

OPERATION UPDATE#1

Sri Lanka| Tropical Cyclone Ditwah

Emergency appeal №: MDRLK023 Emergency appeal launched: 02/12/2025 Operational Strategy published: 16/12/2025	Glide №: FL-2025-000213-LK
Operation update #1 Date of issue: 16/01/2026	Timeframe covered by this update: From 26/11/2025 to 31/12/2025
Operation timeframe: 18 months (02/12/2025 – 31/12/2027)	Number of people being assisted: 42,511
Funding requirements (CHF): CHF 12 million through the IFRC Emergency Appeal CHF 14 million Federation-wide	DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 1,000,000

To date, this Emergency Appeal, which seeks CHF 12,000,000, is 48 per cent funded. Further funding contributions are needed to enable the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS), with the support of the IFRC, to continue with the efforts to provide humanitarian assistance.



Sri Lanka Red Cross Society continued to provide immediate relief items to the affected population. More than 400 volunteers are being mobilized by the SLRCS to conduct these activities in the affected districts. (Photo: Sri Lanka Red Cross Society, Kandy Branch)

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the crisis

A low-pressure system formed over the southwest Bay of Bengal near Sri Lanka on 25 November 2025 and intensified into Cyclone Dithwah by 26 November, bringing torrential rains and strong winds. The Department of Irrigation, Ministry of Irrigation and Water Resources issued [early warnings](#) as the cyclone tracked north-northwest, causing catastrophic flooding and landslides. The [Disaster Management Centre](#) of Sri Lanka reported impacts across 25 districts, affecting 1.7 million people and 490,000 families, with 646 deaths and 174 missing. Over 218,000 people from 61,000 families were evacuated to 1,564 safety centres; as of 17 December, 66,000 people remained in 732 centres. Infrastructure damage includes 107,000 houses destroyed and 101,055 partially damaged. Rainfall exceeded 200 mm in 24 hours, reaching 540 mm in some districts. Access remains limited, with [200 roads and 22 bridges damaged](#). The Sri Lanka Red Cross mobilized 25 branches and 400 volunteers for assessments, first aid, and relief distribution. On 29 November, the President [declared](#) a nationwide state of emergency and activated the Essential Public Services Act to ensure continuity of critical services such as healthcare, water, electricity, and transport. These measures aim to stabilize the situation and coordinate disaster response amid widespread devastation.



Cyclone Dithwah has left behind barren fields, crumbled trees, and destroyed houses in the 20 most affected districts. (Photo: JJ/IFRC)

Summary of response

Overview of the host National Society and ongoing response

The Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) has been supporting the communities in need since 1936 as an auxiliary to the Government in humanitarian services. Currently, the National Society has 90 paid staff and more than 3,800 active volunteers providing humanitarian services in the country. The SLRCS is [providing services](#) on first aid, ambulance, blood transfusion services, and other emergency and non-emergency services through its 25 branches and 302 local units. Furthermore, the National Society is working as an auxiliary to the government while providing emergency services such as flood and landslide response, complex emergency response, etc, with support from the IFRC Network and other agencies such as the UN.

The SLRCS has a strong disaster response capacity, supported by 25 branches strategically located across the country and thousands of trained volunteers ready for rapid deployment. With extensive experience in managing floods, landslides, cyclones, and complex emergencies, the SLRCS delivers timely life-saving assistance, including first aid, emergency relief and restoring family links (RFL). Its well-coordinated branch network, pre-positioned stocks, and partnerships with government and Movement actors enable the SLRCS to respond effectively to disasters while strengthening community resilience.



Sri Lanka Red Cross Society conducted 85 events of clean up campaigns and mobilized over 400 Volunteers to organize clean-up campaigns at the household and community level. **(Photo: SLRCS, Anuradhapura Branch)**

As of 31 December 2025, **26,334 people**, including 13,266 males and 14,371 females, have been reached by the SLRCS while implementing relief activities in affected communities and safety centers. Key sectoral achievements include more than 17,000 people (m- 8,460 and f- 9,139) reached by clean-up campaigns organized to support affected families in cleaning their inundated houses as soon as the floodwater receded.

More than 400 trained volunteers are being mobilized to conduct relief activities in the communities. Non-food relief items were distributed to 14,870 people (m- 7,140 and f- 7,734) directly affected by the floods and landslides, and who were displaced. The items include a towel, a bed sheet, undergarments, a sarong, and a kaftan. Similarly, the first aid trained volunteers provided emergency first aid services to 6,751 people (m- 3,905 and f- 4,230) injured due to the floods and landslides, who were displaced and forced to stay in safety centres. Volunteers continue to provide services in the safety centres as required. Additionally, the SLRCS organized medical camps in communities and safety centres in the most affected districts, providing support to 1,903 people (m- 927 and f- 976) with first aid services and PSS supports. Apart from this, more than 1,450 females received sanitary napkins as part of the menstrual hygiene management. This measure helps women and adolescent girls maintain hygiene and cleanliness throughout their stay at safety centres, making the experience more manageable. For those whose homes were destroyed by floods and landslides and have no alternative shelter, this period can be prolonged.

Furthermore, the SLRCS conducted a multi-sectoral needs assessment in December 2025 to gather comprehensive data for the evidence-based understanding of the situation that is essential to lay the groundwork for recovery activities. A total of 400 volunteers were mobilised to conduct an assessment in the 20 most affected districts. It is expected that the report will be published by mid-January 2026.

Needs analysis

Needs analysis

The preliminary data from the rapid multi-sectoral assessment conducted in late December 2025 shows that urgent needs include cash and voucher assistance, emergency shelter, WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene support, health services to prevent waterborne diseases, education assistance for children who lost learning materials, etc. Although the government is responding, many areas remain underserved due to widespread and varied needs. The SLRCS, as an auxiliary to public authorities with nationwide presence, will address these gaps through a Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) and Emergency Appeal.

Cash and voucher assistance (CVA): The floods and landslides destroyed homes and swept away household items, leaving families with nothing. While most displaced people are returning home or staying with host families or in rented houses, they urgently need cash support to buy essential household items. Additionally, many families dependent on agriculture, fisheries, and similar livelihoods have lost their sources of income due to floods and landslides, increasing the risk of falling into below poverty line.

Shelter: As of 31 December, over 101,055 houses were destroyed across 25 districts by the cyclone. Displaced families urgently need tents, tarpaulins, sleeping mats, blankets, and mosquito nets. They have also lost essential household items like clothing, kitchen utensils, and bedding. There are significant gaps in providing temporary shelter for families whose homes were completely destroyed.

WASH: Floodwaters have contaminated household wells, raising the risk of waterborne diseases. Safe drinking water is urgently needed through water bowsers, bottled water, and purification tablets. Cleaning contaminated wells is critical once floodwaters recede. Women and adolescent girls in evacuation centres need hygiene items, as they lost personal belongings. Flooding has also damaged water treatment facilities, increasing reliance on unsafe water sources.

Health: Many health facilities are damaged or inaccessible, leaving operational ones overstretched. This increases the risk of waterborne and vector-borne diseases. First aid and general medical care are urgently needed to prevent

serious complications. Mobile health clinics and medical camps are required for remote areas. Mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) is essential for those who lost loved ones, homes, or livelihoods.

Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI): Displaced populations living in crowded safety centres face increased risks of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Urgent measures include psychosocial support and awareness on violence prevention. Special attention is needed for children, pregnant and lactating women, people with disabilities, those with chronic illnesses, and other vulnerable groups.

Education: Flooding destroyed school supplies in low-lying areas, affecting children in urban, semi-urban, and rural communities. Essential school items are needed to help children return to school. Temporary learning spaces may be required in evacuation centres if disruptions persist. Psychosocial support is also critical for school-aged children who experienced displacement or loss of family members.

Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA): Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) is essential to ensure affected households receive accurate information on available support, eligibility, and access methods, establishing feedback desks, hotline, and regular community meetings enables participation, address grievances, and promotes transparency, fostering trust and accountability throughout the response process.

Operational risk assessment

Sri Lanka's central hill districts are among the most difficult areas to reach during humanitarian operations. The terrain is steep, and many communities are scattered across remote valleys and ridges. Road networks are limited, and in some places, they are either poorly maintained or non-existent. When disasters strike, such as floods or landslides, these fragile routes are often blocked or destroyed, leaving villages cut off from assistance. Relief convoys must rely on smaller vehicles, manual transport, or even airlifts, all of which significantly increase the cost of logistics. This remoteness not only delays the delivery of essential supplies but also stretches operational budgets, making it harder to sustain long-term relief efforts.

The challenge becomes even more severe during the northeastern monsoon season, which typically runs from October to January every year. Heavy rains during this period affect the northern, eastern, and central regions of the country, triggering landslides, flash floods, and road washouts. In the hill districts, continuous rainfall makes already difficult terrain impassable, isolating communities for extended periods. Relief operations face heightened risks, as vehicles can be stranded or routes completely submerged. The monsoon also disrupts agriculture and livelihoods, compounding humanitarian needs at the very time when access is most constrained.

Together, geographical remoteness and seasonal monsoon hazards create a double burden for humanitarian actors. Supplies take longer to reach affected populations, costs rise sharply, and communities remain vulnerable without timely assistance. Addressing these challenges requires pre-positioning relief stocks in strategic locations before the monsoon, strengthening community-based disaster preparedness, and investing in resilient infrastructure such as roads and bridges. Without these measures, the combination of isolation and seasonal hazards will continue to hinder effective disaster response in Sri Lanka's hill districts.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Update on the strategy

The operation aims to meet the needs of roughly 119,473 families (approximately 597,365 people) impacted by Cyclone Ditwah, particularly in the 20 districts affected by the floods resulting from the intense rainfall. The [Emergency Appeal](#) and [Operational Strategy](#) were revised in early January 2026 based on the emerging community needs,

informed by the rapid multi-sectoral needs assessment. As a result, the people reached target was increased from 518,030 to 597,365. The key focus areas of the appeal are:

Emergency shelter: Cyclone damage has left thousands of families without safe housing, forcing them into temporary shelters or unsafe living conditions. Immediate support will focus on providing emergency shelter materials such as tarpaulins and basic household items to protect families from the elements. This approach ensures both immediate safety and sustainable recovery, while empowering families to make choices that best suit their needs. Additionally, the SLRCS will provide support for a cash grant for essential household items for those needing transitional shelters.

Livelihood: Livelihood support will focus on restoring income-generating opportunities for flood-affected households. Assistance will be provided in instalments through a financial service provider, with households selected in consultation with the community. The SLRCS will conduct monitoring visits to ensure that the cash is being used in line with agreements made between the targeted households and the SLRCS.

Multi-purpose cash assistance: Cash-based interventions allow families to meet their diverse needs in a flexible and dignified way. Rather than receiving only in-kind aid, households can use financial support to purchase food, medicine, clothing, or materials for livelihood recovery. This approach recognises that each family's situation is unique and that cash assistance strengthens local markets, supports community recovery, and reduces dependency on external aid. The targeted households will receive a cash grant in three tranches based on the minimum expenditure basket (MEB) values recommended by the cash working group (CWG). The CWG's recommendation for the December transfer value is LKR 27,000 (CHF 72.97), representing 60 per cent of the total MEB of LKR 45,000 (CHF 121.62), ensuring consistency in support across humanitarian actors for comparable needs. The MEB includes LKR 34,000 (CHF 91.89) for food and LKR 11,000 (CHF 29.72) for essential household items, values previously agreed by the CWG in 2022 and adjusted to reflect inflation for 2022.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH): Access to clean water and safe sanitation is critical in the aftermath of a disaster, when overcrowding and damaged infrastructure increase the risk of disease outbreaks. The operation will prioritise restoring water supply systems and the distribution of sanitary napkins as an immediate need on WASH. For longer-term recovery needs, the SLRCS will support households with the provision of conditional cash assistance for owner-driven toilet construction and repair. Hygiene promotion campaigns will also be conducted to encourage safe practices such as handwashing, waste disposal, and menstrual hygiene management. These interventions help protect health, reduce vulnerability, and restore dignity in affected communities. Additionally, the SLRCS will construct small-scale water schemes that were damaged by the floods and landslides.

Health: Disasters often disrupt health services and increase the risk of communicable diseases. The operation will focus on health promotion and awareness campaigns to prevent outbreaks of waterborne and vector-borne diseases. Support will also be provided to rehabilitate damaged health facilities and strengthen referral systems. Mobile health units and community health volunteers will play a key role in reaching isolated populations, ensuring that vulnerable groups such as children, the elderly, and people with chronic illnesses receive timely care. For longer-term needs, the SLRCS will focus on building the capacities of volunteers by providing first aid training.

Migration and Displacement: During the Cyclone Ditwah response, the SLRCS extended its humanitarian support to affected local communities as well as refugees and asylum seekers, recognising their heightened vulnerability in times of crisis. Through cash assistance programmes, refugees and asylum seekers will be provided with flexible financial support to meet urgent needs such as food, shelter, and healthcare, while maintaining dignity and choice. In parallel, the SLRCS strengthened RFL services, helping reconnect separated families, trace missing loved ones, and provide psychosocial reassurance to those cut off from communication. Together, these interventions help ensure that refugees, asylum seekers, and host communities receive inclusive, life-saving assistance in the aftermath of one of Sri Lanka's most devastating disasters.

Community engagement and accountability (CEA): Effective humanitarian response requires listening to communities and involving them in decision-making. CEA ensures that affected populations are kept informed about available services, eligibility criteria, and timelines. Feedback mechanisms, such as hotlines, community meetings, and volunteer outreach, will be established to capture concerns and suggestions. This participatory approach builds trust, improves the quality of programming, and ensures that assistance is relevant and responsive to real needs.


Protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI): Disasters often exacerbate existing inequalities and protection risks. PGI integration ensures that the safety, dignity, and rights of vulnerable groups – including women, children, the elderly, people with disabilities, and marginalised communities – are respected. This includes safeguarding against sexual and gender-based violence, ensuring equal access to services, and promoting inclusive participation in recovery efforts. By embedding PGI principles across all sectors, the operation ensures that no one is left behind.

Education: Cyclone Ditwah disrupted schooling for thousands of students, with regular classes suspended for at least three weeks. Many students lost their education materials due to massive flooding and landslides. The operation will support continued learning by providing age-appropriate education kits to affected students. In addition, psychological support will be prioritised once students return to school to help them cope and readjust.

Disaster risk reduction (DRR): Building resilience is essential to reduce the impact of future disasters. The operation will invest in strengthening staff and volunteers at the branch level, equipping them with training, tools, and resources to respond effectively to emergencies of a similar scale and intensity. Community-based disaster preparedness activities, such as early warning systems, evacuation planning, and risk awareness campaigns, will also be reinforced. These measures ensure that both the Red Cross network and local communities are better prepared to face future hazards.


C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

	Shelter, Housing and Settlements	People reached	14,870
		Female > 18:	Female < 18:
		Male > 18: 1,237	Male < 18: 6,497
Objective:		<i>Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, wellbeing and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions</i>	
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of households provided with essential household items</i>	2,974 HHs (14,870 people)	5,000 HHs (25,000 people)
	<i>Number of households provided with cash grant for items required for transitional shelter</i>	Not started	TBC
	<i>Percentage of households that report receiving a cash grant for shelter items for transitional shelter and are satisfied with the amount received</i>	Not started	TBC


Progress Toward Objectives

The SLRCS distributed relief items to 2,974 households, reaching out to 14,870 people (m- 7,140 and f- 7,734) from the affected districts. The items include a towel, a bed sheet, undergarments, a sarong, and a kaftan. The distribution was targeted to the population affected by the flood and landslides so that they have basic relief items to meet their urgent survival needs. The districts included: Ampara, Anuradhapura, Badulla, Batticaloa, Colombo, Gampaha, Jaffna, Kandy, Kegalle, Kilinochchi, Kurunegala, Mannar, Matale, Mullaitivu, Nuwaraeliya, Polonnaruwa, Puttalam, Rathnapura, Trincomalee, and Vavuniya.

 Livelihoods	People reached	-	
	Female > 18:	Female < 18:	
	Male > 18:	Male < 18:	
Objective:	<i>Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of targeted households provided with conditional cash assistance</i>		8,000
	<i>Number of people reached with livelihood-related trainings</i>	Not started	8,000
	<i>Percentage of people surveyed whose households received a cash transfer and are satisfied with the amount received</i>		TBC

Progress Toward Objectives

Progress for this sector will be provided in upcoming reports.

 Multi-purpose Cash	People reached	-	
	Female > 18:	Female < 18:	
	Male > 18:	Male < 18:	
Objective:	<i>Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of targeted households provided with cash assistance</i>		19,881
	<i>Percentage of households that report receiving MPC and who are satisfied with the amount received</i>	Not started	TBC

Progress Toward Objectives

The financial service provider (FSP) has been identified, and the agreement between the SLRCS and the FSP is currently being finalized. Once the agreement is signed, the multi-purpose cash (MPC) distribution will start, in line with the SLRCS Cash and Voucher Assistance Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). Additionally, branch teams have initiated the targeted household selection process in coordination with local government authorities. This

process will undergo different levels of verification to ensure that assistance reaches the most vulnerable and those in need.

 Health & Care <i>(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)</i>	People reached	8,745	
	Female > 18: 833	Female < 18: 4,373	
	Male > 18: 773	Male < 18: 4,059	
Objective:	<i>Address the immediate and recovery health needs of targeted households through community-level interventions</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of people reached with mental health and psychosocial services (MHPSS) from the National Society</i>	Not started	80,000
	<i>Number of people reached through health awareness activities on epidemic control, vector-borne disease and related topics</i>	8,745	75,000

Progress Toward Objectives

As of 31 December 2025, the SLRCS has reached 8,745 people (m- 4,832 and f- 5,206) through emergency first aid services and medical camps established at communities and safety shelters in affected districts.




First Aid trained volunteer providing first aid services in one of the safety centres. **(Photo: Sri Lanka Red Cross Society).**

A total of 6,751 people (m-3,905 and f-4,230) were reached with emergency first aid services provided to the affected population requiring immediate first aid. First aid-trained volunteers were mobilized to deliver these services.

In addition, 1,903 people (m-927 and f-976) were reached with services through medical camps in communities and safety centres. A total of 42 medical camps were organized to provide services by mobilizing trained volunteers. These services will continue in safety centres that are still operational, where affected people are still residing.

More details on implemented activities, including psychosocial support (PSS) services and health awareness will be provided in upcoming reports.

 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	People reached	17,000	
	Female > 18: 1,462	Female < 18: 7,677	
	Male > 18: 1,354	Male < 18: 7,106	
Objective:	<i>Ensure the provision of safe water, adequate sanitation, and promote effective hygiene practices among the affected population in the targeted communities, while building community resilience and mitigating public health risks</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of sanitation facilities reconstructed or rehabilitated</i>	Not started	300
	<i>Number of people reached through constructed or rehabilitated sanitation facilities</i>		3,000
	<i>Number of people reached through hygiene promotion activities (well cleaning, clean-up campaign, etc.)</i>	17,000	234,500
	<i>Number of water schemes reconstructed</i>	Not started	50
	<i>Number of people reached through the reconstructed water scheme</i>		1,259
	<i>Percentage of people reporting use of WASH infrastructure supported by the SLRCS as part of this appeal</i>		TBC

Progress Toward Objectives

As of 31 December 2025, a total of 17,00 people (m- 8,460 and f- 9,139) were reached by 85 events of clean-up campaigns organized by the SLRCS to support affected families in cleaning their inundated households and communities as soon as the floodwater receded. A total of 400 Volunteers were mobilized to support these events.

Additionally, 299 dug well were cleaned. The SLRCS hired third-party service providers who cleaned the dug well following the OXFAM operational manual for cleaning. The entire process was monitored by the public health inspector.



The volunteers are engaged on clean up campaigns being organized at branches on a regular basis. **(Photo: Sri Lanka Red Cross Society)**

More details on implemented activities will be provided in upcoming reports.



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

People reached	-
Female > 18:	Female < 18:
Male > 18:	Male < 18:

Objective:

Strengthen protection, safety, and safeguarding mechanisms by improving the existing protection capacity of affected communities and ensuring that all facilities, goods, and services are dignified and safe to access by people of all backgrounds.

Key indicators:

Indicator	Actual	Target
Number of RCRC staff and volunteers trained in PGI	Not started	
Number of people reached with PGI messaging		597,365

Progress for this sector will be provided in upcoming reports.



Community Engagement and Accountability

People reached	-
Female > 18:	Female < 18:
Male > 18:	Male < 18:


Objective:	<i>Integrate CEA into the response and recovery efforts, ensuring the needs of affected communities are understood and addressed in a collaborative and participatory manner.</i>		
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Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Percentage of surveyed affected people who feel their opinion is taken into account in the decision about the operation</i>	Not started	TBC
	<i>Percentage of staff and volunteers working on the operation who have been briefed/trained on CEA</i>	Not started	TBC

Progress Toward Objectives

The SLRCS is disseminating its feedback mechanisms, including the hotline service number to ensure that communities can directly engage with SLRCS regarding suggestions, queries, or complaints. This approach strengthens organizational accountability to the communities it serves. Furthermore, information on upcoming activities such as medical camps, cleanup campaigns, and well cleaning services is being communicated through SLRCS social media platform, official website, and other channels to promote greater community participation.

To facilitate this, information, education and communication (IEC) materials are being distributed within communities during all activities and interventions to ensure they are well informed about SLRCS initiative and encouraged to actively participate through establishment of committees to select targeted households, and through feedback desk during intervention and SLRCS hotline.

 Migration	People reached	-
	Female > 18:	Female < 18:
	Male > 18:	Male < 18:

Objective:	<i>Affected migrant families receive cash support to help them recover to their pre-disaster situation.</i>		
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Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of migrant workers receiving cash and voucher assistance</i>	Not started	680 people (156 HHs)
	<i>Number of migrant workers who receive RLF services</i>		


Progress for this sector will be provided in upcoming reports.

 Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and Recovery	People reached	-
	Female > 18:	Female < 18:
	Male > 18:	Male < 18:


Objective:	<i>Affected communities strengthened to withstand disasters through improved knowledge and skills in disaster risk reduction</i>		
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	Indicator	Actual	Target

Key indicators:	<i>Number of staff and volunteers is trained on DRR-related trainings</i>	Not started	600
	<i>Number of people reached by disaster risk reduction public awareness messaging and public education campaigns (PAPE)</i>		15,000
	<i>Number of small-scale irrigation canals rehabilitated as part of the small-scale mitigation</i>		30
	<i>Number of people reached through the rehabilitated irrigation canals</i>		3,000
Progress for this sector will be provided in upcoming reports.			

 Education	People reached		
	Female > 18:	Female < 18:	
	Male > 18:	Male < 18:	
Objective:	<i>School education kits are distributed among affected students so they can continue their education after the disaster.</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of school-going students receiving school education kits/packs</i>	Not started	10,000
<i>Percentage of school students who report that school education packs were useful for them after resuming school affected by the flood</i>	TBC		
Progress for this sector will be provided in upcoming reports.			

Enabling approaches

 National Society Strengthening	Objective:		
	<i>Strengthen the SLRC's preparedness and response capacities by reinforcing branch-level structures and the workforce, mobilizing inclusive and trained volunteer networks for effective operations, and advancing youth-led initiatives that improve community resilience</i>		
Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of volunteers insured throughout the operation</i>	-	400
Progress for this sector will be provided in upcoming reports.			



Coordination and Partnerships

Objective: *Strengthen coordination and collaboration within the IFRC membership and the wider Movement, ensuring technical and operational complementarity, while enhancing cooperation with external partners to improve the effectiveness of SLRCS operations*

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Membership coordination is maintained</i>	Yes	Yes
	<i>Engagement with external partners is further enhanced</i>	Yes	Yes

Progress Toward Objectives

The SLRCS is actively participating in country and cluster coordination meetings to ensure timely updates on its support to affected communities are shared with key stakeholders, including the Government and UN agencies. Additionally, the IFRC is co-leading the shelter, essential household items, and camp coordination and camp management (CCCM), delivering coordination services and technical support to partners agencies. To strengthen these efforts, a shelter cluster coordinator and an Information Management (IM) coordinator surge have been deployed.

The SLRCS HQ maintains close coordination between local branches while branches work collaboratively with local government authorities and other stakeholders to ensure the smooth implementation of operation. A diplomatic engagement briefing is scheduled for mid-January 2026 with the focus on sharing the findings of multi sectoral rapid needs assessment with the external stakeholders present at country. Similarly, third partners call is also scheduled in mid-January 2026, to update the partners on the revised operation strategy and findings sharing of the assessment conducted in late December 2025 and early January 2026. For both events, the SLRCS will be leading with technical support from the IFRC.

Since the onset of the operation, IFRC has been coordinating closely with the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC), and to date three tri-partite meetings have been held.. SLRCS will continue to collaborate with ICRC in delivering Restoring Family Links (RFL) services to affected communities. Additionally, a Communications Coordinator Surge has been deployed to support the operation and ensure visibility at all levels.



Secretariat Services

Objective: *Provide comprehensive support to the SLRCS in their relief operations, ensuring adherence to compliance standards, effective operational management, and enhanced visibility*

Key indicators:	Indicator	Actual	Target
	<i>Number of surges supporting the operation</i>	7	7
	<i>Number of evaluations conducted for the operation</i>	-	1

Progress Toward Objectives

As of the reporting period, seven Rapid Response surge alerts were sent out to support the SLRCS response. The details are provided below:

IFRC Rapid Response profile	Deployment duration	Deployment entity
Operations Manager	3 Months (in country)	New Zealand Red Cross
PMER Coordinator	3 Months (in country)	IFRC APRO
Comms Coordinator	3 Months (in country)	Finnish Red Cross
Assessment Coordinator	1.5 Months (in country)	Australian Red Cross
Information Management Coordinator	1.5 Month (remote)	The Netherlands Red Cross
Shelter Cluster Coordinator	2 Months (in country)	IFRC
Shelter Cluster IM coordinator	1 Month (in country)	Finnish Red Cross

The deployed rapid response personnel are providing critical support to the operation, including the Emergency Appeal and Operational Strategy revisions. For instance, the PMER surge supported the issuance of IFRC Situation Reports (Sitreps) and Operation Update(s), the development of monitoring tools, and the establishment of reporting timelines to streamline reporting processes. With technical support from the Assessment Coordinator, a multi-sectoral rapid needs assessment was completed, and the report is currently being finalized. Additionally, IFRC CCD Delhi is providing technical support to the team in Sri Lanka. In the initial phase, the Head of Country Cluster Delegation and Programme Manager from CCD provided coordination and technical support. A procurement focal point is also supporting the team to finalize their procurement process, mostly for local procurement.

A wide range of communications activities have been implemented since the onset of the emergency to support the visibility of the situation and SLRCS operation at the international level. Activities have included social media posts on various IFRC channels (videos, photos, podcasts) and sharing of all contents with the SLRCS communications team and among the IFRC Network for National Societies to use in their own markets: [X IFRC Asia Pacific](#) | [X IFRC](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [ifrc.org](#). Furthermore, efforts have included dealing with media inquiries, monitoring media and social media, and developing key messaging and first phase communications workplan jointly with SLRCS. Going forward, a comprehensive communications plan will be jointly developed, and further communications content, including longer-form articles, prepared for a variety of channels. Special focus will be given to supporting the development of SLRCS communications efforts in identified areas and providing capacity-building, such as training, for the HQ and branches.

D. FUNDING¹

IFRC Secretariat Coverage	Amount Raised (CHF)	Funding Gap (CHF)	Coverage %
Hard Pledges + In kind + Soft Pledges	5,813,765	6,186,235	48%
Federation-wide Coverage	Amount Raised (CHF)	Funding Gap (CHF)	Coverage %
IFRC Secretariat + Bilateral	5,976,198	8,023,802	43%

¹ Note that the income figure may be subject to variation

As of the reporting period, the IFRC Secretariat has mobilized CHF 5.81 million, covering 48 per cent of the total requirement of CHF 12 million.

A financial report will only be attached for the 6-month update for the operation, due in June 2026.

IFRC extends its heartfelt gratitude to all donors and earnestly appeals for further contributions to bridge the remaining gap. This support is crucial for the National Society and the IFRC to continue delivering vital humanitarian assistance during both the emergency and recovery phases.

Contact information

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

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Reference



Click here for:

- [Previous Appeals and updates](#)
- [Revised Emergency Appeal](#)
- [Revised Operational Strategy](#)
- [DREF](#)

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to **Principles of Humanitarian Action** and **IFRC policies and procedures**. 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.