



Red Crescent Society of Kyrgyzstan (RCSK) staff member conducts exit interviews during the distribution of cash. Photo credit: RCSK

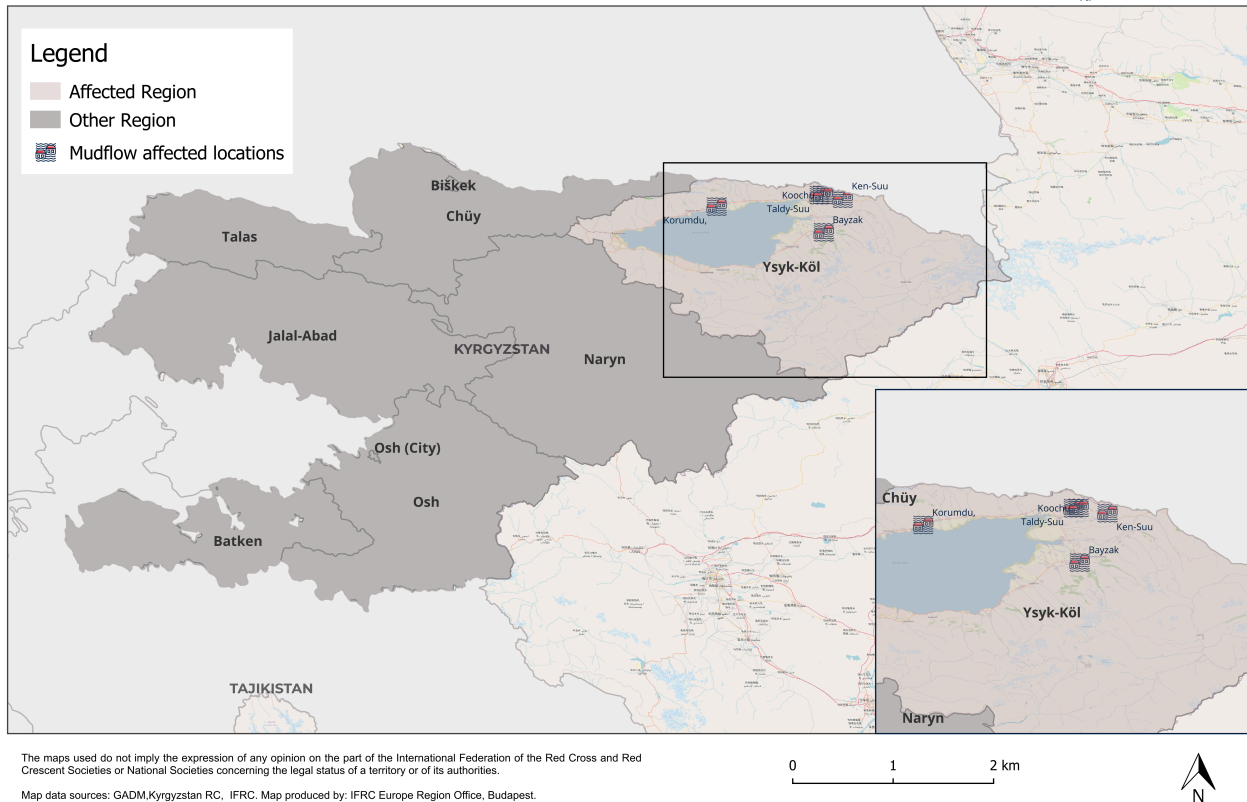
Appeal: <b>MDRKG017</b>	Total DREF Allocation: <b>CHF 99,549</b>	Crisis Category: <b>Yellow</b>	Hazard: <b>Flood</b>
Glide Number: <b>FL-2023-000155-KGZ</b>	People Affected: <b>13,000 people</b>	People Targeted: <b>1,061 people</b>	
Event Onset: <b>Sudden</b>	Operation Start Date: <b>25-08-2023</b>	Operational End Date: <b>30-11-2023</b>	Total Operating Timeframe: <b>3 months</b>
Targeted Areas: <b>Ysyk-Köl</b>			

The major donors and partners of the IFRC-DREF include the Red Cross Societies and governments of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Britain, China, Czech, Canada, Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, Malta, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, and the Netherlands, as well as DG ECHO, Mondelez Foundation, 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.

# Description of the Event

## Kyrgyzstan-Issyk-Kul : Floods

28 August 2023 • MDRKG017 • FL-2023-000155-KGZ



Map of targeted areas by the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (IFRC-DREF) Operation.

## Date of event

07-08-2023

## What happened, where and when?

On 7 August 2023, around 17:00 local time, mudflows occurred in the villages of Ken-Suu, Bayzak, Taldy-Suu, Korumdu, and Koochu in the Tyup district of the Issyk-Kul region due to short-term rains. The Ministry of Emergency Situations (MoES) and local authorities formed a joint commission to have thorough and transparent assessment of damages. According to the MoES and local authorities, 200 households were directly impacted by the disaster, however, preliminarily, 60 per cent of the total population (13,000 people) of the five affected villages were identified as in need of assistance of various degrees.

Traditionally, the western part of the Issyk-Kul lake had monthly average of only 115 mm of precipitation, while on the eastern shore about 600 mm. However, due to changing climate, the amount of precipitation has increased in recent years in this part of the country. The table below shows maximum temperature and average monthly precipitation data for Tyup district for 1991 – 2021:

Months	June	July	August	September
Maximum temperature (°C)	20.2	22.1	21.9	18.1
Volume of precipitation (mm)	143	149	137	99

During 1 - 10 August 2023, high temperature ranging +29 - 31 °C took place in Tyup district while the average maximum was +22 °C, with particularly high precipitation volume during the same period, which increased from normative 15 mm/day to 27.1 mm/day as a result of rapid rains. This resulted in increased volume of water during a short period of time, leading to river overflows and floods.

Due to sudden and increased level of precipitation as well as mountainous location, the increased volumes of water flowed down the hill towards affected villages, resulting in mudflows and spillover of rivers going near and through villages. The disaster ruined and blocked



main roads going to and out of villages, damaged residential and non-residential buildings, power outage due to poles being torn and electricity lines disrupted, and with cemeteries and animal burials flooded, there is increased likelihood of disease outbreaks



RCSK staff member assesses the needs of a flood-affected person. Photo credit: RCSK

## Scope and Scale

The floods impacted residents of five villages in Issyk-Kul province. The impacted population include rural residents, including women, older people, and children. Given the location of villages in the rural areas of the country, these households are particularly vulnerable to the impact of the floods given the limited sources of income, savings, and limited access to immediate support. The government carried out clean-up work on roads and other infrastructure.

## IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

<b>Secretariat</b>	The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) was present in the country and played an essential role in movement coordination. The IFRC Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) for Central Asia worked with the RCSK on identifying needs and developing the DREF application.
<b>Participating National Societies</b>	After onset of the disaster, Partner National Societies (PNS), including the Swiss Red Cross, German Red Cross, and Turkish Red Crescent, were informed about the emergency. All PNS expressed their readiness to provide support.

## ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is present in the country.

# Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	The Ministry of Emergency Situations (MoES) declared an emergency in the affected villages. The MoES mobilized 103 rescuers, one excavator, one loader, and one cargo dump truck. Local authorities contributed one grader, three excavators, and one tractor. The MoES and local authorities supported in clearing roads, pumping water out of houses, and restoring damaged infrastructure.
UN or other actors	United Nations agencies did not get involved in the emergency response.

## Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

The country maintains a Disaster Response Coordination Unit (DRCU) Council, led by the national government and supported by major development agencies in the country, including RCSK. The DRCU encompasses five key sectors: food security and logistics, shelter and essential household items, water, hygiene and sanitation, protection, and health. It is noteworthy that despite the situation, the government did not request the activation of the DRCU.

## Needs (Gaps) Identified



### Shelter Housing And Settlements

As per RCSK's assessment, 200 houses were directly affected by the disaster. Initial needs assessments conducted by RCSK reported the following impact of the disaster on Shelter, Housing, and Settlements:

- Residential – 200 households (HHs) have experienced damage to their houses.
- Non-residential – one (1) elementary school and one (1) kindergarten (social facilities) have been affected.
- On 8 August 2023, a second wave of mudslides occurred, affecting populated areas. Purification and drainage of water from settlements were necessary to maintain human health and well-being. Approximately 60 per cent of the total population required assistance due to the blocking or destruction of basic infrastructure such as major roads, power outages and the closure of social services.
- In addition, the replacement of basic household items damaged by the flood was required.

Since the Ministry of Emergency Situations did not assess the damage to each house, RCSK conducted additional information gathering with the help of the local administration, which was used to select people for assistance.



### Livelihoods And Basic Needs

200 households have been directly affected, their houses either partially or fully destroyed as a result of the mudflows. Potatoes and other crops that expected to be harvested in August have also been destroyed, which has caused significant loss of expected income of affected families. Owners of livestock, mostly horses and cows, have also been severely affected, as the mudflow has swept through areas covered by grass, losing the main source of food for livestock. With multi-purpose cash grants, RCSK partially covered some of the needs of the affected population to replace lost crops. Some families also used the cash to replenish their crops for use in the following year.



### Multi purpose cash grants

Integrated assistance addressed needs such as shelter (insulation and heating of houses) and essential relief items through the provision of multi-purpose cash grants.

Cash assistance under this DREF enabled people to refurbish their houses as well as cover their basic needs. The majority of households living at or below the poverty line were located in the country's rural areas, including those in the five impacted villages.



Furthermore, given the diverse degree of damages and loss of essential property and belongings, extending cash assistance to the affected households addressed a broader range of needs, allowing affected households to allocate cash support as per their individual pressing needs, thus providing a more dignified response. In addition, many families were able to prepare for the cold weather, as many lost their crops and livestock, which provided income.

## Operational Strategy

### Overall objective of the operation

The overall objective of the DREF operation was designed to meet the immediate basic needs of at least 200 households directly affected by the mudflows through multi-purpose cash grants in the most impacted areas of the country. RCSK response activities further focused on areas including Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Shelter, Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA).

### Operation strategy rationale

Based on its supportive role, the RCSK provided immediate assistance to the most affected families in the form of essential household items, cash assistance, information campaigns and in some cases mudflow clean-up. While state structures provided assistance in the form of clearing houses and villages from debris flows, repairing houses and organising temporary accommodation for people who had fled their homes.

## Targeting Strategy

### Who was targeted by this operation?

The RCSK provided multi-purpose cash grants to 200 families, equaling CHF 62,351. In addition, 8,000 people received assistance in the form of fuel for mudslide clearance works totaling CHF 2,044 (CHF 409 per village). This assistance was directed to the most affected areas of Ken-Suu, Baizak, Taldy-Suu, Korumdu and Koochu villages in the Tup district of Issyk-Kul province.

### Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

RCSK, in collaboration and coordination with the local administration, village heads and other partners, provided assistance to the families in most vulnerable situations affected by the disaster. Priority was given to the following groups:

- Households directly affected by flooding.
- Land directly affected by the flood and/or livestock burial ground or fodder affected by the flood.
- Registered as residents of the affected village.
- Not currently employed as a government employee, military or police officer as they already have a regular income.
- Have not received similar assistance from the government and/or other organizations.

Selection was based on demographic criteria, including socio-economic status, rather than on place of residence. The above selection criteria were proposed taking into account that no vulnerability assessment had been conducted on the part of government agencies.

The multi-purpose cash grant (MPCG) was based on the most basic needs, which included 1) shelter (mostly for winter) and 2) food and basic needs. The calculation was based on market prices and statistical information. MPCG was calculated to cover 60 per cent of these needs, as reflected in the relevant sectors, including the figures in this document. Since all assistance was intended to be transferred in the form of MPCG, the indicators in this document, linked to the MPCG in the Housing, Livelihoods and Basic Needs sections, can be met at different levels.

The total amount of cash assistance, CHF 62,351 (CHF 311 per family), was sent directly to the people targeted. An additional CHF 248 was allocated for bank services. The total amount was calculated by RCSK's task force, which conducted a local needs assessment. After discussion with the affected people and the local administration, it was decided to cover the needs related to shelter, including cleaning assistance, livelihoods and a minimum food package for one family. Calculations were made for one family of five people: two parents and three children under the age of 16. As a result, 200 families or 1,061 people received cash assistance.



# Total Targeted Population

Women	306	Rural	100%
Girls (under 18)	201	Urban	-
Men	331	People with disabilities (estimated)	4%
Boys (under 18)	223		
Total targeted population	1,061		

## Risk and Security Considerations

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

Risk	Mitigation action
Broken social cohesion and growing distrust may spur grievances, especially during support distribution.	RCSK worked to build public trust in the fairness and transparency of aid distribution. Additionally, RCSK engaged CEA and PGI staff in trust-building agreements through monitoring and evenly distributing immediate response support.
The likelihood of repeated floods and mudflows might have been a burden, affecting people's health, lives, and property.	RCSK continuously monitored the situation.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

The security of RCSK staff and volunteers was of high importance. The RCSK team in the field monitored security updates before visiting communities.

## Implementation



### Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 0

Targeted Persons: 8,000

Assisted Persons: 8,000

### Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people supported with follow up cleaning activities from mudflow remains	8,000	8,000

### Narrative description of achievements

RCSK refueled the specialized equipment of the Ministry of Emergency Situations of the Kyrgyz Republic for the ongoing clearing of villages after flash floods, supported with a total amount of with CHF 2,574.03. This allocation is also designated for the continued excavation of drainage channels in villages, with the strategic goal of preventing further escalation.



## Lessons Learnt

For the efficient execution of such tasks, prompt response and the timely delivery of essential goods are crucial to improve the economic conditions of the affected population and restore infrastructure. Special attention should be given to collaboration with government bodies, as they play a pivotal role in the implementation process. RCSK aims to ensure the timely supply of necessary goods while actively engaging with state authorities.

## Challenges

Weak preparedness of the Issyk-Kul region governmental bodies in the field of emergency response due to the fact that natural disasters rarely occur in this region.



## Multi Purpose Cash

**Budget:** CHF 73,208

**Targeted Persons:** 1,000

**Assisted Persons:** 1,061

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people supported with food and basic needs as basic needs through multi-purpose cash grants (integrated assistance)	1,000	1,061
Number of people receiving shelter assistance for shelter repairment, isolation, and heating as well as purchasing of basic household items via multipurpose cash grants (integrated assistance), supported at a 60% rate.	1,000	1,061

## Narrative description of achievements

In September 2023, volunteers, local and headquarters staff have fully conducted the verification of people assisted. The list of people to be assisted via multi-purpose cash grants were obtained from local authorities. After the verification, the lists were officially endorsed by the Ministry of Labor, Social Protection, and Migration of the Kyrgyz Republic to exempt those supported from income taxes. The lists were compiled based on the following criteria:

- Households directly affected by flooding, categorized by the extent of damage: severe, moderate, and light.
- Land directly affected by flooding, and/or livestock sheds, or feed affected by flooding.
- Registered residents of the affected village.
- Currently not employed as government officials, military personnel, or police, as they already have a steady income.
- Have not received similar assistance from the government and/or other institutions.
- Willing to sign a statement agreeing to follow RCSK's instructions for the project, including providing a simple plan regarding the use of funds to avoid misappropriation.

In October 2023, a tender for financial services was held among banks in the Kyrgyz Republic. Following the tender, two banks, OJSC "Aiyl Bank" and OJSC "RSK Bank" were selected. Specifically, for providing assistance in the Tyup district, OJSC "Aiyl Bank" was chosen as it had a branch in the Tyup district, providing the most comfortable conditions for people assisted. Subsequently, financial funds were transferred to the account of OJSC "Aiyl Bank" where those supported could withdraw the funds. This method was chosen as it was deemed the most convenient and secure based on past experiences.

The distribution of financial aid took place on 1 - 2 November 2024 at the "Aiyl Bank" branch in the village of Tyup, with RCSK staff and volunteers actively involved. Prior to the distribution, all of those supported via MPCGs were notified of the event and the schedule. Negotiations with OJSC "Aiyl Bank" were conducted regarding the optimal timing for inviting people to avoid long queues. Within two days, all 200 families, comprising 1,061 individuals, successfully received the financial assistance.

RCSK conducted a post-distribution monitoring (PDM) two weeks after the cash assistance was disbursed. 132 people (51 women and 81



men), out of the 200 invited, have participated in the PDM. Out of 132 respondents, 5 per cent chose the option "Average" noting that the amount was not sufficient to cover the needs due to increased prices in the market, 95 per cent responded with the option "Good", which indicates that the level of assistance provided was quite sufficient. According to the survey data, all participants were satisfied with the process of financial assistance, noting the good work of volunteers and staff in informing, organizing the queue and choosing the place of disbursement. Receiving the amount in a bank was the most convenient option for them. Some asked to consider dividing recipients by caritas and determining levels of devastation in order to help those most in need.

## Lessons Learnt

As noted by many during the PDM as well as distribution events, while an equal amount was allocated for all families, each family incurred varying degrees of damage. To prevent such situations in the future, discussions were held with representatives of government bodies regarding the need for a more expeditious damage assessment to ensure accurate assistance calculations.

Representatives of government agencies were also trained on the Kobo Toolbox tool for operational data collection and analysis

## Challenges

Lack of staff and volunteers in the regional branch to carry out this type of work, so often staff from other branches and HQs were used to carry out the work.



**Budget:** CHF 5,432

**Targeted Persons:** 500

**Assisted Persons:** 344

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of community-based health promotion, first aid awareness and PFA activities	400	250
Number of trainings for Red Cross volunteers in community-based health, basic psychosocial support (psychological first aid) and hygiene promotion	2	4
Number of first aid kits purchased for replenishment	100	94

## Narrative description of achievements

In August 2023, following the flash floods, RCSK teams distributed 145 hygiene kits to the most affected families before receiving any other assistance. Subsequently, in November, Psychological First Aid (PFA) kits were distributed to school-aged children affected, accompanied by four sessions of psychosocial support (PSS). Groups were selected based on gender to ensure participants felt most comfortable. In total, 60 individuals participated in the sessions, including 30 women and 30 men.

## Lessons Learnt

During the LLW, it was observed that PSS sessions should be conducted immediately after an emergency for greater effectiveness.

## Challenges

Since RCSK started conducting PSS sessions only in November 2023, most of the people who were previously invited to the training could not attend as many residents of the affected villages were busy with preparations for the winter season.





## Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

**Budget:** CHF 2,556

**Targeted Persons:** 500

**Assisted Persons:** 725

### Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of people covered by WASH promotion	500	725

### Narrative description of achievements

During the needs assessment, RCSK allocated 145 hygiene kits for distribution. These kits were promptly distributed to 145 families (725 people) most affected by the disaster in the first few days. The distribution process was carried out jointly with the local authorities based on lists provided by the Social Development Department staff. Subsequently, with the support of DREF funds, an additional 65 hygiene kits were purchased to partially replenish the RCSK stocks. While RCSK initially set the target to 500 people to be supported with hygiene kits, the National Society was able to reach an additional 225 people compared to the originally planned target in the DREF application.

### Lessons Learnt

WASH activities were not prioritized during the operation, but were integrated into CVA activities. One of the conclusions of the LLW was to work more actively in the WASH area for implementation in future operations and to increase RCSK capacity in this area.

### Challenges

While there was a delay in procuring goods, prior to the procurement, RCSK was able to distribute hygiene kits from its available stocks.



## Protection, Gender And Inclusion

**Budget:** CHF 0

**Targeted Persons:** 200

**Assisted Persons:** 40

### Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number of PGI trained staff and volunteers	30	40

### Narrative description of achievements

- CEA/PGI specialists were actively involved during the activities. In particular, for each field visit one CEA/PGI specialist was present on the RCSK side to ensure that CEA/PGI principles were maintained.
- CEA/PGI specialists conducted PGI training sessions for the local team and teams arriving from other regional branches before each on-site operation.

### Lessons Learnt

- One of the topics of the Lessons Learned Workshop (LLW) focused on the continuation of PGI work and active participation in future RCSK operations.



## Challenges

- Due to the constant support from IFRC and experienced staff in the RCSK, there were significant no CEA/PGI challenges.



## Community Engagement And Accountability

**Budget:** CHF 1,065

**Targeted Persons:** 1,000

**Assisted Persons:** 1,061

## Indicators

Title	Target	Actual
Number and type of methods established to collect feedback and complaints from the community	3	4
Number of feedback reports produced	3	2
Number of community meetings minutes	10	4

## Narrative description of achievements

- RCSK conducted community outreach during the verification process. Informing took place individually with each person. Subsequently, people have contacted RCSK on various issues.
- On 12 November 2023, focus group discussions (FGDs) were held in four sessions. The groups were gender and age specific to ensure that different views are shared. During the FGDs people shared their insights on RCSK response activities, which were taken into account in further work.
- RCSK conducted a CEA assessment to understand the needs and communication preferences of the affected population, developed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for feedback, using existing and new channels to collect questions, suggestions, praise and complaints from community members. As part of the response, community meetings were held to promote a participatory approach, involving community members in leading the response. These meetings have also provided an opportunity for open and transparent communication, promoting collaboration, accountability and building trust. RCSK ensured that suggestion boxes were installed in the Bank, communicated helpline numbers and provided volunteers with frequently asked questions at help desks, as well as organised queues so that people who are not supported via response activities do not have to stand in line.

## Lessons Learnt

As noted during the LLW, the FGD should be conducted as part of the assessment prior to the development of the DREF. In addition, it is recommended that FGDs involve representatives of local civil society committees for discussions on the criteria for providing assistance.

## Challenges

Although there were no people with disabilities among people assisted who went to the bank where the cash distribution took place, it was noted that the bank did not have a ramp, which could have caused challenges.



# Financial Report

## DREF Operation

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2023/8-2024/8	Operation	MDRKG017
Budget Timeframe	2023/8-2023/11	Budget	APPROVED

### FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Prepared on 29/Nov/2024

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### MDRKG017 - Kyrgyzstan - Flood

Operating Timeframe: 25 Aug 2023 to 30 Nov 2023

#### I. Summary

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Funds &amp; Other Income</b>	<b>99,549</b>
DREF Response Pillar	99,549
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>-97,723</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>1,826</b>

#### II. Expenditure by planned operations / enabling approaches

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
PO01 - Shelter and Basic Household Items			0
PO02 - Livelihoods			0
PO03 - Multi-purpose Cash	73,208	72,680	528
PO04 - Health	5,432	2,846	2,585
PO05 - Water, Sanitation & Hygiene			0
PO06 - Protection, Gender and Inclusion		4	-4
PO07 - Education			0
PO08 - Migration			0
PO09 - Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	9,170	6,877	2,294
PO10 - Community Engagement and Accountability	1,065	453	612
PO11 - Environmental Sustainability		5	-5
<b>Planned Operations Total</b>	<b>88,875</b>	<b>82,866</b>	<b>6,009</b>
EA01 - Coordination and Partnerships	3,089	1,355	1,733
EA02 - Secretariat Services			0
EA03 - National Society Strengthening	7,586	13,502	-5,916
<b>Enabling Approaches Total</b>	<b>10,674</b>	<b>14,857</b>	<b>-4,183</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>99,549</b>	<b>97,723</b>	<b>1,826</b>

[Click here for the complete financial report](#)

## Please explain variances (if any)

Health: As RCSK began distributing hygiene kits, which were meant to be accompanied by health and hygiene promotion services prior to receiving DREF funding, and, as psychosocial support sessions for the affected population were conducted with fewer participants than initially planned, health-related funds were reallocated for other needs.

WASH: WASH activities outlined in the original DREF request were deprioritized during the operation and integrated into CVA activities.

National Society Strengthening: Additional representatives from local administrations and village leaders were invited to the LLW, resulting in increased expenses compared to the initial budget version.



# Contact Information

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[Click here for reference](#)

