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Operation Update Report

Bangladesh: Monsoon Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency Appeal n° MDRBD022	GLIDE n° FL-2019-000079-BGD
EPoA update n° 5 (12-month update): 3 September 2020	Timeframe covered by this update: 18 July 2019 to 31 July 2020
Operation start date: 18 July 2019	Operation timeframe: 18 months End date: 31 January 2021
Overall operation budget: CHF 7 million	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 452,439
N° of people being assisted: 150,000 (30,000 households)	
<p>International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation: The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) with support from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Hong Kong branch of Red Cross Society of China, Japanese Red Cross Society, Qatar Red Crescent, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, Swiss Government, Monaco Red Cross, The Netherlands Red Cross Society, Turkish Red Crescent and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).</p> <p>Partners who have so far contributed to the IFRC Emergency Appeal (EA) are: American Red Cross, British Red Cross, European Commission – DG ECHO, Hong Kong branch of Red Cross Society of China, Hong Kong branch of Red Cross Society of China (from Government of Hong Kong), Japanese Red Cross Society, Netherlands – Private donors, Norwegian Red Cross, Red Cross of Monaco, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Government, the Canadian Red Cross Society (from Canadian Government) and the Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Government).</p>	
<p>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government of Bangladesh (GoB), UN Resident Coordinator (UNRC), UNWOMEN, UNICEF, WFP, UNFPA, FAO, ShelterBox, Bangalink, Terre des Hommes (TdH), Oxfam, START Network, Save the Children, BRAC, CARE, World Vision, Caritas, Friendship, SKS Foundation, Gana Unnayan Kendra (GUK), Gana Chetana, Environment & Social Development Organisation (ESDO), Rangpur Dinajpur Rural Development (RDRS), Christian Aid, Catholic Relief Services (CRS), Actions Aid Bangladesh, Sapling.</p>	

Summary of operation update:

This operation update is issued mainly to inform about the 12-month progress of operation. As of this reporting period, the operation has reached a total of 31,250 people in shelter; 73,291 people in livelihoods and basic needs; 254,480 people in health and 81,016 people in Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) activities. The Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) activities have been planned for the recovery phase and depending on funding coverage, the activities will be adjusted and carried out accordingly. The EA is only 38 per cent funded and has left some key sectoral areas of the activities with significant funding gaps due to budget limitations. As such, due to this funding gap, less number of households (HHs) have been targeted than initial plan.

BDRCS finished the emergency support in January 2020 and was ready to start the recovery activities. Due to COVID-19 situation and movement restrictions imposed by the Government of Bangladesh (GoB), the recovery activities were postponed. The operations team started the community level activities in February 2020 to initiate the recovery activities. Before the COVID-19 pandemic situation worsened, the area selection was done and necessary household assessment through deployment of National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) was conducted. BDRCS also finalized the date, venue, resource persons for a number of Training of Trainers (ToTs) on Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA), livelihoods and Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation (PHAST). They also completed the human resource recruitment process. BDRCS invited local masons and carpenters for the orientation and completed the process for opening of the individual beneficiary bank account. The procurement of corrugated galvanized iron sheets (CGIs) was completed as well. BDRCS conducted two batches of midwives' trainings and organized inception meeting to start the recovery activities. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation and restriction of the movement by the GoB, the entire recovery programme has been postponed when it was at the highest position to perform.

The COVID-19 pandemic¹ is affecting 215 countries and territories around the world and has caused at least 668,910 deaths² as of 31 July 2020. Bangladesh is not exclusive from this situation. The first three cases in Bangladesh were confirmed by the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) on 8 March 2020. Since then the infection curve was in rising trend, only from the end of first week of July the curve started to follow a downward trend with gradual decrease of positive cases. As of 31 July 2020, there are 237,661 confirmed cases in all over the country (all 64 districts) with 3,111 deaths³.

As COVID-19 positive cases increase, the GoB on 24 March 2020 declared general holiday (lockdown) and closure of all public and private offices from 26 March to 4 April and restricted all kind of movements, except emergency ones, as containment measures. Considering the evolving situation; the GoB has extended the lockdown five times so far. The GoB started to phase out the restrictions gradually by reopening government offices, private businesses, banks, factories and resuming public transport services, domestic and international air travels with a condition of following health guidelines. This means that most public spaces and places are open again (including all shops, markets, parks and worships) but requires people to abide by strict physical distancing rules, obligation to wear face masks in public, temperature controls at entrance of all office buildings, shops, and even private buildings. The government has allowed reopening of offices and public transports on a limited scale until 3 August 2020 with conditions as the general holiday imposed for containing the pandemic ended on 30 May 2020 after 66 days. On 31 July 2020 it was reported that Bangladesh has ranked in the eighth position among countries with the highest COVID-19 infection rate, according to the statistics of “Our World in Data”, a data laboratory affiliated to Oxford University – the country has a gross rate of 20.18 per cent. Amid such COVID-19 situation, health experts warn that there is a significant risk of rising dengue patients during August and September as these two months are usually regarded as the peak of the disease.

Following the latest measures by the GoB and gradually starting the normal activities, opening of offices, businesses BDRCS planned to resume implementation of the programme at community level by following all necessary precautions measures considering COVID-19 pandemic. BDRCS has already revised the activities plan, where all community level activities will be implemented by January 2021.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

The heavy rainfall occurred during July to September 2019 across Bangladesh led to landslides and extreme flooding. The impacts were much larger in scale than an average annual monsoon flood as it affected millions of lives. According to the National Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG), Bangladesh situation report dated 28 July 2019, more than 7.6 million people were affected in 28 districts, over 300,000 people displaced, approximately 600,000 houses damaged, and 114 people dead. On top of that, according to the media, about 532,000 hectares of crops were destroyed⁴. It was also reported that embankments were damaged and inundated. With the flood prevailing over one fourth areas of the country in July 2019, Government and Non-Government humanitarian agencies supported the affected community immediately after the flood to meet the emergency needs.

In addition, Bangladesh experienced another spell of flood in north-eastern districts named Rajshahi, Shariatpur, Kushtia, Rajbari, Chapai Nawabganj, Pabna and Natore during the first week of October 2019, which affected some new areas. Due to this second spell of flood, around 40,000 people were affected according to the NAWG.

While more than half of the country experiencing the sufferings from monsoon floods, the Dengue situation in the country reached peak transmission during June to October 2019, with hospitals overflowing with patients and the rising number of dengue patients had broken all previous records. The Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) of Government of Bangladesh (GoB) had received 266 reports of dengue-related deaths and after reviewing it, confirmed 148 deaths till December 2019.

During December 2019 and January 2020, the country experienced several cold waves over different districts of Chuadanga, Dinajpur, Panchagarh, Rajshahi, Pabna, Naogaon, Nilphamari, Jessore, Bogura, Lalmonirhat, Gaibandha, Kurigram, Sirajganj, Tangail, Jamalpur, etc, disrupting normal life and causing suffering to the people. This cold wave also affected same areas, especially in the districts of Kurigram, Gaibandha, Lalmonirhat, Bogura, Nilphamari, Sirajganj, Jamalpur, Tangail that were struck by floods and further exacerbating the humanitarian situation. The country experienced the lowest temperature of 4.5 degree Celsius on 30 December 2019. This may not seem particularly low

¹https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/situation-reports/20200312-sitrep-52-covid-19.pdf?sfvrsn=e2bfc9c0_4

²https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/situation-reports/20200731-covid-19-sitrep-193.pdf?sfvrsn=42a0221d_4

³<https://corona.gov.bd/storage/press-releases/July2020/UYSmyOyZxfqaQNasS2a3.pdf> and <http://iedcr.gov.bd/>

⁴ The Daily Star dated 29 July 2019.

for some countries. Unfortunately, Bangladesh is a tropical country where people are not prepared for cold weather and most homes have no form of heating.

In 2020, in addition to COVID-19, Cyclone Amphan that weakened from a super cyclone to an 'extremely severe cyclonic storm' slammed into the coastal districts of West Bengal, India and then it entered Bangladesh on 20 May 2020 evening with wind speed of 150kmph and caused huge destruction in 26 districts across the country. Following the great danger signal and evacuation order of the GoB, more than 2.4 million people were moved to 14,636 permanent and temporary shelters in 19 coastal districts before the cyclone hit the country's coast. Approximately 2.6 million people were affected; 205,368 houses were damaged; 55,767 houses were destroyed in the 19 affected districts and 26 people lost their lives. Furthermore 40,894 latrines; 18,235 water points; 32,037 hectares of crops and vegetable; 18,707 hector of fish cultivation area; 440km of road and 76km of embankment were also damaged.

On the other hand, Bangladesh again witnessed the first phase of flooding for this year from 26 June to 7 July 2020, affecting around 15 districts due to onrush of upstream water and heavy downpours. As of 30 July 2020, according to National Disaster Response Coordination Centre, over 5 million people in 31 districts have been affected and different reports and forecasts said the flood situation may deteriorate further in the northern region as well as in the low-lying areas around the capital.

Summary of current response

Overview of Host National Society.

BDRCS had been active since the beginning of the floods. Around 575 Red Crescent volunteers and 100 staff were immediately mobilized to various districts to respond to the disaster. Red Crescent Youth (RCY) volunteers supported evacuation and provided first aid. RCY volunteers also supported local administration in distributing government food stocks to affected people who were evacuated to safe shelters.

Considering the damage scale of flood, BDRCS requested IFRC to activate the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund ([DREF](#)) and subsequently to launch an emergency appeal. As of July 2020, the following are the key responses by BDRCS with the support of IFRC, partner National Societies (PNSs) and other stakeholders:



BDRCS volunteer helping an woman to carry the shelter tool kit distributed by BDRCS in Gaibandha. (Photo: IFRC)

- Reached 66,270 people with dry food package during the immediate response period. Later, BDRCS provided 15 days food packages among 5,750 flood affected households.
- Deployed six water purification units along with the National Disaster WASH Response Team (NDWRT) and trained staff and provided 78,460 litres of safe drinking water and distributed 4,428 jerrycans among flood affected people. In addition, BDRCS trained volunteers and staff disinfected 320 tube wells and constructed 52 temporary latrines for flood affected people.
- Mobilized and distributed hygiene parcels to 8,900 households along with orientation and distribution of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on safe hygiene practice.
- Mobilized four mobile medical teams and provided medical assistance to 4,480 flood affected people. As part of the Dengue awareness campaign, BDRCS printed and distributed 650,000 awareness leaflets in 250 schools and among general people through its countrywide units (branches) and volunteers' network. Holy Family Red Crescent Hospital (HFRCH) and other BDRCS hospitals in different districts provided medical assistance to dengue patients. In addition, BDRCS Blood centres continuously provided blood and platelets for dengue patients throughout the country. BDRCS also mobilized its volunteers in six major hospitals in Dhaka city to assist dengue patients and their attendance in terms of Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) and Psychosocial Support (PSS).
- Reached 2,000 flood affected households with IFRC Shelter Kits (1,250 covered from EA and 750 covered by Shelter Box). In addition, BDRCS provided additional shelter toolkits among 5,000 households from this EA and tents among another 700 flood affected households supported by UNHCR.
- Provided Multipurpose Cash Grant (MPCG) in Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogura, Sirajganj, Tangail, Jamalpur, Sunamganj and Sylhet districts to more than 12,000 flood affected households.
- Distributed 36,450 blankets and 19,700 chadar (warm cloths) countrywide⁵ for the cold waves.

⁵ Blankets supported by IFRC (not from this EA), American RC, Qatar RC, Korean RC and chadar by ICRC.

- Distributed dignity kits among the 1,000 flood affected families in Bogura, Gaibanda, Jamalpur, Kurigram, Lalmonirhat, Naogan, Sirajganj and Tangail districts.
- Based on the available funding, BDRCS and IFRC prepared a plan to implement the recovery activities through reducing the number of targeted families. As per the agreed plan, BDRCS mobilized their trained NDRTs and staffs for household assessment. With the support of data management team, BRDCS has completed a households assessment in Tangail and Sirajganj districts for the recovery activities. More than 600 households have been assessed in Tangail and Sirajganj districts for shelter, WASH, livelihood and DRR support. The findings of the households assessment have been shared with the BRDCS respective units for their feedbacks and suggestions. All parties have agreed with the findings of the assessment. According to the assessment, 579 HHs has selected to get the Shelter, Wash and Livelihood support.
- Organized an inception meeting in the field with participations of executive members, unit level officers and volunteers from the respective branches, Director and staff from the BDRCS disaster response department, representatives from the IFRC and Deputy Secretary General of BDRCS to run the recovery operation smoothly.
- Following revised implementation plan, completed the HR recruitment process and all respective personnel will be joining by second week of August 2020. According to the plan, BDRCS will complete all initial community level activities by August and from September various community level awareness meetings, Focus Group Discussions (FGD), training will be started, all these activities will be implemented considering COVID-19 pandemic precautions. After that, some model shelters and latrines will be constructed in the community which can be followed by the identified people under shelter and WASH support. In addition, programme will establish some model livelihood ideas, which can be adopted by the community people for their betterment. In this regard, discussions have already been held with respective GoB stakeholders, various NGOs, and community residents. Also, rapid market assessment is being done. It is planned that DRR activities will be carried out during the dry season to ensure long lasting impact on the community.
- BDRCS will provide various types of skill enhancement trainings to volunteers and staff to improve the quality of work. However, due to COVID-19 pandemic, the strategy will change a bit.
- Initiated the renovation works for five Mother and Child Health (MCH) care centres and provided medical equipment to 15 MCH centres. Already refreshers trainings for two batches for midwives were conducted and 66 midwives attended.
- Considering the COVID-19 pandemic, guidelines have been developed for its staff and community members and also revised the implementation strategies to implement the programme activities at community level. Besides, a work plan was prepared, where community level activities are expected to be completed by December 2020. According to the plan, staff orientation programme will be conducted after new staff join in the second week of August 2020. The beneficiaries list will be shared, and feedback mechanism will be established at communities by first week of August 2020. It is expected that, most of the preparatory works will be accomplished by August and from September 2020, all work at the community level will be implemented continuously. Progress monitoring work will also continue.



Flood recovery inception meeting held in Tangail on 16 February 2020. (Photo: IFRC)

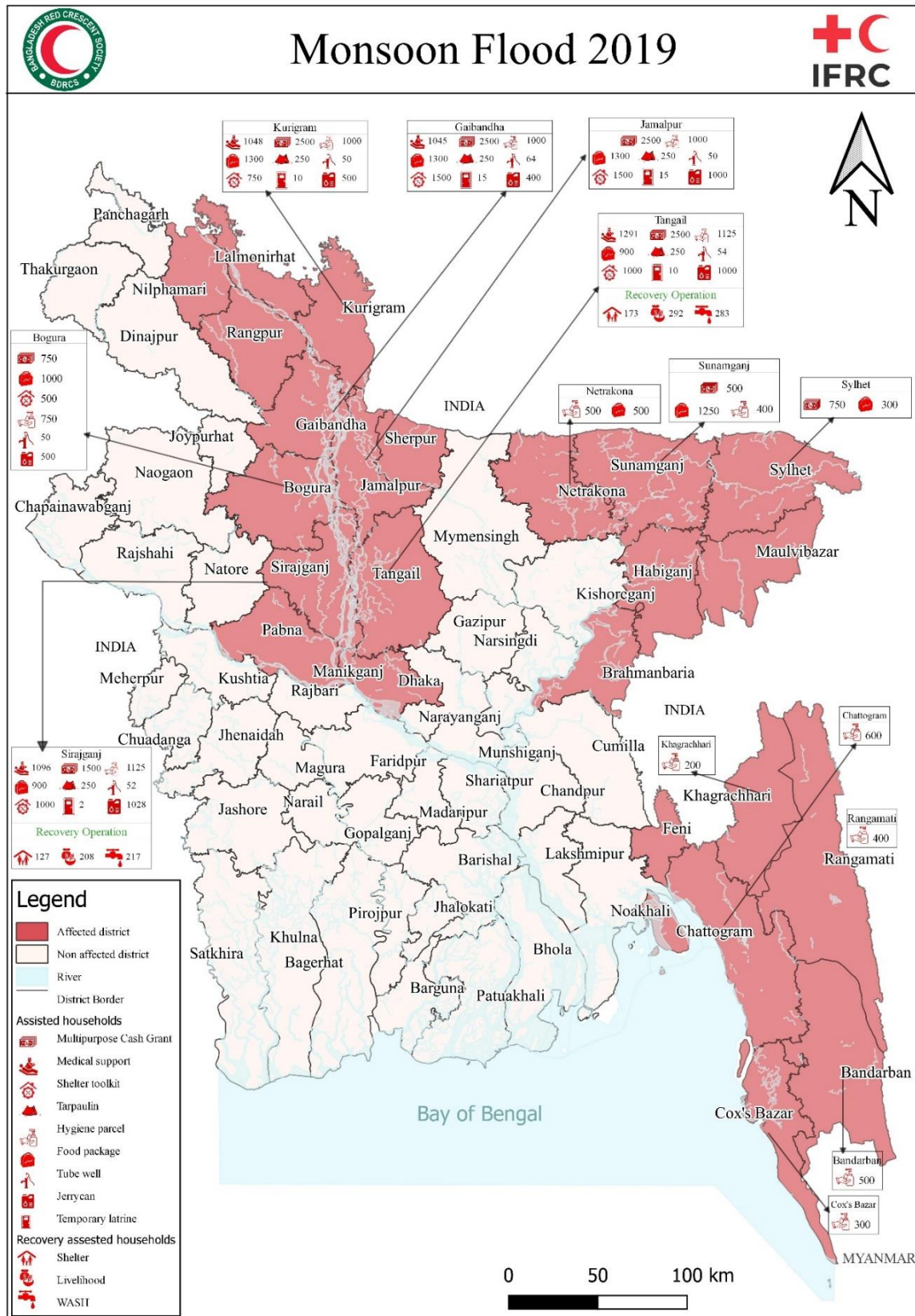
Overview of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in country

The IFRC Bangladesh Country Office (CO) closely monitored the flood situation and published information bulletins and situation updates. IFRC CO has been supporting the host National Society - through mobilizing funds and personnel as well as providing support for a coordinated relief operation. To meet the immediate needs of 50,000 people, IFRC allocated CHF 452,439 from its DREF on 18 July 2019 which helped BDRCS to expedite the response operation without any delay. Based on the request from BDRCS, IFRC launched an emergency appeal on 30 July 2019 seeking 7 million CHF to assist 150,000 flood affected people. As a convener of the Shelter Cluster, IFRC coordinated Shelter Cluster during the emergency phase and played an important role to develop humanitarian response plan and strategy for responding to emergency shelter and recovery needs.

Currently there are 11 PNSs in the country: American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent.

With the bilateral support of German Red Cross and Swiss Red Cross, BDRCS provided MPCG among 5,381 flood affected households. Danish Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent and Turkish Red Crescent extended their support to

BDRCS to reach 4,500 flood affected households with 15 days food package. British Red Cross supported BDRCS to preposition 2000 hygiene kits, 4,000 jerrycans and 2,000 tarpaulins stock. Based on IFRC CO's request, IFRC mobilized support from Canadian Red Cross to ensure the continued Shelter Cluster role and deployed a shelter cluster coordinator in two rotations for a period of total two months.



Infographic on BDRCS Flood 2019 response at a glance. (Source: IFRC)

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The Government of Bangladesh (GoB) allocated 28,350 metric tons of rice; 118,000 packets of dry food; BDT 491,50,000 (approx. CHF 556,967) as cash support; another conditional cash grant amount of BDT 163,500,000 (approx. CHF 1,852,780) for house repair; BDT 1,800,000 (approx. CHF 20,397) for baby food and BDT 2,400,000 (approx. CHF 27,197) for livestock fodder. Also, 8,500 makeshift tents and 54,500 bundles of iron sheets were allocated by the GoB. In addition, 2,451 medical teams; 11 water treatment plants were deployed. The Department of Livestock Services (DLS) vaccinated 127,057 livestock and 388,176 poultry. Immediate treatment of 65,977 livestock and 295,701 poultry was provided.

The HCTT met on 28 July 2019 to share the outcomes of the Joint Need Assessment (JNA). An inter-cluster meeting took place thereafter to develop the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). On 7 August 2019, HRP was published which was

seeking 28 million USD to assist 736,000 flood affected people. A post emergency JNA was conducted for Flood 2019 in September and report was published on 31 September 2019.

Banglalink (one of leading mobile operating company in Bangladesh) extended support to BDRCS to reach 1,250 flood affected households with food packages. ShelterBox bilaterally worked with BDRCS to provide emergency shelter assistance among 750 households in Kurigram district and 700 tents from UNHCR were distributed among 700 flood affected households by BDRCS. BDRCS distributed mosquito repellent lotions, dunks and bracelets to some selected schools in Dhaka covering 500 students as a part of their campaign against Dengue with the support of US Embassy in Bangladesh.

Needs analysis, targeting, scenario planning and risk assessment

Needs analysis

During the initial stage of the flood, BDRCS mobilized the need assessment teams. Also, joint need assessment⁶ (JNA) was carried out. These needs assessments, and the regular monitoring, including post distribution monitoring from different implementing agencies reveal that there were persisting livelihood, shelter, health, WASH needs among the flood affected people. Accordingly, BDRCS planned its emergency activities at the community level and supported the most vulnerable households.

BDRCS has since moved to recovery, a joint team of BDRCS and IFRC conducted an in-depth assessment in the recovery intervention areas during January 2020. The information on recovery needs of the flood affected people were collected from BDRCS local units, community people and respective departments of the GoB. As per the observation, the flood impact was significant in the livelihood, shelter and WASH sectors. The affected areas are highly agriculture dependent, attributing to loss of livelihoods among farmers. Due to the last year's flood, farmers lost their one season crops, which was equivalent to their half year income. Most of the houses are not flood resilient and constructed with very low-quality materials. The high poverty rate compounded with weak infrastructures of the houses requires house repairing assistance. There is still a high concern regarding hygiene practice and WASH facilities in the flood affected communities. In addition, there is need to renovate the damaged Mother and Child Health (MCH) centres of BDRCS in the flood affected areas, which after renovation and re-equipped can meet the basic health care needs of the local people.



A joint assessment team visits Tangail to assess the present conditions at community, January 2020. (Photo: IFRC)

Targeting

For the emergency phase, BDRCS targeted 150,000 people in 18 most affected districts due to monsoon flood: Jamalpur, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Tangail, Sylhet, Sirajganj, Bogura, Sunamganj, Sherpur, Netrakona, Lalmonirhat, Moulvi Bazar, Faridpur, Manikganj, Nilphamari Chapai Nawabganj, Rajbari and Kushtia. Considering the severity of Dengue during the monsoon season, Dhaka district has been targeted along with the above flood affected districts. During the emergency interventions, the priority given to those displaced people living in temporary shelters or makeshift houses. In addition, BDRCS prioritized and ensured the dignity, access, participation and safety of the most vulnerable population, which were the elderly persons, children including adolescents, marginal income farmers, female-headed households, lactating mothers, and people with disabilities.

⁶ Conducted by the National Need Assessment Working Group (NAWG).

In recovery interventions, 300 households are being targeted for safe shelter assistance, 500 households for livelihoods, 500 households for WASH and approximately 25,000 people will be reached through DRR activities. So far, a total 148,550 people⁷ have been reached through the different interventions – safe drinking water and tube well disinfection; mobile latrines; hygiene parcels; dignity kits; emergency medical camps; emergency shelter; dry food, cooked food and two weeks food packages, MPCG and vegetable seeds.

Operation Risk Assessment

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation and ongoing floods (it may continue till end of August), the implementation of recovery interventions under this EA might be challenging. In addition, the post-monsoon cyclone season (September-November), may impact the coastal districts of Bangladesh, which might also delay the implementation of planned activities as BDRCS may put more focus for the cyclone emergency, if any. Also, the overall coronavirus pandemic already impacted different on-going project activities including the recovery interventions under this EA.

As of this reporting period, the EA is funded only at **38 per cent** of total appeal budget CHF 7 million. As a result, BDRCS may not be able to reach all the targeted people planned under its recovery programme.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Overall Operational objective

The overall objective of the operation is for BDRCS to meet the immediate, medium-term (early recovery) and long-term recovery needs of 30,000 households (150,000 people) affected by the floods in the 18 most impacted districts of Bangladesh - through the provision of emergency food, safe drinking water, emergency shelter and hygiene items, health support, seeds and livelihood support, and DRR. Most of the interventions will be cash-based in order to reach the most vulnerable people in a timely and dignified manner.

Proposed strategy

During this reporting period, BDRCS reached most vulnerable households to meet their emergency needs by providing multipurpose cash grant, tarpaulins, shelter toolkits, hygiene parcels, emergency food packages, emergency medical assistance and drinking water. In addition, BDRCS reached more affected people by disinfecting water points, constructing emergency temporary latrines. BDRCS through this EA, has prioritized repairing of houses, restoring livelihood and WASH facilities. Repairing of damaged houses and latrines through using participatory approach along with cash and in-kind material support have been recommended as recovery response modality. To restore and to strengthen the livelihoods of affected communities, BDRCS will provide conditional cash assistance along with required training based on their proposal.

BDRCS has already started the recovery phase in Tangail and Sirajganj districts through completion of all the necessary actions. In this phase, BDRCS emphasized more on the cash-based interventions to reach the most vulnerable people in timely and dignified manner. BDRCS is practicing a robust selection process for last couple of operations. They have followed the same process in this flood 2019 households assessment. The data of the people who received humanitarian assistance through this EA has been managed by BDRCS and IFRC using Open Data Kit (ODK). In order to facilitate exit strategy planning, consideration will be given to the design of the DRR component under the operation, to ensure, where possible, that links will be made between DRR interventions under the operation to the ongoing community resilience programming of the National Society.

After three months of the COVID-19 lockdown situation, BDRCS have started the activities in a limited scale from July 2020. Considering the COVID-19 pandemic situation, BDRCS has made some changes in their implementation strategies and developed a guideline for their staff and community members based on PGI, Health, CEA and PMER. Where detailing how staff and community members will work in the office and communities. e.g. staff will be maintaining social distance at office and communities, always will be wearing mask etc.

Considering the COVID-19 pandemic, BDRCS have also prepared a guideline for the implementation of community level activities, where the strategies has described. BDRCS will not allow more than 10 participants to participate at community level meetings and will be ensured masks for all participants, social distancing and hand washing before entering the meeting. All meetings will be held in a confined space instead of open space. Beneficiaries attendance, proposals, monitoring etc. will be done through mobile devices to reduce paperwork. Adequate village-based models for shelter, wash and livelihood will be established to reduce movement of large number of people at a time. Community level staff will be assigned in village based, so that they can work in a small territory.

Operational support services

Human Resources (HR)

⁷ Excluding the number of people (250,000) reached through the Dengue awareness campaign through IEC materials.

IFRC staff have been supporting BDRCS since the beginning of flood operation through maintaining a close coordination with BDRCS counterparts. On the other hand, IFRC country office deployed senior PGI and CEA officer and senior response officer from its Population Movement Operation (PMO) office to provide technical support to BDRCS for this flood operation. In addition, one senior programme officer has been recruited to support this operation.

Apart from existing staff, BDRCS deployed around 50 NDRT members and NDWRT members for this operation. To support the recovery activities, BDRCS appointed four technical staff for Shelter, WASH, Livelihood and DRR, one finance officer and eight community organizers in the operational areas. In addition, BDRCS have ensured a dedicated programme manager for Flood 2019 Recovery Operation to lead the completion of the activities

Logistics and Supply Chain

IFRC Bangladesh CO has procured 8,900 hygiene parcels, 6,250 shelter toolkits, 3,000 dignity kits and 9,000 pcs of CGI sheets locally in accordance with IFRC procurement procedures. In addition, IFRC in country logistic team procured IT equipment e.g. laptops, mobile phone based on the requirement from operational team. On the other hand, 1,250 tarpaulins and 6,000 jerrycans were replenished through the IFRC Asia Pacific Operational Logistics, Procurement and Supply Chain Management (OLPSCM). This replenishment process took longer time than usual as Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) had queries about where the items will be distributed. After explaining about the BDRCS response to the flood operation and BDRCS strategy of disaster preparedness stock, the items were released.

IFRC CO logistics and procurement unit along with the BDRCS always maintain the required coordination with the National Logistics Cluster in terms of sharing necessary informations related to the affected areas, immediate response plan and intervention update to the targeted arieas.

For fleet support, IFRC country office has been accommodating the requirement within the existing capacity. However, depending on the requirements, rental vehicles have been used to support the operation. Ad hoc basis (daily basis) rental vehicles were hired by BDRCS unit (branch) offices for transportation facilities for the volunteers and BDRCS unit staff. The vehicle type used was mainly Toyota HiAce, a light commercial van.

Communication

Since the onset of the disaster, BDRCS and IFRC communications teams gathered photos and videos, and shared them internally and externally to depict the situation as well as highlight Red Cross Red Crescent activities. BDRCS communication team, with the support of IFRC country office and Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) communication teams, have been actively engaged in social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) as well as sharing flood response information through the BDRCS and IFRC websites. Various communication contents such as infographics, web-stories, videos, photos have been published on BDRCS social media platforms and website. IFRC global and regional Facebook and Twitter accounts and its website have been highlighting the work of BDRCS on a regular basis. Also, photos, videos and other communications contents have been shared regularly with all the National Societies around the world through IFRC global weekly newswire. Regular media monitoring and information sharing has been done to keep all the relevant stakeholders updated about the situation and response to the disaster. All the audio-visual materials related to this operation have been regularly stored on IFRC audio-visual library ([shaRED](#)) and other cloud spaces to provide quick and easy access to NS, PNSs and medias. A [short video documentary](#) focusing on cash-based intervention was prepared and published in February 2020.

Security

From the commencement of this flood operation, IFRC security closely monitored the security situation of operational locations and responded to concerns accordingly. During reporting period, there was no major security issue except difficulty in road access to the affected communities in some of the flood affected area, minimizing movement due to dengue outbreak in Bangladesh and temporary movement restriction on the occasion of Union Parishad Election in some districts. However, to ensure the safety and security of the RCRC personnel, movement monitoring system was in place for all field travels and disseminated security advisories, including any necessary temporary restrictions when appropriate. Safety and Security alerts were also sent timely via WhatsApp messages. All new staff and visitors were provided with a security welcome pack and mandatory security briefing session. A plan also taken to conduct a security assessment in the Flood Recovery Operational areas selected by the BDRCS.

Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting (PMER)

To ensure the quality of implementation and reach the most vulnerable people, BDRCS conducted rapid needs assessments at the onset of the disaster for initial emergency response planning. Door-to-door household assessments have been done through mobile data collection tools to select the most affected people based on the set criteria. Regular monitoring of different activities has been done through deployed NDRT members, volunteers' deployment, staff visit, donor visit, etc. During every distribution, an exit survey has been conducted to monitor and ensure the satisfaction of the service or aid recipients. Post distribution monitoring (PDM) has been done to monitor the impact of the intervention. A monitoring and evaluation plan for the recovery stage of operation is being drafted in consultation with the BDRCS. While under this EA, an evaluation and lessons learned workshop will be conducted, the PMER team had a discussion with the response team to look into the recommendations that were made from previous evaluation to consider in the recovery stage of this operation.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN



Shelter

People reached: 31,250

Male: 15,637

Female: 15,613

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

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people targeted/reached with safe and adequate shelter and settlement	35,000	31,250

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

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households ⁸ provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance	5,000	6,250
# of households provided with safe shelter assistance	2000	On going
# of households provided with conditional cash grant	2000	On going

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	7,000	6,250

Progress towards outcomes



Affected people are receiving tarpaulins and shelter toolkits in Jamalpur (Left) and in Gaibandha district (Right). (Photos: IFRC)

Through this appeal BDRCS distributed shelter toolkits and tarpaulins as emergency shelter assistance among 1,250 households (6,250 people). Considering additional shelter need particularly shelter toolkits for house reconstruction, BDRCS distributed further 5,000 shelter toolkits⁹ among the flood affected households in Jamalpur, Tangail, Sirajganj,

⁸ Household considered as family, i.e. 1 household = 1 family of 5 members.

⁹ Each of the shelter toolkits is consists of 2kg of nails, 1 roll of tie wire, 1 pc of measuring tape, 1 pc of shear, 1 pc of claw hammer, 1 pc of handsaw, 30 meter of 3mm rope and 30 meter of 6mm rope.

Bogura, Gaibandha and Kurigram districts. Before the distribution, trained volunteers and staff oriented the targeted people on the use of shelter toolkits and tarpaulins. In addition to that BDRCS also distributed tents among another 700 flood affected households supported by UNHCR.

Summary of tarpaulin and shelter toolkits distribution - HHs

District Name	Tarpaulins	Shelter toolkits
Kurigram	250	750
Gaibandha	250	1,500
Jamalpur	250	1,500
Sirajganj	250	1,000
Tangail	250	1,000
Bogura	-	500
Total	1,250	6,250

For the recovery assistance, a joint team of BDRCS and IFRC conducted community consultation in the affected areas and identified the shelter recovery needs. It was found that most of the shelters are fragile and made of low-quality materials. BDRCS conducted households assessment to understand the damage and recovery needs in Tangail and Sirajganj districts and to finalize the shelter beneficiaries through deploying their NDRTs. Based on available funding, 300 households were targeted for conditional shelter cash grants along with CGI sheets. Each targeted household will receive conditional cash assistance through individual bank account in installment. A total of 9,000 CGI sheets were purchased and stored in BDRCS warehouse.

Considering the COVID-19 context, BDRCS will emphasis more on practical demonstration though constructing more model shelters considering local best practices through a participatory approach engaging community people and local expertise. Instead of full-pledged utilization of PASSA tools, community-based orientation sessions on safe shelter will be facilitated with targeted people. Online monitoring format has been developed to reduce the paperwork considering the COVID-19 pandemic. Technical verification of shelter, bank account opening of targeted beneficiaries and others preparatory works have started in limited scale from end of July 2020 and it is expected that community activities will begin from August 2020.

Challenges

Finalization of some of the major pledges took longer than expected and the condition for fresh procurement delayed the response. Lack of funding constraints forced to reduce the targeted number of households from 2,000 to 300 for the shelter supports under the above mentioned output no. 1.1

Considering the current pandemic situation, BDRCS has stopped all the programme related field activities except COVID-19 actions from last week of March 2020 to June 2020. After three months of the COVID-19 lockdown situation, BDRCS has resumed the activities on a limited scale from July 2020. BDRCS has been implementing the programme activities at community level from August 2020.



Livelihoods and basic needs

People reached: 101,120

Male: 50,600

Female: 50,520

Outcome 1: Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households that have enough food, cash or income to meet their needs	10,000	20,224

Output 1.1: Basic needs assistance for livelihoods security including food is provided to the most affected communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households reached with dry food assistance	10,000	9,274
# of households reached with food package for two weeks	10,000	3,950

Output 1.2: Household livelihoods security is enhanced through food production, income generating activities and post-harvest management

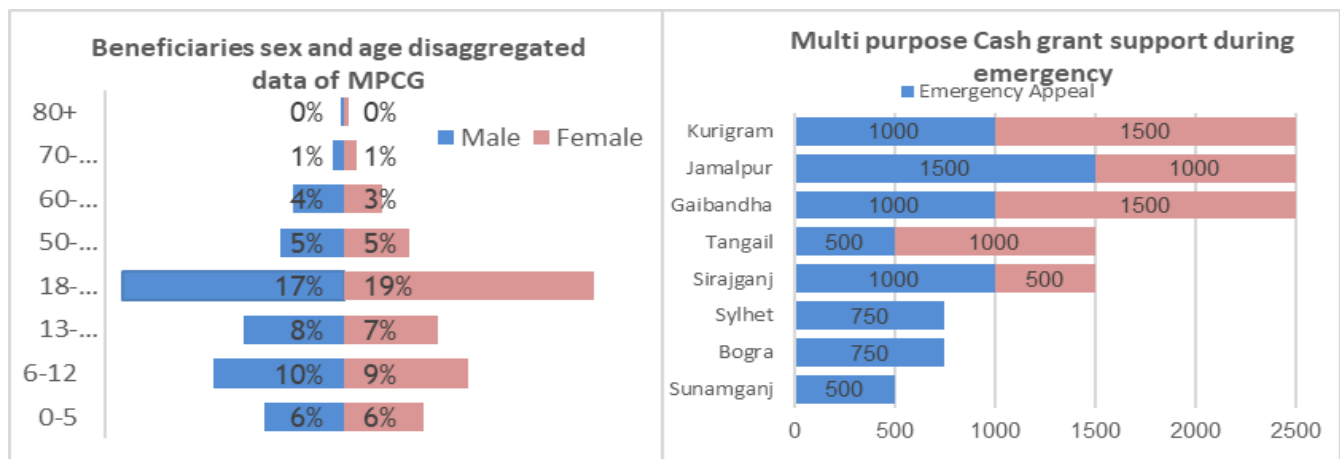
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households supported to increase/improve household food production	2,000	On going

Output 1.3: Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households reached with multipurpose cash	7,000	7,000

Progress towards outcomes

During this reporting period, BDRCS covered 9,274 households with dry food assistance. Considering the post flood situation, BDRCS distributed two weeks food assistance among 3,000 most vulnerable households in Kurigram, Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Tangail and Sylhet districts. Under the anticipated phase additional 950 households were covered through food packages.



Under this EA, BDRCS reached 7,000 most flood affected households through MPCG in eight districts namely, Kurigram, Bogura, Sirajganj, Tangail, Jamalpur, Sunamganj, Sylhet and Gaibandha to meet the basic needs of one month. Each household received CHF 56 (BDT 4,500) as MPCG assistance through the Financial Service Provider (FSP) and that is electronic money transfer services of the Bangladesh Post Office (BPO). Household assessments were conducted using the mobile based data collection tool (Kobo Collect) to select these households. Along with the MPCG, each household also received eight types of vegetable seeds.



Left - BDRCS volunteers are trying to ensure the PGI and care of child during the MPCG and vegetable seeds distribution in Bogura district. Right- BDRCS Jamalpur RC unit is distributing the MPCG through BPO and vegetables seeds among the flood affected people. (Photos: IFRC)

As a provisioning of food assistance for the anticipated phase, BDRCS distributed food parcels in Rajbari, Kushtia and Chapai Nawabganj districts. Approximately, 1,000 households received the food parcels during October 2019.

For the recovery support, BDRCS already identified the areas for livelihood intervention. An assessment has also been conducted in targeted communities to understand the needs to restore and strengthen their livelihoods through

community meeting and Key Informant Interview (KII) with respective Government and NGO officials. According to the findings, key points are:

- Agro based livelihood with the support of high-quality seeds.
- Homestead gardening.
- Small scale poultry farming at yard.
- Livestock foods (fodder) during rainy season.
- Alternative livelihood options with the support of govt. departments (livestock, agriculture, fisheries etc.).
- Market-based livelihoods.
- Coordination with the government.
- Model livelihoods.

Besides the livelihood's assessment, a cash feasibility and a rapid market assessment was also conducted in the implementation area. During this assessment, it was found that the existing market facilities are functional, and capacities are acceptable if the demand will increase for programme purposes. It was also seen that an upturn trend of the price will not be happening for increases in the demand. All required facilities exist within 5km and in the local context, it is not far from the community. There are so many options to transfer the cash, but cash transfer through beneficiary's personal bank account is more feasible and reliable in the aspect of the programme. There are a few Government banks located within 3km of the communities and some community people have been getting the Government safety net support from those banks.

In this reporting period, BDRCS identified 500 households for the livelihood support through households assessment. As a recovery support, each of the households will be assisted with conditional grants of BDT 25,000 (CHF 312) for their livelihoods through income generating activities proposal.

Challenges

Local procurement of food items by BDRCS took longer time than expected as the food items need to go through the required lab tests. This delay was communicated to the respective units (branches) to adjust the distribution plan accordingly. Regarding the distribution of MPCG, it was found that few people did not receive notification from BPO on time due to unavailability of the mobile network. However, BDRCS immediately communicated with BPO and addressed this issue. As a result, people collected their cash assistance without any delay. During the HHs assessment, a relationship with the community was developed. But it was hampered during the lockdown situation for COVID-19 pandemic.



Left - During the anticipated phase, BDRCS Kushtia RC unit is distributing the food parcels during the fluvial flood. Right – BDRCS volunteer is helping assisted people carry their food assistance. (Photos: BDRCS)



Health

People reached¹⁰: 254,480

Male: 127,342

Female: 127,138

¹⁰ Including dengue response (250,000 leaflets were distributed through this EA supported fund as part of awareness campaign). 4,480 people reached through mobile medical teams in flood affected areas.

Outcome 1: Vulnerable people's health and dignity are improved through increased access to appropriate health services.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with health assistance	25,000	254,480
Output 1.1: Communities are provided by NS with services to identify and reduce health risks		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with emergency health assistance	15,000	4,480
# of people reached with community-based epidemic prevention and control activities	n/a	250,000
# of people reached with longer-term Community Based Health and First Aid (eCBHFA) services	10,000	Ongoing

Progress towards outcomes

BDRCS mobilized four mobile medical teams (each team has one doctor and one paramedic and one RCY) in Tangail, Gaibandha, Sirajganj and Kurigram districts. A total of 4,480 patients received medical assistance from these four mobile medical teams.

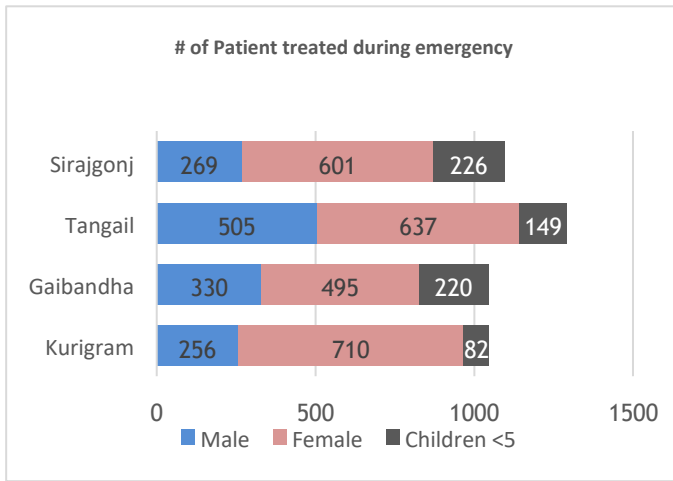
As a response to the dengue situation, BDRCS provided support through the Holy Family Red Crescent Hospital, Blood bank, Youth and Volunteer department in terms of psychosocial support to patients and their attendances, supplying blood (total 3,460 units in Dhaka and another 3,000 units from 3 other nationwide centres), awareness raising, etc. In total 650,000 awareness leaflets were distributed in 250 schools and amongst general people in 53 branches with awareness campaign rally in 23 branches. Out of these 650,000 leaflets, BDRCS produced 250,000 with IFRC's support and 400,000 were produced by the different units (branches) using their own fund. Some 40 volunteers trained on Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) and provided support to the patients and their attendants in six major hospitals in Dhaka city.



Mobile medical teams during the initial emergency period in Tangail district. (Photos: BDRCS)

BDRCS organized two batches of refreshers training¹¹ for its midwives during February 2020; total 66 participants were in attendance from 56 MCH centers of BDRCS. Each training duration was three days and both the trainings were residential. The main purpose of the training was to enhance the capacity and knowledge of midwives. So that they can provide better services for their patients. The following key topics were covered through the training: antenatal care; instrument use during pregnancy; normal delivery and video presentation for pregnancy related complicity; episiotomy, neonatal Care; expanded programme of immunization (EPI); family planning; importance of breast feeding and its methods; nutrition for mother and child; psychosocial support/ psychological first aid; non-communicable diseases and care for aged people; maintenance of MCH centres and reporting; and necessary prevention steps for the COVID-19.

¹¹ Includes, mother and child health care, clinical care, reproductive health in emergency



Group discussions by the participants during the training (Photo: BDRCS)

During the recovery phase, community volunteers from targeted communities will receive eCBHFA training and Epidemic Control for Volunteers (ECV) training from BDRCS.

The technical team of BDRCS has assessed the affected MCH centers to enhance their capacity and identified 5 MCH centres¹² for renovation. Renovation works are ongoing under the supervision of BDRCS health department and implementing by the MCH centre renovation committees.

With the recommendations of the technical team, and support by the IFRC logistics department, BDRCS has provided necessary medical equipment among 15 BDRCS MCH centers. Handed over the basic medical equipment such as: labour table and tool, stand lamp, baby tray, baby weighing machine, adult weight machine, B.P. and stethoscopes, bulb sucker, sterilizer for instrument, needle holder, artery forceps, episiotomy scissors, kidney tray, torch light, thermometer, blood sugar test machine with strip, nebulizer machine, doppler machine and covered bin for labour room.



Damaged rooftop and wall of the Shahid Zia MCH Centre in Bogura. (Photos: BDRCS)



Medical equipment handed over to Ramon Bibi MCH centre, Dhaka. (Photo: BDRCS)

¹² Jamila Mosharaf MCH Centre in Jamalpur, Haider Ali MCH centre in Tangail, Poil MCH Centre and Sharifabad MCH Centre in Habiganj, Shahid Zia MCH Centre in Bogura.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

People reached: 113,084

Male: 56,587

Female: 56,497

Outcome 1: Vulnerable people have increased access to appropriate and sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services

Indicator:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with WASH services	95,000	113,084

Output 1.1: Communities are provided by NS with improved access to safe water

Indicator:	Target	Actual
# of people provided with safe water	35,000	63,384
# of water points disinfected	200	320

Output 1.2: NS promote positive behavioural change in personal and community hygiene among targeted communities

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households provided with a set of essential hygiene items	5,000	8,900
# of people reached through PHAST and CHAST	10,000	Ongoing

Output 1.3: NS provide communities with knowledge and best practice to improve sanitation facilities

Indicator:	Target	Actual
# of temporary latrines constructed	50	52
# of people have access to (temporary) safe latrine facilities	10,000	5,200
# of households provided with conditional cash grant for construction of improved latrines, hygiene and cleaning items	2,000	Ongoing

Progress towards outcomes

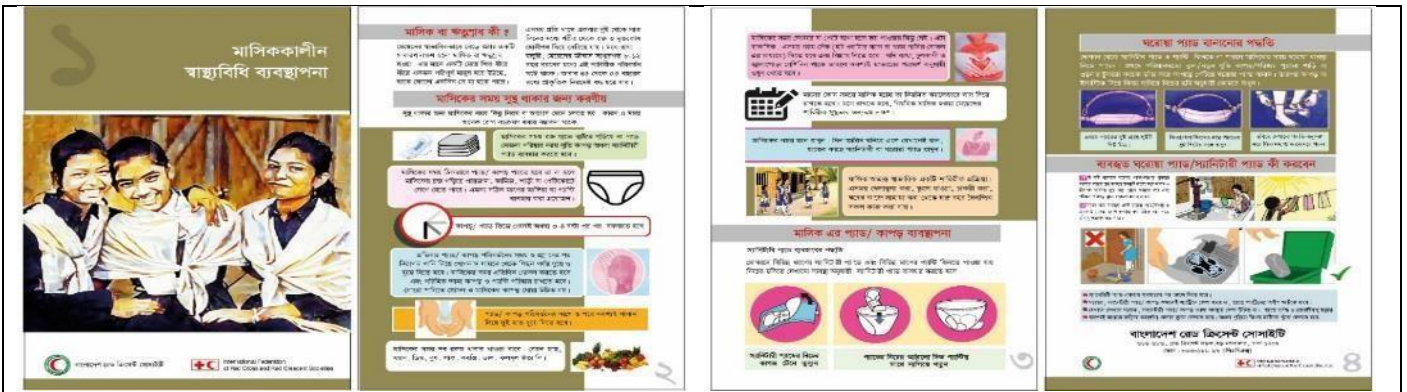
During the immediate emergency phase, BDRCS, with support of trained RCY, NDWRT members, deployed six water purification units in Tangail, Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Sirajganj, Kurigram and Bogura districts. Using these water purification units, BDRCS purified 78,460 litres of drinking water and reached 31,384 people. In addition, BDRCS reached another 32,000 people by disinfecting 320 water points (tube wells) in Gaibandha, Tangail, Kurigram, Bogura and Sirajganj districts. In total, BDRCS distributed 4,428 jerry cans among the flood affected people.



Left to right - Hygiene parcels distribution at Gaibandha district. (Photos: IFRC)

BDRCS distributed 2,900 hygiene parcels from its contingency stock immediately after flood and another 6,000 hygiene parcels¹³ in 6 most affected districts considering the needs of the affected communities. Before the distribution, all the items in the hygiene parcels were well briefed to the participants. In addition to that in every distribution point, BDRCS female volunteers conducted a session on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) and distributed a pictorial descriptive leaflet to all the targeted people along with hygiene materials. During the orientation sessions, the trained volunteers discussed on awareness messages, use of sanitary pads, MHM preparation of sanitary pads with local resources etc.

¹³ Each hygiene parcel consists of 12 pcs bathing soaps, 8 pcs of laundry soaps, 1 packet of sanitary pad, 5 rolls of toilet paper, 1 pc of toilet brush, 1 pc of nail cutter, 2 pcs of toothpaste, 5 pcs of tooth brush, 1 pc of hand washing liquid soap with dispenser along with 2 pcs of refill packages, 1 pc of hair oil, 1 pc of comb and 1 pc of towel.



BDRCS with the support of IFRC developed IEC materials on MHM for the beneficiaries (Design: BDRCS/IFRC)

With the technical support of NDWRT members, BDRCS also installed total 52 temporary latrines for the displaced people in Tangail, Jamalpur, Gaibandha, Kurigram and Sirajganj districts. BDRCS mobilized WASH technical expert to train volunteers on installation of temporary latrines with locally available resources in the respective districts. During the flood, latrines in the low-lying areas were inundated. As a result, flood affected people were not able to use their own latrines. Under these circumstances, BDRCS installed temporary communal latrines for the displaced people.

During the recovery assessment, the team found that the latrine conditions of the community are unhygienic. Almost every latrine of the community is katcha (made of mud or earth and with bamboo, jute bags or plastic sheets) and were severely affected by flood. Community people are not aware about hygiene behaviors. Due to unhygienic latrine and minimal knowledge and practice of hygiene behavior, the community people along with children suffers different kind of diseases i.e. diarrhea and other water borne diseases. Therefore, flood resilient and hygienic latrines are required in the community and beside they have needed awareness on hygiene behaviors through PHAST and CHAST sessions and IEC materials.

From the households assessment, BDRCS finalized the beneficiaries in Tangail and Sirajganj districts for WASH support. They have a plan for model latrine installation at the community level as per findings of community consultations and technical support will be provided in collaboration with the Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE). Conditional cash grants for disaster resilience latrine construction will be transferred to individual bank accounts of latrine recipients. Monitoring of the progress of latrine construction will be carried out with the support of the BDRCS WASH officer and NDWRT members, community organizers, community development committee (CDC) members and WASH-trained volunteers. With the support of IFRC logistics unit, hygiene items have been procured and stored in the BDRCS warehouse.

Challenges

At the initial stage, it was difficult to reach the remote areas to support the most affected people, especially whose houses were inundated. BDRCS arranged special transports (i.e. engine boat, banana tree made into a floating raft, etc.) and had taken extra safety measures for volunteers by providing them with life jackets to reach the people with safe water.

The construction of improved latrines, implementation of PHAST and CHAST will be carried out in the targeted communities during the recovery phase. However, the number of targeted households may vary based on funding. COVID-19 pandemic created constraint in March 2020 as BDRCS suspended most of its field activities except those related to COVID-19 response.



Present latrine conditions of the selected community in Sirajganj. (Photo: IFRC)

Before the COVID-19 pandemic situation, BDRCS have planned to implement the awareness activities on health, hygiene and sanitation through mass gathering. But considering the present COVID-19 pandemic situation, it is strictly prohibited to organize any mass gathering. Therefore, BDRCS will disseminate key messages on health, hygiene and sanitation through IEC or behavioural change communication materials and small group meetings.



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

People reached: 148,550

Male: 74,334

Female: 74,216

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

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Operation demonstrate evidence of addressing the specific needs to ensure equitable access to disaster response services</i>	Yes	Yes

Output 1: NS programmes improve equitable access to basic services, considering different needs based on gender and other diversity factors.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i># of staff, NDRT, NDWRT members, and volunteers as well as IFRC, PNSs staff oriented on the PGI minimum standard</i>	200	200
<i># of dignity kits distributed</i>	3,000	1000

Progress towards outcomes

Throughout the operation, BDRCS organized continuous orientation sessions on minimum standards for PGI, Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) for its staff, NDRTs, NDWRTs and volunteers engaged in this operation. Sex, Age, Disability Disaggregated Data (SADDD) was collected for the cash and seeds assistance by trained volunteers at the household level. BDRCS has been prioritizing the flood affected woman headed households, person with disabilities, lactating mothers, unattended children, elderly households as potential people to receive the humanitarian assistance. During the distribution of the assistance, BDRCS paid special attention to the most vulnerable groups. Staff and volunteers have been briefed about BDRCS Child Protection policy, its code of conduct (CoC). An orientation through Skype video call was provided to 19 staff and volunteers of BDRCS Sunamganj branch prior to MPCG and seeds distribution in that district. Total 200 staff and volunteers reached in NHQ and unit levels through the orientation on minimum standards on PGI in emergencies.

Based on community needs and consultation BDRCS has finalized the selection criteria. This was shared among the communities and the primary list of eligible people shared with the communities by displaying it in community gathering places. Following the community feedback, the lists were finalized for the MPCG distribution. CEA team from the beginning is engaged with the Information management and response teams for finalizing the data collection questionnaire. The hotline number for BDRCS has been widely circulated and volunteers at NHQ are addressing calls. These volunteers are also well briefed through developing Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for this operation. BDRCS hotline call center received a total number of 473 calls - all of which have been addressed successfully, except one pending case, which is under process and will be solved soon.

Feedback and suggestion boxes were placed in all the distribution centers. not only for collection of the feedbacks and complaints, also to strengthen community monitoring mechanism. These empowered the community to see for themselves, how the distribution process has taken place, who are the real people to receive BDRCS' support. Total 172 feedbacks were received through these boxes. Besides the boxes, information desks were also placed during the distributions, which allowed the communities to make queries and ask for information related to the BDRCS interventions. Seven community members (from Jamalpur district) provided feedback through the hotline number that some of the shelter tool kit items (hammer, nails, etc.) were missing in their received kits, and the issue was addressed immediately and the rest of the items were provided to them by the supplier.

A pocket card containing BDRCS hotline number, as well as GoB and police hotlines to address gender-based violence (GBV) has been developed and printed. This pocket card along with menstrual hygiene management (MHM) awareness leaflets have been distributed among the flood affected communities. During distribution, trained volunteers of BDRCS arranged briefing sessions for women and girls.

To assess the needs related to dignity kits in the community and materials/equipment to support PSS activities for the school going children in flood affected areas, consultations with two communities and two schools (one primary and another secondary level) had been arranged in Tangail district. The same types of community consultants were arranged in Sirajganj district as well. Based on the identified needs of women and adolescent girls, dignity kits items selection was finalized and as per the request from BDRCS, IFRC country office (CO) has already procured 3,000 dignity kits¹⁴ and stored in the BDRCS warehouse. Among these, already distributed 1,000 in flood affected areas. During the recovery phase remaining dignity kits will be distributed among the female beneficiaries.



IEC materials MHM awareness being disseminated in Jamalpur (top left photo). Hygiene kit and shelter kit distribution to physically disabled person in Jamalpur (right side photo) and exit survey in Kurigram after distribution (bottom left photo). (Photos: IFRC)



Distribution of dignity kits in Jamalpur (left) and Tangail (right) among the female beneficiaries. (Photo: BDRCS)

In consultation with the response team, a two-pager document (both in Bangla and English) on IFRC Minimum Standard on PGI was developed and shared with the response team members including volunteers and NDRTs and NDWRTs. In consultation with BDRCS, IFRC protection field pocket guide was translated (in Bangla) and are in printing process which will guide the field staff and volunteers to address the protection needs, not only for this operation but also for future responses as well. As a best response and prevention towards violence against women

¹⁴ Dignity kit consist of bucket with lid (16-liter capacity) 1 pcs. panty with elastic bands, (100% cotton) 4 pcs. menstruation cloth 4 Pcs. detergent powder 1 kg, bathing soap (150gm) 2 pcs, torch light with 3 pencil batteries 1 pcs and 1 pair sandal.

and children an awareness-based IEC material has been developed in Bangla and is in printing process. These printed IEC materials will be distributed among the community people through the orientation sessions. To address negative coping strategies of the community people and prevention of gender-based violence awareness-raising sessions materials were developed, and the session will be conducted during the distribution of the dignity kits. The contents cover cultural constraints, early marriage, child labor, trafficking, domestic violence, dowry, referral pathway etc. as the result of negative coping strategies.

Challenges

Emphasizing on community needs, especially for the adolescent girls and women, finalization of this dignity kit took a little more time than expected, however, this will help the operation to meet the required needs in terms of dignity kit.



Disaster Risk Reduction

People reached: n/a (activities not started)

Male:

Female:

Outcome 1: Communities in high risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disasters

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached through NS programmes for DRR	25,000	Planned

Output 1.1: Communities take active steps to strengthen their preparedness for timely and effective response to disasters

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with DRR awareness sessions	25,000	Planned
# of households provided with saplings	5,000	Planned

Progress towards outcomes

Recovery operation has started in Tangail and Sirajganj districts with DRR related activities such as provision of saplings, DRR awareness sessions, small scale mitigation works, shelter and latrine construction considering future disaster risk, trainings and orientations on DRR, etc. have been planned while considering the COVID-19 situation and limitations. Preparation work is now ongoing. BDRCS with the technical support of IFRC is preparing a new operational guideline to run the programmes in COVID-19 situation. This guideline covers staff and volunteers movement instructions, training guidance and implementation strategy considering COVID-19. Some basic advices like social distancing instruction, installation of the hand washing station, provisioning of hand sanitizers/soap water and masks, avoiding mass gatherings, arrange remote meetings with staff and volunteers, etc. will be followed. Also, Community Organizers (COs) will be recruited from the targeted communities and Community Development Committee (CDC) will be formed. The COs and CDC will be the main communication channel between community and local units (branches) of BDRCS.

Challenges:

Due to funding constraints, BDRCS has planned for DRR activities in a small way. COVID-19 crisis and current flood situation is creating complexity to complete all the planned activities timely. In addition, earmark funding will also create difficulty for completion of the planned DRR activities during the timeframe. It was planned that awareness on DRR activities at community level to be conducted by mass gathering. But now, BDRCS has changed their strategies a little. If the situation does not improve, BDRCS will implement the DRR awareness activities through leaflet distribution, small group meetings etc.

Strengthen National Society

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

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Follow up on the priorities outlined in the Organizational Capacity Assessment Certification (OCAC) assessment and Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA)</i>	Yes	Planned
Output 1.1: National Societies have the necessary corporate infrastructure and systems in place		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Insurance for volunteers and staffs deployed in the response</i>	Yes	Yes
<i>Proper orientation to volunteers and staff prior to deployment to response operation on subjects such as PGI, CEA, etc</i>	Yes	Yes
<i>Upgrading/modernization of BDRCS response coordination centre at the NHQ</i>	Yes	Planned
<i>Exit survey and post distribution monitoring (PDM) conducted</i>	Yes	Ongoing
<i># of people provided ToT training (i.e on livelihoods, PHAST, CHAST, PASSA etc)</i>	n/a	Planned
<i># of people trained on NDRT and NDWRT</i>	n/a	62
<i>Relief stocks (non-food relief items) prepositioned/replenished</i>	Yes	Yes
<i>Revision of contingency plan</i>	Yes	Planned
<i>Response SOP developed</i>	Yes	Planned

Progress towards outcomes

BDRCS, with the financial support of ICRC, insured around 5,000 volunteers under IFRC global volunteer insurance policy. BDRCS disaster response department is in process to renew the insurance coverage of its staff under this EA. Prior to the deployment of NDRTs, NDWRTs and volunteers, BDRCS organized proper orientation on relevant subjects such as code of conduct, fraud and corruption prevention, safety and security, PGI, CEA with the support of concerned colleagues from BDRCS and IFRC. BDRCS with the support of IFRC, German Red Cross and American Red Cross arranged the NDRT training for a new batch of 32 volunteers in January 2020. The IFRC APRO Disaster Management and Surge Capacity Coordinator was present during this and provided inputs to BDRCS management in line with the IFRC's Global Surge Optimization process.

BDRCS has been conducting exit survey and post distribution monitoring on a regular basis to improve the response service. In addition to that, findings from the focus group discussions and CEA activities; continuously improve this response operation of BDRCS, such as, designing the dignity kit items list, developing the pocket cards on gender based violence (GBV) and translation of IFRC protection field guide in Bangla.

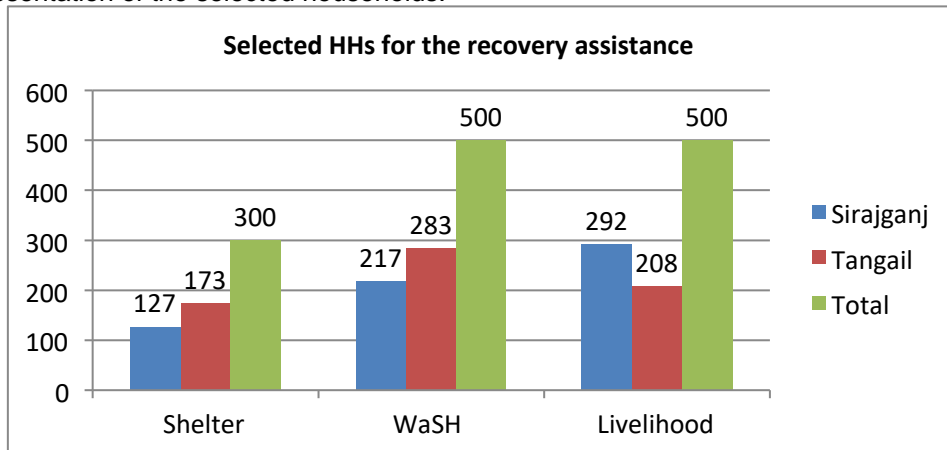
Through this EA, IFRC initiated the procurement process to replenish tarpaulins, jerrycans and hygiene parcels which were distributed during the flood operation from the joint BDRCS-IFRC contingency stock.

Under the recovery, ToTs of PASSA, PHAST, livelihood, evidence-based Community-Based Health and First Aid (eCBHFA) will be implemented and BDRCS is in process to organize those ToTs.

BDRCS has conducted the households assessment to select the beneficiaries. To conduct the households assessment, BDRCS deployed their ten NDRT members and organized a day long orientation on households assessment for them. A guideline on households assessment questionnaires was also developed by BDRCS. With the technical support of IFRC and the physical supervision of BDRCS Disaster Response Department, unit level RCY volunteers and NDRT members jointly collected the households level information through KoBo collect software. An expert team of BDRCS and IFRC developed the questionnaire.

From both the affected communities, information from 703 households had been collected for the assessment. After the data analysis based on funding availability, BDRCS finalized the households list - 300 households finalized for shelter support, 500 households for WASH support and 500 households for livelihood support. A total of 579 households will receive the sectoral assistance out of the 703 households assessed. As both the communities are more vulnerable in terms of disaster resilience, BDRCS is planning to support the entire community through DRR activities (saplings, awareness campaign etc).

Sector-wise representation of the selected households:



To brief the detail programme activities under recovery, BDRCS organized an inception meeting in Tangail with participations from unit executive members, unit level officers and volunteers from the respective branches, director and staffs from the BDRCS disaster response department, representatives from the IFRC and Deputy Secretary General of BDRCS.

As an operational strategy, it was decided that all the conditional grants will be transferred to the individual bank accounts of the selected HHs. To open the individual accounts, BDRCS communicated with the Government banks and respective branches have initiated the process. From August 2020, beneficiaries will be able to open their bank account. BDRCS is planning to take up a hub office at the district level to operate the programme activities smoothly and efficiently. All necessary process to recruit HR has done and already appointed eight Community Organizers (COs), three Technical Officers and one finance officer in the field.

Challenges

In terms of strengthening the National Society, the fund received under this EA has limited coverage. It is expected that with possible funding increase more focus will be given to the planned National Society development activities, otherwise, activities may need to be adjusted.

Ensure effective International Disaster Response

Outcome 1: Effective and coordinated international disaster response is ensured

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of NS supporting this emergency appeal with financial and/or human resources	n/a	10
IFRC engages in inter-agency coordination	Yes	Yes

Output 1.1: Coordinating role of the IFRC within the international humanitarian system is enhanced

Indicators:	Target	Actual
A coherent shelter strategy is developed in response to the floods	Yes	Yes
# of RDRT deployed	3	-

Progress towards outcomes

American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, European Commission – DG ECHO, Hong Kong branch of Red Cross Society of China, Japanese Red Cross, Netherlands Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss government, Monaco Red Cross have contributed to this emergency appeal either with financial and/or human resources.

The Canadian Red Cross supported a Shelter Cluster Coordinator who arrived in Dhaka on 5 August 2019. Second surge Shelter Cluster Coordinator arrived in mid-September 2019 for three weeks to support this operation. The shelter cluster coordination team organized seven shelter cluster coordination meetings; met donors, UN agencies, INGOs and NGOs; provided technical inputs to develop Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) and finalized a response shelter strategy for floods 2019. IFRC CO along with BDRCS is engaged in HCCT, cluster and working group meetings on a regular basis.

Challenges

Three RDRTs profiles were planned for this EA and BDRCS requested for one RDRT with IM profile and another RDRT with PGI and CEA profile. However, due to unavailability of required profiles, no RDRT was deployed. However, BDRCS continued the emergency operation by forming a dedicated information management team which consisted of two staff from BDRCS ICT department, one IFRC staff and one trained NDRT.

On the other hand, IFRC CO deployed senior PGI and CEA officer and senior response officer from its PMO office to provide technical support to BDRCS for this flood operation. To conduct the PASSA ToT, one international expatriate was identified and scheduled to come to Bangladesh. BDRCS have completed all the logistical arrangement however, the ToT was postponed due to COVID-19 pandemic till June. Currently, organizing the ToTs are a bit challenging due to COVID-19 pandemic situation. Therefore, BDRCS is planning to provide those ToTs in shorter version with limited participants.

Influence others as leading strategic partner

Outcome: 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>IFRC together with the national society uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels</i>	Yes	Yes

Output 1.1: 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	<i>Planned</i>
<i># of evaluation(s) conducted</i>	1	<i>Planned</i>
<i>Evaluation is followed up by a management response</i>	Yes	<i>Planned</i>

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

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Operation has clear campaign and communications reach strategy</i>	Yes	Yes

Progress towards outcomes

IFRC has been supporting BDRCS in terms of communications, media relations and coordination with the public authorities and national government as well as in external communication, please see the communications section mentioned above for the details. In addition to that under this EA, evaluation and lessons learned workshop will be conducted. Based on availability of fund, support will be provided to translate and disseminate the Standing Order on Disaster (SOD¹⁵).

Ensure a strong 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 1.2: IFRC staff shows good level of engagement and performance

Indicators:	Target	Actual
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¹⁵ The SOD is a statutory order that guides and regulates the disaster response and management in Bangladesh.

% of compliance with IFRC HR procedures	100%	100%
Progress towards outcomes		
<p>IFRC staff have been supporting BDRCS since the beginning of flood operation through maintaining a close coordination with BDRCS counterparts as well as with the IFRC APRO counterparts and in country PNSs. At the same time support services such as logistics, finance, resource mobilization, communication, PGI, reporting, planning, monitoring and security are being provided by concerned IFRC staff. From January 2020, a senior programme officer has been working closely with BDRCS recovery team to support the programme activities. The staff is working from district level.</p>		

D. Financial Report

The current appeal budget is CHF 7 million. As of the date of the publication of this report, the [appeal coverage](#) is 38 per cent. The expenditure as of 31 July 2020 closing is CHF1,475,577. Please refer to the attached financial report for more details. (Click [here](#))



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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In IFRC Geneva

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For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support

- Alice Ho, partnership in emergencies coordinator; email: PartnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

- Liew Siew Hui, PMER manager; email: siewhui.liew@ifrc.org

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 always 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.**

Emergency Appeal

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2019/7-2020/7	Operation	MDRBD022
Budget Timeframe	2019-2021	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 24 Aug 2020

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRBD022 - Bangladesh - Monsoon Floods

Operating Timeframe: 18 Jul 2019 to 31 Jan 2021; appeal launch date: 31 Jul 2019

I. Emergency Appeal Funding Requirements

Thematic Area Code	Requirements CHF
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	285,000
AOF2 - Shelter	1,920,000
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	1,920,000
AOF4 - Health	170,000
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	760,000
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	108,000
AOF7 - Migration	0
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	838,000
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	999,000
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	0
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	0
Total Funding Requirements	7,000,000
Donor Response* as per 24 Aug 2020	2,651,402
Appeal Coverage	37.88%

II. IFRC Operating Budget Implementation

Thematic Area Code	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	414,666	148,955	265,711
AOF2 - Shelter	507,164	322,917	184,247
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	623,777	529,057	94,720
AOF4 - Health	55,516	18,856	36,661
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	320,452	154,008	166,445
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	37,149	6,514	30,635
AOF7 - Migration	12,728	14,901	-2,173
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	75,220	80,496	-5,275
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	2,927	2,927	0
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	0	145	-145
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	167,505	196,801	-29,297
Grand Total	2,217,106	1,475,577	741,529

III. Operating Movement & Closing Balance per 2020/07

Opening Balance	0
Income (includes outstanding DREF Loan per IV.)	2,651,402
Expenditure	-1,475,577
Closing Balance	1,175,825
Deferred Income	0
Funds Available	1,175,825

IV. DREF Loan

* not included in Donor Response	Loan :	452,439	Reimbursed :	452,439	Outstanding :	0
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Emergency Appeal

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2019/7-2020/7	Operation	MDRBD022
Budget Timeframe	2019-2021	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 24 Aug 2020

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRBD022 - Bangladesh - Monsoon Floods

Operating Timeframe: 18 Jul 2019 to 31 Jan 2021; appeal launch date: 31 Jul 2019

V. Contributions by Donor and Other Income

Opening Balance							0
Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income	
American Red Cross	348,605				348,605		
British Red Cross	121,169				121,169		
China Red Cross, Hong Kong branch	39,489				39,489		
China Red Cross, Hong Kong branch (from Governmei	193,263				193,263		
European Commission - DG ECHO	220,333				220,333		
Japanese Red Cross Society	36,457				36,457		
Netherlands - Private Donors	606				606		
Norwegian Red Cross	319,371				319,371		
Red Cross of Monaco	21,943				21,943		
Swedish Red Cross	406,631				406,631		
Swiss Government	500,000				500,000		
The Canadian Red Cross Society (from Canadian Gov	118,031				118,031		
The Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Govern	325,505				325,505		
Total Contributions and Other Income	2,651,402	0	0	0	2,651,402	0	0
Total Income and Deferred Income					2,651,402	0	0