

Emergency appeal operation update Bangladesh: Tropical Cyclone Mahasen

Emergency appeal n° MDRBD013 GLIDE n° [TC-2013-000060-BGD](#) Operation update n° 3 11 March 2014

Period covered by this operations update: 19 November 2013 – 10 February 2014.

Appeal target (current): This revised emergency appeal seeks CHF 1,730,251 (including CHF 57,191 for shelter cluster coordination) in cash, kind or services to support the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society so it can assist 8,000 families (approximately 40,000 beneficiaries) for nine months. The operation is expected to be completed by the end of February 2014. A final report will be available by the end of May 2014.

Appeal coverage: The appeal is approximately 71 per cent covered.

Appeal history: On 18 May 2013, CHF 305,688 was allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support Bangladesh Red Crescent Society for assisting 20,000 beneficiaries for three months. Subsequently, an emergency appeal was launched on 24 May 2013 for CHF 2,789,432 to assist 9,000 families (approximately 45,000 beneficiaries) over a nine-month period. The appeal was reduced -based on the results of needs assessment – on 17 July 2013 to a budget of CHF 1,730,251 in support of 8,000 families.



Beneficiaries showing their cash grant ID card before a distribution in Barguna district. Photo: IFRC

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As the Cyclone Mahasen approached Bangladesh – which hit ten central-west coastal districts on 16 May 2013 – Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) disseminated early warning to the people living in the coastal districts and was able to evacuate 1.1 million people to cyclone shelters with the help of volunteers and staff of its cyclone preparedness programme. The cyclone had left behind 17 dead and nearly 1.5 million people bereft of their houses and livelihoods.

The Humanitarian Coordination Task Team and Consultative Group activated phase three of the joint needs assessment for shelter, WASH and early recovery activities in Barguna, Bhola, and Patuakhali districts. The assessment revealed that only 31 per cent of the affected households had begun reconstructing their houses, and 67 per cent of the affected households were unable to access sanitary facilities. The Emergency Appeal and its operational plan was in place, with changing priorities on the ground, to support 4,000 families in the three most affected districts of Patuakhali, Barguna and Bhola in relief phase, and to further support 2,800 families from the districts of Patuakhali and Barguna in early recovery period.

In the emergency, IFRC has provided 4,000 families with tarpaulins, water jerry cans and BDT 2,000 during the initial days and has continued to support BDRCS in its early recovery operations. Some of our major preparatory early-recovery activities include: hosting planning meetings in the district units, deploying national and regional disaster response teams, selecting beneficiaries, conducting a baseline survey, selecting cash transfer modality, finalizing the latrine design, and setting up field offices.

In the recovery period, a total of 2,800 beneficiaries received support in shelter, water, sanitation and hygiene promotion, livelihood and disaster risk reduction (DRR). A total of 1,400 families have received shelter support and 700 of them also received latrine superstructure materials. Added to the support, different tools like PASSA and PHAST were facilitated by the BDRCS with support from IFRC. The capacity building process for the community people was through training and dissemination of IEC materials. All the 2,800 families received hygiene kits during this reporting period. Cash grants were provided to the shelter and livelihood beneficiaries according to the shelter and early recovery cluster's recommendation following IFRC's standard procedure. Livelihood support was provided to 1,400 beneficiaries as conditional grants, for identified livelihood activities. Out of these 1,400 families, 700 received livelihood support in Cash for Work (CfW) scheme and the rest of the 700 people received cash for training and income generation. Saplings were distributed to 1,400 beneficiaries in Barguna district while distribution couldn't take place in Patuakhali due to non-availability of saplings in that district.

THE SITUATION

On 15 May with early warning received from the government and BDRCS on the approaching tropical cyclone Mahasen, nearly 1.1 million people moved to safer places like cyclone shelters. The next day, it made landfall, hitting ten central-west coastal districts, affecting approximately 1.5 million people, leaving 17 dead, and damaging more than 150,000 houses.

The Bangladesh government distributed 3,501 MT of rice and BDT 12.3 million (approx. CHF 145,000) in cash to those affected by this tropical cyclone. The government also supported around 2,000 families to rebuild damaged shelters in Barguna, Patuakhali and Bhola districts through cash-based support.

The joint needs assessment revealed the priority needs of the affected people in the recovery period. Based on the needs assessment, shelter was identified as a priority need along with livelihoods, water and sanitation (watsan) and disaster risk reduction.

After the needs assessment, the shelter and early-recovery clusters in Bangladesh started to formulate intervention strategies and coordinate their works. Red Cross Red Crescent and other agencies responded immediately, addressing the vulnerability through a holistic approach.

At reporting time, about 30 per cent of damaged houses have been repaired after receiving external support or assistance, from the government, BDRCS and other humanitarian actors. The water sources have been repaired whereas improvement of sanitation facilities is still needed, together with message dissemination on correct hygiene practice.

The affected population is currently still experiencing a decrease of income level. The cash assistance by BDRCS and six INGOs has directly benefited the daily laborers and marginal farmers. The improved situation is reflected in the increasing rate of food intake of the community people. But in some cases, long-term assistance is needed for the sustainable development in livelihood.

Community-level infrastructure is being rebuilt through external support or community initiated development processes. It is evident that the resilience of the communities needs to be developed to reduce their vulnerability, linking the recovery to long-term development interventions.

COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

BDRCS worked in close collaboration with the Bangladesh Meteorological Department and National Disaster Response Coordination Centre to monitor the weather situation.

IFRC and the participating national societies supported BDRCS in its response operations, with IFRC playing the coordinator's role. The British Red Cross, with its existing project in Barguna and Patuakhali districts, also supported BDRCS with the beneficiary selection process during the relief-distribution phase. In addition, British Red Cross also supported with the trained PHAST volunteers in the early-recovery operation. The Turkish Red Crescent supplied food in November 2013 for 500 families in Barguna district, and the German Red Cross offered to provide human resources for the longer-term programming and capacity building.

The Bangladesh shelter cluster – led by IFRC for emergency response and by UNDP for preparedness and recovery – met several times prior to the landfall to review the cluster's readiness to provide adequate shelter

for the affected population. Subsequently, IFRC coordinated cluster response, while the Asia Pacific zone office provided support through shelter delegates. Additional support came from the Canadian Red Cross' global focal point for shelter coordination and information management. The Global Shelter Cluster deployed a team to support the coordination and implementation of the joint needs assessment.

In addition to shelter cluster, IFRC took part in the WASH, health, early recovery, logistics and food security clusters. IFRC also played an active role in the structuring of inter-cluster coordination where the intervention strategies were finalized.

As an active member of the Humanitarian Coordination Task Team, Local Consultative Group, and Disaster Emergency Response Group, IFRC shared information and operation updates with the government and other humanitarian agencies including NARRI consortium, Muslim Aid and the local implementing NGOs, to avoid the duplication in the relief phase.

The coordination with the other humanitarian agencies was regularly followed in the recovery phase through the sharing meeting and discussions at the field level. Besides, IFRC has shared their progress with the other humanitarian agencies and the local governance representatives participated during the cash grant distribution.

IFRC undertook a real-time evaluation on 1 November 2013, with support from the British Red Cross and representatives from South Asia regional delegation. BDRCS's smooth operation was assisted by the support received from its sub-district office. The regular operation has been possible due to the full time presence of BDRCS in the community even during the political unrest.

RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT ACTION

As Cyclone Mahasen approached Bangladesh – which hit ten central-west coastal districts on 16 May 2013 – BDRCS, with the help of volunteers and staff of its cyclone preparedness programme, disseminated early warning to the people living in the coastal districts. Next, BDRCS activated its cyclone contingency plan, and deployed three joint teams in Chittagong, Noakhali and Barisal districts. Each of these teams had BDT 100,000 (approximately CHF 1,219) cash for emergency procurement of dry food from the local suppliers, while BDRCS headquarters dispatched three trucks with tarpaulins and water jerry cans. Volunteers from BDRCS' cyclone preparedness programme and its unit volunteers assisted the government to evacuate nearly 1.1 million people to safer places, provided first aid, and coordinated light-search and rescue operations.

IFRC supported BDRCS with the major early-recovery activities including hosting planning meetings in the district units, deploying the national and regional disaster response teams, selecting beneficiaries, conducting a baseline survey, selecting cash transfer modality, finalizing latrine design, procurement of sapling and setting up of field offices.

Community participation has been ensured from the beneficiary selection to cash distribution and other assistance. The capacity building training of the community proved to be of significant assistance to the BDRCS operation in community mobilization and leading the process using the different tools (e.g: PHAST, PASSA).

IFRC appointed an operations manager during this reporting period with support from Canadian Red Cross. IFRC provided technical support through its expertise in shelter and watsan to assist the field-level team of BDRCS. IFRC also deployed two full-time monitoring officers for the quality assistance in the recovery operation as well as to establish coordination and linkages with other humanitarian actors in the field.

A Cyclone Mahasen Steering Committee was formed, participated by the IFRC head of delegation and BDRCS' secretary general to stimulate the progress in line with the action plan. Two meetings were held by the committee during this reporting period. Furthermore, the secretary general of BDRCS, IFRC's head of delegation and operations manager visited the recovery assistance programme to assess the quality and progress. For the first time, an emergency operations agreement has been signed between BDRCS and IFRC as per the recommendation from the 2013 pre-disaster meeting.

PROGRESS TOWARDS OUTCOMES

During this reporting period the operation team was fully focused on reaching the targeted beneficiaries by providing them planned support packages in the early recovery phase. Beneficiary selection, identification of cash disbursement mechanism, setting up a feedback and compliance mechanism, conducting of real time evaluation and fine-tuning the plan of action was completed during the last reporting period. This operation is supporting 2,800 families in the early recovery phase with the available funds which is 70 per cent of the targeted 4,000 families. The number of beneficiaries for each sector in early recovery phase is recalculated as 70 per cent from the initial target mentioned in the Appeal.

A baseline survey has been conducted during this reporting period immediately after the beneficiary selection to capture the status in the post disaster period. The baseline information also analyzed the coping strategy undertaken by the affected people in post disaster time in the shelter, livelihood and water sanitation sector. The aim of the baseline was to assess the needs and to gather information of the impact of cyclone Mahasen on the specific sectors. The impact of the recovery assistance will be measured before the final reporting of the operation in comparison to the baseline status of the targeted families.

Relief distribution (food and basic non-food items)	
Outcome: The immediate basic food and essential household needs of 4,000 affected families in the districts of Patuakhali, Bhola and Barguna are met within one month	
Outputs	Activities
Each of the targeted families received single cash grant of BDT 2,000 (CHF 25) for food and household needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct door-to-door assessments by the Red Crescent Youth volunteers, basing on the government's preliminary list of affected families. • Register and verify beneficiaries. • Distribute single cash grant for food and immediate needs through BDRCS staff and Red Crescent Youth volunteers. • Regularly monitor and report through BDRCS staff and IFRC field monitors.

All planned activities were completed and details can be referred in the operation updates [1](#) and [2](#).

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion	
Outcome 1: Water-related diseases are reduced and hygiene situation is improved for 4,000 affected families within one month in the districts of Patuakhali, Bhola and Barguna.	
Outputs	Activities
The target families have improved access to safe drinking water through proper water storage (two jerry cans per family) and have better hygiene situation through hygiene kit (one per family) and education.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilise water jerry cans from BDRCS and IFRC's joint stock. • Mobilise family hygiene kit from Kuala Lumpur stock. • Distribute jerry cans and hygiene kit via the Red Crescent Youth volunteers to the families targeted for cash grant. • Conduct hygiene campaign during distribution of hygiene kits. • Regularly monitor and report through BDRCS staff and IFRC field monitors. • Replenish water jerry cans through zone logistics unit.
Outcome 2: Provision of hygienic latrine for 1,000 families along with hygiene promotion campaign is ensured within nine months in the districts of Patuakhali and Barguna.	
Outputs	Activities
The targeted families have improved sanitation facilities with sanitary latrine and improved hygiene practices through application of PHAST.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register and verify beneficiaries in line with shelter component procedures. • Disseminate the list of beneficiaries in communities. • Mobilise resources for construction/installation of sanitary latrine. • Regularly monitor and report through BDRCS and IFRC field monitors. • Orient volunteers on PHAST. • Conduct hygiene promotion campaigns in the targeted communities.

Outcome 1: Under this outcome, drinking water jerry cans and hygiene kits were distributed. The process for selecting beneficiaries¹ for the water jerry cans during the relief phase is the same as that of selecting

¹ Details can be referred in the operation update 1 and 2.

beneficiaries who received cash. The operation received 4,000 hygiene kits which were mobilized from Kuala Lumpur logistics unit as per the revised Emergency Appeal. Since the kits arrived after the completion of the relief phase, they were distributed during the early recovery phase. Out of 4,000 hygiene kits, 2,800 kits have been distributed to 2,800 families during this reporting period to the beneficiaries selected for early recovery phase (see [revised emergency appeal](#)). The rest of the 1,200 hygiene kits are kept as BDRCS-IFRC disaster preparedness stock in Dhaka. Beneficiaries also received hygiene promotion messages using IEC materials during the distribution of hygiene kits. Changes in practice of hygiene behaviour have been monitored regularly.

Outcome 2: Some 700 families have been identified to receive sanitary latrines. Key progress under this outcome during this reporting period are listed below.

- Tender process for the latrine materials has been completed.
- Total of 3,081 nos out of 3,500 (88.03%) ring production has completed.
- Total of 599 nos out of 700 (85.57%) slab production has completed.
- All 7,000 pieces of corrugated galvanized iron sheets have been sent to Barguna and Patuakhali unit.
- All seven PHAST sessions have been conducted in both Barguna and Patuakhali district.
- RCY volunteers are oriented on latrine construction management manual that was prepared during the last reporting period.
- A technical person from BDRCS has been engaged in the targeted area to ensure the timely and effective support for the watsan activities.
- An IFRC engineer has provided the technical support in all watsan activities in the field.
- Added to this, two national watsan disaster response teams (NWDRT) have been deployed for full time technical support from the superstructure distribution to household-level latrine construction.

Emergency shelter

Outcome 1: The emergency shelter needs for 4,000 affected families are provided within one month in the districts of Patuakhali, Bhola and Barguna.

Outputs	Activities
The targeted families received emergency shelter materials (two tarpaulins per family ²) to meet their immediate shelter needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilise tarpaulins from BDRCS and IFRC's joint stock. • Distribute tarpaulins by the Red Crescent Youth volunteers. • Regularly monitor and report through BDRCS staff and IFRC field monitors. • Procure and replenish tarpaulins dispatched from BDRCS and IFRC with supplies from zone logistics unit. • Monitor and provide technical advice.

All planned activities were completed and details can be referred in the operation updates [1](#) and [2](#).

Transitional Shelter

Outcome: 2,000 affected families in the districts of Patuakhali and Barguna have safer shelter solutions through the provision of locally appropriate shelter within nine months.

Outputs	Activities
The target families whose houses were partially damaged by the tropical cyclone Mahasen is rebuilt (BDT 20,000 each family in two installments).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select beneficiaries and finalise categories for partially-damaged shelters. • Provide cash grant for shelter solution according to IFRC CTP standards. • Orient BDRCS volunteers for supporting shelter rebuilding work. • Conduct PASSA to help beneficiaries to repair their houses in a safer way. • Regularly monitor and report through BDRCS staff and IFRC field monitors. • Monitor and provide technical advice. • Prepare case studies and conduct evaluation study at the end of this operation.

² Only tarpaulins will be provided as external materials (ie rope and bamboo) are locally available for makeshift shelters. People who already have basic means for shelter use tarpaulins as ground sheets.

- Set up beneficiary communication mechanism (complaint/suggestion box, dissemination of beneficiary list in public places, etc.).

Based on the beneficiary selection criteria, a total of 1,400 beneficiaries were selected to receive shelter grants to repair their damaged houses during the last reporting period. Key progress during this reporting period are listed below.

- Each beneficiary received BDT 20,000 in cash through bank cheques. Prior to the cash grant distribution, cash grant ID (CGID) forms were used to record the individual beneficiary information. A total of 20 Red Cross youths were trained on 'participatory approach for safe shelter awareness' (PASSA) to provide safe shelter awareness to targeted community volunteer groups. PASSA has been practised at the community level through the trained community volunteers.
- Eight model shelters have been displayed at the community level to mobilize and raise awareness on safe sheltering.
- Engineers from BDRCS and IFRC have provided technical support in this activity.
- Trained PASSA group has been developed from the community to support the rebuilding work of the beneficiaries.
- All the shelter beneficiaries have completed shelter repairing forms where beneficiaries shared their plans of action.
- The first phase of shelter monitoring has been carried out by the trained volunteers to assess the effective use of the cash grant support. It revealed that so far 70 per cent of households had used the cash grant to repair or rebuild their houses. A group of volunteers were involved in the monitoring process supported by technical staff from BDRCS and IFRC.
- The shelter repair is ongoing following the model shelter and PASSA tool.
- Posters on safe shelter have been developed and disseminated for community-wide awareness.
- IFRC has planned for the second phase of monitoring following random sampling to ensure assistance for shelter.

Livelihood Recovery (cash grant, cash for training and cash for work)

Outcome 1: Livelihoods of 1,000 affected families in the districts of Patuakhali and Barguna have been restored within nine months' time.

Outputs	Activities
Each of targeted families received BDT 3,000 (CHF 37.5) as livelihood grant (for commonly identified livelihood activities in the affected areas including poultry and livestock farming, homestead gardening, vegetable and rice cultivation, fishing, etc.) and BDT 3,000 as cash for training programme.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select beneficiaries. • Disseminate the list of beneficiaries in the communities. • Distribute cash grant using IFRC and BDRCS' standard procedures (beneficiary CGID form, individual bank account of beneficiary, bank transfer, etc.). • Contextualize the cash-for-training curriculum for beneficiaries. • Conduct ToT for the volunteers on cash-for-training for beneficiaries. • Organize training sessions based on ToT modules (4 modules on hygiene and sanitation, disaster risk reduction, health and nutrition and livelihood skills development). • Regularly monitor and report through BDRCS' cash programme staff and volunteers including NDRT. • Monitor and provide technical advice. • Set up beneficiary communication mechanism (complaint/suggestion box, dissemination of beneficiary list in public places, etc.).

Outcome 2: Another 1,000 affected families in the districts of Patuakhali and Barguna have earning opportunities through cash-for-work in lean period.

Outputs	Activities
Each targeted family received BDT 4,000 (CHF 50) for cash for work (20 days work).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select beneficiaries. • Disseminate the list of beneficiaries in the communities. • Select community's infrastructure improvement work scheme in consultation with local government institutions. The cash-for-work programme will primarily target improvement and repairing of internal feeder and rural roads, protection of embankments as well

	<p>as pond re-excavation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a cash-for-work implementation guideline for BDRCS. • Disburse cash using IFRC and BDRCS' standard procedure. • Regularly monitor and report through BDRCS' cash programme staff and volunteers including NDRT. • Monitoring and provide technical advice. • Set up beneficiary communication mechanism (complaint/suggestion box, dissemination of beneficiary list in public places, etc.).
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Outcome 1: Under this outcome 700 targeted beneficiaries are supported with BDT 3,000 (CHF 37.5) of livelihood grants (for commonly identified livelihood activities in the affected areas including poultry and livestock farming, homestead gardening, vegetable and rice cultivation, fishing, etc.) and BDT 3,000 as cash-for-training programme. Key progress under this outcome are listed below.

- Two days of TOT has been conducted for the volunteers skill development following four sessions (safe water, sanitation, safe shelter, household-level income generation).
- IFRC has contextualized training modules that were developed during the flood and landslide operation in the southeast region.
- Trained volunteers then provided training to the targeted cash grant beneficiaries.
- Selected 700 beneficiaries were provided four days' training to promote income opportunities.
- Different types of livelihood options were identified through the community discussion which were documented through the Income Generating Activity (IGA) format.
- After receiving the training each of the targeted families received cash grants.
- Cash grants have been provided through bank cheques and the distribution process was supported by IFRC and BDRCS field staff. IFRC standard procedure and the financial documentation were followed for the cash grant process.

Outcome 2: In the recovery period, CfW has also been selected to contribute in the livelihood of the targeted beneficiaries. The support aimed for the regular income options of the affected people based on the recommendation of JNA-3. Key progress are listed below.

- IFRC has developed a CfW guideline and shared with BDRCS for implementation.
- Targeting work on infrastructural improvement, the local government was consulted to select the scheme.
- The community consultation process has been followed to select the CfW scheme.
- Total of 11 projects have been selected to involve the community in the CfW scheme.
- 350 beneficiaries in each district were enlisted as CfW beneficiaries.
- Each scheme was planned in 20-day works.
- A daily monitoring system has been followed to track the progress.
- Each beneficiary received BDT 4,000 through their attendance in the repairing/rebuilding work.
- Disbursement of cash process has been followed according to IFRC/BDRCS standard procedure.

DRR and Environment	
Outcome: Tree plantation (native variety) initiative is taken by the targeted 4,000 families for environmental protection and disaster risk reduction in the districts of Patuakhali and Barguna	
Outputs	Activities
Each targeted family received locally available indigenous tree species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select the same 4,000 beneficiary families under the recovery phase • Select indigenous tree species in consultation with the government forest department and community people • Procure saplings following IFRC procurement policy • Distribute saplings among the selected beneficiaries • Raise awareness on plantation of deep tooted indigenous trees

All the targeted 2,800 families under the recovery phase have been provided disaster-risk reduction and environment related support. Key progress are as follows.

- A list of indigenous tree species was identified through the consultation of district-level forest department, agriculture department, local horticulture, local nursery and the community people.
- The district-level unit offices assessed the availability of the trees in the local market.

- Ten types of species were selected to provide as DRR support and those were available only in Barguna district but was not available in Patuakhali district. Hence, a total of 1,400 households received saplings with awareness messages only in Barguna district.
- Posters have been developed to raise the awareness on DRR and environment issues.
- Total of 3,000 posters were distributed to the community and the common place of community gathering.
- IFRC's disaster-risk reduction and training officer has worked to contextualise key awareness messages to deliver to the community in consultation with field-level government and non-government agencies.

National Society Preparedness for Response

Outcome: The disaster preparedness and response capacity of BDRCS national headquarters and selected district units in affected areas strengthened within nine months.

Outputs	Activities
BDRCS national headquarters and district units in operational areas have improved their disaster response capacities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop concept note and ToR of training in disaster response tools, approach and procedures. • Conduct training for staff and volunteers on response tools. • Conduct one NDRT course for women. • Provide personal gears to NDRT. • Undertake minor repairs and renovation of some BDRCS units. • Provide durable IT equipment to BDRCS' response department.

Progress of this component depends on availability of funds. Up to this reporting period, IFRC has provided BDRCS with cameras, printers and internet modems.

Logistics

IFRC has provided logistics support to procure relief items and to ensure efficient and timely delivery of these items. A 'mobilization table' for the required items was put in place to coordinate support from donors and was covered with support from Norwegian RC (450 jerry cans and 500 hygiene parcels) and Australian RC (450 jerry cans and 400 tarpaulins) and remaining were covered by the operation itself (7,100 jerry cans, 7,600 tarpaulins and 3,500 hygiene parcels). The items were well coordinated by the zone logistics unit in KL and container space was optimized by combining the goods from the donors and IFRC and sent together to Chittagong port. Tarpaulins were initially supplied from BDRCS and IFRC's pre-positioned stock in Dhaka and have already been replenished by the zone logistics unit. In addition to supporting the distribution of relief items, the logistics unit also supported the development of standardized forms and documentation, and renting vehicles especially for the transportation of cash for distribution in remote locations.

Communications – Advocacy and Public information

The IFRC communications team works closely with BDRCS to ensure smooth information cycle among the operation teams in the field and major stakeholders including the media, movement partners and donors on the disaster situation, and emergency and recovery operations. This communication is done in addition to the extensive media coverage on the situation and response in the early days of the disaster. The team will continue to highlight news and stories on the disaster situation and beneficiaries through local representatives of international media and IFRC's online channels including the official site, social media, and the official blog. BDRCS' district units are also engaging with the local media outlets to highlight the Red Cross Red Crescent response.

A well planned information flow is maintained between beneficiaries, BDRCS' district units and response departments at the national headquarters and IFRC response team. Accordingly, a reporting pool has worked to track the regular progress. A system for regular reports was developed by the IFRC field team in coordination with the BDRCS field team. As a result, planned assistance was provided within a targeted timeline following the day-to-day support and regular communication between BDRCS and IFRC.

The transparency of the operation and the immediate needs of the community have also been addressed in the recovery support. Feedback of the targeted beneficiaries was considered critical for effective assistance. Prior to relief distributions, beneficiaries were briefed on the fundamental principles of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. Added to this, targeted beneficiaries were also briefed on the type of materials distributed. The relief and recovery operation maintained the visibility of the National Society and IFRC in the

field using appropriate branding, such as banners and BDRCS aprons. BDRCS will also take initiatives to document all media releases and videos produced for this operation.

Case stories have been produced to document the strategy and process of the recovery assistance. The stories will be published on the website.

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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.
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