation process and 39 shelters had been opened for affected peoples in Naria upazila. The government of Bangladesh provided food items (30kg rice, pulse) to 5,381 households, and cash (BDT 6,000) plus 2 bundles of CGI sheets each to 2,800 affected households. The assistance was provided starting September 2018 with the food allocation intended for 4 months' use. The government has also proposed to resettle about 200-300 displaced families to 3 *guchogram* (cluster village) projects situated in char areas: Kaunia I, Kaunia II, and Dokin Panchara.

The Start Fund Bangladesh Committee made the decision to activate the Start Fund Bangladesh Alert in response to the collapse of embankment in Naria, Shariatpur on 17 September 2018. The committee agreed that there was a clear humanitarian need and, on 19 September, awarded the Start Fund to Christian Aid to support the affected population.

## **Needs analysis and scenario planning**

### **Needs analysis**

The immediate need of the affected people was identified during initial Joint Need assessment. The affected people had lost their settlement and house along with WASH facilities, livelihood and food. Shortage of food was reported in Naria and Zajira upazilas. as they had lost their agricultural resources and source of livelihood, drinking water and firewood. Through provision of unconditional cash grant the emergency needs was expected to be eased at least for a month. In addition, through the provision of tarpaulins and shelter toolkits; emergency shelter needs were addressed.

However, as their original land had been washed away, people need new land for building their houses, but it was difficult to manage required land for resettlement. The situation was obviously challenging and needs enormous hence a detailed assessment was also conducted under this operation to understand the need and situation of the displaced population better.

A detailed assessment was conducted on displacement and HLP (housing, land and property) in January 2019. According to the assessment; the displacement in Naria Upazila and Zajira Upazila is a clear case of protracted displacement, given that land and shelter have permanently eroded into the Padma River. While that same land may form part of new char land, those who have lost their land may have difficulty proving ownership over such new char lands, with the state tenancy law requiring that such claim be made formally by the affected tenant before the local revenue office, and only if the land reappears in the same place within 30 years from the erosion. The state is not liable to compensate for loss of land and resulting displacement either. With restitution being unrealistic, no clear right to compensation, and with the high impact of displacement on livelihood sources, displaced families in Naria Upazila and Zajira Upazila have very little to jumpstart their recovery and will take a long time before they can find a durable solution to their displacement.

### **Operation Risk Assessment**

There was no major security threat in Bangladesh. However, some restrictions were imposed by the authority and some disturbances due to the “*General Parliamentary Election*” held on 30 December 2018, but there was no remarkable impact on the implementation of the operational activities in the field as well as HQ level.

## B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

### Overall operational objective:

The overall objective of the operation was to support BDRCS in ensuring that the humanitarian needs of 15,000 affected people (3,000 families) who are permanently displaced through the provision of multipurpose cash grant and emergency shelter support, with appropriate adherence to migration, protection, gender and inclusion measures.

### Proposed strategy

The DREF allocation had been supporting BDRCS to mobilize volunteers, National Disaster Response team (NDRT), Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) and staff; to conduct continuous assessment to understand the evolving needs and to provide humanitarian assistance among affected people.

A regular consultation on their needs or sharing the information was conducted with the community through interview, focus group discussion and even in a large or small community gathering. The operation particularly made attention on vulnerable people such as women, children and disable people during the beneficiary selection and distribution of relief materials. A greater level of transparency was maintained, and assessment report or data and information were shared with all partners and stakeholders. Lessons learned from previous operations were considered in this operation such as giving due focus on PGI, Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) and Community Response Mechanism (CRM).

The Community Response Mechanism (CRM) had been set up in the community where all the people had access to express their feedback or complain. Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) process was considered in the community through the information sharing. And monitoring support and technical guidance was frequently provided by the IFRC response team to BDRCS. In addition, the Sphere standard had also been considered while planning and deciding assistance packages.

One of the key interventions under this DREF operation was the distribution of multipurpose cash grant, which started on 25 November 2018, and a total 2,949 families had received it through the electronic money transfer services (EMTS) of Bangladesh Post Office (BPO). Each beneficiary received BDT 4,500 (approx. CHF 56.25) from the respective Post Office. Before starting cash distribution, a cash feasibility study was conducted to ensure whether nearby markets are functional and to determine the best financial service provider in operational context and area.

Apart from BDRCS, the government has also proposed to resettle displaced families to *guchogram* (cluster village) projects situated in char areas. With the support of IFRC, a detailed assessment on ‘displacement and HLP (housing, land and property) was conducted by BDRCS. Based on the findings, and in order to address the long-term needs of the affected families, a proposal has been prepared jointly by BDRCS and IFRC based on the key finding of the detailed assessment on displacement and Housing, Land and Property (HLP).

## C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN



### Shelter

**People reached: 4,990**

Male: 1,860

Female: 3,130

**Outcome 1: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well- being and longer tern recovery through shelter and settlement solutions.**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people in the targeted community have safe and adequate shelter and settlement	5,000	4,990

**Output 1.1:**  
Short, medium and long-term shelter and settlement assistance is provided to affected households

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# households provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance.	1,000	998

**Output 1.2: Technical support, guidance and awareness raising in safe shelter design and settlement planning and improved building techniques are provided to affected households.**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households provided with technical support and guidance, appropriate to the type of support they receive	1,000	998



#### Narrative description of achievements

Based on the immediate needs of the affected people, BDRCS distributed 998 tarpaulins and 998 sets of shelter toolkits from existing disaster preparedness stock. These items were distributed among the most vulnerable 998 families. IFRC Bangladesh Country office also provided other necessary support to BDRCS and actively coordinated with the other in- country PNS's. Basic awareness session on the use of tarpaulins and shelter toolkits was provided among the volunteers and beneficiaries during the operation period. In addition, replenishment process of tarpaulin and shelter toolkits had been completed with the support of the IFRC APRO.



(left) Distribution of shelter and household items to the communities (right) and briefing by BDRCS staff prior to the distribution of tarpaulin and shelter toolkits among the affected people. (Photo: IFRC)

Challenges
It was really challenging to distribute limited support in comparison to the huge number of affected people. The operation team was tried to select the most vulnerable people (most affected and based on the needs of shelter) among the displaced people.
Lessons Learned
There were no unit volunteers involved in distribution due to inactive unit committee which hampered and slowed down the process. As a solution, BDRCS engaged 20 community volunteers (12 females, 8 males) to support the operation. Formation and active engagement of community volunteers was observed during the distribution process. But it is sometimes a constraint to engage efficiently those untrained volunteers. An alternative plan for creating strong teams in emergency response operations might be considered for building a pool of community volunteers. This has been a great learning from this DREF operation. Strategic planning and resource mobilization in a better coordinated way may not be possible in case of inactive unit locations.

 <p><b>Livelihoods and basic needs</b>  <b>People reached: 14,745</b>  <b>Male: 5,898</b>  <b>Female: 8,847</b></p>		
<b>Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods.</b>		
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of targeted households that have enough food, cash, income to meet their survival threshold.	3,000	2,949
<b>Output 1.1: Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs.</b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
# of households reached with cash for basic needs	3,000	2,949
Narrative description of achievements		
<p>A total of 2,949 HHs received the multipurpose Cash grant. This is a little below the initial target as 51 families among the selected beneficiaries were not present during the distribution. A cash feasibility study was also conducted to know nearby markets and determine suitable financial services providers.</p>		
		
<p>People were informing with the hanging poster related to the disbursement process of multipurpose cash grants. (Photo: IFRC)</p>		
<p>A brochure was designed to describe ‘the detailed procedure of cash transfer through the Bangladesh Post Office’. A field test was done in the IFRC country office with the staff before the ‘multipurpose cash distribution’. The exercise was conducted on ‘how to distribute or transfer the allocated money to the community’. Staff were briefed to follow the same process provided in the printed material and also received the symbolic services from the response team during the field test. Staff were notified through a SMS for the services (same as described in the leaflet for multipurpose cash grant where beneficiary will receive a SMS to collect the allocated money with specific date and time).</p>		

Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) was conducted (with more than 5 per cent of total beneficiaries; 123 females and 59 males) after the distribution of multipurpose cash grant to know the effectiveness and efficiency of the cash-based interventions (CBI) and delivery mechanism used. According to PDM, 98 per cent of beneficiaries were satisfied with the cash support and they preferred to receive cash assistance in future also. All the responders reported that their required items were available in their local market. It was also reported that the top three cash spending areas are food (first position), house reconstruction (second position) and education (third position).

Based on the analysis of PDM results, CBI was found to be as the most effective method whereas community were satisfied with the services and willing to continue the method in future. The maximum number of real beneficiaries were identified, and vulnerability was tried to be covered as widely possible.

#### Challenges

The major challenge of this operation was to select 3,000 most vulnerable people out of so many displaced people. It was also hard to reach the selected beneficiaries as they were widely scattered. Reaching them through phone or Short Message Service (SMS) of mobile phone was a challenge as, people mostly keep their mobiles switched off while at work during the day, and, some people were not even able to operate their phone properly. Some of them also cannot read the SMS in English. However, the NDRT and staff worked hard and finally managed to reach targeted beneficiaries. They individually checked the SMS of those who were not able to check or receive themselves; and also communicated in the evening or on off days.

#### Lessons Learned

Photo attachment in master roll was very useful to identify beneficiaries and issue cheque for cash transfer. It was also a good learning to provide the sender phone number in the leaflet so that the community can easily recognise the SMS. On the other hand, provision of official SIM card and relevant device support (mobile phone) for DR department is required for any future response operation.

As more than 85 per cent respondents during the PDM were satisfied with the EMTS service of Bangladesh post office, it can be replicated in future emergency operation.



### Protection, Gender and Inclusion

**People reached:** 14,745

Male: 5,898

Female: 8,847

**Outcome 1: Communities identify the needs of the most vulnerable and particularly disadvantaged and marginalized groups, as a result of inequality, discrimination and other non-respect of their human rights and address their distinct needs.**

Indicators	Target	Actual
<i>The operation demonstrate evidence addressing the specific needs to ensure equitable access to disaster response services</i>	Yes	Yes
<i>Output 1.1: NS programmes improve equitable access to basic services, considering different needs based on gender and other diversity factors.</i>		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>NS programmes improve equitable access to basic services, considering different needs based on gender and other diversity factors.</i>	Yes	Yes

Narrative description of achievements

Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) is another important focus in this DREF operation. IFRC deployed one PGI Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) member to support the operation and to work alongside with BDRCS staff and volunteers as well as IFRC Bangladesh CO team under this DREF operation. PGI RDRT together with PGI Officer from IFRC Bangladesh CO visited Naria and Zajira upazilas and provided necessary technical and strategic support, guidance to the operations team and also supported the analysis of gender and protection needs of the displaced population.

As one of the sensitization processes on PGI, the sitting arrangement was made considering special needs and specific vulnerabilities during the distributions. PGI team developed some indicators to observe the protection risk and gender analysis during the field visit.

PGI team helped the community to form an adolescence's committee in Naria upazila, informally named "Naria Kishoree Shangathan". Subsequently, 23 committee members participated in the basic orientation on PGI and MHM (Menstrual Hygiene Management) on 19 January 2019. BDRCS focal point for PGI and IFRC Health Officer facilitated those sessions; furthermore, 148 female beneficiaries received (including the participants of the orientation) dignity kits which include one bucket containing 1kg pack of washing powder, two washing soaps, one torchlight, a set of panties and one pack of sanitary napkin.

In addition, a 1-day orientation on PGI was organized at BDRCS NHQ on 13 November 2018. The NDRT members, RCY volunteers, BDRCS staff and IFRC staff participated in this orientation. The orientation was based on the minimum standard commitment to gender and diversity in emergencies with seven moves module of IFRC which has been adapted in Bangla language by the BDRCS. A total of 24 persons (13 females and 11 males) participated in the orientation programme.



(top and bottom) Distribution of dignity kits among the female beneficiaries by BDRCS staff and volunteers. (Photo: IFRC)



(right) FGDs were held in the communities to identify the protection risk and the specific need of different groups and (left) an orientation on Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) including minimum standard commitment in BDRCS NHQ. (Source: IFRC)

The Community Response Mechanism (CRM) was established through the setting up of a CRM box in community level. Around 1,902 papers (complain or feedback forms) had been received through CRM box and 1,099 papers were found only with copy of their NID card. Some 153 copies were submitted twice. It was also found that 16 had already received the cash grant and 32 were already registered for next distribution. Therefore, around 602 cases were found as valid and they wanted their names to be enlisted in the BDRCS

beneficiary list. BDRCS hotline number (+8801811458524) managed at headquarters level was also disseminated in the communities as well as mentioned in the leaflet where the cash disbursement process through the post office is explained. The orientation on the CEA was done through different activities such as leaflet distribution, small gatherings of people to share information on BDRCS response, corruption prevention and cash distribution process.



CRM mechanism established by setting up CRM boxes at community level. (Photo: IFRC)

#### Challenges

The operation team has experienced some difficulties during the field visit. There was a strong demand from the people who are currently not in the beneficiary list to be included in the list. Several complaints were received on this issue through the CRM box as well. The PGI team also faced a difficulty to motivate people on PGI issues as people were living in a very poor living condition devoid of reasonable shelter, water and sanitation conditions. But the team handled the situation carefully and finally was able to motivate the community

#### Lessons Learned

CEA guidelines may be followed properly in future operations while engaging the community.



### Migration and Displacement

People reached: 14745

Male:

Female:

#### **Outcome 1: Communities support of needs of migrants and their families and those assisting migrants at all stages of migration (origin, transit and destination)**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with services for migration assistance and protection	15,000	14,745
<b>Output 1.1:</b> Assistance and protection services to migrants and their families are provided and promoted through engagement with local and national authorities as well as in partnership with other relevant organizations		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of detail assessment conducted	1	1

Narrative description of achievements
It was estimated that more than 43,000 people had been displaced in this disaster and that more than 8,000 people will be permanently displaced. BDRCS was supported to undertake a “displacement assessment” to understand the needs of all those affected by displacement, including the host communities. A displacement advisor was deployed and conducted the assessment on January 2019. This assessment mainly suggested for “durable solutions” as intermediate support - BDRCS can provide rental assistance and livelihood support (e.g. cash, training) for the most vulnerable households for at least a year. For this purpose, Government can facilitate to identify the most vulnerable displaced households in Naria and Zajira Upazila with the participation of Red Cross, civil society and affected communities; identify <i>khas</i> land (land which is deemed to be owned by government and available for allocation according to government priorities) that can be allocated for long term lease to families displaced by the river erosion and establish a comprehensive resettlement plan for these <i>khas</i> lands, which can be done from both government and other INGOs and BDRCS; establish a protocol for disseminating early warning and early action information, to adequately inform and prepare high risk areas for river erosion (e.g. zoning, community-based early warning, pre-emptive evacuation protocols) can be another strategy to reduce the risk. On the other hand, national level Government can establish mechanism to record and track movement of internally displaced persons (IDPs), come up with practical guidelines on <i>khas</i> land allocation and resettlement programmes for those displaced by river erosion. For RCRC movement or BDRCS, it is recommended to advocate for a rights-based and participative approach to addressing internal displacement caused by river erosion, in line with the Fundamental Principles, the 2009 Movement Policy on Internal Displacement, and Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement .
Challenges
The displacement assessment report only covers the two most affected Unions in Shariatpur District, and only presents the information gathered from focused group discussions, key informant interviews, beneficiary selection data, and direct observation of members of the assessment team.
Lessons Learned
To better understand the overall displacement issue, it is recommended to conduct assessment in both affected areas and where the displaced people migrated.

<b>Strengthen National Society</b>		
<b><i>Outcome 1: National Society capacity building and organizational development objectives are facilitated to ensure that National Societies have the necessary legal, ethical and financial foundations, systems and structures, competences and capacities to plan and perform.</i></b>		
<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<i># of NS branches that are well functioning</i>	1	1
<b><i>Output 1.1: National Societies have the necessary corporate infrastructure and systems in place.</i></b>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
<i># of volunteers and staff insured</i>	50	50+
<i>NS has necessary infrastructure and systems in place</i>	Yes	Yes
Narrative description of achievements		
All the unit volunteers and staff involved with the operation were insured. 19 NDRT volunteers (9 female and 10 male) were deployed. Furthermore, a capacity building training for staff and volunteers was conducted that included an orientation on ‘Fraud & Corruption Prevention’, ‘Code of Conduct’ and ‘CEA’, PGI.		
Challenges		
The absence of approved executive district unit committee hindered the initial coordination and communication effort. However, later with the support of unit level officers and unit volunteers, BDRCS managed to overcome these challenges.		
Lessons Learned		
Ensuring deployment of an efficient team with adequate number of members is recommended as a key for successful and timely DREF operation. Deployment of skilled NDRT members in districts like Shariatpur where		

regular unit activities are absent is found good practice. However, a proper orientation on overall DREF operation plan and purpose is mandatory in such case (recommendation of the lesson learned workshop).

### **Influence others as leading strategic partner**

**Outcome S3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable.**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>The IFRC secretariat, together with national Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels</i>	Yes	Yes

**Output S3.1.2:** IFRC produces high-quality research and evaluation that informs advocacy, resource mobilization and programming.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i># of lesson learned workshop conducted</i>	1	1

Output S3.1.2 IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i># of meeting and workshop conducted</i>	4	4

#### **Narrative description of achievements**

A lesson learned workshop was organized on 24 January 2019 at the end of the operation. The half-day long workshop provided important learning and insights on better and quality delivery of emergency and early recovery assistance to communities suffering from river erosion and subsequent embankment collapse. Members involved with the operation, relevant department representatives of BDRCS and representatives from IFRC and PNSs, NDRT members and community members were the participants of this workshop.

Several meetings were conducted with Government and other organization during the initial assessment, beneficiary selection and multipurpose cash distribution. An external expert was deployed to conduct a detailed assessment of the specific needs of displaced people in the affected community. The displacement advisor provided technical operational and strategic support, guidance and analysis. The recommendations of the assessment include durable solutions including safe, voluntary and dignified return, relocation or local integration, in line with the fundamental principles.

#### **Challenges**

After having different meetings with concerned stakeholders and conducted detailed assessment, it was realized that under Bangladesh's law, people displaced due to river erosion have no clear right to compensation for damaged or lost property. However, they do have a right to access agricultural *khas* land for their rehabilitation.

#### **Lessons Learned**

Advocating for the displaced people should be done continuously for longer-term purpose. In this respect, BDRCS and IFRC Bangladesh country office are jointly preparing the proposal to address the long-term needs of the displaced population.

### **Effective, credible and accountable IFRC**

**Outcome 1: The IFRC enhances its effectiveness, credibility and accountability**

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>% of operations in accordance to established guidelines.</i>	100%	100%

**Output 1.1:** IFRC staff shows good level of engagement and performance

Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of compliance with IFRC HR procedures	100%	100%
Narrative description of achievements		
<p>IFRC has been regularly providing technical and monitoring support through its existing staff. Periodic monitoring support and technical guidance is provided by the IFRC response team. Web stories has been published in the IFRC <a href="#">website</a> as well as in the BDRCS <a href="#">website</a> regarding this operation and activities. Also, regular updates, including photos and video stories, have been provided through social media platforms. IFRC also provided necessary support in designing IEC materials, PGI mobilization, necessary orientation to the NDRTs and preparing operations update. In all IEC materials, and during the field activities, IFRC visibility was ensured. The operation was also supported by engaging one RDRT (external human resource) to the affected area. The RDRT was deployed to support PGI activities and another deployment is planned to conduct the detail assessment of the specific needs of displaced people. The displacement and Housing, Land and Property (HLP) advisor is providing technical guidance to the assessment process.</p>		
Challenges		
<p>Managing and analyzing the beneficiary database had been considered as one of the major challenges as there was a lack of professional and skilled human resources during the initial stage for the operation. However, later with the support of information management (IM) professionals (IM RDRT and IM intern) from other operations; BDRCS managed to complete the operation as best possible.</p>		
Lessons Learned		
<p>Considering the important role of technical skilled person in terms of continuous managing and analyzing the beneficiary database, both IFRC and BDRCS are in process to recruit IM professionals; so that they can extend their support from the beginning of emergency phase in future operations.</p>		

## D. BUDGET

CHF 314,122 was allocated for BDRCS to respond to respond to the displacement due to embankment collapse in Shariatpur district. Overall, the operation utilized CHF 270,170, recording 86 per cent utilization of the allocation. The balance of CHF 43,952 will be returned to the DREF pool.

The final financial report is appended to this narrative report. [click [here](#)]

## Reference documents



Click here for:

- [Previous Appeals and updates](#)
- [Emergency Plan of Action \(EPoA\)](#)

**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 (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**.

# DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2018/9-2019/3	Operation	MDRBD021
Budget Timeframe	2018/9-2019/1	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 19/Apr/2019

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## MDRBD021 - Bangladesh - displacement due to embankment collap

Operating Timeframe: 25 Sep 2018 to 25 Jan 2019

### I. Summary

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Funds &amp; Other Income</b>	<b>314,122</b>
DREF Allocations	314,122
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>-270,170</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>43,952</b>

### II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	278,532	247,817	30,715
AOF2 - Shelter	27,327	14,634	12,693
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs			0
AOF4 - Health			0
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene			0
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion			0
AOF7 - Migration			0
<b>Area of focus Total</b>	<b>305,859</b>	<b>262,451</b>	<b>43,407</b>
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies		180	-180
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	4,935	5,228	-293
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	3,328	2,310	1,018
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC			0
<b>Strategy for implementation Total</b>	<b>8,263</b>	<b>7,719</b>	<b>544</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>314,122</b>	<b>270,170</b>	<b>43,952</b>

# DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2018/9-2019/3	Operation	MDRBD021
Budget Timeframe	2018/9-2019/1	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 19/Apr/2019

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## MDRBD021 - Bangladesh - displacement due to embankment collap

Operating Timeframe: 25 Sep 2018 to 25 Jan 2019

### III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>	<b>207,750</b>	<b>198,981</b>	<b>8,769</b>
Shelter - Relief	39,000	29,400	9,600
Other Supplies & Services		1,471	-1,471
Cash Disbursement	168,750	168,109	641
<b>Land, vehicles &amp; equipment</b>	<b>2,000</b>		<b>2,000</b>
Computers & Telecom	2,000		2,000
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>10,250</b>	<b>12,235</b>	<b>-1,985</b>
Distribution & Monitoring	3,000	6,899	-3,899
Transport & Vehicles Costs	2,750	4,107	-1,357
Logistics Services	4,500	1,229	3,271
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>16,675</b>	<b>13,252</b>	<b>3,423</b>
International Staff		266	-266
National Society Staff	15,750	12,986	2,764
Volunteers	925		925
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>24,500</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>23,550</b>
Workshops & Training	24,500	950	23,550
<b>General Expenditure</b>	<b>33,775</b>	<b>28,263</b>	<b>5,511</b>
Travel	16,525	21,965	-5,440
Information & Public Relations	3,500	1,290	2,210
Office Costs	4,000	2,317	1,683
Communications	1,000	50	950
Financial Charges	3,750	2,642	1,108
Other General Expenses	5,000		5,000
<b>Indirect Costs</b>	<b>19,172</b>	<b>16,489</b>	<b>2,682</b>
Programme & Services Support Recover	19,172	16,489	2,682
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>314,122</b>	<b>270,170</b>	<b>43,952</b>