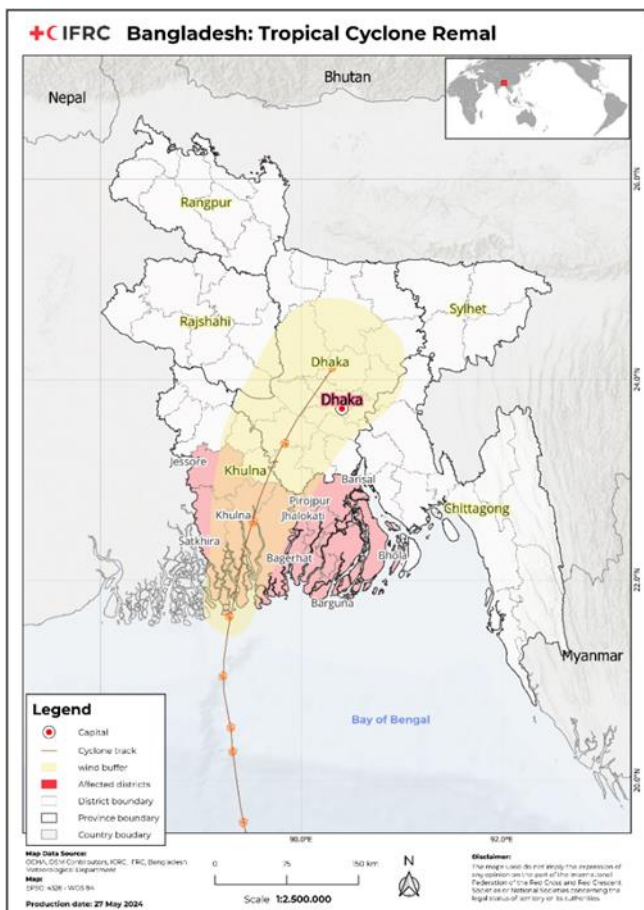




One of the BDRCS volunteers, going door to door to assess the household situation and needs of the affected people. (Photo: BDRCS)

Appeal No: MDRBD035	IFRC Secretariat Funding requirements: CHF 10 million Federation-wide Funding requirements: CHF 12.5 million¹	
Glide No: TC-2024-000083-BGD	People [affected/at risk]: 4.59 million people	People to be assisted: 650,000 people
DREF allocation: CHF 1 million	Appeal launched: 29/05/2024	Appeal ends: 31/05/2025

¹ The Federation-wide funding requirement encompasses all financial support to be directed to the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) in response to the emergency. It includes the BDRCS's domestic fundraising requests and the fundraising appeals of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies (CHF 2.5 million), as well as the funding requirements of the IFRC Secretariat (CHF 10 million). This comprehensive approach ensures that all available resources are mobilised to address the urgent humanitarian needs of the affected communities.



SITUATION OVERVIEW

The severe cyclonic storm Remal made landfall near the Mongla and Khepupara coasts in Bangladesh and West Bengal of India around 8:00 pm local time on 26 May 2024. The highest recorded wind speed was 111 km/h at 1:30 am on 27 May 2024, according to BMD in Khepupara of Patuakhali coastal district. The storm surge, accompanied by extremely heavy rainfall, caused flooding of 5-8 feet in the coastal districts.

According to the Department of Disaster Management (DDM) under the MoDMR, the Tropical Cyclone Remal affects around 4.59 million people² in 19 districts. Over 808,510 people have been evacuated to 9,424 evacuation shelters across 19 Districts. At least 16 people died across the seven districts. More than 170,000 houses were damaged. The most impacted districts are Khulna, Bagerhat, Satkhira, Patuakhali, Pirojpur, Barguna, Jhalokathi

TARGETING

Through the support of the IFRC network, BDRCS aim to target the most affected communities, aiming to reach 650,000 people with humanitarian assistance in WASH, shelter, food security, livelihood, and health in eight most

and Bhola. Embankment breaching was reported in many parts of coastal areas and many villages were submerged by the tidal surge and heavy rainfall (due to the influence of cyclone Remal). Power outages have been widespread, and mobile and internet connectivity is limited, complicating communication and coordination. Around 27 million people in the coastal region of the country were without electricity for hours due to the impact of cyclone Remal. Ten international flights from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka were cancelled due to the impact of cyclone Remal and adverse weather conditions.

The water sources and sanitation facilities in the affected districts were heavily damaged by the cyclone Remal, due to inundation caused by storm surges. The water sources have been contaminated with saline water resulting in limited potable water for drinking. On the other hand, the latrines in the houses of affected communities have been damaged by heavy storm winds and prolonged flooding caused by tidal surges and heavy rainfall. As a result, the affected people lack access to adequate sanitation and are at risk of waterborne diseases.

Routine expanded programme on immunization (EPI) outreach sessions have however been disrupted in all Upazilas (sub-districts) due to bad weather. In addition, pregnant women are at high risk due to the disruption of reproductive healthcare services. Many educational institutions in coastal districts were converted into temporary evacuation center during the cyclone made landfall.

Currently, the Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG) with the support of its members including the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society (IFRC), is conducting a rapid needs assessment to understand the overall impacts of the cyclone Remal, the current gaps and needs. This will also ensure a collective humanitarian response, reducing duplication, and localized impactful actions. More detailed information about damage and need are expected to be available in the coming days.

² [Situation report of MoDMR dated 28 May 2024](#)

affected districts. BDRCS will ensure the dignity, access, participation, and safety of the most vulnerable populations, including elderly persons, children and adolescents, marginal income farmers, female-headed households, lactating mothers, pregnant women, widows, and persons with disabilities.

The target groups will include:

- Families with damaged houses and WASH facilities
- Those severely impacted in terms of livelihoods (*agriculture, fish farming, marginalized groups*)
- Displaced individuals living in collective centers, with relatives, or in others' houses.
- Families with vulnerable groups.

BDRCS will work closely with communities, local authorities, and community leaders to assist the most affected families. Coordination with other agencies will be maintained to avoid any duplication of efforts.

PLANNED OPERATIONS

Through this Emergency Appeal, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) aims to support the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society in the response to Cyclone Remal. The strategy of the IFRC response will be to contribute to the response and recovery efforts focusing on the following areas:

Integrated assistance

In the immediate aftermath of the disaster, multipurpose cash assistance will be provided to meet the diverse needs of the affected population, allowing flexibility to prioritize urgent requirements such as food, clothing, and medical expenses, thereby enhancing overall well-being and dignity. Immediate action to provide temporary shelter through the distribution of tarpaulins and shelter toolkits is essential to offer immediate relief and protection, while plans for solutions will be initiated for a smooth transition into the recovery phase. Additionally, the disruption caused by the disaster often results in the loss of livelihoods, making emergency food assistance a priority to meet nutritional needs. Alongside the conditional cash support and technical guidance will enable families to start restoring their income-generating activities, helping to support households to recover.



At the recovery phase and stages, ongoing multipurpose cash assistance will continue to play a vital role in helping families cover essential expenses such as healthcare, education, and utilities, thereby supporting their journey towards normalcy and contributing to the local economy by increasing purchasing power within the community. In addition, the focus will shift to more longer-term solutions by providing conditional cash assistance for the reconstruction of houses, coupled with technical guidance to ensure that rebuilt homes are safer and more resilient to future disasters. This support will not only enable families to restore their living conditions but also contribute to community rebuilding efforts while promoting long-term resilience through education on safer construction practices. By focusing on livelihood restoration, the operation will support to enhance economic stability and foster self-reliance among the affected communities, ensuring they are better equipped to withstand future shocks.



Health & Care including Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) (Mental Health and Psychosocial Support/Community Health)

In the emergency response phase, BDRCS is planning to deploy mobile medical teams to provide primary health care services, including mental health and

psychosocial support (MHPSS) and first aid, to the affected population. These teams will focus on delivering essential medical services and addressing the immediate health needs of those impacted. Concurrently, disease prevention and health promotion campaigns will be launched to support efforts in mitigating vector and waterborne diseases by raising awareness about safe water practices, sanitation, and hygiene. With the monsoon season approaching, there is an increased likelihood of waterborne disease outbreaks, making these preventive measures even more critical. As the situation transitions into recovery, efforts will shift towards rehabilitating community health services, ensuring long-term access to medical care and continuing health promotion initiatives. This comprehensive approach aims to restore and enhance the health and resilience of the community, addressing both immediate needs and facilitating sustainable recovery.

Protection and Prevention

(Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), Community Engagement and Accountability, Migration, Environmental Sustainability, Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery, Education)



A continuous assessment of the specific needs of the affected population will be conducted to ensure that interventions are targeted and effective. Key elements of Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI), as well as Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), will form the foundation of a comprehensive approach to Protection and Prevention. Sex, Age, and Disability Disaggregated Data (SADDD) will be mainstreamed to the interventions and priorities to ensure the interventions are tailored to support people with special needs, whether through cash assistance or necessary assistive devices. Ensuring minimum standards of PGI in emergencies is a priority, which involves distributing dignity kits to uphold the dignity and well-being of vulnerable groups. Additionally, efforts will be made to enhance community engagement and accountability, address migration issues, promote environmental sustainability, and implement risk reduction and climate adaptation strategies. Education will also be a key component, ensuring that affected individuals, especially children, continue to have access to learning opportunities. This comprehensive approach aims to create a safer, more inclusive, and resilient community, addressing both immediate needs and laying the groundwork for long-term recovery and adaptation.

Enabling approaches

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:

Coordination and Partnerships

- Supporting BDRCS positioning with the government and ensuring smooth coordination and alignment at all levels.
- Leveraging the IFRC status agreement to meaningfully engage with the diplomatic community and development partners as well as the Humanitarian Country Team mechanisms.
- Membership coordination as per the Unified Planning process, ensuring that an IFRC-wide planning, monitoring, and reporting system is implemented to capture the collective support and footprint of the IFRC network, with the BDRCS at the centre and using lessons learned from similar operations in recent years.



Shelter Cluster Coordination



- Conducting shelter damage and needs assessments. Share regular updates on the evolving situation, 4W matrix, and response gaps with members.
- Develop context specific housing designs and technical guidance with technical support from the Housing & Building Research Institute (HBRI) and shelter cluster members.
- Organise a Best Practices and Lessons Learned workshop on the Cyclone Remal Response.

IFRC Secretariat Services



- The Secretariat will focus on supporting effective implementation of the operation, accountability, financial compliance, and reporting to donors, among other essential secretariat services.
- The BDRCS operations team will lead the implementation, supported by the IFRC CD and Regional Office in coordination with IFRC members who will provide technical back-up and support to the BDRCS, ensuring quality service standards.

National Society Strengthening



- Ensure duty of care of volunteers and staff
- Strengthen financial, transportation, and logistic facilities
- Capacity building of youth and concern cyclone affected BDRCS units
- Enhance operational management capacity
- Coordination, partnership, and humanitarian diplomacy

The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the time of this Emergency Appeal launch. Details of the operation will be updated through the Operational Strategy, which will be released in the upcoming days. The Operational Strategy will also provide further details on the Federation Wide approach which includes response activities of all contributing Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the Federation-wide funding requirement.

RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN COUNTRY

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society



Number of staff:	2,757
Number of RCY volunteers	14,960
Number of CPP volunteers	78,599
Number of branches:	68

Core areas of operation



Unit Disaster Response Team Members	1,750
-------------------------------------	-------

The BDRCS, since the formation of cyclone Remal, closely monitoring the forecast and regularly updates about the evolving situation with the support of the German Red Cross, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Center and IFRC. BDRCS alerted its all the coastal branches and mobilized its volunteers together with CPP volunteers to disseminate early warning and to evacuate people in safe locations. BDRCS has also provided food and water to the people who took shelter in evacuation centers. The BDRCS with the support of the IFRC Country Delegation (CD) are coordinating with BDRCS units (branches) and in-country Red Cross Red Crescent Movement partners to assist the affected population. Currently, more than 2,000 volunteers and staff are working in the affected districts and National Headquarters in close coordination with the public departments at the national and local levels. BDRCS activated the contingency plan and Emergency Operation Centre (EOC).

The BDRCS has allocated more than CHF 19,500 for dry food distribution among the severely cyclone-affected districts. From the joint contingency stock, BDRCS is mobilizing 9,600 tarpaulins; 5,400 jerrycans; 1,900 sleeping mats; and 2,750 Hygiene parcels to meet the emergency needs of affected people. BDRCS also mobilized two mobile water treatment plants (reverse osmosis) for desalination and two mobile medical teams to provide primary medical assistance in Khulna and Satkhira, which have been severely affected by the cyclone. BDRCS is in the process of deploying another seven medical teams in the field. To serve the most vulnerable people, BDRCS is initiating the procurement process of food packages as per the commitment of a local donor.

BDRCS has already sent an alert to its 205 national disaster response team members (NDRTs), 150 NDRT-WASH, 24 NDRT-Logistics, and 200 CVA level-2 trained volunteers for deployment readiness.

IFRC Membership coordination

The BDRCS has developed a *National Response Plan* for cyclone operations. Considering the plan, the IFRC Bangladesh CD has been coordinating the IFRC membership to support the BDRCS in reaching affected people. The IFRC Bangladesh CD, along with the in-country IFRC membership, has been closely monitoring the current situation and supporting the BDRCS in updating the contingency stock, issuing situation updates, and developing the response strategy.

Bilaterally, the BDRCS has received commitments and financial allocations from some of the Partner National Societies, including the American Red Cross, Danish Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross. The British Red Cross, German Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross Society, Swiss Red Cross, Turkish Red Crescent Society, and Qatar Red Crescent Society are also present in the country and maintain close coordination with the BDRCS and IFRC. Internal and external partner engagement will be enhanced through regular updates and meetings.

This Emergency Appeal is part of a Federation-wide approach, based on the response priorities of the BDRCS and in consultation with all Federation members contributing to the response. The Federation-wide picture will be given in the upcoming Operational Strategy document. The Operational Strategy will ensure linkages between all response activities (including bilateral activities and activities funded domestically) and assist in leveraging the capacities of all members of the Federation in the country, to maximize the collective humanitarian impact.

Red Cross Red Crescent Movement coordination

BDRCS, IFRC, ICRC and other Movement partners are planning and coordinating closely to support BDRCS's response. ICRC is supporting BDRCS by providing Restoring Family Link (RFL) service.

External coordination

The BDRCS and IFRC have been maintaining close coordination among the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR), other concerned ministries, district-level authorities, the Cyclone Preparedness Program (CPP), and other agencies. BDRCS and IFRC participated in the coordination meetings organized by MoDMR and district authorities. In the same way, BDRCS and IFRC have been coordinating with the Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCTT), Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG), Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG), Food Security

Cluster, WASH Cluster, Health Cluster, Gender Based Violence Cluster, Displacement Management Cluster, and Cash Working Group.

Being the convener of the Shelter Cluster³ Bangladesh, the IFRC CD is leading the coordination during the emergency phase and organising two coordination meetings. Shelter cluster has been sharing regular updates about the community needs and shelter response. The BDRCS is also leading the national Anticipatory Action Working Group (AAWG) and sharing situation updates among humanitarian communities. Currently, NAWG with the support of its members that consists of the UN, IFRC, BDRCS, INGOs, NGO, and local government authorities are conducting a rapid needs assessment to get the overall impacts of the cyclone Remal.

After 29 May 2025, any subsequent recovery and long term resilience interventions of the operation will continue under the [IFRC Bangladesh Country Plan for 2025](#). The IFRC Network Country Plans show an integrated view of ongoing emergency responses and longer-term programming tailored to the needs of the country, as well as a Federation-wide view of the country's action. This aims to streamline activities under one plan, while still ensuring that the needs of those affected by the disaster are met in an accountable and transparent way. Information will be shared in due time, should there be a need for an extension of the crisis-specific response beyond the above-mentioned timeframe.

³ Shelter Cluster Bangladesh is chaired by the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) and co-chaired by the IFRC and UNDP.

Contact information

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

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society:

- Secretary General, Kazi Shofiqul Azam, phone: +8801811458500; email: secretarygeneral@bdracs.org
- Operational coordination: Md. Mijanur Rahman, director, disaster response; phone: +88 018 11 458522; email: mdmijanur.rahman@bdracs.org

IFRC Country Delegation Bangladesh:

- Alberto Bocanegra, Head of Delegation phone:+880 01711 521 615 ; email: Alberto.BOCANEGRA@ifrc.org

IFRC Asia-Pacific Regional Office in 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 Health, Disaster, Climate and Crisis unit; email: joy.singhal@ifrc.org
- Felipe Delcid, Lead of Evolving Crises and Disasters; email; felipe.delcid@ifrc.org
- Nusrat Hassan, Operations Coordinator; email: opscoord.pacific@ifrc.org
- Afrhill Rances, Communications Manager; email: afrhill.rances@ifrc.org

IFRC Geneva:

- Christina Duschl, Senior Officer Operations Coordination; email: christina.duschl@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilisation and Pledges support:

- Maz Afiah Mohammad Khairul Azmi, Partnerships in Emergencies, PartnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org

For In-Kind Donations and Mobilisation table support:

- Nuraiza Khairuddin, Manager – Regional Logistics Unit; email: Nuraiza.khairuddin@ifrc.org

Reference



Click here for:

- [Link to IFRC Emergency landing page](#)