



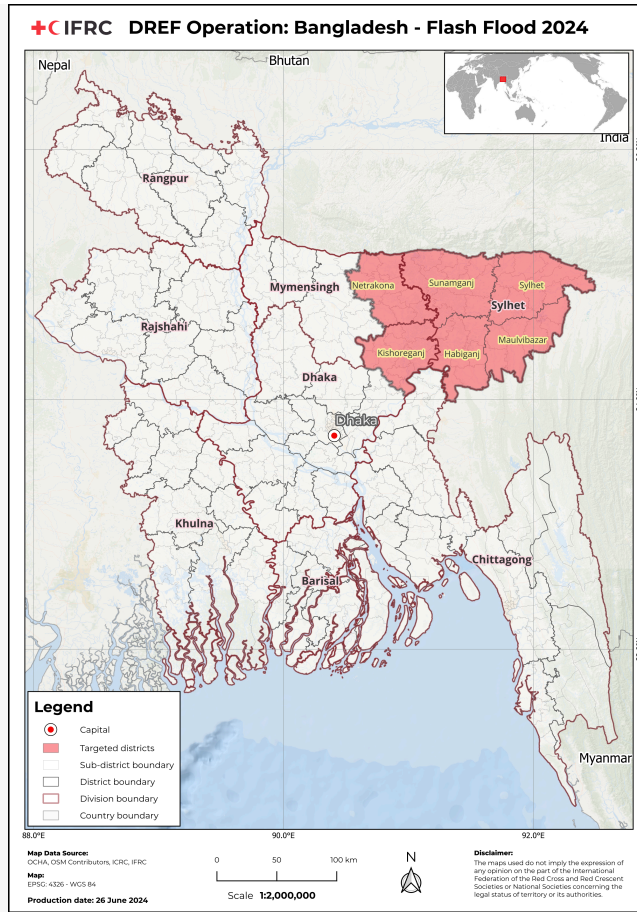
Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) volunteers conduct a rapid assessment of the devastating June 2024 floods, working tirelessly to bring aid to affected communities (Photo: BDRCS)

Appeal: MDRBD036	Country: Bangladesh	Hazard: Pluvial/Flash Flood	Type of DREF: Response
Crisis Category: Orange	Event Onset: Sudden	DREF Allocation: CHF 998,547	
Glide Number: FF-2024-000100-BGD	People Affected: 2,500,000 people	People Targeted: 100,000 people	
Operation Start Date: 29-06-2024	Operation Timeframe: 6 months	Operation End Date: 31-12-2024	DREF Published: 30-06-2024
Targeted Areas: Sylhet			

Description of the Event

Date of event

20-06-2024



Map of the affected areas. (Source: IFRC IM)

What happened, where and when?

Continuous heavy rainfall inside the country and in the adjoining northeastern Indian states of Assam and Meghalaya since 18 June 2024 has caused upstream water to rush in, leading to flooding in the northeast Haor region of Bangladesh. A Haor is a wetland ecosystem in the northeastern part of Bangladesh, characterized by bowl or saucer-shaped shallow depressions, also known as backswamps.

Heavy monsoon rainfall on 18 and 19 June caused flash floods and 773 landslide incidents in the refugee camps in Cox's Bazar, southeastern Bangladesh, resulting in casualties and damage. The Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) issued a heavy rainfall warning (greater than 89 mm/24 hrs) on 19 June 2024 for the next 72 hours, starting from 9:00 AM, affecting the Rangpur, Mymensingh, Chattogram, and Sylhet regions.

On 18 June 2024, the Surma River was flowing 131 cm above the danger level at the Kanaighat sub-district in Sylhet, 25 cm above at Sylhet city, 160 cm above at the Chhatak sub-district in Sunamganj, 64 cm above at the town point in Sunamganj, and 3 cm above at the Dirai sub-district. Concurrently, the Kushiara River was flowing 85 cm above the danger level at the Fenchuganj sub-district and 39 cm above at the Zakiganj sub-district. At Sarighat in the Jaintapur sub-district and the Gowainghat sub-district, the Sari-Gowain River in Sylhet was flowing 7 cm and 30 cm above the danger level, respectively.

According to the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB), 333 mm of rain fell in Lalakhali, Sylhet, 327 mm in Jaflong, 191 mm in Kanaighat, 191 mm in Zakiganj, 100 mm in Sylhet city, 159 mm in Laurer Garh, Sunamganj, and 95 mm in Sunamganj city and the Chhatak sub-district in the last 24 hours (18 June 2024). Additionally, rainfall totals of 398 mm, 121 mm, and 114 mm were reported in India's Cherrapunji, Meghalaya, Dhubri, and Goalpara, Assam. Communications have been disrupted in Companiganj, Gowainghat, and Kanaighat, Sylhet, as well as in Chhatak, Dowerabazar, Biswambharpur, and the Sadar sub-district in Sunamganj, due to the submergence of most roads.



The Sylhet district administration reports that about 371,000 people are stranded and 864 villages have flooded. Approximately 4,000 individuals have relocated to shelter centers. The administration has prohibited travel to all tourist destinations, including Bichnakandi, Sadapathar, Jaflong, and Ratargul, considering the current circumstances.

On 20 June 2024, 'The Daily Star' newspaper reported that nearly 30,000 people had to relocate to shelter centers due to flooding that affected over 1.6 million people. Many elderly individuals and families with children fled their submerged homes, seeking refuge on roadsides with only plastic sheets for protection from the rain.



During the rapid assessment, BDRCS volunteers also conduct Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) at the flood affected areas (Photo: BDRCS)

Scope and Scale

As of 23 June 2024, floodwaters continue to rise in some areas, with the situation potentially worsening due to forecasted rainfall over the next 2 to 3 days. Several NGOs and INGOs are monitoring the situation closely in cooperation with the Government of Bangladesh.

The ongoing flood has affected 223 villages across 13 unions in the Gowainghat sub-district of Sylhet. Approximately 29,600 households, totaling around 145,200 people, have been impacted. Additionally, 1,500 hectares of agricultural land are inundated. There are also 1,725 people and 728 livestock seeking refuge in various temporary shelters (source: UNO Office, Gowainghat, Sylhet).

Most roads in Companiganj, Gowainghat, and Kanaighat in Sylhet, as well as in Chhatak, Dowarabazar, Biswambharpur, and Sadar upazilas in Sunamganj, are underwater, disrupting communications. According to the Sylhet district administration, 864 villages are flooded, and approximately 371,000 people are marooned. About 4,000 people have moved to shelter centers established by the administration (source: The Daily Star).

Approximately 2.5 million people have been affected by the floods, with 1.6 million stranded in Sylhet, Sunamganj, and Moulvibazar districts in northeastern Bangladesh. As of the afternoon of 19 June 2024, 12,000 people in the region are without electricity, and over 53,000 people are residing in shelter centers. Fish farmers in the region have suffered significant losses, with more than 13,600 ponds washed away, resulting in a loss of BDT 1.34 billion—BDT 1.01 billion of which is attributed to Sylhet alone, according to the Divisional Fisheries Department. Although the full financial loss is not yet determined, the flood has submerged over 26,000 hectares of farmland, including 18,750 hectares of rice fields and 7,656 hectares of vegetables. Several shelters are experiencing severe shortages of food and water, with some relying on dried food such as puffed rice (source: BRAC, 22 June 2024).

According to situation overviews published by various NGOs, the key immediate needs are:

- Evacuation support to move people to shelter centers and provision of dry food parcels.
- Livelihood and household essentials.
- Safe drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities to maintain cleanliness and reduce health risks.
- Medical aid and healthcare services to treat minor injuries and prevent disease outbreaks.
- Psychosocial support for individuals traumatized by the flooding.

Source Information

Source Name	Source Link
1. Bangladesh: Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG) Situation Analysis Northeastern Flood, June 2024 (Version 01: As of 20 June 2024)	https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/bangladesh-needs-assessment-working-group-nawg-situation-analysis-northeastern-flood-june-2024-version-01-20-june-2024
2. BDRCS situation report #01	https://go.ifrc.org/emergencies/7035/details
3. Unified Cash+	https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/unified-cash-framework-bangladesh-anticipatory-action-and-response-october-2023

Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	Yes
Did it affect the same population group?	Yes
Did the National Society respond?	Yes
Did the National Society request funding form DREF for that event(s)	Yes
If yes, please specify which operation	MDRBD028, 2022

If you have answered yes to all questions above, justify why the use of DREF for a recurrent event, or how this event should not be considered recurrent:

The northeastern parts of Bangladesh have been increasingly affected by single-day extreme rainfall events, which cause flash floods, swollen rivers, and waterlogging. Climate change has significantly heightened the frequency of these heavy monsoon rains in both Bangladesh and northeastern India. A study published in February 2024 in the Journal of the Royal Meteorological Society by NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, North Carolina State University, the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, and Jahangirnagar University analyzed extreme rainfall events (defined as 150 mm or more in a day) from 1950 to 2021 (71 years). According to the Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB), while overall monsoon rainfall is decreasing, single-day extreme rainfall has become four times more common due to climate change.

BRAC reported that extreme rainfall in Meghalaya, located upstream from the region, contributes to recurring flash floods. When these extreme rainfall events occur, the local river system is unable to manage the sudden influx of water, leading to flooding. BRAC also highlighted that while Bangladesh has historically experienced flooding, climate change has intensified and made these floods less predictable, complicating safety measures and future planning for families. The organization stressed that the impacts of flooding are not only detrimental in the short term but also lead to long-term damage to livelihoods, biodiversity, and infrastructure, with disruptions to schooling and health services.

Given the region's geography and the increased intensity and unpredictability of natural hazards due to climate change, the communities are in urgent need of humanitarian aid. Without emergency interventions, the humanitarian impacts on these communities are expected to worsen significantly. Addressing the current humanitarian needs caused by flooding will help mitigate the anticipated exacerbation of these impacts, which are likely to become more severe without external assistance.



Lessons learned:

Based on systematic lessons learned developed by BDRCS and IFRC for each emergency operation in the country, along with continuous learning from BDRCS, the following key points have been identified from previous similar operations:

- Strong Coordination: Effective coordination with government agencies, UN bodies, and other humanitarian organizations is crucial for identifying the most vulnerable geographical areas and demographics.
- Focused Support: Providing targeted support for individuals with specific needs, such as people with disabilities, female-headed households, pregnant women, and the elderly, is essential.
- Donor Engagement: In-country and corporate donors have proven to be valuable addition to the response efforts by BDRCS, enhancing the overall effectiveness of the operations.
- Real-Time Data Utilization: Employing real-time ICT-based data can significantly improve the speed and accuracy of selecting target populations for response operations.
- Continuous Monitoring: Regular monitoring of operations at the field level and consistent follow-up with branches are necessary to ensure that emergency needs are effectively met.

Current National Society Actions

Start date of National Society actions

19-06-2024

Livelihoods And Basic Needs	BDRCS reached 1,400 families by allocating BDT 900,000 (approx. USD 7,700) for dry food distribution to those taking refuge in shelters in Sunamganj, Sylhet, and Moulvibazar.
Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	Three water purification units and 1,000 pcs of jerrycans were provided with the support of national WASH Response Team members and volunteers deployed in Sylhet and Sunamganj. Additionally, 60,000 litres of bottled safe drinking water were distributed among 30,000 people in Sylhet & Sunamganj districts, supported by Abdul Monem Limited.
Coordination	BDRCS is maintaining close coordination among partnering national societies (PNS), as well as maintaining coordination with concerned government ministries and departments as well as other humanitarian agencies like UN.
National Society Readiness	BDRCS has trained staff and volunteers in multiple sectors, providing First Aid service, lifesaving messages dissemination, dry food, drinking water to the affected people.
Assessment	Two teams with personnel from BDRCS and IFRC have completed the rapid assessment to identify the different needs of the affected people. BDRCS is also part of joint-needs assessment working group.
Resource Mobilization	German Red Cross has provided 2,000 hygiene kits and 2,000 mosquito nets. Swedish Red Cross has agreed to provide 1.5 million BDT for 1,500 households through seven days food parcel distribution.
National Society EOC	EOC is activated and collecting real-time information from district levels.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	IFRC along with the BDRCS is closely monitoring the current situation. The Head of IFRC in Bangladesh together with the Chairman and Director Response of the BDRCS went to
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	the field on 21 June 2024 to observe the current situation at the ground and for taking a decision for next actions.
Participating National Societies	In-country memberships are also closely monitoring the current situation and supporting BDRCS to maintain their contingency stock for immediate response and ready to mobilize household items like hygiene parcels, jerrycans, etc. German Red Cross has agreed to support with 2,000 boxes of hygiene parcels and 2,000 pcs of mosquito nets with their operational costs from PPP project to Sylhet and Sunamganj.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	<p>The Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) is closely monitoring the situation and maintaining coordination with district-level authorities in the affected areas. Government Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Government of Bangladesh (GoB) has facilitated the evacuation of people to flood shelters in the affected districts. - Local administrations have established and opened various flood shelters. -GoB has set up Emergency Control Rooms at the District Commissioner (DC) and Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) offices. - Medical teams have been deployed, and various relief activities are being conducted. - GoB has allocated essential resources, including rice, cash, and corrugated galvanized iron (CGI) sheets. Specific distributions include: <p>(i) In Sylhet: 6,795 sacks of dry food; 1,195.50 metric tons of rice; BDT 5.4 million (approx. CHF 41,000) in cash assistance; BDT 1.9 million (approx. CHF 14,000) for child food BDT 1.9 million for fodder. Additionally, 761 dry food sacks, 49.50 metric tons of rice, BDT 7.5 million, 105 bundles of CGI sheets, and BDT 315,000 for shelter purposes are kept ready.</p> <p>(ii) In Moulvibazar: 587 metric tons of rice; BDT 210,000 in cash; 500 dry food packs. Additionally, 227 metric tons of rice, BDT 77,500 in cash, and 3,500 dry food packs are kept ready.</p>
UN or other actors	<p>In coordination with the GoB and local stakeholders, several organizations have undertaken significant relief efforts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNICEF: Distributed safe water to over 100,000 people for more than five days and provided more than 3,000 ten-litre water containers. - ECHO-Funded SUFAL Consortium, along with CARE Bangladesh, Concern Worldwide, and their local partners POPI and Friends In Village Development Bangladesh (FIVDB), the consortium activated anticipatory action with technical support from RIMES. They provided: 505 households with Multi-Purpose Cash Grants (BDT 5,000 per household); and 329 vulnerable households with shock-responsive social protection (BDT 7,000 per household). - Islamic Relief: Active in Sylhet and Sunamganj, distributing dry food, hygiene kits to prevent waterborne diseases, and cash grants for essentials. Initial assistance is targeted at 5,000 displaced people. - BRAC: Allocated BDT 100,000 to each upazila in Sunamganj for upcoming relief activities. - Efforts for Rural Advancement (ERA): Initiated the procurement of dry food and hygiene products amounting to BDT 100,000.
Are there major coordination mechanism in place?	BDRCS in coordination with all relevant local authorities, Ministries, HCTT and partners including PNSs and IFRC.



Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

The Shelter Cluster Bangladesh is chaired by the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) and co-chaired by IFRC and UNDP. Since the onset of the flood, the Shelter Cluster has been coordinating with relevant ministries and partners, providing regular updates on the flood situation. The Shelter Cluster participated in the Rapid Needs Assessment with the Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG), and the report from this assessment will be published shortly.

In the meantime, the Shelter Cluster attended the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) meeting, where it emphasized the urgent need for shelter in the affected areas. As the floodwaters begin to recede, the extent of the damage to homes will soon be clearer. The Shelter Cluster is currently gathering shelter-related response data from various partners. The rapid assessment revealed that the majority of mud houses have collapsed. According to the NAWG's report, over 600,000 people have been affected, with more than 12,800 currently residing in shelter centers.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The region's already fragile populations have sustained extensive devastation because of the flash flood. The impact on crops and livelihoods will have a major effect on long-term food security, even if short-term food security is the most pressing issue. The significant losses to fisheries and livestock on 24 June 2024, according to a rapid assessment conducted by BDRCS and IFRC, are expected to influence the region's long-term food security. A protracted lean season will worsen food security and the nutritional status of families, as limited labor possibilities will lower the purchasing power of the most vulnerable families. Throughout the region, livelihoods, particularly those reliant on farming, are severely damaged because agricultural operations have completely ceased due to the flooding of farmlands.

The rapid assessment has already reported that people have started to skip meals and eat only one meal per day. The elderly, female-headed families, pregnant and lactating women, and the majority of those who are already relying on food aid are the most vulnerable in terms of food security.



Multi purpose cash grants

According to the lessons learned from the 2022 flash floods in the region, multi-purpose cash is the most preferred intervention modality to address the affected population's diverse needs. In 2022, with cash assistance, people reported that they were able to buy food, sanitary products, pay for health and educational services, contribute to the start-up of livelihoods, and pay off some of their loans. Cash assistance helps meet the various needs of the affected population, allowing individuals the flexibility to prioritize their urgent needs, such as food, clothing, and medical expenses. This, in turn, improves overall well-being and dignity, facilitates the restoration of income-generating activities, and aids in the recovery of households.



Health

In the early stages, the government responded by deploying medical teams to address critical needs, ensuring patient transfers to nearby hospitals and supporting local health facilities to manage the situation. Further assessments will soon report on long-term health needs. According to the UNICEF sitrep report, 256 cases of acute watery diarrhea and other waterborne diseases have been confirmed. The rapid assessment indicates a halt in some health services and difficulties in accessing health facilities, especially for vulnerable populations. Following any flood, there is typically a spread of vector-borne and waterborne diseases. Therefore, systems need to be in place to address these infections and diseases through mass awareness strategies.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

WASH is one of the key areas typically impacted by disasters, particularly floods. While there is currently very little assessment data available on WASH-specific damage, rapid assessments show that WASH facilities and services are damaged and dysfunctional. This directly affects the health of household members, especially those most vulnerable to unhygienic practices and waterborne diseases.



It is also reported that all displaced families are living in shelter centers with limited access to safe water, user-friendly sanitation, and hygiene facilities (including menstrual hygiene). This situation could lead to an increase in other health-related risks if not addressed promptly.

To address the minimum WASH needs in emergencies, it is essential to support the disinfection, repair, or installation of safe water supply facilities, user-friendly latrines with handwashing facilities, and menstrual hygiene management facilities. Additionally, hygiene promotion activities should be conducted throughout the affected population.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

According to available reports, people displaced from their homes are compelled to stay in close proximity to one another. It is well-established that disasters exacerbate the vulnerability of the most at-risk groups. Therefore, there is an immediate need to provide psychosocial support (PSS) and raise awareness about the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). It is crucial to promote referral pathways, particularly for children and women among the affected population.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Community engagement and accountability as a cross-cutting approach are essential in the design, implementation, and monitoring of flood response activities. The affected population should have channels to communicate their feedback to BDRCS regarding the assistance they receive. Given that some individuals live in the most rural areas, mechanisms must be in place for timely and effective communication, either via mobile phone or other means.

When engaging with communities, it is crucial not only to disseminate information but also to ensure that the response team dedicates time to listen to the needs and interests of the affected communities, particularly those who are most marginalized and least likely to have a public voice. A process must be established to ensure that community feedback is not only heard but also acted upon. This involves providing various mechanisms to listen to and respond to community input. During a disaster, the focus should be on a participatory response mechanism that supports the community in recognizing needs, identifying beneficiaries, and planning implementation.

[Assessment Report](#)

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The IFRC-DREF operation aims to alleviate the suffering of 100,000 people affected by the flash flood through the provision of shelter relief, safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene promotion, food support, health support, and multipurpose cash assistance. This support will be provided across a total of six districts in Sylhet, Mymensingh, and Dhaka divisions (Kishoreganj district in Dhaka, Netrokona district in Mymensingh, and Sylhet, Sunamganj, Moulvibazar, and Habiganj districts in Sylhet).

Operation strategy rationale

BDRCS has designed an overall response strategy with the support of the IFRC Network in the country, utilizing available in-country capacities and funds, and learning from the 2022 flood response. Through this operation, IFRC aims to support BDRCS in targeting the most affected communities across six districts in three divisions. The goal is to reach 100,000 people with humanitarian assistance in shelter, WASH, livelihoods, basic needs, multipurpose cash, and health. The operation will also support CEA, PGI, and quality programming through an integrated Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) and review process.

IFRC is currently coordinating with in-country IFRC members who are expanding the scope of this operation through their bilateral support. For instance, the German Red Cross is providing hygiene kits and mosquito nets, while the Swedish Red Cross is supporting with seven-day food parcels.

A similar IFRC-DREF, followed by an Emergency Appeal (EA), was launched in 2022 to support the population affected by floods in the Sylhet division. Opportunities exist to create synergies between these two operations. The overall response strategy is consistent,



allowing for the sharing of tools developed, as facilitated by the BDRCS Emergency Operations Center (EoC) team. The partnership modality with in-country members will be similar.

On 24 June 2024, BDRCS deployed two joint teams, consisting of officials from BDRCS, IFRC, and Participating National Societies (PNS), to conduct a rapid assessment in Sylhet and Sunamganj districts. The teams employed methodologies including secondary data review, Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), and direct observation.

The rapid assessment conducted by BDRCS and IFRC on 24 June 2024 identified that livelihoods and income generation activities in the affected areas have been lost due to the inundation of farmlands and fisheries. Many water sources and sanitation facilities are either fully or partially damaged. Most of the mud houses are completely destroyed. Educational services, health facilities, and communication services are limited. Societal functions such as recreational activities, religious activities, social events, festivals, and ceremonies have ceased.

The assessment further revealed that people are skipping meals and eating only once a day, whereas normally they have three meals. The affected population is facing difficulties in accessing safe drinking water due to road damage and inundated water points. There is a lack of fuel, which hinders cooking. Women and girls are struggling with personal and menstrual hygiene due to limited access to toilets. Vulnerable individuals, including those caring for children, persons with disabilities (PwDs), and the elderly, are in a particularly dire situation. People are resorting to negative coping mechanisms, such as taking loans and selling livestock.

For this operation, more details on the sector-wise planned interventions are as follows:

1. Shelter:

Due to the floods, many families are living in partially or completely damaged houses, makeshift tents, or shelter centers. According to NAWG's situation analysis of 20 June 2024, more than 600,000 people are affected, with over 12,800 in shelters. The Rapid Assessment Team reported on 24 June 2024 that most mud houses have completely collapsed or are significantly damaged.

People with partial damage could potentially return to their homes if provided with shelter relief items. Thus, BDRCS plans to distribute emergency shelter relief items such as tarpaulins and shelter tool kits to 12,500 people using their emergency stock. These items, supported by the German Red Cross, do not need replenishment under the IFRC-DREF operation.

The shelter toolkit package includes 1 kg of nails (1.5 inch), 1 kg of nails (3 inch), 1 roll of tie wire, 1 piece of measuring tape, 1 piece of shears, 1 claw hammer, 1 handsaw, 50 meters of rope (3 mm), 50 meters of rope (6 mm), 1 leaflet, 1 duffle bag, and 1 box. These will be distributed to 2,500 vulnerable households based on the results of a door-to-door household survey.

After distribution, BDRCS will conduct a PDM with the involvement of PMER and CEA personnel. A satisfaction survey will also be conducted during and after distribution. At this stage, no refresher training for volunteers is planned, as BDRCS has a sufficient number of trained volunteers on Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA).

2. Livelihoods:

The flash flood has caused extensive damage to already vulnerable communities in the region. While short-term food security is the most pressing issue, there will also be a significant impact on long-term food security due to damage to crops and livelihoods. The rapid assessment conducted by BDRCS and IFRC on 24 June 2024 indicated that severe losses to livestock and fisheries are likely to affect long-term food security in the region. Limited work opportunities will reduce the purchasing capacity of vulnerable families, leading to a prolonged lean season and worsening food security and nutritional status. Livelihoods dependent on farming have been heavily impacted, as agricultural activities are fully suspended due to the inundation of cultivation land and damage to seed beds.

The rapid assessment reported that people have started to skip meals and are eating only once a day. The elderly, female-headed families, pregnant and lactating women, and those already relying on food aid are the most vulnerable in terms of food security.

The Government of Bangladesh (GoB) in Sylhet has distributed 6,795 sacks of dry food, 1,195.50 metric tons of rice, BDT 5.4 million (approx. CHF 41,000) in cash assistance, BDT 1.9 million (approx. CHF 14,000) for child food, and BDT 1.9 million for fodder. An additional 761 sacks of dry food, 49.50 metric tons of rice, BDT 7.5 million, 105 bundles of CGI sheets, and BDT 315,000 for shelter purposes are ready. In Moulvibazar, GoB distributed 587 metric tons of rice, BDT 210,000 in cash, and 500 dry food packs. Another 227 metric tons of rice, BDT 77,500 in cash, and 3,500 dry food packs are prepared.

As an early response, BDRCS has allocated BDT 900,000 (approx. USD 7,700) for dry food distribution to 1,400 families taking refuge in shelters in Sunamganj, Sylhet, and Moulvibazar. The Swedish Red Cross has agreed to provide BDT 1.5 million for 1,500 households through seven-day food parcel distribution.

In this DREF operation, BDRCS plans to distribute seven-day food parcels to 2,000 households in the affected areas following a household



survey to identify the most vulnerable. The seven-day food package, adhering to Sphere standards, will include 7.5 kg of rice, 1 kg of pulses, 1 liter of soybean oil, 1 kg of sugar, 1 kg of iodized salt, and 0.5 kg of semolina.

Given the long-term impacts on livelihoods and food security, and the adoption of negative coping mechanisms, the cash assistance provided under this IFRC-DREF will also serve as a means of livelihood protection, in line with the Cash Technical Working Group (CTWG) guidelines for the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) explained under Multi-Purpose Cash Grant.

3. Multi-Purpose Cash Grant (MPCG):

The flash flood has exacerbated the needs of already vulnerable communities, affecting their basic needs and services such as food, shelter, water, sanitation, and livelihoods. The rapid assessment conducted by BDRCS and IFRC on 24 June 2024 reported that people are taking loans as a coping mechanism to meet their basic needs. Vulnerable households, including those with the elderly, children, people with disabilities, adolescents, pregnant women, and lactating mothers, are severely affected.

The ECHO-funded SUFAL consortium, along with CARE Bangladesh, Concern Worldwide, and their partners POPI and Friends In Village Development Bangladesh (FIVDB), activated anticipatory action with technical support from RIMES. They provided 505 households with MPCG (BDT 5,000/household) and supported 329 vulnerable households with shock-responsive social protection (BDT 7,000/household).

According to the CTWG in Bangladesh, the monthly expenditure of a rural household amounts to BDT 10,375, with the largest portion dedicated to food (BDT 4,409). Other significant expenses include loan repayment (BDT 1,771), agriculture (BDT 656), clothing (BDT 563), education (BDT 444), health (BDT 490), and shelter/home-related expenses (BDT 304). This represents the MEB as per the CTWG.

Under MPCG assistance, the amount agreed to be distributed is 60 per cent of the MEB, which is equivalent to BDT 6,000 per month per household for the monsoon flood. The MPCG transfer value covers 60 per cent of the MEB, assuming that the remaining 40 per cent will be covered by the beneficiaries' own coping mechanisms, local capacities, and other assistance, including government relief.

Currently, BDRCS has framework agreements with various financial service providers (FSPs) such as Nagad, Bangladesh Post Office (BPO), and Bkash. IFRC also has a separate agreement with BPO up to 2025. Based on BDRCS's request, IFRC can transfer money directly to BPO for disbursement among selected beneficiaries. All MPCG will be transferred directly to beneficiary accounts through an electronic money system by the FSP.

The market in the affected areas is mostly functioning with a minimum supply chain. BDRCS plans to conduct a market assessment, with more detailed information expected in the coming weeks. To ensure a smooth transition into the recovery phase, immediate provision of conditional cash support of BDT 6,000 to affected households is required.

In this operation, the MPCG assistance will meet various needs of the affected population, allowing individuals flexibility in prioritizing urgent needs such as food, clothing, and medical expenses. This will ultimately improve overall well-being and dignity, facilitate the restoration of income-generating activities, and support household recovery. The 75,000 beneficiaries will be selected based on prescribed criteria after a 30,000-household survey by BDRCS staff and volunteers, planned to start on 2 July 2024. During the MPCG assessment and distribution, BDRCS's CEA team will work independently to ensure CEA measures are in place. After completing the distribution of MPCG, BDRCS will conduct a PDM with the involvement of PMER and CEA personnel.

4. Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH):

The affected people have lost access to safe drinking water and sanitation services. Water supply and sanitation services have been disrupted due to the flash flood and waterlogging impacts. Additionally, water quality has deteriorated due to contamination from the floods. Scarcity of clean drinking water is a major issue that must be addressed alongside sanitation. Many people are seeking refuge in shelters, and inadequate access to sanitation and hygiene facilities is a significant concern due to overcrowding. Many people are using makeshift latrines with subpar structures, and those living by roads or embankments lack proper sanitary facilities, with multiple families sharing a single latrine.

In coordination with the GoB and local stakeholders, UNICEF has distributed safe water to over 100,000 people and provided more than 3,000 ten-liter water containers. Islamic Relief is assisting in Sylhet and Sunamganj by distributing hygiene kits initially targeting 5,000 displaced people.

In early response, BDRCS provided three water purification units and 1,000 jerry cans with the support of national WASH Response Team members and volunteers deployed in Sylhet and Sunamganj. 60,000 liters of bottled safe drinking water were distributed among 30,000 people in Sylhet and Sunamganj districts, supported by Abdul Monem Limited. Additionally, the German Red Cross has supported BDRCS with hygiene kits and mosquito nets for 2,000 households.

For the IFRC-DREF operation, BDRCS plans to repair and disinfect 500 water points, install 20 new water points, set up 300 emergency latrine facilities, and conduct hygiene promotion for 100,000 people.



5. Health:

The population is facing a crisis of food and drinking water. Vector-borne diseases are expected to rise, and there is a high risk of skin infections and acute watery diarrhea once the water starts receding. Immediate mass awareness and public health support are needed, including the distribution of hygiene kits in shelter centers. Mobile medical teams are required for first aid, emergency medical support, and healthcare services to treat injuries and prevent disease outbreaks, especially for mothers, children, and the elderly. Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) is also needed for individuals traumatized by the flooding. According to a UNICEF situation report, 256 cases of acute watery diarrhea and other waterborne diseases have been confirmed.

For the IFRC-DREF operation, due to the limited health facilities in affected areas, BDRCS will deploy mobile medical teams to provide primary health care services in rural areas for seven days. Awareness of post-flood issues and refresher training for volunteers are planned to ensure the most vulnerable are reached.

6. Protection, Gender & Inclusion (PGI):

In emergencies, vulnerable groups become even more at risk. The rapid assessment showed that women, girls, and persons with disabilities are struggling to access water and sanitation facilities. Additionally, overcrowding in shelter centers poses significant issues for women and adolescent girls regarding personal hygiene and privacy. Following the household survey, the most vulnerable individuals (e.g., people with special needs, children, pregnant women, elderly) will be prioritized and given additional cash support of BDT 2,500 to 450 households. Additionally, 50 staff and volunteers will be trained in PGI.

7. Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA):

As part of the response strategy, coordination with different sectors will ensure integration within sectoral activities. Various communication channels and methods will be used, blending face-to-face communication with available media channels. Key messages will be adapted and developed based on context, including communication channels, timing, location, and audience.

Communities, both targeted and non-targeted, will have opportunities to ask questions, make complaints, and request inclusion in distributions and other activities throughout the process. Volunteers and staff in the field will be available to address community issues. BDRCS will maintain a register at headquarters to ensure proper documentation of feedback and responses. All activities will be carried out with the knowledge of the local government and community willingness, ensuring engagement in line with national society guidelines for transparency and accountability towards the community, government, partners, and stakeholders. In this operation, an additional 50 staff and volunteers will be trained in CEA.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

The target groups will include:

- Houses damage fully or partially.
- Households with destroyed water and sanitation facilities.
- Those severely impacted in terms of livelihoods (agriculture, fish enclosure, marginalized groups).
- Displaced individuals living in shelter centers, with relatives, or in others' houses.
- Families with vulnerable groups (children, adolescents, elderly, person with disabilities, pregnant women and lactating mothers etc).

The rationale for targeting these groups is:

- The families with destroyed houses and living without basic needs and in unsafe conditions.
- The families without clean water and toilet facilities poses a higher and secondary risks of diseases.
- The families without means of an income will not be able to make their day-to-day ends meet, resulting in further problems in reverting back to normalcy.
- Shelter centers are overpopulated and congested with low ventilation, with limited access to water and sanitation facilities and privacy, leading to numerous complicated health and social issues including matters of dignity and protection.
- Families with vulnerable groups suffer on a daily basis to get access to basic services, and during emergencies the access to these services tend to worsen unless a special system is set in place to include them.

BDRCS will work closely with communities, local authorities, and community leaders to assist the most affected families. Coordination with other agencies will be maintained to avoid any duplication of efforts



Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

Considering the impact on the target groups, following criteria will be considered for this DREF operation.

- Those with fully and partially damaged houses.
- Those with the most limited access to water and sanitation facilities.
- Those families who have lost all means of livelihood and have no savings or backup income facilities.
- Those individuals who need to be in the shelter centers for a prolonged period of time.
- Those families with the vulnerable people will be prioritized.

Total Targeted Population

Women	32,500	Rural	48.5%
Girls (under 18)	17,500	Urban	51.5%
Men	32,500	People with disabilities (estimated)	1.3%
Boys (under 18)	17,500		
Total targeted population	100,000		

Risk and Security Considerations

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

Risk	Mitigation action
Delay in implementation of the operation due to future flash floods as this is the start of monsoon season. If so, there will be difficulty in road access to some affected areas and mosquito and water-borne diseases, debris and vehicle accidents.	Adequate and contingency measures will be put in place to address this. The IFRC country delegation has already updated its framework on ABC-actioning business continuity, which will help to minimize the risk to sustain critical humanitarian needs.
Engaged volunteers and staff may become sick, which may hinder the implementation of operational activities.	Large number of volunteers and staff will be oriented, and they will be engaged in rotation. A portion of volunteers will be kept as standby for deployment. All volunteers will be insured.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

Apart from the difficulty of road access in some affected areas and increased health risks considering vector-borne and water-borne diseases and vehicle accidents, there are no major threats in Bangladesh which may directly interrupt the implementation of operational activities. However, to mitigate the security risks, adequate measures will be put in place. In addition, both BDRCS and IFRC has a 'Zero Tolerance' policy against corruption, discrimination against gender or race, sexual harassment, sexual abuse, bullying and as mitigating measure of the above risk, staff member/volunteer will be oriented accordingly with the IFRC policy and guidelines.

The National Society's security framework will apply throughout the duration of the operation to their staff and volunteers. In case of need for deployment for personnel under IFRC security's responsibility, including surge support (if any) and integrated PNS, the existing IFRC country security framework will apply, and rapid security assessments and analysis will be carried out. All IFRC must, and RC/RC staff and volunteers are encouraged, to complete the IFRC Stay Safe 2.0 e-learning courses. Staff and volunteers to be aware of the security status and briefed on reactions in emergency.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

Yes

Planned Intervention



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 8,190

Targeted Persons: 12,500

Indicators

Title	Target
# of people provided with essential household items	12,500

Priority Actions

1. Distribute essential household items to the affected population.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

Budget: CHF 14,742

Targeted Persons: 10,000

Indicators

Title	Target
# of people reached with food parcels (in-kind)	10,000

Priority Actions

1. Distribute seven days food parcel to the affected population.



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 746,095

Targeted Persons: 75,000

Indicators

Title	Target
# of households who successfully received MPCG assistance for basic needs after being identified and processed for transfer	15,000

Priority Actions

1. Conduct household survey.
2. Conduct selection of targeted households based on the prescribed criteria.
3. Distribute MPCG to 15,000 households. Per targeted household, an amount of 6,000 BDT will be provided to address basic needs (such as food, health, and livelihood protection) for one month.



4. Conduct regular field visits to the affected areas for monitoring and on-site support by both BDRCS and IFRC.
5. Carry out PDM to assess the effectiveness and impact of the assistance provided.



Budget: CHF 43,816

Targeted Persons: 15,000

Indicators

Title	Target
# of people reached with health-related awareness messages	10,000
# of people reached with mobile medical teams	1,000
# of people reached with first aid and MHPSS service	4,000

Priority Actions

1. Mobilize volunteers to raise awareness about post-flood health issues.
2. Provide first aid and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS).
3. Deliver primary health services through mobile medical teams.
4. Conduct refresher training for 30 staff and volunteers.
5. Provide orientation for volunteers on Psychological First Aid (PFA).



Budget: CHF 86,403

Targeted Persons: 100,000

Indicators

Title	Target
# of repaired water points	500
# of new water points installed	20
# of people reached through mass awareness on hygiene promotion	100,000
# of emergency latrine facilities for household use	300

Priority Actions

1. Provide safe drinking water through the installation of new water points and the repair of existing ones.
2. Set up emergency latrine facilities for household use.
3. Conduct hygiene promotion activities to raise awareness among the affected population.



Budget: CHF 13,309

Targeted Persons: 100,000



Indicators

Title	Target
# of staff and volunteer received training and orientation on PGI	50
# of people with special needs provided with additional cash support	450

Priority Actions

1. Provide additional cash support to individuals with special needs.
2. Conduct training and orientation sessions on PGI for volunteers and staff to ensure adherence to PGI standards throughout the operation.
3. Support sectoral teams in incorporating measures to address vulnerabilities specific to gender and diversity factors (including people with disabilities) in their planning and service distribution.
4. Conduct a Child Safeguarding analysis and develop a work plan in accordance with IFRC requirements.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 7,780

Targeted Persons: 100,000

Indicators

Title	Target
# of staff and volunteer received training and orientation on CEA	50

Priority Actions

1. Conduct training and orientation sessions on CEA for volunteers and staff to ensure adherence to CEA standards throughout the operation.
2. Support sectoral teams in incorporating CEA measures into their planning and service distribution processes.



Coordination And Partnerships

Budget: CHF 1,474

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
# of internal and external coordination meetings conducted	12

Priority Actions

1. Conduct regular internal and external coordination meetings



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 24,570

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
# of IFRC staff are engaged to assist BDRCS for timely implementation of response activities	15
# of monitoring visits by IFRC	5

Priority Actions

1. Provide technical support to BDRCS to implement the planned operational activities.
2. Deployment of IFRC staff to monitor the operational activities in branch level.
3. Ensure timely reporting.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 52,169

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
# of BDRCS staff and volunteers mobilized	300
# of monitoring visit by BDRCS staff	6
# of lessons learnt workshop organized	1

Priority Actions

1. Mobilize BDRCS staff and volunteers for the flood response operation.
2. Coordinate with relevant local administrations, government ministries, and departments.
3. Monitor the implementation of planned activities.
4. Provide insurance coverage for volunteers and staff.
5. Conduct a lessons learned workshop to identify lessons learned, challenges and recommendations.

About Support Services

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

Currently, 250 staff and volunteers are actively involved in the response. Refresher training and orientations will be provided to ensure their effectiveness throughout the operation. The roles of these staff and volunteers encompass distribution, assessment, information management, community engagement, coordination, accountability, monitoring, and evaluation.

For the six-month period of this operation, four dedicated staff members will be specifically supported under this IFRC-DREF. Their roles



are as follows:

- Deputy Director (DD): Responsible for overseeing the entire operation from the BDRCS side.
- Assistant Director: Assists the DD in implementing the DREF.
- Logistics Officer: Manages logistics to ensure smooth implementation of the IFRC-DREF activities.
- Finance Officer: Handles financial aspects to facilitate the effective execution of the IFRC-DREF.

These roles are crucial for the successful implementation of the DREF and ensuring that all planned activities are carried out efficiently.

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

BDRCS will locally procure any required items using their available internal capacities, adhering to the rules, regulations, and policies of BDRCS and IFRC systems. No items from BDRCS's contingency stock will be replenished for this operation. For the MPCG transfers, BDRCS will utilize existing agreements with financial service providers (FSPs) in the country. All procurement and cash transfer activities will be conducted in accordance with established policies.

How will this operation be monitored?

BDRCS's PMER team will continuously monitor the implementation of the IFRC-DREF operation in the field, with support from National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members and participation from IFRC. An internal review of the IFRC-DREF operation by BDRCS will be conducted by the end of the operation. At least two teams will be deployed to oversee the implementation in the flood-affected provinces.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

With support from the regional communications unit in Kuala Lumpur, the IFRC Country Delegation communications personnel will support the production of news stories to be published on the IFRC website. Participating National Societies will be provided with information on the response through Newswire and information bulletins. BDRCS hotline number for the complaints and feedback is active and BDRCS staff are taking an active role at the EOC headquarters as well as at the provincial levels, and the HCT meeting.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRBD036 - Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) Bangladesh Floods 2024

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	920,334
Shelter and Basic Household Items	8,190
Livelihoods	14,742
Multi-purpose Cash	746,095
Health	43,816
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	86,403
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	13,309
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	7,780
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	78,213
Coordination and Partnerships	1,474
Secretariat Services	24,570
National Society Strengthening	52,169
TOTAL BUDGET	998,547

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)



Contact Information

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

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[Click here for the reference](#)

