

### Sri Lanka, Asia-Pacific | Tropical Cyclone Ditwah



*The Sri Lanka Red Cross Society distributes non-food relief items to families affected by Cyclone Ditwah. (Photo: Sri Lanka Red Cross Society, Mullaitivu Branch)*

Appeal No: <b>MDRLK023</b>	To be assisted: <b>597,365 people<sup>1</sup></b>	Appeal launched: <b>02/12/2025</b>
Glide No: <a href="#">FL-2025-000213-LKA</a>	DREF allocated: <b>CHF 1,000,000</b>	Disaster Categorisation: Orange
Operation start date: <b>02/12/2025</b>	Operation end date: <b>31/12/2027</b>	
Operational Strategy Revision	Revision #: 1	Date: <b>05/01/2026</b>

**IFRC Secretariat Funding requirement: CHF 12 million**  
**Federation-wide Funding requirement: CHF 14 million<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Increased from 518,030 people in the first Operational Strategy, with increased value for both multi-purpose and conditional cash grants.

<sup>2</sup> The Federation-wide funding requirement encompasses all financial support to be directed to the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society in response to the emergency. It includes the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society domestic fundraising requests and fundraising appeals of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies (CHF 2 million) as well as the funding ask of the IFRC secretariat (CHF 12 million, increased from CHF 5 million in the first appeal). This comprehensive approach ensures that all available resources are mobilised to address the urgent humanitarian needs.

## TIMELINE



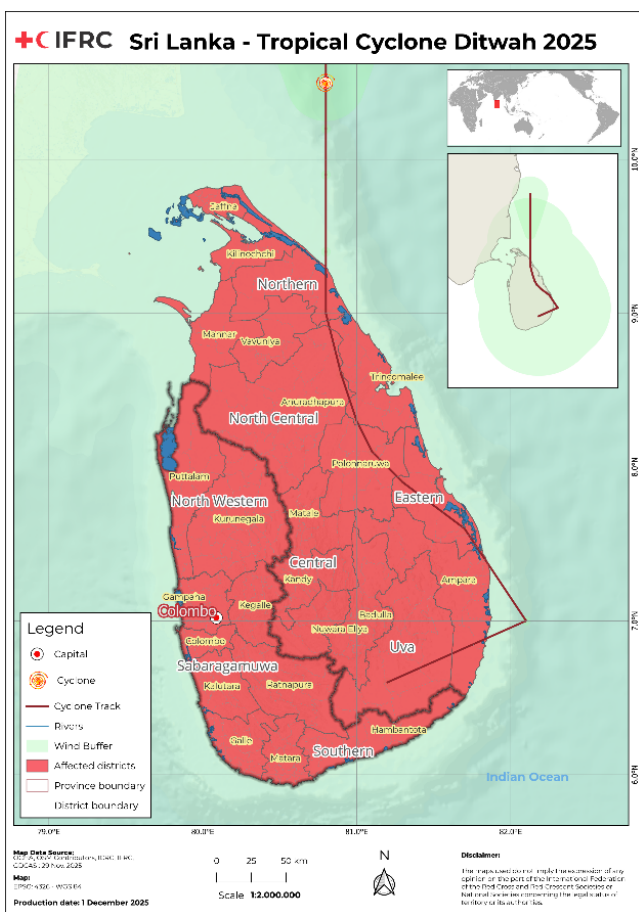
The Sri Lanka Red Cross Society is conducting a multi-sectoral assessment, which will help to streamline the needs, specify the target population, and ultimately expedite the support to the affected population. (Photo: Sri Lanka Red Cross Society)

- 26 November 2025:** A well-marked low-pressure system in the Bay of Bengal intensifies into a tropical depression, later named Cyclone Ditwah. Meteorological agencies begin issuing early warnings as the system tracks toward Sri Lanka.
- 28 November 2025:** The President of Sri Lanka declares a nationwide state of emergency on 28 November in response to the severe impact of Cyclone Ditwah. The same day, the Government of Sri Lanka activates the Essential Public Services Act through an extraordinary gazette, providing the authority and mechanisms needed to stabilise the situation while protecting vulnerable populations and supporting an effective disaster response.
- 29 November 2025:** Cyclone Ditwah reaches peak intensity with sustained winds of 75 km/h (IMD) and makes landfall in Sri Lanka. Torrential rains trigger severe flooding and landslides, cutting off major roads and inundating homes.
- 2 December 2025:** An IFRC Emergency Appeal (EA) with Secretariat funding of CHF 5 million is launched for an 18-month timeframe, targeting 500,000 people.
- 4 December 2025:** The DREF request is fully approved, with a total allocation of CHF 1 million granted to provide immediate life-saving support and early recovery assistance to 268,180 people as part of the EA.
- 16 December 2025:** The Operation Strategy (OS) is issued, outlining the key sectoral strategies for the operation and funding requirement.
- 5 January 2026:** The EA is revised, with a CHF 12 million Secretariat and CHF 14 million Federation-wide funding requirement, over a 24-month timeframe targeting 597,365 people. Additionally, the revised Operation Strategy (OS) is issued, outlining the key sectoral strategies for the operation and funding requirement.

# OPERATIONAL STRATEGY REVISION

The Operational Strategy requires revision to address emerging community needs and incorporate newly available information. The SLRCS will increase the value of the multi-purpose cash grant in line with recommendations of the Cash Working Group and will also increase the number of tranches provided due to ongoing needs. People affected and currently staying in safety centres or with host families are left with damaged homes requiring extensive repair or transitional shelter. In response, the SLRCS will provide support for transitional shelter items and household latrines through conditional cash grants. A large number of households have also lost their main sources of income, particularly those reliant on agriculture, fisheries, and daily wage labour. The SLRC will support them with cash grants, which will contribute to restoring and diversifying their livelihood options. The operation will also focus on branch capacity building to strengthen disaster preparedness to enable the SLRCS to proactively contribute to community resilience in future climate-related shocks. Protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI), as well as community engagement and accountability (CEA), will be integrated throughout the operation.

## DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT



Initial data shows that more than **218,000 people** from at least 61,000 families were evacuated to 1,564 safety centres run by the government. As of 17 December, more than 66,000 people across at least 22,000 families are residing in 732 evacuation centres. Widespread infrastructure damage has been recorded, including more than 107,000 homes destroyed and 101,055 partially damaged, with 634 reported deaths.<sup>3</sup> The affected population includes an estimated 362,939 children, 326,703 older persons, and 19,513 pregnant women.<sup>4</sup>

Physical impacts include the destruction of homes, schools, hospitals, and transport networks, while widespread power outages and communication breakdowns have disrupted essential systems. The crisis overwhelmed health services, limiting access to maternal care, nutrition programmes, and disease prevention, and raised the risk of waterborne outbreaks due to contaminated supplies. The government declared a state of emergency in response to the scale of devastation and formally appealed for international assistance, with the UN, IOM, UNICEF, and other agencies mobilising rapid support. International partners, led by India under Operation Sagar Bandhu, alongside the United States and other donors, have provided emergency relief, including food, medical supplies, and shelter.

The combined effect of pre-existing socioeconomic fragilities and the cyclone’s widespread destruction has created a complex humanitarian emergency, requiring coordinated operational strategies to restore access to essential goods and services,

Cyclone Ditwah struck Sri Lanka against a backdrop of pre-existing vulnerabilities including widespread poverty, high levels of malnutrition, and fragile health systems, amplifying the humanitarian consequences of the disaster. The country already faced economic instability and food insecurity, leaving large segments of the population – particularly children, women, and the elderly – at heightened risk.

<sup>3</sup> [Disaster Management Centre](#)

<sup>4</sup> [UNDP](#)

strengthen health and nutrition systems, and support recovery for the most vulnerable groups.

## Severity of the humanitarian conditions

### 1. Impact on accessibility, availability, quality, use, and awareness of goods and services.

Cyclone Ditwah severely disrupted the accessibility, availability, quality, use, and awareness of goods and services in Sri Lanka, creating both immediate humanitarian challenges and long-term economic consequences. Therefore, in the short-term, relief items were prioritised to support the needs of the affected population. As access improved and markets reopened, the approach shifted to using cash modalities, providing recipients with dignity and the ability to decide what is important for them.

The cyclone caused massive infrastructure damage, with roads submerged, bridges destroyed, and landslides cutting off key transport routes. This isolation made it difficult for communities to access essential goods such as food, medicine, and clean water. Factories and warehouses were also flooded, limiting the movement of supplies across districts. Accessibility was further strained by widespread power outages and communication breakdowns, which hindered the coordination of relief efforts and disrupted banking, transport, and digital services.

The cyclone further altered consumption patterns, with many households shifting from regular market purchases to emergency relief supplies, reducing demand for non-essential goods. Businesses faced closures due to damaged premises and unreliable electricity, which limited the use of financial, retail, and transport services.

### 2. Impact on physical and mental well-being

Cyclone Ditwah has had a profound impact on the mental health of people in Sri Lanka, leaving behind widespread psychological trauma alongside the physical destruction. Survivors are grappling not only with the loss of homes and livelihoods, but also with less visible impacts such as anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress.

The cyclone displaced over 101,000 families<sup>5</sup> and affected more than 1.7 million people across all 25 districts of Sri Lanka. For many, the sudden loss of

loved ones, property, and community ties has triggered acute stress reactions. Survivors report feelings of helplessness, fear, and uncertainty about the future. Children, in particular, have shown signs of trauma, including nightmares, withdrawal, and difficulty concentrating.

The disaster has also disrupted daily routines and social structures, which are crucial for emotional stability. When schools, workplaces, and community centres are destroyed or inaccessible, people lose not only the physical spaces they depend on, but also their sense of normalcy and belonging.

The psychological effects of Cyclone Ditwah will extend far beyond the immediate aftermath. Depression, anxiety disorders, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) are likely to rise among affected populations. The emotional scars of displacement – living in overcrowded shelters, uncertainty about rebuilding, and financial insecurity – can compound mental health struggles. Young people are particularly vulnerable, with many reporting feeling drained, anxious, and uncertain about their futures, highlighting the need for targeted mental health awareness and support programmes. Without timely intervention and support, these challenges risk becoming chronic, affecting education, employment, and social cohesion.

### 3. Risks and vulnerabilities

Cyclone Ditwah has had a devastating impact across Sri Lanka, affecting communities in all 25 districts. The storm brought severe flooding and landslides, resulting in hundreds of lives lost and leaving many more missing. Families have lost their homes, livelihoods, and access to essential services, while schools and health facilities have suffered extensive damage. The humanitarian needs are immediate and critical, particularly in the areas of shelter, safe water, sanitation, and healthcare.

The disaster has highlighted Sri Lanka's acute vulnerabilities to climate-related hazards. A significant proportion of the population lives along the coastline, where storm surges and flooding pose constant threats. At the same time, large numbers of people reside in landslide-prone areas of the central highlands, where heavy rainfall triggered deadly slides. These overlapping risks underscore the fragile balance that communities face between geography, climate, and human settlement patterns.

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<sup>5</sup> [District wise Current Summary](#)

Sri Lanka's high population density and limited infrastructure capacity significantly amplify risks during disasters. Safety centres, water supplies, and health systems were quickly overwhelmed by the scale of displacement, underscoring how existing systems struggle to cope with large-scale emergencies. The cyclone exposed critical gaps in preparedness and resilience, demonstrating how quickly essential services can be stretched beyond capacity. Without stronger housing, improved flood defences, and more decentralised disaster response systems, communities will remain highly exposed to future climate-driven shocks.

Cyclone Ditwah is a stark reminder that disasters are not only natural events, but also humanitarian crises shaped by underlying vulnerabilities. Building resilience requires urgent and sustained investment in disaster preparedness, climate adaptation, and community-based risk reduction. This includes strengthening early warning systems, reinforcing essential infrastructure, expanding social protection mechanisms, and ensuring continuous support for long-term recovery. These actions will be critical to reducing the impact of future hazards and protecting the lives and livelihoods of the most vulnerable.

## CAPACITIES AND RESPONSE

### 1. National Society response capacity

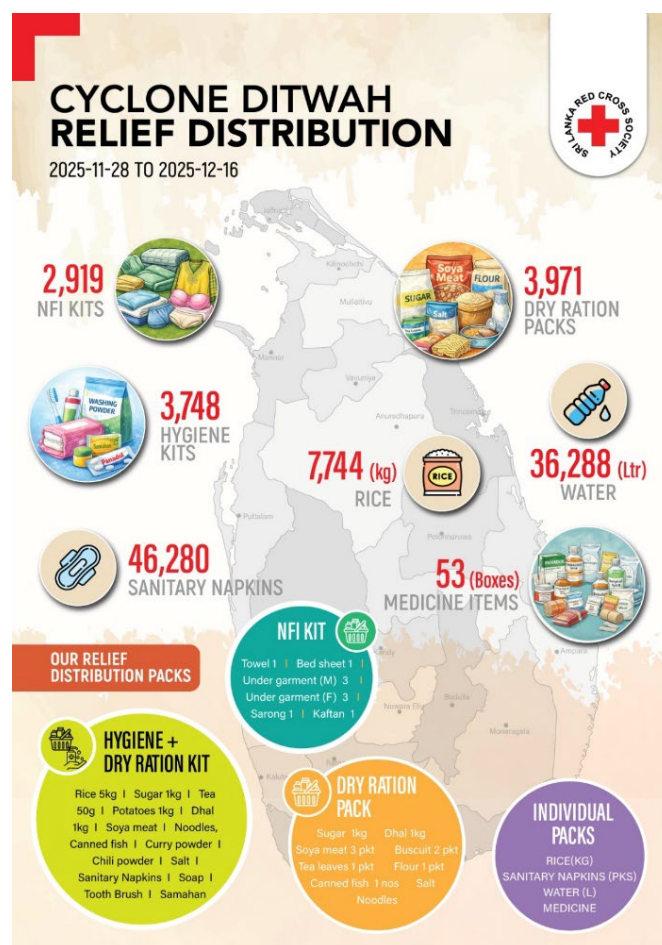
#### 1.1 National Society capacity and ongoing response

The Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) has mobilised its extensive nationwide network to respond to Cyclone Ditwah, leveraging volunteers, disaster response teams, and partnerships to deliver urgent relief.

The SLRCS operates through 25 district branches across the country, each with community-level chapters that enable rapid mobilisation. More than 7,000 trained volunteers and specialised National Disaster Response Teams (NDRTs) were deployed to evacuation centres, distribution points, and affected villages. The National Society's added value lies in its deep community presence, trusted relationships, and integration with ongoing health, WASH, and livelihood programmes, which are now being adapted to meet emergency needs.

Assets include warehouses for pre-positioned relief stocks, a fleet of vehicles for logistics, and IT systems for coordination and reporting. Access to affected areas has been facilitated by strong acceptance at the community and government levels, with authorities recognising the SLRCS as a key partner in the humanitarian response.

The SLRCS also has extensive experience in delivering cash-based initiatives, having implemented more than 15 activities in recent years, particularly during the economic crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic. A community-based participatory approach is applied, supported by standard operating procedures that provide a solid mechanism for implementation, monitoring, and accountability of the activities. In addition, the Framework Agreement with a financial service provider has recently been renewed.



## 1.2 Capacity and response at the national level

The response to Cyclone Ditwah in Sri Lanka has drawn on the combined strengths of government institutions, national organisations, and civil society, with the SLRCS playing a central role. Government agencies have mobilised emergency services and health authorities to provide evacuation, medical care, and infrastructure repair. Civil society groups and local NGOs have complemented these efforts through community-based relief, food distribution, and psychosocial support. The SLRCS, with its nationwide branch network and thousands of trained volunteers, is embedded in the official disaster response plan, ensuring rapid mobilisation and coordination with state authorities. At the capital level, the National Society maintains strong relationships with ministries and the Disaster Management Centre, while in affected districts, its branches work directly with local authorities and communities to deliver aid. This dual presence – national coordination combined with local implementation – has made the SLRCS a trusted partner in bridging government response efforts with grassroots needs.

## 2. International capacity and response

### 2.1 Red Cross Red Crescent Movement capacity and response

#### **IFRC membership**

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is working in close coordination with the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society (SLRCS) to strengthen the national response to Cyclone Ditwah. This collaboration includes operational planning, information management, and external engagement, ensuring that the response is evidence-based and focused on the most vulnerable communities.

The IFRC Country Cluster Delegation (CCD) in Delhi and the Asia-Pacific Regional Office (APRO) supported the SLRCS in developing the DREF application, launching an Emergency Appeal, and aligning it with Federation standards, while also sharing regular situation updates to maintain a common understanding of evolving needs and resource gaps. On the ground, the IFRC team is providing technical support to SLRCS branches in operations management, WASH, health, PGI, logistics, and cash programming, while facilitating systematic information sharing between the SLRCS, Movement partners, and external actors such as UN agencies, INGOs, and diplomatic missions.

Six surge positions are currently supporting the operation either through an in-country or remote presence. These positions include an Operations Manager, Communications Coordinator, PMER Coordinator, Assessment Coordinator, IM Coordinator (remote), and Shelter Cluster Coordinator. These surge profiles are intended to complement, not replace, SLRCS capacities, with a focus on building local systems, enhancing accountability, and enabling timely, high-quality reporting and adaptation of the operation as the situation evolves.

Prior to this, CCD Delhi deployed senior staff, including the Head of Delegation, Programme Manager for Operations, and a Coordination/Partner Engagement Lead, reinforcing high-level engagement with the government, donors, and partners. The APRO and CCD Delhi are providing coordination support, liaising with Participating National Societies, and offering additional technical support as required.

#### **ICRC**

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) maintains an active presence in Sri Lanka and actively supports the SLRCS through contributions to the ongoing emergency response, including financial support, restoration of family links (RFL) services, and logistics support.

### 2.2 International Humanitarian Stakeholder capacity and response

Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) mechanisms have been active in coordinating various clusters since day one. UN agencies are supporting cluster leads in the response, while the IFRC and IOM are co-leading the shelter, land, and site coordination sector. The SLRC and IFRC contribute to joint assessments, share operational updates,

and ensure alignment with national and international response frameworks to maximise impacts. By maintaining an active role in these discussions, they have strengthened accountability, helped mobilise resources, and advocated for vulnerable communities – encouraging cooperation that supports both immediate relief and long-term recovery.

Following the activation of sector coordination, the IFRC and IOM co-chaired the initial shelter and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) sector meeting, which will soon transition into the Shelter Land and Site Coordination (SLSC) cluster, with participation from more than 40 stakeholders. The IFRC has already deployed a dedicated cluster coordinator, and an information manager will be deployed shortly, focusing on shelter and relief coordination and response, while actively engaging with authorities and other relevant stakeholders involved in the response. This collaborative framework helps ensure that sectoral needs are addressed and that the humanitarian response remains both inclusive and well-coordinated.

### 3. Gaps in the response

Initial reports from affected districts indicate that immediate needs primarily involve emergency shelter, WASH support such as well cleaning, health services focused on awareness messaging to prevent waterborne disease outbreaks, and education assistance for schoolchildren who have lost their learning materials. While the government is responding to the disaster, many areas remain underserved due to varying needs spread across the country. As an auxiliary to the public authorities and with its presence across the country, the SLRCS will address these varied gaps through a DREF and Emergency Appeal.

**Shelter:** As of 23 December, more than 101,055 houses have been destroyed by the cyclone across 25 districts. The displaced population urgently needs emergency shelter materials such as tents, tarpaulins, sleeping mats, blankets, and mosquito nets. In addition to being displaced, they have lost essential household items including clothing, kitchen utensils, and bedding, as their possessions were either submerged or destroyed. Significant gaps also remain in providing temporary shelter structures for families whose homes were completely destroyed.

**Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Promotion (WASH):** Floodwaters have contaminated household wells, increasing the risk of waterborne diseases among affected and displaced communities. According to initial reports from the districts, there is an urgent need for safe drinking water supplied through water bowers, bottled water, and purification tablets. Cleaning contaminated wells will also be critical to ensure access to safe water once floodwaters recede. Women and adolescent girls residing in evacuation centres require hygiene items, having lost their personal belongings during the floods. Additionally, [the joint assessment report](#) from the government indicate that flooding has damaged water treatment facilities and wells, further increasing reliance on unsafe water sources for drinking.

**Health:** Flooding has affected health facilities, limiting services or cutting them off entirely due to damaged and inaccessible roads. As a result, those that remain operational are stretched to capacity, increasing the risk of waterborne and vector-borne disease outbreaks. First aid services and general medical care are urgently needed to reduce the chances of hospitalisation and prevent serious health complications. Mobile health clinics and medical camps are needed to reach remote communities in the affected districts. There is also an urgent need for mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for individuals who have lost loved ones, had their homes destroyed, or faced serious disruptions to their livelihoods.

**Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI):** Displaced populations are residing in close proximity within safety centres, where limited privacy may increase the risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). Urgent measures are needed to provide psychosocial support (PSS) and raise awareness on violence prevention, including SGBV, in these centres. Given the scale of displacement and loss, special care and attention are also required for children, pregnant and lactating women, people with disabilities, those with chronic illnesses, and other vulnerable groups.

**Education:** Households in low-lying areas have lost their school supplies due to flooding, severely impacting children across impoverished, urban, semi-urban, and rural communities where essential learning materials were destroyed.

Essential school items are urgently needed to enable children from the affected households to return to school once classes resume. The SLRCS integrates education into its broader Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) strategies to support the well-being of children, assist low-income daily wage earners, and minimise the psychological and educational gaps caused by the disaster. Temporary learning spaces may be needed in the evacuation centres if disruptions continue for an extended period. Additionally, urgent PSS is needed for school-aged children who directly witnessed the loss of family members or experienced displacement.

## OPERATIONAL CONSTRAINTS

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.

## FEDERATION-WIDE APPROACH

The Emergency Appeal corresponds to the response priorities of the Operating National Society. The approach, reflected in this Operational Strategy, will ensure linkages between all response activities (including bilateral activities and activities funded domestically) and will assist in leveraging the capacities of all members of the IFRC network in the country to maximise the collective humanitarian impact.

The Emergency Appeal comprises all support and funding to be channelled to the Operating National Society in response to the emergency event. This includes the Operating National Society's domestic fundraising ask, the fundraising ask of supporting Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, and the funding ask of the IFRC secretariat.

## OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

### Vision

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 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 transitional shelters as requested by the government.

**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.

### **Anticipated climate-related risks and adjustments in the operation**

Sri Lanka remains highly vulnerable to climate-related hazards, and Cyclone Ditwah has underscored the growing risks linked to changing weather patterns. The **Northeastern Monsoon** continues to pose a major threat, bringing heavy rainfall that can trigger landslides in the hill districts and flash floods in low-lying coastal areas. Rising sea levels and storm surges further increase the exposure of coastal communities, while prolonged flooding contaminates water sources and disrupts agriculture.

Another anticipated risk is the **increasing frequency and severity of extreme weather events**. Communities that have not fully recovered from Cyclone Ditwah may face repeated shocks, eroding coping capacities and deepening vulnerabilities. High population density in disaster-prone areas, combined with fragile infrastructure, magnifies the humanitarian impact of each event. These overlapping risks highlight the urgent need for climate-sensitive planning in all aspects of the response.

## **Targeting**

### **1. People to be assisted**

This operation aims to reach an estimated 119,473 families across the affected districts, with priority given to those who are most vulnerable and least able to recover on their own. Given the scale of the disaster and the diversity of needs, specific targeting and selection criteria will guide implementation to ensure that assistance is delivered equitably and reaches those at greatest risk.

**Low-income households in the affected districts** will be a primary focus. These families often lack savings or assets to fall back on during emergencies, making them disproportionately affected by the loss of housing, food supplies, and income. By targeting low-income households, the operation seeks to reduce the risk of long-term poverty traps and help them rebuild their lives with dignity.

**Households with daily wage earners** are another critical group. Many families in Sri Lanka rely on informal labour, such as construction work, domestic services, or agricultural day jobs, which are immediately disrupted during disasters. Without a steady income, these households face food insecurity and are unable to afford basic necessities. Providing them with relief ensures that short-term disruptions do not spiral into chronic hardship.

**Small farmers and fishing communities who have lost their livelihoods due to floods** represent a sector deeply tied to Sri Lanka's rural economy. Flooding destroys crops, damages fishing boats, and contaminates water sources, leaving these families without their primary means of survival. Supporting them with emergency relief and livelihood recovery assistance is essential not only for their survival, but also for the restoration of local food systems and community resilience.

Finally, the operation will extend support to **vulnerable populations including LGBTQ individuals, refugees, and asylum seekers**. These groups often face social stigma, marginalisation, or legal and institutional barriers that limit their access to mainstream assistance. By explicitly including them in the targeting criteria, the operation ensures that humanitarian aid is inclusive, impartial, and responsive to the needs of all affected people, irrespective of identity or status.

## 2. Considerations for protection, gender, and inclusion and community engagement and accountability

The integration of **protection, gender, and inclusion (PGI)** considerations into all sectors of the operation is essential to ensure that the response is not only effective but also equitable and respectful of human dignity. PGI ensures that humanitarian assistance reaches those most at risk, addresses underlying vulnerabilities, and prevents harm. By embedding PGI principles across relief, recovery, and resilience-building activities, the operation can deliver a truly holistic response that protects lives and strengthens communities.


**Prioritising the dissemination of messages to raise awareness against sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and violence against women, children, and other vulnerable groups** is a critical component. Disasters often exacerbate the risks of exploitation, abuse, and violence, particularly in overcrowded shelters or isolated communities. Awareness campaigns – delivered through community volunteers, local media, and safe spaces – help empower individuals to recognise risks, seek support, and challenge harmful practices. These messages also reinforce the importance of safeguarding vulnerable groups, ensuring that protection is not an afterthought but a central pillar of humanitarian action.

**Ensuring the IFRC Dignity, Access, Participation, and Safety (DAPS) framework is followed** provides a structured approach to PGI integration. DAPS emphasises that all individuals, regardless of gender, age, disability, or social status, must be treated with dignity, have equal access to assistance, be meaningfully involved in decision-making, and remain safe throughout the response. Applying this framework across shelter, health, water and sanitation, and livelihood interventions ensures that programming is inclusive and responsive to diverse needs. It also strengthens accountability among affected populations by embedding fairness and respect into every stage of the operation.


**Setting up a feedback mechanism in affected districts** is equally vital for quality programming. By mobilising trained volunteers to engage directly with communities, the operation creates channels for people to voice their concerns, share experiences, and suggest improvements. Feedback mechanisms, whether through community meetings, hotlines, or suggestion boxes, help identify gaps, prevent exclusion, and adapt interventions in real time. This participatory approach not only enhances trust between responders and communities but also ensures that humanitarian assistance is shaped by the people it is meant to serve.

## PLANNED OPERATIONS


### INTEGRATED ASSISTANCE

 <b>Shelter, Housing, and Settlements</b>	Female > 18: <b>2,340</b>	Female < 18: <b>10,660</b>	<b>CHF: 377,000</b>
	Male > 18: <b>2,160</b>	Male < 18: <b>9,840</b>	<b>Total target: 25,000</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>Communities in disaster and crisis-affected areas restore and strengthen their safety and well-being through emergency shelter solutions.</b>		

<p><b>Priority Actions:</b></p>	<p><b>Emergency phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct an assessment of the severely affected Grama Niladari<sup>6</sup> division.</li> <li>• Implement a community feedback mechanism to ensure the voices of targeted households are heard and addressed.</li> <li>• Verify the final targeted household list through community and government officers.</li> <li>• Procure household items as per IFRC/SLRCS procurement guidelines.</li> <li>• Distribute essential household items, including bed sheets, towels, sarongs, kaftans, kitchen sets, adult kits, baby kits, solar lamps, and folding mattresses to 5,000 households (25,000 people).</li> <li>• Distribute two shelter-grade tarpaulins to 1,250 households for Emergency Shelter Assistance.</li> <li>• Provide support for the transitional shelter through cash grants for household items, as requested by the government.</li> </ul>
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 <p><b>Livelihoods</b></p>	<p>Female &gt; 18: <b>3,744</b></p>	<p>Female &lt; 18: <b>17,056</b></p>	<p><b>CHF: 2,437,000</b></p>
<p><b>Objective:</b></p>	<p><b>Provide livelihood support to targeted households, based on the selection criteria, to help restore income sources lost due to the floods and landslides caused by the cyclone.</b></p>		
<p><b>Priority Actions:</b></p>	<p><b>Recovery phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct an assessment of the livelihood sector.</li> <li>• Select targeted households for livelihood support in coordination with local authorities.</li> <li>• Implement a community feedback mechanism to ensure the voices of targeted households are heard and addressed.</li> <li>• Collect all supporting documents, including bank details, individual livelihood proposals, and the implementation plan from selected targets.</li> <li>• Provide cash grants in two tranches to targeted households in the identified districts, with the condition that the funds are used solely for the proposed livelihood intervention.</li> <li>• Conduct a post-distribution monitoring survey.</li> </ul>		

<sup>6</sup> Administrative sub-unit of the divisional secretariat in Sri Lanka


 <b>Multi-purpose Cash</b>	Female > 18: <b>9,034</b>	Female < 18: <b>42,386</b>	<b>CHF: 4,700,000</b>
	Male > 18: <b>8,589</b>	Male < 18: <b>39,126</b>	<b>Total target: 99,405</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<p><b>Provide timely and dignified cash assistance to affected households, enabling them to address their basic needs in alignment with their priorities, while simultaneously strengthening local markets and supporting early recovery.</b></p>		
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p><b>Emergency phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate with the cash working groups and other local and national agencies and authorities to develop cash grant modalities based on a common understanding of stakeholders.</li> <li>• Conduct a detailed assessment and verification of targeted households in the selected districts.</li> <li>• Implement a community feedback mechanism to ensure that the voices of beneficiaries are heard and addressed.</li> <li>• Collect all supporting documents including bank details, applications, and the details of the nominees.</li> <li>• Provide unconditional cash grants to targeted households in the identified districts that are of the 60 per cent value of the minimum expenditure basket.</li> <li>• Conduct monitoring (market, price, and impact) throughout the intervention timeframe.</li> <li>• Conduct post-distribution monitoring (PDM) to assess the cash intervention.</li> </ul>		

## HEALTH AND CARE INCLUDING WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE (WASH)

### (MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT / COMMUNITY HEALTH)

 <b>Health and Care</b> <i>(Mental Health and Psychosocial Support/ Community Health/Medical Services)</i>	Female > 18: <b>12,168</b>	Female < 18: <b>55,432</b>	<b>CHF: 221,000</b>
	Male > 18: <b>11,232</b>	Male < 18: <b>51,168</b>	<b>Total target: 130,000</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<p><b>Address the immediate and recovery health needs of targeted households.</b></p>		
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p><b>Emergency Phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mental Health and Psychosocial Support</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Train volunteers on PSS refresher training.</li> <li>○ Mobilise trained volunteers to provide PSS services in the affected communities and at safety centres.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Community Health</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Procure or replenish basic items for first aid services.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Organise health promotion activities and conduct first aid camps.</li> <li>● <b>Medical Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Establish medical camps in the affected districts with essential first aid and additional health services to targeted communities, in coordination with the medical officer for health and public health officers for inspection and approval.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Recovery phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Build the capacity of SLRCS staff and volunteers in public health emergencies, first aid, and epidemic control for volunteers.</li> <li>● Print and distribute the dengue surveillance monitoring card.</li> <li>● Conduct dengue household surveillance.</li> </ul>
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	<b>Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene</b>	Female > 18: <b>21,949</b>	Female < 18: <b>99,991</b>	<b>CHF: 873,000</b>
		Male > 18: <b>20,261</b>	Male < 18: <b>92,292</b>	<b>Total target: 234,500</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>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.</b>			
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p><b>Emergency phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Print the well cleaning manual and distribute it to National Society branches.</li> <li>● Procure service provider well cleaning and related costs.</li> <li>● Deploy technical support for WASH.</li> <li>● Clean 10,000 dug and community wells in accordance with the manual (OXFAM), with coordination and inspection carried out by public health inspectors.</li> <li>● Conduct clean-up and hygiene promotion campaigns to disinfect and clean public places, houses, schools, and safety centres.</li> <li>● Procure and distribute sanitary napkins.</li> <li>● Procure and distribute gumboots and raincoats.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recovery phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Conduct hygiene promotion messaging on preventive health and hygiene promotion.</li> <li>● Deploy technical support for WASH interventions in the targeted districts.</li> <li>● Perform basic WASH-related repairs at safety centres.</li> <li>● Set up incinerators for menstrual material disposals at safety centres and in communities.</li> <li>● Establish plastic collection points at community and safety centres.</li> </ul>			

- Distribute conditional cash for sanitation facilities to 300 households (owner-driven toilet construction).
- Repair or rehabilitate small-scale water schemes impacted by the floods and landslides.


## PROTECTION AND PREVENTION


(PROTECTION, GENDER, AND INCLUSION (PGI), COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CEA), MIGRATION, RISK REDUCTION, CLIMATE ADAPTATION AND RECOVERY, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, EDUCATION)

 <b>Protection, Gender, and Inclusion</b>	Female > 18: <b>55,913</b>	Female < 18: <b>254,718</b>	<b>CHF: 58,000</b>
	Male > 18: <b>51,612</b>	Male < 18: <b>235,123</b>	<b>Total target: 597,365</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>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.</b>		
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p><b>Emergency phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct refresher sessions on PGI and the code of conduct for volunteers.</li> <li>• Print and prominently display protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) prevention messages at distribution and safety centres.</li> <li>• Collect sex, age, and disability disaggregated (SADD) data across all activities to understand the needs of different genders, age groups, and abilities.</li> <li>• Conduct a safety audit in each of the safety centres, and any gaps identified in relation to PGI are then prioritised to protect the most vulnerable.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recovery Phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a Gender Safety Audit in safety shelters in the intervention areas.</li> <li>• Implement and fulfil the identified requirements through the Gender Audit.</li> <li>• Establish child-friendly spaces in safety centres.</li> </ul>		


 <b>Community Engagement and Accountability</b>	Female > 18: <b>55,969</b>	Female < 18: <b>254,970</b>	<b>CHF: 82,000</b>
	Male > 18: <b>51,664</b>	Male < 18: <b>235,357</b>	<b>Total target: 597,365</b>


<b>Objective:</b>	<b>Integrate CEA into the response and recovery efforts ensuring the needs of affected communities are understood and addressed in a collaborative and participatory manner.</b>
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p><b>Emergency phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set up feedback desks, hotlines, and online platforms to collect and document feedback.</li> <li>• Produce and disseminate IEC materials through various channels.</li> <li>• Conduct refresher sessions and orientations on CEA for volunteers and staff.</li> <li>• Clearly and widely communicate the selection criteria for all sectors to recipients and non-recipients, using a range of channels and approaches, even when the criteria are already established.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recovery phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide full CEA tool kit training to volunteers.</li> <li>• Strengthen the CEA branch and community-level activities and improve the sustainable feedback mechanism at the branch level.</li> </ul>

 <b>Migration and Displacement</b>	Female > 18: <b>64</b>	Female < 18: <b>290</b>	<b>CHF: 19,000</b>
	Male > 18: <b>59</b>	Male < 18: <b>268</b>	<b>Total target: 680</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>Affected migrant families receive cash support to help them recover to their pre-disaster situation.</b>		
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p><b>Emergency phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct a detailed assessment with the appropriate selection criteria.</li> <li>• Distribute cash in envelopes to the selected migrants, including refugees and asylum seekers, affected by the cyclone.</li> <li>• Provide restoring family links support at safety centres.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recovery phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct migration and displacement training for volunteers and staff to strengthen branch capacity.</li> </ul>		



 <b>Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery</b>	Female > 18: <b>1,404</b>	Female < 18: <b>6,396</b>	<b>CHF: 82,000</b>
	Male > 18: <b>1,296</b>	Male < 18: <b>5,904</b>	<b>Total target: 15,000</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>Affected communities will be strengthened to withstand disasters through improved knowledge and skills in disaster risk reduction.</b>		

<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p><b>Emergency phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct BDRT refresher training for volunteers to strengthen their capacity and enhance retention.</li> <li>• Conduct refresher and awareness sessions for branch staff, including accounts staff, so they are aware of the IFRC's financial system, particularly for appeals.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recovery phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct NDRT training for the selected new volunteers and strengthen the internal surge mechanism.</li> <li>• Rehabilitate minor irrigation schemes affected by the floods and landslides.</li> </ul>
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 <b>Environmental Sustainability</b>	Female > 18: <b>55,969</b>	Female < 18: <b>254,970</b>	<b>CHF: 45,000</b>
	Male > 18: <b>51,664</b>	Male < 18: <b>235,357</b>	<b>Total target: 597,960</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>Improve the operation's environmental sustainability by minimising and mitigating ecological impacts, promoting responsible resource use and strengthening community-driven environmental resilience.</b>		
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p><b>Recovery phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct community awareness sessions on plastic waste and its uses and implement activities for recycling.</li> </ul>		

 <b>Education</b>	Female > 18: <b>4,680</b>	Female < 18: <b>21,320</b>	<b>CHF: 210,000</b>
	Male > 18: <b>4,320</b>	Male < 18: <b>19,680</b>	<b>Total target: 50,000</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>School education kits are distributed among affected students so they can continue their education after the disaster.</b>		
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p><b>Emergency phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct an assessment and select the most vulnerable school-going children.</li> <li>• Procure school packs through local suppliers, following local procurement procedures.</li> <li>• Distribute school packs to 10,000 selected school children who lost their educational materials due to the floods.</li> </ul>		

## Enabling approaches


 <b>National Society Strengthening</b>	Female > 18: <b>N/A</b>	Female < 18: <b>N/A</b>	<b>CHF: 2,077,000</b>
	Male > 18: <b>N/A</b>	Male < 18: <b>N/A</b>	<b>Total target: N/A</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>Strengthen the SLRC's preparedness and response capacities by reinforcing branch-level structures and the workforce, mobilising inclusive and trained volunteer networks for effective operations, and advancing youth-led initiatives that improve community resilience.</b>		
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p><b>Emergency phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure all staff and volunteers are insured and protected throughout the operation.</li> <li>• Conduct monitoring by branches, NHQ, and the IFRC.</li> <li>• Strengthen internal coordination and communication between NHQ and branches, ensuring real-time information flows and localised decision-making.</li> <li>• Conduct progress review meetings, lessons learned workshops at the NHQ level to capture progress, insights, and improvements.</li> <li>• Support essential human resources at NHQ and branches, ensuring the smooth implementation of operations, including surge capacity, CVA, finance, and other technical expertise.</li> <li>• Produce case stories and news, and share good practices to highlight successes and promote learning.</li> </ul> <p><b>Recovery phase</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct the preparedness for effective response (PER) process to systematically strengthen preparedness and response capacities.</li> <li>• Improve operational readiness by upgrading warehouses and branch structures and the pre-positioning of essential relief items for a timely response.</li> <li>• Promote inclusion and resilience through youth-led initiatives such as clean-up drives, climate adaptation campaigns, cultural and sports events, and mapping services for vulnerable groups.</li> <li>• Strengthen mobile data collection tools for real-time community feedback, needs assessments, and operational monitoring to support timely and informed decision-making.</li> <li>• Implement post-distribution monitoring and joint field visits using standardised tools to ensure service quality and accountability.</li> </ul>		
 <b>Coordination and Partnerships</b>	Female > 18: <b>N/A</b>	Female < 18: <b>N/A</b>	<b>CHF: 54,000</b>
	Male > 18: <b>N/A</b>	Male < 18: <b>N/A</b>	<b>Total target: N/A</b>

<b>Objective:</b>	<b>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 and reach of SLRCS operations.</b>		
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<p><b>Membership Coordination</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain consistent coordination across the Movement and with the IFRC network to align technical and operational support, and to facilitate the timely deployment of resources and personnel based on on-the-ground needs.</li> <li>• Engage regularly and share information with SLRCS branches to update any operational needs and support reporting.</li> <li>• Coordinate with the SLRCS at the country and cluster coordination levels to ensure that formal operational updates and reports are shared with wider stakeholders.</li> </ul> <p><b>Engagement with external partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SLRCS will coordinate closely and regularly at the district and GN levels, as well as with other local authorities, through its district-level representatives to ensure the smooth implementation of the response.</li> <li>• The SLRCS and IFRC will closely coordinate with sectoral clusters and the country-level HCT at the strategic level, while sharing regular updates with other relevant coordination structures.</li> <li>• The IFRC will co-lead the Shelter, Essential Household Items, and CCCM Cluster delivering coordination services and ensuring that partners receive adequate technical support in their response to the affected population.</li> <li>• Maintain strong representation with donors, external partners, and the diplomatic community to secure sustained support while demonstrating the impact of the SLRCS's response across the immediate, medium, and long-term phases.</li> </ul> <p><b>Movement Cooperation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate external engagement to strengthen visibility of the SLRCS cyclone operations, supporting improved access and resource mobilisation.</li> <li>• Ensure ongoing coordination between the SLRCS, ICRC, and IFRC to share updates on the response, preparedness, and long-term development efforts.</li> </ul>		

 <b>Shelter, Essential Household Items, CCCM Cluster Coordination</b>	Female > 18: <b>N/A</b>	Female < 18: <b>N/A</b>	<b>CHF 0<sup>7</sup></b>
	Male > 18: <b>N/A</b>	Male < 18: <b>N/A</b>	<b>Total target: N/A</b>

<sup>7</sup> Supported through other sections of the OS and through contributions from sources external to the EA.

<b>Objective:</b>	<b>Support a coordinated, comprehensive, quality, coherent, and consistent Shelter, Essential Household Items, and CCCM response.</b>
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Set the strategic direction of the Cluster:</b> Develop and implement the cluster strategy, define its priorities, integrate preparedness and localisation, and contribute to the Humanitarian Priority Plan.</li> <li>• <b>Drive evidence-based coordination and effective delivery:</b> Support information management through 5W reporting and conduct a needs and gap analysis. Support the harmonisation of the response through common standards and capacity building.</li> <li>• <b>Lead on advocacy and resources mobilisation:</b> Develop key advocacy priorities with the HCT, and monitor both the results and recommendations.</li> </ul>

 <b>IFRC Secretariat Services</b>	Female > 18: <b>N/A</b>	Female < 18: <b>N/A</b>	<b>CHF 765,000</b>
	Male > 18: <b>N/A</b>	Male < 18: <b>N/A</b>	<b>Total target: N/A</b>
<b>Objective:</b>	<b>Provide comprehensive support to the SLRCS in their relief operations, ensuring adherence to compliance standards, effective operational management, and enhanced visibility of their actions.</b>		
<b>Priority Actions:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deploy surge support personnel based on assessed needs to accelerate response efforts.</li> <li>• Conduct monitoring visits in affected districts to oversee the implementation of activities.</li> <li>• Conduct and participate in coordination meetings and brief government stakeholders on the Operational Strategy.</li> <li>• Facilitate the production of high-quality internal and external communication materials for different platforms, highlighting the visibility of IFRC/SLRCS actions through joint communication initiatives, and provide the required technical support on assessments, planning, monitoring, final evaluation, etc.</li> <li>• The IFRC security plans will apply to all IFRC staff throughout the operation. An area-specific Security Risk Assessment will be conducted for any operational area should any IFRC personnel deploy there; risk mitigation measures will be identified and implemented. All IFRC personnel must, and RC/RC staff and volunteers are encouraged, to complete the IFRC Stay Safe e-learning courses, i.e. Stay Safe 2.0 Global edition Level 1-3. IFRC Regional and Global Security Units will coordinate with IFRC HoD/HoCCD to identify and support additional safety and security needs.</li> </ul>		

## Risk management

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to the targeted areas due to logistical capacities and challenges</li> </ul>	Medium	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Temporary bridges and roads are now under construction. The logistics team will work together with the relevant branches and authorities to ensure proper planning and avoid delays in delivering assistance.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Northeastern monsoons affect and delay implementation</li> </ul>	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monsoons affect districts in the northern and eastern regions the most, but adequate pre-planning will be in place with close coordination with the relevant branches.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inadequate HR and technical capacity at the branches</li> </ul>	Medium	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The National Society has deployed NDRTs and BDRTs to branches with limited capacity, in addition, surge members have also been mobilised to support key technical areas.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delay in financial settlement from the branches</li> </ul>	Low	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Train volunteers and branch teams, and closely follow up on accounts and settlements in branches with limited capacity.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Natural shock recurrence: Another disaster such as drought, disease outbreak, and flood occurs during the response and recovery phase</li> </ul>	Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop contingency plans that anticipate overlapping disasters (e.g. drought, floods, vector-borne disease outbreaks).</li> <li>Preposition relief stocks in strategic locations to allow for rapid scale-up.</li> <li>Strengthen disease surveillance in coordination with health authorities at the local level.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delays in the procurement or distribution of the relief items</li> </ul>	Medium	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pre-identify local suppliers and initiate the procurement process early through the IFRC CCD to shorten procurement timelines.</li> <li>Continuously coordinate with the IFRC team and reference procurement guidelines.</li> <li>The Government of Sri Lanka has implemented a flexible process at the port to facilitate international procurement for aid services.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Risk of unexploded ordnance (UVO)</li> </ul>	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>External reports indicate that landmines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) in Sri Lanka may have been displaced or destabilised by Cyclone Ditwah, increasing the risk of accidental detonations. These risks need to be analysed in the areas of operation, and mitigation measures, including awareness campaigns, should be prepared.</li> </ul>

## Quality and accountability

The SLRCS will be responsible for the day-to-day monitoring of the operation. Joint monitoring teams will regularly visit operation sites to assess progress on implementation using existing or contextualised tools. A final evaluation will be conducted at the end of the operation to identify best practices and lessons learned.

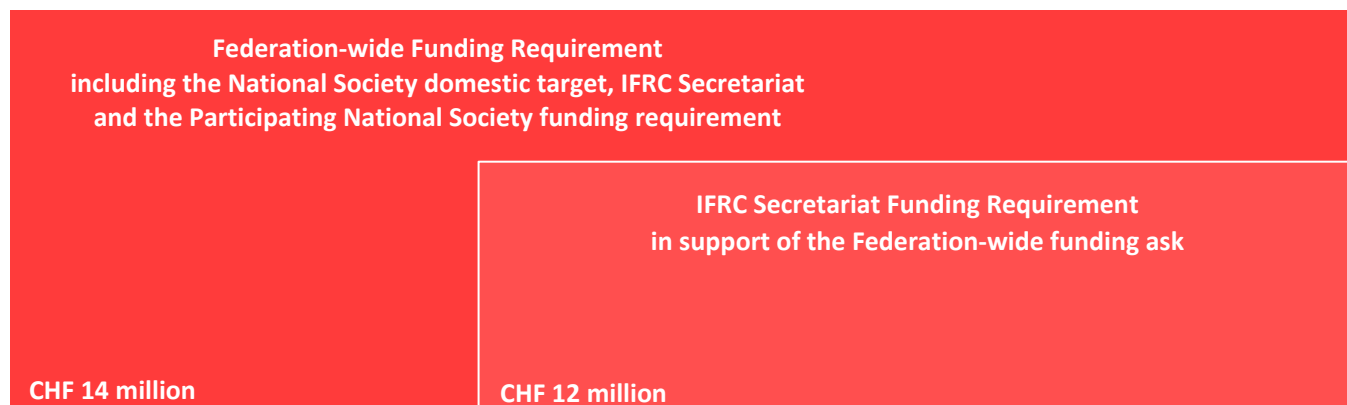
Additionally, the indicators below will track progress and measure the operation's impact across key themes, and may be updated as the situation evolves.

Sectors	Indicators
<b>Shelter</b>	Number of households provided with essential household items assistance
	Number of households provided with cash grant for items required for transitional shelter
	Percentage of households that report receiving a cash grant for shelter support and are satisfied with the amount received
<b>Livelihoods</b>	Percentage of people surveyed whose households received a cash transfer and are satisfied with the amount received
	Number of people reached with livelihood-related training sessions
	Number of targeted households provided with conditional cash assistance
<b>MPC</b>	Percentage of households that report receiving MPC and who are satisfied with the amount received
	Number of targeted households provided with unconditional cash assistance
<b>Health</b>	Number of people reached with mental health and psychosocial services (MHPSS) from the National Society
	Number of people reached through health awareness activities on epidemic control, vector-borne diseases, and related topics
<b>WASH</b>	Percentage of people reporting use of WASH infrastructure supported by the SLRCS as part of this appeal
	Number of sanitation facilities reconstructed or rehabilitated
	Number of targeted people reached through reconstructed or rehabilitated sanitation facilities
	Number of people reached through hygiene promotion activities (well cleaning, clean up campaign, etc.)
	Number of water schemes constructed
	Number of targeted people reached through constructed water schemes
<b>Education</b>	Percentage of school students who report that school education packs were useful for them after resuming school affected by the flood
	Number of school-going students receiving school education kits/packs
<b>Migration and Displacement</b>	Number of migrant workers receiving cash and voucher assistance
	Number of migrant workers who receive RFL services
<b>Disaster Risk Reduction</b>	Number of staff and volunteers is trained on DRR-related training
	Number of people reached by disaster risk reduction public awareness messaging and public education campaigns (PAPE)
	Number of small-scale irrigation canals rehabilitated as part of the small-scale mitigation
	Number of people reached though the rehabilitated irrigation canals

<b>Environmental sustainability</b>	Number of people reached through the awareness activities on the recycling of plastic waste
<b>Cross-cutting (CEA, PGI)</b>	Number of RCRC staff and volunteers trained in PGI
	Percentage of surveyed affected people who feel their opinion is taken into account in the decision about the operation
	Percentage of staff and volunteers working on the operation who have been briefed/trained on CEA
	Number of people reached with PGI messaging
<b>National Society Strengthening</b>	Number of volunteers insured throughout the operation
<b>IFRC Secretariat Services</b>	Number of surges supporting the operation
	Number of evaluations conducted for the operation

# FUNDING REQUIREMENT

## Federation-wide funding requirement\*



\*For more information on the Federation-wide funding requirement, refer to the section: Federation-wide Approach

## Breakdown of the IFRC Secretariat funding requirement



## OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

MDRLK023EA - Srilanka  
Tropical Cyclone

### FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Planned Operations	9,104,000
Shelter and Basic Household Items	377,000
Livelihoods	2,437,000
Multi-purpose Cash	4,700,000
Health	221,000
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	873,000
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	58,000
Education	210,000
Migration	19,000
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	82,000
Community Engagement and Accountability	82,000
Environmental Sustainability	45,000
Enabling Approaches	2,896,000
Coordination and Partnerships	54,000
Secretariat Services	765,000
National Society Strengthening	2,077,000
TOTAL FUNDING REQUIREMENTS	12,000,000

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)

## Contact information

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

### At the Sri Lanka Red Cross Society:

- **Secretary General:** Dr. Mahesh Gunasekera; email: [mahesh.gunasekara@redcross.lk](mailto:mahesh.gunasekara@redcross.lk), phone: +94703471084
- **Operational Coordination:** Damitha Chanaka, Preparedness & Response Manager; email: [damitha.chanaka@redcross.lk](mailto:damitha.chanaka@redcross.lk), phone: +94703514929

### At the IFRC Country Cluster Delegation Delhi:

- **IFRC Country Cluster Head of Delegation;** John Entwistle, CCD; email: [john.entwistle@ifrc.org](mailto:john.entwistle@ifrc.org), phone: +919266905183

### At the IFRC Asia-Pacific Regional Office in Kuala Lumpur:

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## Reference



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