

# Operation Update Report

## Myanmar: Flood

<b>DREF n° MDRMM017</b>	<b>GLIDE n° <a href="#">FL-2021-000128-MMR</a></b>
<b>EPOA update n° 1; date of issue:</b> 01 September 2021	<b>Timeframe covered by this update:</b> 1 September to 02 December 2021
<b>Operation start date:</b> 01 September 2021	<b>Operation timeframe:</b> 6 months and ends on 23 February 2022 (with extended two months timeframe)
<b>Overall DREF operation budget:</b> CHF 150,135	
<b>N° of people being assisted:</b> 1,500 HHs (6,750 individuals)	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners currently actively involved in the operation:</b> The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b>	
<p>Weather forecasts are monitored through the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) and the Department of Social Welfare as part of the preparedness, response and early warning information sharing. Likewise, the Department of Disaster Management (DDM) coordinates the response in which MRCS has established strong coordination.</p> <p>Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) coordinates inter-agency emergency response through UNOCHA. OCHA is coordinating through the Emergency Response Preparedness Working Group (ERPWG).</p>	

### Summary of major revisions made to the emergency plan of action

This operation update is issued to inform that the two months' DREF operation timeline is extended from 23 December 2021 to 23 February 2022.

The extension is required for the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) to complete the procurement process of items, and for the internationally procured items to arrive in Myanmar. Implications delaying the procurement process and in shipping cargo for internationally procured items from Kuala Lumpur relate to the importation approval from the authorities in Myanmar. Due to the current country situation that needs approval from the line ministry to dispatch cargo, it took longer to get approval from authorities than expected. Restriction on banking transitions in country have implications on identifying local suppliers to procure local items under this DREF operation.

The extended timeframe will allow the issues to be solved as discussed through the actions from MRCS and IFRC within new timeframe that will end on 23 February 2022. It is expected that by the end of January 2022, internationally procured items will be received by MRCS and locally procured items will be placed in the MRCS warehouse.

## A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

### Description of the disaster

According to the latest update from DMH, monsoon flooding has hit the lower part of Myanmar following heavy rainfall since the third week of July. The flood has been affecting thousands of households in Shan (East), Kayin, Mon, Rakhine, Mandalay and Tanintharyi. The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) Myanmar reported that the low-pressure area over the North Bay of Bengal persists and will remain until October 2021.

Since 30 June 2021, the DMH has been issuing flood advisory warnings and warnings regarding weather systems impacting major rivers and their water level. The monsoon weather system is strong and active, and on 24 August, DMH forecast predicted water levels may exceed the danger level of major rivers and river dams such as Ayeyarwady River and Sittoung River that are currently in critical situation and could have the ability to impact the most at-risk areas. As of August 2021, major rivers have exceeded the danger zone. It is estimated 125,000 people have been affected by flooding.

DMH forecasts that the monsoon season will continue until October with medium to heavy rainfall, and it is likely that Myanmar will experience additional new floods and probably increase severity impacts. In order to better prepare for the potential impacts of the ongoing monsoon season and to allow the National Society to support local authorities' preventative evacuation and initiate immediate disaster response, MRCS, together with the support from IFRC CD, has requested a DREF allocation of CHF 150,000. This DREF is helping MRCS to prepare and respond to the monsoon season and the high probability of disasters that will impact the Myanmar people.

This plan, funded by DREF, details the actions to be taken in view of the upcoming increased rains expected through the procurement of relief items (stocks), mobilization of assets, and personnel (staff and volunteers), preventative evacuations, rapid needs assessments, and distribution of essential household and emergency shelter items if required.

During the operational timeframe, the compounding risk factors that are influencing DREF implementation are as follows:

- Ongoing impacts of Civil Unrest in Myanmar since 1 February 2021. This ongoing crisis has proliferated nationwide civil unrest with significant humanitarian implications.
- Internationally procured Disaster Preparedness (DP) stock items require longer lead times due to limited border access and customs delays, linked primarily to the Myanmar civil unrest but also more recently to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Summary of current response

### Overview of Host National Society Response Action:

In accordance with the MRCS, the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) is following standard operating procedures (SOP) of emergency response. The EOC unit monitors seasonal forecasting and daily weather updates with the DMH for dissemination to the EC, SG Office, MRCS' Departments, EOC page, EOC group, ERT groups, Region /State Red Cross Supervisory Committee and Branches within established timeframes. Since late August to September, the rainfall created critical situation of major's rivers that reached danger zone. MRCS EOC was activated, and branch Red Cross volunteers disseminated the early warning message into communities.

MRCS National Headquarters (NHQ) had filled the stock gap and emergency relief funding to branches to ensure they are ready to respond through the delivery of services. As well as NHQ emergency response team/centre heightened the alert and coordinated the response.



MRCS staffs and RCVs are in Mandalay region for recusing flood affected people. (Photo: MRCS)

Considering the COVID-19 situation, MRCS is also distributing face masks and hand sanitizer in close coordination with most of the five affected regions/states.

Response to date:

- A total of 148 RCVs (22% female) are mobilized and provided assistance to a total of 24 townships.
- 2,962 HHs (13,003 individuals) evacuated to emergency centre.
- NFIs (hygiene kits/parcels, family kits, dignity kits, mosquito nets, tarpaulin, kitchen, and cooking sets) were distributed to 550 HHs

MRCS has shared the update about the flood situation and their response to country partners as well as an initial assessment of DP stocks and warehouse situation. In addition, MRCS host Movement coordination and operational

meetings to share information with partners. IFRC Country Delegation (CD) is supporting MRCS in disseminating updates to Movement partners in-country and coordinating with the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) in Kuala Lumpur in accordance with the IFRC Secretariat's Emergency Response Framework.

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

MRCS is leading the overall response operation by maintaining close coordination with in-country Movement partners and continues to provide updates. The IFRC Country Delegation (CD) is supporting MRCS in coordination approach with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and other Movement partners (American Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross, Finnish Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross and Qatar Red Crescent) present in the country according to the needs.

MRCS has shared the update about the flood situation and their response to country partners, as well as an initial assessment of the DP stocks and warehouse situation.

IFRC CD and MRCS are also coordinating closely with ICRC to respond in conflict-affected states of Rakhine, Chin, Kachin and Shan, focusing on the new conflict dynamics / humanitarian needs, as well as offering support to the scale-up of the prevention and response to the third wave of COVID-19.

### **Overview of other actors in country**

MRCS, along with IFRC, is represented in the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), cluster and the UN Myanmar Humanitarian Fund (MHF) Advisory Board and participates in key clusters. MRCS is co-lead of the Cash Working Group. Strategies for engagement with relevant Ministries under the new administration are under consideration to ensure that critical and lifesaving activities can continue while minimizing forms of engagement at risk of politicization.

As an auxiliary to the public authorities, MRCS maintains a strong relationship and collaboration with DMH, Township Disaster Management Committees, State and Regional authorities. Additionally, MRCS and IFRC engage in ongoing disaster preparedness coordination as members of the OCHA led Emergency Response Preparedness Working Group (ERP-WG). In late July 2021, MRCS presented to the ERP-WG on Monsoon preparedness capacity and response, incorporating COVID-19 operational provisions.

### **Needs analysis and scenario planning**

#### **Needs analysis**

MRCS has conducted the initial internal assessment of flood-affected areas, which was based on MRCS chapters data and reports. Based on the initial assessment, MRCS has identified the need to evacuate the flood-affected people and provide emergency assistance. Namely, emergency shelter and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). The current availability of Disaster Preparedness (DP) stocks across MRCS's 23 operational warehouses is extremely low. MRCS aims to maintain a supply of relief items to assist 21,500 households (approximately 100,000 people) in the event of a disaster. For more details, refer to [published EPOA](#).

Based on previous experience of responding to similar flood or monsoon weather-related disasters, it was anticipated that river floods and flash floods are highly likely and will result in direct needs related to essential household and emergency shelter items, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support. However, DHM forecasted that this year monsoon would end in mid-October. However, funding is still required to support the MRCS's low stock of Disaster Preparedness (DP) items to maintain a supply of relief items to assist 21,500 households (approximately 100,000 people) in the event of the next monsoon disaster.

Considering the above factors and based on the IFRC CD readiness plan to scale up the DP stocks, support the NS, and fill the gaps of relief items to meet the minimum target in case of disaster, two mobilization tables had been opened. One of the mobilization tables was opened for DP stock specifically, which is closed now. This DREF will complement support to NS in DP stocks focusing on tarpaulins, blankets, mosquito nets, Shelter tool kits and family kits. If no disaster occurs during the DREF extended timeframe, the relief items will be repositioned, in line with the imminent DREF procedure and policies of 'No regrets`.

#### **Operation Risk Assessment**

Possible operational risks are shown below:

- The security risk posed by armed/non-state actors in the target affected areas are regarded as low to medium and is not expected to impact the implementation of the DREF operation or access by IFRC/MRCS personnel.

- The CDM (Civil Disobedience Movement) and associated context are directly impacting on supplies of goods and materials, as well as posing a risk for financial transactions for payment of suppliers and financial transfers. This is one of the key factors that delayed or hampered the procurement of relief items resulting in further depleting critical stock levels.

## B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

### Overall objective

The operational strategy of this DREF operation was based on MRCS pre-assessment of the most likely scenario and assessment of DP stock gap analysis which is aimed at reducing the impact on communities living in risk areas that are most likely to be affected by the incoming flood and cyclone events during the monsoon season. Impact reductions will be achieved by increasing the MRCS pre-positioning stock capacity to respond to affected people's immediate humanitarian needs, as well as supporting the preparations being done by MRCS in the mobilization of assets.

The operation will be implemented with six months' timeframe and is expected to end on 23 February 2022.

### Proposed strategy

This DREF contributes to the overall MRCS plan of action for their response to the flood and increases the MRCS level of DP Stock. The operation will be implemented for six months and is expected to be completed by 23 February 2022. If no disaster occurs during the DREF timeframe, the relief items will be prepositioned, in line with the imminent DREF procedure and policies of "no regrets".

Note that based on the situation, there has been an adjustment to the intended number of items of relief. This has been reduced to 1000 number of targeted households from an original 1500. Refer to the "Detailed Operational Plan" section for an explanation of this decision and the revision to the proposed strategies for implementation.

The operation will be underpinned by a commitment to quality programming that involves:

- Prepositioning of essential shelter and health items - mobilized from central warehouse to strategic warehouse.
- Support the mobilization of frontliners: personnel to conduct search and rescue.
- Prevention of COVID-19 transmission among the affected population will be addressed through supplementary COVID kits, including masks and hand sanitizers for affected people.
- Management and delivery of the programme will be informed by appropriate monitoring and evaluation.
- Continuous monitoring and coordination with MRCS and IFRC APRO log team to track the cargo shipment.

### Targeting

MRCS aims to provide emergency assistance to a minimum of 10% of the affected population in all its response operations. In this current monsoon season, widespread displacement linked to further floods and cyclones is likely to occur. Either event may result in additional displacement, in which case, responding Red Cross township branches will require timely access to key DP stock items, including family kits, tarpaulins, mosquito nets, blankets, hygiene kits and shelter tool kits.

With this plan, the DP stock levels of MRCS will increase by at least 5 per cent from current levels and reach to approximately 25 per cent.

MRCS always ensures that its response and programmes are aligned with its own as well as IFRC's commitment to gender and diversity, focusing on and targeting women/child-headed households, pregnant or lactating women; persons with disability and chronic illness, families with persons with disability, elderly, families with children under five years old, families that have not received any/or sufficient assistance from the other organizations, as well as those belonging to socially vulnerable families and who lack relevant resources to cope with the basic humanitarian needs on their own.

## C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN



### Shelter

People targeted: 6,750 people (1,500 HH)  
Male: 3,253  
Female: 3,497

#### 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 households targeted/reached with safe and adequate shelter and settlement	1,500	550

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

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of households provided with essential household items	1500	550

#### Progress towards outcomes

In provision to immediate needs, MRCS has provided immediate response and evacuated 2,962 HHs (i.e., 13,003 individuals) in 24 townships of Kayin, Rakhine and Mandalay Regions. In addition, MRCS has distributed preparedness stocks from its warehouse NFIs<sup>1</sup> (family kits, dignity kits, mosquito nets, tarpaulin, kitchen, and cooking sets) to 550 HHs with considering gender and diversity in close coordination and collaboration with local township disaster management unit". These items will be replenished by the DREF funds.

The DREF was originally targeted to support 1500 households with tarpaulins, shelter tool kits and family kits. However, with increasing purchasing power due to currency inflation and increases in transportation and logistics costs, the targeted numbers of items, namely shelter tool kits and family kits are reduced to 1000 from 1500.

The shelter tool kits and family kits will be procured locally by MRCS with the help of IFRC CD logistic and support unit, which is already in process. Whereas mosquito nets, tarpaulins and blankets are procured via Global Humanitarian Services & Supply Chain Management, Asia Pacific (GHS&SCM-AP). The internationally procured items are expected to arrive in Myanmar by the end of Jan 2022. The delay of shipping was due to getting approval from authorities for shipping the cargo.



Relief items distributed in Mandalay Region. (Photo: MRCS)

As monsoon season is ended and most likely there will be no flood, essential household items including tarpaulin, blankets, and family kits<sup>2</sup>, will be re-enlisted and the remaining items will be prepositioned as readiness for immediate distribution (if required) to the next monsoon season or any upcoming disaster event.



### Health

People targeted: 6,750 people (1,500 HH)  
Male: 3253  
Female: 3497

#### Outcome 4: Transmission of diseases of epidemic potential is reduced

<sup>1</sup> Hygiene kits planned as the NFI were distributed from the MRCS warehouse which was not funded by this DREF operation

<sup>2</sup> Items that contained inside family kit are: Male and female clothes, Boys and girls school uniform, mosquito nets, 2 blankets, 2 traps, Rope, Kitchen Set and a box.

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of HHs reached through NS emergency health management programmes	1500	550
<b>Output 4.2: Vector-borne diseases are prevented</b>		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# Of HHs provided with mosquito nets	1500	550
<b>Progress towards outcomes</b>		
<p>MRCS has provided mosquito nets to 550 households in Myawady Township and Kawkaeik Township. In coordination with the other stakeholders, the number of Households that MRCS needed to intervene was reduced.</p> <p>The remaining items will be prepositioned for emergency relief. Although, if a disaster event occurs during the DREF timeline – items will be distributed.</p>		
		
<p><i>Relief items distributed in Kawkaeik Township. (Photo: MRCS)</i></p>		

<b>Strategies for Implementation</b>		
<b>Outcome S2.1.3: NS compliance with Principles and Rules for Humanitarian Assistance is improved</b>		
Indicator:	Target	Actual
DREF procedures are applied during the implementation of the operation	Yes	Ongoing
Output S2.1.6: Coordinating role of the IFRC within the international humanitarian system is enhanced		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
Effective and coordinated international disaster response ensured	Yes	Ongoing
Outcome S3.1: The IFRC secretariat, together with National Societies uses their unique position to influence decisions at local, national and international levels that affect the most vulnerable		
<b>Output S3.1.1: IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues</b>		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
IFRC and MRCS participate in local, national and international dialogues/meetings	Yes	Ongoing
# of communications materials produced (social media, media articles, interviews, etc.) to share information about the operation	1	ongoing
<b>Progress towards outcomes</b>		
<p>The MRCS communications team is ensuring that Red Cross response efforts are effectively communicated amongst its key public audiences in a timely manner. MRCS staff and volunteers across the country are actively contributing to institutional communications through their own social media networks. Aside from a press release, regular updates of the operations are being posted on the official social media accounts of the MRCS.</p> <p>Social Media and News articles:</p> <p><a href="#">Against all odds by International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (exposure.co)</a></p> <p><a href="#">Collections   shaRED (ifrc.org)</a></p>		
<b>Output S3.1.2: IFRC produces high-quality research and evaluation that informs advocacy, resource mobilization and programming.</b>		
Indicators:	Target	Actual

Lessons learned workshop	1	n/a
<p>A lesson's learned workshop will be conducted to identify challenges, lessons learnt and recommendations. The additional budget has been allocated to this activity to enable comprehensive documentation of the lessons learned.</p>		
<p><b>Outcome S4.1: The IFRC enhances its effectiveness, credibility and accountability</b></p>		
<p><b>Output S4.1.4: Staff security is prioritized in all IFRC activities</b></p>		
<b>Indicators:</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Effective performance of staff supported by HR procedures	Yes	Ongoing
Staff security is prioritized in all IFRC activities	100%	100%
<p><b>Progress towards outcomes</b></p>		
<p>The MRCS security framework will apply to all staff and volunteers throughout the DREF operation duration. All MRCS staff and branch volunteers are encouraged and supported to get orientation on Stay Safe course and Seven Fundamental Principles. MRCS is encouraged to remind all actors more often on RCRC role and principles, especially on Neutrality, Impartiality and Humanitarian Action (NIHA). MRCS is encouraged to maintain communication with all stakeholders with a goal to ensure a high level of acceptance and access. Staff and volunteers are to be aware of the security status and briefed on reactions in an emergency.</p> <p>IFRC and ICRC are monitoring the security context through the provision of technical safety and security input and support MRCS, as needed, during the humanitarian response. IFRC staff in the Country is under heightened security measures according to the CD (Country Delegation) security plans. Any required additional technical support will be provided through the Regional/Global Security Unit.</p>		

## D. BUDGET

The DREF budget was revised based on the MRCS request. The original allocated budget for this DREF operation was CHF 150,134. The Revised budget remains the same amount as the original budget CHF 150,135. However, the local procurement items namely, shelter tool kits and family kits number are reduced to 1000 from 1,500 due to price inflation and increasing the cost of transportation. MRCS logistic team has started the procurement process with the support of the IFRC CD support service. Whereas, internationally procured items are already shipped from KI and expected to arrive this month.

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies *all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)*

### DREF OPERATION

MDRMM017 - Myanmar - Flood - 25.08.2021

#### Budget by Resource

Budget Group	Budget <input type="text"/>
Shelter - Relief	66,300
Clothing & Textiles	9,728
Other Supplies & Services	41,600
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>	<b>117,628</b>
Distribution & Monitoring	17,173
Transport & Vehicles Costs	2,080
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>19,253</b>
National Society Staff	1,135
Volunteers	260
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>1,395</b>
Workshops & Training	2,396
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>2,396</b>
Financial Charges	300
<b>General Expenditure</b>	<b>300</b>
DIRECT COSTS	140,972
INDIRECT COSTS	9,163
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>150,135</b>



Click here for:

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

**For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:**

**In Myanmar Red Cross Society**

- Prof. Dr. Htin Zaw Soe, secretary general; phone: +95 9 973 101 474; email: [htinzawsoe@redcross.org.mm](mailto:htinzawsoe@redcross.org.mm)
- Daw San Maw, Director of DM department; phone: +95 9 9771 5665; email: [sansanmaw@redcross.org.mm](mailto:sansanmaw@redcross.org.mm)

**In IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office, Kuala Lumpur**

- Gwendolyn Pang, Deputy regional director a.i; email: [Gwendolyn.pang@ifrc.org](mailto:Gwendolyn.pang@ifrc.org)
- Joy Singhal, Head of Disaster, Climate and Crisis Unit, email: [Joy.Singhal@ifrc.org](mailto:Joy.Singhal@ifrc.org)
- Yuki Masuda, Operations Coordinator; email: [opscoord.southeastas@ifrc.org](mailto:opscoord.southeastas@ifrc.org)
- Siokkun Jang, Logistics Manager, regional logistics unit; email: [siokkun.jang@ifrc.org](mailto:siokkun.jang@ifrc.org)
- Antony Balmain, Regional Communications manager; email: [antony.balmain@ifrc.org](mailto:antony.balmain@ifrc.org)

**In the IFRC Myanmar Country Office**

- Nadia Khoury, Head of Country office; email; [Nadia.khoury@ifrc.org](mailto:Nadia.khoury@ifrc.org)
- Katherine Anne Richardson Bunbury; acting project coordinator; email: [katherine.bunbury@ifrc.org](mailto:katherine.bunbury@ifrc.org)
- Rajeev K.C., Delegate, Disaster Risk Management; email: [Rajeev.kc@ifrc.org](mailto:Rajeev.kc@ifrc.org)

**In IFRC Geneva**

- Christina Duschl, Senior Officer, operations coordination; email: [christina.duschl@ifrc.org](mailto:christina.duschl@ifrc.org)
- Karla Morizzo, Senior DREF Officer; email: [karla.morizzo@ifrc.org](mailto:karla.morizzo@ifrc.org)
- Eszter Matyeka, Senior Officer, DREF; email: [eszter.matyeka@ifrc.org](mailto:eszter.matyeka@ifrc.org)

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

- Fadzli Saari, Acting Head of PMER, Quality Assurance and Risk Management; email: [Fadzli.saari@ifrc.org](mailto:Fadzli.saari@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 at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

---

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



**Save lives,**  
protect livelihoods,  
and strengthen recovery  
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**  
and **safe** living.



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

---

he