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Emergency Appeal Bangladesh: Cyclone Komen

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Emergency Appeal n° MDRBD015	Glide n° TC-2015-000101-BGD
Date of issue: 24 August 2015	Date of disaster: 30 July 2015
Operation start date: 11 August 2015	Appeal duration: 7 months; Completion date: 31 March 2016
Appeal budget: CHF 856,924	Amount advanced from DREF: CHF 156,661
Number of people affected: 1,584,942	Number of people to be assisted: 6,500 families (32,500 people)

This Emergency Appeal seeks **CHF 856,924** to enable the IFRC to support the **Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS)** to deliver humanitarian assistance to a total of **32,500 people (6,500 families)** affected by cyclone Komen with a primary focus on the sectors of **food security, nutrition and livelihoods; emergency shelter and household items; and water, sanitation and hygiene**. The Appeal is based on the findings of a Joint Need Assessment (JNA) organized by the Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCCT), including the BDRCS and the IFRC. In addition to the main sectors, the [overall budget](#) also reflects National Society/IFRC operation support costs and sectoral support. Click [here](#) for the Emergency Plan of Action.

The situation

The monsoon depression over the northeast Bay of Bengal and the Bangladesh coast intensified into Cyclone Komen on Wednesday, 29 July 2015, causing further downpours in regions already affected by recent storms, flash floods and landslides which had started at the end of June 2015. Since mid-July, IFRC has been monitoring the situation and working closely with BDRCS in responding to the immediate needs of the affected communities.

Cyclone Komen made landfall along the coast of south-eastern Bangladesh between the Hatiya and Sandwip islands on 30 July, weakening as it moved slightly towards the northeast. Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Bandarban, Noakhali, Feni and Bhola¹ districts were significantly affected. At least 7 people (2 of them children) were reported dead, 38 missing, and a number injured due to the cyclone. Thousands of houses were flattened and trees uprooted. Many houses went under water, power supplies were disrupted, and communication systems ceased to operate in some places. Crops were damaged and shrimp projects flooded.



BDRCS and IFRC assessment team deployed to collect information from the displaced people in Cox's Bazar district. (Photo: BDRCS)

Government data indicates some 1.5 million people were affected by the cyclone, but it is important to note that 65 per cent of this population was already affected by the flash floods and landslides that occurred in mid-July 2015. The most affected upazilas are Chokoria, Pekua, Shadar, Ramu of Cox's Bazar district; Anowara, Bashkhali, Satkania of Chittagong district and Lama, Shadar, Naikhanchori of Bandarban district.

¹ Although Bhola was affected, information on damages and losses was not reported in the Government D-Form.

The operational strategy

The operational plan, developed jointly by BDRCS and IFRC, outlines how the IFRC will support the BDRCS to assist the most vulnerable in the five districts affected by the cyclone. Three of the five affected districts were previously affected by the flash floods and landslides in end of June to mid-July 2015. The BDRCS, utilizing its staff and volunteers across the affected areas, has been actively engaged in response immediately after the onset of disaster and delivering relief to the affected areas. The current operation started through DREF support mainly focusing on assessment and relief assistance (unconditional cash grants) for the affected population, particularly those displaced. In addition, the DREF also supported drinking water needs through two mobile water treatment plants.

With the launch of this Emergency Appeal, the operation will scale-up the activities as well as consider other priority needs, such as provision of unconditional cash grants to fulfil immediate food and household needs of 4,000 families. A livelihood cash grant of BDT 8,000 will also be provided, targeting 500 families.

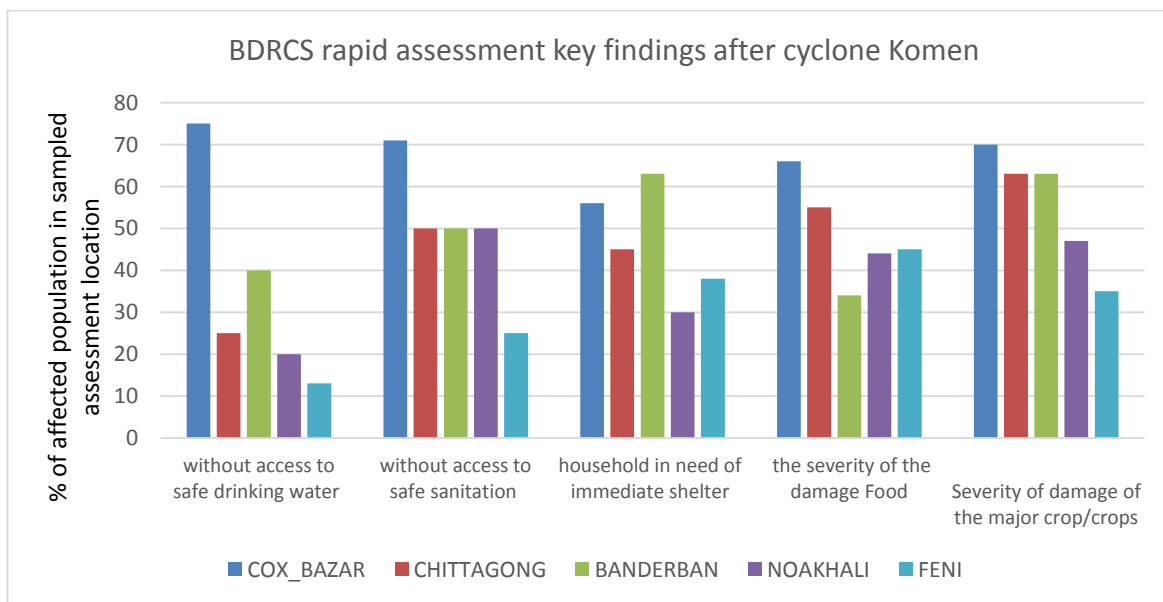
The BDRCS mobilized tarpaulins from its disaster preparedness stock and the tarpaulin is expected to provide emergency shelter support until the affected population return to their homes or until they are able to repair their homes. BDRCS has also mobilized 50 mobile latrines from its disaster preparedness stock. This operation also includes repairing and disinfecting water points (tube wells) which have been affected / contaminated by the disaster. The rehabilitation of water points will start when people return to their respective homes. The catchment area population of around 2,000 families will be provided with jerry cans to transport and store water. To minimize the incidences of diarrhoea, ORS solution packs will also be distributed.

BDRCS and IFRC are coordinating with other humanitarian agencies in the selection of location and beneficiaries by fully collaborating with the information management working group; comprising representatives of government, UN, Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and INGOs in Bangladesh.

Needs assessments

BDRCS has taken an active part in the JNA in the south-eastern districts organized by the humanitarian coordination task team (HCTT). Two members (one from IFRC and one from BDRCS) were deployed in Cox's Bazar and Chittagong districts and have assisted in the phase two of the JNA in July 2015. One IFRC staff member also supported the JNA working group for data compilation and analysis.

According to the JNA report (20 July 2015), food, shelter, water and livelihoods were reported as the main priority sectors across the affected districts. These priorities remain the same for Cox's Bazar, Chittagong and Bandarban districts after cyclone Komen, which had affected the same districts, with more emphasize on food and shelter. The needs were confirmed by the BDRCS assessment teams deployed after the cyclone on 5 and 6 August. The coastal districts of Noakhali and Feni were also hit by the cyclone but with fewer families affected.



Beneficiary selection

The targeted population are primarily those affected and displaced by the cyclone. The prioritized beneficiaries include the elderly, women and children as the most vulnerable categories during disasters. Further assessments will identify others who are vulnerable in this particular context.

Most information that relates to vulnerable groups and key protection concerns is drawn from pre-disaster sources and knowledge of the social dynamics of the affected area. With this knowledge, the assessment teams are able to identify the vulnerable groups in the community. The elderly and those with disabilities face particular challenges. As noted by female community groups, toilet facilities are not appropriate for their needs. Their immediate needs related to health, water and sanitation will be addressed by Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE). The BDRCS and IFRC have mobilized mobile latrines in places where the need is acute with limited coverage from the government.

The BDRCS and IFRC work in close contact with other humanitarian actors to avoid potential overlapping in case of selection of geographical locations and beneficiary households.

Proposed intervention

This operation will meet the immediate humanitarian needs of 6,500 families affected by cyclone Komen in 5 districts of Bangladesh through the provision of cash for immediate needs and livelihood, emergency shelter, safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion

Outcome: The risk of water and sanitation-related diseases for some 2,000 people has been reduced through access to safe drinking water, appropriate sanitation and hygiene promotion.

Approximately 2,000 affected families in 3 unions of Cox's Bazar district will be provided with safe drinking water through a mobile water treatment facility. Damaged water points (tube-wells) will be disinfected and/or repaired. Hygiene promotion activities will be accompanied with distribution of hygiene promotion kits. The targeted families will also receive jerry cans, oral rehydration salt (ORS) solution packs and collapsible latrines. The latrines will be set-up by the local Cox's Bazar branch, supported by trained national disaster water and sanitation response team (NDWRT) members.

Food security, nutrition and livelihoods

Outcome 1: Immediate food and household needs of the 4,000 affected families are met

Outcome 2: Livelihoods are protected and negative coping strategies and food insecurity reduced among 500 affected populations in 3 districts (Cox's Bazar, Chittagong and Bandarban districts)

To meet the immediate food and household needs of 4,000 affected families in 5 districts for three months during the lean period, cash grants will be distributed in two phases, where BDT 3,000 will be distributed in phase 1 through direct cash and BDT 6,000 in phase 2 through bank transfer (taking advantage of the reinforced ECHO supported BDRCS cash transfer capacity)

. An additional 500 families will receive a livelihood cash grant of BDT 8,000 per household through bank transfer. Activities may provisionally consider the re-establishment of rice paddy beds; livestock management and provision of fodder and re- stocking for those who lost animals; supporting fishermen to kick-start their enterprises to improve nutrition and provision of food)

Shelter and settlements

Outcome: Immediate shelter needs of 4,000 affected families are addressed

The targeted families will be the same as those targeted for cash grant distributions (the same 4,000 families in 5 districts). Tarpaulin and fixings (rope/wire and nails) will be distributed to fulfill immediate shelter needs. Further needs assessment and community consultations will be conducted to decide on the beneficiary selection criteria.

Disaster preparedness and risk reduction

Outcome: Disaster preparedness measures are taken at the community level for 4,000 families in 5 affected districts

The DRR component is crucial as the south-eastern region of the country faces multiple disasters every year. Training and sensitization on certain DRR aspects is an effective way of disseminating key messages and raising awareness about the effects of recurrent disasters and climate change. A total of 4,500 families in 5 districts will receive awareness raising

and sensitization activities on DRR issues such as health and hygiene, disaster risk reduction, livelihoods, business, and awareness raising around safer shelter and appropriate build back safer training.

Movement coordination

The existing coordination mechanism within the different Partner National Societies (PNSs) of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement involves a bi-monthly PNS coordination meeting. These cover the regular updates from the PNSs present, the immediate issues to be handled and the plan of action forward. There is also the annual pre-disaster meeting, which is likely to be in September this year that addresses the broader preparedness issues. Apart from this, coordination meetings between partners take place whenever the need arises.

IFRC plays a coordination role to assist BDRCS for better response, with support from in-country Movement partners. An emergency meeting between the Movement partners has taken place regarding the current disaster. The partners, together with the ICRC, had actively participated in the Movement coordination meetings. ICRC, British Red Cross and German Red Cross participated in the BDRCS assessment teams in the field, whereby the extent of size and substance of the support was determined in close coordination with the BDRCS and other Movement partners.

Operational support services

BDRCS will use its existing staff and volunteers for the response operation. BDRCS has already deployed several NDRT members for the operation and will deploy NDWRT to operate the portable water treatment plant. The district branches have deployed youth volunteers as well as the members of the executive committees are also working in assessment and beneficiary selection. IFRC will also use existing staff for the operation and has already deployed two staff to different field locations to assist BDRCS district branches for assessment and beneficiary selection. The in-country PNSs and ICRC have also provided human resource support for assessment. The emergency operation centre (EOC) in both district and national headquarter levels are strengthened through strategic deployment of dedicated staff to the field as well as coordination with various clusters and working groups.

IFRC will provide logistics support according to its standard procedures to timely and efficiently source, procure and deliver equipment and other materials. IFRC's ZLU will provide technical support to the Bangladesh delegation.

This cash based programming component will require smooth mobility of cash from national headquarters to the branches, and subsequently to the field. IFRC and BDRCS programme and finance teams will work closely to ensure the supply chain of cash to the field level.

Beneficiary communications and close coordination with the affected population will be a key component during response operation, and the BDRCS will incorporate feedback during the course of the operation. A communication personnel supported by Finnish Red Cross will provide support to this operation to capture good practices and stories from the affected areas.

Budget

See the attached [IFRC Secretariat budget](#) for details.

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Under Secretary General (a.i)
Programme Services Division

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Secretary General

Reference documents

Click [here](#) for the Emergency Plan of Action (EPoA)

Contact Information

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Click for

1. Emergency appeal [budget](#) below
2. [Map](#) below
3. [Return](#) to the title page

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. 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**.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives.
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.

EMERGENCY APPEAL

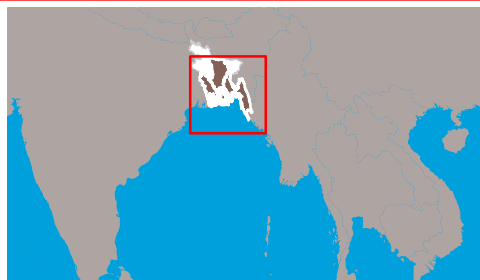
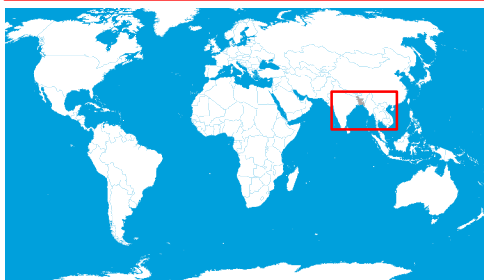
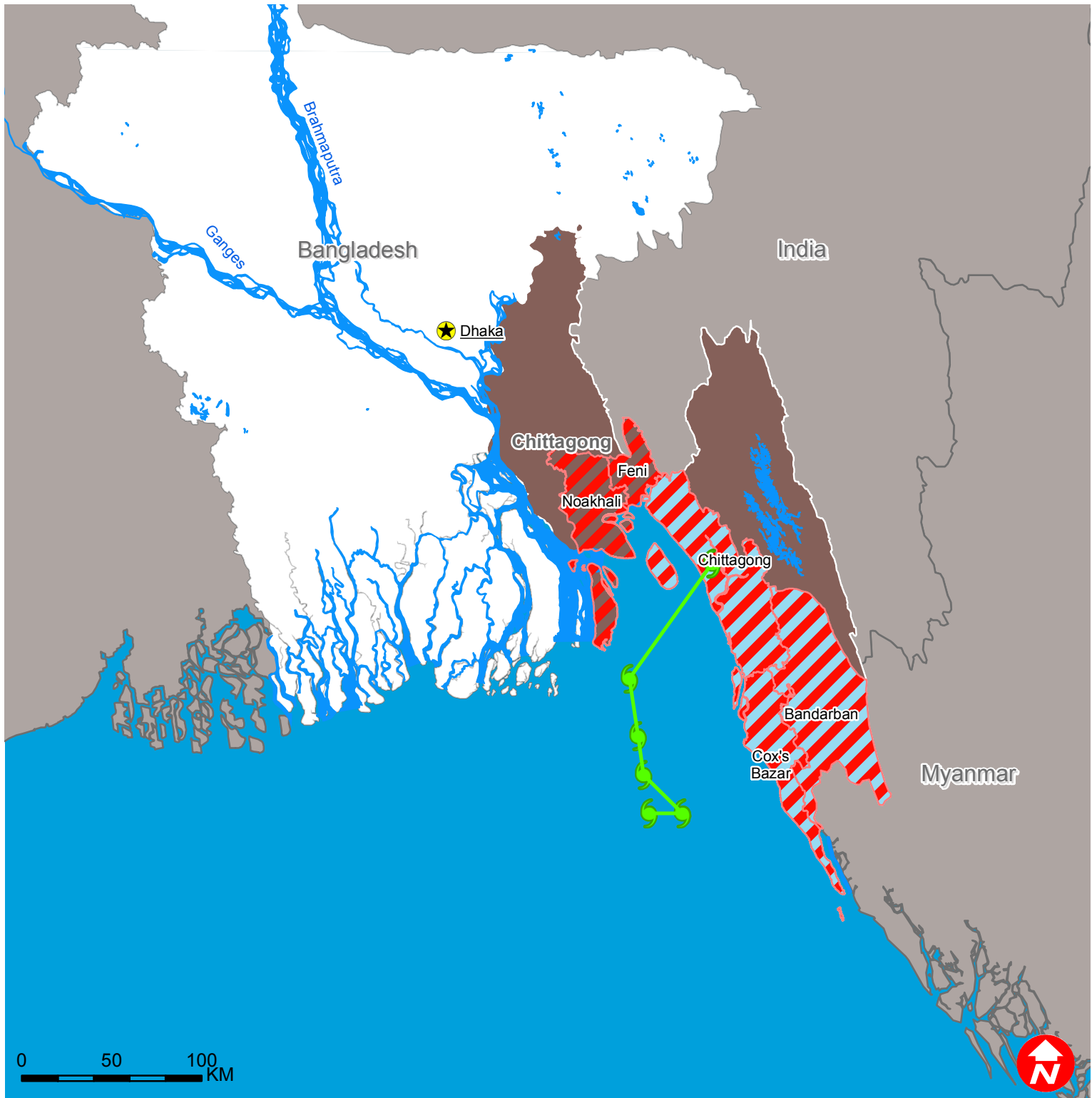
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MDRBD015 Bangladesh : Cyclone Komen

Budget Group	Appeal Budget CHF
Shelter - Relief	52,000
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	48,085
Cash Disbursements	534,810
Total RELIEF ITEMS, CONSTRUCTION AND SUPPLIES	634,895
Distribution & Monitoring	8,032
Transport & Vehicle Costs	7,000
Logistics Services	3,620
Total LOGISTICS, TRANSPORT AND STORAGE	18,652
National Staff	27,000
National Society Staff	27,000
Volunteers	4,022
Total PERSONNEL	58,022
Consultants	16,000
Total CONSULTANTS & PROFESSIONAL FEES	16,000
Workshops & Training	9,424
Total WORKSHOP & TRAINING	9,424
Travel	37,506
Information & Public Relations	8,519
Office Costs	8,000
Communications	1,000
Financial Charges	1,500
Shared Support Services	11,106
Total GENERAL EXPENDITURES	67,631
Programme and Supplementary Services Recovery	52,301
Total INDIRECT COSTS	52,301
TOTAL BUDGET	856,924



Bangladesh: Cyclone Komen



-  Cyclone Komen
-  CYCLONIC STORM
-  Targeted districts
-  Districts affected by flash floods & landslides in July
-  Affected states/regions