



As part of readiness activities, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) conducts orientation sessions on cyclone EAP and its planned activities to Red Crescent volunteers and staff (Photo: BDRCS)

EAP №: EAP2021BD04	Period covered by this annual report: 01/01/2023 to 31/12/2023
EAP approved: October 2021	EAP timeframe: 5 Years

Annual Budget: 20,012 CHF
EAP Budget: 350,000 CHF

SUMMARY OF THE EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL

The IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) has allocated CHF 350,000 for the implementation anticipatory actions to reduce and mitigate the impact of cyclone in Bangladesh. This Early Action Protocol (EAP) includes an allocation of CHF 195,927 to preposition stock and undertake annual readiness activities in order to implement early actions, if and when the trigger is reached. The early actions to be conducted have been pre-agreed with the National Society and are described in the [EAP summary](#).

This cyclone EAP covers the 13 sea-facing coastal districts and Jhalokati district in Bangladesh. The EAP will be implemented by the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) with the technical support from IFRC and German Red Cross (GRC). The pre-identified early actions can reach up to 40,000 people in the forecasted area. The pre-activation lead time for cyclones is 72 hours or more and Activation lead time is 30 hours or more. The early actions need to be implemented in the 72 hours between a reliable forecast and the cyclone landfall. This EAP will address the following impacts:

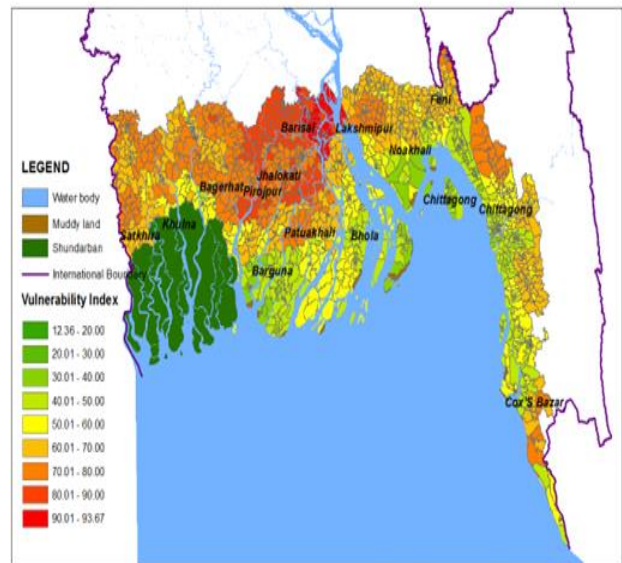
- Helping households for safe evacuation.
- Reducing the overall impacts of the cyclone on life, livelihoods, and health conditions.
- Reducing the impacts of the cyclone on livestock mortality and moveable asset.
- Improving the overall shelter experience of the household, with less problems experienced, and more services received.

Following key early actions have been identified to reduce the impacts in the cyclone shelters at the community level:

- Early warning dissemination and transport arrangement to evacuate people and livestock to cyclone shelters, including household movable assets to safeguard livelihood.
- Distribution of dry food and safe drinking water, oral saline at cyclone shelters.
- Provision of basic first aid service at cyclone shelters.
- Provision of artificial light facilities at community cyclone shelters at night.
- Ensure COVID-19 safety measure (e.g., installation of hand washing station, providing mask, soap, disposal bin, etc.).


With the support of IFRC, BDRCS completed its planned activities under the Cyclone EAP. As part of the readiness activities, BDRCS trained 110 Red Crescent volunteers (70 male and 40 female) and 21 members (16 male and 5 female) from the National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) and the National Disaster WASH Response Team (NDWRT) on the Cyclone EAP, including topics such as Impact-Based Forecasting (IBF), Anticipatory Action (AA), Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), and Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI). To date, BDRCS has trained over 250 staff, NDRT/NDWRT members, Red Crescent volunteers, and Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) volunteers in 2022 and 2023.

As part of its prepositioning activities, BDRCS positioned 40 sets of super megaphones, 50 sets of portable artificial lights for cyclone shelters, 250 torch lights for volunteers, 100 sets of first-aid boxes with refill packs, 205 waste bins with closed lids, and 50 portable handwashing facilities in strategic locations across 14 coastal districts within the cyclone belt, which are the primary implementation areas of the Cyclone EAP



Map: Vulnerability map due to cyclone hazard in Bangladesh.

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL PROGRESS BY AREA OF FOCUS

 Health	CHF preposition budget:	CHF preposition actual:
	Not Applicable	Not applicable
	CHF readiness budget:	CHF readiness actual:
	Not Applicable	Not applicable

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

BDRCS already procured 100 sets of first-aid boxes in 2022 and distributed it in 2023 across the 14 cyclone belt districts of Bangladesh. The items included in the first-aid boxes are as follows:

No.	Items/Specifications	Quantity
1.	Bandage Roll 4" x 6 yard	12 pcs
2.	Bandage Roll 6" x 6 yard	12 pcs
3.	Elastic creep bandage 4" x 5.5 yard	2 pcs
4.	Triangular bandage, cloth ½ sq meter	2 pcs
5.	Cotton Roll 200 gm-2 pcs	2 pcs
6.	Micropore 1" & 2"	2 rolls
7.	Dressing forceps, stainless still 6"	1 pc
8.	Scissor 5"	1 pc
9.	Thermometer, Fahrenheit, Mercury	1 pc
10.	Eye shield, plastic	3 pcs
11.	Soap	1 pc
12.	Soap case, plastic	1 pc
13.	Towel 1" x 1"	1 pc
14.	Kidney tray medium	2 pcs
15.	Tourniquet 18"	1 pc
16.	Splint wooden 6"	3 pcs
17.	Splint wooden 9"	3 pcs
18.	Surgical gloves 7 size	1 pair
19.	Surgical gloves 7.5 size	1 pair
20.	Safety pin 2"	12 pcs
21.	Torchlight with 2 batteries	1 pc
22.	Additional battery for torch	1 pair
23.	Water bottle 1ltr	1pc
24.	Nebanol ointment	1 pc
25.	Hexisol 50 ml	1 bottle
26.	ORS	10 packets
27.	Tab. Ace 500 mg	20 pcs
28.	Notebook	1 pc
29.	Ball pen	1 pc
30.	Plastic sheet 3 feet x 3 feet	1 pc

Due to available stocks from IFRC's Covid-19 global emergency appeal, BDRCS did not procure the remaining items under the health sector, such as PPE, infrared thermometers, and face masks.



Disaster Risk Reduction

CHF preposition budget:

Not applicable

CHF readiness budget:

462

CHF preposition actual:

Not Applicable

CHF readiness actual:

0

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

BDRCS procured 40 sets of super megaphones, 50 sets of portable artificial lights for cyclone shelters, 250 units of torch lights for volunteers, 100 sets of First-Aid boxes with refill packs, 205 units of waste bins with closed lids, and 50 sets of portable handwash facilities in 2022. Subsequently, BDRCS positioned these prepositioned items at strategic locations in the 14 coastal districts in 2023. Currently, BDRCS is regularly checking and maintaining these prepositioned items.



BDRCS staff and volunteers from one of cyclone prone BDRCS unit conduct routine check of pre-positioning items (Photo: BDRCS/IFRC)

STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION



Influencing others as leading strategic partner

CHF preposition budget:

Not applicable

CHF readiness budget:

1,676

CHF preposition actual:

Not Applicable

CHF readiness actual:

1,679

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

DRCS, in collaboration with IFRC and its members, provided technical support to the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) for the development and finalization of the national-level harmonized Cyclone Early Action Protocol (EAP). Concurrently, BDRCS assisted MoDMR in organizing the 2nd dialogue platform on Anticipatory Actions (AA) at the national level, aimed at scaling up Anticipatory Action for sustainable development. Approximately 30 relevant stakeholders, including government bodies, UN agencies, INGOs, NGOs, and others, actively participated.

Additionally, BDRCS and IFRC organized and participated in numerous coordination meetings with the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD), the Anticipatory Actions Technical Working Group (AA TWG), the Anticipatory Action Taskforce (AA Taskforce) led by MoDMR, and other relevant stakeholders. Key discussion points included Anticipatory Actions and BDRCS's Cyclone EAP. Significant outcomes from these meetings include:

- The Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) plans to develop an alert system (e.g., red, yellow, and orange) with advisories on heatwaves, considering factors such as wind speed and average temperature.
- Early Warning Messages (EWM) and alerts could be disseminated through electronic media, TV channels, weather bulletins, social media, etc.
- To enhance readiness capacity, coordination needs to be strengthened among relevant stakeholders, including ministries, the Department of Disaster Management (DDM), Dhaka North and South City Corporations, development partners, and others.
- A gap analysis of the Early Warning for All initiatives.
- Scaling up AA within and outside the Movement by developing new EAPs and guidelines for emerging hazards.

Furthermore, BDRCS is hosting the AA Secretariat to enhance coordination among relevant stakeholders.



AA Taskforce convene a meeting to finalize the national harmonize EAP on flood and cyclone hazards. (Photo: BDRCS/IFRC)



**Strengthening
National Society**

CHF preposition budget:

Not Applicable

CHF preposition actual:

Not Applicable

CHF readiness budget:

17,874

CHF readiness actual:

15,243

Narrative description of plan vs achievements

In 2023, the BDRCS, with the support of IFRC, completed its planned readiness activities under the Cyclone EAP. BDRCS trained 110 Red Crescent volunteers (70 male and 40 female) and 21 members (16 male and 5 female) of the National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) and National Disaster WASH Response Team (NDWRT) on the cyclone EAP, including Impact-Based Forecasting (IBF), Anticipatory Action (AA), Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), and Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI). Training for volunteers was conducted in four coastal districts of Bangladesh—Feni, Lakshmipur, Jhalokati, and Barguna—while training for NDRT/NDWRT members was held at the national level. As of the reporting period, BDRCS has trained over 250 staff, NDRT/NDWRT members, Red Crescent volunteers, and Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) volunteers in 2022 and 2023.

BDRCS now has dedicated staff providing technical support, particularly for forecast monitoring and the smooth implementation of planned activities under this EAP. Additionally, BDRCS regularly shared forecast monitoring reports with Movement partners and AA TWG members regarding Cyclone Mocha, Cyclone Hamoon, and two other depressions in the Bay of Bengal.



BDRCS conducts an orientation session for its volunteers on cyclone EAP and its planned activities (Photo: BDRCS)

CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNED, PROPOSED AJUSTMENTS

In 2023, Bangladesh experienced two cyclones and two additional depressions. Based on the lessons learned, BDRCS has revised its Cyclone EAP for 2024 to expand its reach from 40,000 to 150,000 of the most vulnerable people. The revised EAP will include early warning message dissemination, distribution of safe drinking water

and food assistance, provision of health services, hygiene promotion activities, and PGI measures. BDRCS is also planning to enhance its readiness and prepositioning stock capacities to ensure the timely and effective implementation of the Cyclone EAP. This annual report covers the updates on planned activities for Year 3 (2023) of the Cyclone EAP approved in 2021. From 2024 onward, annual reports (issued as long as the EAP is not activated) will reflect the revised Cyclone EAP.

FINANCIAL REPORT

In 2021, the IFRC DREF approved a total allocation of CHF 350,331 from its Forecast-based Action (FbA) mechanism for BDRCS. This allocation includes CHF 106,791 for immediate prepositioning, CHF 89,135 for readiness, and CHF 154,404 automatically allocated for implementing early actions once the defined triggers are met. For Year 3 (January to December 2023) of the Cyclone EAP, the total budget allocation for readiness activities was CHF 20,012; and by the end of December 2023, the expenditure amounted to CHF 16,922¹, representing a variance of around 15 per cent. BDRCS also received bilateral financial support from in-country Participating National Societies (PNSs), which complemented the readiness activities under the Cyclone EAP. As a result, actual expenditures were lower than initially planned for Year 3 of the Cyclone EAP.

Contact information.

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

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Reference



Click here for:

- [EAP Summary and budget \(original EAP\)](#)
- [EAP Summary and budget \(Revised EAP\)](#)

¹ At the time of report issuance, financial report details cannot be produced and attached due to technical issues with IFRC system. Financial report will be provided upon request once all technical issues are resolved.