

# EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

Bangladesh | Cyclone

31 March 2025



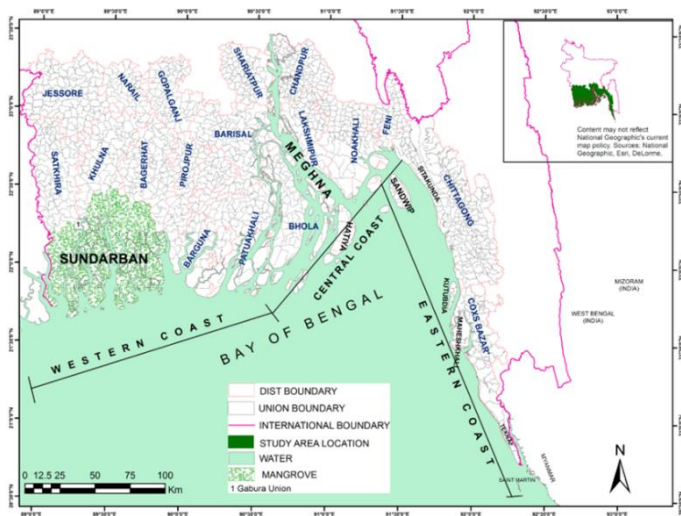
As part of National Cyclone Early Action Protocol simulation at Patharghata Upazila of Barguna District, BDRCS youth volunteers evacuating vulnerable community people before cyclone landfall. (Photo: BDRCS)

<p>EAP №: <b>EAP2021BD06</b></p>	<p>Operation №: <b>MDRBD033</b></p>	<p>Period covered by this annual report: <b>16/01/2024 to 31/12/2024</b></p>
<p>EAP approved: <b>16/01/2024</b></p>	<p>EAP timeframe: 5 Years <b>16/01/2024 - 15/01/2029</b></p>	

**Annual Budget: 161,508 CHF**

**EAP Budget: 499,987 CHF**

# SUMMARY OF THE EARLY ACTION PROTOCOL



Back in January 2024 the IFRC Disaster Response Emergency Fund (DREF) allocated CHF 499,987 for the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) to implement early actions to reduce and mitigate the impact of Cyclone in Bangladesh. The early actions to be conducted were pre-agreed with the National Society and are described in the [EAP summary](#). This report summarises the annual readiness and prepositioning activities done in the reporting period or the first year of the EAP timeframe.

The geographical coverage of this EAP is the 14 most vulnerable cyclone prone districts of Bangladesh and is expected to be implemented in the most probable impacted districts based on Impact based Forecast

(IbF) analysis. This EAP aims to provide humanitarian assistance to the vulnerable population to cyclones associated with tidal surge particularly in the pre monsoon months of April-May and post-monsoon months of October-November.

This EAP has been developed and implemented by the BDRCS with support from IFRC, Participating National Societies (PNSs), the Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP), and the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD).

In this EAP, along with the potential early actions, DRR activities have also been incorporated as the area of focus is to enhance preparedness at the community level. Further, the readiness actions ensured the trained BDRCS teams and systems are ready to act and implement the early actions on time. Through addressing potential risks and impacts i.e., loss of lives and livelihoods; mortality of livestock; and injuries to the people; this EAP considered the following early actions to be implemented in the pre-identified risk zones:

1. Early warning dissemination (approx. 150,000 people) and transport arrangements to evacuate people and livestock to cyclone shelters (based on requirement), including household movable assets to safeguard livelihood.
2. Distribution of dry food (50,000 people), drinking water (50,000 people) and ORS (50,000 people) at cyclone shelters.
3. Provision of basic first aid service at cyclone shelters.
4. Provide hygiene items at cyclone shelters.

The EAP covers cyclone-related early actions, which are triggered by forecasts provided by BMD and the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), along with other global forecast models. The BDRCS AA team continuously monitored and analyzed weather forecasts throughout the cyclone season. However, the EAP was not activated, as the trigger criteria were not met. The EAP also includes preparedness measures and the pre-positioning of early action stocks at the local level to enable the faster implementation of pre-planned early actions.

The pre-activation stage operates with a lead time of 72 hours or more, while the activation stage has a lead time of 30 hours or more. Upon pre-activation and activation of the triggers, specific activities under the EAP are carried out in vulnerable areas/unions of the coastal districts, based on risk mapping. This EAP provides step-by-step instructions for implementing selected actions in a specific sequence when activated. It also defines who takes what action, when, where, and with what funds.

With support from IFRC, BDRCS implemented its planned activities under the Cyclone EAP in 2024. As part of readiness efforts, BDRCS trained 123 RCY volunteers on the Cyclone EAP, Anticipatory Action, and related topics

to enhance their capacity for anticipatory response. A cyclone simulation exercise was organized in Patharghata, Barguna, involving 40 RCY and 30 CPP volunteers, with participation from over 300 vulnerable community members to share and gather knowledge. Additionally, BDRCS and other Anticipatory Action (AA) actors hosted the first Divisional Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Humanitarian Action in Kuakata, engaging 120 humanitarian professionals.

To enhance anticipatory action interventions, BDRCS procured a VHF radio network system for CPP and early action equipment (e.g., gumboots, raincoats, helmets, vests, caps, first aid kits, disposal bags with closed-lid waste bins, megaphones, portable artificial lights, torchlights, and search and rescue/evacuation kits). These were distributed to 14 cyclone-prone districts under this EAP.

Continuous weather monitoring was conducted before and during the cyclone seasons. Situation reports were developed, and risk assessments were carried out based on cyclone exposure and vulnerability data. Reports and maps were disseminated within the RCRC Movement, AA TWG, and shared with other stakeholders (e.g., clusters and working groups).

## SUMMARY OF ANNUAL PROGRESS BY PLANNED OPERATION

 <b>Health &amp; Care</b>	<b>CHF preposition budget:</b>	<b>CHF preposition actual:</b>
	12,658	Refer to financial report section
	<b>CHF readiness budget:</b>	<b>CHF readiness actual:</b>
	2,619	Refer to financial report section

### Narrative description of plan vs achievements

Under the EAP, 30 Unit Level Volunteers (18 male, 12 female) received first aid training. The training was conducted from 26 to 26 November 2024, in Bhola. To facilitate this training, BDRCS engaged an experienced trainer from its Training Department. The goal of the training was to enhance the Unit Level Volunteers' knowledge and ability to provide first aid during the implementation of anticipatory actions in a cyclone scenario.

As part of the pre-positioning of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and first aid supplies, the following items have been procured and distributed across 14 cyclone-prone districts under this EAP, as well as in all seven zones of CPP. These items are intended for use in cyclone risk-prone unions (the third tier of local government administration) during EAP activation.

Sl.	Description	Quantity
1	Gumboot	403
2	Raincoat	403
3	Helmet	403
4	Vest	322
5	Cap	322
6	First Aid Kit Box	98



### Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

**CHF preposition budget:**

25,095

**CHF preposition actual:**

Refer to financial report section

**CHF readiness budget:**

0

**CHF readiness actual:**

0

#### Narrative description of plan vs achievements

A total of 288 closed-lid waste bins, each containing ten disposal bags, have been procured and distributed across all seven zones of the CPP and 14 cyclone-prone district RC Units under this EAP. These bins are intended for maintaining hygiene in cyclone shelters both before and during cyclone landfall.

Instead of procuring new handwashing facilities, BDRCS plans to repair the existing ones at cyclone shelters. During the reporting period, BDRCS maintained a sufficient stock of hygiene parcels as contingency supplies in three strategic warehouses located in Chattogram, Dhaka, and Cox's Bazar. As a result, there was no need to procure additional hygiene parcels under the Cyclone EAP.



### Protection, Gender and Inclusion

**CHF preposition budget:**

0

**CHF preposition actual:**

0

**CHF readiness budget:**

2,357

**CHF readiness actual:**

Refer to financial report section

#### Narrative description of plan vs achievements



*An orientation session organized by BDRCS on PGI for its volunteers and staff (Photo: BDRCS)*

As part of the readiness activities, BDRCS provided orientation on Protection, Gender, and Inclusion (PGI) to 123 RCY Volunteers (81 male, 42 female), including staff, National Disaster Response Team members, and volunteers at unit level. Key discussion points covered during the PGI orientations included: Understanding PGI in Anticipatory Action, Gender and Diversity, Dignity, Access, Participation, and Safety (DAPS), Sex and Age Disaggregated Data (SADD), Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), and policies such as the Child Protection Policy, the Prevention and Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Policy, and the Code of Conduct (CoC). Volunteers and response teams are now better equipped to identify and address protection risks, ensuring that early actions are inclusive and responsive to the needs of vulnerable groups.

During the reporting period BDRCS used the previously updated cyclone shelter database for implementing readiness activities. BDRCS is planning to update the cyclone shelter database in second year of EAP. This will strengthen anticipatory action efforts by ensuring timely and well-informed preparedness and response activities.

 <p><b>Risk Reduction, climate adaptation and Recovery</b></p>	<b>CHF preposition budget:</b>	<b>CHF preposition actual:</b>
	75,205	Refer to financial report section
	<b>CHF readiness budget:</b>	<b>CHF readiness actual:</b>
	6,547	Refer to financial report section

**Narrative description of plan vs achievements**

**Readiness:**

As part of the readiness activities, BDRCS has provided training to 123 RCY volunteers/NDRT members (81 male, 42 female) on Cyclone EAP, Anticipatory Action, Impact-Based Forecasting, along with CEA, PGI, and Safer Access at NHQ and cyclone-prone district RC Unit levels. The objective of these capacity-building activities was to develop the knowledge and capacity of Unit Level Volunteers in broader Anticipatory Action. Among the participants, there were many National Disaster Response Team members who will be deployed at the field level during this Cyclone EAP activation.



*BDRCS volunteers bringing vulnerable community people to cyclone shelters as part of the simulation (Photo: BDRCS)*

BDRCS organized the first simulation program of the Cyclone National Early Action Protocol (NEAP) at Patharghata, Barguna, on December 2, 2024. Under that simulation, around 40 RCY volunteers and 30 CPP volunteers were involved in implementing preparedness and simulation activities. The BDRCS AA team, in coordination with CPP and AA TWG, arranged all logistics and involved the government and other AA stakeholders to implement and gather knowledge from the simulation activities, which were attended by more than 300 local vulnerable people.

As part of AA sensitization, BDRCS arranged three working group meetings, one dialogue platform, and two orientations for AA actors, including government stakeholders, for better in-country coordination and support

with overall information management. This coordination mechanism helped BDRCS identify potential disaster risk areas within the probable affected districts and implement AA to avoid duplication. Around 120 participants from local and national-level government and non-government AA-implementing organizations joined the dialogue platform, whereas about 30 AA stakeholders participated in each working group meeting and orientation program.

Due to the nation's administrative reformation, some activities were implemented later than planned. Orientation for Disaster Management Committees (DMCs) at the district, upazila, and union levels could not be conducted for the same reason, as the DMCs at different levels were inactive.

**Pre-position Stock:**

A total of 14 sets of Search and Rescue/Evacuation kits have been procured and delivered in 14 districts RC Units that are prone to cyclones. Each of the Search and Rescue/Evacuation kits or box consists of the following 19 items (one nos. of each item and three nos. of water pot).

Sl. No.	Items	Sl. No.	Items
1.	Rescue Kit box (Steel trunk)	11.	Tin Cutter
2.	Hand saw	12.	Whistle with ribbon
3.	Pliers	13.	Canvas belt
4.	Claw Hammer	14.	Jute rope (15 yards 1 inch thick)
5.	Cutting knife (Da)	15.	Jute rope (15 yards 0.5 inch thick)
6.	Hex	16.	Jute rope (15 yards 0.25 inch thick)
7.	Axe	17.	Pillow (inflatable)
8.	Wrench	18.	Stretcher
9.	Pulley	19.	Water Pot (03 nos.)
10.	Gas lighter, transparent plastic body		

To support radio communication networking before and during cyclone, VHF Radio Networking system items are in the process of procurement and to be handed over to CPP in the first quarter of 2025.



**Community Engagement and Accountability**

**CHF preposition budget:**

0

**CHF preposition actual:**

0

**CHF readiness budget:**

175


**CHF readiness actual:**

Refer to financial report section

**Narrative description of plan vs achievements**

BDRCS provided orientation on CEA to 123 RCY volunteers (81 male, 42 female), including staff, NDRT/NDWRT members, and unit-level volunteers. Key discussion points covered during the CEA orientation included understanding community engagement, accountability, the FCRM mechanism, and the Code of Conduct (CoC).


## Enabling approaches

 <b>Coordination and Partnerships</b>	<b>CHF preposition budget:</b>	<b>CHF preposition actual:</b>
	0	0
	<b>CHF readiness budget:</b>	<b>CHF readiness actual:</b>
	1,048	Refer to financial report section

### Narrative description of plan vs achievements

BDRCS has been one of the leading organizations in Bangladesh in implementing Anticipatory Action (AA) for the past 10 years. Since the inception of the Anticipatory Action Technical Working Group (AA TWG), BDRCS has been leading the group, which currently consists of around 30 member organizations (AA actors). As part of this coordination, a well-structured mechanism is in place, including bi-monthly meetings, pre-hazard coordination meetings, a 5W matrix, and an agency activity tracking tool. This framework enables the Government, BDRCS, UN bodies, I/NGOs, and other AA actors in Bangladesh to coordinate effectively, make hazard-specific AA implementation decisions, and prevent duplication of efforts.

BDRCS has organized three working group meetings, one dialogue platform, and two orientations for AA actors, including government stakeholders, to enhance in-country coordination and support overall information management. This coordination mechanism has helped BDRCS identify potential disaster risk areas within probable affected districts and implement AA measures efficiently while avoiding duplication.

 <b>Secretariat Services</b>	<b>CHF preposition budget:</b>	<b>CHF preposition actual:</b>
	0	0
	<b>CHF readiness budget:</b>	<b>CHF readiness actual:</b>
	8,948	Refer to financial report section

### Narrative description of plan vs achievements

The IFRC Bangladesh closely coordinated with BDRCS and in-country Movement partners to implement Cyclone EAP activities. IFRC also provided technical and monitoring support to BDRCS for the successful implementation of EAP readiness tasks before the cyclone season. IFRC colleagues assisted BDRCS in carrying out sectoral activities in accordance with the approved Cyclone EAP.

IFRC communication staff supported the development of IEC materials, while IFRC finance ensured that fund flow and expenditures aligned with the agreed budget. Additionally, IFRC PMER colleagues provided technical support in developing the monitoring and evaluation plan, facilitating workshops, and reviewing reports. Under this operation, IFRC sectoral leads also assisted BDRCS in enhancing its response capacity by facilitating training and orientation sessions.



**National Society  
Strengthening**

<b>CHF preposition budget:</b>	<b>CHF preposition actual:</b>
0	0
<b>CHF readiness budget:</b>	<b>CHF readiness actual:</b>
27,032	Refer to financial report section

**Narrative description of plan vs achievements**

As part of its readiness activities, BDRCS has provided training to 123 RCY volunteers (81 male, 42 female) on Cyclone EAP, Anticipatory Action, Impact-Based Forecasting, CEA, PGI, and Safer Access at NHQ and cyclone-prone district RC Unit levels. The objective of these capacity-building activities was to enhance the knowledge and capacity of Unit Level Volunteers in broader Anticipatory Action. Among the participants were several National Disaster Response Team members who will be deployed at the field level during this Cyclone EAP activation.

BDRCS has transferred the volunteer insurance/accidental incident coverage budget to the BDRCS Solidarity Fund, from which RCY volunteers can claim accidental coverage when needed.



*Representative from Government and different anticipatory actors attending the divisional dialogue platform in Kuakata, Patuakhali.(Photo: BDRCS-IFRC)*

On 18 May 2024, BDRCS, along with other AA actors in Bangladesh, organized the Divisional Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Humanitarian Action in Kuakata, Patuakhali, under the slogan “Promoting Local Actions and Learning.” Around 120 humanitarian professionals from government ministries and bodies, UN agencies, I/NGOs, and other AA actors participated, sharing best practices and successes in Anticipatory Action for cyclone hazards.

Additionally, various coordination meetings, including the AA TWG meeting, government and AA actor coordination meetings, and movement-wide AA coordination meetings, were organized under the Cyclone EAP.

## CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNED, PROPOSED AJUSTMENTS

Due to the nation's administrative reforms, some activities were implemented later than planned. The orientation for Disaster Management Committees (DMCs) at the district, upazila, and union levels could not be conducted for the same reason, as DMCs at various levels were inactive.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

The annual budget was CHF 161,058 for prepositioning and implement readiness activities in first year of cyclone EAP. During the reporting period the expenditure is CHF 159,223 which represents 98.86 per cent of the annual budget. Please see the financial report attached for details.

*Note: A breakdown of actual expenditures for prepositioning/readiness activities under the "SUMMARY OF ANNUAL PROGRESS BY PLANNED OPERATION" section above will be reflected in future report(s) as detailed information becomes available.*

## Contact information

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

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### Reference



Click here for:

- [EAP summary](#)

# FBAF Early Actions

## Interim FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2024/1-12	Operation	PBD065
Budget Timeframe	2024-2029	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 19/Mar/2025

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### MDRBD033 - Bangladesh - Cyclone EAP / EAP2023BD06

Early Actions Timeframe: 05 Feb 2024 to 28 Feb 2029

## I. Summary

<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Funds &amp; Other Income</b>	<b>393,448</b>
DREF Anticipatory Pillar	393,448
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>-159,223</b>
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>234,225</b>

## II. Expenditure by area of focus / strategies for implementation

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	115,125	-96,185	<b>211,309</b>
AOF2 - Shelter			<b>0</b>
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	23,395		<b>23,395</b>
AOF4 - Health	24,443		<b>24,443</b>
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	40,634		<b>40,634</b>
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	2,532		<b>2,532</b>
AOF7 - Migration			<b>0</b>
<b>Area of focus Total</b>	<b>206,128</b>	<b>-96,185</b>	<b>302,312</b>
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	139,650	248,976	<b>-109,326</b>
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	2,182		<b>2,182</b>
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners			<b>0</b>
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	45,488	6,431	<b>39,057</b>
<b>Strategy for implementation Total</b>	<b>187,321</b>	<b>255,407</b>	<b>-68,087</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>393,448</b>	<b>159,223</b>	<b>234,226</b>

# FBAF Early Actions

## Interim FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2024/1-12	Operation	PBD065
Budget Timeframe	2024-2029	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 19/Mar/2025

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

### MDRBD033 - Bangladesh - Cyclone EAP / EAP2023BD06

Early Actions Timeframe: 05 Feb 2024 to 28 Feb 2029

### III. Expenditure by budget category & group

Description	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
<b>Relief items, Construction, Supplies</b>	<b>133,359</b>		<b>133,359</b>
Shelter - Relief	4,959		4,959
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	22,232		22,232
Medical & First Aid	48,033		48,033
Other Supplies & Services	58,135		58,135
<b>Logistics, Transport &amp; Storage</b>	<b>33,258</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>32,835</b>
Distribution & Monitoring	7,049	423	6,626
Transport & Vehicles Costs	26,209		26,209
<b>Personnel</b>	<b>123,167</b>	<b>5,819</b>	<b>117,348</b>
National Staff	37,101	5,819	31,282
National Society Staff	67,049		67,049
Volunteers	19,016		19,016
<b>Workshops &amp; Training</b>	<b>56,782</b>		<b>56,782</b>
Workshops & Training	56,782		56,782
<b>General Expenditure</b>	<b>22,870</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>22,035</b>
Travel	4,508	600	3,908
Information & Public Relations	2,049		2,049
Office Costs	1,722		1,722
Communications	14,590	24	14,566
Financial Charges		15	-15
Shared Office and Services Costs		194	-194
<b>Contributions &amp; Transfers</b>		<b>142,429</b>	<b>-142,429</b>
Cash Transfers National Societies		142,429	-142,429
<b>Indirect Costs</b>	<b>24,013</b>	<b>9,718</b>	<b>14,295</b>
Programme & Services Support Recover	24,013	9,718	14,295
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>393,448</b>	<b>159,223</b>	<b>234,226</b>