



IOM providing the hygiene kits supply during psychosocial activities, Lhok Bani shelter, Indonesia © IOM 2015

Highlights August 2015

■ **Bangladesh:** IOM provided food, non-food-items, health screenings and onward transportation to **494** Bangladeshis. **204** returned under IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) Programme and **290** were repatriated with the assistance of the Government of Bangladesh. This includes **75** unaccompanied minors returning in August.

■ **Indonesia:** IOM supported Indonesian authorities with shelter support, health screenings, WASH, psycho-social assistance and food support to assist **1,114** stranded Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and Bangladeshis in shelters. During August **204** Bangladeshis returned under IOM's AVR Programme to Bangladesh

■ **Myanmar:** **284** stranded Bangladeshis in Myanmar who returned to Bangladesh. There is a remaining caseload of 97 stranded migrants in the Taung Pyo shelter. **107** Bangladeshi migrants earlier stranded in Taninthayi, Myanmar in July were transferred early September to the shelter in Taung Pyo.

■ **Thailand:** IOM has provided shelter support, non-food items, health screenings and psycho-social assistance to **870** detained Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and Bangladeshi migrants in Thailand. **26** detained Bangladeshis were approved for AVR assistance. It is expected that this group will return to Bangladesh mid- September.

Situation Overview

- At least **5,543** persons who departed from Myanmar and Bangladesh managed to disembark in Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand, between 10 May and 30 July. No departures were reported in August.
- **2,796** stranded Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and Bangladeshis remain in shelters and Immigration Detention Centres in Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and Myanmar. IOM continued to provide shelter support, non-food items, health screenings, WASH support and psychosocial support.
- **2,007** migrants have returned from Indonesia, Myanmar and Thailand to Bangladesh including a total of **621** Bangladeshis returned between June 11 and Aug 11 from Indonesia to Bangladesh under IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) Programme.

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IOM RESPONSE

Bangladesh

During August, 627 male Bangladeshis including 75 unaccompanied minors have returned home. Of them, 284 were repatriated over land through the Bangladesh - Myanmar border, 204 returned from Indonesia and 139 from Malaysia. IOM assisted the local administration for the return and repatriation from Myanmar and facilitated the return from Indonesia. The Malaysian government provided its national airlines for the returns while repatriation from Myanmar took place through the Bangladesh Myanmar Friendship Bridge in Ghundum, supervised by the border forces and immigration officials of the two countries. IOM arranged the transport from the border to the temporary shelter in Cox's Bazar and then for the onward travel to the local districts.

Since June, 2,007 Bangladeshis returned to Bangladesh. IOM has provided return assistance to 1,835 returnees including a reinsertion grant for 1,380 Bangladeshis.



Nutrition

Food and water were provided to 494 migrants upon arrival in Bangladesh. For the returnees from Myanmar, food was provided for two days at the temporary shelter in Cox's Bazar until their return journey home.



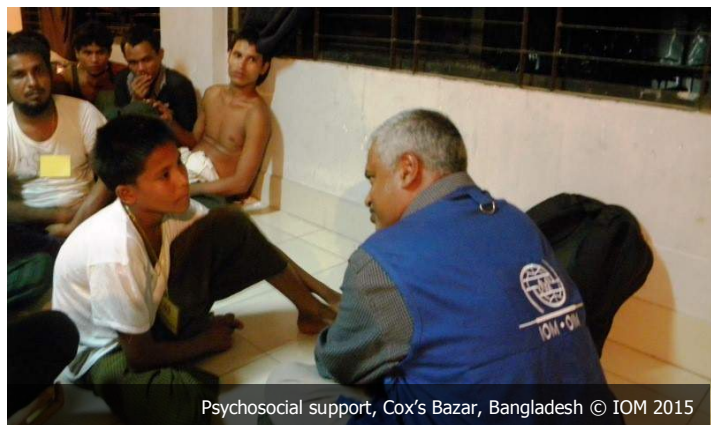
Return Assistance

Onward local transport assistance was provided for 494 Bangladeshis who returned through air and land. Reinsertion assistance of USD 200 will be provided after arranging psychosocial counseling sessions during September for all the returnees.



Health and Psychosocial Support

Health check-ups and blood screening was conducted for the 284 returnees from Myanmar. Psychosocial support coordinated by IOM, was provided by Medecines Sans Frontieres (MSF-H) for the returnees from Myanmar. This includes group as well as individual consultation and selected basic therapeutic exercises.



Psychosocial support, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh © IOM 2015



Coordination

In coordination with the Bangladeshi government, IOM is expecting to arrange counseling session for returnees from all countries in September. The counseling session will promote and provide information on safe migration, in country employment opportunities and further psychosocial support. This will be arranged at the local level, based on the concentration of returnees. In addition 284 returnees from Myanmar were provided a general briefing on safe migration upon return. Free phone calls for all 494 Bangladeshis were provided by Bangladesh Red Crescent Society in coordination with the government and IOM. IOM has also coordinated the safe return, family reunification, and follow up visits of 75 unaccompanied minors together with UNICEF and the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society.

Indonesia

IOM Indonesia continues to support the Indonesian government to assist the stranded migrants in Aceh and North Sumatera province. As of Aug. 31, there are 212 Bangladeshi and 902 ethnic Myanmar Muslim migrants in six shelters in Aceh and North Sumatera. IOM Indonesia has provided the following assistance:



NFI and Shelter

In close coordination with the local government, IOM continued to provide hygiene kits and personal care supply to migrants in all shelters. The shelter facility was improved with the installation of 7 ceiling fans, partition for the medical room, 2 new septic systems, and the repair of pipes and 32 water taps, 15 light bulbs and cleaning tools. IOM also continued to deliver during August 3.6 million liters of clean water supply for all migrants in four shelter locations.



Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

IOM provided extensive sanitation improvement support in all shelter locations. 77 temporary toilets and 32 washrooms were installed; 23 permanent toilets were built; 27 water tanks, 9 water pumps, 65 water taps and 5 water dispensers were also installed. In three locations, IOM is supplying water through water trucks on a daily basis. To date,



IOM offers English Unaccompanied minors of ethnic Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State from Rakhine State group in Birem Bayeun shelter, Indonesia © IOM 2015

more than 3 million litres of water have been delivered. Monthly hygiene kits are also distributed to all migrants.



Health and Psychosocial Support

Thiamin injection, measles and OPV, DPT and HIB vaccinations were given to the infants under two years old, in addition to child care monitoring activity. The in-patient care at hospitals outside the shelters and regular health consultation also continue for migrants with specific health concerns. Health education is facilitated by the local health clinic (Puskesmas) at all shelter location covering topics on dental care, family counseling, personal hygiene, health pregnancy, breast feeding and prevention of common diseases such as scabies and dengue.

In partnership with the Local Social Affair Office and local universities (e.g. University of North Sumatera, Puspelkessos), IOM facilitates various educational and recreational activities for the psychological healing of the migrants. The activities include movie screenings, language classes, sports and various competitions. IOM also continued to identify vulnerable cases of the migrants; of the current population in the six shelters, 48% of the migrant population are children and 298 among them are unaccompanied minors (UAMs). IOM also identified and referred 42 separated children, 1 elderly person, 1 sexual gender based violence victim and 9 pregnant women.



Nutrition

During August, IOM continued to provide nutritious food and multivitamins for all migrants. In addition to regular daily meals, IOM through the local health clinic (Puskesmas) also distributed 250ml of fresh milk every day.



Supplemental food distribution for migrants, Aceh Timur, Indonesia
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Through local integrated health post (Posyandu) in Lhok Banie Shelter, IOM also monitored infant's weight and provided 29 packs of additional food (milk, biscuits and cereal) for children under 5 years old. Furthermore, 160 children under 12 years old in Lhok Bani, Langsa and Birem Bayeun shelters also received 2 boxes of milk powder (each 800 gr) each month.



Coordination

The Aceh Tamiang government, Langsa district government, Office of Social Affairs (DINSOS) and

Immigration Office of Langsa decided to relocate all migrants in Aceh Tamiang to Langsa district on 30 July 2015. The women and children were transferred to the DINSOS Lhok Bani shelter, while men were transferred to Kuala Langsa shelter.



Return Assistance

In August, IOM Indonesia has assisted five groups of Bangladeshis (204 migrants) with their return to their home country, bringing the total assisted under the AVR programme running since June to 621 migrants.



AVR movement on 4 August 2015 assisting 50 Bangladeshi return to their home country © IOM 2015 Credit: INP escort team

Myanmar

To date a total of 626 migrants from Taung Pyo have been repatriated. On August 10, 159 migrants were returned to Bangladesh, and on August 25 there was a repatriation of 125 migrants. There is a remaining caseload of 97 migrants. This caseload will be repatriated as part of an agreement between the Myanmar and Bangladesh government, with the logistic and administrative support from IOM. Despite the widespread flooding in Rakhine State, services at the Taung Phyto camp have continued. IOM services in the camp weren't affected. Coordination meetings with Maungdaw-based partners providing assistance to the camp involved in the response continues on a weekly basis.



Nutrition

Regular provision of vegetables and condiments in Taung Pyo is ongoing. WFP continues to provide 750g/per person/day of rice, beans, salt and cooking oil. IOM supports the daily kitchen operation through of the provision of staff, fire wood and new pots and equipment.



NFI and Shelter

Firewood for cooking and cleaning equipment, cooking equipment, brooms, water containers, water barrels, as well as additional food items to supplement rations were provided. IOM also provided 1,326 Men's Longyi (Sarong); 805 T-Shirts; 783 rain jackets; and 164 mosquito nets. 31 latrines are maintained on a daily basis.



Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Water purification and latrine sanitation is ongoing in the Taung Pyo camp. An average of 5 litres of drinking water per person has been provided on a daily basis (2,100 litres/389 persons = 5.3 litres/person). World Vision provided P&G water purification sachets and IOM has provided additional latrines. All needs for now are being covered.



Health and Psychosocial Support

MSF continues to provide ongoing health support but has reduced its involvement as the overall situation remains stable and there are only minor health cases being reported. The Ministry of Health is in overall control and emergencies can be handled by the station hospital. IOM is deploying psycho-social counselors to help assess the new arrivals, and MSF maintains two psychosocial counselors who visit 3 times per week and implements additional activities such as sports.



IOM staff distributing lunch boxes and water bottles to the returning migrants

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Coordination

Advocacy continues with the Bangladesh Consul and Embassy to expedite the returns for the remaining caseload. IOM met with the Bangladesh Ambassador and senior Embassy staff in Yangon on 27 August. The Embassy has committed to facilitate the speedy return of the remaining migrants in Taung Pyo (Rakhine State). Of this group, the majority have been identified as Bangladesh citizens and return procedures are underway. The Embassy is waiting for confirmation from Bangladesh Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the status of the remaining including women and children). The Consul and three Embassy staff visited Zarni Island (Thaninthayi Region) recently where the migrants are being housed—is a deserted island close to the Myanmar navy base. Photos of the island he showed to IOM us show a decent location, basic tents and facilities, and local health services being provided from District Health staff who visit daily from a hospital on the mainland.



Returnees walking through Taungbro Friendship Bridge to Bangladesh

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Thailand

IOM continued to provide health assistance, supplemental nutrition, shelter, non-food items and water, sanitation and hygiene to 850 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and Bangladeshi migrants temporarily detained in Thai immigration detention centers and government shelters.



Health and Psychosocial Support

In August, 738 individuals benefited from IOM health assessment including physical examination by physicians and lab/x-ray screening for TB, hepatitis B, syphilis, HIV/aids, malaria, Complete Blood Count (and microfilaria and urinalysis in Songkhla, Suratthani, Phang-nga, Ranong, and Prachuab Khirikhan. From the examinations, 30 were referred for follow up.

IOM nurses in the field will coordinated with local authorities in providing proper treatment to the patients. From Lab/x-ray result, 361 were screened of which 14% found having abnormal BMI range; approx. 12% with abnormal CXR result and abnormal Complete Blood Count (CBC) result. Among the screened population, there are 5.5% with HBsAg positive. The CXR/Lab result is being reviewed by IOM doctors, who will provide recommendations for following up by IOM local nurses. In addition, the field team also helped facilitate health screening for 20 resettlement cases in Pattani, Songkhla and Suratthani provinces. IOM health care workers based in Songkhla, Phang-nga, Ranong and Chiang Rai continue providing on-site basic health care service to detainees in the IDCs as well as women and children in the shelters. Ranong team coordinated with local authorities to ensure the Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State pregnant woman meet with a doctor for antenatal care as scheduled.



Return Assistance

IOM's emergency assisted voluntary return team for interviewed 28 detained Bangladesh citizens. All of these were irregular migrants with two potential cases of victims of trafficking, which have been referred to IOM's Counter Trafficking unit for their assessment. All of those interviewed were very eager to return home as this group had been detained in Thailand for periods between 1-2 years, depending on the case. 26 cases have been approved for AVR assistance. This group will return to Bangladesh mid Sept. 17.

IOM continue its effort to advocate for detainees' health, including outdoor exercise, and is supplying to detainees in Phang-Nga IDC as well as in Ranong, Chiang Rai and Prachuab Khirikhan. In Songkhla, IOM supplied blankets and plastic mats to detainees in Sadao IDC. IOM is also conducting on-going psychosocial activities in Phang-Nga and Ranong shelters. A group counselling session is organized weekly at Ranong IDC for small group discussions of drawing, sports, language classes, games and handicraft also are part of IOM's psychosocial response.

Nutrition

IOM continues to provide basic health care services and daily supplemental nutrition support for the 605 detainees in Ranong, Phang-nga, Songkhla, and Suratthani. Over 530 snack and supplemental food packs

were provided in Ranong Province and 1,430 packs of additional snacks, including crackers, milk, fresh fruit and juice, provided to different IDCs and shelters in Southern Thailand.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

Hygiene kits were provided including disinfectant soap, shampoo, washing powder, toothpaste, toothbrush to detainees in Songkhla, Phang-Nga, Ranong, Chiang Rai, Surat Thani, and Pathum Thani. Clean drinking water and a shortage of water supply shortage is one of the main issues in each southern IDCs. IOM provides support in terms of daily drinking water to detainees in Ranong and is repairing of water pumps in Songkhla and Nongkhai IDC.

Summary Overview

	Beneficiaries in IDC's & shelters prior May 10	Beneficiaries in shelters and IDCs since May 10	beneficiaries currently in shelters and IDCs - as of Aug. 31 -	Bangladeshi returnees - as of Aug. 31 -
Bangladesh	-	134	-	-
Indonesia	671	1,820	1,114	621
Malaysia	-	1,107	608	499
Myanmar	-	1,048	204	760
Thailand	725	153	870	127
TOTAL	1,396	4,262	2,796	2,007



Supplemental food distribution (bread and milk) for Bangladeshi migrants in Punteut, Aceh Utara © IOM 2015



Provided transportation for a final journey home, IOM © IOM 2015

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