



LRC deployed AP700 for water distribution in Savannakhet province: Photo by LRC

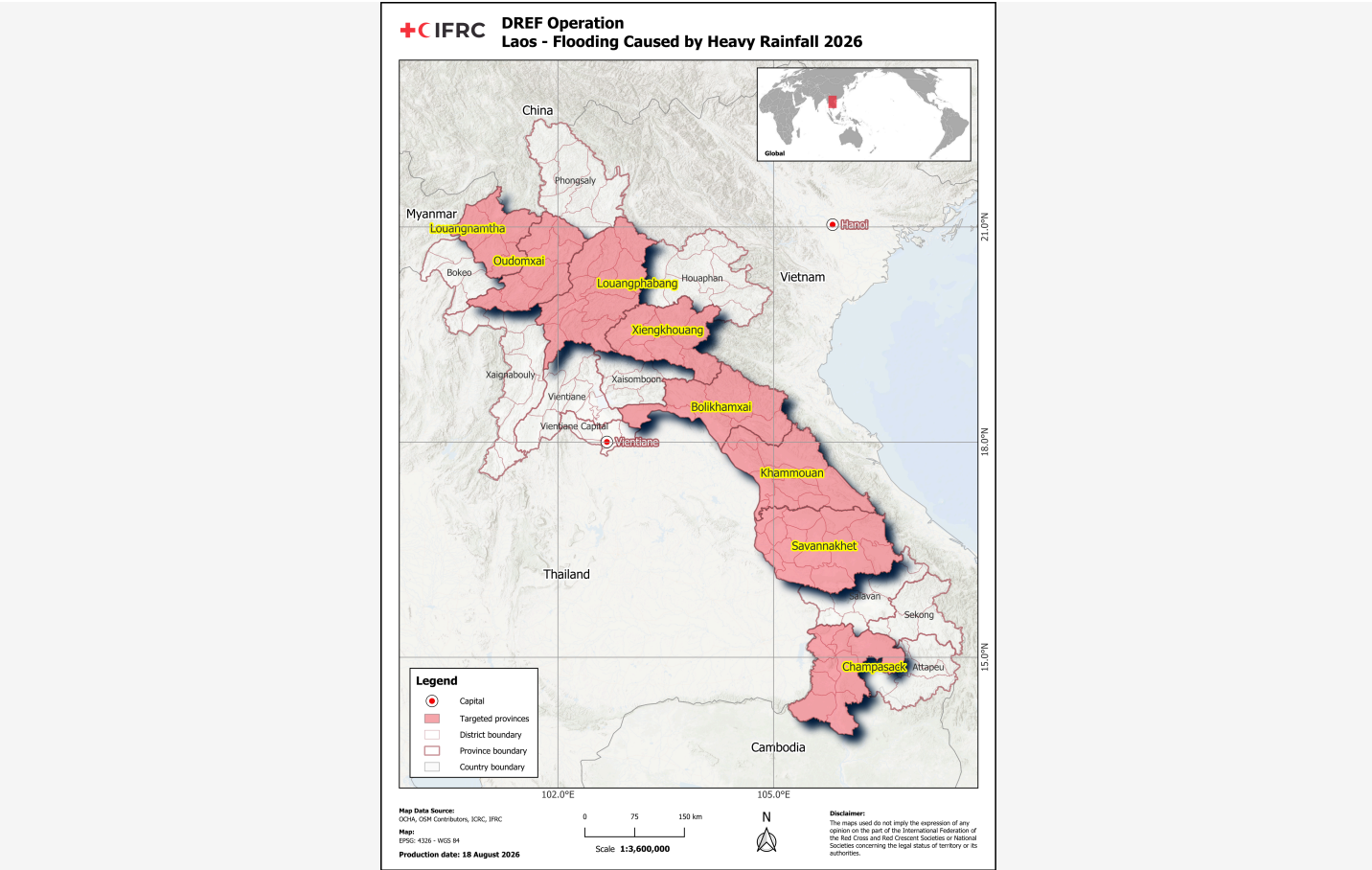
Appeal: MDRLA012	Hazard: Flood	Country: Lao People's Democratic Republic	Type of DREF: Response
Crisis Category: Yellow	Event Onset: Sudden	DREF Allocation: CHF 500,000	
Glide Number: TC-2026-000098-LAO	People Affected: 114,037 people	People Targeted: 12,000 people	
Operation Start Date: 24-08-2026	Operation Timeframe: 6 months	Operation End Date: 28-02-2027	DREF Published: 24-08-2026

Targeted Regions:
Louang-Namtha, Oudomxai, Louangphabang, Xiangkhouang, Bolikhamxai, Khammouan, Savannakhet, Champasak

Description of the Event

Date of event

14-08-2026



Map of the Targeted Areas (Map: IFRC, IM)

What happened, where and when?

Since late June 2026, Lao PDR has experienced recurrent flooding, flash floods, waterlogging and landslides associated with the southwest monsoon, Tropical Storm Maysak and subsequent weather systems. While flooding was first reported in late June, the situation progressively worsened through July and August as prolonged and repeated heavy rainfall caused cumulative impacts, with already affected areas experiencing further flooding, waterlogging and landslides, increasing damage and disrupting access. By August, the scale and persistence of the emergency had exceeded Lao Red Cross (LRC)'s available resources and response capacity, leading LRC to determine on 14 August 2026 that additional resources through the DREF were required to sustain and scale up the response.

- According to UN site rep report release in July and August 2026, prolonged heavy rainfall caused flooding in several parts of Lao PDR.
- On 4 July, a wooden bridge was swept away in Vang Vieng, Vientiane Province, and a road was disrupted in Sepon District, Savannakhet Province.
 - In Khammouane Province, flooding affected multiple districts, including Nakai, Khounkham and Xaybouathong, between 8 and 13 July, damaging houses, agricultural land and infrastructure.
 - On 16 to 17 July, a landslide in Thabak Village, Khamkeut District, Bolikhamxay Province, resulted in three fatalities.
 - On 21 July, severe flooding was reported in Khounkham District, Khammouane Province. Further rainfall in late July caused flash flooding in Nasangveuy Village, Luang Prabang Province, and persistent waterlogging in parts of Sikhottabong District, Vientiane Capital.
 - At the end of the month, heavy rainfall damaged the road connecting Luang Prabang and Houaphanh provinces, disrupting transportation and leaving vehicles stranded.



During early August 2026, heavy rainfall continued to cause flooding and access disruptions across several parts of Lao PDR.

-On 3 August, severe flash flooding was reported in Luang Prabang Province.

-On 4 August, the Xe Champhone River in Champhone District, Savannakhet Province, exceeded the warning level, reaching 8.02 metres.

-On 5 August, flood warnings were issued for the Nam Xan, Nam Xebangfai and Nam Tha river basins as water levels continued to rise. During the same period, heavy rainfall and erosion disrupted road access in Khounkham District, Khammouane Province, including the Phou Phaman road section and parts of Route 8A.

-Further flooding was reported on 9 to 10 August in several affected areas, prompting assessments by Lao Red Cross branches.

-By mid-August, flood incidents had been reported across six provinces: Khammouane, Savannakhet, Bolikhamxay, Luang Namtha, Xiengkhouang and Champasak.

-As of 17 August, LRC at headquarters consolidated the assessments from its branches, flooding had affected 25 districts and 395 villages, 22,390 households, approximately 114,037 people across these provinces (Khammouan, Xiengkhouang, Bolikhamxay, Louang Namtha, Savannakhet, Champasak) causing damage to agricultural land, housing, roads and access to basic services.

-The latest UN Lao PDR Monsoon Situation Report No. 3, dated 19 August 2026, confirms that the situation continued to intensify during August, most recently, on 19 August, flash flooding struck Nan District, Luang Prabang Province, as heavy rainfall over several consecutive hours combined forest runoff with rising waters of the Nam Nan River, flooding homes and agricultural land along the riverbank; the same morning, a sudden flash flood at 3:30 AM struck Huay La Village, Beng District, Oudomxay Province, causing severe property damage to many families.

The forecast indicates an increased risk of flooding, flash floods and landslides, particularly in northern and central Lao PDR during 18–21 August 2026.

Flooding was reported across several provinces, and LRC initially responded using its own available resources, including the mobilisation of provincial branches, volunteers and pre-positioned relief items. At the same time, LRC conducted rapid assessments to monitor the evolving situation, identify affected populations and determine priority needs.

As the flooding became cumulative and recurrent, with continued heavy rainfall and worsening conditions in several affected areas, humanitarian needs increased beyond the capacity of affected households and local response mechanisms to cope. Government authorities activated disaster management structures and supported evacuation, emergency relief and restoration of access, while LRC continued to mobilise provincial resources, distribute emergency relief items and provide safe water.

However, the assessment findings and continued monitoring indicated that the scale and persistence of the needs were exceeding LRC's available resources and response capacity. Significant gaps remained in essential assistance, particularly as the situation continued to evolve and additional communities were affected. LRC determined on 14 August 2026 that additional resources were required to sustain and scale up its response. Therefore, LRC formally decided that DREF support was necessary, rather than the initial onset of flooding.



LRC Volunteer assisted moving essential food stocks to safer areas.



LRC Savannakhet branch installed AP700 for water distribution.

Scope and Scale

According to the LRC consolidated assessment dated 17 August 2026, flooding during July and August 2026 affected communities across six provinces: Khammouane, Savannakhet, Bolikhamxay, Luang Namtha, Xiengkhouang and Champasak. The assessment covers 25

districts and 395 villages, affecting 22,390 households (114,037 people), including 54,699 women, 13 persons with disabilities and one death. Oudomxay and Luang Prabang provinces have since been added to the affected areas, and LRC is currently consolidating the updated assessment information.

- Khammouane Province was the most severely affected, accounting for 13,024 households and 61,425 people across 10 districts and 210 villages.

- Savannakhet Province was the second most affected, with 7,881 households and 45,083 people affected across seven districts and 158 villages.

- Bolikhamxay reported 1,223 households and 5,929 people affected.

- Xiengkhouang reported 134 households and 838 people affected.

- Luang Namtha 56 households and 428 people affected.

- Champasak 72 households and 334 people affected.

The assessment indicates significant impacts on agricultural production and household livelihoods. More than 1,530 hectares of paddy land and approximately 244 hectares of other productive land were reported damaged. Flooding also resulted in some areas becoming inaccessible, affecting communities' access to essential services and potentially delaying the delivery of assistance.

Overall, the situation remains dynamic, with continued rainfall, elevated river levels and saturated ground increasing the risk of further flooding, flash floods and landslides. LRC continues to verify and consolidate information from provincial chapters and local authorities and is assessing priority needs and the potential scale of humanitarian assistance. At this stage, LRC provides basic assistance to affected communities while further assessments are ongoing.

The cumulative and recurrent nature of the flooding has increased humanitarian needs beyond the capacity of affected households and local response mechanisms to cope. While Government authorities have activated disaster management structures and supported evacuation, emergency relief and restoration of access, and the Lao Red Cross has mobilised provincial resources, distributed emergency relief items and provided safe water, significant gaps remain.

The latest LRC assessment indicates that Khammouane and Savannakhet are the most severely affected provinces and together account for approximately 92 per cent of the affected population. Continued rainfall and the potential for further flooding also present a risk of additional impacts and may further disrupt access to affected communities.

At the provincial level, LRC has been actively supporting affected communities in coordination with local authorities. Response efforts have included the deployment of AP700 water treatment unit to provide safe drinking water, the distribution of relief items, and close coordination with local authorities to address emerging humanitarian needs. However, given the limited resources available, and the protracted nature of the flooding, LRC's response capacity has become increasingly constrained. To ensure the continuation and scale up of humanitarian assistance, LRC has requested an allocation from the Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF).

Source Name	Source Link
1. The Khammouan News	https://www.facebook.com/share/p/19ASU2KHvc/?mibextid=wwXIf
2. The Laotian times online news	https://www.facebook.com/share/1BfzeAwZ32/?mibextid=wwXIf
3. The Department of Meteorology and Hydrology Facebook page	https://www.facebook.com/share/1D1hgurLHX/?mibextid=wwXIf
4. Lao Red Cross	https://lao-redcross.com/



Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	Yes
Did it affect the same population group?	No
Did the National Society respond?	-
Did the National Society request funding form DREF for that event(s)	-
If yes, please specify which operation	-

If you have answered yes to all questions above, justify why the use of DREF for a recurrent event, or how this event should not be considered recurrent:

-

Lessons learned:

Lessons learned from previous operations highlight several recurring challenges that continue to affect the timeliness and effectiveness of disaster response by LRC.

A key challenge is the delay in initiating response activities during the early stages of an emergency. Limited availability of immediate funding, combined with internal approval and reporting requirements, can slow the dissemination of information and the mobilization of resources. As a result, opportunities for rapid intervention during the critical first hours of a disaster may be reduced.

In addition, the National Society continues to face capacity constraints related to human resources. This includes a limited number of staff with specialized technical expertise in disaster preparedness and response, as well as an insufficient pool of trained volunteers available for rapid deployment and operational support in affected areas.

Given the recurrent flooding in Lao PDR, LRC is developing a Flood Early Action Protocol (EAP) to strengthen anticipatory action and enable early interventions ahead of forecasted hazards. Draft EAPs have been developed by provincial branches and submitted to headquarters; however, the review process is still ongoing and requires consultation with the national meteorological authority, which has not yet commenced. As a result, the Flood EAP application has not yet been submitted this year.

Did you complete the Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis in previous operations, what was risk level?	Yes
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Current National Society Actions

Start date of National Society actions

08-08-2026

Shelter, Housing And Settlements	Champasak Province
	The provincial and district Red Cross branches coordinated information on affected and damaged households and mobilized donations of rice, dry food, drinking water,



	clothing and household items. Khammouane LRC provided 120 emergency relief kits to 120 households, reaching 373 people, including 195 women, in Khounkham and Nakai districts
Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	Khammouane Provincial Red Cross From 8–10 July 2026, the Khammouane Red Cross and district branches deployed an AP 700 water treatment/production unit in Na Meuang and Natan villages, Nakai District, producing approximately 28,000 litres of clean water for around 800 flood-affected households. From 10–12 August 2026, an AP 700 unit was deployed in Mahaxay District, producing 770 containers, equivalent to approximately 15,480 litres of clean water, for around 1,851 households (9,668 people). During the same period, the Khammouane Red Cross coordinated support from the Savannakhet Red Cross to deploy another AP 700 unit at Napa Primary School in Xaybouly District, producing approximately 24,000 litres of clean water for around 351 households (1,468 people). Savannakhet Provincial Red Cross Between 10-12 August, support flood-affected communities in Xaybouathong District, through emergency water supply activities. A total of 770 containers of drinking water (15,480 litres) were distributed to affected households to address immediate safe water needs. Deployed and operated an AP700 water purification unit in Xaybouathong District, enabling the production and distribution of safe drinking water to flood-affected communities as part of ongoing emergency response efforts.
Coordination	LRC headquarters is coordinating closely with provincial branches to consolidate rapid assessment findings and establish the overall scale and priority needs of the affected population. However, continued rainfall and access constraints in some areas are delaying completion of assessments. Provincial branches continue to work with local authorities to identify affected communities and provide immediate assistance where possible.

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	IFRC continues to closely monitor the impact of the situation and the evolving needs in the affected provinces, in coordination with LRC. IFRC CCD in Bangkok is providing technical support to relevant LRC Departments to design the DREF plan of action, and to plan further support during the implementation of this DREF operation in eight affected provinces.
Participating National Societies	During 27 July to 11 August 2026, The Swiss Red Cross (SRC) provided financial support LRC to distribute relief kits to 120 flood-affected households, reaching 373 people, including 194 women and girls in 3 districts of Khammouane. The assistance



contributed to addressing the immediate needs of affected communities during the emergency response phase.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

N/A

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	Khammouane The Koun Kham District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC) coordinated with village authorities to implement preparedness and response measures in flood-affected areas. Households living in low-lying and flood-prone locations were advised to move essential household belongings to higher ground and relocate livestock to safer areas. The DDMC also tasked its secretariat with conducting rapid assessments and collecting detailed information on flood impacts to agricultural production, with findings reported to provincial authorities to support response planning and resource allocation. To support affected communities, the district deployed one long-tail boat to assist with the transportation of household assets and the evacuation of livestock from flooded areas. In addition, a temporary evacuation site was established at Ban Klang School to accommodate workers from a banana plantation company. As of the latest report, the site was hosting 13 households (61 people), including 13 women. Bolikhamxay The District Disaster Management Committee (DDMC) coordinated with district-level military and public security forces, as well as Unit 616 personnel, to mobilize response teams to assist affected communities. Activities included the evacuation of residents and the relocation of belongings and essential assets to safer, higher areas. Relevant sectors at the district, subdistrict, and village levels provided assistance and guided households affected by flooding to move to safe locations. District authorities responsible for disaster management worked closely with village administrations and village-level disaster management committees to provide support to affected communities, including the transportation and evacuation of people, livestock, food supplies, drinking water, and other essential items to safer locations. Luang Namtha The District Disaster Management Committees in Luang Namtha Province, together with the Provincial Red Cross, provided immediate assistance and initial support to affected communities. Security and defence forces were mobilized to evacuate people from flooded areas to temporary evacuation sites and to assist households in moving

	their belongings to safer locations. Emergency relief was also provided to people staying in temporary shelters and those stranded in their homes. Assistance included the distribution of drinking water, instant noodles, and clothing to meet immediate needs during the emergency. Xiengkhouang District and village authorities provided immediate assistance and relocated affected residents to safe areas. Disaster response committees at district and village levels coordinated relief efforts.
UN or other actors	During early July to early August 2026. UN agencies regularly coordinating across humanitarian partners and monitoring the situation in collaboration with the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology and the Secretariat of the Central Disaster Management Committee. At the request of the Ministry of Health (MoH), UNICEF procured essential emergency supplies for pre-positioning, supplementing existing stocks in regional warehouses across the country. The supplies include 3,000 bars of soap, 800 drinking-water containers with taps, 1,000 10-litre plastic buckets, 300 kg of aluminum sulphate coagulant, water-purification tablets and three water-quality testing kits. UNICEF, as lead of the WASH Cluster and co-lead of the Protection and Health and Nutrition Clusters, also plans to procure 5-horsepower dewatering pumps for cleaning and shock chlorination of shallow dug wells, generators to support flood response in off-grid villages, and empty plastic containers for locally produced chlorine solution.

Are there major coordination mechanism in place? LRC headquarters has led the nationwide coordination on preparedness and response activities by issuing early alerts to its provincial branches. These alerts instructed branches to closely monitor weather conditions, maintain contact with local disaster management committees, and prepare for immediate response if needed. LRC leadership tasked its headquarters with ongoing coordination, data collection, and situation reporting from affected provinces. This central coordination was supported by regular updates from provincial teams, which enabled timely analysis and informed decision-making at the national level. LRC also maintained close engagement with the IFRC CCD in Bangkok and key partners in-country, including the National Disaster Management Committee (NDMC), and the Swiss Red Cross, ensuring alignment of efforts and resource mobilization. This coordinated approach strengthened preparedness measures and enabled a more effective response across multiple provinces affected by flooding and landslides.

Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Available information indicated although over 114,037 individuals, estimated 22,390 households and 392 villages are affected, at this stage the available assessment reports don't mention significant shelter needs or the condition of displaced households. The government takes lead on supporting people for evacuation and provide a temporary shelter in each province. However, priority needs include emergency shelter support , essential household items and assistance to repair or clean flood-affected houses, particularly for households whose homes have been severely damaged or remain inaccessible. Shelter needs should be further assessed once water levels recede and access is restored.





Livelihoods And Basic Needs

From available information. Agricultural livelihoods have been significantly affected, particularly through inundation and damage to rice fields and other crops. In Khammouane, preliminary reports indicate damage to more than 15,000 hectares of rice fields and other crops, while significant agricultural impacts have also been reported in Savannakhet and Champasak. Flooding has also affected livestock and other productive assets. Affected households may require early livelihood recovery assistance, including support to restore agricultural production, replace productive assets and meet immediate basic needs while income sources are disrupted. Further assessment is required to quantify livelihood losses and identify the most vulnerable households.



Multi purpose cash grants

Preliminary assessments from different sources indicated significant economic losses across the affected provinces. In Khammouane, provincial authorities have estimated preliminary losses of at least LAK 100 billion (approximately USD 4.4 million), while Champasak authorities estimated damages of approximately LAK 1.5 billion (USD 66,540). Damage assessments in other affected provinces, including Savannakhet, Bolikhamxay, Luang Namtha and Xiengkhouang, are ongoing. A consolidated national estimate of damage and losses is not yet available.” The strong preference for cash assistance suggests that cash-based interventions could be the most effective approach in the coming months, enabling recipients to address their immediate multi-sectoral needs in a manner that best suits their specific circumstances



Health

From available information shared, flooding, stagnant water and disrupted access to health services may increase the risk of water- and vector-borne diseases, while displaced and isolated communities may face difficulties accessing essential health services and medicines. Particular attention is required for older people, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, children and people with pre-existing vulnerabilities.

However, the Ministry of Health, with support from relevant UN agencies, is closely coordinating and leading the health response in the affected areas, including disease prevention, health promotion, surveillance and access to essential health services. As these existing mechanisms address the main immediate health needs, no significant gap requiring a standalone LRC health intervention was identified at this stage.

Therefore, LRC will not prioritise a dedicated health component under the DREF operation. Instead, LRC will focus its limited resources on sectors where gaps remain and where it can provide added value through its community presence and volunteer network, while continuing to coordinate with the Ministry of Health and humanitarian partners and monitor emerging health needs.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

The UN situation report confirms damage to 2,494 sanitation facilities, 101 groundwater points, 147 wells and one community water supply scheme. It also reports that continued flooding, rising river levels and saturated ground remain a concern for riverside, low-lying and mountainous communities. This supports LRC's prioritisation of safe water and hygiene assistance. LRC has already demonstrated operational capacity through AP700 deployments in Khammouane and Savannakhet, including the production and distribution of safe water to affected households. The DREF intervention can therefore build on existing LRC capacity by supporting further AP700 deployment, water treatment and safe water distribution, hygiene promotion and IEC materials in communities with the greatest identified needs. To complement rather than duplicate other assistance, LRC will coordinate with local authorities and humanitarian partners, including WASH actors. The UN report notes that UNICEF has pre-positioned soap, water containers, buckets, coagulant, water-purification tablets and water-quality testing kits and is planning additional equipment for well cleaning and flood response.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

From the available information shared, flood displacement, damaged homes, loss of livelihoods and disrupted access to services may increase protection risks, particularly for children, older people, persons with disabilities, women-headed households and other vulnerable groups. Evacuation and temporary shelter arrangements may also create risks related to privacy, safety and access to assistance. Priority needs include identification and prioritisation of households with specific vulnerabilities, safe and inclusive evacuation and assistance arrangements, protection referrals, and measures to ensure equitable access to relief and services. Sex-, age- and disability-disaggregated data should be collected to inform targeting and monitor inclusion. Further assessment is required to better understand the specific protection, gender and inclusion needs and risks faced by different groups affected by the floods.

Additionally, refresher training on PGI for LRC staff is necessary to enhance their capacity to provide effective support. Furthermore, a child safeguarding analysis will be conducted to ensure that children are protected from violence, abuse, and neglect, with preventive measures and accountability prioritized throughout the operation.



Community Engagement And Accountability

The rapidly evolving situation and continuing rainfall create a need for timely, accessible and trusted information on flood risks, evacuation, available assistance, health and hygiene, and safe return. Communities in isolated and affected villages may have limited access to official information due to disrupted transport and communication. Priority CEA needs include two-way communication with affected communities, dissemination of early warning and preparedness messages, clear information on available assistance and eligibility, and accessible feedback and complaints mechanisms. Information should be provided through appropriate channels and in local languages, with specific consideration for people with disabilities and other groups who may face barriers to accessing information.

Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

Due to delays in information sharing, the available information on needs and gaps remains limited. The local authorities and LRC provincial branches are currently conducting joint assessments in the affected areas to better understand the situation. Pending the allocation of DREF funding, LRC plans to undertake detailed needs assessments through its local branches in the targeted provinces. Once these assessments are completed, more comprehensive information on the humanitarian needs and response gaps will be available.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The overall objective of the six-month DREF Operation is to enable 12,000 people (approximately 2,300 households) across eight provinces (Louang Namtha, Oudomxai, Laungprabang, Xiangkhouang, Bolikhamxai, Khammouan, Savannakhet and Champasak) affected by Typhoon Maysak and the tropical monsoon to meet their immediate basic needs. Primarily through multipurpose cash assistance, the operation will enable affected households to make autonomous decisions based on their specific needs, including food, livelihoods, household items and other essential goods and services.

Additionally, the DREF operation integrates WASH, including cross-cutting elements like PGI and CEA to ensure equitable distribution and transparency, prioritizing vulnerable groups and ensuring the assistance is responsive to the needs of all affected communities across eight targeted provinces.

Operation strategy rationale

To address the needs of the targeted population, this DREF will assist 12,000 people (approximately 2,300 households) impacted by floods induced by Tropical Storm Maysak and monsoon rainfall in eight provinces: Luang Namtha, Oudomxay, Luang Prabang, Xieng Khuang, Bolikhamxay, Khammuane, Savannakhet and Champasack

The main priorities under this DREF operation include:



1. Multipurpose cash assistance :

The LRC rapid assessment identified immediate basic needs among flood-affected households, including food, essential household items and other essential goods and services. The assessment confirmed that affected households require flexible support to address their most urgent needs; however, it did not collect sufficiently detailed household expenditure data to establish a specific expenditure gap or determine the proportion of the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) that households are unable to cover.

The intended outcome of the multipurpose cash assistance is therefore to provide targeted flood-affected households with flexible financial support to meet their most urgent priority needs, while enabling households to make their own choices according to their circumstances. The assistance is intended to complement, rather than fully replace, household resources and other assistance available through Government and humanitarian actors.

The proposed transfer value is informed by the Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB) used by WFP in Lao PDR, which provides a reference for the estimated cost of essential household expenditure. WFP estimates the emergency MEB at approximately USD 237 per month for a household of around 5.3 people, including approximately USD 149 for food and USD 88 for essential non-food needs.

LRC will provide a one-off transfer of LAK 500,000 per targeted individual from selected household. This amount is not intended to cover the full MEB. In the absence of detailed individual expenditure data from the rapid assessment, the transfer is positioned as a contribution towards priority emergency needs rather than as a defined percentage of the MEB. The value also reflects the intended scope of the DREF intervention, which aims to provide timely support to targeted households while complementing assistance from other actors and households' own resources.

A fixed individual-level transfer will be used to simplify beneficiary identification, verification and distribution, and to avoid additional administrative requirements associated with calculating different transfer values according to household size. Targeting will instead focus on individual from selected households most affected by the flooding and identified as having priority needs through the LRC assessment and community-level verification.

LRC will continue to coordinate with relevant humanitarian actors, including the National Cash Working Group, to ensure that the transfer value and targeting remain consistent with prevailing cash assistance practices in Lao PDR and to minimise the risk of duplication.

The DREF operation utilized the cash-in-envelope as the delivery mechanism. As implemented within past DREF operations in Lao PDR, LRC disaster management and finance teams prepared the cash and distributed it directly to the targeted recipients. The cash-in-envelope method is suitable for remote areas, where access to banking infrastructure and financial services is limited or unavailable. With this DREF, LRC needs a technical support from IFRC in developing its framework agreement with a suitable financial service provider (FSP).

The cash interventions will also incorporate cross-cutting considerations such as PGI and CEA. Specific efforts will prioritize vulnerable groups, including women-headed households, the elderly, and people with disabilities, in the distribution process. Community feedback mechanisms will enhance transparency, and targeted communication strategies will keep communities informed about cash distribution criteria and processes, ensuring the inclusion of all affected groups.

2. Development of a Financial Service Provider (FSP): LRC recognizes the importance of establishing an FSP mechanism to strengthen cash and voucher assistance delivery. Through this DREF allocation, LRC will initiate the process and seek technical support from IFRC to guide engagement with banking partners and facilitate the establishment of an FSP arrangement in line with operational requirements and standards.

3. The needs assessment is a critical step in confirming the situation on the ground and informing the design of an appropriate and targeted response. Led by LRC, the assessment will span a total of four weeks—two weeks dedicated to field data collection, followed by one week for consolidating and analysing the findings, and one week for preparing the assessment report. Data will be gathered at the household level using either the KOBO Toolbox or printed forms, depending on the security conditions and the accessibility of the affected areas. Given the dispersed nature of some communities and the distance between households, flexibility in the method of data collection will be essential. Each household interview is expected to take approximately 30 minutes. The assessment will capture essential information across sectors to better understand the immediate and unmet needs of affected people and inform the response strategy.

4. Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH), LRC has established experience in emergency WASH response, particularly through the deployment of AP700 water purification units by provincial branches. During the current floods, LRC has already deployed AP700 units in Khammouane and Savannakhet, providing safe drinking water to affected communities. However, continued flooding, rising river levels and potential contamination of water sources are increasing the risk of waterborne diseases and limiting access to safe water in affected communities. The DREF operation will support LRC to provide safe drinking water and hygiene assistance to the most affected and vulnerable populations, based on rapid assessments and coordination with local authorities.

Due to staff rotation in some provinces, the operation will also provide refresher WASH training for provincial staff and volunteers,



including AP700 operation, water treatment and safe water distribution. This will strengthen LRC's capacity to deploy WASH assistance rapidly and safely. In addition, LRC will conduct hygiene promotion activities and disseminate IEC materials covering key messages on safe water storage and treatment, hand hygiene, food hygiene and sanitation during and after flooding. The WASH response will priorities communities with the greatest needs and complement assistance provided by local authorities and other humanitarian actors.

5. Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI) and Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)

The DREF operation will integrate PGI and CEA throughout assessment, targeting, implementation and monitoring. Particular attention will be given to vulnerable and potentially excluded groups, including female-headed households, older people and persons with disabilities, to ensure assistance is accessible, safe and equitable. CEA activities will provide affected communities with timely and accurate information on available assistance, eligibility and distribution processes, while establishing accessible feedback and complaints mechanisms. LRC staff and volunteers will communicate expected behaviours and their responsibilities to strengthen trust and accountability. Local Red Cross volunteers and community members will be actively engaged throughout the response cycle to help identify needs, support communication and ensure that the response reflects local priorities and community dynamics.

To maintain the integrity and accountability of the operation, all LRC staff and volunteers involved in the assessment and response will adhere to LRC's code of conduct and staff regulations. Safeguarding measures will be implemented to protect both personnel and affected individuals, with an emphasis on creating a safe environment for all participants in the response. Additionally, all volunteers participating in the field assessments will be provided with appropriate insurance coverage to safeguard their wellbeing while on duty. This measure ensures that volunteers are protected in the event of injury or other incidents during the operation.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

With the DREF allocation, LRC aimed to assist 12,000 people , approximately 2,300 households, , in eight provinces of Luang Namtha, Oudomxay, Luang Prabang, Xieng Khuang, Bolikhamxay, Khammuane, Savannakhet and Champasack. This target was based on the decision of the LRC DREF Committee, guided by the NDMC, and the households identified in the rapid needs assessment conducted by local government. The primary target population included those severely affected by the floods, focusing on vulnerable groups including economically vulnerable households, households without support from other organizations, families with disabilities or serious illnesses, female-headed households, pregnant women, families with children under five years old, isolated individuals, and elderly persons aged 60 and above.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

The selection criteria for the targeted population included households significantly affected by the floods as identified by the relevant authorities, focusing on vulnerable groups including economically vulnerable households, households without support from other organizations, families with disabilities or serious illnesses, female-headed households, pregnant women, families with children under five years old, isolated individuals, and elderly persons aged 60 and above.

Total Targeted Population

Women	5,976	Rural	-
Girls (under 18)	-	Urban	-
Men	6,024	People with disabilities (estimated)	-
Boys (under 18)	-		
Total targeted population	12,000		

Risk and Security Considerations (including "management")

Does your National Society have anti-fraud and corruption policy?	No
Does your National Society have prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse policy?	No
Does your National Society have child protection/child safeguarding policy?	No
Does your National Society have whistleblower protection policy?	No
Does your National Society have anti-sexual harassment policy?	No
Please analyse and indicate potential risks for this operation, its root causes and mitigation actions.	
Risk	Mitigation action
The flood situation could potentially worsen.	LRC will implement a flexible response mechanism to scale up relief efforts if the flood situation worsens. A contingency budget under the IFRC-DREF operation will support the rapid procurement of supplies and deployment of additional personnel. LRC will coordinate closely with the authorities and stakeholders to enable timely decisions. To ensure safe operations, volunteers and staff will receive safety training and protective equipment.
While cash-in-envelope distribution is practical and preferred by the community, it presents higher institutional risks, as the National Society are responsible for managing all cash withdrawals and packaging	LRC will ensure the up to date of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) that cover comprehensively all aspects of cash-in-envelope distribution, from fund withdrawals to post-distribution recapitulation. Emphasis should be placed on segregating duties, with different teams handling cash withdrawals, packaging, and distribution to reduce risks and enhance accountability.
Target provinces and districts may change as the flood situation evolves and further assessments are conducted.	Regularly review needs assessments and assistance mapping with provincial branches and local authorities, and adapt targeting to verified needs and gaps, in coordination with IFRC and in line with DREF procedures.



Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation:

Comprehensive measures were implemented to ensure the safety and security of all Red Cross Red Crescent personnel engaged in the operation. All Red Cross Red Crescent staff and volunteers are strongly encouraged to complete the IFRC Stay Safe 2.0 e-learning courses, which provide essential safety and security training.

For those personnel under IFRC security management, including surge teams and deployed participating National Societies, the IFRC country security plan fully applies. This plan covers key protocols such as security regulations, medical emergency contingencies, relocation procedures, and critical incident management. Additionally, all field missions conducted by IFRC personnel must adhere to the established IFRC travel approval processes and follow current health advisories and business continuity planning

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

No

Planned Intervention



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 338,244

Targeted Persons: 12,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of people provided with unconditional cash assistance(approximately 2,300 households)	12,000
Percentage of households who report being able to meet the basic needs of their households, according to their priorities (minimum expenditure basket).	80

Priority Actions

- Need assessment
- Launching meeting for Cash distribution
- Refresher Cash distribution and need assessment training
- Cash distribution to 12,000 people through Cash-in-envelope modality
- Establishment of FSP
- Communication support for Cash distribution
- Conduct post-distribution monitoring (PDM) in target villages to assess the progress and effectiveness of the assistance provided.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Budget: CHF 57,084

Targeted Persons: 12,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of people are covered with hygiene promotion activities.	12,000
Number of people reached with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services.	12,000

Priority Actions

- WASH training for LRC staff and Volunteer
- WASH in communities i.e. distribution of safe drinking water and water storage containers, hygiene promotion on safe water use and disease prevention to affected households.
- IEC material
- Provide safe water by using the AP700 water treatment unit in targeted communities



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 5,964

Targeted Persons: 12,000

Indicators

Title	Target
Number of assessments and analysis carried out incorporating protection, gender & diversity and inclusion considerations as part of emergency operations.	1
Conduct Child safeguarding risk analysis and mitigation measures integrated into the operation	1
% of LRC staff and volunteers involved in the operation receive PGI/PSEA/child safeguarding orientation	100

Priority Actions

- Sensitization PGI during emergency to LRC staff and volunteers
- Integrated PGI in activities
- Conduct Child safeguarding risk analysis and mitigation measures integrated into the operation
- Conduct PSEA and safeguarding briefing/training for all LRC staff and volunteers involved in the operation.
- Collect and analyse sex-, age- and disability-disaggregated data
- Clear referral pathways for protection and safeguarding concerns in coordination with relevant authorities/service providers.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 3,919

Targeted Persons: 12,000



Indicators

Title	Target
Number of methods established to communicate with communities about what is happening in the organization/programme/operation, including selection criteria if these are being used	2
Percentage of survey who report receiving useful and actionable information	50

Priority Actions

- Sensitization training on CEA during emergencies
- Provide CEA key messages and communication methods (e.g. community meetings, volunteers, IEC materials, feedback desks, hotline, village loudspeaker announcements, social media/Facebook)to communities



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 40,687

Targeted Persons: 5

Indicators

Title	Target
# of monitoring visits conducted	5
# of public communication materials produced (e.g., social media posts/ videos, web articles, infographics, media article/ interview)	2

Priority Actions

- IFRC conduct monitoring visits
- IFRC produce communication materials



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 54,102

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
# of damage and needs assessment report developed	1
# of workshops conducted to consolidate and finalize assessment data	2



Priority Actions

- Conduct lesson learn workshop
- Finalize needs assessment data

About Support Services

How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

A total of 20 personnel from both LRC headquarters and branches will be deployed to implement cash distribution activity across the targeted villages in 8 targeted provinces under this DREF allocation. In addition, a total of 40 volunteers will support operation in conducting the needs assessment in target villages and assisting with cash distribution in 8 provinces.

If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?

Yes. A Financial Service Provider (FSP) will need to be procured for the cash assistance component. LRC will lead the procurement process, with technical and operational support from IFRC throughout the DREF operation. In addition, the AP700 material700 material will be procured by IFRC, due to limited supplier in Laos.

How will this operation be monitored?

LRC will oversee all operational, implementation, monitoring, and reporting aspects of the present operation in the flood affected areas through its branches and volunteers. The IFRC CCD in Bangkok will provide technical support in project management to ensure the operational objectives are met.

Operation updates will be scheduled to provide necessary information in relation to the progress of the operation, any changes in the situation during the reporting period, and any problem, constraint or unmet needs. A final report on the operation will be made available three months after the end of the operation.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

IFRC will be supporting LRC communications capacity through the communication teams in the IFRC CCD and APRO. IFRC will provide assistance in media relations and content gathering, producing and distributing communication material and resources, as well as using social media (Facebook, Twitter...) to promote advocacy messages through the global and regional platforms. Furthermore, IFRC will support in managing reputational risk at the country level and will ensure that the Movement actors at the country level speak and act with a unified voice to build trust towards partners, donors and other stakeholders. IFRC will also ensure communication with stakeholders and partners is in place.

Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

- Lao Red Cross
Laos Flood

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	405,211
Shelter and Basic Household Items	0
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	338,244
Health	0
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	57,084
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	5,964
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	3,919
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	94,789
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	40,687
National Society Strengthening	54,102

TOTAL BUDGET	500,000
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all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)



Contact Information

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[Click here for the reference](#)

