



*BDRCS volunteers reaching marooned community in Netrokona district with the dry food packages for the distribution. (Photo: BDRCS)*

Appeal No: <b>MDRBD028</b>	IFRC Secretariat Funding requirements: <b>CHF 7.5 million</b> Federation-wide Funding requirements: <b>CHF 8.5 million</b>	
Glide No: <b>FL-2022-000217-BGD</b>	People [affected]: <b>More than 7 million people</b>	People to be assisted: <b>300,000 People</b>
DREF allocation: <b>CHF 404,334</b>	Appeal launched: <b>24/06/2022</b>	Appeal ends: <b>30/06/2023</b>

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

### Floods in the northeastern part of Bangladesh

Torrential rain and incessant downpours from upstream regions since 15 June 2022<sup>1</sup> have resulted in the worst flooding in living memory in the north-eastern districts of Bangladesh. Cherrapunji and Mawsynram in India's Meghalaya district, bordering the northeast part of Bangladesh, have registered record-breaking rainfall which has resulted in overflowing of the Surma-Kushiyara river basin and

<sup>1</sup><https://www.thedailystar.net/environment/climate-crisis/natural-disaster/news/40-lakh-people-stranded-sylhet-sunamganj-floodwater-3050221>



The government has been collecting detailed damage information on houses and observed that many homes were either fully or partially damaged. It was also reported that houses were completely washed away along with essential household items. With the flooding, the foundations and walls of rural houses have weakened which can lead to the collapse of more homes.

The government has postponed the nationwide secondary school certification exams scheduled to begin 19 June due to this flooding in northeast Bangladesh.

## **Floods in the Northern part (adjacent to the Jamuna River basin) of Bangladesh**

**At the same time**, monsoon floods are occurring in the northern part of **Bangladesh, particularly in the Jamuna River basin area**. The flood waters inundated new areas in Kurigram, Jamalpur, Nilphamari, Lalmonirhat, Gaibandha, Bogura, Tangail and Sirajganj districts since 20 June 2022. According to the Situation Overview and Anticipatory Impact Analysis of Need Assessment Working Group (NAWG) dated 20 June 2022, around 3.7 million people are expected to be impacted by monsoon floods in the Northern districts of Bangladesh while the peak of the monsoon floods is likely between 25 to 30 June 2022.

Earlier in May, before this recurrence of heavy rainfall, due to continuous rains in India's Meghalaya district since 17 May 2022 and the onrush of upstream hilly waters, the low-lying areas of Sylhet and Sunamganj districts of Bangladesh including the cities were inundated initially. The BDRCS requested the IFRC for a [DREF](#) allocation of CHF 404,434 for scaling up the local response in those two districts.

## **TARGETING**

According to a government report<sup>3</sup>, in the north-eastern region, more than seven million people have been affected and according to the NAWG anticipatory impact analysis 3.7 million people are exposed to monsoon floods in northern area (adjacent to Jamuna Basin area).

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) operation will prioritise the most impacted areas and districts with an aim of reaching 300,000 people with implementing relief and recovery activities. Considering the current flooding situation in affected locations, Sylhet, Sunamganj and Netrokona districts in north-eastern part of Bangladesh will be the priority areas for commencement of immediate relief interventions. The response activities including recovery assistance will gradually be expanded to other affected locations.

Priority in targeting will be given to displaced people living in both temporary collective shelters and makeshift shelters. In addition, the BDRCS will prioritise and ensure the dignity, access, participation and safety (DAPS) of the most vulnerable population, including the elderly, children including adolescents, marginal income farmers, female-headed households, lactating mothers and people with disabilities.

## **PLANNED OPERATIONS**

Through this Emergency Appeal, the IFRC aims to support BDRCS in the response to Bangladesh floods 2022. The strategy of the IFRC response will address the needs of the most vulnerable by focusing on the sectors outlined below. In the initial phase, the greater focus will be on immediate

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<sup>3</sup> Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) dated 21 June 2022

needs of the affected population. At a later stage, recovery assistance will also be provided ensuring that the affected population can self-recover from the crisis in a way that is sustainable and strengthens their resilience to future shocks. Throughout the operation, Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) will shape the majority part of the plan.

In the initial response phase, the plan is to reach to more than 300,000 people with multipurpose cash grant, emergency shelter assistance, safe drinking water, hygiene promotion, emergency sanitation facilities and emergency health service addressing protection issues by ensuring the full integration of Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) and Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) considerations. For recovery assistance, conditional cash grant will be distributed for restoring livelihoods – linking up with local market, construction of flood resilient latrines and houses with technical assistance. A gender sensitive approach will be ensured so that both men and women have access to humanitarian aid and that socio-cultural barriers limiting access to services are considered: gender-sensitive selection process, accessible accountability mechanism and gender-balanced field team will ensure easy access by both genders.

This emergency operation will also contribute in capacity strengthening of the BDRCS (including its Branch Offices that will be engaged in response operation) with a greater focus on the readiness and preparedness initiatives as also prioritized in BDRCS' strategy 2021-2025 and in membership wide National Society Development (NSD) support direction paper.

During the monsoon and cyclone seasons, Bangladesh historically experiences several waves of floods, and it is possible that more geographical locations be affected. BDRCS along with IFRC and in-country PNSs will keep monitoring the situation and in case of further needs and deterioration of situation, this Emergency Appeal will be revised to cover more geographical locations and the affected populations. Pre-positioning of essential relief items will be included in anticipation of a forthcoming crisis to be able to respond immediately.

The Emergency Appeal is part of a Federation-wide approach, based on the response priorities of the Operating National Society and in consultation with all IFRC members contributing to the response. After the end of the 12-month Emergency Appeal timeframe, preparedness and response activities will continue under the IFRC Country Plan, which will show a holistic view of ongoing emergency response and longer-term programming tailored to the needs of the country, as well as a Federation-wide view of the country action. This process aims to streamline activities under one plan while still ensuring needs of those affected by the crisis are met.

### **Integrated assistance**

*(Shelter, Livelihoods and Multi-purpose Cash)*



The operation utilises an integrated approach to meet the needs of the population. This will include multipurpose cash assistance; emergency shelter support by providing tarpaulins, shelter toolkits along with technical guidance; conditional cash support along with technical support for restoring livelihoods and reconstructing shelters.



## Health & Care including Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

*(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health)*



Emergency health services are being provided through by deploying mobile medical teams to provide immediate lifesaving interventions. The renovation and equipping of BDRCS Mother and Child Health (MCH) centres can ensure access to community health facilities. This appeal will focus on primary health care services in the catchment areas of the MCHC including community health, psychosocial support and first aid programming that will enhance the community's capacity for health services. Safe drinking water will be provided by mobilising water purification units, disinfecting, and repairing water points; the installation of emergency communal latrines and construction of household latrines will help to improve access to sanitation together with hygiene promotion and the distribution of hygiene parcels. Menstrual hygiene promotion will be conducted in the affected communities. The appeal will also support diarrhoea case management in selected areas.

## Protection and Prevention

*(Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), CEA, Migration, Environmental Sustainability, Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery, Education)*



The operation will ensure PGI, as well as CEA in all activities in all sectors. The operation will emphasize on social inclusion and ensure that all layers of the community will be able to receive support as needed. This includes actions such as cash or in-kind assistance to meet the needs of people with disabilities. Targeted population selection criteria will be set to address the need of the most vulnerable and list will be finalized in consultation with the community residents. Climate adaptation is being incorporated to reduce the vulnerability of communities together with the inclusion of risk reduction activities.



## Enabling approaches

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:



☒ **Coordination and Partnerships**



☒ **Shelter Cluster Coordination**



☒ **Secretariat Services**



☒ **National Society Strengthening**

The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal launch. Details of the operation will be finalized through the Operational Strategy to be released shortly. The Operational Strategy will also provide further details on the Federation wide approach which includes the response activities of all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the Federation-wide funding requirement.

## RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN COUNTRY

### Bangladesh Red Crescent Society

 <p><b>Core areas of operation</b></p> 	Number of staff	<b>3,843</b>
	Number of volunteers	<b>535,654</b>
	Number of branches	<b>68</b>
	Branch disaster response team members	<b>400</b>

The BDRCS along with the IFRC Country Delegation (CD) has been coordinating with BDRCS units (branches) and in-country Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners to assist the affected population. Currently, more than 400 volunteers and staff are working in the affected districts and National Headquarter in close coordination with the public departments at the national and local levels. BDRCS activated the contingency plan and Emergency Operation Centre (EOC).

The BDRCS has allocated more than CHF 15,000 among the severely flood affected districts for dry food and cooked food distribution. During the launch of this Emergency Appeal, the BDRCS reached more than 10,000 people with emergency food assistance. Additional 22,200 people will be provided with food packages in the coming days. Furthermore, BDRCS has so far provided more than 80,000 litre of safe drinking water through deploying water purification units along with National Disaster WASH Response Team (NDWRT) members and volunteers. In addition, more than 2,500 jerrycans, 1,000 dignity kits, 1,500 hygiene parcels, 200,000 water purification tablets and 6,000 pieces of ORS have been allocated and distribution is ongoing. The BDRCS deployed four mobile medical teams to provide primary medical support in addition more than 15 NDRT and NDWRT members and two staff from BDRCS headquarter.

#### IFRC Membership coordination

The BDRCS has developed National Response Plan for flood operation and considering the plan, IFRC Bangladesh CD has been coordinating the IFRC membership to support the BDRCS to reach affected people. The IFRC Bangladesh CD along with the in-country IFRC membership has been closely monitoring the current situation and supporting BDRCS to update the contingency stock, issuing situation updates and developing the response strategy. The IFRC has allocated CHF 404,334 from the DREF mechanism in late May to enable BDRCS in providing immediate relief assistance to the affected households.

Bilaterally, the BDRCS has received commitments and financial allocations from some of the Partner National Societies including the Danish Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent, American Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent Society.

The British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, German Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, and Swedish Red Cross are also present in the country, maintaining close coordination with the BDRCS and IFRC.

This Emergency Appeal is part of a Federation-wide approach, based on the response priorities of the BDRCS and in consultation with all Federation members contributing to the response. The Federation-wide picture will be given in the upcoming Operational Strategy document. The Operational Strategy will ensure linkages between all response activities (including bilateral activities and activities funded domestically) and assist in leveraging the capacities of all members of the Federation in the country, to maximise the collective humanitarian impact.

### **Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination**

The ICRC has been coordinating with the BDRCS and attending the BDRCS led emergency coordination meeting together with the IFRC and IFRC members. The ICRC committed CHF 20,000 to cover the operational costs of the BDRCS in this immediate response.

### **External coordination**

The IFRC CD issued a letter to the diplomatic missions in Dhaka on scaling up the response operation by the BDRCS and committed to share the update in the coming days. The BDRCS and IFRC representatives are closely coordinating with the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief and other concerned government ministries and agencies. In addition, both the BDRCS and IFRC have been coordinating with the Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCCT), Food Security Cluster, WASH Cluster, Health Cluster, Gender Based Violence Cluster, Displacement Management Cluster, National NAWG and National Cash Working Group to ensure a coordinated response. Being the convener of the shelter cluster, the IFRC CD has been updating members about the flood situation and coordinating with its members for potential interventions. The BDRCS is also leading the national Anticipatory Action Working Group.

## Contact information

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

### In the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society

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#### Reference



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