IOM Bangladesh: Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis Response
EXTERNAL UPDATE
21 - 27 September 2018

706,000 New Rohingya Arrivals since 25 August 2017 to Cox’s Bazar*

919,000 Total Rohingya Population in Cox’s Bazar*

1.3 Million People in Need in Cox’s Bazar

* Needs and Population Monitoring Baseline Round 21

KEY FEATURES

♦ Kutupalong Community Clinic, one of the Government facilities supported by IOM (with human resources, logistics and medicine), providing obstetric care including delivery and family planning was ranked 1st of the Community Clinics in Chittagong division for conducting the highest number of Normal Vaginal Deliveries.

♦ IOM continues to provide support to strengthen the Counter Trafficking efforts in Cox’s Bazar. An introduction training on victim identification and case handling for policer officers was conducted last week with the objective to provide a common understanding on human trafficking.

♦ IOM is currently selecting a service providers for the construction of a trial bamboo treatment pool. IOM will use the treated Borak bamboo for communal shelter upgrades, individual shelters and other critical site improvement works, aiming to improve the durability of construction.

♦ The capacity enhancement/structural renovation works have commenced in four Cyclone Shelters.

CUMULATIVE CATEGORY 1 INCIDENTS

51,691 affected persons
11,489 affected households

Over 39,000 individuals are located in the most at risk areas
605 reported incidents (landslide/erosion, water logging, extreme wind, lightning and flooding)

Source: Site Management Sector, Category 1 Incident Reports (Since 11 May 2018)

IOM Deploys New Ambulance Fleet to Serve Rohingya Refugees, Local Community in Bangladesh Camps

IOM has deployed a fleet of ten new ambulances fitted with critical medical equipment to support emergency health services for Rohingya refugees and local host community residents in the Cox’s Bazar district of Bangladesh.

The vehicles, funded by the United Kingdom, Sweden, the United States and the European Union, contain specialized equipment to deliver high dependency first aid during complex emergency situations. This includes equipment to cope with head injuries, heart problems, pregnancy complications and cases requiring admission to intensive care.

“These ambulances are going to be at the front line of saving lives and providing better health care for local people and refugees in Cox’s Bazar,” said IOM Emergency Coordinator Manuel Pereira.

To read the full article, click here.

IOM Funding Status

$182.1 M required in IOM Appeal
48% funded
**HEALTH**

Kutupalong Community Clinic, one of the Government facilities supported by IOM in via human resources, logistics and medicine, and providing obstetric care including delivery and family planning was ranked 1st of the Community Clinics in Chittagong division for conducting the highest number of Normal Vaginal Deliveries.

Three Medical Officers from Ukha participated in a Training of Trainers (ToT) organized by the World Health Organisation (WHO) focusing on supervision of Basic Routine Expanded Programme of Immunisation (EPI) in Cox’s Bazar. Five vaccinators and two Medical Officers also participated in another training on Basic EPI.

One Medical officer of Ali Akbor Para CC attended a male meeting at Hnila on 16 Sept’18 which was arranged by BGS. They discussed the danger signs during pregnancy and safe delivery services at AAP CC and Leda Health Clinic and requested them to send all normal and complicated pregnancies to a health facility.

To identify vector borne diseases and potential explanations for unexplained fever cases, IOM facilities are conducting rapid diagnostic tests. Two Rapid Diagnostic Tests (RDTs) were done for malaria, 16 for dengue and one for Chikungunya. A Dengue positive case has been identified, admitted and treated at Leda Health Center.

Triage on communicable disease and isolations are operational at five IOM facilities (Kutupalong Primary Health Care Center (PHCC), Leda PHCC, Balukhali MS, Jamtoli Health Post and AA Health Post). In the past two weeks, the centres have triaged 258 cases, including the diagnosis and isolation of one suspected diphtheria case, eight suspected tuberculosis (TB) cases, 14 suspected mumps and seven chicken pox cases.

Last week, a total of 12,755 consultations took place in IOM health centers and IOM supported Government facilities (-10% compared to last week).

A total of 33 deliveries were conducted in the last week with 126 Post Natal care and 927 Antenatal care sessions provided. Since 25th August 2017, IOM has conducted 2,855 deliveries by skilled birth attendants.

**MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SERVICES (MHPSS)**

In this week, 305 people were assisted in Ukhiya and Teknaf as part of the direct services provided. A total of two group sessions were facilitated with ANC and PNC patients at Burmapara health facility. The objective was to facilitate self-care and to be aware of mental health during ANC/PNC.

Moreover, 12 medical staff from IOM health have joined MhGap training in this week, organised by IOM, UNHCR and WHO. MhGap trainings intend to fill the gap in terms of secpicalised, clinical and psychiatric services.

In Teknaf, the MHPSS team is conducting proper follow-up sessions with three families who lost their children as well as community mobilization activities, including non-formal education sessions, positive parenting skills, awareness sessions for pregnant women, drawing competitions, conflict resolution sessions and livelihood activities.
NEEDS AND POPULATION MONITORING (NPM)

Last week NPM’s operations team conducted preliminary discussions with camp managers before starting the Site Assessment (SA) Round 12 in order to collect information about the camps. NPM is set to start SA R12, having completed planning for the Key Information interviews, preparation of tools (maps, KoBo tool and SW maps for enumerators).

Last week, 112 enumerators from NPM supported the IOM Site Management team to conduct a household counting within the camps of responsibility.

NPM also continues to provide support to the Site Management Sector in defining the new blocks and sub-block boundaries, as first step into the establishment of a new governance system. Last week NPM presented the sub block drawing of the new block level boundaries to IOM implementing partners.

NPM is in discussion with Site Management Sector and IOM Site Management to further improve communications with Site Management agencies regarding the next stage of drafting the sub-blocks.

Finally, NPM continues to support the Site Management sector for the Category 1 Incident Report mechanism. For an overview of incidents reported daily, link here.

PROTECTION

IOM, in coordination with Deputy Commissioner (DC) office, facilitated a Counter Trafficking Committee (CTC) District Meeting that was attended by 19 government officials and non-government organization representatives. The participants of the meeting, chaired by the Additional District Magistrate (ADM), discussed the importance of having a trafficking assessment and shelter for victims. IOM’s CT specialist delivered a presentation on introduction to Counter Trafficking (CT) in humanitarian settings and good practices of anti-human trafficking in other countries.

IOM also continues to provide support to strengthen CT efforts in Cox’s Bazar. An introduction training on victim identification and case handling for policer officers was conducted last week with the objective to provide a common understanding on human trafficking. Additionally, two Training of Trainers (ToT) on CT in humanitarian settings were conducted. The ToT was delivered by a CT specialist from IOM Headquarters on how to provide effective awareness raising for the service providers.

During the reporting period, IOM Protection supported the relocation of 102 households from Camps 10, 11 and UNHCR Transit Center to Camp 20 extension and Camp 4 extension, encompassing 195 individuals in total. A number of 26 EVIs were identified during the relocations.

IOM, with its implementing partner, Pulse Bangladesh, continues to provide services through their Women and Girls Friendly Spaces, including GBV specific case management and emergency referrals to medical, safe shelter, legal and other, awareness raising sessions, skills building activities such as sewing and IT, and various unstructured PSS or recreational activities. In the past week, 1,373 women and 2,597 girls took part in activities across our eight Women and Girls Friendly Spaces.

IOM Protection held door-to-door engagement in Camp BW10 in the week, and identified some protection concerns that were referred to Site Management. Among the issues identified, the lack of a functioning tube wells in Camp 10 as well as the distance covered by refugees to collect firewood were raised.
ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS

Discussions around conflict resolution were held this week. Residents were asked how they deal with issues ranging from small disagreements to larger issues. A group in Camp 20 extension discussed their newly formed Community Development Committee (CDC), which includes men and women representing the community and coming together to discuss issues that affect everyone in the Camp. While the residents indicated that there was not much conflict in the Camp that needed mediating, they were happy with having committees, who were seen as honest, elected representatives to be trusted. Representatives of the CDC said that they preferred the committee system as it bought people together to solve problems. They agreed that this was better than the mahjhee system still used in most camps, where a single person is responsible for group representation.

Every week, IOM increases the number of men and women’s radio listening groups. There are now over 200 facilitated groups listening to programs and joining discussions about the content.

RESILIENCE & ENVIRONMENT, DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR)

An orientation meeting was held with different stakeholders including the contractor, the representatives of 12 Cyclone Shelter Management Committees, the Upazila Education Administration Office and IOM this week to share the capacity enhancement work of multi-purpose cyclone shelters of six Unions in Teknaf.

The GPS data of 48 out of 50 cyclone shelter locations has been collected to date in Ukhiya and Teknaf. The capacity enhancement/structural renovation works have commenced in four Cyclone Shelters. The DRR team took part in open community consultation sessions in Teknaf Sadar Union in collaboration with the Local Government Support Project (LGSP) of Local Government Institution (LGI) of the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives (LGRD&C). The objective of this meeting was to identify community-based DRR, Livelihood-Social Cohesion and environmental interventions for the community.

The third steering committee meetings of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) took place this week. ICCCAD’s air and water sampling survey has been completed. The project aims at undertaking an in-depth environmental monitoring programme to identify predicted and unanticipated changes to the environment due to the concentration of the Rohingya camps in the area.
Another 230 solar light points have been identified for further installation.

Tree plantation continues in all camps, including the identification of new sites for tree plantation. Tree plantation is being planned in Camps 8, 13 and 22 on areas covering 8,935sqm.

During the reporting period 5,074 households were identified as at risk of flood or landslide, of which 58 have been relocated by IOM (33 from Camp 10 alone).

A total of 6,606 Cash for Work (CFW) laborers were engaged across all camps throughout the week for maintenance, repair and site improvement works in all camps. Out of these, 233 were Rohingya women—an increase in number compared to the past few weeks. A total of 269 laborers were engaged from host communities (105 engaged by Camp 15 alone)

Outreach activities carried out across all camps included 98 Sensitisation Campaigns, 93 Focus Group Discussion/Key Informant Interviews and 17,600 Door-to-Door visits.

A total of 102 Radio Listening sessions were held.

Community Feedback and Response Mechanisms have been running as planned. During the reporting period, a total of 1,064 complaints were received, out of which the majority were lodged in Camp 24 (439 complaints received). 614 complaints have been referred, and the rest were addressed.

Site Development activities included; 11 new bamboo bridges constructed and 477m repaired; 407m of steps & rail repaired and 136m newly constructed as well as 320m of drainage completed.

Challenges

Delayed delivery of materials from several major vendors.

Para Development Committees (PDCs) in Teknaf continue to face operational challenges due to lack of recognition from key stakeholders in the field.

Safety and Security issues continue to arise in the camps—major observation across all camps during community meetings.

Insufficient community spaces to conduct meetings and other operational gathering.
WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WaSH)

This week, the Inter-Church Cooperation (ICCO) handed over 38 semi-permanent latrines to IOM for operational and maintenance purpose. The latrines located in Camp 20 extensions and will be functioning through regular operational and maintenance by SHED, IOM WaSH implementing partner.

The construction of the perimeter fencing, gates, and office/chemical building at the borehole site is on-going in Camp 12 in collaboration with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the Bangladesh Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE). Meanwhile, the design and preparation of the Bill of Quantities (BOQ) for the water supply pipeline and the water storage reservoir for Camp 12 has been completed. The topographical survey of the pipe alignment conducted by both IOM WASH and Site Development/Site Management staff has also been completed. The hydraulic modeling to determine the pipe sizes of the water supply network taking into consideration the SPHERE’s WASH standard and other local norms are also being undertaken.

A total 384 of Deep Tube Wells (DTW), 726 washrooms and 3,921 latrines in camps by IOM and IOM funded partners have been constructed in Kutupalong Balukhali Expansion (KBE) site and Shamlapur since 25th August 2017. Currently, the construction of 136 DTWs and 188 washrooms is ongoing to making sure the need is fulfilled. WaSH’s field team has been working in the field to make sure the facilities provided the services needed to the refugees.

IOM is continuing the process of engaging more agencies to sign up for the WaSH Sector Common Pipeline distribution. In this regard, one new agency is in the process of signing the agreement. While encouraging existing agencies to plan and distribute top up hygiene kits and Aquatabs to beneficiaries, IOM is also working on the amendment of an agreement that has expired. So far, 15 agencies have signed the pipeline agreement. A total of 126,248 hygiene top-up kits have been distributed by 10 agencies and 21,720,422 Aquatabs by six agencies including IOM WaSH team.
IOM is coordinating the Shelter/NFI Sector

43,841 households have received Upgrade Shelter Kits (USKs) since February 2018

38,841 households have received Tie Down Kits (TDKs) since May 2018

42,158 households reached through shelter upgrade and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) orientation since February 2018

4,582 extremely vulnerable households supported with material transportation and shelter construction since February 2018, engaging 45,531 cash-for-work laborers

50 community shelters upgraded

IOM is currently selecting a service provider for the construction of a trial bamboo treatment pool. IOM will use the treated Borak bamboo for communal shelter upgrades, individual shelters and other critical site improvement works, aiming to improve the durability of construction. IOM plans to organise a Training of Trainers (ToT) on bamboo durability and shelter maintenance at the beginning of October for internal and sector partner staff.

IOM continues to conduct Non-Food Items (NFI) gap analysis and distribution in Camps 8E, 8W, 9, 18, 19, 20, 22, 24 and 25. To date, 20,187 solar lanterns, 55,962 blankets, 56,814 floor mats and 52,980 kitchen sets have been distributed.

In Unchiprang, IOM is continuing construction of 163 robust emergency shelters through the Cash-for-Work programme, hiring over 250 workers per day from Bangladeshi host communities. As of today, 67 families have been moved into shelters from landslide high risk locations. Another 40 robust emergency shelters to be constructed in Camp 20 Extension, subject to site preparation.

To date, IOM completed upgrade and reinforcement works for 50 community facilities, creating temporary shelter space for over 3,500 individuals, in eight camps. Upgradation of seven community shelters in Camp 9 and 20 is ongoing.

Finally, since the beginning of the monsoon season, IOM verified shelter damages of 2,200 households affected by the monsoon rains followed by immediate distribution of emergency shelter items.

INTER-SECTOR COORDINATION GROUP (ISCG)

IOM is hosting the sector based coordination structure for the Rohingya

The overall humanitarian response for the Rohingya refugee crisis is facilitated by a sector-based coordination mechanism, the Inter-Sectoral Coordination Group (ISCG), established for refugee response in Cox’s Bazar. The ISCG is guided by Strategic Executive Group (SEG) that is designed to be an inclusive decision-making forum consisting of heads of international humanitarian organizations to ensure effective humanitarian response to the Rohingya refugee crisis.

ISCG facilitates timely, coordinated, needs-based, and evidence-driven humanitarian assistance for efficient use of resources and to avoid duplication, while producing regular Situation Reports and 4W maps and data.
‘FLYING NEWS’: HUMANITARIAN MEDIA COUNTER ROHINGYA REFUGEE RUMOURS

Thomson Reuters Foundation (26 September 2018)

PHNOM PENH – As aid workers rushed to vaccinate Rohingya refugees against measles earlier this year, rumours swirled through the overcrowded camps in Bangladesh - the injections would make women sterile and convert children into Christians.

"Life in the camps is hard and full of hazards," Fiona MacGregor, a spokeswoman for the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Cox’s Bazar, said by email. "In such circumstances, it is very easy for rumours and misinformation to spread - and it is vitally important people get timely, accurate information about everything from health issues to weather dangers."

Radio is a key tool for giving out that information, said MacGregor, especially as there is no formal written version of the Rohingya language.

But there are challenges, she added, as very few Rohingya used radios in their homeland across the border in Myanmar’s Rakhine state.

The IOM is distributing 60,000 radios that can be powered with a hand crank, and is setting up “listening groups” in partnership with organisations including BBC Media Action

Click here to read the full story.

AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE AHEAD FOR ROHINGYA IN BANGLADESH

IPS (26 September 2018)

UNITED NATIONS— Over one year ago, Bangladesh opened its doors in response to what is now the world’s fastest growing refugee crisis. But questions still remain on how to rehabilitate the steadily growing population.

Many international and national organizations are working to support the Rohingya refugees. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) in particular and its head William Lacy Swing have worked relentlessly to not only provide support to the refugees but also to find a lasting solution to the crisis. Swing has worked closely with the prime minister and her government and engaged with the many parties involved to bring about an end to the tragedy.

In recognition of his untiring efforts, Inter Press Service (IPS) is honouring Swing with the Person of the Year Award at an event to be held at the U.N. headquarters on Sept. 27. The prime minister will receive the IPS U.N. North America’s Humanitarian Award for her decision to give shelter to the over one million Rohingya refugees who were driven out of their homes, tortured, burnt, raped and left stateless and hopeless.

Click here to read the full story.

DONORS TO IOM’S RESPONSE PLAN

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