



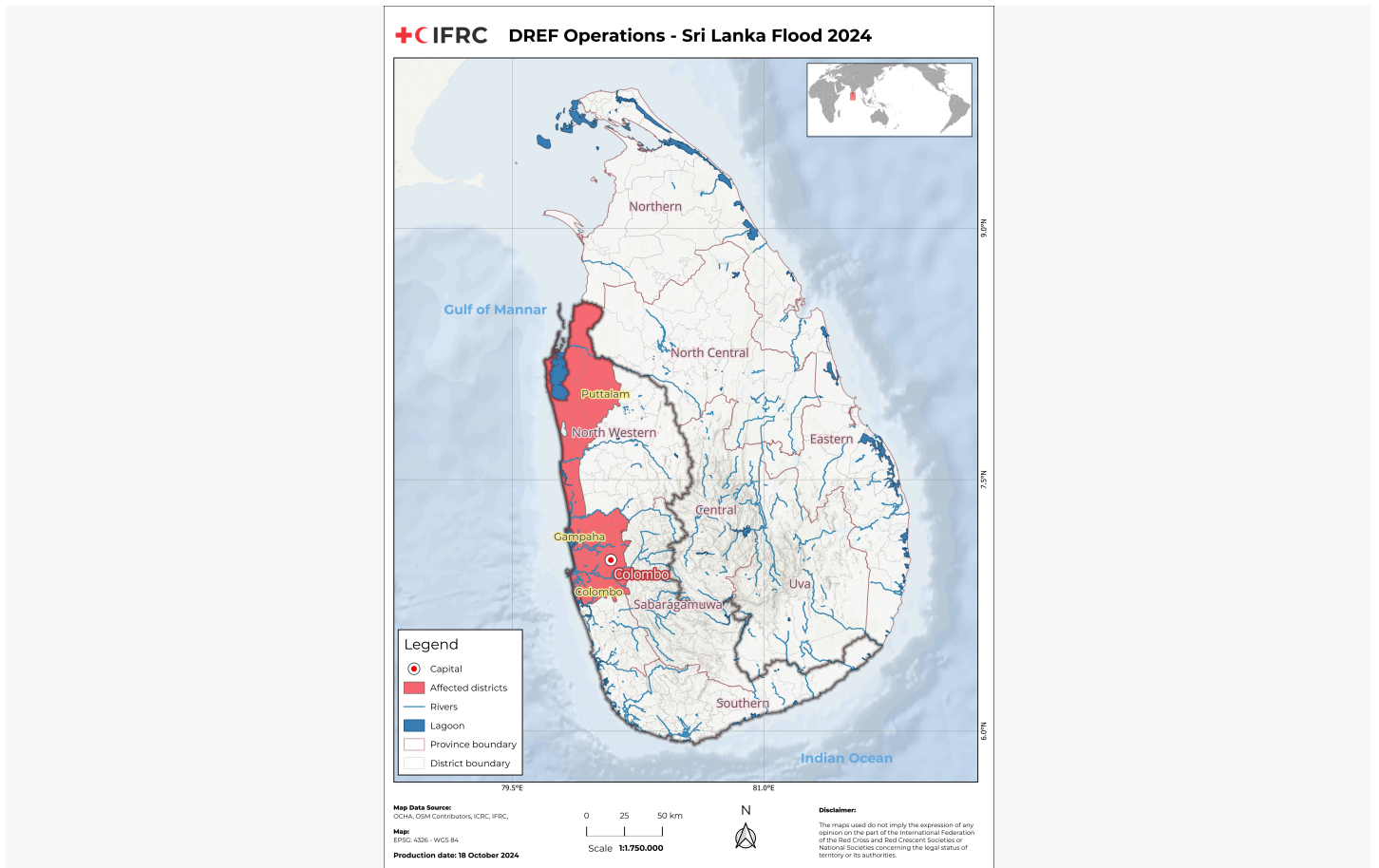
The Gampaha branch of the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society is providing mobile medical services to assist people affected by the floods (Photo: SLRCS)

Appeal: MDRLK020	Country: Sri Lanka	Hazard: Flood	Type of DREF: Response
Crisis Category: Yellow	Event Onset: Sudden	DREF Allocation: CHF 309,662	
Glide Number: FL-2024-000189-LKA	People Affected: 154,782 people	People Targeted: 40,800 people	
Operation Start Date: 24-10-2024	Operation Timeframe: 4 months	Operation End Date: 28-02-2025	DREF Published: 25-10-2024
Targeted Areas: North Western, Sabaragamuwa, Western			

Description of the Event

Date of event

12-10-2024



Extreme weather - map of severely affected districts (Source: IFRC IM)

What happened, where and when?

On 11 October 2024, the Meteorological Department forecasted persistent showery conditions in the southwestern part of Sri Lanka due to an atmospheric disturbance near the island. Heavy showers exceeding 150 mm, or thundershowers, were anticipated in several provinces, increasing the risk of flooding in vulnerable areas.

In response to the forecast, at 2:00 PM on 11 October 2024, the Department of Irrigation issued an early flood warning for the Attanagalu Oya area in Gampaha District and surrounding regions, as heavy rainfall continued in the river basin. By the morning of 12 October 2024, the Attanagalu Oya had reached primary flood levels at Dunamale. In addition, the Kelani River in Colombo District, the Ging River in Galle District, and the Kalu River in Kalutara District also reached flood levels, triggering additional alerts from the Department of Irrigation. These warnings were issued due to unstable atmospheric conditions, which continued to exacerbate the situation. The highest recorded rainfall in the affected regions was 117 mm in Eheliyagoda, 114 mm at Halvatura Estate, and 105.5 mm in Hanwella (Colombo and Gampaha districts).

By 13 October 2024, the Department of Irrigation escalated the warnings, issuing major flood alerts to people living around Attanagalu Oya in Gampaha District, where the situation had worsened. The district continued to experience heavy rainfall and reported the highest number of affected residents, totaling 68,672.

As of 15 October 2024, the Disaster Management Centre (DMC) reported that approximately 154,782 people from 39,522 families had been affected by the adverse weather conditions. Out of these, 10,361 people from 2,433 families were being sheltered in 80 safe locations. Gampaha District remained the most severely impacted, with 78,281 affected residents [01].

The following districts have experienced the most significant damage and people affected;

- A. Western province - Colombo district - 60,233 people from 15,941 HHs and 5,509 people sheltered in 41 centers
- B. Western province - Gampaha district - 78,281 people from 19,956 HHs and 1,574 people sheltered in 19 centers
- C. Northwestern province - Puttalam district - 8,902 people from 2,203 HHs and 3,261 people sheltered in 18 centers

A 34-year-old man drowned in Kelanimulla, Mulleriyawa, located in Colombo District. The adverse weather has also claimed three lives as of 15 October 2024 [02]. According to the Disaster Management Centre (DMC), the severe weather caused complete destruction of one house and partial damage to 321 houses.

Government and Organizational Support:

On 13 October 2024, the Government instructed the Secretary of Defense to take immediate steps to ensure the safety of people in areas affected by the extreme weather. In response, the Ministry of Finance allocated 50 million rupees for relief efforts. The Sri Lanka Navy deployed six flood relief teams to various locations across Gampaha and Colombo districts to conduct urgent search and rescue operations. Due to the extreme weather, all schools within the Gampaha and Colombo educational zones were closed on 14 and 15 October 2024, with many schools inundated by floodwaters.

Meteorological Warnings:

The sea areas off the coast from Puttalam to Hambantota, via Colombo and Galle, are expected to be very rough, with gusty winds reaching speeds of 60 to 70 km/h. Naval and fishing communities have been advised not to venture into these waters until further notice.

The National Building Research Organisation (NBRO) issued a landslide warning for nine districts in the western and southwestern provinces, including Colombo and Gampaha, due to ongoing heavy rainfall. Residents, particularly those in mountainous areas, near artificial cut slopes, and along roads in the designated Divisional Secretariat Divisions (DSDs), have been advised to remain vigilant [03].

The increased intensity of rainfall, now exceeding 100 mm per hour, has triggered flash floods in several areas. The Department of Irrigation has also warned that as water continues to flow from higher elevations, water levels in the rivers are expected to rise further, posing a high risk of flooding in the low-lying areas of Gampaha and Colombo districts.

[01] - Situation update https://www.dmc.gov.lk/images/dmcreports/Situation_Report_on_2024__1728965696.pdf

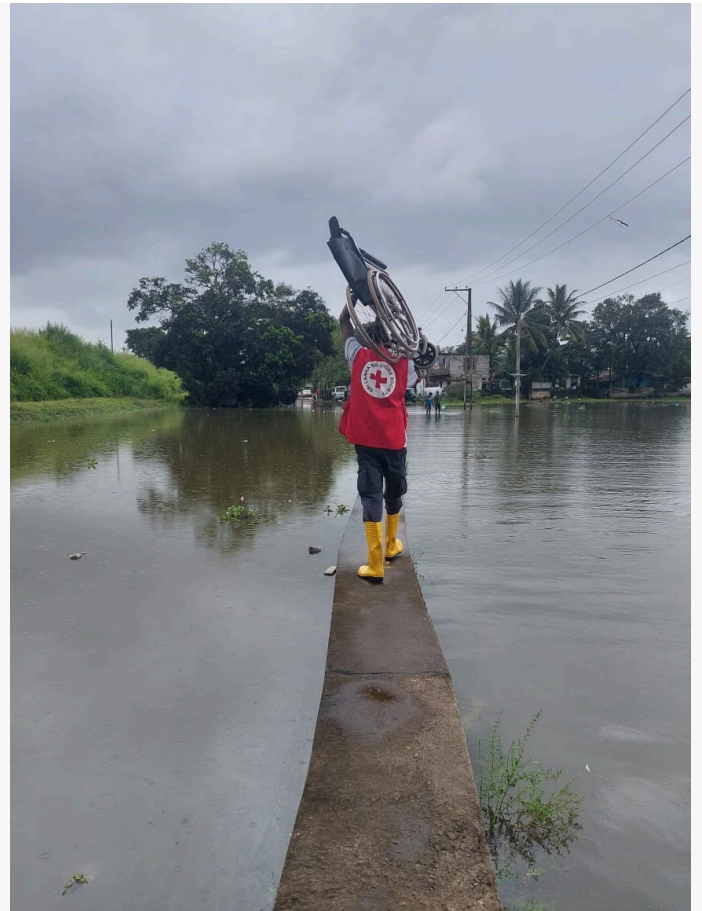
[02] - <https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking-news/Sri-Lanka-vulnerable-to-extreme-weather-events-as-an-island-in-equatorial-belt/108-293783>

[03] - https://nbro.gov.lk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=628:landslide-early-warnings-issued-to-galle-kalutara-kegalle-and-matara-district&catid=20:warnings&lang=en&Itemid=299





The Colombo branch of SLRCS providing first aid services to the people sheltered at the public building (Photo: SLRCS)



A volunteer from the Gampaha branch of SLRCS carrying a wheelchair to evacuate differently-abled person from the affected area (Photo: SLRCS)

Scope and Scale

The widespread floods triggered on 12 October 2024 have impacted nine districts across the Western, Southern, Sabaragamuwa, Southwestern, and Northwestern provinces. The most severely affected districts include Colombo, Gampaha, Kalutara, and Puttalam. An estimated 154,782 people from 39,522 families, predominantly vulnerable populations living in low-lying urban and semi-urban areas, continue to experience flooding, making it difficult to resume normal daily activities.

Affected Population and Casualties:

According to the latest DMC report dated 15 October 2024, these extreme weather conditions have regrettably led to three fatalities:

- Kalutara: 1 death
- Colombo: 2 deaths

Currently, 80 safer locations across three districts—Colombo, Gampaha, and Puttalam—are providing shelter to 10,361 people from 2,433 families. These individuals require urgent support to meet their immediate needs. The flooding has severely impacted water and sanitation facilities in these communities, and households in low-lying areas have lost their primary sources of income, highlighting the critical need for food assistance.

Health warnings:

The onset of the rainy season dramatically increases the risk of several severe illnesses, with Dengue fever remaining a significant threat. Leptospirosis, commonly known as 'rat fever,' is another pressing concern, as flooded areas may become contaminated with the urine of infected animals, potentially spreading the disease. The health department has warned of the growing risk of Leptospirosis in affected areas [05].

Moreover, the risk of diarrheal diseases tends to rise during the monsoon due to contaminated water sources. Although the full impact of these diseases may not be felt immediately, they are likely to increase in the coming weeks as floodwaters recede. Preventive measures must be taken urgently to mitigate the spread of these illnesses.

Economic and Social Impact:

Many families in urban and semi-urban areas surrounding Colombo and Gampaha districts have temporarily lost their income, as they depend largely on daily wages. Among those most affected are LGBTQ people and migrants, who primarily live in urban areas, as well as families with infants, people with disabilities, individuals with chronic illnesses, and pregnant or lactating women. These groups may require exceptional support due to the sudden impact of the floods.

The IFRC-DREF assistance is urgently needed to address the specific needs of those affected by the adverse weather conditions. The situation is expected to worsen, as the Meteorological Department's 9-day weather prediction forecasts heavy showers exceeding 100 mm in the coming weeks [06].

National Society Response:

The SLRCS is actively responding to the disaster in the most severely affected districts, working closely with local authorities at the village and divisional levels. SLRCS branches have conducted 24 and 72-hour rapid needs assessments in the severely impacted areas. These assessments revealed extensive damage to homes, infrastructure, and essential services, including the collapse of houses, disruption of water supply systems, and significant loss of income for vulnerable households reliant on day-to-day work to sustain their families.

Floods are an almost annual occurrence in Sri Lanka during the southwest and inter-monsoon periods. This year, however, the impact on the population has been notably higher than in 2023, especially in Colombo and Gampaha districts, where the number of affected individuals has nearly doubled. According to DMC updates, the monsoons brought over 250 mm of rainfall within a short period. Additionally, the early warning system did not work 100 per cent (was less effective) this time, with DMC and Meteorological departments circulating early warning alerts with a short lead time, leading to an increased impact.

The operation aims to assist severely affected people in three districts (Gampaha, Colombo, Puttalam). The operation will cover primary interventions, including first-aid services, medical camps to address health-related needs, disbursing multi-purpose cash to individuals, including LGBTQ persons, Migrants, and Refugees who have suffered livelihood loss, supplying non-food items to households in need, conducting well-cleaning to maintain potable water availability, and organizing clean-up campaigns in public places and inundated houses to reduce dengue mosquito spreading and aware, early warning to the communities in the flooded areas to mitigate the upsurge of dengue outbreaks, which are highly prevalent post-flooding.

[05] - <https://www.dailymirror.lk/top-story/Health-experts-sound-alarm-over-spike-in-waterborne-diseases/155-293894>

[06] - https://www.meteo.gov.lk/images/Weekly_FC_Oct_10-2024.pdf

Source Information

Source Name	Source Link
1. Metrological department Sri Lanka	https://www.meteo.gov.lk/images/Weekly_FC_Oct_10-2024.pdf
2. Health Department warning	https://english.newsfirst.lk/2024/10/17/health-officials-urge-vigilance-against-waterborne-diseases-following-flooding
3. The National Building Research Organisation (NBRO) - Landslide alert	https://nbro.gov.lk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=628:landslide-early-warnings-issued-to-galle-kalutara-kegalle-and-matara-district&catid=20:warnings&lang=en&Itemid=299
4. ECHO Daily Flash	https://erccportal.jrc.ec.europa.eu/ECHO-Products/Echo-Flash#/daily-flash-archive/5192
5. Disaster Management Center - Situation update	https://www.dmc.gov.lk/images/dmcreports/Situation_Report_on_2024_1728965696.pdf



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	MDRLK015 2022, MDRLK017 2023, MDRLK018 2023/2024, MDRLK019 2024

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 same districts—Colombo, Gampaha, Matara, Galle, Puttalam, and Kalutara—were previously affected by the events described in the IFRC-DREF operations MDRLK015, MDRLK017, MDRLK018, and MDRLK019. In MDRLK017, responses addressed both dengue and floods, while MDRLK018 focused solely on flood response, with interventions extended to districts in the Northern and Eastern provinces.

MDRLK015 activities concluded in February 2023, while those under MDRLK017 were completed by October 2023. The operation period for MDRLK018, ended in July 2024, was extended twice through the publication of operational updates in December 2023 and March 2024, which also expanded its geographical reach. The activities outlined in MDRLK019 have been completed, with branches now focusing on cash settlements and post-distribution monitoring (PDM) surveys.

Over the past few years, Sri Lanka has experienced increasingly extreme and unusual weather events, primarily driven by the effects of climate change. The country consistently ranks among the top 20 most climate-affected nations globally. The national meteorological department has struggled to forecast inter-monsoonal floods accurately, leading to a less effective early warning system and exacerbating the impact on vulnerable communities.

The recurrent disasters have significantly damaged communities and disrupt daily life, making it difficult for affected populations to manage independently. These families, residing in low-lying areas, are predominantly part of highly vulnerable, low-income groups. The National Society has provided support to flood-affected regions, particularly during the Southwest Monsoon rains. However, National Society support was given only 5 per cent per the National Society emergency response mandate.

Among the remaining 95 per cent are many who are still in urgent need of support. Most of these vulnerable individuals did not receive any assistance during the previous flood, which occurred a few months ago. To avoid duplicating aid, the National Society will prioritize supporting those who have yet to receive any help, focusing on those previously left without assistance.

SLRCS is also actively involved in developing an Early Action Protocol (EAP) for floods and advocates for Anticipatory Action (AA) processes. It co-chairs the AA Technical Working Group in Sri Lanka. As part of its longer-term resilience and preparedness efforts, the National Society has included developing an sEAP as a target for the coming years. However, SLRCS is struggling to develop triggers for this type of sudden flood, which has a very short lead time as an island nation.

In response to these recurrent disasters, SLRCS has also strengthened partnerships with the private sector, such as Cargills, and international organizations, including UNFPA, to ensure immediate assistance. Additionally, it maintains close collaboration with government authorities to complement efforts and reduce the impact on affected populations.

Sri Lanka has been dealing with significant challenges caused by climate change in recent years. This has greatly affected the climate patterns and led to unpredictable extreme weather conditions. The meteorological department has struggled to accurately predict these events, as evidenced by the short warning issued for previous and ongoing extreme weather events. Improvements are necessary to reduce the impact on vulnerable people.



Lessons learned:

Below are some of the Lessons Learned from Previous Operations:

1. **Capacity and Experience:** SLRCS branches have demonstrated sufficient capacity and experience to respond effectively to similar emergencies. Their ability to collaborate and coordinate with government stakeholders has ensured the prompt implementation of the IFRC-DREF interventions and activities.
2. **Risk Mitigation and Activation:** SLRCS has a well-established risk mitigation plan, which was successfully activated when the DMC issued an alert about severe weather predictions. This proactive approach facilitated timely preparations and response actions.
3. **Coordination and Deployment:** SLRCS promptly coordinated with all relevant branches, deploying volunteers, BDRT teams, and first-aid teams for immediate response. This swift mobilization was crucial in addressing urgent needs and mitigating the impact of the disaster.
4. **Clear Selection Criteria and Orientation:** During detailed assessments, clear selection criteria were shared with government authorities and community members in orientation meetings. This transparency ensured that the selection process was understood and accepted by all stakeholders.
5. **Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA):** The CEA team collaborated closely with local branch teams to provide training and establish a feedback mechanism during the implementation process. This approach ensured that community voices were heard and addressed effectively.
6. **Integration of Cross-Cutting Sectors:** SLRCS successfully integrated cross-cutting sectors such as PGI and CEA into planned interventions. This holistic approach ensured that these important considerations were embedded across all sectors.
7. **Successful Community Feedback Mechanisms:** According to PDM surveys, SLRCS maintained very successful community feedback mechanisms at the field level, available 24/7. This continuous engagement was critical in addressing issues promptly and improving service delivery.
8. **Resilience of Vulnerable Groups:** The operation highlighted the resilience of vulnerable groups, including the elderly, people with disabilities, pregnant and lactating women, women-headed households, and households with infants or young children. These groups showed remarkable strength in overcoming challenges related to access to food and safe water.
9. **Commitment to IFRC Standards:** Commitment to aligning with the IFRC minimum standard commitments to gender and diversity in emergency programming. This ensured due consideration for vulnerable groups throughout the implementation, towards enhancing the overall effectiveness and inclusivity of the response.
10. **The CVA-trained local Surge** was deployed in the previous DREF (MDRLK018), which provided a valuable lesson. The Surge supported the team in distributing cash to 900 households within a month, significantly improving the process that had previously experienced delays.

Current National Society Actions

Start date of National Society actions

13-10-2024

Health

The SLRCS is currently conducting medical camps in the Colombo district, where they have already assisted 218 individuals (142 males and 76 females). All three branches that were severely affected are providing emergency first aid services to people in safe centers, having assisted a total of 210 individuals (123 males and 87 females) so far. The National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) and Branch Disaster Response Team (BDRT), comprised of emergency first aid-trained volunteers, have been deployed to the severely affected divisions to support individuals in these safe centers. They utilize ferry services to reach inundated houses and provide treatment to those in neighboring homes.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	<p>The SLRCS immediately mobilized 1,500 five-liter drinking water bottles from a private donor, Cargills, distributing them to those affected in safety centers. Volunteers are actively engaged in clean-up campaigns, focusing on clearing floodwater-affected areas and drainage systems. Additionally, with support from UNFPA, 500 dignity kits have been distributed in the Colombo district at safety centers to meet the urgent hygienic needs of women and girls. Furthermore, the SLRCS Colombo branch has provided 300 sanitary packs, along with essential awareness training on menstrual hygiene management, to women and adolescent girls residing in the safe centers of the Kolonnawa division.</p>
Protection, Gender And Inclusion	<p>The SLRCS teams are maintaining minimum standards while assisting all affected communities, with an additional focus on selecting the most vulnerable, including pregnant and lactating mothers, disabled individuals, children, the elderly, and the LGBTQ community.</p>
Migration And Displacement	<p>The SLRCS assessment team is evaluating the needs of migrants and refugees in the impacted districts of Gampaha. The Emigration and Immigration office, with the support of UNHCR, has provided shelter to migrants and refugees from Pakistan and Myanmar since 2022. It has been reported that the divisions are also significantly affected.</p>
Community Engagement And Accountability	<p>Community engagement and accountability (CEA) is a cross-cutting theme of the SLRCS, and they continue to engage people in evacuation centers and communities in designing assistance programs for them. SLRCS further accelerated the process of seeking feedback on assistance through the feedback desk and providing information as aid.</p>
Coordination	<p>The SLRCS is currently collaborating with government agencies such as the DMC, district secretariats, and local authorities to address the ongoing flood situation. Additionally, SLRCS is closely coordinating with the IFRC Country Representation Office in Colombo, with support from the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) in New Delhi and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for this disaster response operation.</p>
National Society Readiness	<p>Since the beginning of October 2024, the SLRCS has been closely monitoring extreme weather conditions, obtaining updates from the DMC and sharing them with relevant branches. They have conducted frequent coordination meetings and activated task forces to assist their branches in addressing the challenges posed by heavy rains. Fully prepared for rapid response, SLRCS has a dedicated team of trained volunteers ready to provide immediate and practical assistance to affected communities.</p> <p>Significant improvements in rapid field assessment capabilities have been achieved through the expertise of staff members and volunteers as part of the NDRT. Additionally, SLRCS has conducted NDRT, BDRT, and camp management training sessions in some of the hardest-hit districts as part of its annual operations and emergency preparedness plans.</p>
Assessment	<p>In the early stages of the operation, assessment teams from the SLRCS branches in Colombo, Gampaha, and Puttalam were deployed to the severely affected areas. These teams included members of the National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) and Branch Disaster Response Teams (BDRT), comprised of both volunteers and staff. Their primary objective was to provide 24-hour and 72-hour situation updates while quickly analyzing the urgent needs in the affected regions. Findings were systematically recorded using a Google form, enabling direct comparison with government data from the Disaster Management Centre (DMC). This comprehensive analysis effectively identified immediate needs on the ground, which in turn informed early intervention planning through the DREF.</p>
Resource Mobilization	<p>The SLRCS National Headquarters is actively updating Movement Partners within the country on the current situation, seeking their support as needed. Simultaneously, the National Society launched a fundraising campaign on its social media platforms to mobilize donations and resources from a broader audience, enhancing its response capabilities if required. Accordingly, SLRCS managed to mobilize some of the relief items</p>



	through private donors and from the UNFPA (water bottles – Cargills and Dignity kits from UNFPA).
Activation Of Contingency Plans	<p>SLRCS branches have activated their contingency plans to address the needs of the affected population. This includes mobilizing trained volunteers and deploying the National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) and Branch Disaster Response Teams (BDRT), which consist of the Emergency Response Unit, Water and Sanitation teams, as well as First Aid and Medical Units.</p> <p>Additionally, efforts are underway to identify the most severely impacted divisions and coordinate with government officials in those areas. Coordination with the Disaster Management Centers and the Meteorological Department is also essential to receive ongoing weather updates and prepare for the dissemination of early warning messages. Branch-level resources are being mobilized, and needs assessments are conducted to determine whether additional support is required from the National Headquarters (NHQ) and other donors or stakeholders at the district level.</p>

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	<p>The in-country IFRC team is closely coordinating with the SLRCS and the ICRC. The IFRC CCD and APRO offices have supported SLRCS in preparing the IFRC-DREF application and planning the response. Additionally, the IFRC CCD regularly shares updates on the in-country situation and developments with the IFRC APRO.</p> <p>Furthermore, IFRC team in Sri Lanka is providing technical support to SLRCS for the operation and is facilitating information sharing between SLRCS, the Movement, and external partners. Furthermore, the IFRC CCD in Delhi and APRO are offering additional coordination support to enhance information sharing and resource allocation.</p>
Participating National Societies	There is no Participating National Societies (PNS) presence in the country.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

The SLRCS has a long-standing collaboration with the ICRC in implementing various programs. The ICRC has been working with SLRCS, especially in providing technical assistance in Restoring Family Links and Tracing. SLRCS has appointed RFL focal persons in all district branches to provide regular updates on RFL needs and take necessary immediate action.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	<p>National and local disaster management agencies, along with district administrative units, are leading the response to floods across the country. According to the DMC, the Army, Air Force, Navy, and police have been deployed to all affected areas to conduct necessary rescue operations.</p> <p>The Department of Irrigation is actively monitoring water levels in river basins and low-lying areas, issuing alerts and warnings to the public in close coordination with the DMC. The government has allocated immediate relief funds to support people currently in safe centers, providing cooked food and other essential relief items. A memorandum outlines the president's plans to deliver immediate relief and long-term solutions for the Colombo and Gampaha districts.</p> <p>Local health units, specifically the Medical Offices of Health (MOH) in the affected</p>



	<p>provinces, are primarily addressing the health needs of the population. They are leading the coordination mechanisms and collaborating with various agencies and organizations for health-related actions.</p> <p>Mobile medical services are actively operating in flood-affected areas, including fumigation efforts to control dengue. Additionally, measures are being implemented to address potential causes of Leptospirosis, commonly known as rat fever.</p>
UN or other actors	<p>Currently, UNFPA - The UN Population Fund is distributing dignity kits in the Colombo district, with distributions taking place at safety centers. There is no additional information available regarding interventions from other UN agencies or organizations in response to the floods in the mentioned districts.</p> <p>The SLRCS migration and displacement focal point is coordinating with UNHCR on the ground to gather information on the needs of migrants residing in the flood-affected areas of Negombo in the Gampaha district and to receive regular updates.</p>

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

The government is leading coordination efforts informally and bilaterally. The SLRCS is closely collaborating with the authorities, the DMC, and the Meteorological Department. Together with the Divisional Secretariat and the Irrigation Department, they are coordinating all response efforts and early warning activities related to the ongoing adverse weather conditions.

SLRCS branches work closely with district-level authorities to conduct assessments and provide relief. Additionally, the National Building Research Organization (NBRO) is involved in coordination efforts to inform and provide guidance on landslide risks and warnings. Furthermore, the WASH Technical Working Group has organized a WASH cluster meeting to address related issues.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

The disaster was triggered on 12 October 2024, causing significant damage to homes in the targeted districts due to extreme weather conditions. As per the DMC update on 15 October 2024, one house has been reported as fully damaged, while 321 houses sustained partial damage. In the Gampaha district alone, more than 40 homes were partially affected, primarily due to strong winds and flooding.

Individuals with damaged houses have been relocated to host families in neighboring villages or towns, with over 10,000 people currently in safer centers established by government authorities as of 15 October 2024. The government has mobilized the tri-forces to assist in the rebuilding of both fully and partially damaged homes. A priority has been placed on cleaning the mud from houses once the water recedes, and immediate needs are being addressed by the divisional government offices. The DMC has initiated steps to support essential needs within the safe centers.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The severe weather has impacted over 150,000 individuals in the three targeted districts, resulting in significant losses of livelihoods and daily income. More than 10,000 people have been relocated to safer areas, where they urgently require food, water, and essential items.

The flooding has severely affected over 10,000 paddy and vegetable farmers, delaying planting during what is typically the planting season in Gampaha and Puttalam districts. These farmers need immediate assistance to protect their remaining crops until harvest time. Additionally, the damage to agricultural land is expected to increase costs for land preparation, forcing many families to reduce or cut household expenses.

Among the vulnerable populations in the affected districts are:

(i) LGBTQ Community: Members of the LGBTQ community in Colombo and Gampaha districts, primarily unskilled daily laborers, have been unable to work due to flooding. In one severely affected area where they reside separately, there is an urgent need for increased assistance to meet their basic needs.



(ii) Migrants and Refugees: According to UNHCR reports, 143 asylum seekers and 107 refugees are currently sheltered in Negombo, Gampaha district. They require immediate livelihood support, as they are ineligible to work in the country. Assessments are underway to determine their immediate needs.

Furthermore, evacuated individuals will need support to restore and clean their homes once water levels recede, a process that will be challenging due to financial constraints. Many of those affected are unskilled daily laborers and coolie workers engaged in farming and other businesses to support their families. The flooding has destroyed farming fields and inundated workspaces, including carpentry, masonry, and small businesses, delaying their recovery and return to work. Families with children and elderly members particularly require immediate cash support to address their urgent needs.

Health

The Health Departments have issued a warning to the affected districts, stating that several health issues have emerged as floodwaters recede. Common diseases such as diarrhea, leptospirosis, and dengue are affecting the public.

There is also a high risk of contaminated water intake and the spread of diseases due to polluted water and fecal matter. Moreover, the Health Department has warned about the risk of skin diseases and respiratory disorders after floodwaters recede.

There is an urgent need for first aid services and general medical care to reduce the risk of hospitalization and other health complications. In addition, based on historical data, dengue cases are likely to rise dramatically after the floodwaters recede, as the lack of proper sanitation measures may create an optimal breeding ground for mosquitoes. Hence, there is an urgent need to provide preventive information against water- and vector-borne diseases through volunteer mobilization, including door-to-door visits, cleaning campaigns, and dengue awareness programs, which are crucial for an immediate response.

Due to disruptions to their livelihoods, all districts are in critical need of food and water. People living near the river are particularly vulnerable, having lost their sources of income and struggling to provide food for their children, which is likely to impact their nutritional intake, an issue already hampered by the country's economic crisis.

Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

The floodwater level has risen above 7 feet, contaminating all drinking water sources, including pipe-borne water from the water supply systems. The strong flow of floodwater has also damaged water pipes and submerged purification centers, limiting access to drinking water facilities in the affected areas.

Household wells, the primary source of drinking water in the affected districts, have become polluted due to the high floodwater level, especially along riverbanks and in low-lying areas. As a result, well cleaning is an essential requirement in all inundated areas within the districts.

Given the poor condition of existing sanitary facilities, sanitation and hygiene conditions have deteriorated due to extreme weather. It is crucial to raise essential hygiene awareness through hygiene promotion using Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials to limit the spread of waterborne and other communicable diseases.

Additionally, the Epidemiology Unit of the Ministry of Health prioritizes conducting dengue awareness campaigns, door-to-door visits, and clearing debris that blocks drainage as immediate response activities, as these three districts have been identified as high-risk areas for dengue.

Protection, Gender And Inclusion

As many households have been displaced and affected, special care and attention must be given to children, vulnerable women (pregnant and lactating), people with disabilities, those with chronic illnesses, and the elderly, considering their heightened vulnerability.

It is vital to address the protection needs of vulnerable groups, including women, men, children, persons with disabilities, and older people, who are at an increased risk of exploitation, abuse, and neglect during emergencies.

SLRCS will incorporate the IFRC Minimum Standards into its emergency programming to address the needs of at-risk individuals and groups. Specific measures will be taken to ensure the safety and security of all individuals, including partitioning areas in evacuation

centers and establishing priority lanes for persons with disabilities and the elderly.

Recognizing the critical role of volunteers in supporting affected communities, there is a need to provide them with updated training focused on Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS) and Psychosocial Support (PSS). This will enhance their capacity to effectively address the needs of the affected population with refreshed knowledge and skills.

Furthermore, SLRCS will incorporate the IFRC Child Safeguarding Policy to ensure that programmes are designed and implemented with the best interests of the child in mind. A child safeguarding analysis will be conducted to protect children from all forms of violence, abuse, and exploitation, with a focus on preventive actions and accountability. The child safeguarding risk analysis will be carried out in the districts where the intervention will take place.



Community Engagement And Accountability

It is crucial to effectively communicate information about the available types of support and the means to access them. This information should be easily accessible to ensure that affected households are well-informed about the support they are eligible for.

The active participation of SLRCS volunteers and community members during detailed assessments throughout the operation cycle is essential. This involvement ensures a fair selection process and promotes community engagement in planning, assessment, and beneficiary selection. A community feedback mechanism during the beneficiary selection process is particularly important, given the limited number of beneficiaries who will receive assistance. The National Society supports only 5% of the families affected.

Continuous monitoring of the diverse needs of the affected population is also essential, as different groups may have specific requirements. It is vital to ensure that the aid caters to these distinct needs. Two-way communication is of utmost importance in disaster relief efforts.

Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) through methods such as Key Informant Interviews (KII) and Focus Group Discussions (FGD) is critical for improving future interventions. This approach allows for gathering feedback and addressing any grievances or complaints from beneficiaries. Giving a voice to the beneficiaries can help resolve their concerns, and future distribution programs can be enhanced based on their perspectives.

Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

In the Gampaha district, primary and internal roads near the riverbanks and low-lying areas are completely blocked, with water levels exceeding 8 feet. The local branch has reported that they need assistance to reach some of the severely affected areas to assess the needs of the people. Additionally, they are unable to distribute relief items to the residents in neighboring houses.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

This operation aims to assist 40,800 people from 10,200 families in the three most severely affected districts: Colombo, Gampaha, and Puttalam in the Western and Northwestern Provinces.

Trained volunteers and staff will visit the most affected rural Grama Niladhari (GN) divisions to assess the situation and identify and verify the most vulnerable people to be assisted.

The IFRC-DREF support will include multipurpose cash grants to meet the basic needs of the most vulnerable households, well-cleaning, cleaning campaigns—including dengue awareness and door-to-door visits—medical camps, and emergency first aid services. Additionally, CEA and PGI will be integrated as cross-cutting interventions, along with refresher training for volunteers.

Current weather patterns are anticipated to exacerbate the vulnerability to dengue fever in these districts, which are already at risk of an outbreak following the flooding. Therefore, this operation will also prioritize dengue mitigation actions and conduct clean-up campaigns in public areas. The operation is expected to be implemented over four months.



Operation strategy rationale

Overall Approach:

The SLRCS aims to provide immediate assistance to the most vulnerable households within the affected populations across three districts impacted by recent floods, while also enhancing community support for dengue mitigation. The proposed strategy is formulated based on the short-term, immediate needs of the affected individuals and is aligned with the SLRCS emergency response strategy. The operational team will closely monitor the evolving situation and adapt the strategy as necessary, recognizing that changing weather conditions may introduce new needs and require various community engagement, health, and protection interventions, including those related to WASH.

To ensure effective implementation, SLRCS will promote localized action within this response operation. The district branches of SLRCS will be responsible for executing the activities, while SLRCS Headquarters will coordinate the response vertically within the organizational structure and horizontally with the IFRC network, national authorities, and other partners. This approach emphasizes coordination and collaboration with government authorities at the district and divisional levels, as well as with other organizations working in the affected areas. Such collaboration aims to amplify the impact of the operation while avoiding duplication of efforts.

A comprehensive assessment will be conducted to gauge the needs accurately, and relevant government authorities will be promptly informed and coordinated with to prevent overlapping assistance efforts. An initial list of beneficiaries will be shared in advance with government authorities to ensure that support reaches those who are genuinely in need. Throughout the operation, SLRCS is committed to ensuring that sufficient assistance is provided in the affected districts. At the conclusion of the operation, a lessons learned workshop will be organized to review the implementation process and identify areas for improvement.

SLRCS is dedicated to aligning its programmes under this operation with its gender commitments and the IFRC's minimum standards for gender and diversity in emergency programming. Specific considerations will include the needs of vulnerable groups such as the elderly, persons with disabilities, pregnant and lactating women, women-headed households, migrants, refugees, LGBTQ individuals, and families with infants or young children. Recognizing the importance of community engagement, SLRCS will establish a robust feedback mechanism to ensure that all voices within the community are heard. This will be achieved by conducting regular community meetings during implementation, supplemented by hotline services for feedback.

Additionally, this operation will involve covering certain staff members directly engaged in implementing the IFRC-DREF activities. The ongoing economic crisis has made it challenging for SLRCS to retain and support its staff. Therefore, maintaining a minimum staff level is crucial, considering the geographical conditions of the affected areas, coordination requirements, transportation challenges, and the management of high-deliverable activities within the four-month response period.

Sector-wise Rationale:-

(A) Multi-purpose cash grants: Targeting 7,200 people from 1,750 households (including 150 LGBTQ vulnerable people and 200 migrants).

It was highlighted that poor and vulnerable people in all three districts lost their income due to extreme weather conditions, resulting in a shortage of food in their homes. A total of 1,600 households, who were severely affected by the flood, will be assisted in Colombo (650 HHs), Gampaha (850 HHs), and Puttalam (100 HHs), in addition to 150 vulnerable members from the LGBTQ community in Colombo and 200 identified refugees and asylum-seekers from the Gampaha district.

An initial assessment by the BDRT team revealed that markets at higher altitudes remained open, with people continuing to make purchases. Furthermore, now that the water levels have decreased, primary transport has returned to normal, and local markets have begun functioning. Additionally, village-level grocery shops have ample stock available for sale to the public, with access to regional markets to order and replenish their stocks.

The value of the cash grant of LKR 20,000 per family is already determined based on the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) analysis by the Cash Technical Working Group, which coordinates with all organizations implementing cash interventions in the country.

SLRCS is co-chairing the cash technical working group in the country, conducting regular meetings with the network, and providing updates about cash interventions, including the number of people, geographical information, and the selection process.

Cash assistance has been a primary intervention for over ten years for SLRCS. During the emergency appeal, SLRCS gained significant experience in implementing CVA across the country, supporting over 18,000 households with multi-purpose cash and over 2,000 with conditional cash grants.

SLRCS has a team of volunteers and dedicated staff at the national headquarters trained in cash and voucher assistance (CVA) and coordinates CVA and community feedback mechanisms (CEA) together. The targeted branches have prior experience supporting CVA, and



the branches have already implemented CVA under the previous DREF.

SLRCS is already working with Sampath Bank PLC as a financial service provider (FSP) to transfer money to affected individuals based on the exceptional Financial Service Provider approval from the IFRC technical team obtained until Dec 2024. The SLRCS is further working to finalize an FSP framework agreement to select service providers through the standard procurement process for 2025 and 2026, obtaining technical inputs from the technical team.

There will be no restrictions on the use of the cash grants received, enabling families to maintain their dignity by prioritizing the use of funds based on their specific needs. Once cash grant distribution is concluded, post-distribution monitoring will evaluate the effectiveness of this intervention.

(B) Health: Targeting 2,850 people through medical camps and emergency first aid activities.

In the severely affected districts, people require immediate first aid as access to healthcare is limited. The need for first aid is due to the sudden floods and high water levels, which have led to injuries among people and children evacuating from their homes. Trained volunteers will be coordinated to conduct first aid services.

Shortages of medicines and disruptions caused by the economic crisis have further worsened the health conditions of the affected population. Mobile medical camps are being set up to provide assistance to those affected by the flood. These medical supports will be organized with the support of Medical Health officials, the health department, and doctors from divisional hospitals.

(C) Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene: Targeting 6,400 people from 1,600 households for well cleaning.

WASH interventions involve well cleaning and assisting vulnerable households in cleaning their homes and surroundings. Volunteers will also participate in community clean-up operations to remove waste from low-lying areas and riverbanks to prevent dengue mosquito breeding.

In the targeted districts, SLRCS branches will conduct a detailed assessment to identify dug wells used by the most affected households for drinking and other purposes, which have been contaminated due to floodwater. The number of wells in Colombo (650 households), Gampaha (850 households), and Puttalam (100 households) will be prioritized accordingly.

The cleaning process will be carried out under the guidance of public health inspectors from the respective medical offices in the area, following the Oxfam cleaning criteria.

(D) Epidemic control – Dengue awareness and door-to-door visits to 7,000 households (Colombo 5,000 and Gampaha 2,000) and 72 dengue clean-up campaigns, reaching a total of 38,800 people.

Community-based surveillance will be implemented through household visits, using adapted IEC materials to ensure households in affected areas are aware of the dengue prevention and elimination actions to be taken if dengue is identified.

The volunteers will be trained in epidemic control prior to these door-to-door visits, focusing on the signs and symptoms of dengue to ease their interactions with community members and facilitate early detection in the community.

The door-to-door campaign will involve government officials, PHI, and MOH officers from the Dengue Control Unit to promote proper and sustainable solutions for eliminating dengue mosquito breeding sites, helping households follow effective, no-cost practices at the household level.

Risk communication and community engagement techniques will be essential in implementing these dengue awareness actions, as they will allow targeted communities to better understand dengue prevention measures, identify symptoms, and know where to seek help if suspected cases are detected. Furthermore, IEC materials containing details on dengue will be distributed among households and schools during these cleaning campaigns.

Overall, the dengue prevention programme awareness sessions will also be prioritized throughout the operation period. All programmes will be conducted in close coordination with government health authorities at both national and local levels.

Cross-cutting issues:

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA):

Risk communication and community engagement on dengue prevention and response activities will be integrated into the health and WASH activities. Similarly, information on flood-related assistance will be clearly communicated to the affected communities, focusing on the assistance provision process. Volunteers from the local community will be engaged in the response and relief process. A feedback



mechanism will also be established to address community grievances.

SLRCS aims to mobilize more than 300 volunteers from local units, mainly for dengue door-to-door visits, within a short period, as mosquito breeding spikes within two weeks when flood water starts to recede. More visibility items, such as T-shirts and jackets, are required to ensure visibility and acceptance in the community.

Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI):

With IFRC support, SLRCS will ensure the dignity, access, and participation of all community members during the intervention period. The most vulnerable members of the affected communities will be prioritized during the beneficiary selection process and assistance provision. SLRCS PGI-trained volunteers and staff will participate in planning the response activities. The collection and analysis of Sex, Age, and Disability Disaggregated Data (SADDD) will support comprehensive operational analysis, ensuring that vulnerable populations are adequately protected, and interventions are in line with PGI principles.

National Society Strengthening:

The National Society will engage current and new SLRCS staff to be fully funded under the DREF for the duration of four months to ensure proper implementation and monitoring of activities.

This includes, three (3) District Project Officers, three (3) Field Officers (ensuring coordination in three districts and based in branches), one (1) Accountant, one (1) Project Assistant supporting one (1) Project Manager based in NHQ, ensuring overall coordination, monitoring, and implementation.

The operation will also be supported by deploying local technical experts to enhance the swift implementation of the CVA, well-cleaning, epidemic control, PGI, and CEA in the branches.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

Through detailed assessments and household surveys, SLRCS will identify the most severely affected people in the targeted districts, focusing on damages and losses to their livelihoods and houses due to floodwaters, river overflows, and impacts on their health.

Beneficiary selection will be a community-driven process and carried out in close coordination with local authorities. SLRCS has developed pre-established beneficiary selection criteria for Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA), which will be further detailed and explained to the volunteers. Branches will coordinate with government authorities to identify the worst-affected Divisional Secretariat (DS) divisions, taking into consideration previous DREF operations, and ensuring the inclusion of the most affected households to prevent duplication in geographical areas. The list of selected beneficiaries will be shared with government authorities for verification and confirmation, making them aware of beneficiary details to avoid overlap with assistance from other partners. Once confirmed by Grama Niladhari (GN) officers (government authorities), the list will be posted in public places or GN offices at the village level, along with a hotline number for community feedback.

Selection of the most vulnerable persons from the LGBTQ community: SLRCS's Colombo and Gampaha branches have an active volunteer network from that community in the flood-affected divisions, and their engagement during previous operations was remarkable. They are all registered with a Community-Based Organisation (CBO), which is very active in the Colombo and Gampaha districts, working with the Red Cross branches for dengue prevention interventions and carrying out community rehabilitation activities among the group members. Furthermore, during the implementation of the complex emergency appeal, the most affected people were supported with cash assistance. The assessment team will work with them to identify and verify the flood-affected persons/families to assist through this DREF.

SLRCS has dedicated, trained staff available 24/7 to record community feedback, which branches will verify against the selection criteria.

Based on initial assessments by the branches, SLRCS will target 10,200 households (40,800 people as direct beneficiaries, including 150 people from the LGBTQ community and 200 migrants) affected by floods in the three districts. This assistance will include multi-purpose cash aid for 1,750 households and 200 migrants (7,200 people). Additionally, SLRCS will provide health interventions through medical camps and first aid services, covering approximately 2,850 people.

Under WASH, SLRCS will cover 1,600 households (6,400 people as direct beneficiaries) through well-cleaning and support through community clean-up campaigns (reaching 10,800 people) at public places and door-to-door visits (7,000 households – 28,000 people as direct beneficiaries) for dengue surveillance interventions.



Total target: 40,800 people (10,200 households) will be directly targeted through the response operation.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

This operation aims to assist the severely affected population in the districts of Gampaha, Colombo, and Puttalam according to specific predefined criteria tailored to the situation. Priority will be given to people displaced by floods who are currently residing in safe centers, as well as those who have lost their livelihoods.

Additionally, affected individuals returning to their homes after the floodwaters recede will be prioritized.

Special considerations and prioritization will be given to vulnerable groups, including the elderly, persons with disabilities, pregnant and lactating women, women-headed households, households with infants or young children, persons from the LGBTQ community, and Migrants and refugees in the Gampaha district.

The Assessment team will also assess the needs of the asylum-seekers and refugees in rented houses in the Negombo division in Gampaha district. The team will also focus on and evaluate the needs of the LGBTQ community in the Colombo district to select the most vulnerable people based on the selection criteria. The SLRCS branches and the Migration and displacement focal closely coordinate with UNHCR and the relevant government authorities to enhance the process, ensure transparency, and avoid duplication in the beneficiary selection process.

These groups face greater challenges related to accessing food and safe water and are more susceptible to diseases and infections. During the detailed assessment, more information on vulnerable groups such as the elderly, disabled, pregnant and lactating mothers, and women-headed households will be collected to target them for assistance.

This information will be verified with government authorities. Areas previously covered by the last DREF operation will also be considered during the assessment to avoid duplication of efforts.

As communities moderately affected by the disaster begin to return to their daily routines, reducing the need for further assistance, the government is extending aid to those affected. In its response, SLRCS will ensure that activities under this operation align with its gender commitments and the IFRC minimum standard commitments to gender and diversity in emergency programming.

Total Targeted Population

Women	16,148	Rural	60%
Girls (under 18)	4,660	Urban	40%
Men	15,514	People with disabilities (estimated)	1%
Boys (under 18)	4,478		
Total targeted population	40,800		

Risk and Security Considerations

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

Risk	Mitigation action
Ongoing southwest monsoon: delaying the implementation of the activities	Pre-planning activities and better coordination with local authorities for implementation of activities without delay. NS had similar experiences implementing the intervention last year, and also with the previous DREF.
Risk of contracting the dengue virus: volunteers	This risk will be mitigated by providing self-care packs, which consist of mosquito repellents, gloves, and hand sanitizers, to all volunteers working in the field.



	Volunteer training - necessary skills and knowledge to volunteer during the intervention.
inadequate human resource capacity (NHQ & branches)	<p>National Society will always plan to implement the main activities within the first three months and the last months for reporting (During October).</p> <p>Accordingly, NS will plan the HR requirement and allocate the required support to the branches of NDRT to support the response activities, and more volunteers will be mobilized to complete the entire activity before the end of February 2025.</p> <p>NS plans and implements the activities through community engagement and partnerships with government stakeholders.</p> <p>NS branches have to mobilize more volunteers to carry out the door-to-door visits that branches work closely with Medical Offices of Health to get adequate support.</p>
Upcoming Parliamentary election & political intervention: delay the beneficiary selection	<p>Better coordination with branches and government stakeholders will speed up the activities before the election.</p> <p>The selection criteria will be adhered to through the community-based process, and the CEA will be strengthened during the implementation period.</p> <p>SLRCS has experience completing all activities on time under the previous DREF, which was carried out during the presidential election in September 2024. Proper planning and coordination were the key factors to success.</p>

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

The SLRCS security framework will be applicable for the duration of the operation to their staff and volunteers. For personnel under IFRC security’s responsibility, existing IFRC country office or CCD security plans will be applicable.

All IFRC and RC/RC staff and volunteers are encouraged to complete the IFRC Stay Safe 2.0 e-learning courses. The National Society enjoys a good level of community acceptance countrywide, with established networks of community-based volunteers. There is recognition of and respect for the RC emblem and an understanding of the activities carried out by the Movement. Regular contact is maintained with local security networks.

IFRC country office also participates in a range of stakeholder meetings in which safety and security matters are considered and discussed, including Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) meetings convened by the UNRC office.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

Yes

Planned Intervention



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 138,860

Targeted Persons: 7,200



Indicators

Title	Target
# of targeted households provided with cash assistance	1,750
# of post distribution monitoring conducted	1

Priority Actions

1. Conduct a detailed assessment and beneficiary verification in the targeted districts.
2. Implement a community feedback mechanism to ensure the voices of beneficiaries are heard and addressed.
3. Collect all supporting documents and verify the Financial Service Provider (FSP).
4. Provide unconditional cash grants to 1,750 targeted households in the identified districts.
5. Conduct monitoring visits to confirm the delivery of cash.
6. Conduct Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) and publish a report to assess the effectiveness of the cash grant distribution.



Budget: CHF 14,611

Targeted Persons: 2,850

Indicators

Title	Target
# of medical camps and First aid services conducted	15
# of people reached by medical camps and First aid assistance.	2,850

Priority Actions

1. Procure basic items for first aid and medical camps.
2. Establish 12 medical camps (4 in each district) and 3 first aid services (one in each district) to provide additional health assistance to affected communities.
3. Mobilize volunteers and provide incentives.
4. Coordinate with the Medical Officer of Health and Public Health officers for inspection and approval.



Budget: CHF 77,781

Targeted Persons: 40,800

Indicators

Title	Target
# of people who have been supplied with an improved protected source of drinking water (well)	6,400
# of people receiving protection from Environmental sanitation activities	10,800
# of people reached by hygiene promotion activities during the response periods	38,800

# of people reached by epidemic preparedness and response activities	28,000
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Priority Actions

1. Organize 72 clean-up campaigns to support vulnerable households in cleaning their houses, surroundings, drainage, and common buildings, including schools.
2. Conduct an impact assessment to identify households using dug wells inundated by floodwater.
3. Procure and select well-cleaning service providers.
4. Clean 1,600 dug wells in the targeted districts as per established criteria.
5. Develop IEC materials and distribute them during the clean-up campaigns and well-cleaning processes to promote awareness of best hygiene practices, safe drinking water, and vector control practices.
6. Dengue surveillance, door-to-door visits for 7,000 households aware of the people and identify the potential dengue breeding places
7. Mobilisation of volunteers and conduct refresher training on epidemic control for the volunteers and staff
8. Printing of IEC materials to distribute in the identified dengue risk zones
9. Coordinate with the MOH office and Public Health Inspectors and planning for systematic intervention



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 4,059

Targeted Persons: 40,800

Indicators

Title	Target
# of individuals covered through dignity, access, and protection activities	40,800
# of volunteers oriented/refreshed on PGI and Code of conducts	325
# of people supported with CVA - LGBTQ community	150

Priority Actions

1. To ensure dignity, access, protection, and safety during community engagements across both responses, the following actions will be undertaken:
2. Conduct refresher sessions on PGI and the code of conduct for volunteers.
3. Print and prominently display Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) prevention messages at distribution and safe centers.
04. Assess and select the most affected people from the LGBTQ to assist them with a cash grant



Migration And Displacement

Budget: CHF 0

Targeted Persons: 200

Indicators

Title	Target
# of people supported with CVA - Asylum-seekers and refugess	200

Priority Actions

01. Conduct an assessment to identify the needs of the asylum-seekers and refugees sheltered in the Gampaha district
02. Coordinate with UNHCR and Government authorities to implement the CVA assistance



Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation And Recovery

Budget: CHF 8,117

Targeted Persons: 105

Indicators

Title	Target
# of volunteers trained and included in the pool of BDRT team	75
# of staff trained on DREF guideline and aware of the standard procedures	30

Priority Actions

1. Conduct BDRT refresher training for the volunteers to strengthen volunteer capacity and enhance volunteer retention
2. Conduct refresher and awareness sessions for the branch staff, including accounts staff to make sure the timely settlement and follow the IFRC-DREF guideline during the emergency operation



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 7,923

Targeted Persons: 40,800

Indicators

Title	Target
# of people informed about the MPCA/NFI selection process of the beneficiaries	7,200
# of people reached through social media on awareness	40,800
# of staff/volunteers oriented (Refresher Training) on CEA and community feedback mechanism	325
# of community or orientation meetings conducted	15

Priority Actions

1. Conduct refresher sessions and orientation on Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) for volunteers and staff.
2. Activate a feedback mechanism to receive and address grievances from communities.
3. Share the selection criteria with the community during community meetings.
4. Strengthen the feedback mechanism through hotline services.
5. Set up a community desk at Grama Niladhari (GN) offices during community meetings.



Coordination And Partnerships

Budget: CHF 8,020

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
# of communications materials produced (social media, media articles, interviews, etc.)	12
# of volunteers supported with T-shirt, Caps and Jacket to ensure the visibility to the intervention	300

Priority Actions

1. Conduct monitoring visits to identify gaps and good practices.
2. Share and update interventions based on monitoring findings.
3. Collect and publish case stories, and produce video footage to highlight impact and success stories.
4. Procure jackets and t-shirts for staff and volunteers to create visibility for the intervention.
5. Share news updates and publish articles in newspapers to raise awareness and communicate achievements.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 12,857

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
# of surge support deployed to during the implementation period	1
# of monitoring visits conducted	9

Priority Actions

1. Identify the need for surge support based on ongoing assessments and needs.
2. Deploy surge support personnel to swift response efforts.
3. Conduct monitoring visits to affected districts to oversee the implementation of activities.
4. Conduct and participate in coordination meetings and brief government stakeholders on operational strategy.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 37,434

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
# of progress review meeting conducted	16
# of rapid and detailed assessment teams deployed at branch level (Target: 2 teams per branch)	6



# of project staff involved in the NHQ and branch-level	9
# of monitoring visits conducted at the NHQ and branch level	12
# of volunteers involved in the operation insured	300
# of lessons learned workshop conducted	1

Priority Actions

1. Recruit and deploy all local operation-based staff at NHQ and branch levels.
2. Ensure all staff and volunteers are insured, and protection is ensured throughout the operation.
3. Conduct assessments based on the situation and needs analysis.
4. Conduct monitoring by branches, NHQ, and IFRC.
5. Conduct progress review meetings at the NHQ level.
6. Conduct lesson-learned workshops to capture insights and improvements.
7. Produce case stories, and news, and share good practices to highlight successes and promote learning.

About Support Services

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

300 volunteers (a combination of males and females) will be involved in this response. The profile will cover WASH and Health (including PSFA), CEA, and PGI sectors. More volunteers will be mobilized to engage in door-to-door visits for Dengue surveillance intervention. Staff and volunteers from each branch and SLRCS HQ will also be directly engaged.

The operation will be run by a project manager (national staff) with a team comprising a project assistant, field officer, coordinator, finance, and driver, for a total of 18 staff and 20 management interns for the entire operation.

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

Based on the situation, NS requests and operational needs surge (Health/Epidemic control/Wash/Procurement/Operations/Finance) will be requested.

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

There will be no need for international procurement.

Since the requested items/services are available and within the threshold of in-country procurement, SLRCS will follow IFRC procurement standards.

How will this operation be monitored?

SLRCS will oversee all operational, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, and reporting aspects of the present operation in the affected areas through its country-wide network of branches and volunteers. IFRC, through its Country Office and CCD in Delhi and APRO in Kuala Lumpur, will provide technical support in program management to ensure the operational objectives are met.

Reporting on the operation will be carried out following the IFRC-DREF minimum reporting standards. Regular updates will be issued during the operation's timeframe and a final report within three months of the end of the operation.

Systematic monitoring visits will be carried out by IFRC, NRCS HQ, as well as at the local level. After the implementation of the operation, PDM and an exit survey will be conducted. The operation will regularly capture the challenges, learnings, and good practices. Also, it will be recorded through conducting a lesson-learned workshop.



Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

SLRCS communications staff are working in close coordination with the IFRC regional communications team to ensure that the evolving humanitarian needs and SLRCS response are profiled across social media platforms and in the national and international media.

The SLRCS NHG and Branch field staff maintain visibility of both IFRC and SLRCS while working on the ground by wearing visibility jackets, caps, aprons, or t-shirts for volunteers and staff during the fieldwork.

Capture in-action photos or film short clips of the volunteers working on the site. The pictures and footage will highlight the hard work, moments, and expressions of people and volunteers on the ground. The collected materials will be further used as content for social media and reporting purposes.

Collection of testimonials/stories from the field by volunteers or IFRC staff from the site. IFRC and SLRCS communications focal will support staff and volunteers for the coverage and use the materials for internal and external communications.

A proactive approach will be taken to maintain media outreach and to produce communications materials, including press releases, news stories, photos/videos, key messages, and infographics for external promotion by Partner National Societies in their networks.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRLK020 - Sri Lanka Red Cross Society Monsoon Floods 2024 Sri Lanka

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	251,351
Shelter and Basic Household Items	0
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	138,860
Health	14,611
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	77,781
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	4,059
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	8,117
Community Engagement and Accountability	7,923
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	58,311
Coordination and Partnerships	8,020
Secretariat Services	12,858
National Society Strengthening	37,434
TOTAL BUDGET	309,662

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](#)

