

DREF operation	Operation n° MDRLA008
Date of Issue: 30 May 2023	Glide number: FL-2022-000292-LAO
Operation start date: 24 August 2022	Operation end date: 28 February 2023
Host National Society: Lao Red Cross (LRC)	Operation budget: 468,900
Number of people affected: 56,605	Number of people assisted: 18,467
Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners actively involved in the operation: The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the Swiss Red Cross.	
Other partner organizations actively involved in the operation: - Public departments: Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and the National Disaster Management Office. - Humanitarian organizations: World Food Programme	

Summary of major revisions made to emergency plan of action:

The [Operation Update \(OU\) no.1](#) issued on 23 September 2022 informed changes to this DREF operation, as follows:

- A second allocation of CHF 271,765 was requested, bringing the total DREF allocation to CHF 468,900.
- The number of targeted provinces was increased from three to six, with target population increased to 3,598 households (17,761 people), including an additional 1,278 households (6,435 people).
- The second allocation facilitated the National Society to cover an additional 1,278 households affected by the floods in Oudomxai, Phongsali, and Houaphan provinces, primarily through multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA) and hygiene promotion activities.
- The end date of the operation was revised to 28 February 2023 due a second disaster occurring during the original DREF timeframe, requiring additional assistance.

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the disaster

From 7 to 10 August 2022, heavy rains hit Lao PDR countrywide followed by a tropical storm that caused widespread floods in North, Central, and Southern regions of the country. The flooding and landslides caused roads to become impassable, water and electricity supplies were cut, and many residents evacuated. In Xaignabouri province, the Houng River overflowed, swamping riverside villages and partially submerging houses. People who were forced to leave their homes needed clothing, food and drinking water amongst other needs.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare (MOLSW) released an official report on 15 August 2022 which informed that eight provinces including Houaphan, Xaignabouri, Borkeo, Luangprabang, Vientiane Capital, Salawan, Savanakheth and Champasak were hit particularly hard. A total of 10,131 households (around 42,550 individuals) were affected in 185 villages and 27 districts across eight provinces, one death and two injuries were also reported. The first DREF allocation was requested to support three out of the eight affected provinces, namely Champasak, Salawan and Xaignabouri, for LRC to assist 15,000 people (3,000 households).



Road flooded in Oudomxai province (Photo: LRC)

On 26 August 2022, another round of heavy rains occurred, causing flash floods in Bokeo, Houaphan, Oudomxai, and Phongsali provinces, bringing severe damages. Residential houses were damaged (with some fully destroyed) and power and water supply systems were also disrupted.

An initial assessment report, published by the MOLSW on 3 September 2022, informed around 2,283 households in Oudomxai province were affected, 100 houses were destroyed, and 445 houses were damaged. The report also confirmed the death of one person, one person missing, and five persons with injuries. Some schools in the province also suspended the start of the new school year due to the flooding. In Houaphan province, the same report from MOLSW confirmed that 287 households were affected, four houses were partially damaged, and two persons were injured. Similarly, in Phongsali and Bokeo provinces, the floods affected residential houses, roads, and other community infrastructure.

The damages brought by this subsequent rain and flash floods resulted in more complex humanitarian needs. For example, houses were destroyed or damaged in some areas, farmland was damaged which impacted livelihoods, and hygiene needs were more critical as the baseline situation was not satisfactory. Meanwhile, the prepositioned stock of LRC was already fully mobilized in the distribution in response to the previous flood in early August 2022.

Summary of LRC Response

Overview of Operating National Society



Cash distribution in Oudomxai province (Photo: LRC)



Food packages distribution in Xaignabouri province (Photo: LRC)

Below are key actions taken by LRC in response to the floods:

- **August 2022**, LRC conducted a needs assessment in affected areas and continued to distribute Household kits (kitchen sets) to 87 households (397 people - Male: 203, Female: 194) in Champasak province, and Relief kits to 200 households (973 people - Male: 494, Female: 479) in Xaignabouri province.
- **September 2022**, LRC completed its beneficiary validation and registration in six targeted provinces: Xaignabouri, Oudomxai, Phongsali, Houaphan, Salawan and Champasak, then continued to distribute the following: food packages to 1,111 households (5,400 people - Male: 2,642, Female: 2,758) in Xaignabouri province; household packages (Kitchen sets) to 667 households (3,154 people - Male: 1,745, Female: 1,409) in Champasak province; hygiene kits to 542 households (2,772 people - Male: 1,363, Female: 1,409) in Salawan province. Furthermore, the hygiene promotion activities were conducted in two districts and 13 villages. LRC also completed the Child safeguarding analysis, Prevention and Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) orientation and how to integrate Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) during emergencies, with 21 Participant (Male: 12, Female: 9) from LRC headquarter and branches from Xaignabouri, Sekong, and Salawan provinces. During the last week of September 2022, LRC also conducted hygiene promotion and PGI sessions during emergency sensitization for volunteers in three provinces: Salawan, Champasak and Xaignabouri for 580 participants (Male: 260, Female: 320). In Champasak province, the LRC branch with IFRC provided a briefing on humanitarian communication, took photos (consent form), and planned for distribution.
- **October 2022**: LRC completed the cash refresher step-by-step training in Vientiane capital, with 23 participants (Male: 16, Female: 7) from headquarters, Oudomxai, Houaphan and Phongsali provinces. After that, LRC together with local authorities in Oudomxai province launched the cash distribution ceremony to promote LRC's work on cash assistance to affected people in three targeted provinces. Then, LRC continued to provide Cash assistance to 1,275 households (6,917 people, Male: 3,507, Female: 3,410) in three provinces – Oudomxai, Phongsali and Houaphan. Right after the completion of cash distribution, LRC conducted the cash distribution

lessons learned workshop among the team to understand the gaps and improve its CVA mechanism during the next distribution. A cash delegate was also recruited using the surge system for one month to support LRC with cash distribution from 11 October to 11 November 2022.

- November 2022: IFRC conducted the Financial Service Provider Agreement and provided a debriefing on cash distribution to 18 LRC staff (Male: 12, Female:6). From the result of this meeting/debriefing, LRC agreed to develop its CVA standard operating procedures (SOPs), beneficiary criteria, and more CEA messages.
- December 2022, LRC completed the Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) in Salawan and Champasak Provinces, interviewing 268 households (268 people - Male:81, Female:187)
- January 2023, LRC completed the replenishment of non-food items: 717 kitchen sets, 1,130 hygiene kits, and food items (relief kits 1,153 sets). LRC also completed the remaining PDM in four provinces: Xaignabouli, Phongsaly, Oudomxai and Houaphan, total of 498 households, and 498 people (Male: 220, Female: 278). LRC was preoccupied with other priorities in December 2022/January 2023, during that time it was not able to carry out activities related to the DREF which led to some delays. LRC was able to conduct the remaining hygiene promotion activities in three provinces: Phongsali, Oudomxai and Houaphan reaching 5,755 people (Male: 2,708, Female: 3,047)
- **February 2023**, LRC conducted a DREF introduction and lessons learned workshop with a total of 52 participants (Male: 41, Female: 11) from headquarters and 6 branches: Xaignabouri, Oudomxai, Phongsali, Houaphan, Salawan and Champasak.

Overview of Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in country

The IFRC Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) based in Bangkok supported LRC, in close collaboration with the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) based in Kuala Lumpur. Two IFRC CCD staff members were deployed to Lao PDR to assist the National Society in developing and implementing its DREF plan of action. The Swiss Red Cross (SRC) has been working in Lao PDR alongside LRC, particularly with its headquarters and its Luangprabang branch they also helped during cash and relief kit distribution and joined disaster response meetings. A series of capacity-building activities (i.e., training for LRC staff on Disaster Risk Management, preparedness, and response) were conducted previously (unrelated specifically to this DREF operation) in the Phonexay and Pakxeng districts in Luangprabang which allowed the LRC team in Luangprabang to quickly respond and distribute relief items to affected households in three districts: Xieng Ngeun, Phonexay and Pakxeng.

Overview of non-RCRC actors in country

The public departments, mainly the Department of Labour and Social Welfare and the National Disaster Management Office were involved in response and relief operations to support the affected populations. From humanitarian actors, UNWFP has a presence in Laos where they provided longer-term development activities such as providing support to the MOLSW in building warehouse capacity and providing transportation of government relief items and donations. UNWFP is also providing Government-led multi-sectoral post-disaster needs assessments in three districts in Odomxai province. Under this DREF operation, LRC ensured quality coordination and collaboration with local authorities and other humanitarian organizations, so that duplications were avoided, and synergies encouraged.

Needs analysis and scenario planning

Needs analysis

According to the rapid assessment from the MOLSW, which was released on 15 August 2022, eight provinces including Houaphan, Xaignabouri, Bokeo, Luangprabang, Vientiane Capital, Salawan, Savanakheth, and Champasak were hit particularly hard. A total of 10,131 households (around 42,550 people) were affected in 185 villages, and 27 districts across 8 provinces, and one death and two injuries were also reported.

Regarding the continuation of flooding which happened between 26 August to 2 September 2022, three additional provinces (Houaphan, Oudomxai, and Phongsali), were affected. The rapid assessment from the MOLSW which was released on 3 September 2022 indicated that around 2,283 households in Oudomxai province were affected, 100 houses were completely damaged/destroyed, and 445 others were partially damaged. In Houaphan province, the same report from MOLSW, confirmed that 287 households were affected, 4 houses were partially damaged, and 2 persons were injured. Similar to Phongsali province, there were 97 households and 587 people were affected. The immediate and key needs of the affected households were diverse, ranging from food, water, hygiene knowledge, hygiene, and household items, to shelter repair materials and equipment, and livelihoods.

Shelter: LRC conducted the beneficiary validation from 19-27 August 2022 and identified that there was a need for household items, such as kitchen sets as families lost their items during the floods. Some houses were destroyed, and others were partially affected; there is a need to provide support to the families to cover their immediate needs for

shelter, especially to recover household items lost during the emergency. The additional shelter-affected population were addressed by the government by providing temporary shelter (households whose houses are destroyed) and shelter kits (households with partially destroyed housing). LRC provided essential household items (kitchen sets) to 667 households in Champasak province.

WASH: As a result of a need assessment from LRC, hygiene care has deteriorated along with low practice of good hygiene, especially in rural areas. Therefore, hygiene kits were provided to 542 households in 2 districts and 13 villages in Salawan province, alongside hygiene promotion activities. According to the report from the Ministry of Health, Dengue fever infections across Laos had reached 18,043 cases by January 2022, including 17 deaths. By August 2022, 1,180 cases of Dengue fever were reported in Salawan province. From the result of beneficiary validation, and based on the needs, LRC provided a sensitization on hygiene promotion, especially prevention from Dengue to affected people in targeted four provinces (Oudomxai, Phongsali, Houaphan, and Salawan).

Livelihoods: The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare (MOLSW) at the provincial level released the 2nd report that three provinces (Xaignabouri, Oudomxai, Phongsali) were hit by the second round of floods from 26 August to 2 September 2022. Their livelihoods such as farmland, landslide and road access had been disrupted. The loss of crops impacted household's economic security, there was a need to support with cash grants to cover their immediate needs at a household level. Initial Red Cross key observations suggest that local shops and retailers were still operational. Assessments showed that the local market system was fully operational, therefore LRC provided cash assistance to support affected people in Xaignabouri, Oudomxai, and Phongsali provinces.

Operation Risk Assessment

LRC has good access to all parts of the country, including the geographically hard-to-reach areas. Good access is based on wide acceptance from all stakeholders and the organizational structure of LRC (high number of volunteers from affected communities). For providing humanitarian relief in any emergency and/or disaster context:

- LRC and IFRC ensured that the design, planning, implementation and monitoring of LRC programmes incorporated acceptance as a core approach to gain safe access in the communities in both emergency humanitarian relief and development contexts.
- All components of IFRC's Principles and Rules for Red Cross Red Crescent Humanitarian Assistance were fully integrated into the programme design and implementation and adopted by all staff.
- Community engagement was conducted in the target areas by having regular consultation meetings, and gatherings with key influential stakeholders explaining the impartiality, neutrality, transparency of LRC, and information about programme goals, timeline, and other relevant programme information before starting the programme.

To mitigate the risks to the LRC interventions and personnel, LRC and IFRC continued to work on and engage with all parties and stakeholders, clear and strict security protocols and procedures as well as continue to extend its partner's engagement and capacity. This is in combination with continued analysis and a low-profile approach. LRC and IFRC had dedicated staff who regularly visited affected areas to provide training and support to field staff on the safe delivery of project activities. The table below includes some potential risks anticipated and the mitigation measures LRC and IFRC implemented.

Potential risk	Mitigation measure
Injuries or loss of life of staff or volunteer due to collateral damage.	Ensured availability of first aid kit in vehicles, first aid-trained staff, keep distance from potential targets, real-time monitoring of the situation and advising staff and volunteers, communicated activities and movement with all stakeholders, use of protective emblem, Critical Incident Management and Emergency plans in place, movement monitoring.
Perception issues related to the conduct of the operation or activities which may impact the access and acceptance of LRC	Ensured the dissemination of LRC operation, the activities, its approach, including the methodology of selecting people to receive assistance to all stakeholders. For community-based distribution activities, proper communication with the communities was maintained. Sensitisation meetings with community elders and members was used to manage crowd control. Sensitisation meetings discussed the nature of the assistance, exact targeted locations, the type of assistance, time, date, and venue of distribution as well as the distribution process with beneficiaries and duly incorporated their feedback.
Staff or volunteers abducted/ kidnapped due to disputes between the stakeholders	Awareness sessions for staff and volunteers, clear communication of neutral, independent, and impartial humanitarian action (NIHA) nature of the organization to all stakeholders, monitoring of the situation, daily communication with all stakeholders, training of staff

	and volunteers on actions in critical situations, avoiding of disputed areas, movement monitoring.
Extortion or robbery of staff or volunteers due to the existence of criminal groups or illegal checkpoints.	Advised staff and volunteers not to carry valuables and to comply with requests, use of protective emblem, real-time communication with all stakeholders, monitoring of the situation, and releasing advisories to staff and volunteers accordingly.
Risks associated with community-based in-kind distribution activities.	LRC put in place crowd control mechanisms, including gender-segregated queuing structures outside of the distribution centres and will mark queues using hazard tape inside the distribution centres. LRC invited people to receive assistance to come to the distribution centres in groups, thereby reducing the amount of time they must spend queuing outside.
COVID-19 context	To mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to ensure the safety of the people who received assistance and the staff who will be involved in distributions, the COVID-19 SOP will be followed, and physical distance maintained. Moreover, masks, handwashing facilities, and sanitisers will be available in distribution sites.
Health-related risks: water-borne diseases (cholera, malaria, and Dengue fever): Given the context, there is a risk (in some areas) of the spread of water-borne diseases, consisting of faecal-oral diseases, water-related diseases and aquatic diseases.	LRC together with volunteers at branches provided health promotion sensitization to affected people in targeted communities, the topic should cover water-borne diseases consisting of fecal-oral diseases, water-related diseases and aquatic diseases including dengue which is common in Laos. They will inform families about the risks of transmission and about cleaning their homes and surroundings, remove stagnant water and curb pollution. In case of suspicion, they would inform the local health authorities to prevent the spread of a potential epidemic at an early stage. Volunteers were given information on how to properly protect themselves against waterborne diseases and were provided with protective equipment such as alcohol gel.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Proposed strategy

The primary objective of the DREF operation was initially to provide immediate humanitarian assistance to 3,000 households (15,000 people) severely affected by floods to meet their immediate food and non-food basic needs. This was realized through the implementation of emergency shelters, livelihood assistance, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) activities in three target provinces - Champasak, Salawan, and Xaignaboury.

With the second DREF allocation, LRC aimed to provide MPCA and hygiene promotion support to the identified 1,278 households in Houaphanh, Oudomxai, and Phongsali provinces. MPCA was adopted as it could enable households affected by floods to address their diverse and immediate needs flexibly.

Moreover, LRC had used up its preposition stock and the timeline of procurement would not be able to facilitate a timely response. Understanding the lessons learned and challenges in previous operations with the lengthy and complex procurement process, MPCA was proposed and was most suitable to be mobilized in this context.

No.	Province	Sector/activities						No. of HH	No. of People
		Shelter (Kitchen sets)	Livelihoods/ cash grants	Livelihood/ Food baskets	WASH/Hygiene kits	WASH/ Hygiene promotion	PGI		
1	Xaignaboury			x		x	x	1,111	5,624
2	Salawan				x	x	x	542	2,772
3	Champasak	x				x	x	667	3,154
4	Houaphan		x			x	x	299	1,774
5	Oudamxai		x			x	x	814	4,443
6	Phongsali		x				x	162	700
Total								3,595	18,467

Following a beneficiary validation conducted by the LRC in September 2022, the number of affected people was adjusted to reflect the actual needs of the beneficiaries. Additionally, it was identified that some of the affected individuals had already received assistance from the government. According to LRC records, the total number of people who received assistance was 18,467, which corresponds to 3,595 households as shown in earlier table.

The operation strategy/plan included the following components:

(i) Distribution of relief assistance targeting 2,320 households in three provinces.

Public departments (Labour and Social Welfare and the NDMO) have asked LRC to support the provision of relief assistance to 3,000 households in three provinces. However, the assistance was provided to 2,320 households, due to the validation of the actual needs of the beneficiaries and affected households received support from the Lao Government. More details:

- Champasak: LRC distributed essential household items (kitchen sets) to 667 households in need. The rest of the needs including food, water, and hygiene promotion were covered by other service providers including the public departments.
- Salawan: LRC distributed hygiene kits to 542 households with hygiene promotion activities.
- Xaignabouri: LRC supported the local authorities by providing relief kits (food baskets) to 1,111 households. The water, shelter, and hygiene needs, in this province, were covered by public departments.

It is worth explaining that LRC used the relief items prepositioned in its warehouses to distribute to target households in three provinces as noted above. Under this DREF operation, LRC completed the replenishment of the items in its warehouses.

(ii) Procurement of relief items for replenishment purposes

The procurement activities planned under the shelter, livelihoods, and WASH component of this operation were for replenishment purposes. Because LRC used items such as hygiene kits, essential household items (kitchen sets), and food baskets from its warehouses, the procurements already replenished these items in its warehouses. Hence, under this DREF operation, LRC, with technical assistance from the procurement and logistics team of IFRC, procured 667 kitchen sets, 542 hygiene kits, and 1,111 relief kits (food baskets).

(iii) Implementation of needs assessment in all provinces affected by floods

The LRC teams have joined the teams from public departments in conducting needs assessments in flood-affected provinces. During the submission of this DREF application, needs assessments were being implemented in eight provinces (including the three provinces where LRC have distributed activities). Based on the result of needs assessments (especially for five provinces where LRC did not have distribution activities) and the coordination with public departments, LRC decided to expand its response activities to all provinces affected by floods and requested a second DREF allocation.

(iv) Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA): CEA is amongst the core components of IFRC's and LRC's humanitarian programming. Under this DREF operation, IFRC and LRC integrated CEA in all aspects of field implementation, applying the Movement-wide commitments and minimum actions for community engagement and accountability. The CEA approach emphasized a more regular or permanent presence in the communities and strong community engagement from the outset. It promoted resilience among the affected communities by ensuring they can access humanitarian assistance as necessary, have the required information on the services available to them, and are involved in the planning and delivery of assistance, including beneficiary selection, distribution of cash assistance, and implementation of post-distribution monitoring activities.

The main operation activities are regularly accompanied by community-based information and sensitization sessions in the community. The community engagement was facilitated and supported by the pre-established community volunteers (male and female), which played instrumental roles in facilitating the identification and participation of vulnerable individuals and groups, and the implementation of the planned activities. To ensure meaningful integration of Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) and CEA in this operation, LRC, at community levels, also trained volunteers from displaced groups who were engaged and supported the implementation of the operation in their respective communities. Community elders/representatives took an active role in beneficiary assessment and selection along with certain members of the community that were part of community committees. For instance, once the implementation communities were mapped out, the LRC team met with the respective community members and provided them with beneficiary selection criteria, ensuring that the wider community understands the response, and the criteria were finalized in coordination with the community leaders. The process was documented and shared with sector colleagues to impact their activities too. The process provided an opportunity to answer questions and shared information with communities as well as listen and document their inputs.

(v) Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA): With the second DREF allocation, LRC intended to reach an additional 1,278 households affected by floods in Houaphan, Oudomxai, and Phongsali provinces. LRC planned to provide each beneficiary household with one-off multipurpose cash grant assistance. The transfer value per household was planned at CHF 180 (LAK 2,927,772), and it was in line with the minimum expenditure recommended by the Lao

Cash Working Group. This MPCA would be sufficient to cover food, WASH (hygiene), and essential household items (HHI) needs of a family of five for one month, with 30 per cent of inflations of food basket considered, or the households have the flexibility to use the fund on their most pressing needs.

By the end of the operation, LRC assisted a total of 1,275 households, with three households not meeting LRC's selection criteria. The transfer value was adjusted to LAK 2,500,000 (CHF 127.22) per household, which took into account transportation costs that LRC covered. These costs ranged from an estimated LAK 30,000 (CHF 1.53) to 80,000 (CHF 4.07) per family, depending on the distance between their residence and the cash distribution point.

Considering that LRC does not have any framework agreement signed with a Financial Service Provider (FSP), the cash transfer mechanism was "cash in envelope", and it was distributed by the LRC finance team and disaster management team. One of the lessons learned from previous relief operations implemented in 2020 was that procurement was lengthy and complicated with a need to build the capacity of staff in the procurement process and procedures. Procurement took around 4-6 weeks as opposed to a faster cash distribution mechanism mobilised then, and hence, LRC conducted the same cash distribution mechanism through this operation.

Any kind of cash assistance depends on a functioning market, and as part of the needs assessment detailed above, LRC also conducted a rapid market assessment in target provinces (Houaphan, Oudomxai, and Phongsali) to assess the functionality of local markets, the capacity of local vendors, availability, and price of key commodities, and to assess the potential impact of a cash intervention on the market. Vendors in local markets and key informants in communities were interviewed.

Markets are functioning with households, including men and women, who are regularly accessing markets in target locations. All key commodities (food and non-food) were available in the market. To support the implementation of cash transfer activities, IFRC deployed a CVA surge to Lao PDR for one month in the country along with remote support before arrival in Laos. The CVA surge provided technical assistance to the LRC programme, finance, and PMER team during field implementation.

(vi) Hygiene Promotion: LRC also implemented hygiene promotion activities in the six targeted provinces and, the households, that received MPCA, were also supported with hygiene promotion activities. LRC Health and WASH team provided hygiene promotion training to volunteers who will then support the dissemination of hygiene promotion messages in target communities. IEC materials with hygiene promotion messages could not be produced due to limited time and LRC's Health staff had to focus on hygiene promotion activities and other ongoing health projects which ended by last year.

(vii) Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) was conducted by the LRC team and IFRC PMER in Champasak province for household kits, Salavan province for hygiene kits and Xaignaboury province for food packages. The PDM of Cash assistance was also conducted in Oudomxai, Houaphan and Phongsali provinces. The results of PDM can be found under the detailed operation plan.

Human resources

LRC had limited trained staff to support the DREF operation, CCD Bangkok staff continued supporting the coordination, finance, communication, and reporting. Additional surge support (Cash) for the operation also was deployed. The trained volunteers, around 60 people in 3 provinces, also mobilized to support LRC.

Logistics and supply chain

LRC led the procurement process and was supported and monitored by the IFRC Programme Officer based in Lao PDR. There is a need for LRC's logistic team to better understand IFRC logistics and procurement regulations to improve the alignment between LRC and IFRC logistics and procurement mechanisms.

Communications

Communications was a key component of this operation. The principal aim was to ensure that this humanitarian response was professionally communicated, understood, and supported by internal and external stakeholders. Maintaining a steady flow of timely and accurate public information focused on the humanitarian needs and the LRC response was done to support humanitarian diplomacy and effective resource mobilization efforts.

Communication measures aimed at enhancing collaboration with key partners and stakeholders and mitigating reputational risks. Materials were developed and shared, including high-quality photos and key messages to guide partner communications and social media posts. Spokespeople were identified, supported, and pitched to the media. Coverage was monitored. Where possible, journalists and others were supported to visit Red Crescent activities. Furthermore, all communications products preserved the dignity of people and promote diversity, gender inclusion and respect.

IFRC supported the LRC communications team to communicate with external audiences with a focus on the floods and the Red Cross and Red Crescent humanitarian actions assisting the affected people. The communications generated

visibility and support for the humanitarian needs and the Red Cross Red Crescent response. Close collaboration was maintained between LRC, IFRC CCD Communication staff, and the IFRC APRO regional communications unit, to ensure a coherent and coordinated communications approach.

Communications content was promoted on national, regional, and global IFRC channels and shared with National Societies in the IFRC network. Media and social media scanning increased effectiveness and contributed to assessing and managing risks.

Security

The National Society's security framework was applied throughout the operation to their staff. All IFRC staff must, and Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers were encouraged, to complete the IFRC Stay Safe e-learning courses (e.g., Stay Safe Personal Security, Stay Safe Security Management and Stay Safe Volunteer Security online training).

Public and integrated PNS deployed to the area utilized the existing IFRC country security plan, including security regulations, and contingency plans for medical emergencies. Any field missions undertaken by IFRC personnel were undertaken following the current IFRC travel approval processes, current health advisories and business continuity planning (BCP) guidance regarding COVID-19. Furthermore, the National Society's Staff and volunteers were aware of the security status and briefed on reactions in emergency by the National Society Security Focal Point.

Planning, monitoring, evaluation, & reporting (PMER)

LRC were responsible for the implementation and monitoring of all activities for the DREF operation with support from IFRC CCD Bangkok. In the first instance, collation and reporting of the findings of needs assessments in the field was the priority to finalize requirements for an additional DREF allocation, and activities to support the affected population. Progress reports and the final report were issued accordingly.

PDM visits were conducted around two weeks after distribution activities. For the PDM data collection, including SADDD (sex, age, disability disaggregated data) planned under this emergency operation, LRC used the PDM tool created in collaboration with IFRC technical staff. The PDM data was collected by LRC PMER staff and by external enumerators.

During implementation, in addition to submitting the progress status reports, PDM reports were developed and shared with relevant and concerned parties with successes and challenges shared based on the response experiences regularly. PDM activities enabled LRC to review key aspects of response quality and effectiveness, including the accessibility of assistance to all target groups (irrespective of gender, age, and disability), satisfaction with the distribution process, timeliness of assistance provided, to what extent assistance was adequate in meeting needs, perceptions on appropriateness and relevance of the assistance and record perceptions on treatment by transfer agents and staff.

A lessons learned workshop was also conducted at the end of the operation to allow LRC and IFRC country teams to deeply investigate the response operational and service delivery rationale and what could be further enhanced in the quality of implementation.

Administration and Finance

Operational expenses such as per-diem, accommodation, transportation, communication, and coordination activities were regulated by IFRC procedures with the support of the IFRC CCD. Finance and administration support to the operation was provided by LRC headquarters, with assistance from the finance and administration team of the IFRC CCD and APRO, when required.

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL PLAN

 Shelter People reached: 3,154 Male: 1,745 Female: 1,409		
Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached with safe, appropriate and adequate shelter and settlements assistance.	3,154	3,154
# of households are provided with emergency shelter and settlement assistance	667	667

Narrative description of achievements

The flood damaged infrastructure including equipment and amenities which led to the disruption of the routine functioning of schools, health facilities, and community shelters/ public buildings that could otherwise have served as shelter and respite for people in the affected areas. Several of the public buildings which were damaged during the disaster also lost connectivity and were inaccessible due to damage to roads and bridges.

During the needs assessment, LRC joined with teams from various public departments to conduct assessments in provinces affected by floods in August 2022 and identified that there was a need for household items such as kitchen sets, as families lost their items during the floods.

Some houses were destroyed, and others were partially affected and there was a need to provide support to the families to cover their immediate needs for shelter, especially to recover household items lost during the emergency. The additional shelter-affected population were addressed by the government by providing temporary shelter (households whose houses were destroyed) and shelter kits (households with partially damaged housing).



Household item (kitchen set) distribution in Champasak province (Photo: IFRC)

The initial estimates for the number of affected households and population were slightly inaccurate. The primary targeted households that LRC should assist were 717 households (3,585 people). With the initial estimates, LRC was still able to assist 87 families, with a total of 397 individuals (Male: 203, Female: 194).

Subsequently, in September 2022, LRC had to conduct again the validation of beneficiaries in six targeted provinces including Champasak province to identify the actual needs. The total household items distribution was adjusted to 667 households (HHs) (3,154 people, Male: 1,745, Female: 1,409), which included the number of households mentioned above. The gap from the primary target was covered by the local government.

LRC conducted PDM of household items (kitchen set) in Champasak province. A total of 143 people (Male: 22, Female: 121) participated in the interviews. The majority of the respondents expressed satisfaction with the household items (Kitchen set) distribution and reported being able to use the items for up to four weeks. However, some beneficiaries also mentioned that they would prefer to receive cash as it would allow them to purchase necessary household items.

Challenges

- LRC encountered difficulties identifying beneficiary data because of inaccurate data provided by related sectors and LRC coordinated and collaborated with the government sector several times.
- Procurement of kitchen sets was time-consuming in accordance with IFRC's APRO approval and a large number of documents were required from suppliers. LRC assigned a new procurement committee that had never participated and was not familiar with IFRC procurement regulations and all documents needed to be translated into English for getting approval from the regional office. The kitchen sets took almost three months to procure stock replenishment.
- The kitchen sets were distributed to beneficiaries but did not response to their needs well enough, rather people preferred Cash assistance to in-kind assistance according to PDM results.

Lessons Learned

- A needs assessment should use the KoBo toolbox for collecting data and all distributions should prepare beneficiary cards and distribute them before the distribution stage to ensure proper distribution process and avoid any delays.
- Preposition of stock is needed to be ready for rapid response during an emergency.
- LRC needs to strengthen their knowledge of IFRC procurement regulations as well as to include staff who are fluent in English with the LRC Procurement Committee.
- Cash and voucher assistance was considered as a priority for the assistant pursuant to the experience of cash distribution in three provinces and most people required it to align with humanitarian global assistance trends.



Livelihoods and basic needs

People reached: 6,917

Male: 3,507

Female: 3,410

Indicators:	Target	Actual
% of households who report being able to meet the basic needs of their households, according to their priorities	80%	47 %
# of people who successfully received cash for basic needs after being identified and processed for transfer	11,835	6,917

Narrative description of achievements

As of August 2022, 183 villages in the 8 provinces (Xaignabouri, Huaphan, Borkeo, Luangprabang, Vientiane capital, Savanakheth, Salavan, Champasak), with an estimated 10,131 households (42,550 people) were affected by the floods. Based on initial data collected, the NDMO and MOLSW which joined LRC at the branches level in a joint conducting assessment, has identified the most urgent needs to be food, water, household items, hygiene kit and medicines, as well as boats and equipment to support the ongoing search and rescue operation.

Following the primary assessment, LRC planned to support the local authorities in Xaignabouri province by providing relief kits in the form of food packages to 1,153 households. While the water, shelter, and hygiene needs were being addressed by public departments, LRC was committed to ensuring that affected households had access to sufficient food supplies. However, due to unforeseen circumstances, the number of food packages had to be reduced to 1,111 households, assisting 5,400 people (Male: 2,642, Female: 2,758). LRC completed the distribution of the food packages by the end of September 2022.

MOLSW at the provincial level released the 2nd report that three provinces were hit by the second round of floods from 26 August to 2 September 2022. Their livelihoods such as farmland, landslides and road access had been disrupted. The loss of crops was impacting the household's economic security, there was a need to support with cash grants to cover their immediate needs at household levels. Initial Red Cross key observations suggested that local shops and retailers were still operational. The latest assessment showed that the local market system was fully operational.

In September 2022, LRC received a second DREF allocation for MPCA to assist the affected population in Houaphanh, Oudomxai, and Phongsali provinces, there was a requirement for beneficiary validation, so LRC response team deployed its staff to validate affected beneficiaries in these three provinces. For data collection, LRC used mobile data collection tools (Kobo toolbox) to register household beneficiaries.

The target was to support 1,278 households severely affected by floods in the said province, and the value of the transfer would be CHF180 (LAK 2,927,772) which was in line with the minimum expenditure basket recommended by Lao Cash Working Group. This MPCA would cover one-month food, WASH (hygiene), and essential household items needs of target households.

As a result of beneficiary validation, LRC had to revise the new target under this sector to 1,275 households (6,917 people). By the end of the operation, LRC provided cash assistance to a total of 1,275 households. The transfer value was adjusted to LAK 2,500,000 per household, which took into account transportation costs that LRC covered, the transportation costs ranged from an estimated LAK 30,000 to 80,000 per family, depending on the distance between their residence and the cash distribution point.

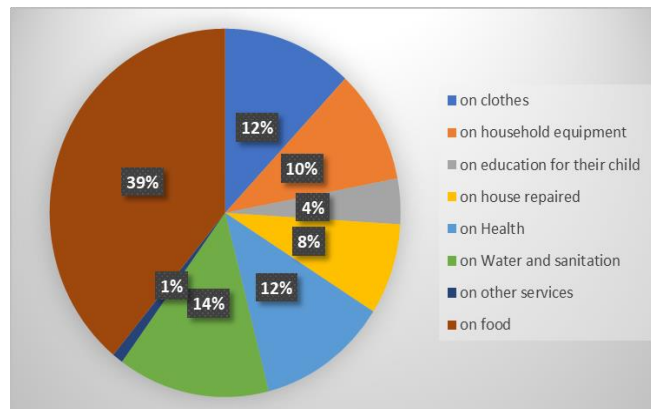
In October 2023, LRC deployed its staff including Finance, Disaster Management together with IFRC surge to distribute cash in Houaphanh, Oudomxai, and Phongsaly provinces. Due to concern that LRC does not have any framework agreement signed with a Financial Service Provider (FSP), the cash transfer mechanism was "cash in envelope". LRC finance team assisted in facilitating with a bank at the provincial level, to withdraw money and put it in envelopes, while the disaster management team provided coordination with local authorities to reach out to beneficiaries.

LRC conducted PDM of food packages in Xaignabouri province. A total of 239 families and 1,280 people (Male: 655, Female: 625) participated in the interviews. The majority of the respondents expressed satisfaction with the hygiene kit distribution and reported being able to use the items for up to four weeks. However, some beneficiaries also mentioned that they would prefer to receive cash as it would allow them to purchase necessary household items. LRC also conducted the PDM of cash distribution in three provinces – Phongsali, Oudomxai and Houaphan. A total of 259 households participated in the survey.

Provinces	No. of HH/respondents	Female	Male
Phongsali	34	5	29
Oudomxai	165	89	76
Houaphan	60	17	43
Total	259	111	148

When asked whether persons were satisfied with the cash distribution, the majority were completely satisfied, and people spent money on;

- 12 per cent on clothes
- 10 per cent on household equipment
- 4 per cent on education for their child
- 8 per cent on house repairs.
- 12 per cent on Health (home remedies 3.5 per cent, travel to hospital 3.5 per cent, treatment cost 5 per cent)
- 14 per cent on water and sanitation
- 1 per cent on other services
- 39 per cent on food



A beneficiary of cash assistance being interviewed in Oudomxai province (Photo: LRC).



A beneficiary receiving food package in Xiagnabouri province (Photo: LRC)

Challenges

- LRC faced challenges related to the lack of a framework agreement with an FSP, which required the deployment of staff members to the field to prevent and mitigate fraud and transparency issues.

Lessons Learned

- To enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of future cash interventions, LRC recognizes the importance of having a signed framework agreement with an FSP. This would allow LRC to reduce the amount of staff required for cash distribution, while also ensuring that the process is transparent and fraud-free. Therefore, LRC is actively pursuing the signing of a framework agreement with an FSP for future cash interventions.



Water, sanitation and hygiene

People reached: 9,689

Male: 4,870

Female: 4,819

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of people reached by WASH assistance	9,207	9,689
# of people reached by hygiene promotion activities in the response period	9,207	9,689

Narrative description of achievements

In August 2022, 183 villages in the 8 provinces (Xaignabouri, Huaphan, Borkeo, Luangprabang, Vientiane capital, Savanakheth, Salavan and Champasak), with an estimated 10,131 households (42,550 people) were affected by the floods. Based on initial data collected by the NDMO and MOLSW and LRC at branch levels during a joint assessment, the most urgent needs identified were food, water, household items, hygiene kits and medicines, as well as boats and equipment to support the ongoing search and rescue operation. Risk factors related to vector-borne disease (such as dengue fever and malaria) and water-borne disease (such as diarrhoea) were also elevated as people affected had limited access to safe water for drinking and hygiene and appropriate sanitation facilities.



Distribution of hygiene kits in Salavan province (Photo: LRC)

LRC conducted an assessment to identify areas in need of assistance, as a result, six provinces - Xaignabouri, Salavan, Champasak, Houaphan, Oudomxai, and Phongsali were identified as requiring support. The assessment found that hygiene care in Salavan province deteriorated, particularly in rural areas where there is a low practice of good hygiene. To address this, LRC originally planned to provide hygiene kits to 1,130 households (5,651 people) in Salavan province, along with hygiene promotion activities. However, due to certain constraints, the hygiene kits were ultimately reduced to 542 households, which were distributed across 2 districts and 13 villages in Salavan province. Hygiene promotion activities were also conducted alongside the distribution of the kits. The hygiene promotion activities included providing information on health impacts during floods, assessing community health behaviours, educating on ways to prevent disease transmission (from faeces to mouth), demonstrating how to properly wash hands and establish handwashing stations, promoting household water treatment, and providing guidance on seasonal disease prevention such as dengue fever and flu.

Meanwhile, Houaphan, Oudomxai, and Phongsali provinces received cash assistance from LRC along with hygiene promotion activities. Due to their experience with cash distribution and the need for a quick response, an in-kind procurement would have delayed the operation. In Xaignabouri and Champasak provinces, LRC provided only household items and food baskets, as these two provinces had already received support from the Ministry of Health for hygiene promotion.

LRC conducted a PDM of hygiene kits in Salavan province. A total of 125 families/respondents (59 male and 66 female) participated in the interviews. The majority of the respondents expressed satisfaction with the hygiene kit distribution and reported being able to use the items for up to four weeks. However, some beneficiaries also mentioned that they would prefer to receive cash as it would allow them to purchase necessary household items.

Contents of the hygiene kit:

No.	Description
1	- Soap (65 g_brand: Dettol or equivalent) - 05 piece /set
2	- Washing powder (450 g_Brand: Pao or equivalent) - 02 pack /set
3	- Shampoo (350 ml_Head & Shoulder or equivalent)- 01 bottle/set
4	- Adult toothpaste (170 g_Brand:Colgate or equivalent) - 01 tube/set
5	- Adult toothbrush (brand: Colgate or equivalent) - 05 piece/set
6	- Kid toothpaste (40 g_Brand: Kodomo or equivalent) - 01 tube/set
7	- Kid toothbrush (Brand: Colgate or equivalent) - (05 piece/set
8	- Disposal razor (1 blade, plastic handle, 2 razor blades) 02 piece/set
9	- Nail clipper (stainless, standard size)- 01 piece/set
10	- Cloth brush (soft, plastic handle, length: 7-9 cm) -02 piece /set
11	- Comb (two sizes brush, length: 21.5) 01 piece/set
12	- Sanitary pad (4 pcs/pack, length: 22 cm, Brand: Sofy 5 pack) /set
13	- Hand towel (30 x 70 cm or equivalent) 02 sheets /set
14	- Bath towel (80 x 140 cm or equivalent) 02 sheets/set
15	- Plastic box (31 x 49.5 x 19.5 cm) - 01 box/set

Challenges

- LRC is currently facing funding constraints that limit its ability to preposition relief items, such as hygiene kits, in all warehouse regions. As part of this DREF operation, LRC replenished its stock of hygiene kits at its headquarters warehouse, rather than procuring new ones, as the procurement process mandated by IFRC can take up to 10 to 12 weeks.
- Lack of small emergency funds to support during emergencies for WASH activities, such as water supply, and hygiene promotion.

Lessons Learned

- This approach allowed LRC to utilize its existing inventory at the first stage of the emergency and replenish the items later, given the funding constraints.
- LRC should prepare a WASH contingency plan for quick response along with accessing provincial emergency funds and setting up emergency funds for LRC at the branch level.

**Protection, Gender and Inclusion****People reached: 18,467**

Male: 9,481

Female: 8,986

Indicators:	Target	Actual
<i>Operation demonstrates evidence of addressing the specific needs to ensure equitable access to disaster response services</i>	Yes	Yes
<i>Operation ensures improved equitable access to basic services, considering different needs based on gender and other diversity factors.</i>	Yes	Yes

Narrative description of achievements

Emergencies exacerbate existing gender inequalities, and incidences of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) often increase during and after emergencies. Multiple forms of gender-based violence, particularly, domestic, psychological, and sexual abuse were reported, affecting individuals in hosting and displaced communities alike. Holistic approaches aimed at prevention and response and stronger coordination among government actors are needed to reduce vulnerabilities and mitigate short and longer-term protection risks. Timely identification of protection risks and violations through systematic and coordinated protection monitoring and analysis informed preventative, responsive, and remedial interventions, as well as enhanced accountability. This includes evidence-based advocacy, protection-specific service delivery, and community-based mobilization, mitigation, and prevention activities creating a protection-conducive environment.

The original aim for this sector was to reach 3,000 households (15,000 individuals) severely impacted by floods in the target provinces of Xaignabouli, Champasak, and Salawan to assist with food baskets household kits, and hygiene kits. However, due to a second flood, LRC had to request a second DREF allocation to cover three additional provinces, namely Udomxay, Huaphan, and Phongsaly, which received cash assistance from LRC.

LRC effectively integrated and mainstreamed “Protection, Gender and Inclusion” (PGI) activities in the six provinces mentioned above. PGI activities under this DREF operation included i) Conducted Child safeguarding and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) orientation, Child safeguarding analysis and PGI during emergency to LRC staff at headquarters (including leadership) and representatives of the six provinces, ii) conducted PGI during emergency sensitization for volunteerS in six provinces. The revised target based on actual activities was 3,595 households reached (18,467 people).



LRC disseminated “PGI during Emergency” messages to beneficiaries in Salawan province (Photo: LRC)

Challenges

- PGI was integrated and mainstreamed in target provinces, however, in other provinces, they still need more dissemination on PGI activities for all projects/programmes.

Lessons Learned

- LRC should extend the number of staff and volunteers to support during emergencies who can provide assistance on PGI with affected communities.

Strategies for Implementation

Indicators:	Target	Actual
# of NS branches that are well functioning in the operation	6	6
# of volunteers involved in the operation provided with briefing/orientation	120	360
Does the operation demonstrate evidence of effective and coordinated international disaster response?	Yes	Yes
# of relevant surge profiles deployed to support the operation	5	1
% of procurement carried as per IFRC standards	100%	100%
LRC engages with other humanitarian actors for coordinated humanitarian intervention. (Target: Yes - Inter Agency group).	Yes	Yes
IFRC and NS are visible, trusted and effective advocates on humanitarian issues	Yes	Yes
# of assessments done for needs, capacities, and gaps.	1	1
# of lessons learned workshop conducted	1	1

Narrative description of achievements

LRC volunteers, who were an integral part of this DREF operation, supported the planned activities, such as community socialization meetings, beneficiary assessments, and the distribution of relief kits.

LRC well-coordinated and collaborated with local authorities, such as the Department of Labour and Social Welfare and the National Disaster Management Office, and other humanitarian actors (e.g., UNWFP) in target provinces. Quality coordination with the stakeholders was maintained during the entire field implementation period of operation.

The LRC team joined the teams from public departments in conducting needs assessments in flood-affected provinces and needs assessments were implemented in eight provinces. Based on the needs assessment findings and coordination with public departments, the LRC decided to expand its response activities to six provinces affected by floods and requested a second allocation of DREF support.

LRC worked closely with the IFRC from the CCD Bangkok office to implement a DREF operation and promoted their work at the community level. At the end of the operation, a lessons learned workshop was conducted in February 2023 to identify what was relevant, and the results that were achieved, and to evaluate the implementation process. Through this workshop, the LRC aimed to identify key lessons learned that can be used to further strengthen their preparedness to respond to future emergencies, as well as for long-term programming.



DREF lessons learned workshop (Photo: LRC)

Several recommendations emerged from the lessons learned workshop that LRC should take into consideration. These include building the capacity of LRC staff at the branch level on need assessments, KoBo, PGI, CEA health promotion, cash, and DREF application training (3-5 days). Additionally, there is a need to improve the LRC staff's capacity in information management. The workshop also recommended that emergency funds should be available at both the headquarters and branch levels. Finally, establishing financial service provider agreements and other service agreements with suppliers such as translators/interpreters, car rental services, and others was deemed necessary.

D. Financial Report

A total of CHF 468,900 was allocated from the DREF fund for LRC to respond to the needs of approximately 18,467 people. The total expenditure recorded by the end of the operation was CHF 428,193 (91 per cent of the budget spent), leaving a balance of CHF 40,707 which will be returned to the DREF pool.

The main reason for underspending the total budget was due to the budget allocated for the purchase of hygiene kits, which was under the WASH sector. The allocated budget was intended for 1,130 hygiene kits, but only 542 sets were needed as validated by LRC beneficiary assessments. This resulted in a significant portion of the budget remaining unspent. Other variances in the budget reflect the actual needs on the ground and the allocation of resources to meet the requirements of the affected population.

One of the main variances was the expenditure under the multi-purpose cash component which was higher than in the original budget. This variance reflects a change in operational context following a more thorough needs assessment, which led LRC to enhance the CVA component of its DREF operation, including by increasing the capacities of its staff and volunteers to ensure a smooth implementation. More details are in the Livelihoods section of this report.

The apparent over-expenditure on food (not budgeted while CHF 37,202 spent) and utensils & services (CHF 37,117 spent while CHF 6,453 budgeted) reflects some errors in the coding: the distribution of food and kitchen sets had been wrongly budgeted under "other supplies & Services", which indeed led to an absence of expenditure under this later budget line (CHF 84,000 spent VS no expenditure).

There is a large underspending under "Distribution & Monitoring", which is mainly due to the initial planning process that took place during the emergency phase, and during which LRC had expected the deployment of more staff and volunteers for the distributions than what was necessary. It is also explained by an error when developing the initial budget, since all transport and vehicles costs had been budgeted under "Distribution & Monitoring".

This error also explained the CHF 9,935 CHF expense under "Transport and vehicle cost" that didn't appear in the original budget. Another important variance is the overspent under the "Workshops & Training" budget line. This is explained by the change in operational modality which focused mainly on CVA. Because it is a rather new modality for LRC, the National Society decided to invest in strengthening of its staff and volunteers in the target provinces and in the Headquarters in order to ensure an effective implementation of this key component of the DREF operation.

For further details on expenditure, please refer to the attached final financial report.

The major donors and partners of the Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Belgium, Britain, Canada, Denmark, German, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland, as well as DG ECHO and Blizzard Entertainment, Mondelez International Foundation, and Fortive Corporation and other corporate and private donors. The IFRC, on behalf of the National Society, would like to extend thanks to all for their generous contributions.

Contact information

Reference documents



Click here for:

- [Previous Appeals and updates](#)

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

In the Lao Red Cross Society

- Dr. Phouthone MUONGPAK, President; email: phouthone@yahoo.com
- Dr. Silivay XAIYALARD, Deputy of Disaster Management Department; email: lrc.sivilay@gmail.com

In the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation, Bangkok

- Kathryn Clarkson, Head of CCD Bangkok; email: kathryn.clarkson@ifrc.org
- Rommanee Klaoetanong, Community Resilience Officer, email: rommanee.klaoetanong@ifrc.org

In the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office, Kuala Lumpur

- Alexander Matheou, Regional Director; email: alexander.matheou@ifrc.org
- Juja Kim, Deputy Regional Director, email: juja.kim@ifrc.org
- Joy Singhal, Head of HDCC unit; email: joy.singhal@ifrc.org
- Collin Abel Nathan, Operations Coordinator; email: OpsCoord.SoutheastAsia@ifrc.org
- Olle Kaidro, Logistics Coordinator; email: olle.kaidro@ifrc.org
- Afrhill Rances, Communications Manager; email: afrhill.rances@ifrc.org

In IFRC Geneva

- Christina Duschl, senior officer, operations coordination; email: christina.duschl@ifrc.org
- Eszter Matyeka, senior officer, DREF; email: eszter.matyeka@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support

- Mohammad Khairul Zaim Zawawi, Strategic Engagement and Partnership; email: partnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

- Mursidi Unir, PMER in Emergencies Coordinator; email: mursidi.unir@ifrc.org

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 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.

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

MDRLA008 - Laos - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 24 Aug 2022 to 28 Feb 2023

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2022/8-2023/4	Operation	MDRLA008
Budget Timeframe	2022/8-2023/2	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 23/May/2023

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

I. Summary

Opening Balance	0
Funds & Other Income	468,900
DREF Response Pillar	468,900
Expenditure	-428,193
Closing Balance	40,707

II. Expenditure by planned operations / enabling approaches

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items	12,112	5,167	6,945
PO02 - Livelihoods	94,817	11,010	83,807
PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash	254,587	377,170	-122,583
PO04 - Health		8	-8
PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	53,804	5,208	48,596
PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion	7,668	10,180	-2,512
PO07 - Education			0
PO08 - Migration			0
PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery			0
PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability			0
PO11 - Environmental Sustainability			0
Planned Operations Total	422,988	408,744	14,244
EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships	26,614	11,403	15,212
EA02 - Secretariat Services	19,298	8,046	11,252
EA03 - National Society Strengthening			0
Enabling Approaches Total	45,912	19,449	26,464
Grand Total	468,900	428,193	40,707

DREF Operation

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

MDRLA008 - Laos - Floods

Operating Timeframe: 24 Aug 2022 to 28 Feb 2023

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2022/8-2023/4	Operation	MDRLA008
Budget Timeframe	2022/8-2023/2	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 23/May/2023

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
Relief items, Construction, Supplies	349,254	297,127	52,127
Food		37,202	-37,202
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	33,900	34,454	-554
Utensils & Tools	6,453	37,117	-30,664
Other Supplies & Services	84,400		84,400
Cash Disbursement	224,502	188,354	36,148
Logistics, Transport & Storage	46,778	18,649	28,128
Distribution & Monitoring	46,778	8,715	38,063
Transport & Vehicles Costs		9,935	-9,935
Personnel	930		930
Volunteers	930		930
Consultants & Professional Fees		1,855	-1,855
Professional Fees		1,855	-1,855
Workshops & Training	25,200	55,423	-30,223
Workshops & Training	25,200	55,423	-30,223
General Expenditure	18,120	29,005	-10,885
Travel	12,000	15,944	-3,944
Information & Public Relations		7,045	-7,045
Office Costs	6,120	4,173	1,947
Communications		1,680	-1,680
Financial Charges		163	-163
Indirect Costs	28,618	26,134	2,484
Programme & Services Support Recover	28,618	26,134	2,484
Grand Total	468,900	428,193	40,707