



**act:onaid**  
**EMERGENCY RESPONSE**  
**TO KERALA FLOODS 2018**





We are very happy with this water purifier. The water that we get from the wells at the moment is very contaminated, the water that we receive from the Panchayat is also in a schedule and it does not come regularly, but now we have access to clean drinking water. It is very useful for us and we are very grateful to have received it. ”

~ **Susheela,**  
Pandanadu Panchayat, Alleppey, Kerala

## Foreword

At the outset I express my deep and heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for the generous donations and solidarity displayed by individual supporters, corporate donors and institutional partners for the families in Kerala who were severely affected by the devastating floods in Kerala in 2018. The generous contributions and support have enabled ActionAid Association reach out to the most vulnerable and marginalised communities whose homes, belongings and livelihoods were either severely damaged or affected by the floods. This report presents a consolidated overview of our efforts undertaken in the districts of Idukki, Alappuzha, Wayanad and Pathanamthitta, the four worst-affected districts of Kerala. I am pleased to inform you that we have been able to reach out to more than 4,300 families with emergency relief support consisting of food, water, clothes and educational kits. We have also provided rehabilitation support to families whose houses and livelihoods were severely damaged or affected. Given the enormity of the damage we continue to work in Kerala, and in the coming months, we will be supporting communities in Idukki and Pathanamthitta districts in setting up new community infrastructure including anganwadi centres and schools.

Our efforts in Kerala have been highly impactful because of the valuable support we received. With the frequency and scale of weather-related emergencies on the rise, we may need to reach out in future to individuals, corporates and institutions, so that together we can help those who need it the most during such difficult and dire situations.

In solidarity with hope and gratitude,

**Sandeep Chachra**

Executive Director  
ActionAid Association



## The worst floods since 1924



■ Districts affected by the floods in Kerala, 2018.

In August 2018, Kerala faced the worst floods since 1924. Massive floods and landslides due to unprecedented rains caused widespread destruction across the state. The floods affected all the 14 districts, covering a population of 54,11,712. There have been more than 300 landslides across the state.

The people affected by the floods, particularly women, children and the elderly, faced major challenges during the disaster including shortage of drinking water, food, access to health and sanitation facilities and outbreak of water-borne diseases. Many families lost the food grains stored in their houses as they were completely submerged in water. Due to the landslides, accessibility in affected areas was also very difficult.

## Kerala Floods Disaster Profile

**Human Casualties:** 486 killed | 15 missing | 140 injured

**Population affected:** More than 5 million

**Population displaced:** 14,52,425 people in 5,645 temporary shelters

**Total crop area affected:** 57,024.31 hectares

**Houses damages:** 23,607 (1,832 completely damaged, 21,775 partially damaged)

**Worst affected districts:** Alappuzha, Pathanamthitta, Idukki, Wayanad, Ernakulam, Thrissur and Kozhikode

**Estimated loss:** ₹20,000 crores (\$2,862,200,000),

At least ₹15,000 crores (\$1,680,150,000) required to rebuild infrastructure.



■ As per official data, 23,607 houses were damaged by the floods.





## ActionAid Association's Response

ActionAid Association mobilised its emergency response team as soon as the disaster struck and conducted needs assessment of the impacted population in four worst affected districts of Kerala: Wayanad, Idukki, Alappuzha and Pathanamthitta.

After conducting a thorough assessment of the situation, we categorised the needs of the affected population into three groups: short-term, medium-term and long-term needs. Short-term needs included procuring household appliances and educational support for the children to continue their education. Medium-term needs included house repairing, electrical maintenance and plumbing, livelihood support for the vulnerable and marginalised groups. Long-term needs included rehabilitation and reconstruction of infrastructure along with the participation of people in the rebuilding process. So far, ActionAid India has reached out to more than 4,300 households in Kerala with relief and rehabilitation support.

### Dry rations

In Wayanad, Idukki, Alappuzha and Pathanamthitta districts, dry rations consisting of rice, pulses, sugar, cooking oil salt and tea powder were distributed to 1,032 families from poor and vulnerable communities affected by the floods. In addition, 30 kg of food items were distributed to families in Pathnamthitta district for the celebration of Onam festival which benefitted a population of 2,000. In Alappuzha, Kitchen utensils were distributed to 21 families.



Relief packages containing dry rations for affected families being transported for distribution.



## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Cleaning kits were distributed to 220 families in Idukki, Alappuzha and Pathnamthitta districts. One cleaning kit contains a bucket, mug, dustpan, bleaching powder, cleaning lotion, toilet and floor cleaning solutions, brooms, mask and gloves.

Furthermore, we distributed 10 water purifiers in Alappuzha which can hold up to 25 litres and provide clean drinking water to 54 families daily. We also installed 4 water tanks in a primary school which have benefitted 150 children and 60 families. The water tanks have been handed over to the panchayat which has now taken responsibility of filling them on a regular basis. Another water tank was installed in a different location in Alappuzha where benefitted 15 families.



Emergency response team demonstrating how to use the water purifiers.



Water purifiers en route to Alappuzha for distribution; the floods had damaged water sources which were used for drinking and domestic purposes by the locals.

## Shelter

As shelter support, we provided mattresses and cots to 800 families in Idukki, Alappuzha and Wayanad. In Alappuzha, we also repaired 32 houses belonging to most vulnerable groups including single women and families who are from socially and economically marginalised communities. In addition, cash support of ₹20,000 was given to families whose houses were severely damaged during the floods.



A mattress being handed over to a flood-affected family.

## Clothes

Clothes for men and women were also distributed as part of the relief response. 333 women including single women in Idukki and Alappuzha received sarees.



Esther Mariaselvam, Regional Manager - ActionAid Association Tamil Nadu Regional Office, handing over sarees to women affected.



## Education

In Wayanad, 45 children were given education kits consisting of school bags, notebooks, pen, pencil, instrument box, water bottle, umbrella etc. We also facilitated education scholarship to 10 girls studying in different classes. Each girl received a cheque of ₹10,000. They belong to poor families whose houses have been severely damaged in the floods. As their parents are wage workers, they were not able to support their children's education in a time of crisis.



A delighted girl on receiving the education kit.



One of ActionAid's priorities when responding to emergencies is making sure children's education does not get affected.

## Community Infrastructure

In Pathanamthitta district, construction of 4 new anganwadi centres is planned in Cherikkal which will benefit approximately 1,366 families. In Idukki, the repair of 5 schools, 5 anganwadis and 1 community hall is planned.

## Livelihood Support

25 women's collectives in partnership with Kudumbahsree (poverty eradication and women empowerment programme implemented by Government of Kerala) are being formed to provide livelihood support to women. They will receive organic farming training in spices. Furthermore, each group will be provided with one acre of land to start cultivation to support their livelihood.



Women collectives play an important part in providing livelihood support to affected families and ensuring faster recovery from natural disasters.



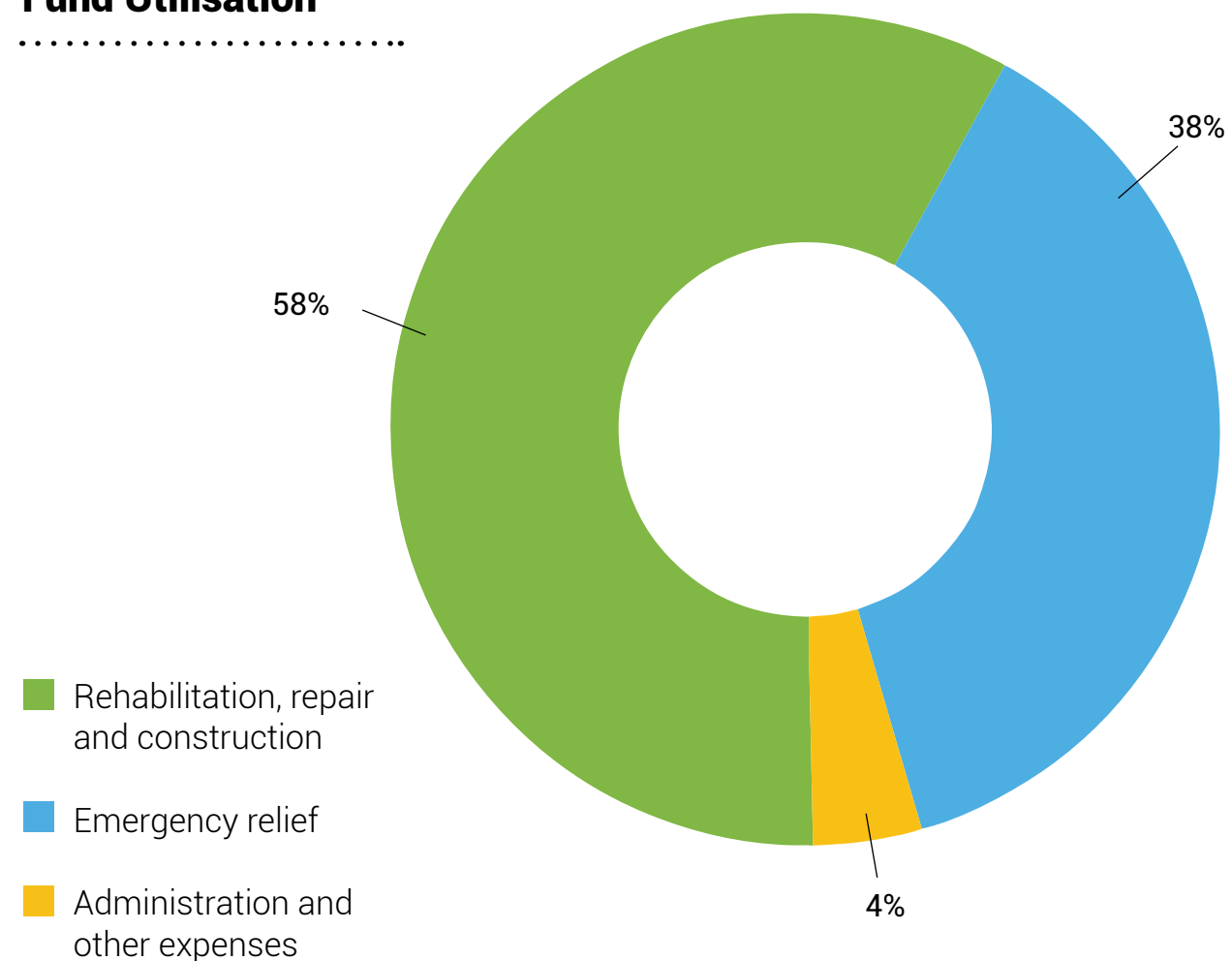
## Fund Utilisation

A major part of the funds from individual donors were used in providing emergency relief items to affected families during the initial phase of the response. Some part was also used to repair a few houses of affected families during the rehabilitation phase. Baker Elementary School (California), Charities Aid Foundation, Care Today, Chellaram Foundation, Colgate Palmolive, Corcon, Dainik Bhaskar, DXC Technology, Goodera, Hope Unlimited, Liberty Insurance, Nagrik Dialogue, Nagrik Foundation, Oracle, Persistent Foundation, Taj Group, Times Foundation (The Times Group) and The Times of India were amongst the corporate donors and institutional partners of ActionAid Association who played a major role in the rehabilitation of affected families by supporting house repairs, restoring livelihoods, rebuilding infrastructure and providing scholarships to children for education.

### Kerala Floods

#### Emergency Response 2018

#### Fund Utilisation



## Change For The Better - I

### A house for Radhika

Radhika is resident of Vizhalil (Pandanadu Panchayat) in Alappuzha district. Her husband is a daily wage worker. They had a monthly income of ₹5,000. She has 2 daughters and 1 son. Her son is just 4 months old.

Radhika was pregnant during the floods and had to face difficult challenges. She had to move from camp to camp because of delivery pains and other medical requirements. She finally gave birth to her child in a government hospital in Chengannur.

Radhika couldn't go back to her house as it had been severely damaged in the floods. She had to stay in a relative's house. Community leaders brought her situation to the notice of ActionAid Association.

With help and support from the community, Colgate Palmolive and ActionAid Association constructed a house for Radhika and her family.



■ Radhika's house damaged by the floods.



■ Radhika with her family in front of her new house.



## Change For The Better - II

### Sharadha needs more help



Sharadha's house was completely destroyed by the floods.

Sharadha, a 53-year-old married woman has been living in Pandanad village, Alappuzha district for almost five generations. Her house had been severely damaged and all her household belongings were washed away by the floods. She and her husband stayed in the camp for over 50 days.

She used to work as a housemaid but after the floods, she has not been able to go to work. Her husband is a heart patient and he is also not able to work either. She gets a little financial support from her youngest daughter's family who stay close by, but that is not enough.

Sharadha was one of the beneficiaries who received relief materials from Care Today and ActionAid Association. She also received sarees which were distributed by ActionAid Association. She appreciated that the materials she received were very useful, but she said that they still require a lot of help to get back to normal lives.

## Women Leadership

During the relief and rehabilitation process, ActionAid Association mobilised women leaders who led the process of distribution of relief materials in the communities. They took ownership of the relief distribution including preparation of list of beneficiaries and distribution of coupons to families. We also empowered women in communities to help other women groups, and work together to provide support for a quicker recovery of affected population.



Empowering women leaders to lead the relief distribution and rehabilitation process.



# Transparency and Accountability

Maintaining transparency and accountability is one of the principles of ActionAid's disaster response interventions. We ensured transparency was maintained at each level during the emergency response by displaying rate of relief items on large banners thereby keeping the community members informed. The rate of items was also read aloud so that community members who cannot read could understand.

Cleaning Materials	
Items	Cost
Plastic Bucket	142.78
Plastic Mug	21.83
Plastic Dust Pan	37.76
Coco- Broom stick	26.00
Plastic Mat	129.80
Phynil	45.00
Bleaching Powder	60.00
Washing powder	60.00
Glove- pair	60.00
Mask - 10 nos	40.00
Total	623.17
unit	150
Total Cost	93,475.50

Dry Ration	
Items	Cost
Rice - 20 kg	800.00
Daal - 2kg	136.00
Sugar - 2kg	80.00
Cooking Oil-2lt	198.00
Salt - 1kg	7.20
Tea Powder- 500gm	139.00
Total	1360.20
unit	150
Total Cost	2,04,030.00
Per Family	5,34,280.50
Total Cost	

Dress Materials	
Items	Cost
Nightly - 2nos	390
Lungi-1	150
Bedsheet - 2 nos	380
Brassier - 2 nos	46
Panties - 2 nos	40
Saree - 2 nos	170
Bath towel - 2 nos	
phathi	180
Men Underwear - 2nos	170
Total	1578.5
Unit	150
Total Cost	236775



Sandeep Chachra, Executive Director of ActionAid India, handing out relief materials to flood-affected families.

actionaid KERALA FLOODS EMERGENCY RESPONSE			
Dry Ration Items	Quantity	Rate	Amount
RICE	20	40.00	
DAAL	2	68.00	136.00
SUGAR	2	40.00	80.00
COOKING OIL		99.00	198.00
SALT	1	7.20	7.20
TEA POWDER	0.5	278.00	139.00
RAVA (SOOJI)	1	42.00	42.00
GREEN GRAM	1	75.00	75.00
Total	29.5		1477.20
Unit			600
Total Cost			8,86,320.00

Rate of relief items being displayed at distribution centres for transparency.



Dipali Sharma, Director of Organisational Effectiveness of ActionAid India, handing out relief materials to flood-affected families.



# Thank you for your support

ActionAid Association would like to thank all individual, institutional and corporate donors for their generosity and timely support in providing much-needed relief and rehabilitation support to the flood-affected communities in Kerala.

















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