

COMMISSION DECISION
of
on the financing of emergency humanitarian operations from the general budget of the
European Communities in
Bangladesh

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,
Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid¹, and in particular Articles 2(a) and 13 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) On the evening of 15 November 2007, the Category 4 super cyclone "SIDR" hit the coast of South West Bangladesh, with winds of up to 240 km per hour and tidal waves up to 5 meters high.
- (2) According to the Government of Bangladesh, close to 9 million people in 30 southern districts have been affected by the cyclonic storms, of which 2.2 million most severely affected. As of February 2008, the death toll reaches 3,406 people, with a further 1,001 missing and over 55,000 injured.
- (3) The cyclone has caused extensive damage. It has destroyed more than 500,000 houses, harvests, food stocks and livelihoods, killed livestock and destroyed fishing material and other income generating assets. Water and sanitation and health infrastructures have also been destroyed or damaged.
- (4) Several comprehensive and thorough assessment reports, including a report from the Government of Bangladesh with the assistance of the World Bank and United Nations Agencies, were released in February 2008. In addition, two DG ECHO² teams conducted separate field missions in February 2008 to assess the evolution of the humanitarian situation and the humanitarian needs. These assessments and the DG ECHO missions confirm that, three months after the cyclone, the situation is still a humanitarian crisis with massive emergency needs remaining uncovered and many people still living in appalling conditions.
- (5) People are still in need of relief assistance, especially food, shelter and safe water, and early recovery and livelihood support activities must also be implemented very rapidly.
- (6) Humanitarian aid operations financed by this Decision should be of a maximum duration of 6 months.
- (7) It is estimated that an amount of EUR 10,000,000 of which EUR 4,000,000 from budget line 23 02 01 and EUR 6,000,000 from budget line 23 02 02 of the general budget of the European Communities is necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to the victims of cyclone Sidr and its aftermath, taking into account the available budget, other donors' contributions and other factors.

¹ - OJ L 163, 2.7.1996, p. 1, Regulation amended by Regulation (EC) No 1882/2003 (OJ 284, 31.10.2003 p.1)

² Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid - ECHO

- (8) The present Decision constitutes a financing Decision within the meaning of Article 75 of the Financial Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002³, Article 90 of the detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation determined by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002⁴, and Article 15 of the Internal Rules on the Implementation of the general budget of the European Communities⁵.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

1. In accordance with the objectives and general principles of humanitarian aid, the Commission hereby approves a total amount of EUR 10,000,000 for emergency humanitarian aid operations to provide the necessary assistance and relief to the victims of cyclone Sidr and its aftermath in Bangladesh by using lines 23 02 01 (EUR 4,000,000) and 23 02 02 (EUR 6,000,000) of the 2008 general budget of the European Communities.
2. In accordance with Article 2(a) of Council Regulation No.1257/96, the humanitarian operations shall be implemented in the pursuance of the following specific objectives:
 - Provide appropriate and adequate food aid to victims of the cyclone of 15 November 2007 and its aftermath and support short-term measures to improve their food security
 - Provide non-food emergency assistance to the victims of the cyclone of 15 November 2007 and its aftermath

The amounts allocated to each of these specific objectives are listed in the annex to this Decision.

Article 2

1. The implementation of humanitarian aid operations funded by this Decision shall have a maximum duration of 6 months from their starting date.
2. Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from 1 March 2008.
3. If the operations envisaged in this Decision are suspended owing to force majeure or comparable circumstances, the period of suspension shall not be taken into account for the calculation of the duration of the humanitarian aid operations.

³ - OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1995/2006, OJ L 390, 30.12.2006, p.1 and by Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1525/2007 of 17 December 2007, OJ L 343 of 27.12.2007, p. 9.

⁴ - OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p.1 Regulation as last amended by Commission Regulation (EC Euratom) No. 478/2007, OJ L 111 of 28.4.2007, P. 13

⁵ - Commission Decision of 05.03.2008, C/2008/773

Article 3

1. The Commission shall implement the budget by direct centralised management or by joint management with international organisations.
2. The actions supported by this Decision will be implemented by humanitarian aid organisations that are signatories to the Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) or the EC/UN Financial Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA).
3. Taking account of the specificities of humanitarian aid, the nature of the activities to be undertaken, the specific location constraints and the level of urgency, the activities covered by this Decision may be financed in full in accordance with Article 253 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation.

Article 4

This Decision shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

Member of the Commission

Annex: Breakdown of allocations by specific objectives

Principal objective: To save and preserve the life of the population of Bangladesh affected by the cyclone of 15 November 2007 and its aftermath	
Specific objectives	Amount per specific objective (EUR)
Provide appropriate and adequate food aid to victims of the cyclone of 15 November 2007 and its aftermath and support short-term measures to improve their food security	6,000,000
Provide non-food emergency assistance to the victims of the cyclone of 15 November 2007 and its aftermath	4,000,000
TOTAL	10,000,000



Emergency Humanitarian Aid Decision

23 02 01

Title: Emergency humanitarian assistance to the victims of cyclone SIDR of 15 November 2007 in Bangladesh and its aftermath

Location of operation: Bangladesh

Amount of Decision: EUR 10,000,000

Decision reference number: ECHO/BGD/BUD/2008/01000

Explanatory Memorandum

1 - Rationale, needs and target population.

1.1. - Rationale:

Bangladesh is the world's most densely populated country and most of the country is near or at sea level. It is extremely vulnerable to tidal waves and high winds, as it is regularly hit by cyclones, tropical storms and earthquakes. Bangladesh also suffers each year at monsoon time from severe flooding coming from the large rivers crossing the country, and this has been exacerbated by climate change factors.

On the evening of 15 November 2007, the Category 4 super cyclone "SIDR" hit the coasts of South West Bangladesh at 6:00pm local time, with winds up to 240 km per hour. The cyclone continued northwards, hitting the capital city of Dhaka at 3:00am local time. Tidal waves up to 6 meters high hit the mainland, greatly increasing the level of rivers and destroying many protective embankments, houses and infrastructures.

Officially, close to 9 million people in 30 southern districts have been affected by the cyclonic storms, of which 2.2 million most severely affected. The death toll reaches 3,406 people, with a further 1,001 missing and over 55,000 injured⁶.

Early warning and evacuation programs in place were triggered 24 hours before the cyclone hit, which greatly limited the number of casualties compared to other cyclones that have hit Bangladesh - a similar cyclone in 1991 caused 140,000 deaths.

⁶ Source: Bangladesh Minister of Food and Disaster Management, 2008

The most severely affected districts are the four coastal districts of Barguna, Patuakhali, Bagerhat, and Pirojpur, while the districts of Bhola, Khulna, Barisal, Gopalganj, Jhalkhati, Mandaripur, Satkhira and Shariatpur also suffered extensive damage.

Material damage is extensive, and is particularly considerable in the housing sector, where the overall losses and damages are estimated at USD 800,000,000⁷. In fact, the total number of houses damaged is close to 1,500,000, of which nearly 40% have been fully destroyed and the remaining 60% partially damaged.

The cyclone also damaged 8,075 kilometers of roads, bridges, as well as 2,290 kilometers of protection embankments, and caused extensive damage to public buildings, fully or partially damaging 5,927 educational institutions and 351 health facilities⁸.

The cyclone has caused the contamination of drinking water sources, in particular wells and ponds, which have been polluted by debris and inundated by saline water brought in by the tidal waves. Sanitation infrastructure has also been largely destroyed and, in some severely affected areas, the percentage of latrines damaged or destroyed is estimated as high as 70%⁹.

In the areas severely hit by the cyclone, crops were destroyed by the winds and inundation of saline water just before the Aman rice harvest of November / December, which is by far the main harvest in the cyclone affected area. The crop losses due to the cyclone are estimated to be of 800,000 metric tons (MT)¹⁰, which come on top of 600,000 MT of losses caused by two spells of floods in the summer of 2007¹¹. Since rice harvesting and further processing is a major source of employment for many marginal landless households, crop losses have also translated into a major loss of wage income for numerous households with very limited alternative sources of livelihoods. In the most affected districts, the food stocks have also been nearly entirely destroyed.

Food prices in Bangladesh are currently affected by serious inflation, because of the crop losses due to the two spells of floods and the cyclone and the rising food prices on the international markets: rice prices have increased by a third between October 2006 and October 2007, negatively affecting food security and worsening malnutrition, and are expected to rise by a further 9% by April 2008¹². Food prices and malnutrition are strongly correlated in Bangladesh, as more than half of the Bangladeshi population spends more than 60% of their budget on food, one fifth more than 80%.

Over 100,000 head of livestock and more than 2,500,000 poultry birds are confirmed killed, and almost 80% of the animals died in the worst affected four districts¹³. Livestock used to be an important income-generating asset for the affected people, many of whom are landless. Surviving large animals are weak because of the lack of feeding crops and susceptible to disease.

Fishing boats that had not taken shelter were broken up, while other fishing equipment was destroyed. Fisheries and shrimp farms have been destroyed by the tidal waves, ponds have

⁷ Source: Damage, Loss and Needs Assessment for Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction, February 2008 – prepared by the Government of Bangladesh assisted by the World Bank, United Nations Agencies, and the International Development Community – funded by the European Commission's Stability Instrument

⁸ Source: Damage, Loss and Needs Assessment for Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction, February 2008

⁹ Source: United Nations Rapid Initial Assessment Report – 22 November 2007

¹⁰ Up to 70% of crops in the most affected districts and between 20 and 40% in the "moderately" affected districts. Between 1.8 and 2.2 million acres of crops have been damaged

¹¹ Sources: Ministry of Food and Disaster Management – Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

¹² Source: World Food Program (WFP) Food Security Assessment, February 2008

¹³ Source: Damage, Loss and Needs Assessment for Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction, February 2008

been polluted and major stocks of fish and shrimps have died. Trees have been uprooted or decapitated by the winds.

Small private business has also been badly affected, as self-employed workers, shop keepers, van and rickshaw pullers and day laborers have lost their tools, equipment and inventory, as well as their infrastructure.

The havoc brought about by cyclone SIDR is further weakening a country which has already been hit by two spells of monsoon floods in August and September 2007, which affected 46 districts, claimed more than 900 lives, displaced millions of people, destroyed crops and killed livestock.

Total damage and losses due to the 2007 cyclone are estimated at USD 1.7 billion¹⁴, which is equivalent to 2.8% of Bangladesh's Gross Domestic Product. Added up to the USD 1.1 billion of damages and losses due to the 2007 monsoon floods, Bangladesh has incurred in less than six months losses and damages totalling a considerable USD 2.8 billion, similar to those caused by the 2005 Pakistan earthquake. 50% of the damage and losses due to the cyclone are in the housing sector, while the other most affected sectors are, in decreasing order of priority, agriculture, transport, water and sanitation, education and industry.

Cyclone SIDR also destroyed one quarter of the Sundarbans, a world heritage site consisting of the world's biggest single unit of mangrove forest.

1.2. - Identified needs:

In addition to various initial assessments conducted by DG ECHO¹⁵, United Nations agencies, the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC), and Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) right after the cyclone, several more comprehensive and thorough assessments have been undertaken later to reassess the humanitarian needs and the multi-faceted impact of the cyclone and were recently released. These assessments include the Damage, Loss and Needs Assessment for Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction prepared by the Government of Bangladesh and assisted by the World Bank, United Nations Agencies, and the International Development Community¹⁶, WFP Food Security Assessment¹⁷, and the FAO Emergency Livelihoods Assessment¹⁸. In addition, two DG ECHO teams conducted separate field assessment missions in February 2008 to assess the evolution of the humanitarian situation and the humanitarian needs. One of these teams focused on the needs for food assistance and short-term early livelihoods recovery.

These assessments, as well as the DG ECHO missions confirm that, three months after the cyclone, the situation is still a humanitarian crisis with massive emergency needs remaining uncovered and many people still living in appalling conditions. Emergency operations of both life-saving and early recovery nature are necessary.

Because of the destruction of food crops, livestock and sources of incomes, provision of food aid and food security support is the most pressing issue. In fact, many cyclone-affected communities, and in particular the extremely vulnerable landless people having lost their

¹⁴ Source: Damage, Loss and Needs Assessment for Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction, February 2008

¹⁵ Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid - ECHO

¹⁶ February 2008, funded by the European Commission's Stability Instrument

¹⁷ February 2008

¹⁸ February 2008

food stocks, incomes and few belongings will continue to be fully dependent on food aid or cash-for-work programs until their livelihoods are restored.

As sources of income have been destroyed and as very little has been done so far in that field - since earlier humanitarian operations have been mostly focused on life-saving activities -, restarting of emergency livelihood activities is urgently needed. It is necessary to help people to stand back on their feet thanks to the provision of seeds, tools and other small income generating assets. Cash-for-work programs are also needed to provide a small income to the most vulnerable ones having lost everything, so that they can meet their essential needs. These programs will also enable the rehabilitation of key community infrastructures destroyed by the cyclone and tidal waves: water points (for the provision of safe drinking water), embankments (so the crops are protected during the next floods), cyclone and flood shelters (to take refuge during the next cyclone and floods), schools, roads...

Provision of shelter is very urgently needed as the monsoon will start in a couple of months, in June. As many as 9 million people had their house destroyed and damaged by the cyclone, and 3.5 million remained without shelter during a significant period¹⁹. While local resilience has enabled many to partially restore their dwellings, a shelter assessment organized by the shelter cluster²⁰ estimated that as many as 1.3 million people remain in need of transitional shelters and do not have the capacity to cope on their own. Should these people still be living under tarpaulins and broken corrugated sheets when the monsoon starts, their situation will become unbearable.

As damage to 11,612 tube wells, 7,155 ponds and over 55,000 latrines has been reported²¹, provision of safe water and rehabilitation of basic water and sanitation infrastructures is also urgently needed to avoid the spread of water-borne diseases.

An estimated 55,000 people have been injured, people are still suffering from physical trauma and mental setbacks, and 315 health facilities have been damaged. Provision of basic health care services, treatment of cyclone-related injuries, prevention of outbreaks of water-borne diseases and treatment of mental health issues relating to shocks, bereavement and losses remain urgently needed.

The Government of Bangladesh (GoB) has been making considerable efforts to address the consequences of this disaster in a swift, efficient and sizable manner. Up to 13 December 2007, GoB had allocated approximately 1,721,000,000 Bangladesh Taka (BDT) (equivalent to EUR 17,000,000) for the relief operation²², in addition to being distributing rice, food bags, blankets, household items and corrugated iron sheeting. GoB has been by far the main supplier of food aid to cyclone victims, providing about 65% of the global food aid in the first few weeks after the disaster²³, and still continuing as of today to extend safety net programs to the cyclone-affected areas²⁴. The Bangladesh Armed Force Division has been deploying helicopters, aircrafts and naval ships which have been delivering relief assistance since the first day after the cyclone, and to this date the army keeps ensuring the security during distributions of relief assistance. The GoB is also providing cash assistance, through the allocation of 5,000 BDT (equivalent to EUR 50) to each family whose house has been destroyed. However, these limited funds have been largely used for purchasing essential

¹⁹ Source: Damage, Loss and Needs Assessment for Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction, February 2008

²⁰ reported by the Ministry of Food and Disaster Management, "Cyclone Sidr, Early Recovery, Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Report", 14 January 2008

²¹ Source: Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE)

²² Source: Disaster Management Information Centre – 31 December 2007 (latest available sitrep)

²³ Source: WFP Food Security Assessment, February 2008

²⁴ Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) safety net programme aimed at addressing food shortages among poor and vulnerable people in the 12 worst affected districts

commodities such as food or medicine. Overall, and despite the sizable intervention of the GoB, its capacity is overstretched by the scale of the needs created by the cyclone and the floods, and it has welcomed international humanitarian assistance.

In November and December 2007, Primary Emergency and Emergency Decisions totalling EUR 8,425,000 were launched by DG ECHO and approved²⁵. These decisions focused on providing food, safe water, basic household items, and emergency health care.

As of 25 February 2008, funding commitments for humanitarian assistance to victims of cyclone Sidr totaled close to USD 193,000,000 (equivalent to EUR 125,000,000), the largest three donors being Saudi Arabia, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), and the United States²⁶.

Following the cyclone, WFP launched an USD 52,000,000 Emergency Operation (EMOP), which has been distributing food aid assistance to 2.2 million beneficiaries. The EMOP remains under funded by USD 15,300,000²⁷, with the consequence that food aid distributions will finish in March. As an extension in cost and duration is being prepared – so as to continue the provision of food aid and food security support at least until the next rice harvest in May - , this funding gap is expected to become larger.

Overall, the initial response to the disaster by the GoB and the international community was prompt and vigorous but, three months after the disaster, the affected communities needs remain staggering. Lack of adequate shelter ahead of the next monsoon season, high level of food insecurity, rising food prices, rising malnutrition, absence of food stock and employment opportunities, destruction of harvests, livestock, income-generating assets, destruction of water and sanitation facilities, all point to the need for a continuing and strong emergency relief response.

1.3. - Target population and regions concerned:

The target population are the victims of cyclone SIDR. The populations of the most severely affected coastal districts of Barguna, Patuakhali, Bagerhat, Pirojpur will be the main beneficiaries of the assistance provided under this decision, while the population of seven districts said to be "badly" affected will benefit to a lesser extent from the relief assistance provided under this decision.

1.4. - Risk assessment and possible constraints:

The political situation in Bangladesh is unstable ahead of the parliamentary elections planned in December 2008. However, the current environment is rather favorable to the deployment of international humanitarian organizations.

There is at present no major security concern in Bangladesh.

²⁵ Primary Emergency Decision ECHO/BGD/BUD/2007/01000 for EUR 1,500,000 approved 16 November 2007. Emergency Decision ECHO/BGD/BUD/2007/03000 for EUR 5,000,000 approved 3 December 2007. Emergency Decision ECHO/BGD/BUD/2007/04000 for EUR 1,925,000 approved 20 December 2007.

²⁶ Source: Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

²⁷ As of 15 February 2008

2 - Objectives and components of the humanitarian intervention proposed:

2.1. - Objectives:

Principal objective:

To save and preserve the life of the population of Bangladesh affected by the cyclone of 15 November 2007 and its aftermath

Specific objectives:

- Provide appropriate and adequate food aid to victims of the cyclone of 15 November 2007 and its aftermath and support short-term measures to improve their food security
- Provide non-food emergency assistance to the victims of the cyclone of 15 November 2007 and its aftermath

2.2. - Components:

This decision will focus on saving and preserving the life of the population affected by Cyclone SIDR, by intervening in the following main sectors: shelter, food, food security, short-term early livelihoods recovery, provision of safe water, restoration of minimal sanitary and hygiene conditions and health.

The following actions will be considered per sector:

Food Assistance / Food security / Emergency Livelihoods

- Provision of emergency food relief
- Food for work
- Cash for work
- Short-term early livelihoods recovery

Shelter

- Provision of temporary shelter and basic reconstruction material
- Small-scale rehabilitation of houses destroyed

Water, sanitation and hygiene

- Provision of safe water
- Clean-up and rehabilitation of water sources, including wells and ponds,
- Rehabilitation of water supply and sanitation systems, in particular latrines,
- Distribution of hygiene kits and hygiene promotion

Health

- Provision of emergency health care and essential drugs, medical supplies, trauma treatment and psychological support

Disaster preparedness and disaster risk reduction measures will be mainstreamed as much as possible in all activities, to improve the communities' resilience to future natural disasters and flooding cycles.

The Stability Instrument of DG RELEX²⁸, in full coordination with DG ECHO, is planning to mobilize EUR 13,000,000 for intervention in the livelihood sector. This Emergency Decision of DG ECHO will therefore first focus on addressing the humanitarian needs in other sectors, while it may punctually conduct activities in this sector as well, as the needs in emergency livelihoods are massive. In that case, close coordination will continue so as to avoid overlaps in the provision of assistance in this sector.

3 - Duration expected for actions in the proposed Decision:

The duration of humanitarian aid operations shall be 6 months.

Expenditure under this Decision shall be eligible from 1 March 2008.

If the implementation of the actions envisaged in this Decision is suspended due to *force majeure* or any comparable circumstance, the period of suspension will not be taken into account for the calculation of the duration of the humanitarian aid operations.

Depending on the evolution of the situation in the field, the Commission reserves the right to terminate the agreements signed with the implementing humanitarian organisations where the suspension of activities is for a period of more than one third of the total planned duration of the action. In this respect, the procedure established in the general conditions of the specific agreement will be applied.

²⁸ Directorate General for External Relations - RELEX

4 - Previous interventions/Decisions of the Commission within the context of the current crisis

List of previous DG ECHO operations in BANGLADESH				
Decision Number	Decision Type	2006 EUR	2007 EUR	2008 EUR
ECHO/-SA/BUD/2006/02000	Emergency	1,000,000 ⁽¹⁾		
ECHO/-SA/BUD/2007/02000	Emergency		2,500,000 ⁽²⁾	
ECHO/-SA/BUD/2007/03000	Ad-hoc		4,000,000 ⁽³⁾	
ECHO/BGD/BUD/2007/01000	Prim. Emergency		1,500,000	
ECHO/BGD/BUD/2007/02000	Ad-hoc		1,500,000	
ECHO/BGD/BUD/2007/03000	Emergency		5,000,000	
ECHO/BGD/BUD/2007/04000	Emergency		1,925,000	
	Subtotal	1,000,000	16,425,000	0
	Grand Total	17,425,000		

Dated : 10 March 2008

Source : HOPE

⁽¹⁾ Emergency Decision for India, Nepal and Bangladesh for EUR 4,000,000, of which 1,000,000 for Bangladesh: "Emergency humanitarian aid in favour of communities in India, Nepal and Bangladesh affected by floods during the 2007 monsoon season"

⁽²⁾ Emergency Decision for India, Nepal and Bangladesh for EUR 9,500,000, of which 2,500,000 for Bangladesh: "Emergency humanitarian aid in favour of communities in India, Nepal and Bangladesh affected by floods during the 2007 monsoon season"

⁽³⁾ Ad-hoc Decision for India and Bangladesh for EUR 10,000,000, of which 4,000,000 for Bangladesh: "Humanitarian assistance for the early recovery of communities in India and Bangladesh affected by monsoon flooding"

5 - Overview of donors' contributions

Donors in BANGLADESH the last 12 months					
1. EU Members States (*)		2. European Commission		3. Others	
	EUR		EUR		EUR
Austria		DG ECHO	16,425,000		
Belgium		Other services			
Bulgaria					
Cyprus					
Czech republic	57,518				
Denmark	3,349,214				
Estonia	31,955				
Finland					
France	1,458,165				
Germany	2,759,684				
Greece	200,000				
Hungary					
Ireland	1,266,643				
Italy	3,057,000				
Latvia					
Lithuania					
Luxemburg	85,000				
Malta					
Netherlands	6,370,590				
Poland	81,000				
Portugal					
Romania					
Slovakia					
Slovenie					
Spain					
Sweden	3,207,560				
United kingdom					
Subtotal	21,924,329	Subtotal	16,425,000	Subtotal	0
		Grand total	38,349,329		

Dated : 10 March 2008

(*) Source : DG ECHO 14 Points reporting for Members States. <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/hac>

Empty cells means either no information is available or no contribution.

6 - Amount of Decision and distribution by specific objectives:

6.1. - Total amount of the Decision: EUR 10,000,000

6.2. - Budget breakdown by specific objectives

Principal objective: <i>To save and preserve the life of the population of Bangladesh affected by the cyclone of 15 November 2007 and its aftermath</i> ²⁹			
Specific objectives	Allocated amount by specific objective(EUR)	Geographical area of operation	Potential partners
Specific objective 1: Provide appropriate and adequate food aid to victims of the cyclone of 15 November 2007 and its aftermath and support short-term measures to improve their food security	6,000,000	Districts affected by cyclone SIDR, Bangladesh	- CARE - UK - CONCERN WORLDWIDE - FAO - SC(UK) - WFP-PAM - ACTION AID
Specific objective 2: Provide non-food emergency assistance to the victims of the cyclone of 15 November 2007 and its aftermath	4,000,000	Districts affected by cyclone SIDR, Bangladesh	- ACF - ACTIONAID - CARE – UK - DCV - CHRISTIAN AID - UK - CONCERN WORLDWIDE - FKN / DCA - IFRC-FICR - IRW - MUSLIM AID - OXFAM GB - Plan UK - SC(UK) - SOLIDARITES
TOTAL:10,000,000			

²⁹ ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM, (FR), ACTIONAID (GBR), CARE INTERNATIONAL UK , CHRISTIAN AID (GBR), CONCERN WORLDWIDE, (IRL), DEUTSCHER CARITASVERBAND e.V, (DEU), FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIETES DE LA CROIX-ROUGE ET DU CROISSANT ROUGE, FOLKEKIRKENS NODHJAELP, (FKN), ISLAMIC RELIEF WORLDWIDE, MUSLIM AID, OXFAM (GB), PLAN INTERNATIONAL (UK), SOLIDARITES, (FR), THE SAVE THE CHILDREN FUND (GBR), UNITED NATIONS - FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION, WORLD FOOD PROGRAM

7 - Evaluation

Under article 18 of Council Regulation (EC) No.1257/96 of 20 June 1996 concerning humanitarian aid the Commission is required to "regularly assess humanitarian aid operations financed by the Community in order to establish whether they have achieved their objectives and to produce guidelines for improving the effectiveness of subsequent operations." These evaluations are structured and organised in overarching and cross cutting issues forming part of DG ECHO's Annual Strategy such as child-related issues, the security of relief workers, respect for human rights, gender. Each year, an indicative Evaluation Programme is established after a consultative process. This programme is flexible and can be adapted to include evaluations not foreseen in the initial programme, in response to particular events or changing circumstances. More information can be obtained at:

http://ec.europa.eu/echo/evaluation/index_en.htm.

8 - Budget Impact article 23 02 01

-	CE (EUR)
Initial Available Appropriations for 2008	486,095,000.00
Supplementary Budgets	-
Transfers	-
Total Available Credits	486,095,000.00
Total executed to date (by 11 March 2008)	336,300,000.00
Available remaining	149,795,000.00
Total amount of the Decision	4,000,000.00

9 - Budget Impact article 23 02 02

-	CE (EUR)
Initial Available Appropriations for 2008	223,251,000.00
Supplementary Budgets	-
Transfers	-
Total Available Credits	223,251,000.00
Total executed to date (by 11 March 2008)	160,000,000.00
Available remaining	63,251,000.00
Total amount of the Decision	6,000,000.00

10. Management issues

Humanitarian aid actions funded by the Commission are implemented by NGOs, Specialised Agencies of the Member States, and the Red Cross organisations on the basis of Framework Partnership Agreements (FPA) and by United Nations agencies based on the EC/UN Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA) in conformity with Article 163 of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation. These Framework agreements define the criteria for attributing grant agreements and financing agreements in accordance with Article 90 of the Implementing Rules and may be found at http://ec.europa.eu/echo/partners/index_en.htm.

Individual grants are awarded on the basis of the criteria enumerated in Article 7.2 of the Humanitarian Aid Regulation, such as the technical and financial capacity, readiness and experience, and results of previous interventions.