

# Emergency appeal operations update

## Bangladesh: Cyclone Komen

<b>Emergency appeal n° MDRBD015</b>	<b>GLIDE n° <a href="#">TC-2015-000101-BGD</a></b>
<b>Operations update n° 1</b>	<b>Timeframe covered by this update:</b> 11 August to 7 September 2015
<b>Date of issue:</b> 16 September 2015	<b>Date of disaster:</b> 29 July 2015
<b>Operation manager (responsible for this EPoA):</b> Md. Adith Shah Durjoy, Acting Disaster Operations Coordinator, IFRC Bangladesh Delegation	<b>Point of contact (name and title):</b> Md. Belal Hossain, Director, Response Department, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society.
<b>Operation start date:</b> 11 August 2015	<b>Operation end date:</b> 31 March 2016
<b>Operation budget:</b> CHF 856,924 <b>Current coverage:</b> CHF 53,906 ( <a href="#">donor response</a> ) <b>Funding gap:</b> CHF 803,018	<b>DREF allocated:</b> CHF 156,661
<b>Number of people assisted:</b> 6,500 families (32,500 people)	
<b>Host National Society(ies) present (n° of volunteers, staff, branches):</b> Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, 160 volunteers, and 15 BDRCS staff (NDRTs, NDWRTs, monitoring teams) and 6 IFRC staff mobilized so far in 5 district branches. Apart from these Cyclone Preparedness Program (CPP) staff and volunteers mobilized.	
<b>Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation:</b> The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, German Red Cross, Japan Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, ICRC	
<b>Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation:</b> Government of Bangladesh, UN Agencies, INGOs	

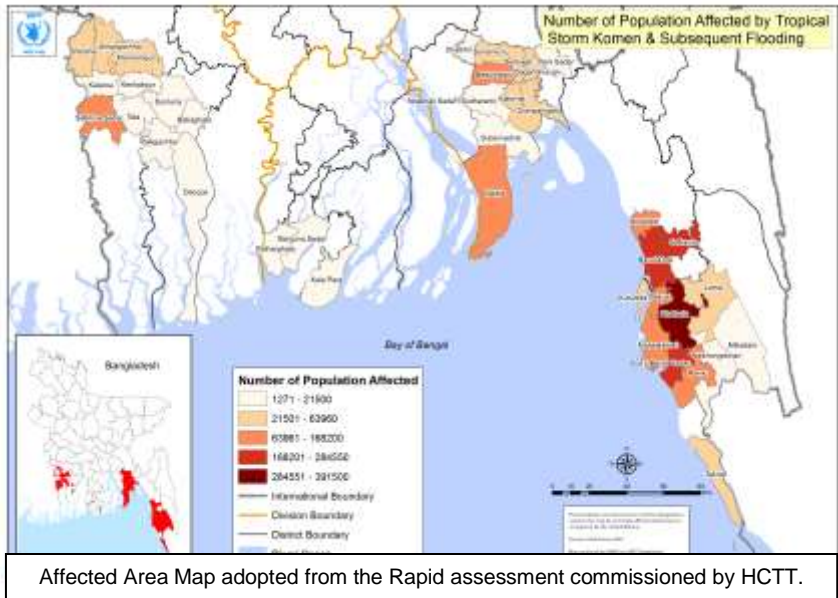
### Summary:

The monsoon depression over the northeast Bay of Bengal and adjoining Bangladesh coast have intensified into Cyclone Komen on Wednesday, 29 July 2015, causing further downpours in the regions already affected by the previous flash floods and landslides which had started at the end of June 2015. Cyclone Komen made landfall on 30 July, weakening as it moved slightly towards the northeast. Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Bandarban, Noakhali, Feni and Bhola districts were significantly affected. At least 7 people (2 of them were children) were reported dead, 38 missing, and a number injured due to the cyclone. Based on the rapid impact assessment conducted by the Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCTT), a total of 2.6 million people are affected, more than 218,000 households are in need of emergency assistance. Meanwhile, Government district level 'D-form' data immediately after the disaster indicated many houses were flattened or went under water, trees uprooted, power supplies were disrupted, and communication systems ceased to operate in some places. Crops were damaged and shrimp projects flooded. Due to the impact of the cyclonic storm "Komen", heavy to very heavy rainfall was active all over the country and many areas of the



Safe drinking water distribution through mobile water treatment plant in Cox's Bazar district. Photo: BDRCS.

southern Bangladesh were inundated which includes most of the areas affected by the first spell of flooding. Consequently the lives and livelihoods of the people of those areas further worsened. A Need Assessment Working Group (NAWG) was formed to identify the damage and needs of all these areas affected by the Cyclone Komen and subsequent flooding. This assessment was commissioned by the Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCTT) and was covered ten districts. The cumulative effect of the floods followed by Cyclone Komen increased the affected population to 2.6 million people. The impact of these events will be felt most acutely by the extreme poor<sup>1</sup>. It is estimated that 218,665 people (57,774 households) fall within this demographic. The HCTT also produced a Joint Response Plan (JRP) based on the assessments undertaken in different stages. The JRP has proposed immediate to longer term response strategy as well as the packages based on the inputs from different clusters, mainly Food Security, Shelter, WASH and Early Recovery clusters. This EA has been designed in line with the JRP strategy and has maintained a good coordination with the National humanitarian stakeholders. The Government has already responded with rice and cash in many of the affected areas while a number of humanitarian organizations and UN agencies have responded with food assistance, health and WASH relief. Humanitarian donors like ECHO and DFID has mobilized fund to its partner INGOs to support the response in line with the JRP.



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primarily to meet their food needs for one month. In addition to that, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) provided from its Disaster Preparedness stocks 3,000 tarpaulins, 30,000 packets of ORS and installed two mobile water treatment plants to address the emergency needs of the affected population. Within three weeks of the start of the operation, BDRCS completed the distribution of its first phase of unconditional cash grant, 3000 BDT/person. In the second phase of the emergency operation the same beneficiaries will receive 6000 BDT for additional two months.

Following the launch of the DREF, on 24 August 2015, an Emergency Appeal (EA) was launched to support a total of 6,500 affected families to address their Food, WASH, Livelihood and Emergency Shelter needs. Out of these 6,500 families, the EA has targeted 4,000 families to support with cash grant for food, and emergency shelter through tarpaulin. Another 2,000 families have been planned to support through safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene promotion. Apart from these 500 families will be supported through livelihood cash grant in a later stage of the operation.

Part of the effort to ensure beneficiary engagement and accountability, BDRCS has established a Complaints and Response Mechanism (CRM) to enable the beneficiaries to offer valuable feedbacks on the goods and services delivered, and enable the field staff to take necessary and timely actions. Mobile technology based survey utilizing the RAMP<sup>2</sup> (Rapid Assessment through Mobile Phone) has been introduced in the operation for the beneficiary identification and selection process. The National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members and the RC youth

<sup>1</sup> The extreme poor are those living below the 'lower poverty line' according to the Poverty Maps of Bangladesh

<sup>2</sup> RAMP is a mobile phone based technology, which provides a survey methodology and operations protocol that will enable the organizations/ agencies to conduct surveys rapidly, at reduced costs, with limited or no external assistance.

volunteers were involved during the RAMP survey with support from the IFRC and BDRCS NHQ staff. The survey provided baseline information of the targeted beneficiaries in a systematic way, and minimized time, cost and inconsistency in data collection.

As of 11 September, the Appeal coverage is CHF 53,906 (or 6 per cent). Support to the Appeal includes Canadian Red Cross Society, and Japanese Red Cross Society. Other support currently in the pipeline includes American Red Cross, British Red Cross, and Swedish Red Cross. Partners and donors are encouraged to contribute the current funding gap of CHF 803,018. Click [here](#) for the latest donor response list.

While BDRCS and IFRC as well as the other humanitarian partners are dealing with the cyclone Komen and flooding in the South Eastern part of Bangladesh, the North and Central part of Bangladesh is experiencing flooding since the last week of August 2015. The country is experiencing heavy to very heavy rainfall in the Jamuna and Brahmaputra River basin since last week of August. At the same time the upper catchment area of India, namely Assam, Meghalaya and some part of West Bengal also experienced heavy rain. These rains in the adjacent catchment area have influenced the cross boundary river water levels to rise and in many cases exceeding the danger levels for days. The Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC)<sup>3</sup> data shows that around 15 to 24 rivers are flowing over danger level since the rain started. Due to these reasons, some lower and riverside parts of Northern and Central Bangladesh have been experiencing flood. In many places the excessive onrush of river waters has created river erosion and embankment breaching.

An Aerial Survey was conducted on 30 August in the Northern districts to observe the flooding situation and the potential damage on housing, agriculture, and infrastructure and to map of the scale of displacement. The initial analysis of the survey findings indicated that there is currently no perceived need for coordinated needs assessment at this time but the situation should be monitored through sharing of GoB sitreps, FFWC reports and NGO/INGO reports. Currently it is reported through INGO emergency sub-committee that around 223,367 households are affected in 39 Upazilas of 9 districts. Floods have already caused extensive damage to crops in different parts of the country. It is feared that the magnitude of loss will go up if the water does not recede from submerged farmlands within five to seven days. One of the national daily newspaper quoted from the Deputy Director of the Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) of Kurigram district that about 45,000 hectares of crops will be damaged permanently even if the flood water recede quickly and there is no fresh flooding. The Government has allocated GR rice and cash in the areas worst affected by the floods, but it is insufficient for current needs. Government district level 'D-form' data for all the areas affected is yet to be released.

## Coordination and partnerships

### **Movement Coordination**

The existing coordination mechanism within the different parts of the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement involves a bi-monthly Movements Partners Coordination Meeting (MPCM). These cover the regular updates from the movement partners (in country PNSs, the IFRC, ICRC and BDRCS), the immediate issues to be handled and the plan of action forward. There is also an annual pre-disaster meeting, which is likely to be in November this year that addresses the broader preparedness issues. Apart from this, coordination meetings between partners take place whenever the need arises. IFRC play a coordination role to assist BDRCS for better response, with support from in-country Movement partners. An emergency meeting between the Movement partners took place during the initial stage of the disaster. The partners, together with the ICRC, had actively participated in the Movement coordination meetings. The ICRC, British Red Cross and German Red Cross participated in the BDRCS assessment teams in the field. All the in-country Movement partners set for a meeting on 12 August, immediately after the launch of the DREF, where the tentative plan for the emergency appeal was promptly discussed. IFRC country delegation is keeping the Movement Partners updated on the Appeal coverage as well as progress of the operation. Apart from the in-country Movement Partners, IFRC has organized several teleconferences with PNSs to share any update and explore support for the Appeal.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.ffwc.gov.bd/index.php>

## Humanitarian Coordination

The humanitarian community in Bangladesh has well-defined coordination mechanism on all levels. Key to this coordination is the sectorial Local Consultative Groups (LCG), which includes the Disaster and Emergency Relief (DER) co-chaired by the Ministry of Disaster Management and the UN Resident Coordinator. Within the LCG-DER, HCTT is the working group which provides an operational level forum for coordinated disaster preparedness, response, and recovery across sectors and consists of all cluster leads, donors, INGO representative, NGO representative and the IFRC.

A key part of the coordination is the system with JNA (Joint Needs Assessment) that are initiated by the HCTT. This coordinated approach pooling resources from different organizations gives a common understanding of the needs and a common starting point for interventions. During this disaster time HCTT has conducted a phase two JNA in three south-eastern districts (Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Bandarban) after the flash floods and landslides in mid-July 2015. The report was shared with relevant stakeholders on 20 July and the subsequent joint response plan was released two days after. The Cyclone Komen hits on 29 July and the HCTT commissioned a rapid assessment that covered information of cumulative effect of the flash flood of June, Cyclone Komen and the subsequent rain induced flooding. Based on this assessment, HCTT updated the Joint Response Plan (JRP) developed earlier. IFRC was involved with the working group and has coordinated the JRP with BDRCS. The revised JRP has identified a caseload of 56,774 household that require multi-sectoral support for three months.

The Government of Bangladesh had allocated more than 2500 metric tons (MT) of rice and cash of BDT 6 million to all affected districts. The United Nation's World Food Programme (WFP) has distributed 112.5 MTs of high energy biscuits with the assistance of BDRCS to 30,000 families in Cox's Bazar district. Various UN agencies and INGO/NGOs have also started responding to the immediate needs of the affected population with food packages, WASH activities and cash grants. IFRC and BDRCS are actively coordinating with the cross functional cash working group (CWG) that support cash transfer programming and helped determine the package of assistance using cash transfers in the July JNA report. This analysis has been considered when determining the current response option analysis.

With the recent development of flooding in the North and North-Central part of the country, IFRC-BDRCS is monitoring the situation closely and are in touch with the Humanitarian actors in the country. BDRCS is coordinating with German Red Cross office in Bangladesh to extent support for the flood affected families in the North and North-Central.

## Operational implementation

### Overview

This operation is supporting the BDRCS to assist the most vulnerable in the five districts affected by Cyclone Komen. Three of the five affected districts were also previously affected by the flash floods and landslides in end of June to mid-July 2015.

BDRCS had mobilized human resources as well as cash both from branch level as well as from NHQ level to meet the immediate needs after the flash floods during end of June-July 2015. Apart from these, BDRCS-IFRC supported the flash flood affected population by providing cooked food and dry food to 1,500 families as well as cash support to 1,000 families during 3rd week of July 2015. When the situation was deteriorated after the Cyclone Komen, a [DREF](#) was launched on 11 August to support 3,000 families with provision of unconditional cash and safe drinking water. The current operation has started through that DREF support mainly focusing on assessment and relief assistance (unconditional cash grant) for affected population, especially those displaced. In addition, the DREF also supported the drinking water needs through two mobile water treatment plants. During this reporting period the planned activities mentioned in the DREF has been completed. Meaning, distribution of BDT 3,000 to 3,000 families and providing drinking water to 2,000 families are completed. With the launch of the Emergency Appeal (EA), the operation planned to scale up the support to 6,500 families. Out of these 6,500 families, the EA has targeted 4,000 families to support with cash grant for food, and emergency shelter through tarpaulin. Another 2,000 families have been planned to support through drinking water, sanitation and hygiene promotion. Apart from these 500 families will be supported through livelihood cash grant in a later stage of the operation.

<b>Quality programming / Areas common to all sectors</b>		
<b>Outcome 1:</b> Continuous assessment and analysis is used to inform the design and implementation of the operation.		
<b>Output</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>	<b>Progress (%)</b>
<b>Output 1.1:</b> Participation in assessments and continuous collection of information from local units	Orientation and deployment of NDRTs to selected areas for participating and contributing to the assessment after the flash floods	100%
	Data collection and analysis	100%
	Assessment by the BDRCS branches after Cyclone Komen	100%
	Continued information collection from local units	75%
	Beneficiary selection survey through RAMP <sup>4</sup>	50%
	Monitoring visits by joint teams of BDRCS headquarters and IFRC	50%
	Final evaluation	0%
<b>Outcome 2:</b> An environment of information sharing and transparency is ensured through employing beneficiary communication tools and mechanisms		
<b>Output</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>	<b>Progress (%)</b>
<b>Output 2.1:</b> Access to relevant information	Identification on information needs and communication channels	75%
	Identification and dissemination of key messages on behavioral change and aid assistance	50%
	Orientation of communities on mechanisms to receive information/provide feedback	50%
	Identify community radio stations and relevant themes for live radio programmes	25%
	Orientation of communities on call in radio programmes and forming listener clubs	0%
<b>Output 2.2:</b> Provision of communication tools for community mobilization and information sharing	Establishing kiosks/information boards in strategic locations	25%
	Opening hotlines/complaints box/ and information desks	50%
	Community consultation in different stages	50%
	Developing brochures (beneficiary accountability, WASH, etc)	0%
	Hosting live radio programmes	0%
	Prepare and disseminate FAQ for different stakeholders	0%
<b>Output 2.3:</b> Provision of feedback mechanisms on aid assistance	Orientation of staff and volunteers on beneficiary accountability	30%
	Consultation and orientation of communities on lodging complaints and receiving feedback	50%
	Setting up CRM through hotline/information desks/complaints box	25%
	Registering complaints and feedback received	0%
	Coordinate response towards complaints and feedback	0%
	Conducting beneficiary satisfaction survey	50%

<sup>4</sup> Beneficiary selection survey through RAMP has been added newly and was not included into the initial EPOA.

## Progress:

**Assessments:** BDRCS and IFRC were actively involved with the national level assessments as well as with its own assessment in times when the information was insufficient. The NDRTs were involved, along with the IFRC and BDRCS response department staff, in the JNA after the flash flood in June-July. This JNA took place in three districts of Cox's Bazar, Bandarban and Chittagong. During this JNA, the teams received an orientation on the use of mobile based survey technology from the JNA working group. BDRCS and IFRC were also involved into the data analysis along with the other members of the JNA working group. BDRCS district branches had coordinated with the local government offices in five districts (Cox's Bazar, Bandarban, Noakhali, Feni and Chittagong) immediately after the Cyclone Komen to collect the Government district level 'D-form' information. This made possible for the assessment team deployed from the NHQ in these five districts to do a rapid compilation of information and feed into the DREF bulletin.

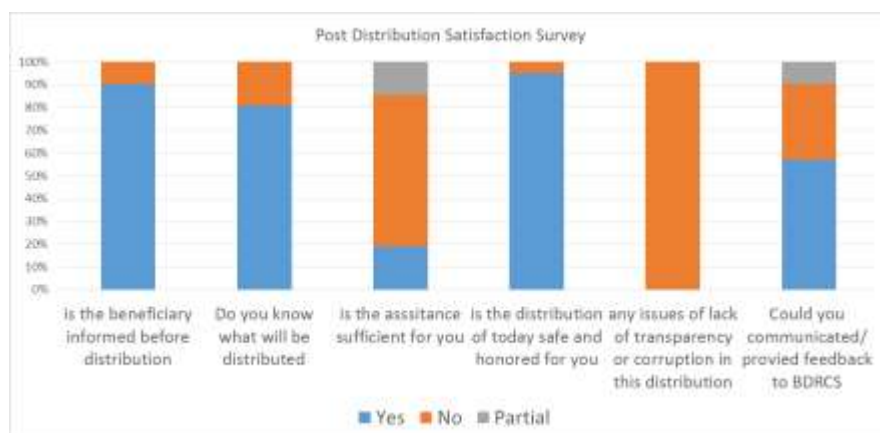
**Beneficiary Selection:** With the approval of the DREF, the operation commenced beneficiary identification and selection process for 3,000 families who will receive cash for food and multiple needs and emergency shelter materials (tarpaulin). The NDRT members were deployed to support the district branches for beneficiary selection. The team in the field and NHQ coordinated with INGOs involved in this response to select the vulnerable geographical areas. Once the geographical area was finalized, community consultation and door-to-door assessment was conducted to identify the most vulnerable families. This is the first time in BDRCS emergency response operation history to apply the use of RAMP to identify and select



Door-to-door visit during the beneficiary selection. Photo: BDRCS.

the most vulnerable affected families. The process took less than a week to finalize a beneficiary list and also offered preliminary baseline data for each beneficiary family which is useful for response programming. The RAMP approach was well received by BDRCS as it is more effective and time efficient and demonstrated transparency compared to the traditional paper based assessment. The assessment reveals that 37 per cent of total beneficiaries are female and 81 per cent total beneficiary households meet at least one of the vulnerable criteria (widow, woman headed, elderly person, person with disability, lactating mother, and child headed). The average family size is 5.65. 83 per cent of beneficiaries' houses are fully damaged and 63 per cent of beneficiaries have completely lost their livelihood income.

**Beneficiary Communication:** Before implementing the emergency response, a team consists of NDRT and unit volunteers went to the affected families to know their living condition and priority needs. According to affected people needs, BDRCS-IFRC designed the emergency response packages. The findings and package was communicated with the HCTT commissioned JRP and it is in line with the JRP strategy. Beneficiaries were communicated by volunteers,



local unit representatives once again when they were selected. Before the distribution of the support package, two way discussions took place between beneficiaries and BDRCS to ensure that distribution points were located in the most suitable position. Beneficiary cards were also provided to each beneficiary to ensure that all the beneficiaries were aware about the support package, distribution venue, time and date. During the distribution, a discussion took place on the whole selection process, packages, purpose and feedback mechanisms. A post distribution satisfaction survey shows that approximately 90 per cent of total beneficiaries well aware about the emergency support package and satisfied with the arrangement of distribution. It is also reveals that majority of beneficiaries were properly informed about the distribution date, venue and time. Beneficiaries reported that the overall implementation was transparent for them. However 65 percent of total beneficiaries reported that they will need the additional support.

The Beneficiary communication team from IFRC and BDRCS has developed some key messages on behavioral change and aid assistance which will be disseminated to the communities soon. Setting up CRM through hotline/information desks/complaints box was introduced during this stage of the operation. The BenCom team is working to strengthen the CRM plan in all the operational districts. The community radio stations have very limited coverage in the areas where BDRCS is working. However the thematic message prepared for the targeted communities will be disseminated through community gathering and information board as well as during the awareness sessions which is planned to conduct at the letter stage of the operation.

#### Challenges:

- It was challenging to introduce the RAMP initially and to convince the local branches about the benefits of the system. It was also challenging to train volunteers and staff as the internet access, GPS reading was not up to the mark. Moreover, rain in the field made it difficult to operate the mobile phones in the field.

<b>Water, sanitation and hygiene promotion</b>		
<b>Outcome 1:</b> The risk of water and sanitation related diseases has been reduced through access to safe drinking water, appropriate sanitation and hygiene promotion.		
<b>Output</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>	<b>Progress (%)</b>
<b>Output 1.1:</b> Daily access to safe water which meets Sphere standards in terms of quantity and quality is provided to target population	Short briefing to the trained RCY volunteers for operating mobile water treatment plant (1,000 ltr/hr)	100%
	Mobilizing water treatment plants to the affected areas with NDWRT members	100%
	Setting up and running water treatment plants for 2,000 families in 3 locations in Cox's Bazar district for 15 days	50%
	Distribution of ORS solution packs from DP stock and replenishment through local procurement	100%
	Disinfection of 25 tube-wells in Cox's Bazar district	0%
	Repairing of 25 tube-wells in Cox's Bazar district	0%
	Distribution of jerry cans for 2,000 families	0%
	Replenishment of jerry cans through ZLU	0%
<b>Output 1.2:</b> Improve access to sanitation facilities to 2,000 families	Identification of locations to install portable collapsible latrine	100%
	Mobilization of portable collapsible latrine from DP stock	50%
	Installation of portable collapsible latrine for displaced people in Cox's Bazar district	50%
	Supporting community for maintenance	50%
<b>Output 1.3:</b> Improve sanitation practice hygiene knowledge and behaviour of 2,000 families	Mobilization of hygiene promotion kits for displaced people in Cox's Bazar district	0%
	Volunteer orientation	0%
	Hygiene promotion through distribution of hygiene promotion kits	0%

**Progress:** Access to safe drinking water has been an acute concern from the onset of disaster with water sources damaged, destroyed or contaminated and large populations displaced. To meet the needs, BDRCS mobilized and installed two water treatment plants in Cox's Bazar district with the help of NDWRT members. About 2,000 families camping on embankments above flooded land in the coastal district of Cox's Bazar are receiving safe drinking water purified by RC staff and volunteers. These families have survived flash floods and landslides in June and early July followed by severe weather accompanying Tropical Cyclone Komen in late July. See more at [IFRC web stories](#). IFRC WatSan officer provided the technical orientation to the volunteers and staff involved with this process. The orientation is for installation of treatment unit and water quality check process prior to distribution of safe drinking water. The local government representatives were consulted before the site selection and installation of the mobile water treatment plant. Distribution of ORS has been done for 3,000 families so far, who are also targeted for tarpaulin and cash grant.

Emergency repairs and disinfection of contaminated water sources are now considered as top priorities to immediately improve the access to safe water in the affected areas. One team is currently in the field to assess the feasibility to start this work and prepare an operational plan to do it. To reduce the risk of water source contamination in future disasters, elevated platforms are needed in key flood-prone communities. This approach has been previously implemented by BDRCS for disaster risk reduction (DRR) and community resilience programming; however the targeted areas are not in the programme areas. The team will also look after this issue while preparing the plan.

In the emergency phase, 10 sets of portable collapsible latrines were installed for communal use to ensure access to proper sanitation facilities. These latrines were mobilized from the DP stock located in Chittagong districts. More latrines similar in nature will be installed soon in the same area where people need it.



NDWRT and volunteers are purifying water for distribution in Cox's Bazar District. Photo: IFRC

The hygiene promotion activities have not started yet as the team has focused on the drinking water and latrine issue. However, mobilization of hygiene promotion box along with staff and volunteer will take place within one week time.

**Challenges:**

- Installation of portable collapsible latrines was initially posed as a challenge as this is the first time BDRCS is implementing this. However with the support from IFRC WatSan officer, the installation process was made possible.

<b>Food security, nutrition and livelihoods</b>		
<b>Outcome 1: Immediate food and household needs of the affected population are met</b>		
<b>Output</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>	<b>Progress (%)</b>
<b>Output 1.1:</b> Provision of unconditional cash grants to 4,000 families affected by Cyclone Komen in the 5 districts	Identification of most affected unions in the 5 districts with functioning markets	100%
	Beneficiary selection	75%
	Beneficiary registration and cash form preparation	75%
	Setting up cash transfer programme (CTP) procedures	50%



to cover food and household needs for 3 months	Distribution of unconditional cash grants (BDT 3,000 each HH) to 4,000 families in the first phase through cash in envelope modality	75%
	Onsite monitoring during the distribution	50%
	Distribution of unconditional cash grants (BDT 6,000 each HH) to the same 4,000 families in the second phase through bank transfer modality	0%
	Post distribution monitoring and reporting	30%
<b>Outcome 2:</b> 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)		
Output	Activities planned	Progress (%)
<b>Output 2.1:</b> Provision of cash grant to 500 families for restoring livelihoods.	Beneficiary selection and finalization	0%
	Dissemination of beneficiary list in communities	0%
	Setting up CTP procedures	50%
	Livelihood income generating activities (IGA) proposal finalization	0%
	Distribution of livelihood cash grant (BDT 8,000 each HH) to 500 families through bank transfer modality	0%
	Conduct post distribution survey of livelihoods grants	0%

### Progress:

From the HCTT impact assessments, it is reported that the majority of the communities are facing problems in relation to food. Affected communities are having insufficient food, as they could not afford buying food and basic commodities due to loss of income. They are eating fewer meals per day, borrowing money at high interest rate and purchasing food on credit. The Government responded mostly



Beneficiary registration for cash distribution. Photo: IFRC.

by distributing rice however that is not enough to address the on-going needs. After the JRP from the HCTT, Food Security Cluster took lead to coordinate the area coverage plan with all agencies who had planned to support food assistance to the vulnerable communities. BDRCS and IFRC finalized the most affected unions in five districts in consultation with the Food Security Cluster as well as in consultation with the BDRCS district branches. Beneficiary selection was done for 3,000 families using RAMP as described above. After analysing the market condition and the financial institutions' presence and approximate time to disburse the money to the selected beneficiaries, BDRCS and IFRC decided to transfer the 1<sup>st</sup> instalment using cash-in-envelop modality. As the cash was urgently needed and the amount (BDT

3,000 per family) is within the limit to handover without bank cheque or account, it was decided to choose this modality.<sup>5</sup> However, it is decided that the second instalment (BDT 6,000 per family) will be transferred through bank cheque as the amount is higher and we have time to follow the preparation steps.

It is planned that 4,000 families across five affected districts will be assisted with unconditional cash grant in two different phases for the purpose of purchasing food and household items as required. Each targeted beneficiary family will receive BDT 3,000 (equivalent to CHF 37.5) in the first phase and in the second phase same beneficiaries will receive BDT 6,000 (equivalent to CHF 75). As of now, 3,000 families have been reached in the first phase which is 75 per cent of total targeted beneficiaries. In

<sup>5</sup> Based on the draft BDRCS CTP guideline which will be finalized by end of 2015, with the support of IFRC CTP Delegate.

In addition to the immediate food needs, mid-term food security is a major concern as the food stock of affected families has been destroyed. With the availability of fund in the Appeal, the second phase of distribution for the same 3,000 families will be taken place. The remaining 1,000 families will be covered in one instalment depending upon the availability of fund.

The damage of hectares of crops, fish farms put the affected people in danger of longer term food security and income generation. In order to restore and strengthen the livelihoods, 500 families will be assisted with conditional cash grant of BDT 8,000 (equivalent of CHF 100) for livelihoods in the recovery phase. However, this plan is subjected to availability of fund.

**Challenges:**

- The funding level of the Appeal is crucial in ensuring adequate resources are available for the implementation of the planned activities to meet the immediate needs of the targeted families. The ability to meet this will further prevent deteriorating food insecurity condition which is anticipated if the food aid does not materialize. IFRC and BDRCS are engaging regularly since the disaster onset with the Movement Partners on resourcing for the Appeal and sharing situation and operation updates. The Communications Delegate from IFRC South Asia office in India is initiating a series of web stories to advocate and highlight the BDRCS floods operation, as well as exploring resource mobilization with local partners and donors.

<b>Shelter and settlements</b>		
<b>Outcome 1: Immediate shelter needs of the affected population are addressed</b>		
<b>Output</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>	<b>Progress (%)</b>
<b>Output 1.1:</b> Provision of emergency shelter assistance to 4,000 HHs affected by cyclone Komen and flash floods in 5 districts	Identification of families to receive shelter assistance	75%
	Transportation of tarpaulins from Chittagong warehouse to distribution points	75%
	Volunteer mobilization for distribution	75%
	Distribution of tarpaulins (1 per family)	75%
	Onsite monitoring during the distribution	75%
	Post distribution monitoring and reporting	75%
	Replenishment of tarpaulins through ZLU following standard procurement procedures and standards	0

**Progress:**

A total of 3,000 families (75 per cent of the total target families) have been assisted with emergency shelter support with tarpaulin. 81 per cent of total selected beneficiaries are still living in fully damaged house; distribution of tarpaulin is protecting them from continuous rain. The tarpaulins are being distributed from the current Disaster Preparedness (DP) stock kept in BDRCS warehouse in Chittagong district which is very near from the affected districts. The replenishment of the stock will be taken place as soon as funding is confirmed. BDRCS and IFRC monitoring teams were in the field during and after the distribution which has reported appropriate use of the tarpaulins.



Beneficiaries are using the provided tarpaulin as emergency shelter.  
Photo: IFRC

The recovery phase for shelter and settlement sector is expected to commence in November or December 2015, during early winter season, which is the ideal time for construction. However, this operation has not included any plan for recovery shelter component. This needs further analysis of the overall situation as well as country response scenario and available funding.

**Challenges:**

- As the cyclone season has set in, the tarpaulins distributed need to be re-stocked soon to be prepared for any potential disaster in the coming months. The current stock level for tarpaulins is 7,074, which is lower than the recommended preparedness level.

<b>Disaster preparedness and risk reduction</b>		
<b>Outcome 1: Disaster preparedness measures are taken at the community level in 5 affected districts</b>		
<b>Output</b>	<b>Activities planned</b>	<b>Progress (%)</b>
<b>Output 1.1:</b> Training provided to family members of 4,500 families on DRR issues	Beneficiary selection	0%
	Conducting training-of-trainers on awareness raising and sensitization	0
	Awareness raising activities for 4,500 families	0
	Distribution of IEC materials (including basic safe shelter awareness and safe siting of shelter) and cash (BDT 500) <sup>6</sup> to each family	0

**Progress:**

These activities are planned for the early recovery phase but are contingent upon funding. BDRCS and IFRC will utilize the available manuals to conduct the awareness raising sessions for the affected communities. About thirty volunteers will be trained on the content of the awareness raising issues. These volunteers will then be mobilized to the communities to conduct the sessions with selected families.

**Contact information**

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

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<sup>6</sup> BDT 500 (CHF 6.5) per household as cash for training.

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**For resource mobilization and pledges:**

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- ✓ Please send all pledges for funding to [zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org](mailto:zonerm.asiapacific@ifrc.org)

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## 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 (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster 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.

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**Saving lives, changing minds.**



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

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.