



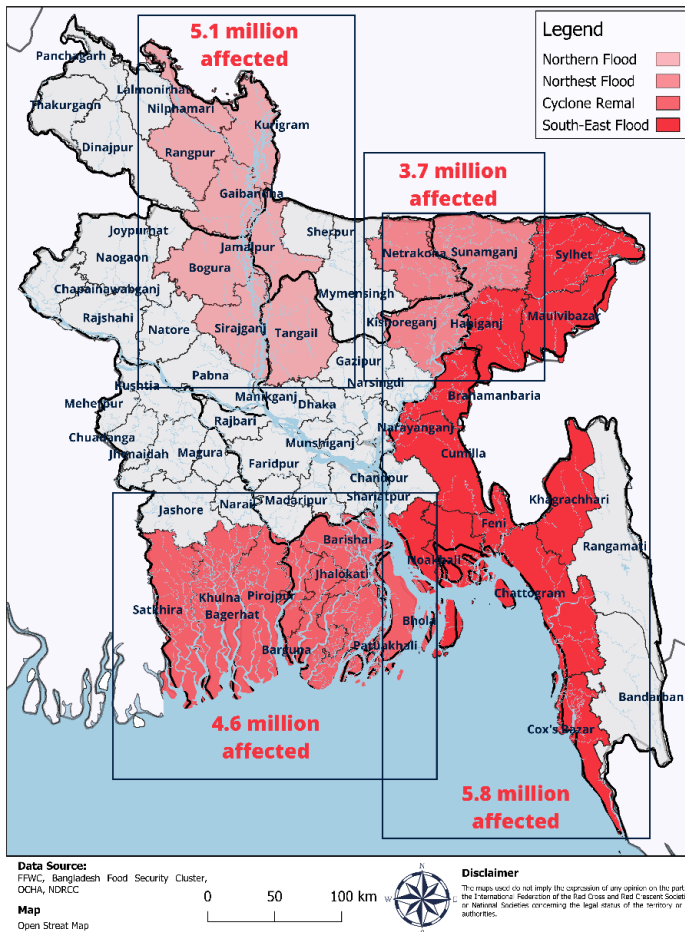
Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) volunteers wade through floodwaters, transporting dry food supplies via boats to reach people affected by the floods in Cumilla. (Photo: BDRCS)

Appeal No: <b>MDRBD036</b>	IFRC Secretariat Funding requirements: <b>CHF 6 million</b> Federation-wide Funding requirements: <b>CHF 7.5 million<sup>1</sup></b>	
Glide No: <a href="#">FF-2024-000154-BGD</a>	People affected: <b>14.6 million</b> <i>5.8 million people in the Southeast</i> <i>3.7 million people in the Northeast</i> <i>5.1 million people in the North</i>	People to be assisted: <b>400,000 people</b>
DREF allocation: <b>First allocation CHF 998,547</b> <b>Second allocation CHF 501,453</b>	Appeal launched: <b>06/09/2024</b>	Appeal ends: <b>30/09/2025</b>

<sup>1</sup> The Federation-wide funding requirement encompasses all financial support to be directed to the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) in response to the emergency. It includes the BDRCS's domestic fundraising requests and the fundraising appeals of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies (CHF 1.5 million), as well as the funding requirements of the IFRC Secretariat (CHF 6 million). This comprehensive approach ensures that all available resources are mobilised to address the urgent humanitarian needs of the affected communities.

# SITUATION OVERVIEW

## +CIFRC Bangladesh Flood May to August 2024



Since mid-June 2024, a total of 14.6 million people have been affected by a series of flooding events hitting Bangladesh across the northern, northeastern and southern regions, displacing millions and causing widespread damage.

The challenges faced by vulnerable communities grappling with natural hazards were further exacerbated in mid-July 2024 by a period of governmental transition, which imposed some additional time constraints on communication, access, and security.

### Floods in the northern region (adjacent to the Jamuna River basin) of Bangladesh

From mid-June 2024, multiple spells of flooding affected the northern regions, primarily due to heavy rainfall and water inflows from upstream countries, Nepal and India. As a result, districts such as Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogura, Sirajganj, Jamalpur, Tangail, and Munshiganj have been inundated. According to the Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG) report dated 11 July 2024, around 5.13 million people<sup>2</sup> were expected to be impacted by monsoon floods in these northern districts, including 2.61 million

women, 1.51 million children and adolescents, and 0.53 million elderly.

In response, based on the analysis of the forecast from the Global Flood Awareness System (GLOFAS), the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), with the technical support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), German Red Cross (GRC), and Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) Climate Centre, pre-activated its Flood Early Action Protocol (EAP) on 9 July 2024 for the Jamuna River Basin. Volunteers and national surge members were mobilised to disseminate early warning messages (EWM) and provide safe evacuation support in Kurigram, Jamalpur, Sirajganj, and Tangail districts. This Flood EAP remains active throughout the monsoon season for the Jamuna basin up to 31 October 2024, with the BDRCS ready to implement planned early actions should the threshold for final activation be reached.

### Floods in the northeastern part of Bangladesh

Torrential rainfall within the country, combined with incessant downpours from upstream regions (adjoining the northeastern Indian states of Assam and Meghalaya), has resulted in upstream water rushing into the northeast Haor<sup>3</sup> region since 18 June 2024, leading to widespread flooding. According to the NAWG assessment report dated 26 June 2024, more than 3.74 million people<sup>4</sup> were affected, with 1.4 million in need of urgent life-saving humanitarian assistance. The affected communities are spread across the six districts of Habiganj, Kishoreganj, Moulvibazar, Netrokona, Sunamganj, and Sylhet in about 64 Upazilas and 360 Union parishads. There were 10 deaths reported due to the floods.

<sup>2</sup> [NAWG report dated 11 July 2024](#)

<sup>3</sup> A Haor is a wetland ecosystem in the northeastern part of Bangladesh, characterised by bowl or saucer-shaped shallow depressions, also known as backswamps.

<sup>4</sup> [HCTT HRP for Monsoon Floods and Cyclone](#)

At the height of the displacement, 723,331 people sought refuge elsewhere, with approximately 599,767 in evacuation shelters and 123,564 in other locations such as along roads and embankments. The northeastern floods severely damaged infrastructure, disrupting economic and social activities. According to the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), 86 per cent of drinking water points and 84 per cent of sanitation facilities were affected, with 59,338 water points and 118,412 latrines damaged. Schools were also affected, and teaching materials were ruined, with WASH facilities lost and rendered dirty, damp, and unusable.

On 30 June 2024, to alleviate the suffering of 100,000 people affected by the flash floods, the BDRCS requested CHF 998,547 from the IFRC's Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) to provide shelter relief, safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene promotion, food support, health support, and multipurpose cash assistance. The allocation was intended to scale up the local response in 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). Based on the subsequent flooding in the northern part of Bangladesh in July 2024, and as per the request of the BDRCS, the IFRC-DREF allocation for the northeastern region was scaled up to cover both flood-affected areas.

### **Floods in the southeastern part of Bangladesh**

Since 21 August 2024, southeastern Bangladesh has been experiencing severe flooding due to heavy rainfall triggered by an active monsoon and a low-pressure area. As a result, 5,822,734<sup>5</sup> people were affected in 11 districts: Feni, Cumilla, Chattogram, Khagrachari, Noakhali, Moulvibazar, Habiganj, Brahmanbaria, Sylhet, Lakshmipur, and Cox's Bazar. According to the National Disaster Response Coordination Centre (NDRCC) report dated 3 September 2024, 71 fatalities<sup>6</sup> (45 men, seven women, and 19 children) were recorded across the affected districts, while 582,155 families remain stranded in floodwaters. A total of 4,003 shelters have been set up, accommodating 540,510 people and 39,531 livestock.

The flooding has caused extensive damage, submerged 311,419 hectares of land, and destroyed 6,542 kilometres of roads and 1,066 bridges and culverts, disrupting key transportation links, including road and rail connections between Dhaka and Chattogram. Also, as per the Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG) report, USD 34 million in livestock and USD 121.6 million in fisheries were lost, while 296,852 hectares of agricultural land, 162,823 water points, and 295,689 latrines were damaged. Additionally, over 7,000 schools have been forced to close, impacting approximately 175,000 primary students. Power outages and connectivity issues have further complicated communication and coordination efforts, and as the water levels begin to recede, outbreaks of diarrhoea and other waterborne diseases are compounding the challenges faced by flood-affected communities. The government has deployed 619 medical teams who are active in the affected districts.

The Bangladesh Metrological Department (BMD) has shared a long-range weather forecast for September 2024. According to the forecast, one or two low-pressure systems may form over the Bay of Bengal, with the potential for one to develop into a monsoon depression. Rainfall predictions for September indicate that Sylhet division could experience 365-450 mm of rain, Chattogram division 285-350 mm, Rangpur and Rajshahi divisions 375-460 mm and 285-345 mm, respectively. There is also a possibility of short-term flooding in certain northern, northeastern, and southeastern areas due to heavy monsoon rains throughout September.

Bangladesh remains highly vulnerable to recurring flood risks due to its low-lying geography and annual exposure to tropical cyclones and monsoon rains. Climate change, along with the increased intensity and frequency of climate-related hazards, will continue to exacerbate the challenges posed by cyclones, floods, storm surges, droughts, and riverbank erosion. The 2024 INFORM Risk Index indicates that Bangladesh scores very high in several risk areas,<sup>7</sup> while the authorities project that climate change could displace one in every seven people by 2050.

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<sup>5</sup> [NAWG report dated 31 August 2024](#)

<sup>6</sup> [MoDMR\\_NDRCC situation report 5 Sep 2024](#)

<sup>7</sup> [ACAPS Briefing Note on Bangladesh Flooding, 4 September 2024.](#)

# TARGETING

Through this IFRC appeal, the BDRCS will be targeting and prioritising the most affected communities, aiming to reach 300,000 people with humanitarian assistance in WASH, shelter, food security, livelihood, and health in the eight most affected districts. Through Federation-wide efforts, the goal is to reach 400,000 people, with the BDRCS ensuring the dignity, access, participation, and safety of the most vulnerable populations, including elderly persons, children and adolescents, marginal-income farmers, female-headed households, lactating mothers, pregnant women, widows, and persons with disabilities.

The target groups will include:

- Families with damaged houses and WASH facilities.
- Those severely impacted in terms of livelihoods (*agriculture, fish farming, and marginalised groups*).
- Displaced individuals living in collective centres, with relatives, or in other people's houses.
- Families with vulnerable groups will be prioritised.

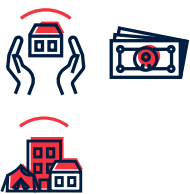
The BDRCS will work closely with communities, local authorities, and community leaders to assist the most affected families. Coordination with other agencies will be maintained to avoid any duplication of efforts.

## PLANNED OPERATIONS

Through this Emergency Appeal, the IFRC aims to support the BDRCS in the response to the floods. The IFRC had previously launched an [Emergency Appeal for TC Remal](#) covering the south of Bangladesh. The Flood appeal is looking to cover the north, northeast, and southeast of Bangladesh. The strategy of the IFRC response will be to contribute to the response and recovery efforts by focusing on the following areas:

### Integrated assistance

Multipurpose cash assistance will be provided to meet the diverse needs of the affected population, offering flexibility to prioritise urgent requirements such as food, clothing, and medical expenses, thereby enhancing overall well-being and dignity. Immediate action to provide temporary shelter through the distribution of tarpaulins and shelter toolkits is essential for offering immediate relief and protection, while plans for long-term solutions will be initiated for a smooth transition into the recovery phase. Additionally, given the loss of livelihoods, emergency food assistance will be prioritised to meet nutritional needs, while providing agricultural inputs and technical guidance will help families to start restoring their income-generating activities, helping to support household recovery.



At the recovery phase and stages, ongoing multipurpose cash assistance will continue to play a vital role in helping families cover essential expenses such as healthcare, education, and utilities, thereby supporting their journey towards normalcy and contributing to the local economy by increasing purchasing power within the community. In addition, the focus will shift to more longer-term solutions by providing conditional cash assistance for shelter materials, coupled with technical guidance to ensure that rebuilt homes are safer and more resilient to future disasters. This support will not only enable families to restore their living conditions but also contribute to community rebuilding efforts while promoting long-term resilience through education on safer construction practices. By focusing on livelihood restoration, the operation will support economic stability and encourage self-reliance among the affected communities, ensuring they are better equipped to withstand future shocks.



## Health & Care including Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

*(Mental Health and Psychosocial Support/Community Health)*

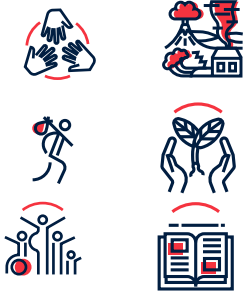
In the emergency response phase, the BDRCS is planning to deploy mobile medical teams (MMTs) to provide primary health care services to the affected population, including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and first aid. These teams will focus on delivering essential medical services and addressing the immediate health needs of those impacted. Concurrently, disease prevention and health promotion campaigns will be launched to support efforts in mitigating vector and waterborne diseases by raising awareness about safe water practices, sanitation, and hygiene. In addition to ensuring safe drinking water, the BDRCS will install tube wells and repair those that have been damaged. Similarly, to address sanitation needs, the BDRCS will install emergency latrines in schools or evacuation centres. As the situation transitions into recovery, efforts will focus on rehabilitating community health services by renovating and equipping BDRCS mother and child health (MCH) centres.



## Protection and Prevention

*(Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), Community Engagement and Accountability, Migration, Environmental Sustainability, Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery, Education)*

A continuous assessment of the specific needs of the affected population will be conducted to ensure that interventions are targeted and effective. Key elements of Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), as well as Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), will form the foundation of a comprehensive approach to Protection and Prevention. Sex, Age, and Disability Disaggregated Data (SADDD) will be mainstreamed into the interventions and priorities to ensure activities are tailored to support people with special needs, whether through cash assistance or necessary assistive devices. Ensuring the minimum standards of PGI in emergencies is a priority, which involves distributing dignity kits to uphold the well-being and dignity of vulnerable groups. Furthermore, efforts will be made to enhance community engagement and accountability, address migration issues, promote environmental sustainability, and implement risk reduction and climate adaptation strategies. Education will also be a key component, ensuring that affected individuals, especially children, continue to have access to learning opportunities. This comprehensive approach aims to create a safer, more inclusive, and resilient community, addressing both immediate needs while laying the groundwork for long-term recovery and adaptation.



## Enabling approaches

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:

### Coordination and Partnerships

- Supporting the BDRCS's positioning with the government and ensuring smooth coordination and alignment at all levels.
- Leveraging the IFRC status agreement to meaningfully engage with the diplomatic community and development partners as well as the Humanitarian Country Team mechanisms.
- Membership coordination as per the Unified Planning process, ensuring that an IFRC-wide planning, monitoring, and reporting system is implemented to capture the collective support and footprint of the IFRC network.



### Shelter Cluster Coordination



- Conducting shelter damage and needs assessments, while sharing regular updates on the evolving situation, 4W matrix, and response gaps with cluster members.
- Develop context-specific housing designs and technical guidance with the technical support of the Housing & Building Research Institute (HBRI) and shelter cluster members.
- Organise a Best Practices and Lessons Learned workshop.

### IFRC Secretariat Services



- The Secretariat will focus on supporting effective implementation of the operation, accountability, financial compliance, and reporting to donors, among other essential secretariat services.
- The IFRC Country Delegation (CD) will work closely with the BDRCS to ensure a smooth and timely operation by engaging the logistics, finance, HR, PMER, and IM departments, along with surge deployment.
- An operations hub will be established where staff from both the BDRCS and IFRC will be deployed to manage the operation.
- The IFRC CD and Regional Office, in coordination with IFRC members, will provide technical backup and support to the BDRCS to maintain quality service standards.

### National Society Strengthening



- Conduct Preparedness for Effective Response branch assessments to enhance their functionality.
- Hold a volunteer recruitment campaign and orientation.
- Ensure duty of care of volunteers and staff.
- Strengthen financial, transportation, and logistics facilities.
- Reinforce capacity building of youth and affected BDRCS units.
- Enhance operational management capacity.
- Improve coordination, partnerships, and humanitarian diplomacy.

The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal launch. Details of the operation will be updated through the Operational Strategy to be released in the upcoming days. The Operational Strategy will also provide further details on the Federation-wide approach, which includes the response activities of all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the Federation-wide funding requirement.

# RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN-COUNTRY

## Bangladesh Red Crescent Society



Number of staff:	2,757
Number of RCY volunteers:	14,960
Number of CPP volunteers:	78,599
Number of branches:	68

### Core areas of operation



Unit Disaster Response Team Members:	1,750
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The BDRCS has mobilised its volunteers in the impacted areas, continuously assisting the affected families on the ground. Over 1,600 Red Crescent Youths (RCY) and 100 BDRCS staff have participated in flood relief efforts. Further information on the current response is available in the latest BDRCS [Operations Update](#).

Currently serving its second consecutive term as a member of the IFRC's Governing Board, the BDRCS has upheld its significant mission and vision since its establishment. As an auxiliary to the public authorities in providing humanitarian assistance and a member of the IFRC, the BDRCS offers a broad range of services to address both national and international emergencies and works to prevent and alleviate human suffering by providing humanitarian services in partnership with local authorities and communities across all districts of Bangladesh through its 68 branches and dedicated network of volunteers. This work aligns with international humanitarian standards and adheres to the seven fundamental principles of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement. Over the years, the BDRCS has positioned itself as a key actor in preparedness, response, recovery, rehabilitation, and risk reduction caused by human activity or natural hazards in the country.

### IFRC Membership coordination

The BDRCS has developed a National Response Plan for flood response operations in the southeast, northeast, and northern regions of Bangladesh. In line with this plan, the IFRC Bangladesh CD has been coordinating the IFRC membership to support the BDRCS in reaching affected communities. The IFRC Bangladesh CD, along with the in-country IFRC membership, has been closely monitoring the current situation and supporting the BDRCS in updating contingency stocks, issuing situation updates, and developing the response strategy.

For the southeastern floods, the BDRCS has received bilateral commitments and financial support from several Participating National Societies including approximately USD 25,000 from the American Red Cross (Quick Action Funds), BDT 1,000,000 from the Swedish Red Cross, and a pledge of USD 100,000 from the Red Cross Society of China for flood response operations. In addition, Grameen Phone has contributed BDT 16,000,000 for food packages (10,000 packs for seven days), the mobilisation of five mobile medical teams (for one week) and five mobile water treatment plants (for two weeks). Other contributions include BDT 2,000,000 from City Bank and BDT 500,000 from Mutual Trust Bank.

For the northeastern floods, the Danish Red Cross contributed BDT 1,500,000 (CHF 10,870) bilaterally for immediate food assistance to people affected and BDT 20,022,000 (CHF 1,450,870) to support 2,700 households with multipurpose cash grants (MPCG), 2,000 households with food parcels, and the deployment of MMTs.

Additionally, the Swedish Red Cross contributed BDT 1,500,000 (CHF 11,538) for seven-day food packages benefiting 1,600 households.

The British Red Cross, German Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Turkish Red Crescent, and Qatar Red Crescent Society are also present in the country and maintain close coordination with the BDRCS and IFRC. A Partners Call is scheduled to take place on 10 September 2024 to ensure engagement and provide updates on the ongoing situation.

This Emergency Appeal is part of a Federation-wide approach, based on the response priorities of the BDRCS and in consultation with all Federation members contributing to the response. The Federation-wide picture will be given in the upcoming Operational Strategy document. The Operational Strategy will ensure linkages between all response activities (including bilateral activities and activities funded domestically) and assist in leveraging the capacities of all members of the Federation in the country, to maximise the collective humanitarian impact.

### **Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination**

The ICRC has been coordinating with the BDRCS along with the IFRC and IFRC members in Bangladesh.

### **External coordination**

The BDRCS and IFRC have been maintaining close coordination with the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR), other relevant ministries, district-level authorities, and various agencies. The BDRCS and IFRC participated in coordination meetings organised by the MoDMR and district authorities. Similarly, the BDRCS and IFRC have been working with the Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCTT), Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG), NAWG, Food Security Cluster, WASH Cluster, Health Cluster, Gender-Based Violence Cluster, Displacement Management Cluster, and Cash Working Group.

As the convener of the Shelter Cluster<sup>8</sup> Bangladesh, the IFRC CD is leading coordination efforts during the emergency phase and has organised two coordination meetings. The Shelter Cluster has been regularly sharing updates on community needs and shelter responses. The BDRCS is also leading the national Anticipatory Action Working Group (AAWG) and has shared situation updates with the humanitarian community.

The Start Fund allocated GBP 428,755 in response to flash flooding in Feni, Noakhali, Cumilla, Khagrachari, Moulvibazar, Chittagong, and Laxmipur districts in Bangladesh, while other partners have mobilised internal emergency funds. On 14 July, the humanitarian community in Bangladesh launched its first-ever multi-hazard humanitarian response plan (HRP) for cyclone and monsoon floods, targeting a total of 1.2 million people. The HRP aims to secure USD 79.8 million in funding, but to date, agencies have reached around 700,000 people with humanitarian assistance and raised only USD 15.6 million (19.2 per cent of the HRP funding).

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After 30 September 2025, any subsequent recovery and long-term resilience interventions of the operation will continue under the IFRC Bangladesh Country Plan for 2025. The IFRC Network Country Plans provide an integrated view of the ongoing emergency responses and longer-term programming, tailored to the needs of the country, while offering a Federation-wide perspective on actions within Bangladesh. This approach aims to streamline activities under a single plan, while still ensuring that the needs of those affected by the disaster are met in a manner that is both transparent and accountable. Information will be shared accordingly, should there be a need for an extension of the crisis-specific response beyond the above-mentioned timeframe.

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<sup>8</sup> Shelter Cluster Bangladesh is chaired by the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) and co-chaired by the IFRC and UNDP.



## Contact information

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

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#### Reference



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