

DREF operation



International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

India: Floods

DREF operation n° MDRIN006
30 September 2010

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) is a source of un-earmarked money created by the Federation in 1985 to ensure that immediate financial support is available for Red Cross and Red Crescent emergency response. The DREF is a vital part of the International Federation's disaster response system and increases the ability of National Societies to respond to disasters.

CHF 358,313 (USD364,547 or EUR 270,543) has been allocated from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies' (IFRC) Disaster Relief Emergency Fund (DREF) to support the national society in delivering immediate assistance to some 25,000 beneficiaries (5,000 families). Unearmarked funds to repay DREF are encouraged.

Summary: More than three million people in northern India have been affected by floods, which have killed over 200 people. The floods have washed away thousands of homes, swept through holy sites and damaged crops from hectares of agriculture field. At least two million people in northern India have been left homeless and 500,000 hectares of agriculture land in the top cane growing state of Uttar Pradesh were completely flooded.

While state and national authorities are essentially meeting the most basic and immediate needs of the affected communities through in Uttarakh and Uttar Pradesh, much of this will be focused on the rebuilding of damaged infrastructure. Hence a gap exists in supporting the most affected and vulnerable families, especially those who do not have buffer. Providing these families with a short term supply of basic household items as a supplement to the government's actions will enable them to reallocate their family income or savings that they would have to spent on this food necessities.

In order supplement the efforts of the central and state governments, the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS) has decided to extend non-food items support up to 25,000 beneficiaries (5,000 families). The state and district branches are already in the field and are extending all possible support to the affected population. IRCS national headquarters will also reinforce the capacities of the state branches with the deployment of national disaster response teams (NDRT). The NDRT members will assist the state and district branches in a joint assessment with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Society (IFRC), distribution planning and logistics. The DREF funds will be used to replenish the non-



Volunteers loading relief items in the truck. Photo: Indian Red Cross Society.

food items.

This operation is expected to be implemented over four months, and will therefore be completed by 30 January 2010; a Final Report will be made available three months after the end of the operation (by 30 April 2010).

[<click here for the DREF budget, here for contact details, or here to view the map of the affected area>](#)

The situation

More than three million people in northern India have been affected by floods which have killed over 200 people. Further, the floods have washed away thousands of homes, swept through holy sites and damaged crops from hectares of agriculture field. At least two million people in northern India have been left homeless and 500,000 hectares of agriculture land in the top cane growing state Uttar Pradesh have been completely flooded.

Heavy monsoon rains have swelled the mighty Himalayan Rivers, which broke their banks in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Uttarakhand. People waded through chest deep water, travelled on bullock carts or on boats to reach safer areas, carrying children and household belongings in their hands and on their heads. In relief camps, they complained of a lack of food and medicines. In Uttarakhand, 500,000 people were affected by the floods in Haidwar. The government-deployed army are actively providing medicines, shifting people to safer grounds and conducting repairs of small stretches of roads.

A total of 1.7 million people have been affected in Uttar Pradesh and one million in Bihar. Both are poor states and Uttar Pradesh is also the most populous with 190 million citizens. More than 300,000 people were rendered homeless.

The number of affected people (in Uttar Pradesh) could rise to two million. This flood is one of the worse floods ever occurred in this state (worse than 2007 floods in terms of affected people and crop damaged).

In Bihar, where the Gandak river burst through its embankments in various places and flooded villages, houses were invaded by stray dogs, snakes and scorpions.

India's monsoon may not start withdrawing this week and with the weather department predicting more rain, state governments have been asked to gear up to cope with risk of heavy flooding.

Farmers in northern Haryana and Punjab told that heavy rains have damaged cotton boils and fear, which could affect harvesting this year.

Coordination and partnerships

IRCS, in close coordination with IFRC, has been planning this intervention which would benefit up to 25,000 people (5,000 families). IFRC have been extending its fullest cooperation to IRCS in planning and mobilisation of relief supplies.

The IRCS national headquarters, along with the IFRC India office and the Asia and Pacific disaster management unit is closely monitoring the flood situation and is in regular contact with the affected state branches. The IFRC India office is closely following up with the IRCS national headquarters on the arising needs from the state branch on technical support request, and will carry out joint emergency assessments in the flood-affected areas.

IRCS meets daily to review the situation and to discuss the next steps in the ongoing operation. This meeting includes the head of India office, while several other technical meetings are held daily between IRCS and IFRC to best coordinate relief efforts to achieve the best results possible in the affected areas.

The coordination is being planned with the Partner National Societies in the country via British Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross and Spanish Red Cross, and International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) to brief them on the unfolding situation and the IRCS plan for the intervention in the flood affected population.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The IRCS state and district branches volunteers are in the field and have extended all possible support to the affected population. Looking at the scope of the disaster and number of affected people, more resources have been requested by the state branches from IRCS national headquarters.

In response to the requests received from the state branches, IRCS national headquarters has started releasing relief supplies of non-food items from its regional warehouses.

Two joint assessment teams (IFRC and IRCS) have been dispatched from 28 September in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand where the situation is reported to worsen and followed up with the distribution of emergency relief items. The assessment team also includes a National Disaster WatSan Response Team (NDWRT) member to assess the emergency water and sanitation needs and possible requirement for an NDWRT.

While local and national authorities are essentially meeting the most basic needs of the affected communities and supplied a financial package for recovery and repair to infrastructure, gaps remain for the most affected and vulnerable families which the Red Cross has been requested to compliment with assistance of distribution of non-food items.

The needs

Beneficiary selection: IRCS intends to reach up to 25,000 flood affected people (5,000 families) with non-food items in Uttarpradesh, Uttarakhand and Bihar. The state-wise details are as follows:

Sr. No	State	No. of beneficiaries
1	Uttar Pradesh	5,000
2	Uttarakhand	5,000
3	Bihar	15,000

The proposed operation

Relief distributions (basic non-food and emergency shelter items)

Objective: To assist up to 25,000 flood affected people (5,000 families) in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Bihar with non-food items.

Activities planned:

- Develop beneficiary targeting strategy and registration system to deliver intended assistance.
- Distribute relief supplies and control supply movements from point of dispatch to end user.
- Monitor and evaluate the relief activities and provide reporting on relief distributions.
- Replenishment of 5,000 family pack items. Each family pack consists of kitchen set, dhoti, saree/lungee, blanket, bed sheet, towel, tarpaulin, plastic mug. The replenishment of these family pack items are done in accordance to IFRC procurement procedures.
- Transportation of family packs item from the regional warehouse to Utarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar until it reaches beneficiaries.

Capacity Building and technical support

Objective: To build the capacity of the community and state and affected branches in disaster response.

Activities planned:

- Conduct a joint (IFRC and IRCS) rapid emergency needs and capacity assessments.
- Provide technical support in conducting assessments, resource mobilization, information dissemination, reporting, relief distribution and community empowerment.
- Mobilize the national disaster response team to support the state and district branches with coordination and response operation.

Communications – Advocacy and Public information

The steady flow of timely and accurate information between those working in the field and other major stakeholders will support the programme objectives of this DREF, increase the profile, funding and other support for the national society and IFRC.

It will also provide a platform on which to advocate in the interest of vulnerable people. In close collaboration with the operation, those affected by this emergency will be provided with information to support their relief and recovery. Donors and national societies will receive information and materials they can use to promote this operation and communications initiatives will help build the information and public relations capacity of the host national society for future emergencies.

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGOs\) in Disaster Relief](#) and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering to the most vulnerable.

The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
2. Enable healthy and safe living.
3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of nonviolence and peace.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

In India:

- Indian Red Cross Society: Dr. S P Agarwal, Secretary General; email: spagarwalsg@indianredcross.org; phone: +91.11.2371.6441; fax: +91.11.2371.7454
- International Federation country office in India: John Roche, Head of country office; email: john.roche@ifrc.org; phone: +91.11.2332.4203; fax: +91.11.233.4235

International Federation South Asia Office in Delhi:

- Mr. Azmat Ulla, Head of regional office, email: azmat.ulla@ifrc.org, phone: +91 11 2411 1122, fax: +91 11 2411 1128.
- Michael Higginson, Regional programme coordinator; phone: +91.11.2411.1125; fax: +91.11.2411.1128; email: michael.higginson@ifrc.org

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- Daniel Bolanos, operations coordinator, phone: +603 9 207 5728; mobile: +6012 283 7305, email: daniel.bolanos@ifrc.org
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- Jeremy Francis, regional logistics coordinator, phone: +6012 298 9752, fax: +603 2168 8573, email: jeremy.francis@ifrc.org
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[<DREF budget and map below; click here to return to the title page>](#)

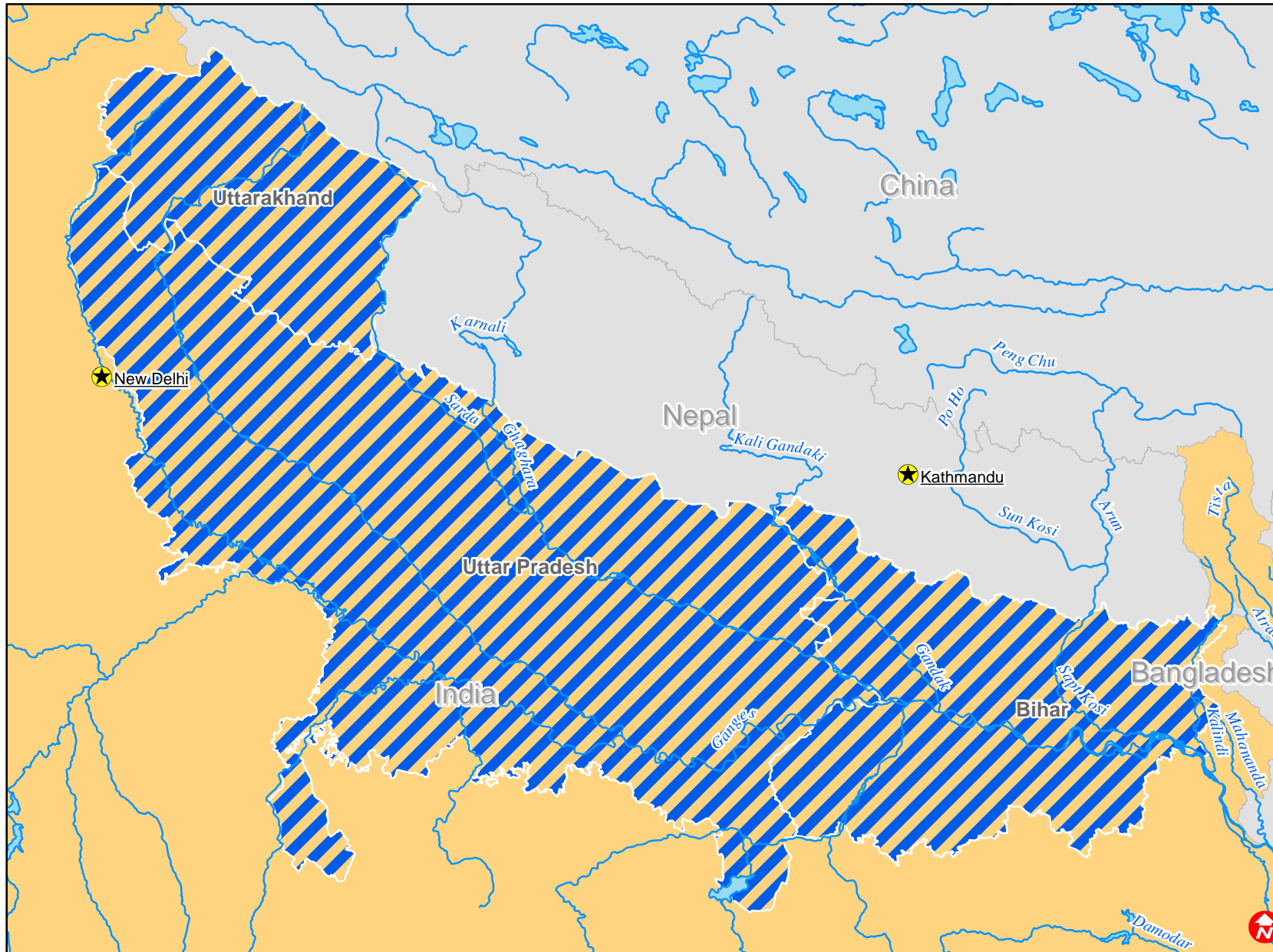
MDRIN006 - INDIA FLOODS


DREF BUDGET SUMMARY

Budget Group	TOTAL BUDGET CHF
Clothing & Textiles	139,778
Utensils & Tools	133,333
Other Supplies & Services & Cash Disbursements	22,222
Total Supplies	295,333
Distribution & Monitoring	22,222
Total Transport & Storage	22,222
Workshops & Training	8,889
Total Workshops & Training	8,889
Travel	6,667
Information & Public Relation	1,111
Office Costs	500
Communications	1,500
Other General Expenses	222
Total General Expenditure	10,000
Program Support	21,869
Total Programme Support	21,869
TOTAL BUDGET	358,313



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 Affected areas