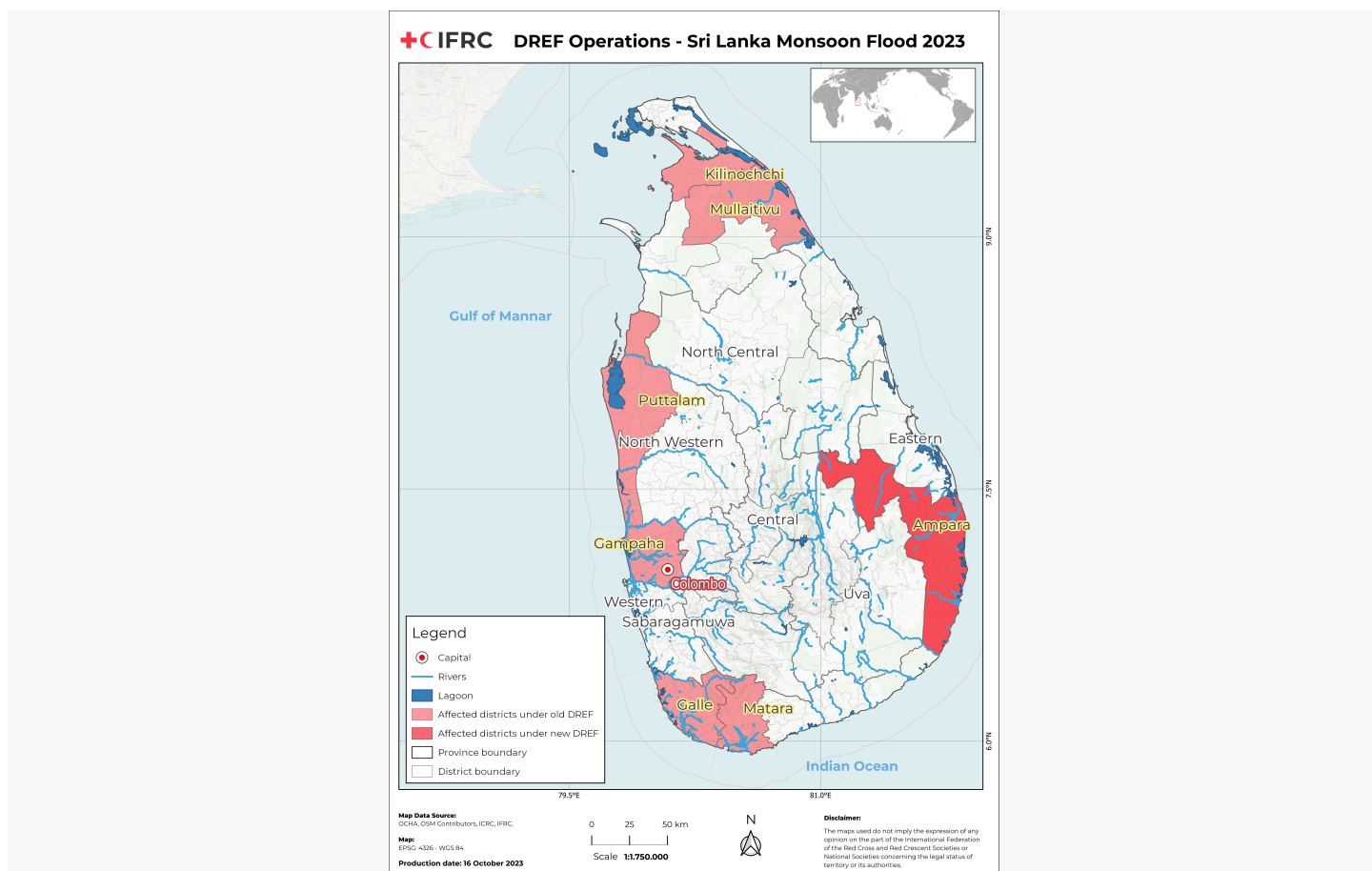




The major road and electrical supplies from the electricity plant in the Ampara district were destroyed by a flash flood resulting from extreme weather conditions. (Photo: SLRCS)

Appeal: <b>MDRLK018</b>	Total DREF Allocation: <b>CHF 798,854</b>	Crisis Category: <b>Orange</b>	Hazard: <b>Flood</b>
Glide Number: <b>FL-2023-000196-LKA</b>	People Affected: <b>244,504 people</b>	People Targeted: <b>95,250 people</b>	
Event Onset: <b>Sudden</b>	Operation Start Date: <b>19-10-2023</b>	New Operational End Date: <b>31-07-2024</b>	Total Operating Timeframe: <b>9 months</b>
Reporting Timeframe Start Date: <b>06-10-2023</b>		Reporting Timeframe End Date: <b>23-01-2024</b>	
Additional Allocation Requested: <b>299,181</b>		Targeted Areas: <b>Eastern, North Western, Northern, Sabaragamuwa, Southern, Western</b>	

# Description of the Event



Map of all districts affected since Oct 2023, Map: IFRC IM

## What happened, where and when?

Initial Emergency Situation - 19 October 2023 (the initial IFRC-DREF operation was launched):

In early October 2023, Sri Lanka experienced heavy rainfall in the western, Sabaragamuwa, and southern provinces due to the intensification of the southwest monsoon. Severe rainy conditions were encountered in these provinces starting on 6 October 2023, and a red warning was issued to 7 districts on 7 October 2023. The Gampaha, Matara, and Galle districts were particularly affected, with a large number of people displaced due to floods and landslides. Seven deaths were reported, and more than 75,000 people belonging to 20,450 families in 13 districts were affected. The water levels of several rivers, including the Nilwala Ganga River, Gin Ganga River, and Kalu and Attanagalu Ganga Rivers, rose to alarming levels, causing flooding in low-lying areas. The National Building Research Organisation (NBRO) issued landslide alerts for several areas, and the Ceylon Electricity Board disconnected the power supply in Matara as a safety precaution. Mudslides damaged hundreds of houses, and many schools were flooded, causing students to lose their school materials and stationery. Water and sanitation facilities, including sewerage lines and drinking water sources, were also affected. Currently, the floodwaters, a result of the major rivers overflowing and the intense showery conditions in the districts, have now receded, and the displaced people have returned to their homes. According to the DMC report, there was no information on the affected population or further damage in these three districts as of 21 December 2023.

2nd Emergency Situation - 19 December 2023 (led to scaling up of operation, informed through Operation Update#1):

Since the beginning of December 2023, several districts in the northern province of Sri Lanka have been experiencing heavy rainfall and strong winds that have caused floods and severe weather-related incidents, with Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, and Puttalam districts reporting the greatest impacts. The main impacts were heavy rainfall, strong winds, floods, damage to houses and infrastructure, displacement of thousands of people, destruction of agricultural lands and crops, and limited access to essential goods and services. The districts of Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, and Puttalam have been particularly affected. The floods have affected over 25,958 people and caused two fatalities and three injuries. The opening of spill gates at the Iranamadu reservoir and overflowing reservoirs contributed to the flooding in these areas. More than 5,000 people were impacted, with the largest number of displaced people reported in Mullaitivu district. Floods and heavy rain have affected over 3,000 people in the Puttalam district. Additionally, over 10,000 farmers have lost their crops, and daily-wage farmers have been severely impacted. The ongoing economic crisis has further worsened the financial situation of affected

households.

Currently, rainstorms are still happening in the provinces to the north and northeast due to the ongoing northeast monsoon. However, the floodwaters that the major tanks overflowed and the extremely severe weather in the districts caused have now receded, and the displaced people are safely back at home. There was very little data available on the impacted population and damage in these three areas as of 12 January 2024, according to the DMC report.

3rd Emergency Situation - 13 January 2024 (led to scaling up of operation, informed through Operation Update#2):

Widespread heavy rains due to the intensification of the northeast monsoon in Sri Lanka have caused significant disruption to life and infrastructure, with the Ampara district bearing the brunt of the impact. Vehicular movement on the main roads has been disconnected from major towns, and a few roads on the coastal sides are restricted due to flooding and damage. Railway services are also temporarily discontinued due to floodwater along the railway tracks. Ampara, the hardest-hit area, experienced over 150mm of rain on 9 and 10 January 2024, causing heavy floods that displaced more than 2,000 families from their homes and have been relocated to 31 temporary shelters as of the DMC update on 12 January 2024. The flooding in Ampara is due to the Moravil Oya, Gal Oya, Ekgal Oya, and Pallang Oya breaching their banks.

The biggest tank in the country, located in the Ampara districts, started to overflow on 10 January 2024, the second time in the last ten years. It reached a water level of 112 feet, and all its gates were opened to discharge the excess water, which connects all the small and medium-level reservoirs in the districts. The Ampara Iginiyala main road, a vital link within the district, has been completely submerged from the Suduwella area onwards due to the combined spillover of Ampara Reservoir and Konduwatuwan Reservoir. Sri Lankan armed forces and police stepped in to assist with transportation services in the affected areas.

As per the DMC update on 12 January 2024, around 169,504 people are affected due to ongoing flooding only in Ampara districts, and 181 houses are partially damaged. Many schools were inundated; however, the schools are on vacation. The agriculture and irrigation department confirmed that the flood has already destroyed more than 26,000 acres of paddy land. Ampara is one of the major districts in the production of rice to meet the country's demand. The Southeastern University in Oluvil announced the closure of all faculties until further notice. Students residing in university hostels were told to vacate their premises, and the university has postponed its ongoing examinations.

The affected population depends on government healthcare facilities in the affected regions to fulfill their healthcare requirements. Access to health and care facilities is restricted as a result of severe weather events, travel disruptions, and the need to relocate to safer areas. Moreover, the existing scarcity of medical supplies and disruptions to the healthcare system resulting from the ongoing economic crisis have worsened the health status of the impacted population. Hence, it is essential to provide FA services, as well as extensive medical and clinical care, to mitigate the possibility of hospitalization and other health-related issues.

According to an initial assessment at the branch level, more than 20,000 farmers' harvests have been lost, and the closure of major roads and other transportation issues has had a substantial impact on daily-wage farmers and other category daily workers. Essential home supplies are in high demand, and families may require assistance to fulfill their basic needs. The persistent downpour has had a significant negative impact on the local job market, and the economic crisis is making things worse for these families.

It is anticipated that the current trend of rainy weather that is occurring across the island will decrease. The meteorological service has evaluated and verified the weather forecast for the following nine days. Fairly showers are expected to occur in the provinces of Northern, Eastern, and Uva; however, the situation is expected to improve, and the number of individuals who are impacted will decrease.

[1] [http://www.dmc.gov.lk/images/dmcreports/Situation\\_Report\\_on\\_2024\\_\\_1705117067.pdf](http://www.dmc.gov.lk/images/dmcreports/Situation_Report_on_2024__1705117067.pdf)

[2] <http://www.dmc.gov.lk/index.php?lang=en>

Notes:

Table 1: Damaged details published by Disaster Management Centre (DMC) on October 9 and 22 December 2023



Affected population - Southern and Western Province - DMC update as of 9 to 10 October 2023

No	Districts	# affected families	# affected people	# fully damaged houses	# Partially damaged houses	# Safer centers	# families at safer centers	# People at safer centers
1	Gampaha	8088	33488	1	53	6	76	314
2	Matara	7764	27333	0	512	13	938	3336
3	Galle	3074	8970	3	255	3	65	250
	Sub total	18926	69891	4	820	22	1079	3870

Affected population - Northern and Northwestern Province - DMC update as of 22 December 2023

No	Districts	# affected families	# affected people	# fully damaged houses	# Partially damaged houses	# Safer centers	# families at safer centers	# People at safer centers
1	Kilinochchi	2715	8572	0	25	1	43	124
2	Mullaitivu	2324	6904	0	29	2	4	17
3	Puttalam	809	2353	0	6	0	0	0
	Sub total	5848	17729	0	60	3	47	138

Affected population - Eastern Province - DMC update as of 12 January 2024

No	Districts	# affected families	# affected people	# fully damaged houses	# Partially damaged houses	# Safer centers	# families at safer centers	# People at safer centers
1	Ampara	50996	169504	3	181	31	2269	7143
	Sub total	50996	169504	3	181	31	2269	7143
	Total	75,870	258,214	10	1,061	54	3,387	11,151



SLRCS BDRT team conducts field assessments of the flood-affected families in Ampara. (Photo: SLRCS)

Interventions	Overall targeted People	First allocation			Second Allocation			Third Allocation
		Matara	Gampaha	Galle	Puttalam	Kilinochchi	Mullaitivu	Ampara
Shelter	19,750	2,000	1,750	1,250				
Health	50,750		7,750					
Wash	41,875		8,500					
PFI	95,250		18,095					
Cash	24,250	1,425	870	575				
Education	4,600							
CEA	95,250		18,095					
Livelihood	250			110				

Table 02 - Summary of achievements through the IFRC-DREF allocations (as of 23 January 2024)

Table 01 - Details of affected population - Source DMC

## Scope and Scale

In early October 2023, due to the deepening of the southwest monsoon, Sri Lanka suffered severe rainfall in the western, Sabaragamuwa, and southern regions. According to the DMC situational report as of 9 October 2023, more than 75,734 people from 20,480 families were impacted by floods, severe winds, and mudslides in the low-lying areas of 13 districts. The districts of Galle, Matara, and Gampaha were severely impacted. SLRCS has requested an initial IFRC-DREF contribution of CHF 359,690 to meet the immediate needs of 2,950 impacted families across three districts.

Following that, the northeast monsoon brought heavy rainfall to the northern and northeastern provinces towards the end of December 2023, severely affecting three districts: Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, and Puttalam. According to the situational report as of 22 December 2023, more than 30,377 people from 9,402 families were impacted across 11 districts. SLRCS issued its first IFRC-DREF operational update, extending the response by three districts, timeframes, and financing of CHF 139,983, assisting 2,300 households.

Since early January 2024, the intensification of the northeast monsoon has triggered heavy rainfall in the Eastern province. As of the situation report on 12 January 2024, a total of 178,312 people from 53,641 families are affected. The Ampara district, one of the biggest districts geographically in the Eastern Province, was severely affected. According to the DMC situational report as of 12 January 2024, more than 169,504 people from 50,996 families were impacted by floods alone in Ampara district due to the intensification of the northeast monsoon. The Department of Meteorology, Sri Lanka, has reported that the current northeast monsoon is still active in the northern, eastern, and northwestern provinces, further exacerbating the current situation. A total of 178,312 people from 53,641 families were affected in nine districts all around the country as of 12 January 2024, according to the DMC report. Since the onset of the initial emergency on 6 October 2023, a total of 422,816 people from 84,500 families from all over the island have been affected.

Floodwater levels remain unprecedented in the affected districts of low-lying areas during each emergency, as the water levels in the major rivers and/or reservoirs in each district rise to an alarming level. Early this year and last, the southwest monsoon (uncommon persistence from September to early December 2023) exhibited an abnormal expansion. Particularly as a result of climate change-induced modifications to the weather pattern, each monsoon brings an unprecedented quantity of rainfall to the entire country. The primary cause of the rise in water levels in the main rivers and reservoirs in the affected districts was the continuous rainfall of over 175mm in most of the districts for two to three days, as reported by the meteorological department.

The Sri Lankan Department of Meteorology reports that the monsoon is still active, worsening the situation. The water levels in the major rivers and tanks in each district are alarming, keeping floodwater, especially along the riverbanks, where residents cannot return home as there is always a risk because the river water has begun to overflow from the flood protection bund. The Director of Hydrology & Disaster Management at the Department of Irrigation has informed that flood levels in nearby lowlands may increase further. People living in low-lying areas in the districts are advised to remain vigilant. The National Building Research Organisation (NBRO) issued a landslide warning to several districts at different levels ranging from 1 to 3.

According to the DMC report, around 48 safer locations, such as temples and schools, set up by the Disaster Management Centre as temporary shelters for the displaced people are still operating, with 8,351 people from 2,659 households. Some 7,143 people from 2,269 households reside in 31 safer locations established by DMC alone in Ampara districts. The government and DMC are addressing the impacted people's immediate needs. Tri-forces are delivering hot foods to those in safer areas. Access within the district is completely obstructed, and roads in low-lying areas are all submerged by flooding, further delaying rescue efforts. Individuals are having difficulty accessing their homes. A week of persistently heavy rain has had a significant negative impact on farmers' and daily workers' livelihoods. The current economic crisis aggravates the situation. However, it is normal for local market actors to reopen as soon as the situation normalizes, allowing individuals to obtain goods and services in local and divisional-level markets. The branch assessment team determined that the primary markets in each district are still operating and connected to local suppliers.



The country's current economic crisis has already lowered people's living standards. Food insecurity and malnutrition among pregnant women and children below 5 years are burning issues, and they are further exacerbated due to ongoing flooding. Several households in the most impacted districts have temporarily lost their income and the ability to provide food and other necessities for themselves and their dependents. Furthermore, families with children, people with disabilities, people suffering from chronic illnesses, and pregnant and breastfeeding women may require additional assistance and care. The overflowing of the major tanks affects poor and vulnerable individuals living along the riverbanks and surrounding low-lying areas who require assistance to meet their basic needs, such as food, medication, and other non-food items.

Given the country's current situation and increased needs, this IFRC-DREF 3rd allocation is necessary to help those who are suffering from unfavorable weather conditions in the Ampara district. Furthermore, a timeframe extension is also required, which allows SLRCS to assist the affected people in all seven districts. Heavy showers are forecasted in the same regions according to the Meteorological Department's 9-day weather prediction [2]. According to the forecast and the continuing monsoon, the country will receive more rain. This IFRC-DREF operation is crucial for the National Society to acquire financial and human resource (HR) support to react to the needs of the families most impacted by the current extreme weather situation.

## Summary of Changes

Are you changing the timeframe of the operation	Yes
Are you changing the operational strategy	No
Are you changing the target population of the operation	Yes
Are you changing the geographical location	Yes
Are you making changes to the budget	Yes
Is this a request for a second allocation	Yes
Has the forecasted event materialize?	Yes

### Please explain the summary of changes and justification:

This is the second operation update for the IFRC-DREF MDRLK018. The initial IFRC-DREF operation and allocation was approved on 19 October 2023, for the flood that occurred in October 2023. The response was planned to support those affected in three districts: Galle, Matara, and Gampaha in the western and southern provinces of Sri Lanka.

On 29 December 2023, the first operation update issued detailed the changes to the operation timeframe, geographical areas, and costs due to the intensification of the northeast monsoon caused by a cyclone over the Bay of Bengal, which affected many districts in the northern and northwestern provinces. Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, and Puttalam reported the most severe impacts and were included in the operation.

This second operation update provides additional details regarding the modifications made to the operational context, the expansion of the geographical area, timeframe, and cost, as well as the escalation of response efforts in an additional district, Ampara in the Eastern province. This is in response to the severe, intensified extreme weather triggered on 9 January 2024, that impacted over 50,996 families in the district. More than 20,000 farmers' harvests are seriously impacted, and large road closures and other transportation concerns hit daily-wage farmers and other laborers. The persistent downpours have hurt the local job market, and the economic crisis is worsening things for these families in Ampara district, one of the most vulnerable districts affected by the civil war and tsunami and home to rural villages that rely on agriculture and farming.

With that, the whole operation will cover a total of seven districts (initial: Galle, Matara, and Gampaha; second top-up: Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, and Puttalam; third top-up: Ampara), with an extension of the implementation timeframe from October 2023 to July 2024 to complete the proposed interventions. The extension of the implementation timeframe is vital with this revision, as the Ampara district is geographically different, and the social context (mostly Tamil-speaking communities) and their needs, population density, and capacity of the SLRCS branch are also to be considered when planning the intervention. This revised entire operation seeks to reach a total of 95,250 people (from 19,050 households in all seven districts) with identified activities suggested in the Plan of Action.

The entire proposed response will focus on unconditional multipurpose cash grants, clean-up campaigns, first-aid and medical camps, non-food items, school pack and mosquito net distribution, and the distribution of drinking water and sanitary napkins under WASH. The first operation update extended the responses in Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, and Puttalam, except for education support (school pack



distribution), mosquito nets, and drinking water distributions. As such, with this second operation update, the same responses are being planned for the Ampara district except for well-cleaning and mosquito net distribution. This was based on assessment results which indicated that currently dengue cases in Ampara district are relatively low. In addition, local health institutions rolled out dengue prevention measures by conducting mosquito larvae monitoring and termination activities. Once the needs are justified, this emergency plan of action will be revised to fit the needs.

Overall, interventions are planned based on the immediate needs identified through the initial assessment conducted in the respective districts during each emergency situation. This extension will ensure the efficient and effective implementation of all planned activities, meeting the needs of the affected population in each district.

## Current National Society Actions

### Start date of National Society actions

2024-01-10



Volunteers from Ampara branch engage in the cleaning of inundated houses (Photo: SLRCS)



Volunteers from Ampara branch provide first Aid services to those in need (Photo: SLRCS)

### Shelter, Housing And Settlements

Currently, SLRCS volunteers and the BDRT team of the Ampara branch support the household cleaning of the most vulnerable households, which were inundated due to the flood water.

SLRCS branches provided household items, including dry ration packs (basic food items: 5 kg of rice, 1 kg of white flour, 1 kg of sugar, one fish can, 1 kg of green dhal, 400g of salt, spices, 100g of chili, 100g of turmeric, 1 packet of noodles, 500g of sprats, 1L of coconut oil, and tea powder.) for the communities that were affected by floods and landslides. Furthermore, 1,000 basic household items (bedsheet, sarong, kaftan, and towel) were provided from SLRCS-NHQ to the affected district's Galle, Matara, and Gampaha branches during October 2023 to assist and distribute them to the displaced



	<p>individuals.</p> <p>These 1,000 non-food items were supplied from SLRCS's current stock of relief supplies and SLRCS will replenish the stock. A total of 50 packs of dry food are required to assist landslip victims; 22 packs have already been provided to the Galle branch, which has already been replenished from the IFRC-DREF initial funding. During December 2023, in Mullaitivu (52 packs) and Kilinochchi (80 packs)—a total of 132 packs—were distributed to the severely affected and displaced people.</p>
<b>Health</b>	<p>Currently, the SLRCS first aid team provides first aid services to injured and displaced people in safer places set up by the disaster management centres. SLRCS branches in Mullaitivu, Kilinochchi, and Puttalam conducted five medical camps and provided first aid services to the flood-affected people in all three districts. The first team was already deployed in the severely affected divisions with volunteers to support the people who were trapped in the houses.</p> <p>The process of conducting medical camps under the initial IFRC-DREF response plan in Gampaha, Galle, and Matara is in the pipeline, while three medical camps in the Galle district and three first-aid services in all three districts have already been completed.</p>
<b>Water, Sanitation And Hygiene</b>	<p>Currently, the SLRCS response team is engaged in disinfecting and cleaning the inundated houses of the most vulnerable people. The team is more focused on single women's households, disabled households, and pregnant women's houses. Safe drinking water is one of the main concerns in the affected areas; however, DMC has provided drinking water to the displaced people at the safer palaces. Most of the areas in the Ampara district are covered by pipe-borne water under the government water supply system; hence, well-cleaning is not identified as an immediate need with this operation update.</p> <p>The volunteers are currently deployed for the clean-up campaigns, which support cleaning the flood-water-stacked places and drainages. The Gampaha branch has already completed 15 cleanup campaigns and contributed to preventing dengue spreading, while the Matara districts have completed two out of the 20 planned.</p> <p>Distributions of over 4,000 drinking water bottles to the flood-affected families in Galle and Matara districts have already been made. The primary intervention to meet immediate drinking water needs is well-cleaning. The initial objective was to assist 900 wells in three districts: Gampaha, Galle, and Matara, and all 900 wells have already been cleaned and are now being used by the locals.</p> <p>The main sources of drinking water in Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, and Puttalam are dug wells. The immediate need in the area is cleaning the wells that were used for drinking purposes first. Under the DREF 2nd allocation request, SLRCS is in the process of cleaning 400 wells further in the above districts. Hence, a total of 1300 wells are being cleaned in six districts, except Ampara district.</p>
<b>Protection, Gender And Inclusion</b>	<p>Since the onset of this disaster, SLRCS teams have maintained minimum standards when helping all affected communities, placing additional focus on selecting the most vulnerable communities, such as pregnant and lactating mothers, disabled communities, children, the elderly population, and the LGBTQ community.</p> <p>Due to the current economic crisis, there are more protection problems like child abuse, SGBV, and prostitution, which will make things harder for the operation. SLRCS continually makes efforts to fix these problems and make it easier for SLRCS staff and volunteers to plan the reaction while taking protection issues into account. SLRCS is also in the process of completing its child safeguarding and PSEA policies.</p> <p>As part of its initial response, SLRCS set up a hotline service, a community consultation method for choosing beneficiaries, a KOBO complaint link, and complaint sheets to make sure that the beneficiaries get clear and accountable service.</p>



<b>Coordination</b>	SLRCS is currently working closely with Government agencies, such as the DMC, the Military, District secretariats and local authorities to respond to the current flood situation. In addition, SLRCS is closely coordinating with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Country Representation Office in Colombo, with the assistance of the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) in New Delhi and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for this disaster response operation.
<b>National Society Readiness</b>	<p>SLRCS has been monitoring the extreme weather situation since the beginning of October 2023 and responding with the available resources. SLRCS has a strong branch network in all 25 districts of the country that can provide disaster and emergency relief. Over 100 staff members and 6,000 active volunteers have received disaster response training. At the national, district, and divisional (sub-district) levels, there are National Disaster Response Teams (NDRT), Branch Disaster Response Teams (BDRT), and Divisional Disaster Response Teams (DDRT). The BDRT and NDRT have been mobilized and deployed to the affected districts during the onset of each emergency.</p> <p>SLRCS has also trained 150 active members of disaster response teams specializing in water and safety. These members are well-trained in life-saving techniques and are ready to assist rescue operations in times of need.</p>
<b>Assessment</b>	<p>A detailed assessment has already been completed in the Gampaha, Galle, and Matara districts. Based on the assessment, the branches are implementing the intervention planned during the initial IFRC-DREF requests. Currently, a detailed assessment is being carried out in Mullaitivu, Kilinochchi, and Puttalam to identify the most vulnerable people to implement the planned intervention with the first operation update.</p> <p>Besides that, all branches deployed their BDRT team, which completed 24-hour and 72-hour assessments and submitted the community's immediate needs during the emergency. They are also closely working with the government authorities to update and collect information from secondary sources to analyze the current situation.</p>
<b>Resource Mobilization</b>	SLRCS Matara, Galle, Gampaha, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, Puttalam, and Ampara branches work with government agencies to provide the basic relief required by the affected communities. SLRCS is mobilising the available resources in the SLRCS HQ warehouse, including non-food items. First-aid-trained volunteers are already on the ground to support first-aid services, most importantly for the displaced at the safer centers.
<b>Activation Of Contingency Plans</b>	BDRT teams and NDRT members are deployed for the assessment and distribution of essential household items and to provide first-aid services in the affected areas. Currently, the volunteers are engaged in cleaning and disinfecting the houses in the Ampara district. Initial response activities are conducted in all seven districts, where more people are affected. Some 1,000 households have already received essential household items from the Gampaha, Galle, and Matara districts. Meanwhile, 132 households are supported in the Mullaitivu and Kilinochchi districts. To date, about 1,132 essential household items and 22 dry rations have already been distributed in Galle district for the landslide-affected people.

## IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

<b>Secretariat</b>	The in-country IFRC team is in close coordination with SLRCS and ICRC. The IFRC CCD and APRO offices have supported SLRCS in preparing this DREF application and planning the response. Furthermore, the IFRC CCD regularly shares in-country situation updates and developments with IFRC APRO. IFRC is providing technical support to SLRCS for the operation and coordinating with SLRCS for information sharing with the Movement and external partners. The IFRC CCD in Delhi and APRO provided further coordination support for information sharing and resources.
<b>Participating National Societies</b>	There is no Partner National Societies (PNS) presence in the country.





# ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

SLRCS has a longstanding working collaboration with the IFRC and ICRC in implementing various programmes. Since the beginning of this operation, the IFRC country office, with the assistance of the IFRC CCD Delhi and in good coordination with the ICRC, has been providing technical support to SLRCS for the planning and implementation of this DREF operation and sharing information at regional and sub-regional levels. ICRC has been working with SLRCS, particularly in the area of migration, with technical assistance in restoring family links and tracing. ICRC representatives in Sri Lanka are providing technical support to SLRCS for the operation, providing technical inputs to their SLRCS counterparts, and coordinating with SLRCS for information sharing with the Movement and external partners.

## Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	The national and local-level disaster management agencies and district administrative units are leading the flood and landslide response across the country. According to the DMC, the Army, Air Force, Navy, and police have been deployed to all affected locations. The Security Forces would carry out rescue operations when and where necessary. The Department of Irrigation has monitored the water levels in river basins and low-lying areas and provided alerts and warnings to the public in close coordination with the DMC. The Agriculture Department is currently assessing the impact on agricultural farmers. The local civil society organizations, sports clubs, and committees of Hindu temples and mosques are providing cooked food to the displaced people in all divisions in the safer centers in the Ampara district.
UN or other actors	For the moment, there is no UN organisation intervention related to the floods in the aforementioned districts.

### Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

The government is leading the coordination in an informal and bilateral manner. SLRCS is in close coordination with the authorities, DMC, and the Metrological Department, together with the divisional secretariat and irrigation department, coordinating all the responses and early warning activities about the ongoing adverse weather conditions. SLRCS branches closely coordinate and work with district-level authorities on assessments and providing relief. Also, the National Building Research Organisation (NBRO) is the focal point of coordination to inform and guide about the landslide risks and warnings.

## Needs (Gaps) Identified



### Shelter Housing And Settlements

According to the DMC update, on 12 January 2024, 3 houses were fully damaged, and 181 houses were partially damaged in the Ampara districts. Partially damage was caused mainly due to inundation by the flood water; the water level increased to 10 feet, up to the roof level. Most of the houses require cleaning and disinfection as they are filled with mud and debris. Divisional secretary officials are assessing the partially damaged houses to assist. The government will take on the task of repairing damaged homes in the flood-affected districts. People with damaged houses have moved to host families in the neighboring villages and most of the people are in the safer centers set up by the DMC. Due to displacement, there is an immediate need for household items, including non-food items and essential clothing items, as their entire possessions are submerged in the floodwater.



### Livelihoods And Basic Needs

More than 400,000 individuals from around 85,000 households have been affected by the floods since October due to the intensification of the southeast and northeast monsoons over the country.



Currently, the northeast monsoon has only affected more than 170,000 people (more than 52,000 HHs) in the Ampara district, and all flood-affected people who earn a living have lost their jobs. So far, over 35,000 acres of paddy land reported to have been destroyed by extreme weather conditions since October last year. 25,000 acres of paddy land alone in the Ampara district. Which has impacted 35,000 farmers and caused them to lose their crops and farming activity in the affected districts.

People in the impacted districts require sustenance in the form of food and drinking water. As a result, it is critical to give them dry rations to meet their food requirements. Furthermore, as a result of the adverse weather, many unskilled labourers have lost their daily earnings. Assistance to meet their most basic requirements must be expanded. The present floods in the northern and eastern regions have severely impacted the farmers. Agriculture is the primary source of income in both provinces. As per the SLRCS branch's primary findings, markets in affected areas are still functioning by maintaining the minimum supply chain to ensure basic essential items are available.



## Health

The affected people rely on the local government institutions for their medical requirements. The limited availability of health and care facilities is a consequence of transportation disruptions, severe weather conditions, and the need to relocate to safer areas.

In addition, the present economic crisis has caused disruptions to the health and care system and shortages of medications, both of which have worsened the health condition of the afflicted population.

The Medical Offices of Health departments have warned that the affected districts have large population densities, and when the flood waters recede, various health-related difficulties will arise. Dengue, Leptospirosis, and diarrhea are common diseases that affect the general population after the end of the rainy season. The public health inspectors from each district cautioned that diseases could be transmitted through the mixing of facial contact with water, as well as the spread of epidemics caused by animals.

Hence, it is essential to provide comprehensive medical and clinical care, together with immediate first aid services, to mitigate the probability of hospitalisation and other potential problems. In all seven districts, SLRCS has initially started offering first aid to flood victims. As a result of long-lasting disruptions to people's sources of sustenance, all seven districts are experiencing a pressing and crucial scarcity of food and drinking water. A considerable number of residents in the regions are living in poverty as a result of losing their main source of income.



## Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

In the aftermath of the floods, drinking water became polluted, limiting access to drinking water facilities in the impacted communities. SLRCS has planned to provide drinking water bottles to people displaced and residing in the safer centers in the Ampara district.

Household wells are the primary source of drinking water in most communities. As the groundwater level rose to 10 feet in several parts of the impacted districts, particularly in the bank rivers and the low-lying areas surrounding the major reservoirs, all these wells got polluted with flood water. Thus, well-cleaning has been identified as an essential requirement. Further, given the poor condition of the existing sanitary facilities of the affected people, sanitation and hygiene have worsened due to extreme weather conditions.

Because many villages in the Ampara area have a high population density, the majority of households in the district get their water from the water supply systems via pipe-borne water. Because of this, the activity of cleaning the well is not given priority.

Furthermore, as flood water recedes, there is a need to offer basic hygiene awareness through hygiene promotion utilising IEC materials to minimise the spread of waterborne infections and other communicable diseases. Similarly, implementing dengue awareness programmes and clearing up garbage that clogs drainage are prioritized as immediate response actions because the majority of the locations have been recognized as dengue-high-risk areas, according to the Ministry of Health's Epidemiology Unit. Similarly, sanitary napkins are required to address hygienic issues among displaced teenage girls and elderly women who are currently housed in safe centers and neighboring houses.



## Education

Based on preliminary evaluations conducted in collaboration with the authorities, it has been determined that the flooding has resulted in the destruction or loss of children's educational supplies. Additionally, the rising water level has led to the inundation of over 2,500 houses in the Ampara region. With the reopening of schools after vacations, vulnerable households are facing financial difficulties in meeting their children's educational needs due to the loss of stationery and livelihood. Therefore, it is crucial to provide essential school



supplies to the affected families' children in order to facilitate their return to education and schooling.

Moreover, the ongoing economic crisis has significantly hampered and worsened the provision of education for children. Detailed assessments will ascertain the exact number of the most vulnerable families, which will facilitate their targeting. In addition, hygiene promotion initiatives and school cleanup campaigns need to be implemented in areas where floodwaters inundated school buildings.



## Community Engagement And Accountability

Community accountability and feedback mechanisms will be seamlessly integrated into the operation to ensure that those people to be assisted have timely and accurate information about SLRCS's assistance and services, along with staff and volunteer conduct.

The existing SLRCS feedback response system, such as an SLRCS hotline number, establishing a face-to-face feedback mechanism (a feedback desk), community consultation, meetings, household visits, and a locally accepted process as requested by the communities, will be in place. This will ensure accountability for affected communities and improve the quality of aid and effective service delivery.

Only a subset of impacted populations will be targeted, so the selection criteria must be effectively communicated to the target population and broader communities of various groups via available communication channels. This will help people understand the targeted strategy and allow for selection process questions and input. This will reduce arguments and frustrations from non-selection people.

SLRCS volunteers and community members will help with assessments throughout the operating cycle. District branches will monitor and communicate with recipients throughout relief distributions. All distribution points will have banners and charts describing the items being distributed.

# Operational Strategy

## Overall objective of the operation

Overall, this operation aims to support 95,250 people (through the initial DREF, 14,750 people were covered, and an additional 11,500 people were covered with the second allocation; further, 69,000 people will be covered with the 3rd allocation) from a total of 19,050 families (initially 5,250 families, both 1st and 2nd allocations, and 13,800 will be covered with the 3rd allocation) in the seven worst-affected districts of Matara, Gampaha, and Galle districts from the southern and western provinces (1st allocation), Puttalam, Kilinochchi, and Mullaitivu districts from the northern and northwestern provinces (2nd allocation), and Ampara district from the eastern province.

With the 1st and 2nd allocations, the operation has already reached 17,938 people through multi-purpose cash assistance, well-cleaning, medical camps, first aid services, WASH, essential household items, and dry rations.

The entire operation will be implemented for nine months, starting from October 2023 to July 2024. The affected people will be supported with essential household items and non-food items, including clothes, multipurpose cash grants assistance to meet the gaps in their basic needs, well cleaning, cleaning-up campaigns, hygiene promotion (WASH), medical camps, and first aid assistance, as well as the provision of school exercise books and other stationery.

## Operation strategy rationale

The strategy for this operation is fully in line with SLRCS and IFRC policies, procedures, commitments, and mandates. With the support of IFRC, SLRCS seeks to provide immediate support to the most vulnerable households among affected populations in all seven targeted districts.

The selection will involve affected community members and be carried out in close coordination with the local authorities. Places of intervention will be decided after the ongoing assessments covering the most affected population in the worst-affected districts: Matara, Gampaha, Galle, Puttalam, Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, and Ampara. The proposed strategy is formulated based on the short-term needs of the affected people and aligned with the government's strategy. The response operation will run for nine months (from October 2023 to July 2024, an extension of an additional three months (two months from the initial allocation and an additional three months and a total of nine months with the publication of operation update #02, from the initial timeframe) and cover the immediate relief needs.

(A) Multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA): The total target is 24,250 people from 4,850 households, covering all seven districts. Initially, 9,500 people from the initial DREF and 1,900 households, and 950 households from the second allocation. SLRCS now seeks additional



MPCA support for 2,000 households with this operation update. A total of 574 households have already received multi-purpose cash grants of LKR 20,000 (approximately CHF 52), and the remaining 1,326 households from the initial plan of 1,900 grants cover Galle, Gampaha, and Matara, while 950 households cover Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, and Puttalam from the 2nd allocation are in the pipeline. Based on a rapid needs assessment, it was highlighted that the poor and vulnerable people in all seven districts lost their income due to adverse weather conditions, resulting in a shortage of food in their homes. Many farmers lost their crops, and their farming land was inundated.

A detailed assessment will be conducted before the cash distribution to select the most affected households, analyze the evolving situation, monitor the market, and identify priority needs. The assessment team and NDRT, together with CVA focal, have already analyzed the market condition, conducted a feasibility study, and selected the delivery mechanism, which will be a bank transfer (Sampath Bank Pvt. Ltd.). It has been confirmed that the banks are functioning in the affected districts. The CVA focal point works closely with the Cash Working Group (CWG) to update the current situation of the flood-affected districts and discuss the MPCA intervention. Engagement with CWG will further determine the value of the cash grant based on the minimum expenditure basket (MEB) analysis. The CWG-developed Minimum Expenditure Basket guidance serves as the basis for determining the cash value per household. SLRCS is active in a cash working group, also co-sharing the group. In the last three previous responses (MDRLK015, 016, and 017), cash support was a key response. Based on the inflation fluctuation rates from May to October 2022, CWG developed the MEB per household last year, which costs LKR 20,000 (roughly CHF 52). CWG-Sri Lanka is currently revising the MEB. There will be no restrictions on the use of the cash grants received, enabling the families to maintain their dignity by prioritizing the use of the funds based on their specific needs. The delivery mechanism for multi-purpose cash assistance will be a bank account transfer. SLRCS is already engaging in bank transfers and has a financial service provider agreement with one of the commercial banks, which has a wider network in the country. SLRCS has implemented MPCA for 750 households using prior IFRC-DREF funds. SLRCS is also executing another MPCA under the emergency appeal with a monetary value of LKR 20,000 (approximately CHF 52) for more than 18,000 families across the country. SLRCS will ensure that there is no duplication of beneficiaries. Once the cash grant distribution is concluded, post-distribution monitoring will be conducted to evaluate the efficiency of this intervention.

(B) Essential household items: The total target is 19,750 people from 3,950 households, covering all seven districts, which covers the initial allocation of 5,000 people from 1,000 families; additionally, 4,750 people from 950 families with the second allocation. Now, SLRCS has planned to support a further 10,000 people from 2,000 families in Ampara district. A total of 1,132 packs (initially 1000 packs for Galle, Matara, and Gampaha and 132 packs for Kilinochchi and Mullaitivu) have already been distributed during the initial response activities. The procurement process for non-food items for 1,950 households is currently underway. The most vulnerable people, whose houses are inundated by the floods and rescued to safer locations, neighboring villages, and relative houses, will be targeted. A total of 1,132 packs, which were already distributed from the existing stock, will be replenished by the SLRCS from the DREF allocation.

(C) Health: The total target is 50,750 people through medical camps and first aid activities will be reached in all seven districts. Under this revision, a further ten medical camps will be conducted in the Ampara district, as the population density in the district is high. The eight medical camps and five first aid services have already been conducted under the initial DREF response in the Galle, Matara, and Gampaha districts by the SLRCS; the remaining are in the pipeline, including in new geographical locations, allocated with the second allocation. Medical clinics and first-aid efforts will help the most vulnerable elderly people and people suffering from long-term illnesses who are unable to access healthcare facilities. The majority of the population in the impacted districts is poor and has lost their means of subsistence; many of them are unable to bear the additional costs (travel and medicine purchased from outside) to access health care. The MPCA will also assist these families in meeting their acute dietary needs. Additionally, the nation's economic downturn, medicine shortages, and healthcare worker strikes are affecting health services.

(D) Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene: The total target is 30,625 people through the distribution of drinking water, well cleaning, and sanitary napkin distribution and hygiene promotion and clean-up campaigns: Immediate needs were identified as well-cleaning, house cleaning and disinfection, and clean-up campaigns in public places requested by newly included districts. The ongoing support focuses on cleaning 1,300 wells, out of which a total of 900 wells have already been cleaned, and a total of 83 clean-up campaigns, including all revisions, are being planned to cover all seven districts, out of which 17 campaigns have already been completed in Gampaha and Galle districts under the ongoing initial responses; the remaining are in the pipeline. In WASH interventions, the volunteers will closely work with public health officers to assist vulnerable households in cleaning their houses and surroundings, as well as support community clean-up activities in removing debris and mud from within the house and compound, mostly in low-lying regions and riverbanks, to prevent dengue mosquito breeding. Volunteers will also give IEC materials to educate the community on how to reuse plastic water bottles to lessen environmental effects. Displaced young girls and women of menstruating age will receive appropriate sanitary materials and menstrual hygiene management awareness.

(E) Education: Target a total of 5,800 schoolchildren to support with school packs: (There is no requirement for school items with the 2nd allocation in the districts of Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, and Puttalam.). Due to the houses being flooded, children from affected households lost their school items, including books and stationery, in the Galle, Gampaha, Matara, and newly added district Ampara. Their parents are currently not able to replace these items as they lost their daily income, and the children need to return to school once the school restarts. A detailed assessment will be conducted to identify the most affected schoolchildren who lost their stationery due to the floodwater and they will be supported with the essential stationery to continue their education.



(F) Dry ration distribution: The target is 250 people from 50 households. Provisions of dry rations were already provided to those who were impacted by the occurrence of landslides within the districts of Matara and Galle. The individuals were in safe locations that were overseen by the Divisional Secretary and the Disaster Management Centre (DMC).

SLRCS notes that some harder-hit families may have already been receiving assistance in different sectors from the authorities. SLRCS ensured that there was no duplication of assistance in the same districts. At the end of the operation, SLRCS will organize a lesson-learned workshop to review the operation and identify areas for improvement. In its responses, SLRCS will ensure that programs under this operation are aligned with its gender commitments as well as with the IFRC minimum standard commitments to gender and diversity in emergency programming. Specific considerations will include the elderly, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, lactating women, women-headed households, migrants, and households with infants or young children. These groups are more vulnerable to challenges related to access to nutrient-rich food and safe water and are more susceptible to diseases and infections.

SLRCS always focuses on establishing a better community feedback mechanism throughout the operation to ensure all the voices of the community are heard and accepted. For conducting the activities, SLRCS strategies will include a strong community engagement mechanism to ensure community ownership is built throughout the operation.

## Targeting Strategy

### Who will be targeted through this operation?

SLRCS will identify the worst-affected people, specifically focusing on families living in the low-lying areas inundated with floodwater, and also concentrating on families residing in the low-lying areas surrounding the major tanks and rivers in the affected districts. The affected districts in the southern and western provinces (Galle, Matara, and Gampaha) are geographically different; with a high-density population, Gampaha is the second most highly populated district in the western province. These districts face significant vulnerabilities from flooding, urbanization, and economic instability. Northern and eastern provinces are severely affected by 30 years of civil war, and people are most vulnerable. People's main livelihood is agriculture. Climate-related risks are high in the districts, especially in Ampara, Kilinochchi, and Mullaitivu.

The targeting strategy will assess the damages and losses to their livelihoods and houses due to floodwaters overflowing, as well as the impact on their health and the education of the affected children through detailed assessments and household surveys. This approach will also ensure that the operations do not conflict with the previous dengue and flood DREF (MDRLK017) in the Matara district. Beneficiary selection will be a community-driven process and will be carried out in close coordination with local authorities.

Based on the needs assessment, a total of 19,050 households (95,250 people as direct beneficiaries) affected by the flood will be targeted in the seven districts for multi-purpose cash assistance for 4,850 households (24,250 people), essential household items for 3,950 households (19,750 people), dry rations for 50 households (250 people), school packs (5,800 school children in 4 districts), drinking water bottles, sanitary napkins (4,600 teenage girls), wells, and house clean-up activities. Under the multi-purpose cash assistance, priority will be given to people displaced by floods, landslides, and heavy winds who were in temporary shelters or evacuation centers and affected people returning to their homes after the initial stages of the disaster. Specific considerations will include the elderly, persons with disabilities, pregnant and lactating women, women-headed households, and households with infants or young children. These groups are more vulnerable to challenges related to livelihood loss, access to nutrient-rich food, and safe water and are more susceptible to diseases and infections.

All seven districts were also targeted under the emergency appeal operation (MDRLK014, Complex Emergency). However, there is no overlap between the target groups in the two operations. During the detailed assessment, more information on the most vulnerable groups, disaggregated data, will be collected before targeting them for assistance.

### Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

Based on the pre-designed criteria that have been customized according to the situation, the severely affected population in the affected districts will be covered by this DREF (including extension), with estimated female beneficiaries being higher than males. The government is also helping others who are affected, and moderately affected communities are starting their normal lives again, so there is no need for further assistance. In its response, SLRCS will ensure that activities under this operation are aligned with its gender commitments as well as with the IFRC minimum standard commitments to gender and diversity in emergency programming.



# Total Targeted Population

Women	39,834	Rural	60%
Girls (under 18)	8,742	Urban	40%
Men	38,273	People with disabilities (estimated)	1%
Boys (under 18)	8,401		
Total targeted population	95,250		

## Risk and Security Considerations

Please indicate about potential operation risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk	Mitigation action
Risk of contracting the dengue virus	This risk will be mitigated by providing self care packs, which consist of mosquito repellents, gloves, and hand sanitizers, to all volunteers working in the field.
Inadequate human resource capacity	National Society will plan in advance the HR requirement and allocate the required support to the branches. NDRT will be mobilized to support the response activities and more volunteers will be mobilized.
Limitation to reaching the remote areas	Alternative transport options e.g., Ferry and boat services will be arranged by the branch offices with the support of volunteers.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

The SLRCS security framework will be applicable for the duration of the operation to their staff and volunteers. For personnel under IFRC security's responsibility, existing IFRC country office/ CCD security plans will be applicable. All IFRC and RC/RC staff and volunteers are encouraged to complete the IFRC Stay Safe 2.0 e-learning courses. The National Society enjoys a good level of community acceptance countrywide, with established networks of community-based volunteers.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

Yes

## Planned Intervention



### Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 66,360

Targeted Persons: 19,750

### Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
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# of households provided with essential household items assistance	3,950	1,000
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## Progress Towards Outcome

The SLRCS has already distributed non-food items to 1,000 households from their existing stock in all three branches (Galle 250, Matara 400, and Gampaha 350) to the people who lost their household items by the sudden flood due to the overflowing of the rivers. The SLRCS will replenish its current stock with the IFRC-DREF allocations. Mosquito nets will be distributed directly to the beneficiaries and SLRCS has already requested international procurement to ensure the standard set by the WHO.

The procurement process for non-food items is in the pipeline. The procurement of mosquito nets has already been completed and the mosquito nets have arrived at the port. The IFRC country delegation is dealing with authorities to get clearance to clear the items from the port and hand them over to SLRCS to distribute to the affected.

SLRCS is undertaking the procurement process to get the additional planned 950 non-food items supported under the 2nd allocation.



## Livelihoods And Basic Needs

**Budget:** CHF 1,200

**Targeted Persons:** 250

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of households provided with dry rations assistance	50	22

## Progress Towards Outcome

People impacted by the landslides in the Galle districts received dry ration packs. A total of 22 families were supported under the IFRC-DREF and with the coordination of the DMC. SLRCS completed the distribution in October 2023. The affected families have returned to safer places, and DMC has arranged shelters and supported the affected families.

The dry rations one pack for one family include 5 kg of rice, 1 kg of white flour, 1 kg of sugar, one fish can, 1 kg of green dhal, 400g of salt, spices, 100g of chili, 100g of turmeric, 1 packet of noodles, 500g of sparts, 1L of coconut oil, and tea powder.



## Multi Purpose Cash

**Budget:** CHF 309,773

**Targeted Persons:** 24,250

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of targeted households provided with cash assistance.	4,850	574

## Progress Towards Outcome

From the initial response in the Gampaha, Galle, and Matara districts, the most affected 1,900 households were planned to be supported with multi-purpose cash assistance, out of which 574 households (Galle 115, Gampaha 174, and Matara 285) have already received the cash of LKR 20,000 each under the MPCA assistance. The people mostly used the cash to buy food and household items. A PDM survey is planned to be held in April 2024 to cover the activities carried out under the initial IFRC-DREF. A total of two PDMs will be planned for the

entire operation.

With the IFRC-DREF 2nd allocation, a further 950 households in the Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, and Puttalam districts will be supported with multi-purpose cash assistance. The beneficiary assessment is underway. These three branches are expected to complete the activity by the end of February 2024.

As it continues to rain in the districts, challenging the volunteers to complete the assessment and verification process for the beneficiaries.



## Health

**Budget:** CHF 34,500

**Targeted Persons:** 50,750

### Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of people reached by medical camps and First aid assistance.	50,750	7,750

### Progress Towards Outcome

The SLRCS completed the first aid services (a total of 5) that had been planned under the initial IFRC-DREF response. Additionally, eight medical camps have already been conducted under the initial response. The remaining 26 medical camps (out of the total medical camps planned, including this revision) are in process. Further, six medical camps are planned to be conducted in the Kilinochchi, Mullaitivu, and Puttalam districts under the second top-up.

Medical of Health Offices (MOH) at the divisional level coordinate the medical centres that SLRCS organises in order to aid and support a greater number of vulnerable individuals in the affected districts. Medical camps benefit the most vulnerable individuals, including the elderly, chronic patients, and the disabled, and are crucial during the current economic downturn.

SLRCS has now planned to conduct an additional 10 medical camps in the Ampara district alone. and that is added to this revised response plan. So far, SLRCS has reached more than 7,750 people through the services of medical camps and first-aid services.



## Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

**Budget:** CHF 103,193

**Targeted Persons:** 41,875

### Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of people reached by hygiene promotion activities	41,875	8,500
# of people supported with sanitary napkins	4,600	0
# of clean-up and disinfection campaigns at community places/public buildings including people places	83	17
# of water sources rehabilitated	1,300	900
#of households supported with drinking water bottles	7,052	2,052





## Progress Towards Outcome

As of 15 January 2024, a total of 900 wells and 17 clean-up campaigns have already been completed in the Galle, Matara, and Gampaha districts, and the remaining 400 wells and 41 clean-up campaigns are in the pipeline in the allocated districts with initial and second allocations. A total of 8,500 people have been reached through the distribution of IEC materials during the household and public clean-up campaigns in the districts, supported with the initial responses. The continuous rain in the districts further delays the process during the ongoing monsoon. With this revision, 25 clean-up campaigns will be supported in the Ampara district.

Drinking water (5L): A total of 5,104 drinking bottles have already been distributed as per the plan in the districts of Matara and Galle under the initial response plan. Another 10,000 drinking water bottles (5L) will be distributed to the displaced people in the Ampara district.



## Protection, Gender And Inclusion

**Budget:** CHF 0

**Targeted Persons:** 26,250

### Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of individuals covered through dignity, access, and protection activities	95,250	18,095

## Progress Towards Outcome

Under the initial response, a total of 574 vulnerable households received unconditional cash grants; 5,000 people supported with non-food items; and 4,500 people supported with well-cleaning activities. Additionally, more than 2,000 people benefit from clean-up campaigns and over 3,600 people are assisted with medical camps and first aid services.

During the implementation of these activities, it is ensured that accountability is in place for GBV prevention and response. SLRCS accomplishes this by participating in community gatherings, discussions, and face-to-face feedback sessions. The volunteers also trained on gender sensitivity and cultural competency during the capacity-building sessions. The SLRCS commits to capturing sex, age, and disability disaggregated data to understand the number and specific vulnerability of females to males based on their gender roles and age (to understand if a higher proportion of women, boys, girls, men, or LGBTQIA groups are made vulnerable).

For better overview on PGI intervention, below are the key activities planned for this operation:

- 95,250 people will be targeted, and the PGI aspect will be integrated through sectoral interventions such as livelihoods and basic needs, WASH, and health.
- 5,800 school packs will be distributed among poor and vulnerable schoolchildren.
- 3,950 of the most vulnerable households will benefit from non-food items. 10,000 drinking water bottles will also be distributed.

Concerns about PGI have been included in all efforts, including staff and volunteer capacity training, assessments, people targeting, and community and household awareness. The majority of the operation's actions are in the pipeline.



## Education

**Budget:** CHF 125,910

**Targeted Persons:** 4,600



## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of affected school children received School packs	4,600	-

## Progress Towards Outcome

The procurement of school packs is underway. After schools reopen from their break, the distribution of school packs to support the students of displaced families in the affected districts will be complete by the first week of February. This intervention is planned with the initial IFRC-DREF allocation, which includes Galle (600 packs), Matara (2,000 packs), and Gampaha (1,200 packs). The assessment team has already identified the schoolchildren who lost their school items with coordination and consultation with the government officials (GS/DS) and the school principals in the affected (inundated) areas. The distribution of school packs will be two packs per family based on the needs and the number of school-going children in the affected families.



## Community Engagement And Accountability

**Budget:** CHF 5,550

**Targeted Persons:** 95,250

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of people informed about the beneficiaries selection process	95,250	18,095
# of people reached through social media on awareness	95,250	15,750
# of community meeting conducted to share the information about the operation	25	11
# of feedback comments collected, disaggregated by sex, age and disability, including sensitive feedback linked to SEA, fraud, corruption or protection concerns	210	18

## Progress Towards Outcome

Community feedback techniques are being included in the operation to ensure that affected populations have timely and accurate information about SLRCS services. Beneficiaries and wider communities receive detailed information about the selection criteria, so they understand why they are being targeted and have the opportunity to ask questions. The SLRCS NHQ hotline service contacts individuals and a framework is in place to ensure that public complaints are addressed. CEA movement-wide pledges and minimal actions are integrated into operations.

The dedicated staff at the NHQ level keeps track of community feedback, suggestions, and complaints, communicates the information to the pertinent branches, and provides feedback to the appropriate beneficiaries.



## Secretariat Services

**Budget:** CHF 65,731

**Targeted Persons:** 1



## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of person deployed to support the operation	1	1
# of post-distribution monitoring conducted	1	-

## Progress Towards Outcome

The surge has collaborated with the CCD and Regional offices to begin the procurement process for mosquito nets and school kits under the initial DREF plan. The surge has collaborated with the CCD and GHS & SCM Regional teams to conduct the procurement of school kits locally, ensuring process compliance. The procurement process has been concluded and delivery will take place within a month of January 2024. Through a global framework agreement, the regional procurement team purchases the mosquito net internationally. The mosquito nets have arrived in the country where the country team is dealing with authorities on the customs clearance process.



## National Society Strengthening

**Budget:** CHF 86,637

**Targeted Persons:** 139

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
# of rapid and detailed assessment teams deployed at branch level	7	3
# of communications materials produced (social media, media articles, interviews, etc.)	26	6
# of monitoring visits conducted at the NHQ and branch level	28	6
# of volunteers involved in the operation insured	139	75
# of lessons learned workshop conducted	1	-

## Progress Towards Outcome

Although all of the activities are going on, persistently unfavorable weather conditions are making it difficult to conduct activities under the plans. To carry out responses and speed up initiatives, branches collaborate with local authorities. The detailed assessment was completed in Gampaha, Galle, and Matara in November 2023; further, a detailed assessment is in the pipeline for recently included districts.

# About Support Services

## How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

A total of 150 volunteers (initially around 100 volunteers with a combination of males and females engaging in the initial response) will be involved in this response. The profile will cover the WASH and Health (including PSFA), CEA, and PGI sectors. Staff and volunteers from each branch and SLRCS HQ will be engaged directly as well.



A project manager (national staff) will oversee the operation along with a team that includes a project assistant, field officer, coordinator, finance, and driver. There will be additional human resources allocated to cover the response operation in the Ampara district with this revision of the operation update.

## **Will surge personnel be deployed? Please provide the role profile needed.**

With the initial IFRC-DREF allocation, a procurement surge was deployed to support the operation. The procurement surge has worked with the SLRCS procurement focal person, as well as the IFRC CCD and regional office, to complete the procurement process for school packs and the international procurement for WHO-standard mosquito nets. With this revision, as the operation has expanded to include seven districts, a second surge deployment (Health/WASH/Operations/Finance) will be requested.

## **If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?**

In order to procure the WHO-standard mosquito nets, SLRCS requested the IFRC for international procurement only of mosquito nets. The procurement of school packs was done by the Country Cluster Office, Delhi, as the total budget amount exceeded CHF 50,000. This was done as per the IFRC procurement policies. Since all other requested items are readily available and fall under the purview of in-country procurement, SLRCS will carry them out in accordance with IFRC procurement standards.

## **How will this operation be monitored?**

SLRCS will oversee all operational, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting aspects of the present operation in the affected areas through its country-wide network of branches and volunteers. IFRC, through its Country Office and CCD in Delhi and APRO in Kuala Lumpur, will provide technical support in programme management to ensure the operational objectives are met. Reporting on the operation will be carried out under the IFRC-DREF minimum reporting standards. Regular updates will be issued during the operation's timeframe, and a final report will be issued within three months of the end of the operation.

A post-distribution monitoring survey will be carried out to assess the effectiveness of the intervention and evaluate the problems encountered during implementation. Additionally, a lesson-learned workshop will be performed to gain insights from both the challenges and successes.

## **Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation**

SLRCS communications staff are working in close coordination with the IFRC regional communications team to ensure that the evolving humanitarian needs and SLRCS response are profiled across social media platforms and in the national and international media. A proactive approach will be taken to maintain media outreach and to produce communications materials including press releases, news stories, photos/videos, key messages and infographics for external promotion by Partner National Societies in their networks.



# Budget Overview



## DREF OPERATION

### MDRLK018 - Sri Lanka Red Cross Society Monsoon Floods 2023 Sri Lanka

#### Operating Budget

<b>Planned Operations</b>	<b>646,486</b>
Shelter and Basic Household Items	66,360
Livelihoods	1,200
Multi-purpose Cash	309,773
Health	34,500
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	103,193
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	0
Education	125,910
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	5,550
Environmental Sustainability	0
<b>Enabling Approaches</b>	<b>152,368</b>
Coordination and Partnerships	13,800
Secretariat Services	51,931
National Society Strengthening	86,637
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>798,854</b>

*all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)*



# Contact Information

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

**National Society contact:** Dr Mahesh Gunsekera, Director General, mahesh.gunasekara@redcross.lk, +94 7003471084

**IFRC Appeal Manager:** Udaya Kumar Regmi, Head of Country Cluster Delegation, udaya.regmi@ifrc.org, +919667438124

**IFRC Project Manager:** Meenu Bali, Programme Manager, meenu.bali@ifrc.org, +919971641414

**IFRC focal point for the emergency:** Udaya Kumar REGMI, Head of Country Cluster Delegation, udaya.regmi@ifrc.org, +919667438124

**Media Contact:** Afrhill Rances,, Reginal Communication Manager, afrhill.rances@ifrc.org

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