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Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

India: Cyclone Amphan

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF n°	MDRIN025	Glide n°	TC-2020-000135-IND
Date of issue:	21 May 2020	Expected timeframe:	1 month
		Expected end date	30 June 2020
Category allocated to the disaster or crisis: Orange			
DREF allocated: CHF 241,329			
Total number of people affected	At least 50million people in at-risk areas	Number of people to be assisted:	Directly-25,600; Indirectly-more than 50 million people with early warning messages
Districts affected:	14 (as per estimates by IMD)	Districts targeted:	Districts in West Bengal & Odisha
Host National Society's presence			
The Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) is India's largest voluntary humanitarian organization; it has 35 State/Union Territory Branches with more than 700 districts and sub district branches throughout the country, providing relief in times of disasters/emergencies. Over 700 staff and volunteers are trained in disaster response, forming Social and Emergency Response Volunteers (SERV), National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT), State Disaster Response Teams (SDRT), and District Disaster Response Teams (DDRT). IRCS has also trained disaster response teams, including 30 members who are specialized in water and sanitation.			
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation:			
The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is actively supporting the IRCS. IFRC is maintaining close coordination with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).			
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: The State Disaster Management Authority (SDMA)			

A. Situation analysis

Description of the disaster

Cyclone Amphan made landfall on the coastal of West Bengal on the afternoon of 20 May 2020 (Wednesday) at Very Severe Cyclonic Storm (VSCS) intensity, leaving low-lying areas drenched, and continued to track toward North-eastern India by way of Bangladesh. It passed Kolkata on the same day, at night. It is likely to be downgraded into Cyclonic Storm (CS) by 21 May, Thursday night but still expected to remain a dangerous storm as it spreads heavy rain across Bangladesh and North-eastern India. A major concern is heavy downpours that lead to widespread flooding in low-lying areas and landslides in the upslope areas. Gusty winds is also still another concern that increases the risk of widespread damage including power outage, down trees, and the collapse of buildings. According to media reports, Cyclone Amphan has so far claimed at least 10 lives and leaving a trail of destruction behind. Odisha is currently assessing the damage caused by the cyclone, which has also impacted its coastal districts.



A house destroyed in West Bengal, 20 May. (Photo: IRCS)

Summary of the current response

Overview of Host National Society

IRCS National Headquarters (NHQ) has sent out alerts to the state branches and closely monitoring the developments and movement of cyclone. The National Society (NS) has taken a review of stock positions and have instructed the warehouses in states to be in readiness for any response that may be required. IRCS NHQ has been coordinating with the ICRC and the IFRC. Tarpaulins are mobilized from district headquarter to local warehouses, and branch secretaries are coordinating with the State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) and the District Collectors of IRCS. District collectors are the chief of the District administration, also called District Magistrate.

The Odisha and West Bengal State Branches have taken important decisions; emergency meetings conducted for team mobilisation to vulnerable sites; control rooms under the Disaster Management Unit are set up to monitor the trajectory of cyclone and to coordinate emergency response; Youth Red Cross coordinators are on alert; SDRT and DDRT members are on standby; cyclone shelters in Odisha are reached out with early warning messages, pre-stocking of essential medicines and dry food. Upon instruction from the government authorities to evacuate, the Red Cross volunteers at the communities will work alongside the government agencies in evacuation.

West Bengal Red Cross State Branch reported keeping close contacts with the district/sub-district and local Panchayats to spread early warning and help most vulnerable people reach safe shelters.

In Odisha, 42 cyclone shelters out of 65 are kept in readiness to respond to the emergency - each shelters have been provided with 5 tarpaulins, 200 face masks, 100 surgical gloves, 1 radio set, 1 shelter level first aid kit, 5 buckets, 10kg rope, 1 fire extinguisher, and 1,180 Red Cross volunteers are deployed in the districts of Kendrapada, Bhadrak, Balasore, Jagatsinghpur, Ganjam, Khordha, and Jajpur.

Overview of Red Cross Red Crescent Movement in country

IFRC is present in the country through the Country Cluster Support Team (CCST) office in New Delhi, and supported the IRCS for Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) request. ICRC is also present in the country. Currently, there are two Partner National Society (PNS) - Qatar Red Crescent, Canadian Red Cross present in the country. IRCS, IFRC and ICRC are coordinating with each other for the response operation. There is regular coordination among IFRC, ICRC and IRCS on the plans to support the response operation.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

IRCS is coordinating with the SDMAs. Coordination with other agencies include District Collector, State and local Police, Indian Navy, Indian Air Force, Indian Coast Guard, NDRF, Disaster Rapid Action Force, Civil Defence, St. John Ambulance Association

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

Needs analysis

As the situation is unfolding, Red Cross volunteers are expediting communication to vulnerable communities, activating community task forces, disaster preparedness committees, last minute checking of the equipment in cyclone shelters. Volunteers are reaching out to the vulnerable spots where inundation and tidal surge can damage the habitation, and those are prone to torrential rain and strong wind. Cyclone warning messages and instructions from SDMA, District Authorities, IMD information are disseminated through community siren warning, word of mouth, public announcement system.



IRCS Volunteers conveying the early warning and having an awareness campaign on Cyclones. (Photo: IRCS West Bengal Branch)



Shelter Committee Meeting in Odisha following COVID-19 guidelines. (Photo: IRCS Odisha Branch)

Rapid assessments made by the branches determine the needs could be dry food, health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), shelter material (tarpaulin) and other household items. This will be confirmed once a full-scale needs assessment is done after landfall and emergency stage is over. It may be mentioned that from past history of cyclones in 2013 and 2019, the above needs are essential.

Following the onset of the cyclone, IFRC will provide technical supports to carry out a detail needs assessment in their respective localities. The needs assessment will provide IRCS and IFRC with the information needed to make informed decisions on their response efforts. IRCS already has disaster preparedness stocks prepositioned in its warehouses strategically placed across the country that will be dispatched to respond to the disaster immediately. This includes 20,000 pieces of tarpaulins.

Targeting

The following 14 districts are in higher risk areas which will be affected by Cyclone Amphan with strong winds and heavy rainfall. The district collectors of Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapada, Balesore and Bhadrak in Odisha and the district collectors of east & west Medinipur, south & north 24 Parganas, Howrah, Hoogli, Kolkata and adjoining districts of West Bengal have been asked to roll all preparedness to face any eventuality and undertake the evacuation of the people living close to the coast to a safe place. Currently IRCS is focusing in disseminating early warning messages to these districts covering more than 50 million people. IRCS is also targeting people in the evacuation centres in delivering assistance.

Scenario planning

A super cyclone will bring torrential rain and strong wind with high tidal surge and inundate low laying areas in coastal districts. Its impact is expected to be huge on lives, livelihoods, damage of public and private infrastructure and the economy. A conservative estimate shows 50 million people will be affected, but this number is expected to be more in real situation. Standing paddy crops, vegetables, cereals will be badly hit and shall have impact on the food and income security of the people. Because of no income and damages by the cyclone, parents would not be able to cover their children's tuition fees. It is expected that cyclone will have compounding impact over and above the COVID-19 which has shattered the local economy. If the situation evolves, there is a possibility for IRCS to **scale up the operation**.

Scenario	Humanitarian consequence	Potential Response
People in the coastal districts of Odisha & West Bengal will have impact on their socio-economic wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage to shelters/ houses in the low-lying areas. • Loss of human life and livestock. • Crop damage. • Private and public infrastructural damage. • Mangroves and ecological damage. • Increase in numbers of mental health and psychosocial problems. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Warning Dissemination. • Evacuation to safe shelters/multipurpose cyclone shelters. • Provide First Aid. • Provide immediate emergency food ration/ready to eat. • Provide drinking water facility. • Provide hygiene promotion messages. • Provide Mental Health and PSS awareness. • Provide safe shelters to adolescent girls, women and transgenders.
With existing COVID, this will reduce further the coping capacities of people who are socially and economically vulnerable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential for increasing COVID 19 case slots due to evacuation. • Elderly people with Chronic illness and young children may be exposed to the outbreak 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide PPE Kits. • Provide Awareness on Social Distancing and COVID guidelines. • Ensure Social Distancing during emergency relief distribution and safe shelter provision • Hand washing stations at communities and in cyclone Shelters.
Food and Income Insecurity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food and income insecurity will lead to nutritional challenges specially for children, lactating mothers, households with large family size, migrants. • Farmers will lose seed stocks and food grains • Standing Horticulture crops, vegetables will get damaged 	<p>Subject to assessment, the following provisions will be made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cash Transfer to cover unmet needs. • Household income support. • Opportunity through Cash Transfer and training.

B. Operational strategy

This operation will strengthen further the existing capacity of the State Red Cross chapters. IRCS's disaster response preparedness activities by the volunteers and staff will be scaled up - disseminating early warning messages, emergency response, needs assessment and provisioning of humanitarian assistance. Other disaster management tools (NDRT and SDRT) members will be deployed to undertake needs assessment and provide professional service in planning,

quality assurance and monitoring of the operation. The operational plan will be flexible to adapt to the changing needs of the field situation and when needed to be revised.

Summary of the proposed strategy is as follows:

- Volunteer mobilization to support Government in evacuation of communities and disseminate early warning messages which includes awareness on COVID-19.
- Hand Washing stations at communities and in cyclone shelters.
- Distribution of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
- Deployment of NDRTs.
- Conduct damage and needs assessment and define a potential disaster response strategy.
- Distribution of dry food items that includes flattened rice, biscuits, noodles and molasses
- Provision of first aid and Psychosocial Support (PSS) service by volunteers.
- Distribution of shelter materials including Tarps/Kitchen set

Operational Support Services

Human resources

IRCS's Disaster Management Department, logistic and WASH are on fully engaged in assessing the situation, providing planning and technical support to the branches. State branches are coordinating with the State Disaster Management Authority and the District Collectors where cyclone is going to make impact. Other technical resources available within the country and in the movement will be mobilised if needed.

Communications

The IFRC will support the communications team of the National Society to actively communicate about the situation and the response, with the aim of supporting community-based disaster preparedness and response, generating visibility, promoting partnerships, and supporting resource mobilization (RM) for the National Society. Close collaboration will be maintained between the IFRC regional communications unit, IFRC country office, and the National Society to ensure a coherent and coordinated communications approach.

Public message produced by State Disaster Management Authorities and Red Cross will be disseminated by the trained volunteers in the target communities, where needed such messages will be reprinted and circulated to the public. Communications content will be actively promoted through the news media and digital channels and shared widely with interested National Societies within the IFRC network for further promotion.

Logistics and supply chain

Logistics activities aim to effectively manage the supply chain management. This includes procurement, fleet, storage and transport to distribution sites in accordance with the operation's requirements and alignment to the IFRC's logistics standards, processes and procedures.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

IRCS will oversee all operational, implementation, monitoring and reporting aspects of the operation in the affected areas through its branches and volunteers. IFRC Country Cluster Support Team will provide technical support in Programme management to ensure the operational objectives are met. A lesson learnt workshop will be conducted at the end of the DREF operation to check if objectives of the operation are met, and to analyze operational challenges and gaps in planning. A final report on the operation will be made available three months after the end of the operation.

Security

IRCS security framework will apply throughout the duration of the operation to their staff and volunteers. Staff and volunteers of IRCS to be advised to do online learning (Stay safe). For personnel under IFRC security's responsibility, including surge support and integrated PNS deployed to the area, the existing IFRC country security plan, including security regulations, contingency plans for medical emergencies, relocation and critical incident management to be applied. A full security briefing covering identified risks and mitigation measures to be provided on arrival. All staff and volunteers are required to complete Stay Safe online course. The IFRC security focal point will brief personnel working in the field on the evolving situation, the relevant evacuation routes and contingency plan processes to ensure they operate safely. Safety and security risks were identified in the IFRC risk assessment for India. In specific cases such as areas with potential higher security risk in proximity to targeted areas, IRCS and IFRC to discuss mitigation measures to ensure staff and volunteer safety. The Asia Pacific Regional Security Unit continues to actively support CCST as well as National Society Security Managers and Focal Point through information gathering/sharing, providing security guidelines, security coordination and cooperation within the RC movement as well as with external partners and the humanitarian community.

C. Detailed Operational Plan



Disaster Risk Reduction

People targeted: Approximately 50 million people in higher risk districts

Male: estimated 52% of targeted people

Female: estimated 48% of targeted people

Required: CHF 60,279

Needs analysis: Detailed needs analysis will be provided after need assessment is conducted.

Population to be assisted: Approximately 50 million people in higher risk districts.

Programme standards/benchmarks: Relevant standards will be adhered as necessary.

P&B Output Code	DRR Outcome 1: Communities in high risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disasters	# of people supported with cyclone preparedness and mitigation (Target: 50 million)				
	DRR Output 1.1: Communities take active steps to strengthen their preparedness for timely and effective response to disasters.	# people reached with early warning campaigns (Target: 50 Million) # of people assisted in First Aid (Target: TBC)				
	Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4
AP001	Volunteer mobilization for early warning campaigns,		x			
AP001	Carry out early warning campaigns and Covid-19 awareness through the dissemination to approximately 50 million people in higher risk provinces		x			
AP001	Continue educating the community on personal Hygiene, Sanitation and COVID health guidelines		x	x	x	
AP001	Provide First Aid Service and PSS support at communities and Cyclone Shelters.		x	x	x	
AP001	Visibility & Awareness		x			
AP001	Conduct Post distribution monitoring		x		x	x



Shelter

People targeted: to be determined after assessment

Male: estimated 52% of targeted people

Female: estimated 48% of targeted people

Required: CHF 29,820

Needs analysis: Detailed needs analysis will be provided after need assessment is conducted.

Population to be assisted: To be determined following assessment.

Programme standards/benchmarks: Relevant standards will be adhered as necessary.

P&B Output Code	Shelter Outcome 1: Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions	<i># of people reached with safe and adequate shelter and settlement (Target: TBD)</i>				
	Shelter Output 1.1: Short, medium and long-term shelter and settlement assistance is provided to affected households	<i># of households received emergency shelter & household items (Target: TBD)</i>				
	Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4
AP005	Conduct needs assessment		x			
AP005	Mobilization of Tarps and Kitchen Set from NHQ, Regional Warehouse			x	x	x



Livelihoods and basic needs

People targeted: 25,600

Male: 13,312

Female: 12,288

Requirements (CHF): 136,320

Needs analysis: Detailed needs analysis will be provided after need assessment is conducted.

Population to be assisted:

- procurement and distribution of Dry Food (250 people in 80 cyclone shelters)

Programme standards/benchmarks: Food assistance will be provided according to food security cluster recommendation.

P&B Output Code	Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods	<i>% of targeted people that have food/livelihoods to meet their survival threshold (Target: 100%)</i>				
	Output 1.2: Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities	<i># of people reached with dry and ready to eat (Target: 25,600)</i>				
	Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4
AP008	Distribute emergency food assistance		x	x	x	x

Strategies for Implementation

Required: CHF 14,910

P&B Output Code	Outcome S1.1: 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># of NS branches that are well functioning (in the operation) (Target: TBD)</i>				
	Output S1.1.6: National Societies have the necessary corporate infrastructure and systems in place	<i>Necessary support for NS to plan and perform in place (Target: Yes)</i>				
	Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4
AP039	Administrative activities		x	x	x	x
AP039	Vehicle maintenance		x	x	x	x
AP039	Communication activities		x	x	x	x
P&B Output Code	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.	<i>IFRC and National Society uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels (Target: Yes)</i>				
	Output S3.1.2: IFRC produces high-quality research and evaluation that informs advocacy, resource mobilization and programming.	<i># of lessons learned workshop conducted (Target: 1)</i>				
	Activities planned	Week	1	2	3	4
AP055	Monitoring activities		x	x	x	x
AP055	Lesson Learnt Workshop				x	x

Funding Requirements

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

DREF OPERATION

MDRIN025 INDIA CYCLONE AMPHAN

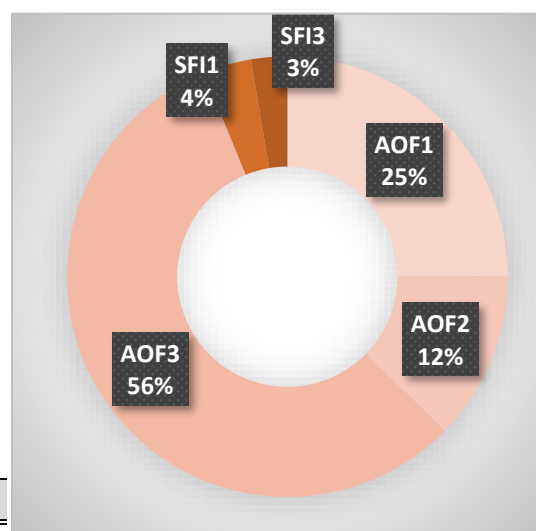
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Budget by Resource

Budget Group	Budget
Food	128,000
Medical & First Aid	4,800
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	132,800
Vehicles	0
Computers & Telecom	0
Office & Household Equipment	0
Medical Equipment	0
Land, vehicles & equipment	0
Distribution & Monitoring	25,000
Transport & Vehicles Costs	6,000
Logistics, Transport & Storage	31,000
National Society Staff	4,000
Volunteers	44,800
Personnel	48,800
Consultants	0
Professional Fees	0
Consultants & Professional Fees	0
Workshops & Training	4,000
Workshops & Training	4,000
Travel	5,000
Communications	5,000
General Expenditure	10,000
Assets Depreciation	0
Depreciation	0
Cash Transfers National Societies	0
Cash Transfers to 3rd Parties	0
Contributions and Transfers	0
DIRECT COSTS	226,600
INDIRECT COSTS	14,729
TOTAL BUDGET	241,329

Budget by Area of Intervention

AOF1	Disaster Risk Reduction	60,279
AOF2	Shelter	29,820
AOF3	Livelihoods and Basic Needs	136,320
AOF4	Health	
AOF5	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	
AOF6	Protection, Gender and Inclusion	
AOF7	Migration	
SFI1	Strengthen National Societies	8,520
SFI2	Effective International Disaster Management	
SFI3	Influence others as leading strategic partners	6,390
SFI4	Ensure a strong IFRC	
TOTAL		241,329



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 (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.

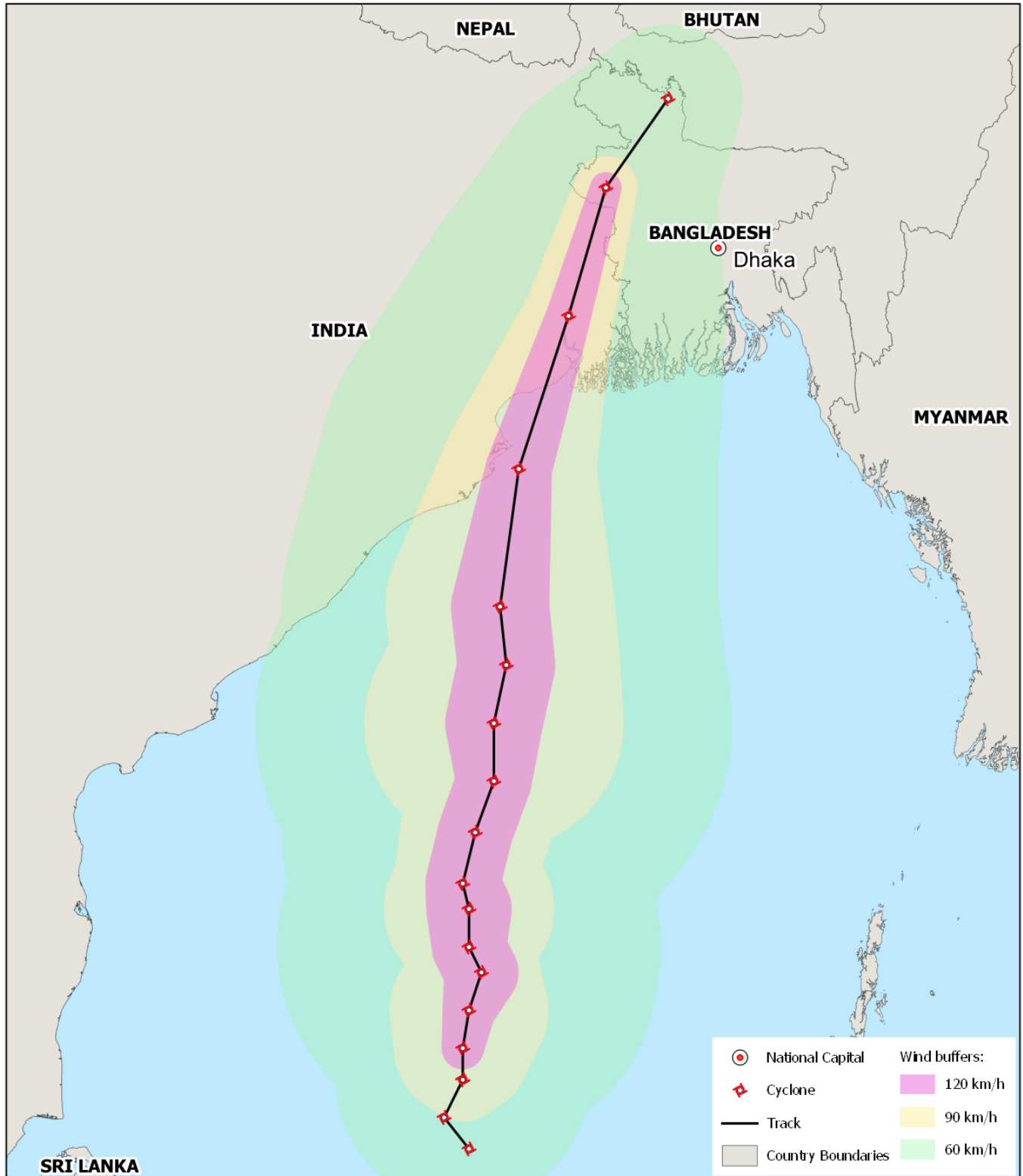
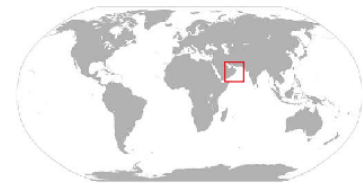


Promote **social inclusion**
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.



India: Cyclone Amphan Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

20 May 2020



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of territory or its authorities. Map data sources: OCHA, OSM Contributors, ICRC, IFRC, GDACS (19 May 2020)

