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DREF final report India: Cyclone Phailin

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

DREF operation n° MDRIN013
GLIDE n° [TC-2013-000133-IND](#)
21 August 2014

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross Red Crescent response to emergencies. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

Period covered by this update:
14 October 2013 to 14 May 2014

CHF 500,000 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) in delivering immediate assistance to some 15,000 families (75,000 beneficiaries) and to replenish disaster preparedness stocks.

Summary: Cyclone Phailin was rated as a very severe cyclone that hit India in October 2013. Over 1.1 million residents in Odisha state, which has a population of 41.9 million, were evacuated before the storm and due to the floods that followed. An estimated 13.23 million people were affected; 47 people were reported dead. Seventeen districts and 18,374 villages in total have been affected. In Andhra Pradesh 16 districts and 5,000 villages were affected by this severe cyclone. Cyclone Phailin was a unique disaster – some districts were severely affected due to high speed winds; whereas others were affected by flooding due to very heavy rain fall. This demanded customised response to cater needs of the affected communities.

IRCS with its enthusiastic volunteers in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh was involved with communities, since the early warning was issued. IRCS volunteers and members were key to ensure that the relief supplies reach the most vulnerable people and responding the disaster. They delivered non-food items (NFIs) during the relief operation, provided treated drinking water and promoted hygiene practices in the affected communities and helped various donors to assist people whose houses were damaged to restore better living condition, in a participatory manner.



In October 2013, IRCS catered to the WASH needs of the Cyclone Phailin affected villages. **Photo:** IFRC.

An operational plan in complementary to the DREF operation was developed, including replenishment of relief stock, and field activities in water, sanitation and hygiene promotion. The plan was incorporated in the India Development Operational Plan (DOP) 2013, which has been carried forward to DOP 2014.

This DREF operation was initially approved for six months. Due to late reporting from the field on the utilization of the NFIs released by the IRCS national headquarters' (NHQ), the replenishment of NFIs was initiated in late. The tendering process was also delayed due to several holidays in the months of March and April and national and state elections. Hence, a one-month extension was requested to complete the replenishment by mid-May 2014.

Partners who contributed to this DREF operation include the Austrian Red Cross, Belgium Red Cross and government, Canadian Red Cross Society and government, DG-ECHO, Netherlands Red Cross, Spanish Red Cross and government as well as allocation from the Tsunami Residual Fund.

Of the total DREF received, only CHF 437,299 or 87 per cent was spent. The procurement of bed sheet was not carried out as the supplier could not meet the set timeline. The balance of CHF 62,701 will be returned to the DREF pot.

[<click here for the final financial; here for contact details>](#)

The situation

Cyclone Phailin pounded the states of Odisha and to a lesser extent Andhra Pradesh, brought winds of more than 200 kilometres an hour (125 miles per hour), uprooting trees, overturning trucks, and knocking out power and telecommunications lines. Given the scale of destruction in Cyclone Phailin and its resultant floods, rebuilding of collapsed houses and livelihood restoration posed immediate challenge for the affected people. The details of damages and losses in both the states were already reported in previous operation updates.

IRCS in the relief phase distributed food and non-food relief items to the affected communities. The Red Cross focus was initially on the communities near the Red Cross cyclone shelters. However, with time the scope of relief operation was expanded to meet the needs of the other communities as well.

In the emergency phase, the Government of Odisha distributed tarpaulins to the families; whose houses were partially or fully damaged. IRCS also distributed more than 16,000 tarpaulins to help the affected families with temporary shelters. During a discussion with the State Disaster Management Authority representative, it was highlighted that the government has been providing financial assistance to the beneficiaries to repair their partially damaged houses. For fully damaged houses, government has initiated a scheme for the construction of houses. It is expected some 30,000 families will be covered through this scheme. Currently, some of them are receiving house rent for 8-month from the government.

Overall situation in the Cyclone Phailin affected districts have improved with the intervention of the Red Cross, government and many other national and international organizations.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Overall, the Red Cross interventions have been commendable - where the Honorary Governor of Odisha state personally congratulated the Secretary of the IRCS Odisha branch for mobilizing volunteers efficiently in early warning, evacuation and making available 75 Red Cross cyclone shelters to provide shelters to vulnerable communities during the early warning phase.

The prepositioned disaster preparedness stocks of IRCS proved very useful in meeting the immediate needs of the cyclone affected people following the disaster. IRCS has replenished its disaster preparedness stocks by this DREF operation. The investment done for years in development of a pool of trained human resource in emergency WASH and equipment, played a very key role to enable IRCS to meet WASH needs of affected people.

Achievements against outcomes

Relief distributions (food and basic non-food items)
Outcome: The immediate basic non-food items and temporary shelter needs of the 15,000 cyclone affected families (75,000 beneficiaries) are met through distribution of family packs and tarpaulins.
Outputs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15,000 families (75,000 beneficiaries) received basic shelter items. • 5,500 families (27,500 beneficiaries) received basic non-food items.
Proposed Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deployment of NDRT/NDWRT/SDRT/volunteers to conduct needs assessments. • Verify/prepare lists of beneficiaries, and identify distribution points. • Mobilization of stocks from available warehouses – taking into consideration the destroyed infrastructure and difficult access. • Distribution of tarpaulins¹ as temporary shelters or repairing of damaged houses for 15,000 families. • Distribution of family pack² including basic relief items to 5,500 families. • Replenishment of the distributed stocks. • Regular monitoring and technical advice by IRCS national headquarters and IFRC. • Conduct Lessons Learnt workshop after the completion of the operation.

Achievements:

This outcome is achieved and activities have completed. The distribution of family packs in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh were completed in January 2014 and was reported in detail in [DREF update no.3](#). The planned lesson learnt workshop did not happen; however the experience and lessons learnt, mainly gaps identified in this operation, were shared through several rounds of discussion with IRCS NHQ and state branches.



IRCS, through its pool of trained, volunteers, has reached the needs of the affected people in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh. **Photo:** IRCS.

Due to the severity of the cyclone and its impact on the relief distribution, the IRCS state branch took more time than expected to coordinate the response and to ensure information management on the NFIs distribution from the field. This resulted in delay in the procurement for the replenishment

of local family pack items. The tendering process was further delayed due to several holidays fall in the month of March and April, coupled with ongoing national and state elections in 2014. With the timeframe extension of this DREF, the replenishment of family pack items were concluded. The DREF operation was supposed to replenish 5,500 family pack items; however the actual quantity of items replenished were reduced based on the unit price obtained through the tendering process and budget availability.

¹ Only one tarpaulin provided (instead of normally two) per family to seek more coverage of families as the needs showed.

² One family pack includes mosquito nets, saree, dhoti, bucket, kitchen set, cotton blanket, towel and bed sheet.

Table 1: The status of replenishment items through this DREF

Type of relief items	Replenishment planned with the support of DREF	NFIs distributed by IRCS	NFIs replenished via this DREF	Remarks
Bed sheet	5,500	5,893	0	As supplier could not supply the bed sheet within the stipulated time. Purchase order was cancelled. As there was insufficient time to redo the selection of alternative suppliers, the replenishment of this item was not done via this DREF.
Cotton blanket	5,500	6,951	4,620	Due to the higher quoted price per unit for these items obtained through the tendering process, the amount being replenished was lesser than the initially planned.
<i>Dhoti</i>	5,500	7,951	4,620	
<i>Saree</i>	5,500	8,051	4,620	
Kitchen set	5,500	4,898	5,500	The kitchen set procurement was done through AP zone logistics unit (ZLU) before obtaining final distribution figures from IRCS.
Mosquito net	5,500	5,500	5,500	-
Plastic bucket	5,500	5,300	4,620	Due to the higher quoted price per unit for these items obtained through the tendering process, the amount being replenished was lesser than the initially planned.
Towel	5,500	8,051	4,620	
Tarpaulin	15,000	17,155	15,000	-

Water, sanitation, and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The risks of water and sanitation related diseases have been reduced through access to safe drinking water, appropriate sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Outputs:

- **Increased access to safe drinking water to the 5,000 cyclone affected people.**
- **Improve hygiene knowledge and behaviour of the 5,000 cyclone affected people.**
- Detailed assessment to identify villages for intervention.
- Mobilize and installation of water treatment units once location identified and condition allows.
- Establishing water distribution system.
- Training volunteers on Hygiene Promotion.
- Hygiene promotion activities to affected community by the IRCS volunteers.
- Monitoring of use of household level water treatment and storage.

Achievements:

This outcome is achieved and activities have completed. The achievement of planned activities were reported in detail in [DREF update no.3](#). IRCS intervention in water, sanitation and hygiene promotion supplemented the efforts of the district and state administration to minimize the possibilities of outbreak of diseases in aftermath of cyclone and subsequent flooding. This relief operation has given volunteers field exposure and an opportunity to practice what they have learnt in various WASH trainings. This will further help them to develop their understanding on WASH needs of people in emergencies, application of knowledge and improvisation to meet the requirements with limited resources.

Logistics

IFRC South Asia Regional Delegation (SARD) had extended the logistics support to IRCS for the replenishment of the NFIs as well as for the movement of staff and volunteers to the field. SARD logistic team coordinated with the ZLU for the procurement and transportation of the tarpaulins, mosquito nets and kitchen sets for replenishment of the used stocks. The consignment of 15,000 tarpaulins and 5,500 mosquito nets from Kuala Lumpur were delivered to the Kolkata warehouse in December 2013. Local procurement of replenishment of other relief items (*dhotis, sarees, blankets and towels, etc.*) was completed in May 2014. SARD support had accelerated the implementation of the activities and helped IRCS to reach the most needy people with required assistance on time.

IRCS used free rail facility to dispatch prepositioned disaster preparedness stocks from its warehouses to Odisha and Andhra Pradesh. These goods were further delivered to the district branches for distribution to the affected families. The use of rail transport had cut down the operational cost which helped to reach higher number of people.

Communications

IRCS was supported to update its [website](#) with a section dedicated to Cyclone Phailin response and relief operation news and updates. SARD Regional Communication Manager visited shortly after the disaster and produced web stories on the Cyclone Phailin relief and response operation:

- [Indian Red Cross braced for potential impact of Cyclone Phailin](#)
- [Preparedness saved thousands of lives during Cyclone Phailin; now the recovery begins](#)
- [Indian Red Cross sailing the last mile to reach flood-affected people](#)

SARD communication support had in turn facilitated more domestic and international media coverage on the needs of the affected people and Red Cross field operations.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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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 \(NGOs\) 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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Disaster Response Financial Report**MDRIN013 - India - Cyclone Phailin**

Timeframe: 14 Oct 13 to 14 May 14

Appeal Launch Date: 14 Oct 13

Final Report

Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2013/10-2014/7	Programme	MDRIN013
Budget Timeframe	2013/10-2014/5	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

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		500,000				500,000	
B. Opening Balance							
Income							
Other Income							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		500,000				500,000	
C4. Other Income		500,000				500,000	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)		500,000				500,000	
D. Total Funding = B + C		500,000				500,000	

* Funding source data based on information provided by the donor

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							
C. Income		500,000				500,000	
E. Expenditure		-437,299				-437,299	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		62,701				62,701	

Disaster Response Financial Report

MDRIN013 - India - Cyclone Phailin

Timeframe: 14 Oct 13 to 14 May 14

Appeal Launch Date: 14 Oct 13

Final Report

Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2013/10-2014/7	Programme	MDRIN013
Budget Timeframe	2013/10-2014/5	Budget	APPROVED
Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

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)			500,000			500,000		
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	178,118		178,118			178,118	0	
Clothing & Textiles	72,896		59,031			59,031	13,865	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	2,344		1,396			1,396	948	
Utensils & Tools	139,982		120,989			120,989	18,993	
Other Supplies & Services			843			843	-843	
Total Relief items, Construction, Sup	393,340		360,377			360,377	32,962	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage	18,630		5,570			5,570	13,060	
Distribution & Monitoring			4,080			4,080	-4,080	
Transport & Vehicles Costs			8,611			8,611	-8,611	
Logistics Services	19,877		16,508			16,508	3,370	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	38,507		34,768			34,768	3,739	
Personnel								
International Staff			300			300	-300	
Volunteers	16,582		1,025			1,025	15,556	
Total Personnel	16,582		1,325			1,325	15,256	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	2,344						2,344	
Total Workshops & Training	2,344						2,344	
General Expenditure								
Travel	15,607		12,694			12,694	2,913	
Information & Public Relations	1,032		542			542	490	
Office Costs	481		157			157	324	
Communications	875		115			115	760	
Financial Charges	609		478			478	131	
Other General Expenses	108		152			152	-44	
Total General Expenditure	18,712		14,138			14,138	4,574	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recovr	30,516		26,690			26,690	3,827	
Total Indirect Costs	30,516		26,690			26,690	3,827	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	500,000		437,299			437,299	62,702	
VARIANCE (C - D)			62,702			62,702		