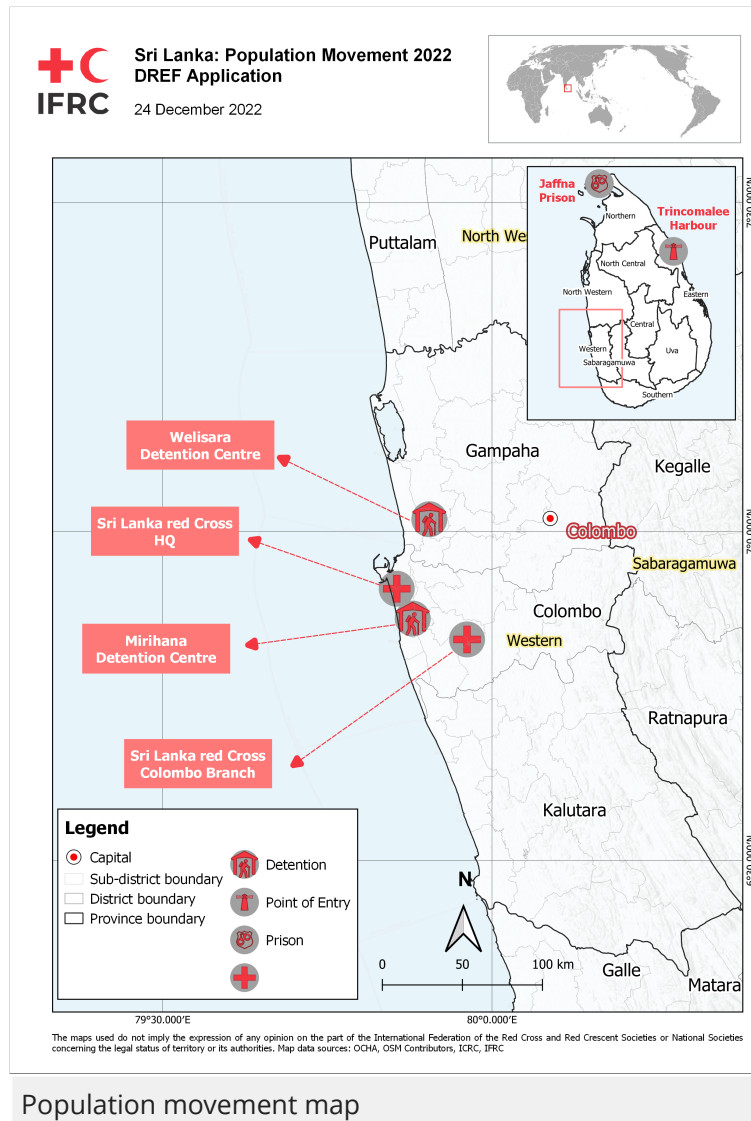




Stakeholder meeting (Photo: SLRCS)

Appeal: MDRLK016	Total DREF Allocation CHF 91,140	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Population Movement
Glide Number: OT-2022-000380-LKA	People Affected: 104 people	People Targeted: 104 people	
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 2022-12-29	New Operational end date: 2023-04-30	Total operating timeframe: 4 months
Additional Allocation Re- quested -	Targeted Areas:	Central	

Description of the Event



What happened, where and when?

Several boats reportedly set off from Bangladesh between 25-27 November 2022, carrying displaced people from Rakhine, Myanmar. Based on previous movements and established routes, it is assumed that the intended destination was either Malaysia or Indonesia.

According to UNHCR, a boat carrying 105 people was rescued by the Sri Lanka Navy in Trincomalee harbour on the country's eastern coast, on 18 December and disembarked on 20 December. When the boat ran into engine trouble in rough seas, it was suspected that it was on its way to Indonesia. The Sri Lanka Navy first detected the boat when it was 3.5 nautical miles (6.5km) from the shore.

After the legal proceedings, they were transferred to Jaffna Prison in the country's north. According to Sri Lanka's immigration officials, the arrivals were transferred to an immigration detention camp in the Colombo suburbs on 22 December 2022.

Following a field assessment by the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS)/International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) team, it has been confirmed that the Sri Lanka Navy has received 105 displaced people from Rakhine, Myanmar, including 49 children (21 girls, 28 boys) and 56 adults (26 females, 30 males). Furthermore, 21 unaccompanied children (8 boys, 13 girls) and 1 elderly person (68 years) were identified among the arrivals, but no person with disability (PWD) was identified. Due to their deteriorating health, three of the arrivals (2 children, 1 woman) were admitted to the hospital. The language barrier has been identified as the most significant barrier to

communicating with the displaced people in order to comprehend the situation.

A total of 22 children, including all unaccompanied children, were housed at the immigration detention camp at Welisara in the Gampaha district, about 12km from Colombo city. The remaining people were housed at the Mirihana detention camp in the Colombo district, about 7km from the Colombo city centre.

Note:

(1) Displaced people: The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement uses the expression 'displaced people from Rakhine, Myanmar' in place of "Rohingya" in all external communications, as an element in maintaining safety and operational access to provide vital humanitarian assistance to those in need wherever they are.

(2) Migrants: The Movement uses a deliberately broad description in order to capture the full extent of humanitarian concerns related to migration. "A migrant is a person who leaves or flees their habitual residence to go to new places – usually abroad – to seek opportunities or safer and better prospects. Migration can be voluntary or involuntary, but most of the time a combination of choices and constraints are involved." Thus, this includes migrant workers, stateless migrants, and migrants deemed irregular by public authorities, among others. It also concerns refugees and asylum seekers, notwithstanding the fact that they constitute a special category under international law.

(3) Refugees: Any person who owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his/her nationality and is unable, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself/herself of the protection of that country.



SLRC staff and volunteers conducting sanitary napkin distribution (Photo: SLRCS)

Scope and Scale

SLRCS has been actively responding and providing humanitarian assistance to 105 Rohingya refugees who arrived in Sri Lanka in December 2022. As of 22 March 2023, out of 105 migrants 78 have already moved to rental houses (currently 77 living there as one man passed away due to a critical health condition) in the Colombo district and 26 are yet to relocate soon in rental houses in the Colombo district. Currently they are in the detention centre of the immigration and emigration department of the Government. One more person is being held in a prison facility in Jaffna, pending the outcome of a criminal charge against him. The UNHCR and Government have already identified the houses, and the agreement with the house owner and UNHCR implementing partner (Muslim Aid) is under process. According to UNHCR and the Sri Lanka Government, by end of March 2023, latest first week of April, the remaining 26 migrants will be relocated in rental houses.

The 77 migrants have access to local communities though the language is a barrier to communicating with local people. There are a few migrants also living there who came in 2017 from Rakhine, Myanmar. They have learned English, and the local language and can communicate to the local people. These people are assisting the 77 migrants in communication, especially with health issues or any other social issues. All 77 migrants are living near to each

other, therefore, can communicate with each other. The remaining 26 will join in to the same or nearby community. UNHCR has planned to provide them with skills and language training so that they can communicate by themselves. A one-year rental agreement has been made with the house owners and rent has been paid in advance each month. Muslim Aid is coordinating this particular support.

The last 26 migrants will move to the rented housing provided by the UNHCR by the first week of April 2023, the shelter and housing items will be distributed to them by SLRCS during that period. Additionally with the savings, all 103 migrants will receive value vouchers from selected shops where they can purchase food and essential items including medicine, sanitary napkins, etc. SLRCS together with the national cash working group have been working on the minimum expenditure basket (MEB) of which the value of vouchers is determined (CHF20/pp). The migrants will also receive additional medical health check-up once they are moved to the rented housing, though, all the migrant's received health checkup while they were in the detention center.

Summary of changes

Are you changing the timeframe of the operation	Yes
Are you changing the operational strategy	Yes
Are you changing the target population of the operation	Yes
Are you changing the geographical location	No
Are you making changes to the budget	No
Is this a request for a second allocation	No
Has the forecasted event materialize?	No

Please explain the summary of changes and justification

SLRCS is requesting for a one-month no-cost timeframe extension, along with an additional conditional cash and voucher assistance (CVA) activity from the cost savings in this operation. This is due to the recent developments from a joint meeting involving SLRCS, UNHCR, the Sri Lankan government and other NGOs on 21 March 2023.

Since the arrival of the displaced people from Rakhine, Myanmar, all 105 of them were placed in detention centers where SLRCS had some but limited access to provide all of the planned support. Since then, 78 of them have been released and continued to be supported by SLRCS through the activities of this DREF. Initially SLRCS were unable to complete its humanitarian objectives to support all 105 persons, however, the result from the joint meeting on 21 March 2023 informed that the remainder 26 persons will be released at latest, the first week of April. (The target number has been changed from 105 to 104, as one of the migrants had passed away while being relocated in the rental housing. One person is being held in a prison facility in Jaffna, pending the outcome of a criminal charge against him. Currently SLRCS/IFRC is working with 103 migrants.

Due to this release of information, SLRCS is requesting for the extension request (initial operation closing date was 31 March 2023) to ensure they are able to support the remainder of the 26 persons. The extension request will be for an additional month period until 30 April 2023, there will not be any additional funding requirement.

90% of the activities in the Operational strategy have been fulfilled within the given timeframe. Based on the needs of the migrant that are reallocated in the permanent housing, the SLRCS has been requested to support in provision of restricted CVA programming with provision of value vouchers from selected shops where the migrants can purchase food and cover their basic needs. The funds allocated for the CVA programming will be

coming from the savings made from the procurement of shelter and housing items and the setting up of medical camps in the detention centers.

Current National Society Actions

Migration	On the migration issue, SLRCS has been in close contact with the government authorities and UNHCR to provide the necessary support to the migrants.
Community Engagement And Accountability	<p>On 23 December 2022, the SLRCS and the IFRC country office visited the detention centres to conduct an initial needs assessment. The displaced people who will be served by this DREF assistance were already engaged within the operation. Furthermore, the plans were consulted with the local authorities and communicated to them.</p> <p>SLRCS and UNHCR worked closely and continuously shared information in terms of planning to support with the migrants and also receive their feedback and act accordingly.</p>
National Society Readiness	<p>SLRCS has been in close coordination with the local authorities and other stakeholders. For the initial need assessment, a team comprised of SLRCS and IFRC staff were deployed. SLRCS has used trained response team members to conduct assessments, distribute the shelter and housing items, as well provide medical support where needed.</p> <p>The Colombo branch is one of the strongest branches of SLRCS, in which it has a good number of volunteers and staff members who will be working on the response immediately. Geographically, the branch office and detention centre were in the same city. Because the response was handled by the Colombo branch, the readiness of the National Society was assured. In addition, SLRCS Gampaha branch (staff and volunteers) (as well as Colombo branch) provided support to migrants in the Welisara detention centre.</p>
Assessment	<p>Initially, secondary information was gathered for the assessment. An initial assessment has been conducted following the access of the SLRCS/IFRC country team to the displaced people in the Colombo detention camp on 23 December 2022. The primary identified needs for the arrivals were food, relief items, medical assistance, WASH facilities, and etc.</p> <p>To be able to communicate with the arrivals, SLRCS, UNHCR and other partners always utilized the representative from previous migrants who came 2017 as translator.</p>
Coordination	Coordination with authorities such as the Sri Lanka Navy, police, and immigration department is in place and well-coordinated. Coordination with the ICRC and UNHCR has been established and is going well. The government, UNHCR, and SLRCS maintain a close coordination. The first coordination meeting was organized by the SLRCS and handed over to UNCHR to organize subsequently as they are the lead agency for migration and displacement.
	Since 23 December 2022, the Colombo branch has been responding with support from SLRCS headquarters (HQ) and the IFRC in-country. SLRCS HQ provided bed sheets, cloth, sanitary napkins from their warehouse to the new arrivals at the detention centres. The branch identified local volunteers

Resource Mobilization	and deployed them immediately for this operation. At the same time, SLRCS HQ worked on resource mobilization for the response by requesting IFRC DREF support. During the 3 months implementation period volunteers and staff from the SLRCS had been implementing the activities and had close cooperation with the local authorities and other stakeholders.
National Society EOC	Activated
Shelter, Housing And Settlements	In the primary stage, SLRCS provided some relief items under this sector in response to a request from the government authorities. Besides that, SLRCS procured shelter and housing items e.g. bed, mosquito net, bed sheet, gas burner, cloths etc. with the support from IFRC and distributed them to the migrants when they have been relocated in the rental housing. SLRCS also trained volunteers on displacement and cultural sensitivity.
Health	<p>The SLRCS/IFRC team that visited the detention centre identified the need for providing immediate health services. Accordingly, the government authority requested that SLRCS provided support.</p> <p>In addition, the Colombo branch in coordination with Government hospital organized medical camps in the detention centers and provided health services. Besides these, the Regional Director of Health Services (RDHS) carried out medical assessments to identify disease types and ordered medicines and other medical consumables for the medical camp. SLRCS supported through volunteer mobilization. SLRCS has also distributed sanitary napkins from the available stocks immediately as part of WASH/Health interventions.</p> <p>After relocation of all migrants, SLRCS also conducted a health assessment with the government and based on the recommendation SLRCS has provided services such as first aid and referrals.</p>
Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	Distributed hygiene kits, drinking water and conducted awareness session on hygiene promotion and excreta disposal.
Protection, Gender And Inclusion	PGI concerns were taken as priority by the SLRCS and IFRC country team. 49 volunteers from SLRCS received training on PGI and 49 migrants' children received the school packs and recreational materials. Also, coordination was set up with local leaders so that the migrants' children has access to the playground for quality time.

Movement Partners Actions Related To The Current Event

IFRC	<p>The in-country IFRC team is in close coordination with SLRCS and ICRC. The PGI Delegate supported the initial assessment at the detention centre led by SLRCS. IFRC CCD and APRO offices are supporting SLRCS in preparing the DREF application, updates and plan the response. Furthermore, the IFRC CCD regularly shares in-country situation updates and developments with IFRC APRO.</p> <p>Following this population movement event, APRO continues to monitor the regional situation of displaced people. Based on informal and formal updates from various sources, it is also in close contact with other IFRC Country Delegations in Myanmar, Bangladesh, Malaysia, India, and Indonesia.</p>
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ICRC	The IFRC country office has also contacted the ICRC delegation in Colombo to share information, including this ongoing DREF operation.
Participating National Societies	There is no Participating National Societies (PNS) presence in the country.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	SLRCS is already working with the SL navy, police, department of immigration and emigration, and the UNHCR to coordinate the implementation of the activities and to ensure timely response as well as exchange information with the stakeholders. In March 2023, SLRCS participated in a stakeholder meeting organized by UNHCR and the local government where it has been agreed that the remaining 26 arrivals will be reallocated to the rented housing by the beginning of April 2023 and SLRCS has been requested to provide the necessary shelter and housing items as well as provide health assessments after reallocation and provide additional support in the form of cash vouchers for food, medicine and other basic needs of at least the remaining 103 arrivals (pending the one currently held in Jaffna prison) in the country.
UN or other actors	UNHCR is the leading agency to coordinate with all stakeholders, and SLRCS has very good coordination and provided support to solve the issues which were affecting the 105 (now 104) arrivals.

Are there major coordination mechanisms in place?

There is no formal coordination mechanism in place. To date, however, the government is leading the coordination in an informal and bi-lateral manner. SLRCS is in close coordination with the authorities, UNHCR, and other relevant stakeholders as needed, as well as working closely with the ICRC in the country.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Health

According to the rapid assessment report, almost all migrants have skin infections and head lice. Therefore, SLRCS provided medical and volunteer assistance such as clinical services, laboratory testing, provision of medicine (through Regional Director of Health Services (RDHS)), mental health, and psychosocial support. Menstrual hygiene needs of adolescent girls and women were considered and appropriate menstrual hygiene products were provided accordingly. Additionally, after the migrants were reallocated to the permanent housing, SLRCS provided health check-up.



Shelter Housing And Settlements

The 105 (one person was in jail from the beginning- the boat driver) arrivals had been accommodated in a detention center upon their arrival. The government and UNHCR took the lead in coordinating the activities from the different stakeholders. As soon as the migrants had been moved to a permanent housing, SRLCS provided shelter and housing items.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

The safety of children and women had been considered and living arrangements were organized at the displacement center to ensure dignity, accessibility, and safety. Children focus activities were implemented with close coordination of UNHCR to promote the mental well-being of the children in the shelters with providing children safe spaces and recreational materials.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The operations objective is to provide 105 displaced people (now 104 persons including person in prison) from Rakhine, Myanmar with basic humanitarian assistance focusing on relief, WASH, Health care, PGI for a period of three months. This Operation Update will extend this to four months and include CVA activities to support food and basic items from the savings.

Operation strategy rationale

The government authorities requested SLRCS to assist them with immediate basic needs to cover Shelter assistance/ relief items, WASH, Health, and PGI needs. As an auxiliary organization to the government, SLRCS supported the government's efforts to provide basic humanitarian assistance and services to the 105 (now 104) migrants.

The humanitarian needs of the migrants have changed when they shifted to the rental houses. Therefore, there is need to focus on some adjustments to the current operational strategy and include some activities to make sure their food security and basic needs. As all the migrants have access to the supermarket chain. Therefore, CVA would

be an option to support migrants. The purpose for CVA is to ensure the migrants are able to buy food and essential items including medicine (based on prescription), sanitary napkins.

This new activity is able to be included into this operation due to the savings from procurement and the setting up of the medical camps. UNHCR was also able to obtain cylinder gas and hence, SLRCS had savings from those contributions from UNHCR. As of 15 March 2023, SLRCS spent 90% of the total DREF allocation to complete the planned activities with a 10% balance and savings remaining.

SLRCS has implemented the following activities under the DREF operations, the highlights are as follows:

1. Shelter and Housing Settlement

Procurement of shelter and housing items and handover to the migrants:

- Procurement completed and 78 migrants have already received the items. The remaining 26 migrants will receive the items as soon as they relocate to the rental houses. This is expected latest by the first week of April 2023 and subsequently the items will be distributed.

2. Health

Medical camp and psychosocial support:

- 100% completed with no pending activities.

Health Check Up:

- SLRCS will mobilize basic medical check-ups once all migrants have been settled into their rental homes.

3. WASH

Distribute hygiene kits, sanitary napkins, and awareness campaigns:

- 100% completed with no pending activities.

4. PGI

Training, school packs

- 100% completed with no pending activities.

5. CVA programming

- Provision of value vouchers for 104 migrants, including the person currently in prison, according to the MEB calculation to support food and basic needs.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

Based on the current need and the request by government authorities, all the arrived displaced people (105: 47 female, 58 male) from Rakhine, Myanmar including women, children and the elderly will be the targeted population. One older man has passed away after relocating to the rental housing, leaving the remainder of 104 persons (47 female, 57 male) including one person who is in prison.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

Considering the vulnerability and need of the arrivals the selection criteria is to include all the population arrived by boat. All the arrivals will be reached with their person specific basin needs.

Total Targeted Population

Women:	26	Rural %	Urban %
Girls (under 18):	21		100.00 %
Men:	29	People with disabilities (estimated %)	

Boys (under 18):	28	0.00 %
Total targeted population:	104	

Risk and security considerations


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


Risk	Mitigation action
Since these migrants are new to Sri Lanka, there are legal procedures to be undertaken by the authorities.	UNHCR is currently working with the authorities to find solutions to establish their status in Sri Lanka. SLRCS is coordinating with the department of immigration and emigration, UNHCR including other related government agencies to ensure the migrants have a safe place to stay with basic services until a solution is found.
26 migrants are still in the detention centre (one in prison) and waiting to move to resettlement place in Colombo.	UNHCR with implementing partner Muslim Aid identified the house as rental to relocate the migrants. There is risk involved here if the owner of the house at the final stage denies to provide the house to migrants. In that case, it would be a risk for migrants to relocate from detention centre. UNHCR is always coordinating with government immigration and emigration department as well as local police to find appropriate housing and making an rental agreement for a year with house owner as a legal document.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

The SLRCS security framework has been applicable for the duration of the operation to their staff and volunteers. For personnel under IFRC security's responsibility, existing IFRC country office/ CCD security plans were applicable. All IFRC staff must, and RCRC staff and volunteers were encouraged, to complete the IFRC Stay Safe 2.0 e-learning courses. The National Society enjoys a good level of community acceptance countrywide, with established networks of community-based volunteers. The government has requested the NS to provide assistance to the displaced people thus there is very limited scope of any security concerns.


Planned Intervention


	Secretariat Services	Budget	CHF 14,697
		Targeted Persons	0
Indicators	Target	Actual	
# of monitoring visit conducted	1	1	
# of surge delegate deployed	1	1	
Progress Towards Outcome			
Activities have been completed 100%. More information's will be shared in the final report.			

	Multi-purpose Cash	Budget	CHF 2,080
		Targeted Persons	104
Indicators	Target	Actual	
# of value vouchers distributed	104		
Progress Towards Outcome			
This activity has yet to be implemented.			

	National Society Strengthening	Budget	CHF 14,858
		Targeted Persons	1
Indicators	Target	Actual	
# of lesson learned workshop conducted	1	0	
# of assessment conducted	2	2	
Progress Towards Outcome			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The lessons learned workshop is being carried out by the end of March 2023 - All other activities are completed 100% with more details to follow in the final report. 			

		Budget	CHF 18,687

	Shelter Housing And Settlements	Targeted Persons	104
Indicators	Target	Actual	
# of volunteer oriented on displaced people and cultural sensitivity	10	10	
# of people provided with household relief items	105	78	
Progress Towards Outcome			
<p>- 78 migrants have been already transferred to a rented housing provided by the UNHCR, the remaining 26 migrants will be reallocated by April 2023</p> <p>- Procurement has been fully completed and items distributed to 78 persons, pending another 26 persons to be completed by April.</p>			

	Health	Budget	CHF 25,146
		Targeted Persons	104
Indicators	Target	Actual	
# of people reached by the National Society with services (clinical) to reduce relevant health risk factors.	104	105	
# of people reached with mental health and psychosocial support	104	104	
# of people provided with food items	104	104	
# of medical camps organized	6	6	
Progress Towards Outcome			
<p>- According to plan activities have been completed 100%.</p> <p>- In addition to the original plan, SLRCS will provide additional health checkup as they are transferring to new location and will assist to create an access to Government health services. More information's will be shared in the final report.</p>			

	Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	Budget	CHF 11,619
		Targeted Persons	104
Indicators	Target	Actual	
	104	104	

# of people reached through hygiene promotion		
# of people provided with excreta disposal facilities	104	104
# of people provided with hygiene kits	104	104

Progress Towards Outcome

Activities have been completed 100%. More information's will be shared in the final report.

	Protection, Gender And Inclusion	Budget	CHF 4,053
		Targeted Persons	104
Indicators		Target	Actual
# of coordination meeting attended to promote PGI for the displaced people		3	2
# of children supported with recreational materials		49	49
# of volunteers oriented on PGI		10	40

Progress Towards Outcome

Activities have been completed 100%. More information's will be shared in the final report.

About Support Services

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

A total of 10 volunteers (with a combination of male and female) were involved in this response. The volunteers were covering WASH and Health (including PSFA), RFL and PGI sectors.

Staff and volunteers from Colombo branch and SLRCS HQ have been engaged as well directly. Project manager (national staff) is in charge of the operation with a team comprising project assistance, interpreter, field officer, coordinator, finance, driver etc.

Colombo branch has been leading the implementation and conducted the necessary procurement as well and has been supported by international surge personnel based in Colombo.

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

One procurement surge delegate has been deployed for one month to the operation to oversee the ongoing procurement and to complete the process following the IFRC regulation.

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

All the procurement has been done by the SLRCS following IFRC procurement procedures and guideline. The value of the single procurement was not more than CHF 20,000. The local suppliers were able to supply the items on time as the volume was not large.

Additionally, there was a procurement surge delegate working for MDRLK014- Sri Lanka Humanitarian Crisis and available in country until mid-January 2023 and the same surge delegate deployed for a month to support the population movement operation to support procurement.

SLRCS has an agreement with few supermarkets for CVA that will be used for the upcoming voucher programming to support 103 migrants.

How will this operation be monitored?

The SLRCS Assistant Programme Manager, Restoring Family Linkage/Migration has been monitoring the implementation. Besides this, the operational manager and PMER officer from IFRC in country are frequently monitoring the implementation and supporting SLRCS to implement and strengthen coordination. Furthermore, IFRC Asia Pacific PGI delegate also provided technical support and monitor the implementation.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation.

In close coordination with the authorities and ensuring the protection of the displaced people, SLRCS shares information on the public social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter. IFRC Country Cluster Delegation and Asia Pacific regional office also coordinated international level communication activities including coordination with other National Societies in the region.

Contact Information

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

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