



**ICRC**



***2015, Flood and Landslides  
Response, Relief and  
recovery of RCRC  
And lesson Learned***



# Myanmar Red Cross Society

## ***Flood Occurrence in Brief***

- June, 2015 heavy rain cause flood at townships in Rakhine state.
- In July heavy rain due to Monsoon and Cyclone Koman, inundated at Sagaing Region, then Chin, Rakhine and Magwe, Ayeyarwady, Yangon, and reach to 12 states and regions..
- As Chin, Sagaing, Magwe and Rakhine states and regions are most affected, the President declared Emergency situation at these areas..



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### ***Flood Relief and recovery of RCRC***

- During the emergency response MRCS with its movement partners covered **all the 12 affected states.**
- For the recovery MRCS with IFRC support and funding covered Chin Sagaing and Magway,
- With support and funding from ICRC in Rakhine
- Used domestic donated funding to support, implementation in Magway and Ayerwady



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## ***Relief Phase***

- National EOC and MRCS EOC were set up 28<sup>th</sup> July 2015 and working together with relevant Depts and Orgs.
- Over **1,400 MRCS volunteers** were involved in supporting evacuations
- providing **first aid, distributing relief** items to families in evacuation centres and affected households and providing **clean water** and **water purification tablets**
- **over 380,000 people** were supported during **evacuations**
- reached over **90,000 people** with **relief items**



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## *Relief Phase*





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## *Early recovery Phase*

- More than **18,839 people** were supported through **cash assistance** (in total Relief and Recovery 60 000 people)
- between **300,000 MMK and 600,000 MMK** (approx. 230 and 465 USD) reaching approx. 70% of their recovery needs.
- Second phase of **cash grants** will be delivered between March and April for an additional **630 households** in Kalay and Tamu townships
- **first aid training** for 35 people including training on the main **health risks facing** affected communities with **multiplier** affect 1170 then share their knowledge with the **wider community**



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- **Health related IEC materials** were also given to communities at the time of the cash distributions, reaching over **18,000 people**.
- Over **1,500 mosquito nets** have also been distributed to date and more distributions are planned as a part of the community health training conducted by volunteers
- **Latrine construction** in Kalay, including in schools, has been commissioned and construction will begin soon, and planning for latrine construction is underway in Magway and Ayerwady





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## *Looking forward: building more resilient communities*

### Community based activities will include:

- **First Aid and Health education** to ensure that communities are better prepared for accidents and potential health threats
- **Community based disaster risk management training** and setting up **community committees** to improve communities' **preparedness** for future disasters
- **Infrastructure rehabilitation** in Magway and Ayeyawady including building a community shelter, road repairs and retention wall to prevent flooding



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Looking forward: building more resilient communities (cont..)

## Capacity Building of branches and volunteers for CSR:

- **Prepositioning relief items** such as family kits, hygiene kits and dignity kits
- **Building the capacity of Red Cross volunteers** to respond to future disasters through training in **volunteer management** and **community engagement**, **National Disaster Response Team** training and **Emergency Response Team** training.
- Purchasing more **boats** to assist in reaching future flood affected communities



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## ***Lessons learned***

- There was ***little to no experience*** of this kind of level of flooding and land slides as well as with the following land erosion.
- It was the first time this part of the country, (***Chin, Sagaing, Magwe and Rakhine etc..***) was so heavily affected
- The ***humanitarian coordination*** is well set up in Rakhine and Kachin but other flood affected areas out side these areas, we have less set up
- The EW systems did not ***warn early enough at some areas***– especially in the communities.
- The people of Myanmar, Private sector and Group of Social organization actively participated in the response and it ***needs good coordination***
- ***SAFETY FIRST ! Need for staff and volunteers to understand the dangers of emergency response.***
- ***IFRC's IDRL comments can help smooth functioning of the response..***



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## ***Recommendations***

- To improve awareness raising on the Role, Function, Capacity and Management system of ***Dams*** to ***avoid misunderstanding of the community.***
- The Rapid Assessment Reports could be ***more timely*** and the data ***more user friendly.***
- Strengthening regional learning on ***Climate change and Flood***
  - Need to learn the experiences of Pakistan flood, India flood, Bangkok flood, Bangladesh flood etc.



# 2015 Myanmar Floods: Lessons learned IDRL deployment



- **Background**

- **What is IDRL?** International Disaster Response Law: the laws, rules and regulations to facilitate and regulate incoming international assistance
- **Why it is important?** So affected people get **the right aid at the right time**, in a coordinated manner.
- Gives **govt. control** of type / amount and **quicker access** for humanitarian actors.
- **What are the issues?** Visa/immigration, customs, coordination, regulation, etc.
- MRCS and IFRC working with RRD and other partners on **IDRL in Myanmar since 2013** (DM rules, Inle Lake simulation exercise, high-level inter-ministerial disaster law workshop, IDRL project, etc.).







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- **2015 Floods: Good practice**
  - **In-country capacity was relatively strong** – made use of in-country resources and no need to deploy large scale international assistance from outside Myanmar
  - **EOC quickly set up fast-track TA procedure**
  - **Even international access quite fast** (including for IDRL expert – deployed within 24 hours, including entry visa)
  - Discussions with MOFA and RRD to **draft guideline on international assistance, based on IFRC tools** (e.g. model emergency decree, IDRL Guidelines, etc. – adapt to Myanmar context)
  - DM law, rules and standing order refer to international coordination and assistance – **but is it enough?**



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- **2015 Floods: IDRL challenges & lessons learned**
  - Question of **Inter-ministerial coordination** – how well did it work? Especially between MOFA - MSWRR
  - **Processes were ad hoc** – not streamlined or institutionalized
  - Some elements of International assistance in the DM law, rules, SO. Waivers mentioned in some customs procedures and Tariff Law but not necessarily linked to / applicable for disasters.
  - It is clear that these **processes are scattered** throughout the legal framework
  - **Reinforced the need to consolidate procedures in one guiding document** on international assistance – both in-country and from abroad - especially in the event that there is another large scale disaster, requiring a larger response



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- **2015 Floods: IDRL opportunities and recommendations**
  - Opportunity to **build on existing and growing capacities**: balance between incoming (foreign) and in-country assistance
  - **Develop clear, consolidated, comprehensive procedures** for facilitating and regulating international assistance – building upon what already exists
  - **Revision of SO**: opportunity to consolidate procedures (but does SO have more legal weight than the DM rules?)
  - **Long-term**: develop new directive or rule on international assistance, building upon draft guideline and provisions in the existing legal framework



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- **Next steps**

- **Develop evidence base:** IDRL research project will assess relevant laws, rules and procedures; identify gaps; consider compliance with international standards, consider experiences of key stakeholders (May 2016 workshop).
- **Undertaken jointly by RRD, MRCS and IFRC**, following recommendations from high-level workshop and 2014 Simex.
- **Will provide recommendations for strengthening the framework for international assistance and cooperation in Myanmar**, based on research, discussions and operational experience.
- May include **long-term and short-term solutions** (e.g. SO revision, implementation and dissemination of DM rules, further development of guideline or directive on international assistance, further testing of the legal framework through simulation etc.).





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**For further information,** or to share your inputs for the IDRL research project, please contact:

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*Thank you for kind attention!*

*Q&A?*