

# **OPERATION UPDATE**

# **Bangladesh | Floods**

**Emergency appeal №: MDRBD036** 

**DREF Launch: 29/06/2024** 

Emergency appeal launched: 06/09/2024 Operational Strategy published: 19/09/2024 Glide №:

FF-2024-000154-BGD

Operation update #1

**Date of issue:** 16/10/2024

Timeframe covered by this update:

From 29/06/2024 to 30/09/2024

**Operation timeframe:** 15 months

(29/06/2024 - 30/09/2025)

Number of people being assisted:

300,000 people through IFRC Emergency Appeal 400,000 people through Federation-wide

Funding requirements (CHF):

CHF 6 million through the IFRC Emergency Appeal

CHF 7.5 million Federation-wide

**DREF** amount initially allocated:

CHF 1.5 million

To date, this Emergency Appeal, which seeks CHF 6,000,000, is 14 per cent funded. Further funding contributions are needed to enable the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), with the support of the IFRC, to continue providing humanitarian assistance to the flood-affected populations.

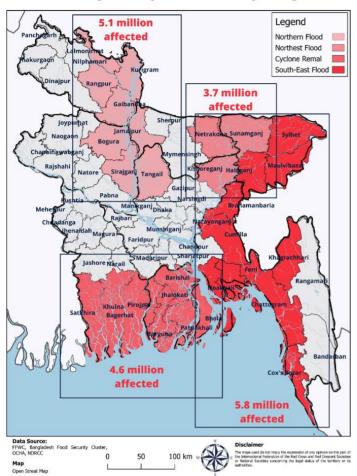


Red Crescent volunteers in Noakhali delivering safe drinking water to flood-affected communities. (Photo: BDRCS)

## A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

# **Description of the crisis**

#### +CIFRC Bangladesh Cyclone & 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 southeastern 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.

Starting in mid-June 2024, repeated floods have severely affected the northern regions of Bangladesh due to heavy rainfall and water inflows from upstream countries, including Nepal and India. Districts such as Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Gaibandha, Bogura, Sirajganj, Jamalpur, Tangail, and Munshiganj have experienced extensive flooding. The Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG) report of 11 July 2024 estimated that around 5.13 million people had been impacted, comprising 2.61 million women, 1.51 million children and adolescents, and 0.53 million elderly individuals.

At the height of the flooding, 723,331 people were displaced, including 599,767 who took shelter in evacuation centres and 123,564 who sought refuge along roads and embankments. The floods have caused significant hardship across the affected regions. There is an urgent need to restore clean water and sanitation facilities to prevent disease outbreaks, making the

distribution of water purification tablets and hygiene kits essential. Immediate food distribution is also critical due to severe shortages, as economic activities have come to a standstill. To address food insecurity, it is essential to restore food availability, provide agricultural support, close the consumption gap, and prevent the collapse of livelihoods. Immediate assistance is also needed for cash support for shelter repairs, and to provide critical materials such as tents, tarpaulins, shelter toolkits, essential household items, clothing, and kitchen sets. Health services have been severely disrupted, necessitating urgent action to maintain access to vital care, including the supply of essential medicines and medical equipment. Additional medical teams and boats are needed to reach remote areas and restore the operations of health facilities. Furthermore, the psychological impact of the disaster on affected populations underscores the need for psychosocial support and mental health services.

Protection services are urgently needed to address gender-based violence (GBV) risks and ensure the safety of vulnerable groups, particularly girls, women, children, people with disabilities, and other gender-diverse groups in shelters. Many shelter centres are not accessible to people with disabilities, and many areas remain inundated. According to the NAWG's third Situation Overview (31 August 2024), approximately 282,968 people, including women and girls, require GBV response and risk mitigation services out of the 5.83 million affected. The Gender-Based Violence Cluster (GBV Cluster) has reported that overcrowded evacuation centres, damaged homes, insufficient electricity, lack of privacy for women and girls, and limited access to alternative reporting

channels have exacerbated GBV risks. Adolescents and young girls, out of school for extended periods, face additional risks of early marriage and trafficking. To address these challenges, there is an urgent need for dignity kits, safe spaces, information on GBV referral pathways, and psychosocial support for women, girls, and children, alongside other life-saving aids.

Since 21 August 2024, southeastern Bangladesh has also faced severe flooding due to heavy monsoon rains and a low-pressure system. By 3 September 2024, 5.82 million people across 11 districts had been affected, with 71 fatalities reported. The floods have caused widespread damage, submerged 311,419 hectares of land, and destroyed 6,542 kilometres of roads and 1,066 bridges and culverts, disrupting key transportation routes. Economic losses are substantial, totalling USD 34 million (CHF 29 million) in livestock and USD 121.6 million (CHF 103.1 million) in fisheries. Additionally, more than 7,000 schools were forced to close, affecting 175,000 primary students, while outbreaks of diarrhoea and other waterborne diseases continue to exacerbate the crisis.

Bangladesh remains highly vulnerable to recurring floods due to its low-lying topography and frequent exposure to tropical cyclones and monsoon rains. Climate change is intensifying these hazards, increasing the risks associated with floods, cyclones, storm surges, droughts, and riverbank erosion. According to the <u>2024 INFORM Risk Index</u><sup>1</sup>, Bangladesh is rated very high in several risk categories, with projections suggesting that climate change could displace one in every seven people by 2050. Forecasts for September 2024 indicate that heavy rainfall is likely to continue, with further flooding expected in several areas.

# **Summary of response**

#### Overview of the host National Society and ongoing response

The BDRCS was constituted on 31 March 1973 by the President's Order No.26 of 1973 with retrospective effect from 16 December 1971. The Society was recognized by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) on 20 September 1973 and admitted to IFRC on 02 November 1973. The name and emblem were changed from Red Cross to Red Crescent on 4 April 1988 vide Act 25 of 1988.

The BDRCS plays a crucial role as a first responder to disasters, crises, and pandemics. With 68 branches throughout the country, a network of 87,935 life members, 14,960 active Red Crescent Youth (RCY) volunteers, 78,599 Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) volunteers, and 2,827 staff, the BDRCS ensures that a well-functioning, relevant disaster management system is in place to address the needs of vulnerable people affected by disasters and crises.

As an auxiliary to the public authorities in terms of providing humanitarian assistance, the BDRCS has access as a first responder to crisis areas. The National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) has 205 members, the NDRT-Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (NDRT-WASH) has 150 members, the Unit (Branch) Disaster Response Team (UDRT) has 1,750 members, the volunteer-trained Community Disaster Response Team (CDRT) has 4,250 members, while 100 staff and volunteers are trained on Rapid Market Assessments. The BDRCS has 30 trained Regional Disaster Response Team (RDRT) members, 22 staff members who received International Mobilisation and Preparation for Action (IMPACT) training, 10 Mobile Medical Teams (MMT), five Emergency Response Unit (ERU) personnel, and two Field Assessment and Coordination Team (FACT) personnel. The BDRCS also has several framework agreements with different financial service providers. Currently, 17 staff members are trained in Practical Cash in Emergencies (PECT), more than 200 staff and volunteers have received Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) training, and over 1,000 staff and volunteers have been trained in cash transfers.

Given the severity of the flooding, the BDRCS activated a contingency plan and Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and has been coordinating with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the IFRC's in-country membership, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and other international partners in the country. The BDRCS maintains strong partnerships with government agencies at the national and district levels, the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Inform Risk. Inform Report 2024. 10 Years of Inform. Shared Evidence for Managing Crises and Disasters, May 2024.

UN, INGOs, and NGOs, and shares real-time data with partners, and is also at the forefront of national working groups, with 2,000 volunteers from the CDRT, UDRT, representatives of the NDRT, and National Society staff currently active at headquarters and field levels, demonstrating a unified and coordinated response.

BDRCS' responses during the reporting period:

	S	FRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION
	Shelter, Housing and	BDRCS, from its contingency stock of emergency shelter items, has
	Settlements	been allocated 4,500 tarpaulins, 3,000 shelter toolkits and 2,000 kitchen sets.
	Livelihoods	<ul> <li>Local RCY volunteers have prepared cooked food and distributed 15,550 meals in Khagrachhari, Noakhali and Chattogram districts.</li> <li>BDRCS has distributed dry food packages (flattened rice, sugar/molasses and biscuits, firebox, and candles) to more than 32,725 families in Sylhet, Sunamganj, Noakhali, Feni, Chattogram, Cumilla, Khagrachari and Lakshmipur districts.</li> <li>A seven-day food package was distributed to 174,545 people in the Sylhet, Sunamganj, Noakhali, Feni, Chattogram, Cumilla, Khagrachhari and Lakshmipur districts.</li> </ul>
	Multi-Purpose Cash Grant	<ul> <li>BDRCS deployed their CVA-trained NDRT/NDRT-WASH members for multi-sectoral household assessment in Sylhet, Sunamganj, Moulvibazar, Feni, Kurigram, Jamalpur, Bogura, Sirajganj, Gaibandha, Tangail, and Khagrachhari districts.</li> <li>BDRCS has reached 5,600 households in Sylhet and Sunamganj with multi-purpose cash grants through a financial service provider.</li> </ul>
° <b>Č</b>	Health & Care	<ul> <li>Seven mobile medical teams have been deployed to Feni, Noakhali, Lakshmipur, Cumilla and Moulvi Bazar and provided medical assistance to 9,320 patients and reached 1,220 people with psychosocial support (PSS).</li> <li>Five mobile medical teams have already been deployed to Sylhet and Sunamganj and provided medical assistance to 6,017 patients with 1,056 PSS Support. In addition, 20,504 sachets of oral rehydration solutions (ORS) were distributed.</li> <li>Under the ASEF stockpile project, 60,000 bottles of cholera saline, 22,000 normal saline, and 12,000 bottles of dextrose saline, and 12,000 dengue test kits have already been delivered to the Divisional Director in Chattogram division under the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).</li> <li>A total of 2,000 mosquito nets have been distributed in Sylhet and Sunamganj districts.</li> </ul>
	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	<ul> <li>Seven mobile water treatment plants (four in Feni, two in Noakhali, and one in Cumilla) were mobilized and distributed around 390,700 litres of purified drinking water along with 4,100 ten-liter water jerrycans.</li> <li>BDRCS deployed WASH-trained volunteers and disinfected 530 tube wells in Feni, Noakhali, and Cumilla.</li> <li>Three mobile water treatment plants (2 in Sunamganj and 1 in Sylhet) mobilized, and around 74,405 litres of water were supplied to the affected people with 1,245 ten-litre water jerrycans.</li> </ul>

	<ul> <li>Five mobile water treatment plants were mobilized in Sirajganj, Tangail, Jamalpur, Kurigram and Bogura districts, and 104,600 litres of pure drinking water were distributed among the affected people, along with 2,500 ten-litre water jerrycans.</li> <li>2,000 sets of hygiene parcels were distributed in Sylhet and Sunamganj districts, and 2,500 sets of hygiene parcels were mobilised in Feni, Noakhali, Laksmipur and Cumilla districts.</li> <li>248,700 water purification tablets (WPT) have been distributed to flood-affected districts, with RCYs providing guidelines on their proper use.</li> </ul>
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	<ul> <li>BDRCS distributed sanitary napkins among 1,848 menstruated women and girls.</li> <li>BDRCS, from its contingency stock of emergency items, has been allocated 5,000 parcels of dignity kits to support women and adolescent girls.</li> </ul>
Community Engagement and Accountability	<ul> <li>BDRCS has its own TOLL- FREE Number 16226, to inquire about information and services of BDRCS, as well as feedback and complaint box along with the information desk at each distribution point where trained CEA volunteers engage and address different information needs of the community people.</li> <li>Around 6,000 Leaflets, stickers, hotline number cards and posters with BDRCS feedback information were handed out during the multisectoral assessment.</li> </ul>
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	<ul> <li>BDRCS engaged 19 boats (speed boats, country boats, Inflatable boats, makeshift rafts), both rented and owned, in rescue operations in Noakhali, Feni, Khagrachhari, and Chattogram districts and rescued 29,004 individuals. Red Crescent Society volunteers were collaborating with the Army and Navy in these efforts.</li> </ul>

## **Needs analysis**

#### **Needs analysis**

**Shelter:** The people of this region have never experienced floods of this magnitude, and their inexperience in dealing with such hazards has significantly exacerbated the damage. Vast areas remain waterlogged, and the scale of the destruction continues to rise. According to the <u>NAWG report</u>, as of 26 September 2024, a total of 339,425 houses have been damaged across ten districts. Most of the damaged homes are Kutcha<sup>2</sup> and Jhupri<sup>3</sup>. Additionally, more than 540,000 people have evacuated to temporary shelters. As a result, household essentials were severely damaged due to the inundation, while cooking utensils were washed away or destroyed. In some affected areas, houses with mud floors have become uninhabitable due to the accumulation of clay.

Many whose homes were damaged have not yet been able to repair them, leaving large numbers of people still residing in shelter centres or with relatives and neighbours. The majority of affected homes are in Kuthca and Jhupri, typically belonging to marginalised communities that lack the resources to repair or rebuild without external support.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Kutcha: Houses are made of mud, tiles, or cement as kutcha houses.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Jhupri: Houses that use mats, thatch, bamboo, and similar materials for walls and roofs as jhupri.

Currently, shelter support is desperately needed, but humanitarian support has yet to reach most of the affected areas. Due to floodwaters, the daily household essentials of many families such as clothes, bed sheets, mattresses, comforters, and cooking utensils have been damaged, as those affected remain in dire need of these materials.

In many villages, the plinths of houses are made of mud, and the excess water has turned the interior into unliveable clay. At present, people are attempting to repair their homes using the limited materials they have, but these efforts are insufficient and compromise both their safety and dignity. Without immediate housing support on an emergency basis, those affected will become increasingly vulnerable. According to the Shelter Cluster's situation overview published on 2 September 2024, the affected population is in urgent need of house repair assistance, including tarpaulins, tents, home repair materials, corrugated galvanised iron (CGI) sheets, bamboo, timber, cloth, mosquito nets, bed sheets, comforters, solar lamps, and kitchen utensils.

**Food Security and Livelihoods:** The floods have caused a significant loss of livelihoods and household income, and the subsequent halt in economic activities has only deepened the suffering. Agriculture, in particular, has been hit the hardest. Floodwaters, carrying heavy siltation, have damaged crops, fruit orchards, seedbeds, fisheries, livestock, poultry, and forests. The floods have also led to the death, injury, and sickness of livestock and wildlife, exacerbated by the contamination of water sources. Most of the tools and equipment used by agricultural households (e.g. machinery, trawlers, etc.) were damaged due to mud water and displacement. According to the Bangladesh Agriculture Ministry, the floods have caused CHF 240 million (USD 282 million) in crop damage, impacting over 1.3 million farmers. This is especially detrimental as the agricultural sector employs roughly 42 per cent of Bangladesh's workforce. The floods have also resulted in CHF 132 million (USD 156 million) in losses for livestock and fisheries.

According to MoDMR, more than 38,954 cows, buffalos, goats, and over 2.1 million poultry and ducks, died during the floods. This has devasted Bangladesh's economy as well as significantly worsened levels of food insecurity nationwide. Farmers are likely to start the Aman planting season late, leading to further production losses. Priority needs include food assistance to the most vulnerable households to ensure food and nutrition security while preventing further deterioration of the current food and nutrition situation. The restoration of immediate income opportunities and agricultural infrastructure is critical, along with lifesaving agricultural interventions such as providing tools, seeds, fertilizers, cattle feed, fodder, veterinary services, fish feed, and fishing equipment to restore food production.

**Health:** From 21-28 August 2024, a total of 4,786 cases of illness and injury were recorded by the National Health Emergency Operations Centre and Control Room of the DGHS. Reported cases include 1,397 acute watery diarrhoea (AWD), 782 skin diseases, 264 acute respiratory infections (ARI), 279 injuries, 209 snake bites, 22 near-drownings, 11 eye infections, and 1,822 other cases from health facilities in the affected districts. Health facilities and services in these areas have also been severely impacted.

Public hospitals and seven BDRCS health facilities in some sub-districts are submerged. To manage patients and provide essential and emergency services, mobile medical teams (MMTs) need to deploy in the flood-affected areas. Concurrently, structural renovations and necessary equipment must be provided to restore functionality to BDRCS health facilities. Health facilities in the affected districts are also facing shortages of IV cholera saline, ORS, and other essential drugs, as noted in the DGHS stockpile report. Moreover, DGHS data indicates a sharp increase in dengue cases in the Chattogram division, with 2,029 people diagnosed from August to 11 September 2024. To support early detection, prevention, and treatment, there is an urgent need for dengue testing kits, long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLINs), and blood bank supplies.

According to the NAWG report, 78,362 pregnant and lactating mothers are in a vulnerable situation. Therefore, the availability of reproductive health care services, including maternal, neonatal, and child health, immunisation, and mental and psychosocial health services, is urgently needed in the affected areas.

**Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH):** Due to the eastern flash floods, 162,823 water points and 295,689 latrines were damaged. According to the WASH cluster, 1.8 million people need water, sanitation, and hygiene services. The floodwaters have contaminated water sources and damaged and inundated sanitation facilities, bathing spaces, tube

wells, and water points, leading to high risks of waterborne, respiratory, and skin diseases. Women and girls are particularly vulnerable, facing heightened risks of communicable diseases such as urinary tract and reproductive tract infections due to inadequate privacy, hygiene, and safety, as well as increased exposure to gender-based violence risks given security concerns, including the lack of lighting at water and sanitation points.

The reproductive health of women and girls, including menstrual hygiene management, remains a critical issue. According to Situation Report-2, shared by the UN, the flooding of WASH facilities across affected areas raises serious concerns about health and waterborne diseases. In some subdistricts, 100 per cent of WASH facilities are still submerged. The restoration of WASH services is reported by half of the affected population as their top priority lifesaving intervention. Immediate needs include restoring access to sufficient quantities of clean water and ensuring access to hygienic sanitation facilities and handwashing materials. These are especially crucial for the most disadvantaged groups, primarily children and women, who are the most vulnerable in the affected areas.

# **Operational risk assessment**

The main risks identified in the reporting period are:

- The communication systems in the affected communities have been severely disrupted due to the floods. This disruption has significantly undermined relief efforts, making it difficult to coordinate aid distribution and conduct thorough damage assessments.
- Extensive damage from siltation and waterlogging has affected roads, bridges, and other critical infrastructure. This damage is severely limiting access to the areas affected, particularly in remote regions, and complicating logistical operations.
- The prolonged monsoon season, combined with the potential for post-monsoon cyclones and the upcoming winter season, poses further challenges to the ongoing response efforts. These weather conditions could restrict access to the affected areas, slowing down recovery activities, and impacting the overall response timeline.
- The potential spread of dengue fever presents a significant health risk, potentially overwhelming already strained medical resources and complicating relief operations. Addressing these health risks may require additional interventions and resources.

# B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

# **Update on the strategy**

There is no change to the Operational Strategy published on 19 September 2024, in complement to the Emergency Appeal launched on 6 September 2024. This operation aims to meet the immediate needs of **400,000 people** in the most affected districts by floods through the provision of cash assistance, safe drinking water, sanitation, livelihoods, shelter, health, and disaster risk reduction support.

In the **immediate phase**, the key areas of focus under the Emergency Appeal include:

- **Emergency Shelter:** Provide emergency shelter items like tarpaulins, and shelter toolkits along with technical assistance to those whose homes have been damaged or destroyed.
- **Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance:** Financial support to allow affected families to meet their diverse and immediate needs.
- **Livelihood:** Support affected communities through cash-for-work schemes and provide immediate lifesaving agricultural support.

- Health: Support the community via mobile medical teams, first aid and community health services through BDRCS Mother and Child Health (MCH) centres, health awareness to prevent the spread of diseases and to promote overall well-being through MHPSS interventions. In addition to this, renovation and equipping of MCHCs.
- WASH: Ensure access to clean water by mobilizing water purification units, access to sanitation facilities, promoting hygiene practices along with hygiene kits and disinfecting, repairing and installing new water points.

In the **recovery phase**, the key areas of focus under the Emergency Appeal include:

- **Shelter:** Conditional cash and technical guidance through an owner-driven approach.
- **Livelihood:** Skills-based training and cash assistance along with technical guidance for restoring livelihood.
- **WASH:** Construction of latrines (via cash and technical guidance), installation of new water points and hygiene promotion activities.

Furthermore, the approach also integrates elements of disaster risk reduction and preparedness for effective response and addresses protection issues by ensuring the full integration of CEA and PGI. A wider Risk Management Plan including a detailed risk register for different types of risks will be integrated to ensure efficient and timely implementation of the emergency operation.

Preparedness and other activities (if any) will carry on under the IFRC Unified Plan following the conclusion of the 14-month Emergency Appeal period, closely linked to the BDRCS annual operational plan. This plan will demonstrate a holistic view of the ongoing emergency response and longer-term programming tailored to the needs of the community. This process aims to streamline activities under one plan while still ensuring that the needs of those affected by the crisis are met.

# C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

## STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION



Shelter, Housing and Settlements

People reached: **2,750** 

Female > 18: **880** Female < 18: **530** 

Male > 18: **808** Male < 18: **532** 

Communities in disaster-affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, well-being, and longer-term **Objective:** recovery through shelter and settlement solutions. Key **Indicator Actual Target** indicators: *Number of households provided with emergency shelter* 550 10,000 assistance and basic household items *Number of households provided with shelter recovery* assistance in terms of cash and construction materials, 0 2,000 along with technical assistance

As of the reporting period, under emergency shelter assistance, BDRCS has allocated 4,700 tarpaulins, 3,000 shelter toolkits, and 2,000 kitchen sets among the severely affected districts: Sylhet, Feni, Noakhali, Laksmipur, and Cumilla. All these relief items were mobilized from the BDRCS in-country contingency stockpile. Each of the shelter toolkits consists of one kg nails (1.5 inches), one kg nails (3 inches), one roll tie wire, one pc measuring tape, one pc shears, one pc claw hammer, one pc handsaw, 50 meters Rope (3 mm), 50 meters rope (6 mm), one leaflet with instructions, one carton box and one duffle bag. Distribution is ongoing, and to date, 550 households have received tarpaulins in Sylhet and Feni districts.

Shelter recovery assistance in terms of cash and construction materials and technical guidance will be provided based on the availability of funding in the coming days.



### Livelihoods

People reached: 10,000

Female > 18: **3,199** Female < 18: **1,928** 

Male > 18: **2,939** Male < 18: **1,934** 

#### **Objective:** Communities, especially in disaster and crisis-affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods. Key **Indicator Target Actual** indicators: Number of HHs reached with emergency food 2,000 3,000 assistance. Number of households that received seeds as 0 10,000 agricultural inputs Number of households reached with skills training in 200 0 livelihood activities. Number of households reached with livelihood recovery 0 2,000 assistance in terms of cash and technical guidance

BDRCS has distributed a seven-day food package to 34,909 households (174,545 people) with the support of Grameen Phone (one of the largest mobile operators in Bangladesh, Meena Bazar), Novartis, City Bank, IFRC EA, Turkish Red Crescent, Qatar Red Crescent, Chinese Government and China Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, American Red Cross, USAID, and local initiatives, which include the BDRCS branch's contributions.

BDRCS followed Sphere standards for the seven-day food package, which consists of 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. Targeteted households were selected based on the target population of the response operation after a door-to-door survey conducted by volunteers, in consultation with the local government and local units. The list of areas where food packages were distributed is shown below:



A BDRCS volunteer is supporting an elderly person in carrying the provided seven-day food package in Feni district. (**Photo: BDRCS**)

No.	District	Dry Food (HHs)	7-Day Food (HHs)
1.	Bandarban		1,000
2.	Chattogram	1,588	2,820
3.	Cumilla	2,450	3,795
4.	Feni	4,000	10,000
5.	Khagrachhari	350	2,000
6.	Lakshmipur	11,882	4,200
7.	Maulvibazar		500
8.	Noakhali	10,455	5,994
9.	Rangamati		1,000
10.	Sunamganj		1,000
11.	Sylhet		1,100
12.	Chattogram		
	City		1,000
13.	Kishoreganj		500
	Total	30,725	34,909



## **Multi-purpose Cash**

People reached: 0

Female > 18: **0** Female < 18: **0** 

Male > 18: **0** Male < 18: **0** 

**Objective:** 

Address the immediate basic needs of targeted vulnerable households through the provision of multipurpose cash grants.

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Number of households reached with multi-purpose cash grants (MPCG)	0	30,000

As of the reporting period, BDRCS has completed the assessment and verification for 17,900 households out of the 50,600 targeted in 15 districts and has already reached more than 5,600 households with multi-purpose cash grants through financial service providers, according to BDRCS CVA Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) in Sylhet and Sunamganj districts, supported by USAID. BDRCS aims to reach another 20,000 targeted households with MPCG by the end of October 2024.

	Distribution Plan of MPCG				
No.	District	Targeted (HH)	Assessment & verification Completed (HH)	Assessment Ongoing (HH)	Distributed (HH)
1.	Sylhet	8,000	2,600	5,400	2,600
2.	Sunamganj	8,000	8,000	-	3,000
3.	Moulvi Bazar	1,300	1,300	-	-
4.	Jamalpur	1,000	1,000	-	-
5.	Sirajganj	750	750	-	-
6.	Bogura	500	500	-	-
7.	Tangail	750	750	-	-
8.	Gaibandha	1,000	-	1,000	-
9.	Kurigram	1,000	1,000	-	-
10.	Feni	6,200	2,000	-	-
11.	Khagrachhari	2,000	-	1,000	-
12.	Noakhali	6,500	-	-	-
13.	Cumilla	5,500	-	-	-
14.	Laksmipur	6,100	-	-	-
15.	Chattogram	2,000	-	-	-
16.	Sherpur	1,000			
	Total	51,600	17,900	7,400	5,600



A BDRCS volunteer is conducting door-to-door assessments in the most affected areas to select the households for assistance with multipurpose cash grants in Fulgazi upazila of Feni district (**Photo: BDRCS**)



#### **Health & Care**

(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)

People reached: 27,272

Female > 18: **8,724** 

Female < 18:

5,258

Male > 18: **8,015** 

Male < 18: **5,274** 

**Objective:** 

Enhance the health and well-being of the affected population through improved access to medical services and community health interventions.

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Number of people reached through mobile medical services, first aid, and psychosocial services	17,272	15,000
	Number of volunteers that received stress management sessions	0	200
	Number of people reached with health promotion	0	300,000
	Number of people trained in psychological first aid, first aid, ECV, eCBHFA, and search and rescue	0	180
	Number of MCHCs renovated, equipped, and functional	0	7
	Number of people who received long-lasting insecticidal nets (LLIN) distributed in the community.	10,000	10,000

BDRCS mobilized a total of 12 Mobile Medical Teams (MMTs) to the Sylhet, Sunamganj, Feni, Noakhali, Laksmipur, Cumilla, and Moulvi Bazar districts. A total of 15,106 people (Male: 4,473, Female: 6,659, >5 Children: 3,674) received primary healthcare services through these MMTs. Additionally, 2,166 people (Male: 781, Female: 1,049, >5 Children: 336) received psychosocial support (PSS) in these seven districts. The MMTs also distributed 20,504 ORS sachets among the affected population.





Two medical teams of BDRCS are providing free emergency health support to the flood-affected people in Laksmipur and Moulvi Bazar districts (**Photo: BDRCS**)

From the BDRCS-IFRC in-country contingency stock, BDRCS distributed a total of 2,000 mosquito nets in the Sylhet and Sunamganj districts. Under the IFRC-ASEF stockpile project, 60,000 bottles of cholera saline, 22,000 bottles of normal saline, 12,000 bottles of dextrose saline, and 12,000 dengue test kits have already been delivered to the Divisional Director of Chattogram division under DGHS. Additionally, 20,000 bottles of cholera saline, 6,000 dengue test kits, 11,000 bottles of normal saline, and 6,000 bottles of dextrose saline were delivered to the Divisional Director in the Sylhet division.





Red Crescent volunteers are conducting Psycho-Social Support programme in Schools to alleviate children's trauma from the recent devastating flash flood in Feni (**Photo: BDRCS**)



# Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

People reached: 227,882

Female > 18: **72,899** Female < 18:

43,936

Male > 18: **66,975**Male < 18: **44,072** 

**Objective:** 

Reduce the risks of water and faecal-borne diseases while increasing the dignity of communities through quality WASH services.

	quality WASH services.		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
malcators.	Number of litres of purified drinking water distributed among the people affected	569,705	400,000
	Number of new water points installed	0	100
	Number of damaged water points repaired and disinfected	530	500
	Number of staff and volunteers trained on hygiene promotion	0	50
	Number of people reached with hygiene promotion activities	2,000	300,000
	Number of targeted households provided with cash assistance along with technical support for reconstructing latrines	0	2,000

BDRCS mobilized 15 mobile water treatment plants in the flood-affected areas to support affected people by providing drinking water:

- Three mobile water treatment plants (two in Sunamganj and one in Sylhet) mobilized, and around 74,405 litres of water were supplied to the affected people with 1,245 ten-litre water jerry cans.
- Five mobile water treatment plants were mobilized in Sirajganj, Tangail, Jamalpur, Kurigram and Bogura districts, and 104,600 litres of pure drinking water were distributed among the affected people, along with 2,500 ten-litre water jerry cans.
- Seven mobile water treatment plants (four in Feni, two in Noakhali, and one in Cumilla) were mobilized and distributed around 390,700 litres of purified drinking water along with 4,100 ten-litre water jerry cans.
- In total BDRCS provided 569,705 litres of drinking water among the 227,882 affected people in the affected ten districts.

In addition, 248,700 water purification tablets (WPT) have been distributed to the flood-affected districts, with RCYs providing guidelines on their proper use. BDRCS also deployed WASH-trained volunteers and disinfected 530 tube wells in Feni, Noakhali, and Cumilla districts.

Furthermore, BDRCS distributed 2,000 sets of hygiene parcels along with hygiene promotion activities (how to use the items and what the contents included in the parcels, etc.) in Sylhet and Sunamganj districts, and another 2,750 sets were allocated to distribute in Feni, Noakhali, Laksmipur, and Cumilla districts. Each hygiene kit consists of bathing soap (12 pcs), laundry soap (8 pcs), sanitary pad (1 pack), toilet paper (5 rolls), toilet brush (1 pc), nail cutter (1 pc), toothpaste (2 pcs), toothbrush (5 pcs), hand washing liquid soap with dispenser (1 pc) along with refill packages (2 pkts), hair oil (1 bottle), comb (1 pc) and towel (1 pc). In addition, seven types of IEC materials development have been completed and handed over to BDRCS.



Purified drinking water is being distributed by deploying mobile water units and NDRT-WASH trained volunteers in Noakhali (Photo: BDRCS)





WASH Trained volunteers are disinfecting flood-affected tube wells in Cumilla and Noakhali (Photo: BDRCS/IFRC)



## **Protection, Gender and Inclusion**

People reached: 1,848

Female > 18: **1,848** Female < 18: **0** 

Male > 18: **0** Male < 18: **0** 

Objective:

Strengthen protection, safety, and safeguarding mechanisms by improving the existing protection capacity of the affected community and ensuring that all facilities, goods, and services are dignified and safe to access for all backgrounds.

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
marcacor 3.	Number of staff and volunteers oriented on minimum standards of PGI, protection and safeguarding issues, SGBV response, PSEA, and child protection issues.	0	100
	Number of households that received cash support and assisting devices to address the needs of persons with disabilities	0	1,000
	Number of people reached with awareness-based and lifesaving messages disseminated in coordination with respective technical leads, CEA, and communications	0	300,000

Trained male and female volunteers with a balanced gender representation were engaged to distribute food packages, safe drinking water, multipurpose cash grants, and dignity kits. At distribution points, volunteers ensured the establishment of women and child-friendly corners, as well as separate toilet facilities and drinking water points. To address the needs of the most vulnerable groups, particularly those with specialized needs, BDRCS

deployed 40 male and 2 female NDRTs to collect disaggregated data based on sex, age, and disabilities (SADDD), a process that continues in some areas affected by the disaster

BDRCS distributed 1,848 sanitary napkins to menstruating women and girls and allocated 5,000 dignity kits for individuals in reproductive health age groups, which will be distributed in the coming months. Furthermore, in its commitment to ensuring child protection and preventing sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) throughout the operations, BDRCS has initiated a child safeguarding risk analysis, which will continue until the end of the operation. Additionally, referral cards are being disseminated in the affected areas while maintaining close coordination with various clusters...



An RCY volunteer is supporting a person with special needs with carrying food items in Feni (Photo: BDRCS)



# Community Engagement and Accountability

People reached: 0

Female > 18: **0** Female < 18: **0** 

Male > 18: **0** Male < 18: **0** 

**Objective:** 

Targeted communities are consulted and able to share their views about the assistance received or planned, and programmes and operations are planned and adapted accordingly.

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Number of complaints received through feedback mechanisms.	208	500
	Number of staff and volunteers trained on CEA	0	25

BDRCS has its own TOLL-FREE Number 16226, available from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM every day, to inquire about information and services of BDRCS. BDRCS also established a feedback and complaint box along with the information desk at each distribution point where trained CEA volunteers engaged and addressed different information needs of the community people, including answering the common questions on selection criteria. BDRCS received 208 calls through its TOLL-FREE hotline number related to damage information, how people can donate to BDRCS for the flood response, how people enlisted their names to get assistance, about the distribution dates, etc. Training on the CEA for the relevant branch-level staff and volunteers will be organized in the coming days.





BDRCS volunteers are conducting community consultations in Feni (L), while the primary list of beneficiaries for MPCG support is posted in the community for validation in Sirajganj (Photo: BDRCS)



# Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and Recovery

People reached: 0

Female > 18: 0 Female < 18: 0

Male > 18: 0 Male < 18: 0

Objective:	Communities in high-risk areas are prepared for and able	to respond to disasters.	
Key	Indicator	Actual	Target
indicators:	Number of cash for work schemes implemented	0	20
	Number of saplings distributed	0	50,000

BDRCS volunteers, along with local administrations and other organizations, were active in the evacuation process, disseminating early warning messages among community members. BDRCS engaged 19 boats (speed boats, country boats, inflatable boats, and makeshift rafts), both rented and owned, in rescue operations in Noakhali, Feni, Khagrachari, and Chattogram districts, successfully rescuing 29,004 individuals. RCY volunteers also provided first aid and psychosocial support to injured people. Red Crescent Society volunteers collaborated with the Army and

Navy in these efforts. BDRCS has planned several activities to mitigate community risks and better prepare for the future.



#### **Education**

People reached: 0

Female > 18: 0 Female < 18: 0

Male > 18: 0 Male < 18: 0

**Objective:** Ensure safe, continued and equitable access to education for affected populations, especially children and young people, and vulnerable and marginalised groups.

	Indicator	Actual	Target
Key			
indicators:	Number of schools renovated with latrines and tubewells/water	0	10

Most schools suffered significant damage to their facilities due to the flood which has hindered their ability to run regular businesses. To address the issue, BDRCS has planned to renovate the essential facilities such as latrines, tube wells/water points enabling schools to resume their regular business effectively.

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### **Migration**

People reached: 0

Female > 18: 0 Female < 18: 0

Male > 18: 0 Male < 18: 0

Objective:

Support people who are displaced and landless by advocating for their needs, mapping evacuation shelters, forming or reforming Shelter Management Committees, and providing them with training on shelter management and mass evacuation procedures.

	Indicator	Actual	Target
Key indicators:	Number of training sessions organized for shelter management committees.	0	15

The shelter management committees in many flood shelters faced challenges in maintaining full activity during the flood. Many members of the committees are also unfamiliar with their roles, responsibilities and the process of mass evacuation. So, it is very important to form/reform these committees and provide them with the necessary training and equipment. The initiative will better prepare them to carry out their responsibilities in the future. BDRCS has planned to form/reform 25 committees and provide them with the necessary training.

# **Enabling approaches**



## **National Society Strengthening**

**Objective:** 

Contribute to strengthening the BDRCS's overall response capacity at the headquarters level and as well as district level in line with the NSD direction paper. in high-risk areas are prepared for and able to respond to disasters.

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Number of staff and volunteers trained on basic RCRC, operational management, finance management, NDRT, NDRT-WASH, CVA, and CVA-IM.	0	500
	Number of staff and volunteers under the solidarity fund or insurance coverage	0	600
	Number of branches building capacity in line with the branch development framework	0	5

Currently, 500 volunteers of BDRCS are already insured through IFRC global accident insurance in Geneva. The renewal of this insurance for volunteers will be renewed for another term of one year in December 2024. Solidarity fund for BDRCS staff and volunteers are in place in BDRCS. BDRCS staff and volunteers can apply for this fund for general illness, or accident in case those are not covered by the insurance. During this reporting period, there was no such requirement to utilize this fund. The branch capacity building is an ongoing process. The appeal funding coverage is low at this stage and hence priority has been given to emergency assistance with the available funding. The operation will use the funds for branch development once it's confirmed.

More than 40 NDRT members and 2,000 volunteers and staff are mobilized for this response operation.



# **Coordination and Partnerships**

**Objective:** 

Strengthen coordination within both the IFRC membership and within the Movement to bring technical and operational complementarity and enhance cooperation with external partners.

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Number of Movement coordination meetings organized, and updates provided to Movement partners	4	5
	Number of external coordination meetings participated	21	15

BDRCS organized three Movement coordination meetings with the IFRC and in-country PNSs to share the response plan and response update. Following the launch of the emergency appeal, in coordination with APRO, one partners call was organized to share the EA, operational strategy and funding ask on 10 September 2024.

Along with the BDRCS, the IFRC has been actively participating in the Humanitarian Cluster Team (HCT) and technical clusters/working groups, including Food Security, WASH, Health, Gender, Child Protection, Education, Displacement, and Logistics, ensuring a comprehensive and coordinated response. The IFRC co-leads the shelter cluster in Bangladesh and works closely with cluster partners to ensure a unified approach. Both the IFRC and BDRCS are also coordinating with the NAWG, the National Cash Working Group (NCWG), and the Anticipatory Action Technical Working Group to make sure the response is effective and well-coordinated.

IFRC CD also arranged a briefing session with in-country donor communities, Diplomatic Missions and International agencies on 11 September 2024.



BDRCS Chairman, along with senior management from BDRCS and the IFRC Head of Delegation, is consulting with local government officials and branch representatives about operations in Feni and Lakshmipur (**Photo: IFRC**)



BDRCS Chairman, along with senior management from BDRCS and the IFRC Head of Delegation, is consulting with the Bangladesh Army about operations in Lakshmipur (left). In-country partner meetings are being organized at NHQ to discuss operational insights in Dhaka. (Photo: IFRC)



## **Shelter Cluster Coordination**

Objective:	Ensure active and close coordination with shelter actors to provide shelter assistance to those impacted.		
Key	Indicator	Actual	Target
indicators:	Number of people assisted with shelter relief supplies	65,876	252,036
	Number of shelter cluster coordination meetings held	8	12

The Shelter Cluster Bangladesh is led by the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) and co-led by IFRC and UNDP. The Shelter cluster has been coordinating the flood responses with partners since the floods began and publishing situation overviews based on available information from various sources. According to the Shelter Cluster situation overview 2, a total of 334,434 houses have been damaged as of 12 September 2024, of which 26,991 houses have been destroyed and 307,443 houses have been partially damaged. In the aftermath of the flood, the shelter cluster conducted a Shelter Damage and Needs Assessment in the affected areas to get a detailed scenario of the house damage in the communities and identify shelter needs in the communities. This assessment has been done in the 5 most affected districts. The Assessment says, that 78 per cent of assessed houses in the affected areas are Kutch and the community is most in need of Corrugated Galvanized Iron (CGI) sheets and Cash assistance currently. Due to the flood, household essentials were damaged and 24% of households mentioned the need for household essentials through the assessment. Floods have severely affected the income of the families, currently 75 per cent of assessed households have a monthly income below BDT. 5,000 and 98% of the households are unable to repair their houses on their own effort. The assessment revealed that long-term housing support programs are needed in affected communities.

As of 5 October 2024, a total of 65,876 people have received shelter assistance through 18 agencies and a US\$ 1.3 million fund has mobilized.

Based on the magnitude of the flood, the Shelter Cluster has established Sub-National level coordination mechanisms in District levels and deployed co-coordinators in the districts with the support of partners. Shelter Cluster has organized eight (08) coordination meetings under the Eastern flood response and made presentations on shelter needs at the Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCTT) meeting. Also participated in seven (07) Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) meetings.

Shelter Cluster with the support of Caritas Bangladesh organized 'Build Back Safer' workshop to finalize the existing IEC materials on housing designs.



#### **Secretariat Services**

Objective:	Ensure the engagement of the IFRC's staff in providing the necessary support to the BDRCS to effectively implement the operation.		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	Number of surge personnel deployed to support the operation	1	4

0

IFRC published different communications packages in the weekly IFRC Newswire, consisting of videos, photos, key messages, press releases, transcribed interviews, and quotes from people in some of the most affected areas. Content has been produced in cooperation and coordination between IFRC CD Bangladesh, the IFRC APRO Communication team, and BDRCS. Moreover, the content has been shared on the IFRC APRO X handle and IFRC Global LinkedIn and X accounts, as well as from BDRCS' X account, in a continuous effort to keep the issue in the public eye. Ongoing media pitches to international journalists, in coordination with APRO, further amplify our message.

A feature story is published on <a href="https://ifrc.exposure.co/wide-waters-at-feni-noakhali">https://ifrc.exposure.co/wide-waters-at-feni-noakhali</a>. A video case story was uploaded in IFRC YouTube channel: <a href="https://youtu.be/dNak02f39xg?si=Lp\_ZajoZc77MHh1">https://youtu.be/dNak02f39xg?si=Lp\_ZajoZc77MHh1</a>. All communication with the main target groups will be public through the press and donors, including PNSs, underlining the need for further funding and support for the many who lost their houses and belongings.

A Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) framework is in place for the operation to track its progress. A daily data collection mechanism is also established and updated regularly.

Support the BDRCS in procuring the required relief items (either for immediate distribution, replenishment of dispatched stocks, or prepositioning efforts).

IFRC requested four surge profiles: (1) operation management, (2) communication, (3) information management and (4) PMER. The Operation Manager (surge) will join from October in the IFRC Bangladesh Delegation to support the Bangladesh Floods emergency appeal. The communication Coordinator (surge) already completed her one-month mission. PMER and IM surge have been identified and expecting to join soon.

# D. FUNDING

IFRC Secretariat Coverage	Amount Raised	Funding Gap	Cover
	(CHF)	(CHF)	age %
Hard Pledges + In kind + Soft Pledges	823,760	5,176,240	14%
Federation-wide Coverage	Amount Raised	Funding Gap	Cover
	(CHF)	(CHF)	age %
BDRCS domestic income + IFRC Secretariat + Bilateral support to BDRCS	2,580,588	4,919,412	34%

The total commitment received for the IFRC Secretariat Emergency Appeal remains at CHF 823,760. This amount excludes the 1.5 million CHF originating from a DREF loan. Further updates on additional pledge contributions will be included in the forthcoming report.

### **Contact information**

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

#### At the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society:

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#### At the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office in Kuala Lumpur:

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#### For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support:

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#### For In-Kind donations and Mobilization table support:

Nuraiza Khairuddin, Manager – Regional Logistics Unit; email: <u>Nuraiza.khairuddin@ifrc.org</u>

#### **Reference documents**

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#### Click here for:

Previous Appeals and updates

## How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere**) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to **Principles of Humanitarian Action** and **IFRC policies and procedures**. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.