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Emergency appeal operation update

Bangladesh: Floods and Landslides

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency appeal n° MDRBD010
GLIDE n° FL-2012-000106-BGD
Operation update n°4
6 June 2013

Period covered by this Operation Update: 1 February to 15 May 2013

Appeal target (current): CHF 1,753,139

Appeal coverage: To date, the appeal is 81 per cent covered in cash and kind. The IFRC DREF allocation has been replenished.

Appeal history:

- This Emergency Appeal was launched on 8 August 2012 for CHF 1,753,139 to support Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) to assist 9,500 families (47,500 beneficiaries) for 10 months. The initial operation aimed to complete by 7 June 2013. However, considering the on-going works as well as follow-up activities, the operation asked for a timeframe extension and will continue until 30 September 2013. Thus, A Final Report will be available by 31 December 2013 (three months after the end of operation).
- On 4 July, CHF 241,041 was allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC's) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to 5,000 families (25,000 beneficiaries) in eight districts: Bandarban, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Sylhet, Sunomganj, Kurigram, Gaibandha and Jamalpur.



Selected tribal beneficiaries registered with National ID card in hand in Bandarban district. **Photo:** IFRC/Subrata Biswas.

Summary

Torrential rain starting from 23 June 2012 resulted in floods and landslides, claiming lives and causing the destruction of homesteads and significantly affecting 10 districts in the country's northern and south-eastern parts. Initially, the districts of Bandarban, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Sylhet, Sunomganj, Kurigram, Gaibandha and Jamalpur were the most affected. Continual rain in Bogra and Sirajganj resulted in flooding as well. The two districts were not covered under the initial DREF operation. The assistance provided by government and other humanitarian organizations have been inadequate.

Government statistics on 31 July 2012 reported 131 deaths (125 in the country's north-east and south-eastern hilly regions and six in the northern districts of the country). On 7 July the government's Disaster Relief and Rehabilitation Office (DRRO) reported that a total of 1,029,695 families were affected across 74 upazilas (sub-districts). On 31 July, the Disaster Management Information Centre (DMIC) reported that 352,750 families had been affected across 10 districts.

As of 19 July, the first phase of distributions in eight districts for 5,000 families was completed. The operation addressed the shelter and health components and provided cash support to affected families. Detailed

assessments by BDRCS highlighted the needs for extended relief in these eight districts, as well as in two additional districts affected by flooding which occurred after the approval of the initial DREF. Therefore, the operation expanded to assist a total of 9,500 families including the initial 5,000 families in terms emergency shelter, health and cash support for basic food items. Relief distribution for the remaining 4,500 families had been completed in the five districts of Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogra, Shirajganj and Shunamganj.

During the emergency phase, approximately 8,500 people were supported with safe drinking water in remote geographical locations with limited access to water. WASH needs were subsequently identified for the early recovery phase and the WASH cluster with its active members such as Oxfam, Muslim Aid, and Water Aid (who have in-country expertise on WASH) have been implementing WASH related activities. The installation of shallow tube wells in some northern districts remains with BDRCS/IFRC.

In addition to on-going relief support, a joint needs assessment was conducted in collaboration with the government by three humanitarian cluster leads: United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), IFRC, and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) in the southern districts of Bandarban, Chittagong, and Cox's Bazaar to explore needs for long-term intervention. Based on the joint needs assessment, an early recovery cluster – a common strategy in implementation of livelihood activities – was developed. Based on the assessment as well as the agreed implementation strategy, the humanitarian agencies involved in Bangladesh submitted coordinated proposals to DG ECHO for potential funding. IFRC has been awarded co-funding to support 8,000 families in Chittagong, Cox's Bazaar and Bandarban for cash-based interventions such as cash for work, cash for training and unconditional cash grants. In addition, based on the household economic security (HES) assessment in the northern part of the country, BDRCS/IFRC is supporting 1,000 families in terms of unconditional cash grants.

Beneficiary selection and the necessary preparation in Northern districts of Gaibandha and Kurigram for cash transfer like cash grant ID form preparation, bank account opening by the BDRCS district units nearest to the beneficiary community, cash transfer planning was completed during the last reporting period. During this reporting period, 1,000 families received cash through banks. The distribution started on 6 February and completed on 13 February 2013.

BDRCS district units have prepared a pool of volunteers to monitor the cash for work (CFW) programme. As of 15 May 2013, about 3,860 beneficiaries out of 4,000 have started CFW in three districts. Among those, 2,200 beneficiaries have received their full share of money (BDT 5,000) as they have completed their 25-day working cycle. And the rest are near to complete 25 days and had already received partial share of their wage.

The training of trainers' (ToT) trained volunteers with technical support from the BDRCS/IFRC project staff has conducted beneficiary level training. As of 15 May 2013, 101 batches of training covering 3,040 beneficiaries were completed. Out of these 3,040 about 2,200 beneficiaries received cash for training (CFT) and the rest will receive shortly. Meanwhile, 700 beneficiaries received unconditional cash grant (UCG) in Ramu Upazila of Cox's Bazar district.

In order to ensure that the cash based programme is successful, BDRCS and IFRC assisted beneficiaries in ensuring they were able to benefit from the programme. This included cash grant ID forms with photos, collecting national identity cards and helping to open a bank account nearest to their home. All these steps took more time than was initially anticipated, thus delaying the cash based programme in the field.

Regular disruptions due to the general strike¹ (hartels), this has direct impact in population movements, large and small, in turn hampering and at times altogether restricting project implementation and monitoring at the field level by the staff and volunteers. Though BDRCS maintains bank account in district level, as the beneficiary villages are far away from district town, BDRCS has opened separate bank account nearest to the beneficiary locations and the cash is being transferred to that bank account. Due to the frequent strikes, cash transfer from BDRCS national headquarters (NHQ) to the field level banks did not happened according to the plan and payment did not take place in time which causes delay in starting new CFW schemes. Nationwide strikes as detailed above have created a "liquidity crisis" for local bank branches causing delays in payments to beneficiaries in turn slowing the overall project pace.

The initial operation was expected to complete by 7 June 2013. However, considering challenges faced by the BDRCS/IFRC for the livelihoods component, the operation timeframe has been extended to 30 September 2013. A Final Report will be available by 31 December 2013 (three months after the end of operation).

¹ During this reporting period, there were an accumulative of 27 days of nationwide strike.

The situation

Context

The geographical setting of the country's south and north-east, with hilly areas and upstream rivers make these regions naturally prone to flash floods and landslides. The magnitude of the impact of such disasters also increased as a result of unplanned settlements near the mountains.

The assessment conducted by BDRCS from 1 to 5 July 2012 found that the majority of the affected population in the east of the country is below the poverty line and are forced to reside in vulnerable mountainous locations in the districts of Chittagong, Cox's Bazaar, Bandarban, Sunamganj and Sylhet. Flood waters triggered by heavy rainfall from upstream inundated the low-lying areas of these districts from 25 June and continued until 28 June. The districts of Bogra, Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Kurigram and Sirajgonj, which are located in low-lying areas of the northern part of the country, have been inundated due to the torrential rain and rising water levels in the rivers Brahmaputra and Dharla.

In total, 10,551 water points were damaged, of which 4,350 were in Kurigram. Communities were dependent on water from tube wells of neighbouring villages while contaminated water is being used for domestic purposes. The situation has improved during this reporting period but there are needs of repairing of the damaged water points. Open defecation in the region was prevalent since most areas were flooded. Some areas of these districts faced moderate to heavy shower during post monsoon season in September and early October 2012. This further deteriorated the flooding situation in some part of those districts.

It was estimated that 373 km of road have been damaged by the flood in the district of Bandarban, Bogra, Chittagong, Jamalpur and Kurigram. Most of the market places were partially damaged as goods such as rice, pulses, fertilizers and onions have been inundated by flood water. Furthermore, 258 km in total of the river embankment has been damaged and approximately 735 educational institutions have also been affected.

According to DRRO's damage statistics, as of 19 July 2012, a total of 74 upazilas (out of 101) in 10 districts have been affected by the floods with an impact on 1,029,695 families and a population of 5,148,475. The flood has also destroyed 360,862 households (of which 88,070 were fully damaged) and 230,421 acres of crops. Approximately 4,816 livestock have been killed in the flood while much of the poultry, fisheries, and shrimp culture have been negatively affected. A total of 50,778 people have taken shelter in 246 buildings includes cyclone and flood shelter, schools, college and government buildings in the districts, and 139 people have been reported dead.

A [joint need assessment](#) (JNA) was conducted in the three south eastern district of Chittagong, Bandarban and Cox's Bazar during August and early September 2012. Three cluster lead agencies (IFRC for shelter, UNDP for early recovery and UNICEF for WASH cluster) took part in this assessment with support from other INGOs and local NGOs. According to the JNA, nine upazilas are affected in three districts of Bandarban, Chittagong and Cox's Bazar where about 58.9 per cent of households are affected and 17.11 per cent of shelters are damaged. This assessment also identified the community need through comprehensive focus group discussion (FGD) and utilizing other tools.

Table 1: Summary of damage profile in Bandarban, Chittagong and Cox's Bazar district assessed by Joint Need Assessment.

<i>District</i>	<i>Upazila</i>	<i>Total # of families (upazila)</i>	<i># of affected families (upazila)</i>	<i>% of affected families</i>	<i># of shelters prior to floods (upazila)</i>	<i>Total # of shelters affected (upazila)</i>	<i>% of damaged shelter</i>
Bandarban	Lama	22,447	18,010	80.2	22,447	18,010	80.23
	Naikhongchari	12,218	4,155	34.0	12,218	1,433	11.73
	Alikadam	9,422	2,429	25.8	9,422	2,429	25.78
Subtotal		44,087	24,594	55.8	44,087	21,872	49.61
Chittagong	Anowara	49,966	24,550	49.1	49,966	5,207	10.42
	Satkania	70,808	60,000	84.7	70,808	5,000	7.06

	Bashkali	84,216	60,000	71.2	84,216	23,130	27.47
Subtotal		204,990	144,550	70.5	204,990	33,337	16.26
Cox's Bazar	Ramu	47,904	19,800	41.3	47,904	6,500	13.57
	Moheshkhali	58,177	1,658	2.8	58,177	435	0.75
	Chakaria	88,391	70,630	79.9	88,391	13,750	15.56
Subtotal		194,472	92,088	47.4	194,472	20,685	10.64
Total		443,549	261,232	58.9	443,549	75,894	17.11

The November 2012 joint agency (Save the children, Muslim Aid, Christian aid, Oxfam and partner NGO GUK) Household Economic Security (HES) [Recovery Assessment](#) in the Northern districts of Kurigram, Jamalpur and Gaibandha has identified the basic food and nonfood needs amongst the 'very poor' and most vulnerable households (mainly those without access to be able bodied male labour) in the most affected and highly sedimented char (raised ground surrounded by water) islands. This assessment also identified livelihood recovery needs particularly on those char islands where sediment depth is likely to prevent return to normal cropping until after the next monsoon floods in November 2013.

During the first few days of the emergency phase, limited support was provided by other humanitarian agencies other than the BDRCS response (refer to Red Cross Red Crescent Action below), and local governments in the northern districts. Other humanitarian organizations, such as Save the Children, Oxfam, and Muslim Aid, eventually started their response operations in the northern districts.

The scenario has been better in south-eastern part where Concern Universal, Deshari Consortium (led by Muslim Aid) and Care Bangladesh received support from DG ECHO to assist around 36,865 families with emergency and early recovery assistance. Local NGOs such as CARITAS, BRAC and Souhardo also provided cash grants, food and non-food items to the flood-affected population during the emergency phase. DG ECHO funded five INGOs and IFRC is conducting cash-based early recovery interventions in the south-eastern region which covers a good percentage of needs. In addition, UNDP has been providing early recovery activities in the form of cash for work, cash grant, etc.

Coordination and partnerships

BDRCS/IFRC continues to liaise and coordinate with the local administration to monitor disaster situation and immediate response. As members of the local disaster management committees (constituted by the government), the concerned BDRCS units took part in humanitarian response activities conducted by the government and other humanitarian agencies.

IFRC has continued its presence and contribution in the Humanitarian Country Task Team (HCTT) meeting co-chaired by the government and United Nations (UN) to support a coordinated humanitarian response. Together with BDRCS, IFRC maintains close contact with the National Disaster Response Coordination Centre (NDRCC) for situation updates, government response and coordination between humanitarian actors. In addition, a bilateral meeting was held between the secretary of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) and the SG of BDRCS for a coordinated response operation in the emergency phase.

IFRC, together with UNDP, organized several meetings of the shelter cluster member agencies to share details of assessments, actions undertaken and resources available. Though the Shelter Cluster was not formally activated, consultations continue to be undertaken. Furthermore, IFRC, together with BDRCS, has coordinated meetings regarding WatSan, food security, health and needs assessments.

A JNA for shelter, WASH and early recovery, co-led by UNDP, UNICEF and IFRC, is completed. Early recovery intervention is being launched based on assessment findings by other humanitarian agencies.

BDRCS coordinated with the British Red Cross to conduct the HES assessment in the northern districts. British Red Cross has provided support through a HES delegate to lead this assessment.

IFRC is in close contact with DG ECHO in terms of exchanging updates and exploring appropriate actions to address humanitarian needs. IFRC attended the DG ECHO partner's coordination meeting on 2 July 2012, where the flood situation in the country was reviewed. IFRC together with BDRCS Bandarban district unit hosted the first interagency coordination meeting of DG ECHO supported humanitarian agencies on 10 January 2013 for the DG

ECHO partners implementing early recovery intervention in the south eastern region. IFRC has been awarded co-funding to support 8,000 families in Chittagong, Cox's Bazaar and Bandarban for cash-based interventions such as cash for work, cash for training and unconditional cash grants. BDRCS and IFRC took part in the project sharing workshop with ECHO mission team in Cox's Bazaar during the April 2013. ECHO mission team also visited the BDRCS/IFRC project sites where cash for work programme is in place.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overview

Red Crescent Youth (RCY) volunteers in Chittagong and Cox's Bazaar were on ground zero to carry out search and rescue with troops and fire personnel of those trapped in the landslides, as well as providing first aid, food and clean water. As the impact from the floods has caused widespread damage to a large population who require humanitarian assistance, BDRCS has activated its flood contingency plan to guide its systematic operational response. The German Red Cross contributed EUR 1,000 (CHF 1,201) for distribution of immediate food and drinking water.

Through the disaster preparedness fund located at the BDRCS unit level, together with contributions mobilized locally, around 4,000 of the most affected families were provided with dry/warm food or basic food and non-food items (jerry cans, candles, children's clothing, etc) and shelter materials. Upon request from the affected units, BDRCS national headquarters mobilized BDT 900,000 (CHF 10,570) from its own disaster contingency fund and received an additional BDT 300,000 (CHF 3,523) from IFRC as an initial support to procure basic food, non-food items and drinking water for distribution. According to the BDRCS units, more than 15,000 beneficiaries were provided with some basic immediate assistance.



Community consultation for beneficiary list and Cash for work scheme finalization. **Photo:** IFRC.

On 28 June 2012, BDRCS with IFRC deployed emergency assessment teams from 1 to 5 July 2012 in the Chittagong-Cox's Bazaar region, in Teesta Basin (covering Rangpur, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram districts) and in Sylhet basin. Subsequently, five assessment teams were sent to the affected regions and to the most affected communities to observe the effect of floods and landslides and to obtain first-hand information on the actual needs of the affected populations. The teams interviewed key informants including government officials, community leaders, religious leaders and community members. Additionally, the teams reviewed available records including updates from the ministry and local disaster management committees.

In relation to Restoring Family Links (RFL), the assessment did not identify any need for action at this stage. BDRCS tracing department, with support from ICRC, will continue to monitor the situation with concerned units.

To reinforce the capacity of units of the affected areas, BDRCS NHQ deployed National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members during the emergency phase to support eight BDRCS units in Cox's Bazaar, Bandarban, Chittagong, Sylhet, Sunamganj, Kurigram, Gaibandha and Jamalpur. An additional NDRT member was attached to the BDRCS response department in Dhaka. In the second phase of the relief distribution, five NDRT members were deployed in five districts and an extra NDRT member was deployed in BDRCS NHQ for coordinating the field activities.

Based on BDRCS's own initial assessments and government reports, the impact of the flood situation across the country met the threshold of a large scale response. BDRCS requested and was granted an initial DREF allocation of CHF 241,041 to support BDRCS in delivering immediate assistance to 25,000 beneficiaries of Cox's Bazaar, Bandarban, Chittagong, Sylhet, Sunamganj, Kurigram and Jamalpur district with the following needs: immediate basic food and household needs (through cash grants); emergency shelter materials (i.e. tarpaulins); water, sanitation and hygiene promotion; and mobile curative health care.

As of 19 July 2012, first spell of distribution in eight districts for 5,000 families was completed. The operation addressed the shelter and health components and provided cash support to affected families.

The immediate shelter support of tarpaulins was crucial; communities were protecting themselves from heavy downpours using local leaves and straw, and residing on higher grounds for a period of five to seven days.

Detailed assessments by BDRCS highlighted the needs for extended relief in these eight districts, as well as in two additional districts affected by flooding which occurred after the approval of the initial DREF. Therefore, the operation is expanded to assist a total of 9,500 families including the initial 5,000 families.

Relief distribution for the rest of 4,500 families has also been completed in five districts of Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogra, Shirajganj and Shunamganj.

With support of the British Red Cross, a HES assessment has taken place during November 2012 and the report is being shared with HCTT. As an outcome of this assessment report, BDRCS/IFRC planned for cash grant scheme in the districts of Gaibandha and Kurigram.

Beneficiary selection and the necessary preparation in Northern districts of Gaibandha and Kurigram for cash transfer like cash grant ID form preparation, bank account opening by the BDRCS district units nearest to the beneficiary community, cash transfer planning was completed during the last reporting period. During this reporting period, a total of 1,000 families received cash through banks. The distribution started on 6 February and completed on 13 February 2013. During the last week it was found that 70 per cent beneficiaries utilized the money and the rest are continuing their activities either in shelter or in income generating activities (IGAs).

BDRCS district units have prepared a pool of volunteers to monitor the CFW programme. As of 15 May 2013 about 3,860 beneficiaries out of 4,000 have started CFW in three districts. Among those, 2,200 beneficiaries have received their full share of money (BDT 5,000) as they have completed their 25 days working cycle. And the rest are near to complete 25 days and had already received partial share of their wage.

The ToT trained volunteers with technical support from the BDRCS/IFRC project staff has conducted beneficiary level training. As of 15 May 2013, 101 batches of training covering 3,040 beneficiaries were completed. Out of these, about 2,200 beneficiaries received CFT and the rest will receive shortly. Meanwhile, 700 beneficiaries received UCG in Ramu Upazila of Cox's Bazar district. It is expected that beneficiaries from the Unions where CFW and CFT have been completed will receive UCG through banks by early June 2013.

The initial operation was expected to complete by 7 June 2013. However, considering challenges faced by the BDRCS/IFRC for the livelihoods component, the operation timeframe has been extended to 30 September 2013. A Final Report will be available by 31 December 2013 (three months after the end of operation).

Progress towards outcomes

Relevant BDRCS units and RCY, together with NDRT members, were deployed in the affected locations to conduct door-to-door survey for selection of beneficiaries during the relief as well as early recovery phase. In coordination with the local administration and government, remote locations have been targeted. Prior to the deployment of NDRT and RCY members, orientation session was organized on beneficiary targeting, criteria for selection of beneficiaries, and coordination with other actors on the ground to avoid duplication or overlapping. In the relief phase a criterion for the selection of beneficiaries varies as they live in different geographical settings and are exposed to different types of flooding.

- In the south-eastern hilly regions, beneficiaries were selected on the basis of living situation: families living on hill slopes and areas are more vulnerable to landslides and along banks of rivers.
- In the north and north-eastern regions, families affected by the floods and residing by the Brahmaputra Teesta river floodplain were selected as beneficiaries.
- In both regions, vulnerable groups are prioritized under the vulnerability criteria's of elderly women, marginal farmers, women-headed families, lactating mothers, and physically challenged people (as stated in the BDRCS relief manual).

BDRCS adhered to these criteria for beneficiary selection during the relief phase. The HES guided the beneficiary selection in northern districts. The JNA also developed criteria for the most affected population in the affected districts of Chittagong, Bandarban and Cox's Bazaar. The team in the field is followed these criteria for beneficiary selection

Relief distributions (Food and non-food items)	
Outcome: The immediate basic food needs of 9,500 flood-affected families are met within three months in ten districts of Bangladesh (Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogra, Jamalpur, Sirajgonj, Bandarban, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Sylhet and Sunamganj).	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The target families received a single cash grant of BDT 2,000 (CHF 25) per family for food.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Door-to-door assessments. • Beneficiary registration and validation. • Distribution of a single cash grant for food and immediate needs. • Regular monitoring and reporting through BDRCS NDRT, national headquarters staff and IFRC field monitors. • On-going monitoring and technical advice by BDRCS national headquarters and IFRC.
Outcome: The basic non-food items of 6,000 flood-affected families are provided within three months in five districts of Bangladesh (Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogra, Sirajgonj and Sunomganj).	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The target families received basic clothing and cooking utensils.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Door-to-door assessments. • Beneficiary registration and validation. • Distribution of basic clothing and cooking utensils • Regular monitoring and reporting through BDRCS NDRT, national headquarters staff and IFRC field monitors. • On-going monitoring and technical advice by BDRCS national headquarters and IFRC.

Progress:

The relief distribution for food items and associated activities were completed in 2012. The details can be found in [Operation update no. 1](#) and [Operation update no. 2](#). The relief distribution for non-food items, with the exception of cooking utensils, was completed in the last reporting period, details of which can be found in [Operation update no. 3](#). The procurement of the cooking utensils was cancelled due to lengthy procurement process, and thus the need for these items had already been met and no longer a priority.

Shelter	
Outcome: Emergency shelter support for 9,500 flood-affected families are met within three months in ten districts of Bangladesh (Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogra, Jamalpur, Sirajgonj, Bandarban, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Sylhet, Sunomganj).	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The target families received emergency shelter materials (one tarpaulin per family) to meet their immediate shelter needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Door-to-door assessments. • Beneficiary registration. • Distribution of tarpaulins by trained Red Crescent Youth volunteers (other materials, i.e. rope and bamboo, are locally available) and provision of technical support / advice to recipients. • Regular monitoring and reporting through BDRCS NDRT, national headquarters staff and IFRC field monitors. • Procurement and replenishment of tarpaulins dispatched from BDRCS/IFRC disaster preparedness. • On-going monitoring and technical advice by BDRCS national headquarters and IFRC.
Outcome: Transitional shelter support for 1,500 families are met within ten months in the seven districts of Cox's Bazar, Chitagon, Sunamganj, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogra, Shirajganj.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The target families received shelter materials and a cash grant of BDT 15,000 (CHF 190)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Door-to-door assessments by PASSA trained RCY volunteers. • Beneficiary registration and validation.

to support transitional shelter needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissemination of beneficiary list in communities. • Procurement and distribution of shelter materials. • Distribution of one time cash grant. • Regular monitoring and reporting through BDRCS NDRT, national headquarters staff and IFRC field monitors. • On-going monitoring and technical advice by BDRCS national headquarters and IFRC.
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Progress:

The distribution for emergency shelter materials was completed in the third week of November 2012 for the same beneficiaries who also received cash for food. The details can be found in Operation updates no. 1, 2 and 3.

HES assessment was conducted with a goal to guide the operation for possible transitional shelter intervention in the northern affected areas. After the final report from [HES assessment](#), the transitional shelter component was removed from the initial appeal as the assessment illustrates less need on transitional shelter materials. Rather, the assessment focused on unconditional cash grant to support the affected families as per their need to recover from damage. One of the reasons to move towards unconditional cash grant for early recovery was that the transitional shelter materials might not be appropriate as the local people use diverse materials to rebuild houses in the northern districts. [JNA](#) conducted in the south eastern part of the country also has identified livelihood/food security as a priority need which is another reason to change the focus from transitional shelter to early recovery through cash based intervention.

Water and Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion

Outcome: Access to drinking water for 9,500 affected families is improved within three months in ten districts of Bangladesh (Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogra, Jamalpur, Sirajgonj, Bandarban, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Sylhet and Sunomganj).	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The target families have access to safe drinking water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drinking water mapping in consultation with DPHE and site finalization. • Water trucking of potable water for 30 days for 3,000 people at temporary places or to homes without access to water. • Mobilization of materials. • Installation of 50 shallow tube wells. • Conduct water quality testing. • Monitoring and supervision by IFRC/BDRCS WatSan engineer.
Outcome: Water-related diseases are reduced for 9,500 flood-affected families within ten months in ten districts of Bangladesh (Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogra, Jamalpur, Sirajgonj, Bandarban, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Sylhet and Sunomganj).	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
Construction communal bathing and toilet facilities provided at flood shelters and public places.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site selection and designing of 6 communal bathing latrine in consultation with DPHE. • Procurement of construction materials for communal facilities. • Selection of labours and supervisors for construction in consultation with DPHE. • Monitoring and supervision by IFRC/BDRCS WatSan engineer.
1,500 families have access to household sanitation facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beneficiary registration and validation in line with the shelter component. • Dissemination of beneficiary list in communities. • Procurement and distribution of latrine materials for 1,500 families. • Monitoring and supervision by IFRC/BDRCS WatSan engineer.
Hygiene practice of the population is improved through hygiene promotion activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissemination of IEC materials on hygiene promotion. • Household level discussion through RCY volunteers for awareness raising. • Monitoring and supervision by IFRC/BDRCS health staff and trained RCY volunteers.

Progress:

Water trucking under this outcome has been implemented during the emergency phase in geographical locations as per the need and it is reported in the previous operation updates. Installation of shallow tube wells are still in

the plan but the number has been scaled down to 30 from 50 shallow tube wells as the operation is focusing on less districts in the early recovery phase. Over time, WASH needs were identified for the early recovery phase and the WASH cluster and its active members like Oxfam, Muslim Aid, Water Aid who have in country expertise on WASH have been implementing WASH related activities. During this reporting period, BDRCS through its unit offices identified the tube well installation sites in the northern districts of Gaibandha, Kurigram and Jamalpur.

Emergency Health and Care	
Outcome: The immediate health risk of 9,500 flood-affected families is reduced within one month in ten districts of Bangladesh (Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogra, Jamalpur, Sirajgonj, Bandarban, Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Sylhet, Sunomganj).	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The target families have access to mobile curative health care.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deploy five mobile medical teams with essential medicines for one month. • Provide primary health care to people living on temporary places/makeshift camps, and remote <i>char land (raised ground surrounded by river)</i>. • Reference to other medical authorities. • Coordinate with local health authorities. • Conduct regular monitoring and reporting through BDRCS national headquarters staff and IFRC field monitors.
The resilience of the community is improved through improved health awareness, knowledge and behaviour.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct health education and awareness campaigns in affected communities. • Update knowledge and skills of 50 local volunteers on disease prevention and health promotion. • Reproduce/distribute IEC materials (posters on hygiene promotion from BDRCS stock) to reinforce health education/awareness campaigns.

Progress:

All the planned activities were completed and details can be referred in the Operation Updates no. 1 and 2.

Livelihood/income generation/shelter through cash grant	
Outcome: Livelihoods of 3,000 flood-affected families is restored within ten months in the districts of Cox's Bazar, Chitagong, Sunamganj, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogra, and Shirajganj.	
Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
The target families received cash grant of BDT 10,000 (CHF 125) per family for capital/ seeds/tools support and skill development training for women.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household Economic Security (HES) survey by internal livelihood/recovery experts. • Beneficiary registration and validation. • Dissemination of beneficiary list in communities. • Distribution of cash grant through IFRC/BDRCS standard procedure (beneficiary CGID-Cash Grant ID form, individual bank account of beneficiary, bank transfer, etc). • Conducting skill development training of women by technical service providers of the government. • Regular monitoring and reporting through BDRCS cash programme trained staff and volunteers including NDRT. • Ongoing monitoring and technical advice by BDRCS national headquarters and IFRC.

Progress:

The JNA in the south east region of the country has recommended livelihood and income generating activities along with the required number of families to be assisted. Based on the JNA, IFRC with Humanitarian Cluster on Early Recovery follow a common strategy in implementation of livelihood activities. Based on the assessment, as well as an agreed-upon implementation strategy, some humanitarian agencies submitted coordinated proposal to DG ECHO for potential funding. IFRC has been awarded funding to support 8,000 families in Chittagong, Cox's

Bazar and Bandarban with cash based interventions. In addition, 1,000 families have been reached with UCG in the north region. The details are as follows:

Table 2: Summary of cash based intervention

Type of intervention	Description	Target families	# of families received full disbursement	Region (District)
Cash for training (CFT)	Targeting elderly women and person with disability (PWD). Each family received BDT 3,000 (CHF 35).	4,000	2,200 (3,040 had received training for CFT and 3,860 started work under CFW program)	South East (Chittagong, Bandarban and Cox's Bazar)
Cash for work (CFW)	Targeting the same families who received CFT. Each family received BDT 5,000 (CHF 59).			
Unconditional Cash Grant (UCG)	Targeting different families who received CFT and CFW. Each family received BDT 8,000 (CHF 94).	4,000	700	
	Each family received BDT 11,758 (CHF 143).	1,000	1,000	North (Kurigram and Gaibandha)
Total		9,000	3,900	

Cash for Training (CFT)

BDRCS has organized one ToT for 30 BDRCS RCY volunteers (ten each from Chittagong, Bandarban and Cox's Bazar). These trained volunteers are engaged in conducting for the beneficiaries in the field. IFRC hired an independent consultant to prepare the cash for training module and facilitate the ToT for the RCY volunteers. The module was field tested during the ToT. Based on the field testing results, nine posters with messages on key issues have been produced and printed. The posters include followings topics:

- Disaster risk reduction and safe shelter
- Dos and don'ts for reducing land slide risk
- Safe water, sanitation and hygiene
- Child care and nutrition
- Homestead gardening



ToT for the RCY volunteers to conduct the beneficiary level training. **Photo:** IFRC.

To conduct the cash for training for beneficiaries, 15 teams of volunteers were formed. Each team consist of two ToT trained and one non-trained RCY volunteers. The trained volunteers were responsible for delivering sessions while the non-trained volunteers manage the organization and logistics. Each team has been conducting training of 25 to 30 participants in one batch. Each participant attend a four-day training, in which at the last day they received cash cheque. BDRCS ensures the availability of the cash in the bank prior to withdrawal of cash by beneficiaries.

The beneficiary training was done by the BDRCS district unit with technical support from the IFRC field monitoring officers. The appropriate training venues which are easily accessible in the communities were identified in coordination with the local community leaders and LGIs representatives.



One of the posters prepared for beneficiary training.

The ToT trained volunteers with technical support from the BDRCS/IFRC project staff has conducted beneficiary level training. As of 15 May 2013, 101 batches of training covering 3,040 beneficiaries were completed. Out of these, about 2,200 beneficiaries received cash for training and the rest will receive shortly.



Challenges:

- During the ToT and field testing, it was found that there are some topics which need to explain in local native languages. BDRCS district units have involved volunteers from those native language speakers to address this challenge.
- Some women faced difficulty to withdraw cash from the bank by themselves on the same day of receiving the check. To solve the problem, alternative days were selected when the beneficiaries can go to the bank and collect their money. On those days, presence of BDRCS volunteers were ensured so that they can help the beneficiaries to collect money.
- Due to political disturbances cash transfer from BDRCS NHQ to community level banks was disturbed.
- Liquidity crisis due to frequent shutdowns also hampered the cash withdrawal.

Cash for Work (CFW)

BDRCS team has organized consultation meeting in each union with the local stockholders including the selected beneficiaries under this category. They have explained the objective of the CFW and how it will take place and the assistance that will be provided against the labor. Following the consultation LGIs together with community people identified the schemes to be conducted through CFW. Preliminarily selected schemes were being reviewed in a joint meeting of beneficiaries and the LGIs to see the appropriateness, time requirement, man days needed as well as impact on the environment. Finally, the selected schemes are documented in a prescribed format and get approved by Union Parishad and BDRCS unit.

After the finalization of the CFW schemes, beneficiaries started the work from a pre-agreed date. BDRCS team supervises the work and keeps daily record. Beneficiaries are receiving BDT 200 as daily wage and each beneficiary are working for 25 days to receive BDT 5,000 in total. Although in the country the daily labor working hour ranges from 5 to 7 hours for traditional cash for work activities, BDRCS has advocated for a shorter working hours. This is based on the humanitarian assistance working hours of 3 to 4 hours in which to allow beneficiaries to better manage their household and other income generation activities. Depending upon the size and volume of the schemes, one beneficiary gets involved in one or more schemes. But the total working days remain 25 days. Payment for the CFW has been made in each fifth day but there are cases where payment took place after seven or eight days due to nationwide strikes and political disturbances.

Direct cash payment has been made by maintaining master roll with beneficiary's signature or thumb print on it. And at the end of 25 days' work when beneficiaries are getting their full share of money (BDT 5,000 each), BDRCS team is maintaining the CGID form with the acknowledgment receipt.

The CFW schemes are being done to do wide range of recovery activities including reconstruction of roads and bridges, preparing crop lands for next plantation, cleaning debris, sands from communal water sources, re-excavation of water bodies and removing physical structures impeding the natural flow of water from upstream. In some places CFW has been done to raise the communal places like market, school, and homestead to keep it safe from future disasters.

BDRCS district units have prepared a pool of volunteers to monitor the CFW programme. As of 15 May 2013, about 3,860 beneficiaries out of 4,000 have started CFW in three districts. Among those, 2,200 beneficiaries have received their full share of money (BDT 5,000) as they have completed their 25 days working cycle. And the rest are near to complete 25 days and had already received partial share of their wage.



Challenges:

- In some areas getting daily labors is difficult due to lower rate of the project compared to rates of some Tobacco companies. Same daily wage of BDT 200 is maintained in the project to be consistent with the government standard so that the government post disaster safety net work is not hampered due to different payments. In these cases, beneficiaries sometimes show less interest to work. Hence, beneficiaries were offered to work in the afternoon slot for the CFW schemes to supplement his normal income.
- There are also cases where beneficiaries by themselves proposed to work in two shifts so that they can get BDT 400 per day. They are allowed to do double shifting and get BDT 5,000 in 12.5 days.
- One of the major challenges was liquidity crisis in the local banks. The liquidity crisis caused pause to flow of work.

Unconditional Cash Grant (UCG)

This is the third component of cash based activities. UCG is relatively simple and quicker as it does not depend on vast pre-work like CFW or CFT. Once the beneficiary selection and other preparatory works are done beneficiaries can be provided with cash through bank. However, cash grant distribution is considered to be done after completion of CFW and CFT. Otherwise the beneficiaries for CFW or CFT will not be willing to get involved and prefer to be listed for cash grant as it does not attach any conditionality of work or training. This is one of the reasons the project implementation flow has been bit slow as the operation has to wait for cash for work and training programme completion.

As of 15 May 2013, 700 beneficiaries received UCG in Ramu Upazila of Cox'sBazar district. By early June, beneficiaries from the Unions where CFW and CFT have been completed will receive UCG through banks.

In addition, as a result of HES assessment, BDRCS planned for cash based intervention to support 1,000 families in Kurigram and Gaibandha districts of the north region. Beneficiary selection and the necessary preparation for cash transfer like cash grant ID form preparation, bank account opening by the BDRCS district units nearest to the beneficiary community, cash transfer planning was completed during the last reporting period. During this reporting period, 1,000 families received cash through banks. The distribution started on 6 February and completed on 13 February 2013. Please see annex for distribution details.

During the distribution, beneficiaries were asked about the utilization of money and it is found that about 40 per cent have planned to utilize the money for their food and other daily needs. A major portion will invest the money for shelter repairing and some portion will utilize for loan repayment. A group of volunteers were trained to monitor the utilization of money. During the monitoring visit, it was found that 70 per cent beneficiaries utilized the money and the rest are continuing their activities either in shelter or in income generating activities.

Challenges:

- Volume of UCG amount is higher compared to CFT and CFW. Disbursement capacity of local banks often face challenges to serve a large number of beneficiaries at one go. As a result, within a union, total UCG beneficiaries' disbursement has to split in two or three times, which in turn impacting the fast implementation of the project.
- Moreover, Banks operate in low scale during shutdowns or strike days which is hampering the cash disbursement to beneficiaries

National Society capacity building

Outcome: The disaster response capacity for BDRCS is enhanced through the provision of pre-positioning of disaster preparedness stock, training, equipment/kits and logistics support.

Outputs (expected results)	Activities planned
BDRCS NHQ and concerned units staff and volunteers received training with equipment/kits and logistics support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing concept note/ToR of training in disaster response tools, approach and procedures. • Conducting training for staff and volunteers on response tools. • Conducting 1 NDRT course. • Providing personal gears to NDRT. • Minor repairs and renovation of some BDRCS units. • Providing durable IT equipment to BDRCS response department.
Pre-positioning of NFIs (10,000 blankets) in BDRCS warehouse strategically located outside the capital city to operate in response and sudden onset disasters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrading BDRCS and IFRC joint stock and warehouse management guidelines. • Procurement of items through Zone Logistics Unit (ZLU). • Stock of items under joint management of BDRCS and IFRC. • Maintaining proper documentation. • Warehouse management.

This operation is completely dependent of emergency appeal funding coverage. However, during this reporting period some key planning has been made to enhance the response capacity of National Society.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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Please send all funding pledges to zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org
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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster 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:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.

Annex

Table 1: Summary of beneficiary allocation for south eastern region cash based intervention

District	Upazila	Union	Number of target families	
Bandarban	Naikhongchhoari	Baisari	1,000	
		Dochhori	500	
		Naikhongchhori	500	
	Upazila sub total			2,000
	Lama	Ruposhipara	500	
		Faisakhali	500	
	Upazila sub total			1,000
District total			3,000	
Chittagong	Banskhali	Shadhonpur	1,000	
		Baharchara	1,000	
	Upazila sub total			2,000
	District total			2,000
Cox's Bazar	Chokoria	Koyerbil	500	
		Boroitoli	500	
	Upazila sub total			1,000
	Ramu	Gorjonia	500	
		Kawarkhop	500	
	Upazila sub total			1,000
	Moheshkhali	Dholghata	300	
		Matarbari	400	
	Upazila sub total			700
	Shadar	PM khali	300	
Upazila sub total			300	
District total			3,000	
Grand Total			8,000	

Table 2: Summary of unconditional cash grant distribution schedule in Kurigram

SL. No.	Upazilla	Date	Time	Beneficiary	Distribution Place
1	Romari	13/02/2013	12:00 PM	75	Romari UZ Porishod
2	Rajibpur	12/02/2013	12:00 PM	60	Romari UZ Porishod
3	Chilmari	07/02/2013	10:00 AM	127	Chilmari UZ Porishod
4	Vurangamari	10/02/2013	10:00 AM	111	Sonarhat Degree College
5	KurigramSadar	11/02/2013	10:00 AM	327	Old Girls School
Total:				700	

Table 3: Summary of unconditional cash grant distribution schedule in Gaibandha

SL. No.	Upazilla	Date	Time	Beneficiary	Distribution Place
1	Fulchari	06/02/2013	10:00 AM	185	Ullah Grails High School
2	Gaibandha Sadar.	11/02/2013	10:00 AM	115	Gaibandha Stadium
Total:				300	

Disaster Response Financial Report

MDRBD010 - Bangladesh - Floods and Landslides

Timeframe: 02 Jul 12 to 07 Jun 13

Appeal Launch Date: 08 Aug 12

Annual Report

Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2012/7-2013/4	Programme	MDRBD010
Budget Timeframe	2012/7-2013/6	Budget	APPROVED
		Project	*

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Funding

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
A. Budget		1,753,139				1,753,139	
B. Opening Balance		0				0	
Income							
<u>Cash contributions</u>							
American Red Cross		95,896				95,896	
British Red Cross		72,854				72,854	
China Red Cross, Hong Kong branch		304,807				304,807	
European Commission - DG ECHO		363,592				363,592	
Japanese Red Cross Society		57,900				57,900	
Medtronic Foundation		0				0	23,589
Red Cross of Monaco		6,021				6,021	
Swedish Red Cross		140,726				140,726	
The Canadian Red Cross Society		96,141				96,141	
The Netherlands Red Cross		240,269				240,269	
VERF/WHO Voluntary Emergency Relief		500				500	
C1. Cash contributions		1,378,705				1,378,705	23,589
<u>Inkind Goods & Transport</u>							
Australian Red Cross		24,793				24,793	
Norwegian Red Cross		16,137				16,137	
C2. Inkind Goods & Transport		40,931				40,931	
<u>Other Income</u>							
Programme & Services Support Recover		2,585				2,585	
C4. Other Income		2,585				2,585	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)		1,422,221				1,422,221	23,589
D. Total Funding = B + C		1,422,221				1,422,221	23,589

II. Movement of Funds

	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability	TOTAL	Deferred Income
B. Opening Balance		0				0	
C. Income		1,422,221				1,422,221	23,589
E. Expenditure		-962,168				-962,168	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		460,053				460,053	23,589

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		Project	*

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III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Expenditure						TOTAL	Variance
	Budget	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability		
	A					B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)			1,753,139			1,753,139		
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	142,500		110,605			110,605	31,895	
Shelter - Transitional	375,000		433			433	374,567	
Construction Materials			479			479	-479	
Clothing & Textiles	107,500		37,217			37,217	70,283	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	117,813						117,813	
Medical & First Aid	8,125		7,864			7,864	261	
Utensils & Tools	112,500		2,927			2,927	109,573	
Other Supplies & Services			545			545	-545	
Cash Disbursement	612,500		489,519			489,519	122,981	
Total Relief items, Construction, Sup	1,475,938		649,590			649,590	826,348	
Land, vehicles & equipment								
Computers & Telecom			1,098			1,098	-1,098	
Total Land, vehicles & equipment			1,098			1,098	-1,098	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage	1,250		43			43	1,207	
Distribution & Monitoring	7,500		57,934			57,934	-50,434	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	10,000		3,376			3,376	6,624	
Logistics Services			4,373			4,373	-4,373	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	18,750		65,726			65,726	-46,976	
Personnel								
International Staff	4,043		1,643			1,643	2,400	
National Staff	28,125		21,509			21,509	6,616	
National Society Staff	30,937		6,431			6,431	24,506	
Total Personnel	63,105		29,583			29,583	33,522	
Consultants & Professional Fees								
Consultants			3,759			3,759	-3,759	
Total Consultants & Professional Fees			3,759			3,759	-3,759	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	13,750		2,928			2,928	10,822	
Total Workshops & Training	13,750		2,928			2,928	10,822	
General Expenditure								
Travel	10,500		3,792			3,792	6,708	
Information & Public Relations	8,750		3,603			3,603	5,147	
Office Costs	2,250		3,951			3,951	-1,701	
Communications	5,625		1,754			1,754	3,871	
Financial Charges	563		9,049			9,049	-8,486	
Other General Expenses	31,250		116			116	31,134	
Shared Office and Services Costs	15,660		13,352			13,352	2,308	
Total General Expenditure	74,598		35,617			35,617	38,980	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			112,585			112,585	-112,585	
Total Operational Provisions			112,585			112,585	-112,585	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recover	106,999		58,482			58,482	48,517	
Total Indirect Costs	106,999		58,482			58,482	48,517	

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III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Budget	Expenditure					TOTAL	Variance
		Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability		
	A					B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)			1,753,139			1,753,139		
Pledge Specific Costs								
Pledge Earmarking Fee			1,400			1,400	-1,400	
Pledge Reporting Fees			1,400			1,400	-1,400	
Total Pledge Specific Costs			2,800			2,800	-2,800	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	1,753,139		962,168			962,168	790,971	
VARIANCE (C - D)			790,971			790,971		