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Emergency appeal operations update

Bangladesh : Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency appeal n° MDRBD014	GLIDE n° FL-2014-000117-BGD
Operations update n° 2	Timeframe covered by this update: 15 October – 14 January 2015
Date of issue: 12 February 2015	Date of disaster: 25 August 2014
Operation manager: Nadia Khalid Tithi Manager – Response and Preparedness for Response IFRC Bangladesh Delegation Phone: +88 017 1635 0890 Email: nadiakhalid.tithi@ifrc.org	Point of contact: Md. Belal Hossain Director, Disaster Response Bangladesh Red Crescent Society Phone: +88 017 1190 8467 Email: belal.hossain@bdracs.org
Operation start date: 5 September 2014	Operation end date: 5 August 2015
Operation budget: CHF 2,206,628	DREF allocated: CHF 280,160
Number of people assisted: 83,250	
Host National Society(ies) present (n° of volunteers, staff, branches): Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, 182 volunteers, and 30 BDRCS staff (NDRTs, NDWRTs, monitoring teams) and 10 IFRC staff mobilized so far in 20 districts	
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: Government of Bangladesh, UN Agencies, INGOs	

Summary:

Disaster Situation

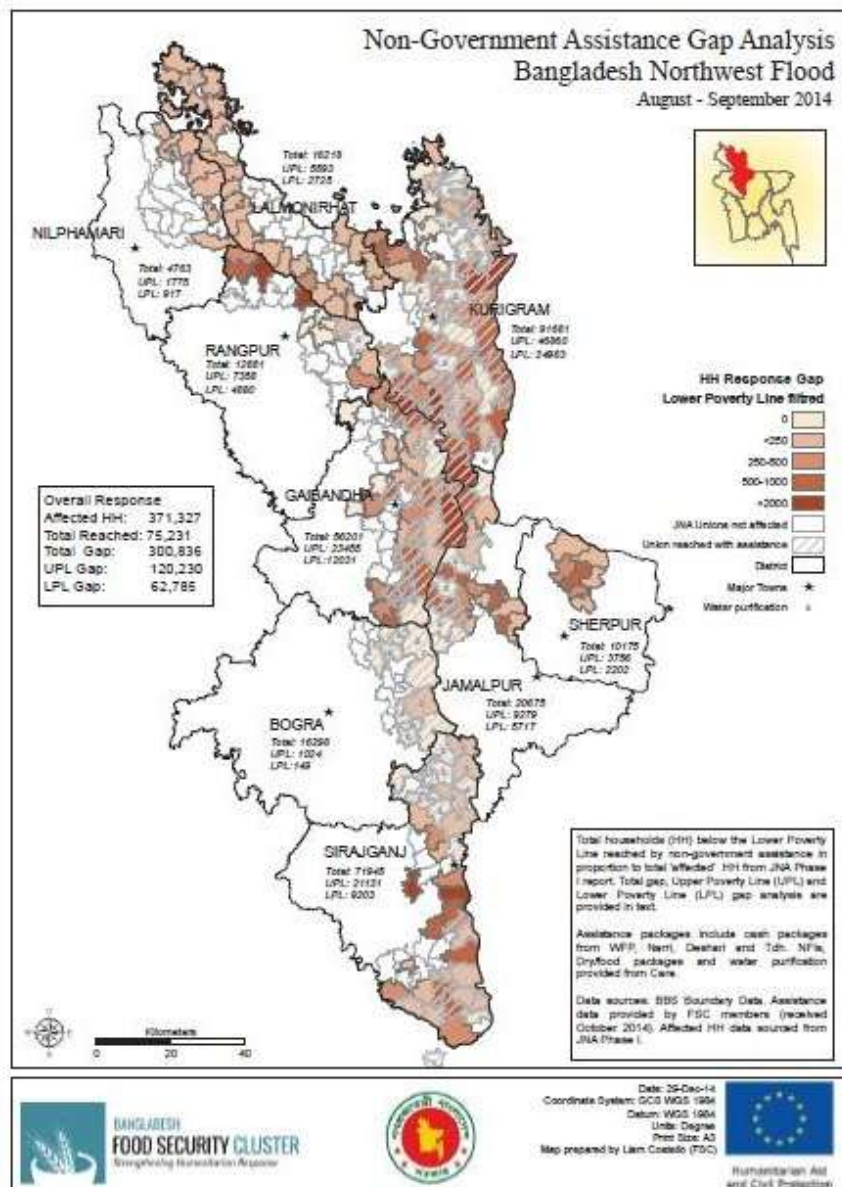
Starting from mid-August 2014, Bangladesh saw several rounds of flooding. Heavy rains in the main river basins and upstream catchments of India, along with continuous rainfall in northwest and north-eastern parts of Bangladesh caused a continuously worsening flooding situation in low-lying districts, particularly those clustered around the north-west (Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Nilphamari, Rangpur, Gaibandha, Bogra, Serajganj, Jamalpur, and Sherpur). This was followed by heavy rain induced flooding in Sunamganj, Sylhet and Netrokona in the North-east of the country and, later on, in districts in the centre of the country (Munshiganj, Tangail, Faridpur, Manikganj, Rajbari). The districts in the South (Bhola, Patuakhali, Barguna) had experienced floods since July, while districts like Feni and Chittagong had been waterlogged around the same time for several days due to heavy rains.



The flood situation in Jamalpur. (Photo: IFRC)

As per government reports, more than half a million families (2.8 million people) were affected, with 57,000 families (275,000 people) displaced. The affected include more than 33,000 families (160,000 people) whose homes were totally inundated or destroyed. An additional 235,000 houses were reported damaged. The flooding of 2014 has been described as the worst event hitting the country since the 'mega floods' in 2007. The recovery needs will be significant as the flood waters have damaged crops and farmland and disrupted farming practices and labour opportunities.

In September 2014, additional flooding hit several districts in the country affecting 400,000 more people and increasing and prolonging the sufferings of the people already affected by floods in August. Flash floods triggered by heavy rain and water from upstream hill areas across the border inundated vast areas in Bogra and Kurigram districts, while Jamalpur town protection embankment developed breach under pressure of rainwater. The heavy currents of flash floods gushing from Meghalaya of India caused rapid inundation of Netrokona. Widespread flooding has also hit Lalmonirhat, Gaibandha, Naogaon, Brahmanbaria, and Mymensing leaving hundreds of thousands marooned, damaging houses, roads and embankments. Farmers who had replanted Aman paddy after the water started receding lost their crops for the second time as more than 10,000 acres of crops were inundated. More than six hundred schools in the affected districts were closed for several weeks following the flooding.



Appeal history

- **6 September 2014:** CHF 280,160 was allocated from the IFRC's Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society in delivering assistance to 28,800 people with most immediate needs.
- **15 September 2014:** An Emergency Appeal was launched on a preliminary basis for CHF 2,206,628 to support 19,470 flood-affected families (97,350 people) over 12 months. Click [here](#) for the Emergency Plan of Action.

Appeal coverage

- To date, this appeal has received CHF 1,044,763 through hard pledges which is 47 per cent of the target appeal. Out of these hard pledges, around 85 per cent is earmarked, while the remaining is un-earmarked.
- Click [here](#) for the complete donor response.

The revision of the Emergency Appeal is ongoing and is expected to be finalized in the coming week with a revised EPoA.

Coordination and partnerships

Movement Coordination

The existing coordination mechanism within IFRC involves a bi-monthly Movement Partners Coordination Meeting (MPCM). These cover the regular updates from the society's present, immediate issues and follow-up on plans of action. The first MPCM after the floods took place on 27 August when the flooding was ongoing, and the floods were naturally brought up on the agenda. On 4 September, a specific flood coordination meeting was held with the partners where the relief activities of BDRCS and the intervention strategy of the movement were discussed. More recently, another PNS meeting was held on 12 October to provide an update on the ongoing relief activities and to explore the funding situation of the emergency appeal. The possibilities of ways forward and EPoA revision were discussed in the meeting. The last MPCM was held on the 20 November 2014, where the updates on the flood operation, the funding situation and the downsizing of recovery activities were discussed. Another PNS meeting is due to take place soon after the publication of the revised EA.

In addition to the above, a joint Early Recovery Assessment was conducted by IFRC and BDRCS along with the British Red Cross (BRC). BRC is implementing a longer term recovery program focusing on Kurigram which had the highest number of displacement due to the floods, and as Kurigram is being covered by BRC, IFRC decided to focus on the other affected areas to ensure maximum coverage with available resources.

Humanitarian Coordination

The humanitarian community in Bangladesh has well-defined coordination mechanism on all levels. Key to this coordination is the sectorial Local Consultative Groups (LCG), which includes the Disaster and Emergency Relief (DER) co-chaired by the Ministry of Disaster Management and the UN Resident Coordinator. Within the LCG-DER is the HCTT working group which provides an operational level forum for coordinated disaster preparedness, response, and recovery across sectors and consists of all cluster leads, donors, INGOs, NGOs and the IFRC.

A key part of the coordination is the system with JNA (Joint Needs Assessment) that are initiated by the HCTT. This coordinated approach pooling resources from different organizations gives a common understanding of the needs and a common starting point for interventions. In the current situation, as noted, a phase one JNA has been done in nine districts in the north. BDRCS and IFRC play a key role in these JNAs, often taking the lead in several districts and providing staff, volunteers and other support to the assessments in the field, and the Phase 1 JNA was no exception.

The Food Security Cluster conducted a joint needs assessment titled 'Food Security, Nutrition, Early Recovery and Shelter Assessment in North-western Bangladesh – August 2014' in which IFRC contributed and participated as the co-lead of Shelter Cluster. Cash Working Group has initiated a cash mapping exercise for the flood affected areas where IFRC is also participating. In addition, IFRC regularly provides updates to the 4W matrix circulated by the Information Management Working Group.

Shelter Cluster Coordination

IFRC, in coordination with Shelter Cluster co-lead UNDP and ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, has compiled shelter and non-food item (NFI) contingency stock data for the flood response. UNDP have requested IFRC to take over the coordination role during this disaster period. As such, IFRC hosted and chaired a Shelter Cluster Meeting that was held on 4 September to discuss with the cluster members the response strategy in relation to shelter and NFIs. IFRC also shared the 4W matrix along with providing gap analysis with the Shelter Cluster partners regularly to track and guide the flood response. Following the publication of the Food Security Cluster Assessment, Shelter Cluster is looking forward to arranging a cluster meeting soon jointly with the Early Recovery Cluster.

Operational implementation

Overview of Progress

BDRCS has been on the ground in responding to the immediate needs of the flood affected populations. Since the start of the operation till mid December 2014, BDRCS have been able to conduct the following with the support of IFRC:

- Provide dry foods to 4,470 families in 11 affected districts within the first five days
- Provide standard food packages to 1,500 families in 4 districts
- Provide 5,000 families across 16 districts with unconditional cash grant, emergency shelter (tarpaulin and rope), hygiene parcels and non-food items
- Provide 3,400 patients with emergency health care through deploying medical teams and setting up mobile health clinics in 4 districts
- Distribute more than 18,000 litres of safe drinking water to 7,505 families together with WASH relief items (jerry cans and buckets) through mobilizing one Kit-5 Water Treatment Plant in one district and six smaller mobile water treatment plants in three districts

During the timeframe covered by this operations update, the main focus has been the completion of the relief phase by distributing unconditional cash grant, emergency shelter, hygiene parcels and NFIs to the remaining 1,800 families.

Replenishment of relief items used during the emergency phase was also a prime focus during this phase. The following procurement was completed:

- Procurement of 5,000 tarpaulins from APZ
- Procurement of 1,000 shelter tool kits through APZ
- Procurement of 6,000 jerry cans through APZ
- Procurement of 4,000 water buckets locally
- Procurement of 25 buckets of Water Purification Tablet locally
- Procurement of 10,000 blankets through APZ

Assessments and surveys were also a priority in order to reassess the recovery needs. A Post Distribution Monitoring Assessment was conducted to find out beneficiary satisfaction with the relief distributions. At the same time, as HCTT was unclear as to whether to take up a sector specific JNA for the recovery phase, IFRC, BDRCS and British Red Cross conducted a joint Early Recovery Assessment in five districts. Later when Food Security Cluster decided to go for an early recovery assessment, IFRC also took part as the co-lead of Shelter Cluster providing technical input for the assessment tool, assistance with data analysis and cluster recommendations.

Overview of Challenges

The political situation in the country has been a constant challenge during the lifetime of the operation. Since the beginning of the operation, there have been 14 political strikes (locally known as 'hartals'). Commuting and going out in hartal is extremely risky as protestors often vandalize vehicles, throw petrol bombs and torch vehicles randomly. IFRC activated its security Yellow Phase for strike situation, and staff took up alternative working modalities (work from home). Many of these hartals are connected to the election day last year and the political tension it created, heightened by the verdict passed for some political leaders over their role during the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War. Countrywide hartals were often called to protest the verdicts of International Crimes Tribunal Bangladesh as they came. Ahead of the first anniversary of the General Election (held on 5 January 2014) which was boycotted by the opposition, Bangladesh Nationalist Party called for a country-wide non-stop blockade. Since 6 January 2015, the country experienced a 16-day blockade which resulted in 28 deaths, 850 cases of injury and 309 vehicles being torched.¹ During the blockade, inter-city movements are restricted, which makes it extremely difficult for operations to continue effectively. This political violence has been a major obstacle in starting the early recovery activities in due time.

¹ The Daily Star (<http://www.thedailystar.net/escorted-convoy-of-trucks-attacked-61309>)

Quality Programming/ Areas common to all sectors

Outcome 1: Continuous assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation and lessons learnt are drawn from the implementation		
Outputs	Activities planned	Implementation (%)
1.1 <i>Participation in Joint Needs Assessments (JNA) and continuous collection of information from local units</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orientation and deployment of NDRTs to selected areas for participating and contributing to the JNA Data collection and analysis 	100% - After participating in the Phase 1 JNA, IFRC also participated in the NW Flood Recovery Assessment lead by the Food Security Cluster and cash mapping exercise of Cash Working Group
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued information collection from local units 	Ongoing
1.2 <i>Conducting Household Economic Security (HES) Survey in the affected region</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying location for conducting HES Orientation and deployment to field Data collection and analysis Report Writing Sharing with partners 	0% - This activity was cancelled considering the fact that an HES was conducted in the same region in 2012, and has been replaced by an Early Recovery Assessment which has been completed
1.3 <i>Lessons learnt are captured from the operation for adjustment to the operation and for incorporation into planning for coming seasons</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct real-time evaluation Conduct post-distribution satisfaction survey Conduct final evaluation Conduct lesson-learned workshop 	Ongoing - Post distribution satisfaction surveys have been conducted in 5 districts. A Mid-Term Evaluation is planned for the beginning of March.
Outcome 2: An environment of information sharing and transparency is ensured through employing beneficiary communication tools and mechanisms		
Outputs	Activities planned	Implementation (%)
2.1 <i>Access to relevant information</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification on information needs and communication channels Dissemination of key messages on behavioural change and aid assistance Orientation of communities on CRM mechanism Identify relevant theme for call in radio show Establish listening group Orientation of communities on the call in radio show Orientation of communities on the SMS service (pending progress with TERA implementation) Disseminating messages through SMS (pending progress with TERA implementation) 	Ongoing
2.2 <i>Provision of communication tools for community mobilisation and information sharing</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishing kiosks/information boards in strategic locations Opening hotlines for complaints and feedback Launching bi weekly call in radio shows on behavioural change and aid assistance Establishment of TERA (pending progress in negotiations with tele-operators) 	0%
2.3 <i>Provision of feedback mechanisms on aid assistance</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Register complaints and feedback in the hotline/call in radio/ SMS 	0%

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinate response towards complaints and feedback • Conducting Beneficiary Satisfaction Survey 	
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Progress:

Four NDRTs from BDRCS and one representative from IFRC took part in the Phase 1 JNA initiated by HCTT immediately in the aftermath of the flood event. BDRCS, along with IFRC, led the assessment in three sub-districts; while taking part in the assessment with other agencies in 20 sub-districts. BDRCS has also provided orientation venues and other facilities at Kurigram and Lalmonirhat districts. IFRC was in the Core Analysis Team of the JNA.



Community Group Discussions at Jamalpur and Kurigram during Early Recovery Assessment (Photo: IFRC/ BRC)

It was originally thought of to have a Household Economic Security (HES) to guide the recovery activities. However, this activity was cancelled considering the fact that an HES was conducted in the same region in 2012, and has been replaced by an Early Recovery Assessment jointly conducted by IFRC, BDRCS and British Red Cross. This assessment was undertaken between 15 and 21 November 2014 to identify and better understand the post flood 2014 situation in five districts (Kurigram, Bogra, Jamalpur, Sirajganj and Tangail) in north western Bangladesh with an aim to obtain detailed information on the needs in each sector-livelihoods, WASH, shelter and disaster risk reduction. The assessment involved 500 household interviews, 10 community group discussions and 10 key informant interviews. At the same time, a Post Distribution Monitoring survey was conducted through the participation of 500 households from the same districts, which covered 10 per cent of the 5,000 beneficiary households that received unconditional cash grants, emergency shelter, hygiene parcels and non-food items.

Although it had been difficult in the earlier phase to conduct satisfaction surveys during distributions, post distribution satisfaction surveys had been put in practice for the last phase of relief distribution, whereby 15 per cent of all the beneficiaries present at any distribution point went through an exit interview.

In December, the Food Security Cluster also undertook a flood recovery assessment in Bogra, Gaibandaha, Jamalpur, Kurigram and Sirajgonj districts of North West Bangladesh in which four RCRC staff was actively involved. The purpose of the assessment was to review the recovery situation and determine the remaining needs of vulnerable households affected by the August 2014 floods. It was conducted in 30 Unions across 10 Upazilas engaging 360 households, 60 focus group discussions and 10 key informant interviews. Using the JNA I sampling framework, the unions were selected randomly from 10 affected Upazilas. A telephone survey of 52 unions official was also conducted via the Union Parishad Helpline.

Due to several operational and funding challenges, the Real Time Evaluation that was initially planned for the operation did not take place. However, a Mid-Term Evaluation is being planned, which is designed to take place in March 2015. The evaluation team is in the process of being formed and Terms of Reference is being reviewed. The tendering process for hiring an external consultant has already started.

At the relief phase, beneficiary communication tools were used to inform and engage with the beneficiaries in the whole process. Care was taken prior to each distribution so that the registered beneficiaries are aware of the kind of assistance to be received. During distribution, key messages are disseminated to the beneficiaries on how they

can avoid water-related health issues which are prevalent when the flood water starts receding. Activities are planned for the beginning of the early recovery period to identify proper communication channels and setting up a functioning Complaints and Response Mechanism (CRM) system.

Challenges:

The political situation in the country has caused major delays in effective starting up of the recovery activities. Hence, the identification of proper beneficiary communication channels is also being delayed.

Health and care		
Outcome 1: The immediate risks to the health of affected populations in 4 districts are reduced		
Outputs	Activities planned	Implementation (%)
1.1 Provision of medical assistance with 4 medical teams in 4 districts in the relief phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobilizing 4 medical teams from NHQ to 4 districts Providing emergency health support to the affected population for 10 days 	100%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replenishing medicine and medical equipment following standard procurement procedures 	Ongoing
1.2 Distribution of ORS to 5,000 families in 16 districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distributing ORS to the identified families (targeted with NFI's) 	0% - Procurement dialogue ongoing
Outcome 2: The medium term risks to the health of affected populations in 4 districts are reduced in the recovery phase		
Outputs	Activities planned	Implementation (%)
2.1 Increase the resilience of the target communities in 4 districts through improved health awareness, knowledge and behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training community-based volunteers on health promotion in emergencies Conduct health promotion campaigns in 4 districts (8 sessions per district) 	0%
Outcome 3: The immediate term risks to the health of affected populations are reduced in 16 districts		
Outputs	Activities planned	Implementation (%)
3.1 Increase the health knowledge and access to health services of communities in 16 districts through ECV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobilization of ECV trained volunteers Health messaging and referral assistance 	0%

Progress:

During the emergency phase, BDRCS, through the deployment of four medical teams consisting of a doctor and a paramedic and supported by ECVs, provided emergency medical services in Kurigram, Bogra, Sirajganj and Jamalpur. During the ten-day deployments, the teams reached more than 3,400 persons, of whom majority were presented with water-borne diseases. Although the Government clinics and hospitals were operating during the floods, it was difficult for a large portion of the affected population to access these facilities due to the displacement and the flood waters. For this reason, the mobile medical teams were complimentary to the Government's health facilities by assisting the affected people in the hard-to-reach areas. BDRCS Health Department is in charge of replenishing the medicine and medical equipment used in the relief operation. The distribution of ORS to 5,000 families did not take place as it was deemed unnecessary at the stage of distribution. However, the said amount is to be procured and stock-piled to be used in future health emergencies.

It was originally planned to hold health promotion campaigns in the recovery phase with the intention of supporting 1,000 families through eight health promotion sessions in each of the four districts which was to be accompanied by health messages and referrals by volunteers trained on epidemic prevention and control in 16 districts. However, health has not come up as a major issue in either the Early Recovery Assessment (jointly conducted by IFRC, BDRCS and BRC) or NW Flood Recovery Assessment (conducted by the Food Security Cluster) and hence health activities for the recovery phase have been removed from the Plan of Action to meet more priority needs with the available funding. This will be reflected in the revised EPoA and Emergency Appeal being prepared. In addition to this, this would also avoid duplication as the Health department of BDRCS is taking up similar programs in the local units on training community-based volunteers on health promotion in emergencies.



Patients receiving treatment at the mobile health camp at Bogra and Sirajganj (Photo: IFRC)

Challenges:

For any in country medicine procurement, IFRC needs to invite the WHO and UNICEF listed manufacturers. Efforts are ongoing through dialogues on different channels, but the process is time-consuming.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene promotion

Outcome 1: The risk of water and sanitation related diseases has been reduced through access to safe drinking water, appropriate sanitation to reduce the risk of water borne diseases and hygiene promotion.		
Outputs	Activities planned	Implementation (%)
1.1 Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refresher's training for NDRT members for operating Water Treatment Kits Mobilizing Kit-5 and NDWRT members to affected areas Setting up and running Kit-5 in 1 district for 5 days (4,000 ltr/hr) Mobilizing Aquasure water kits (1,000 ltr/hr) in 3 districts for 5 days Distribution of water buckets to 3,000 families in the 3 districts 	100%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distribution of water purification tablets to 3,000 families in 3 districts 	0%
Outcome 2: Sustainable reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities in 4 districts in the recovery phase		
Outputs	Activities planned	Implementation (%)
2.1 Access to safe water is ensured to target population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disinfection of 160 tube-wells (10 in each of the 4 districts) Repairing of 40 tube-wells (10 in each of the 4 districts) Raising platform of 40 tube-wells (10 in each of the 4 districts) Analysis of available hydrogeological data to inform the installation of new tube wells Procurement and distributed of hand pump repair tool kits for operation and maintenance Training for user groups on the use of hand pump repair toolkits Installation of 20 new tube-wells (5 in each of the 4 districts) 	0%
	2.2 Improve access to sanitation facilities to 500 families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of 500 household latrines with superstructure (including 250 for transitional shelter)

2.3 Improve sanitation practice hygiene knowledge and behaviour of 1,600 families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientations/training of volunteers in PHAST • Introduce PHAST in 4 districts • Hygiene parcel distribution to 1,600 families (400 families in each of the 4 districts) with PHAST 	0%
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Progress:

To meet the acute water crisis in the aftermath of the flood, BDRCS mobilized and installed a Kit-5 Water Treatment plant in Kurigram with the help of NDWRTs which provided safe drinking water to 4,505 families. This was followed by running six smaller Mobile Water Treatment Kits in Bogra, Sirajganj and Jamalpur districts serving 3,000 families. The families receiving water was also provided with jerry cans and water buckets (1 each to every family). Hygiene parcels has been distributed to 5,000 families in 16 districts, which was accompanied by hygiene awareness messages. Water purification tablets were not distributed at the household level as they were receiving purified water.



Photo 1: NDWRT members operating mobile water treatment plant and distributing safe drinking water at Bogra (Photo BDRCS)
Photo 2: Locally procured buckets being stored at BDRCS warehouse in Dhaka (Photo: IFRC)

The buckets and jerry cans were dispatched from the DP stock. To replenish the items for future use, 6,000 jerry cans (10L) have been procured through APZ which are stored at the Chittagong Warehouse and 4,000 water buckets have been procured locally which are stored at Dhaka warehouse.

As the disinfection of tube-wells could not be conducted in the immediate aftermath due to flow of funding, this activity will be removed in the upcoming revision of the EPoA as it is not appropriate in the current timeframe. The other WASH activities for the recovery period are also revised to be held in two districts which concerns the following:

- Construction of 400 household latrines to ensure access to proper sanitation facilities
- Repair of 40 hand-pumps and provision of hand-pump repair tool kits and training to the user group
- Construction of elevated platforms for 40 tube-wells to reduce the risk of water source contamination in future floods
- Installation of 20 new tube-wells in communities that need additional ones to increase access to drinking water
- PHAST sessions for volunteers and target communities

Challenges:

Initially, the decision was to set up Kit-5 water treatment plants at each of the four districts mentioned. After the installation and running of the first Kit-5 at Kurigram, it became clear that more beneficiaries would be able to benefit from the safe drinking water distributions if mobile kits were used as they were smaller in size and could be transported to the islands in boats. As the families received purified water, distribution of water purification tablets was no longer required.

The Early Recovery Assessment demonstrated a general lack of awareness among the beneficiaries on hygiene and sanitation practices, which would need to be addressed during the PHAST sessions. Less than 20 per cent of surveyed households keep safe distance (more than 30 feet) between latrine and water source. At present around 65 per cent surveyed households have Kutcha latrines and around 70 per cent reported that they need improvement for their damaged latrines. As the needs are high compared to available funding, the number of latrines to be constructed has been increased to 400 against the originally planned 250 with the amount from the cut down activities.

Shelter and Settlements (and NFI)

Outcome 1: Immediate shelter and household needs of the affected population in 16 districts are addressed in the relief phase The immediate shelter and settlement needs of the target population are met		
Outputs	Activities planned	Implementation (%)
1.1 Provision of emergency shelter assistance to 5,000 families in 16 districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of families to receive shelter assistance (tarpaulin and rope) Transportation of tarpaulins from NHQ to distribution points Volunteer mobilization for distribution Distribution and awareness raising sessions on best practices and use of emergency shelter assistance 	100%
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replenishment of tarpaulins following standard procurement procedures and standards 	100%
1.2 Provision of essential household non-food items to 5,000 families in 16 districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of distribution locations Beneficiary selection Local procurement of NFIs Volunteer mobilization for relief distribution Distribution 	100%
Outcome 2: 1,250 targeted families in 4 districts have durable and sustainable shelter and settlement		
Outputs	Activities planned	Implementation (%)
2.1 Provision of cash grants for household repair assistance to 1,000 families in for districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orient BDRCS volunteers for supporting shelter repair work Beneficiary selection and finalization of partially-damaged shelter categorization Provide cash grant in one instalment for shelter solution according to IFRC CTP standards in conjunction with PASSA On-going monitoring and technical advice by BDRCS staff Beneficiary satisfaction survey 	0%
2.2 Provision of cash grants for reconstruction of houses to 250 families in 4 districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beneficiary selection Orient BDRCS volunteers for supporting shelter rebuilding work Beneficiary consultations on design Provide cash grant for shelter solution according to IFRC CTP standards in conjunction with PASSA On-going monitoring and technical advice by BDRCS staff Beneficiary satisfaction survey 	0%
2.3 Training/awareness raising sessions provided to 1,250 target families in 4 districts on basic safe shelter and settlement for early recovery stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide shelter improvement training (PASSA incorporating DRR elements) and guidance with appropriate IEC materials 	0%

Progress:

A total of 5,000 families (100 per cent of the total target families) over 16 flood-affected districts were assisted in the relief phase with emergency shelter support with tarpaulin and rope, along with essential household items. The NFIs were locally procured at the BDRCS branch level which allows for swift distribution. The tarpaulins were dispatched from the current disaster preparedness (DP) stock. The replenishment of the stock has already been completed with procurement being done at APZ level and transported to warehouse at NHQ level.

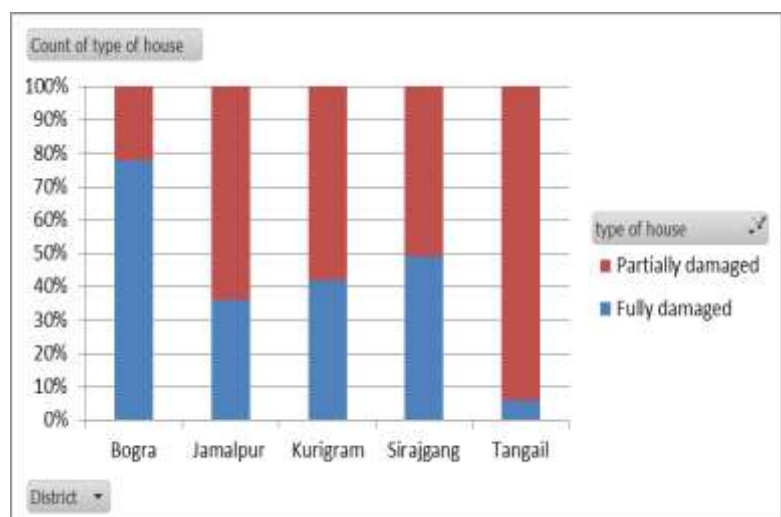


Photo 1: A woman carrying tarpaulin received from BDRCS, while others wait in line (Photo: IFRC)
Photo 2: Tarpaulins procured through IFRC Zone Logistics Unit being stored at BDRCS warehouse in Dhaka (Photo: IFRC)

In addition, 1,000 shelter tool kits have also been procured through APZ and are currently staying at the Chittagong warehouse, to be used in the for shelter assistance in the recovery phase.

Due to inadequate funding, the initial plan of reconstruction of 250 houses in four districts through cash support will be updated to only cover 800 families in two districts. The modality for shelter assistance would be providing cash support to 800 families in two districts for repairing households (BDT 18,000 or CHF 210 per family, to be complemented with a shelter tool kit). This will be complemented by PASSA will be implemented in the selected communities for raising awareness of safe shelter practices and support the communities to repair or rebuild their houses in a safer way. There remains a funding gap for the provision of shelter assistance for 200 families.

In the assessment titled “Food Security, Nutrition, Early Recovery and Shelter Assessment in North-western Bangladesh – August 2014” led by the Food Security Cluster, IFRC took the leading role in the Shelter Section in providing technical input as the Shelter Cluster Co-lead regarding the questionnaire tool and data analysis. Shelter has come up as critical need in the Early Recovery Assessment as well. All the households surveyed had houses either fully damaged or partially damaged, with Bogra having the highest number of fully damaged houses (78 per cent) followed by Sirajganj (50 per cent). The average ratio of fully damaged to partially damaged houses is 40/60.

**Challenges:**

As the recovery phase for shelter assistance did not commence in December as expected, the timeframe for the activities is limited considering that construction activities need to complete before the rainy season sets in and the upcoming cyclone season in April-May. Dialogues have been initiated with the BDRCS branch units and it is expected that 80 per cent of the construction will aim to be completed before the rainy season.

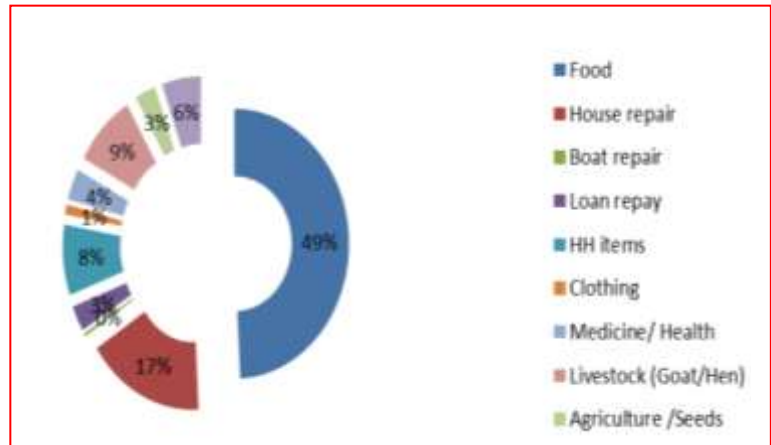
Food security, nutrition, and livelihoods		
Outcome 1: Immediate food needs of the affected population in up to 16 districts are met		
Outputs	Activities planned	Implementation (%)
<i>1.1 Distribution of dry food items to 4,470 families in 11 districts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orientation and deployment of NDRT members • Orientation and mobilization of volunteers at district level • Procurement of dry food • Distribution of dry food 	100%
<i>1.2 Distribution of appropriate food package to 1,500 families in 4 districts</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of unions in the 4 districts • Beneficiary selection • Local procurement of food items • Distribution of food items 	100%
<i>1.3 Provision of cash grants to 5,000 families in 16 districts to purchase food</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of unions in the 16 districts with functioning markets • Beneficiary selection • Distribution of cash grants 	100%
Outcome 2: Livelihoods are protected and negative coping strategies and food insecurity reduced among affected populations in 4 districts		
Outputs	Activities planned	Implementation (%)
<i>2.1 Provision of cash grant to 1,000 families in 4 districts for restoring livelihoods</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting up and publicizing beneficiary communication mechanism (complaint/suggestion box, dissemination of beneficiary list in public places, etc.) • Beneficiary selection and finalization • Dissemination of beneficiary list in communities • Setting up CTP procedures • Distribution of cash grant through IFRC/BDRCS standard procedures (beneficiary CGID-Cash Grant ID form, individual bank account of beneficiary, bank transfer, etc.) • Conduct post distribution survey of livelihoods grants 	0%
<i>2.2 An additional 1,000 affected families in the 4 districts have earning opportunities through DRR-related cash for work opportunities during the lean period</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of CFW activities (restoring road access to flood shelter/ schools, repair/improvement of embankments, etc.) in consultation with the local government • Beneficiary selection and finalization • Dissemination of beneficiary list in communities • Running of CFW scheme for 20 days • Regular monitoring and reporting through BDRCS Cash Programming Training (CTP) trained staff and volunteers including NDRT • Disbursement of cash through IFRC/BDRCS standard procedure • Conduct satisfaction survey for CFW scheme 	0%

Progress:

As food was the most immediate and the top priority need in the flood affected areas at the very early stage, BDRCS provided emergency dry food package² to 4,470 displaced families in 11 districts, followed by emergency food packages through quick local procurement to 1,500 families in four districts which were affected by the collapse on an embankment. In the following phase, 5,000 families across 16 affected districts are to be assisted with a one-off unconditional cash grant of BDT 3,000 (CHF 35) for the purpose of purchasing food and non-food items as required. The distribution was completed during the reporting time of this Operations Update.



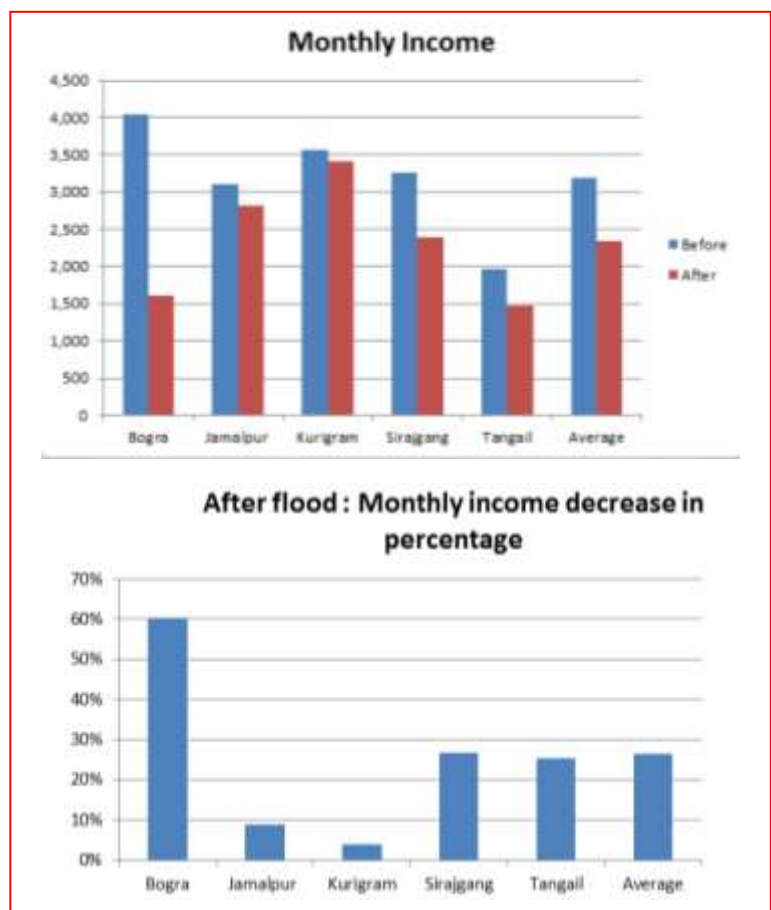
Relief distribution at Sherpur (Photo: BDRCS)



The Post Distribution Monitoring Survey conducted in November 2014 shows how the families used this unconditional cash grant. A clear majority of families spent their grant on food, followed by house repairs and livestock and poultry.

The longer term food security is also a major concern as the flood caused widespread damage to the croplands and destroyed much of the region's in-ground aman harvest, even that of the farmers who managed to replant after the water started receding. Both agri-employment opportunities and wages have fallen with the decline in agricultural production. Agricultural day wages dropped 13 per cent on average while non-agri labour markets are saturated leaving many unable to find enough work. The household debt has increased with average loans reaching almost BDT 8,000 (CHF 93) in Bogra.³

The comparison of change in monthly income has also shown great decrease after the flood. It is observed that in the five districts covered under the Early Recovery Assessment, the percentage decrease in income is the highest in Bogra with a decrease of 60 per cent after the flood; followed by the second highest decrease of 27 per cent in Sirajganj.



² This was distributed for immediate and first response to the affected people, providing food supply for at least 15 days for a family of five people. The dry food package followed the government common practice, but varied from district to district on the content and also beneficiary numbers based on the identified needs.

³ Food Security, Nutrition, Early Recovery and Shelter Assessment in North-western Bangladesh – August 2014, Food Security Cluster

In order to restore and strengthen the livelihoods, the activities for the recovery phase involve providing assistance through conditional cash grant of BDT 6,000 (CHF 70) to 800 families in two districts as opposed to the initial plan of 1,000 families in four districts. Again, 800 families will be supported through cash-for-work (CFW) scheme (20 work days, providing BDT 6,000 to each family) in two districts.

Challenges:

It was originally thought that the cash grant and the CFW scheme would target separate beneficiary households. However, lessons learned from the previous disaster suggested that there is often a tension between the two groups. Also, manual labour is not something that every household is comfortable with as it is seen to be lowering their social status. Therefore, if there is a need, these beneficiary groups can be overlapped where applicable.

National Society Capacity Building

Outcome 1: National Society Capacity Building initiatives are benefited in the targeted districts		
Outputs	Activities planned	Implementation (%)
1.1 Service delivery capacity for targeted BDRCS district units' is improved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of RMS in the operational districts Renovation and maintenance support for the warehouse in Dhaka (one of the flood affected districts and also where the NHQ is located) Piloting RAMP in the early recovery phase Supporting the PMER cell development in the six districts where the early recovery activities will be carried out Organizing a new batch of NDRT training targeting staff and volunteers from flood affected districts Providing personal gears to NDRT members 	0%

Progress and challenges:

As these activities were contingent upon funding, and as the funding situation does not allow for most of these activities, they have been modified. There remains a provision for the maintenance cost of the BDRCS Warehouse in Dhaka which is being utilized for the operation. Piloting of RAMP is also thought to be taken up and utilized in the beneficiary selection process in the two districts. However, alternative source of funding is being sought of for the implementation of RMS and the NDRT training. These changes will be reflected in the upcoming revision.

Disaster Preparedness and Risk Reduction

Outcome 1: Disaster preparedness measures are taken at the community level in 4 affected districts		
Outputs	Activities planned	Implementation (%)
1.1 Training provided to family members of 1,000 families on DRR issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beneficiary selection Conducting training sessions at different locations in 4 districts Distribution of IEC materials 	0%
Outcome 2: BDRCS preparedness to respond to future disasters is enhanced through the procurement of preparedness stocks		
Outputs	Activities planned	Implementation (%)
2.1 Prepositioning 5,000 blankets in the Disaster Preparedness Stock for cold wave in the upcoming winter season	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procurement of 5,000 blankets Procurement of water purification tables for 25 Aquasure units (Mobile Water Treatment Kit) 	100%

Progress:

The DRR trainings, originally planned for 1,000 families in four districts, will be revised to cover 800 families in two districts. For the time being, the training materials are being reviewed in order to contextualize the content so that they can be ready to use once the beneficiary selection process is complete. If funding is available, BDRCS will aim to meet the initial target of 1,000 families.



Blankets are being loaded from Chittagong Warehouse to be transported to NHQ (Photo: BDRCS)

With the generous contribution from the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a total of 10,000 blankets have been pre-positioned, the procurement being done at the APZ level. As the cold season has set in in the country starting in December, the northern region is experiencing moderate and severe cold waves, and these blankets have been dispatched in the region to support 5,000 families with two blankets each. The procurement of water-purification tablets to be pre-positioned for 25 mobile water treatment plants in view of the upcoming cyclone season is also complete, this being a local procurement.

Challenges:

Due to the ongoing political situation in the country and the resulting movement restrictions, the customs clearance of the blankets at Chittagong port and their transportation to BDRCS NHQ took more time than expected. A quicker process would have allowed for a more timely distribution of the blankets to the families in need.

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 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.**

Disaster Response Financial Report

MDRBD014 - Bangladesh - Floods

Timeframe: 05 Sep 14 to 06 Aug 15

Appeal Launch Date: 15 Sep 14

Annual Report

Selected Parameters

Reporting Timeframe	2014/9-2014/12	Programme	MDRBD014
Budget Timeframe	2014/9-2015/8	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		2,206,628				2,206,628	
B. Opening Balance							
Income							
Cash contributions							
<i>American Red Cross</i>		95,146				95,146	
<i>British Red Cross</i>		151,858				151,858	
<i>China Red Cross, Hong Kong branch</i>		60,443				60,443	
<i>German Red Cross</i>		39,965				39,965	
<i>German Red Cross (from German Government*)</i>		195,124				195,124	
<i>Japanese Red Cross Society</i>		72,800				72,800	
<i>Swedish Red Cross</i>		358,181				358,181	
<i>The Canadian Red Cross Society (from Canadian Government*)</i>		71,247				71,247	
C1. Cash contributions		1,044,763				1,044,763	
Other Income							
<i>DREF Allocations</i>		280,160				280,160	
C4. Other Income		280,160				280,160	
C. Total Income = SUM(C1..C4)		1,324,923				1,324,923	
D. Total Funding = B + C		1,324,923				1,324,923	

* 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		1,324,923				1,324,923	
E. Expenditure		-676,786				-676,786	
F. Closing Balance = (B + C + E)		648,137				648,137	

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Split by funding source	Y	Project	*
Subsector:	*		

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Expenditure

Account Groups	Expenditure						TOTAL	Variance
	Budget	Raise humanitarian standards	Grow RC/RC services for vulnerable people	Strengthen RC/RC contribution to development	Heighten influence and support for RC/RC work	Joint working and accountability		
	A					B	A - B	
BUDGET (C)			2,206,628			2,206,628		
Relief items, Construction, Supplies								
Shelter - Relief	113,875		142,407			142,407	-28,532	
Shelter - Transitional	468,750						468,750	
Clothing & Textiles	35,000		59,335			59,335	-24,335	
Food	41,875		3,751			3,751	38,124	
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	132,963		1,106			1,106	131,856	
Medical & First Aid	11,500		3,462			3,462	8,038	
Utensils & Tools	32,750		15,489			15,489	17,261	
Other Supplies & Services	625						625	
Cash Disbursement	650,000		280,938			280,938	369,062	
Total Relief items, Construction, Sup	1,487,338		506,487			506,487	980,850	
Logistics, Transport & Storage								
Storage	13,250		30			30	13,220	
Distribution & Monitoring	7,500		39,150			39,150	-31,650	
Transport & Vehicles Costs	14,375		994			994	13,381	
Logistics Services			15,692			15,692	-15,692	
Total Logistics, Transport & Storage	35,125		55,866			55,866	-20,741	
Personnel								
International Staff	36,000		1,169			1,169	34,831	
National Staff	65,975		29,553			29,553	36,422	
National Society Staff	99,400		7,618			7,618	91,782	
Volunteers	64,150						64,150	
Total Personnel	265,525		38,339			38,339	227,186	
Consultants & Professional Fees								
Consultants	31,250						31,250	
Professional Fees	14,000						14,000	
Total Consultants & Professional Fees	45,250						45,250	
Workshops & Training								
Workshops & Training	90,400		636			636	89,764	
Total Workshops & Training	90,400		636			636	89,764	
General Expenditure								
Travel	31,000		9,686			9,686	21,314	
Information & Public Relations	41,250		1,695			1,695	39,555	
Office Costs	25,250		362			362	24,888	
Communications	8,500		26			26	8,474	
Financial Charges	5,000		772			772	4,228	
Other General Expenses	2,400						2,400	
Shared Office and Services Costs	34,914		17,508			17,508	17,406	
Total General Expenditure	148,314		30,050			30,050	118,264	
Operational Provisions								
Operational Provisions			629			629	-629	
Total Operational Provisions			629			629	-629	
Indirect Costs								
Programme & Services Support Recover	134,677		41,081			41,081	93,596	
Total Indirect Costs	134,677		41,081			41,081	93,596	
Pledge Specific Costs								
Pledge Earmarking Fee			3,698			3,698	-3,698	

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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)			2,206,628			2,206,628		
Total Pledge Specific Costs			3,698			3,698	-3,698	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE (D)	2,206,628		676,786			676,786	1,529,843	
VARIANCE (C - D)			1,529,843			1,529,843		