

IOM Bangladesh: Rohingya Refugee Crisis Response External Update

23 February – 1 March 2018



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

884,000

Rohingya Population in Cox's Bazar District

671,000

New Rohingya Arrivals since 25 August 2017 in Cox's Bazar

1.2 Million

People in Need in Cox's Bazar



To date, IOM Site Development activities included the construction of 220 bamboo bridges. ©IOM 2018/Nicola Andrade

Key Highlights

- ◆ **671,000 cumulative arrivals** were reported in the **IOM Needs and Population Monitoring (NPM) Round 8 site assessment**. The decrease of 17,000 cumulative arrivals compared to the last round is not a result of the population return, but rather the use of a more detailed and accurate methodology to estimate total population figures.
- ◆ This week, Protection mainstreaming and Gender-Based Violence (GBV) staff, in coordination with Mental Health and Psychosocial Services (MHPSS) team, facilitated a protection mainstreaming training for 18 site management field staff and volunteers who work in the IOM information hubs. This one-day training included **an overview of the identification of extremely vulnerable individuals, the associated risks, and how to make safe referrals — including how to handle GBV-related disclosures and cases in the field.**
- ◆ To expand health services, IOM will start shortly the **construction of multiple facilities** including Madhurchara AA, Burmapara and Balukhali Makeshift MM. The construction of **four temporary structures has begun in the south east of Ukhia** to house the Research Training and Management (RTM) International health teams.



Situation Overview

Since 25 August 2017, an estimated **671,000** Rohingya have crossed into Bangladesh fleeing violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State, increasing the total Rohingya population in Cox's Bazar to over **884,000**. New arrivals are living in spontaneous settlements with an increasing need of humanitarian assistance—including shelter, food, clean water, and sanitation.

Additionally, with the rainy season fast approaching, there is an urgent need to continue **strengthening preparedness**

measures and raising awareness among the refugee population regarding potential landslide and flood risks.

In order to respond to these risks collectively and comprehensively, **IOM continues to work closely with the Government of Bangladesh and the humanitarian community.** IOM and its partners continue to scale up operations to respond to the needs of new arrivals, existing Rohingya, and affected host communities.

IOM Response

Protection

In Cox's Bazar, IOM is responding to Gender Based Violence (GBV), Child Protection (CP), Counter Trafficking (CT), and general Protection issues.

This week, Protection mainstreaming and GBV staff, in coordination with MHPSS, facilitated a protection mainstreaming training for 18 site management field staff and volunteers who work in the IOM information hubs. This one-day training included **an overview of the identification of extremely vulnerable individuals, the associated risks, and how to make safe referrals — including how to handle GBV-related disclosures and cases in the field.** The training — well received by the participants — is part of a series of trainings conducted to ensure mainstreaming amongst IOM field staff in regards protection and safe referrals.

To date, a total of **15,257** Extremely Vulnerable Individuals (EVIs) have been identified, **4,332 individuals have been provided with Psychological First Aid**, 1,868 individuals were facilitated with Health Referrals, and **37 Victims of Trafficking have been identified and assisted.**

In addition, IOM organised this week CT awareness raising sessions for **17 Community leaders** in the makeshift settlements.



A girl refugee in Kutupalong Balukhali Expansion Site. ©IOM 2018



Site Management & Site Development

IOM is coordinating the Site Management and Site Development Sector

In anticipation of the monsoon season, IOM will **relocate households identified to be in high-risk areas**. This week, IOM assisted **98 families to move from the Transit Center-Rubber Garden to Zone WW** and ensured that they received **basic support services such as shelter, medical care, meals and registration for food distribution upon arrival**.

During the reporting period, IOM successfully completed the formation of **10 Para Development Committees (PDCs)** in the four zones of Leda Camp as well as the reformation of **10 PDCs in Shamlapur**. PDCs are community platforms in which both the refugees and host communities have a chance to



Stairs demarcation part of cash for work activities. ©IOM 2018

participate more meaningfully in defining solutions to identified needs and gaps. The PDC are also engaged in **mobilizing manpower from host communities and refugees to participate in Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) as cash for work labourers**. During the reporting period, a total of 210 cash for work labourers — of which 16 women and 194 men — were mobilized in Unchiprang. The labourers completed **five staircases, two bamboo bridges and five drainage improvements** under the supervision of IOM technical staff.

IOM had a meeting with the Whykong Chairman to present **risk mapping results and preparedness plans for the rainy**

season. IOM presented preparations for the Rohingya community — specifically with regards to the relocation strategy, evacuation plan, mitigation activities and the formation of six safety and security committee. Additionally, a **flood and vulnerability mapping** was completed in Leda, Unchiprang, and Shamlapur.



Plot preparation in Kutupalong Balukhali Expansion Site. ©IOM 2018

Regarding Site Development activities, IOM continues working on the **development of road networks** in the makeshift settlements. This week, the activities included, per example, the demarcation of TV tower road as well as the level survey and tender document preparation for NN Road. IOM is also planning the construction of temporary health posts in zones WW, ZZ & ZA, including leveling and slope stabilization.



Level survey for road NN. ©IOM 2018



Health

IOM works with the Health Sector and the Ministry of Health to strengthen primary healthcare services

A total of 11 IOM medical clinics and nine IOM-supported Government healthcare facilities continue reporting through the Early Warning, Alert, and Response System (EWARS) online platform. EWARS is designed to **improve disease outbreak detection in emergency settings**.

This week, **9,782 consultations occurred**, bringing the total number of consultations from **25 August 2017 to 17**



Medical consultation with IOM medical staff. ©IOM 2017/Olivia Headon

February 2018 to 241,254 (141,189 in Ukhia and 100,065 in Teknaf). In regards to **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services, 4,487 people have received support** since the current influx began.

In preparation for the rainy season, IOM is planning to conduct **first aid trainings for all Majhis** and distribute **first aid kits**.

To expand health services, IOM will be shortly starting the **construction of multiple facilities** in Madhurchara AA, Burmapara and Balukhali Makeshift MM. The construction of **four temporary structures has begun in the south east of Ukhia** to house the Research Training and Management (RTM) International health teams. IOM will work in partnership with RTM International to conduct **assessments, strengthen the referral system as well as the community participation and community support systems**. In addition, RTM International will **operate health posts 24/7**.



Resilience and Environment Management

The recently established Resilience and Environment Management (REM) Unit oversees longer-term programming to complement the humanitarian response.

The REM Unit is currently working on a livelihoods project jointly with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) that aims to **improve food and nutrition security for host community and refugee populations** in Cox's Bazar. To date, **500 farmers received agricultural training**. These 500 farmers are also part of the **newly formed Farmer Field School (FFS)**, a group-based learning system that brings together concepts and methods of agroecology, experimental cropping, and community development. Members of the FFS are divided into groups consisting of 5 to 10 farmers who meet weekly under the guidance of one of the 32 trained facilitators.

This week, the FFS groups received 72 mini-tillers, 72 high-efficiency irrigation pumps, and government-provided inputs (e.g. seeds, fertilizers).



Consultation to select kit recipients. ©FAO/Rajan Das

In coordination with the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commission (RRRC) office, 25,000 refugee households were selected to receive **micro-gardening kits**. Another 25,000 kit recipients have been identified in the host communities through Community Agriculture Rehabilitation and Implementation Committees, using vulnerability as a criteria for final selection.



Shelter/Non Food Items (NFIs)

IOM is coordinating the Shelter/NFI Sector

As part of its shelter upgrade activities to reduce disaster risks and to improve overall living conditions in the camps and makeshift settlements, IOM distributed this week **1,200 bamboo bundles** in Zones JJ, LL, SS and XX (Camps 8W, 9 and 18). Since the beginning of February 2018, USKs – which include materials and tools to **carry out simple shelter upgrades and household level site improvements** such as soil stabilization, slope protection, and drainage improvements – have reached **11,195 families**.

Along with the distribution of USKs, **Shelter Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) orientation sessions have been provided to 3,100 families**.

Shelter Mobile Teams (SMTs) have also been established to provide **technical support to families receiving USKs**. Moving forward, IOM Shelter Mobile Teams plan to provide Shelter and DRR orientation sessions for **400 families per day**.



IOM shelter kit distribution. ©IOM 2017/Olivia Headon

Water, Hygiene, and Sanitation

The **drilling of pilot boreholes** at Leda under the supervision of Groundwater Relief is ongoing. The casing was installed for the first borehole pilot and the development of the well is ongoing while waiting for pumping test. The second borehole



Borehole drilling to test soil sample. ©IOM 2017/Muse Mohammed

drilling has reached a depth of 150 meters and casing is to be installed. This week, the drilling for the third borehole has started, reaching 40m to date.

110 Deep Tube Wells (DTWs) have been completed to date since the influx began, serving an estimated **110,000 users**. The construction and installation of 141 DTWs is ongoing in Zones MM, NN, SS, XX, WW, JJ, TT, ZZ, and in host villages Chapotkhali, Dhakkin Pannasia, and Tolatoli.

1,949 emergency latrines and mobile toilets have been constructed to date, serving approximately **97,450 individuals** in Zones BB, SS, XX, WW, MM, RR, LL, QQ, AA, EE, Unchiprang, Shamlapur, and Hindu Para. The construction of 549 household and 27 community latrines is ongoing.

116 wash rooms have been constructed to date and are ready to use, with 28 more currently under construction.

To enhance good hygiene practices, **28,881 Hygiene Kits, 13,665 Jerry cans and 220,021 bars of soap** have been distributed since August.



Inter-Sector Coordination Group

IOM is hosting the sector based coordination structure for the Rohingya Crisis Response

The Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG), hosted by IOM, is coordinating the overall Rohingya Refugee Crisis. ISCG facilitates timely, coordinated, needs-based, and evidence-driven humanitarian assistance for efficient use of resources and to avoid duplication, and produces regular Situation [Reports](#) and [4W maps and data](#). ISCG is working closely with the Sector lead agencies to finalize the Joint Response Plan 2018, expected to be released mid-March 2018.

Needs and Population Monitoring (NPM) Round 8

Products released in February are available [here](#).

They include:

- ◆ NPM Site Assessment (SA) Master List
- ◆ NPM SA Needs Assessment Dataset
- ◆ NPM SA Site Profiles
- ◆ NPM SA Population Density Map

IOM in the news

Six Months on, IOM Praises Joint Efforts, but Warns of New Challenges for Rohingya Response

IOM (23 February 2018)

Cox's Bazar – In one of the world's biggest forced migrations in recent years, around half a million people crossed the border in just two months after 25 August. Early images of tens of thousands of frightened and exhausted families filing through muddy paddy fields or crammed into rickety boats during their flight shocked the world.

Click [here](#) for the full article.

Rohingya Refugee Camps Brace for Upcoming Monsoon

IOM (27 February 2018)

Cox's Bazar – The UN Migration Agency is providing search and rescue training; setting up emergency medical centres; establishing bases for work crews and light machinery; and upgrading shelters to mitigate disasters when the monsoon and cyclone season hits the world's biggest refugee settlement in the coming weeks.

Click [here](#) for the full article.

IOM Contacts

IOM HQ GENEVA

Preparedness and Response Division

prd@iom.int

Donor Relations Division

drd@iom.int

Follow us on:



www.iom.int

IOM BANGLADESH

Manuel Marques Pereira

mpereira@iom.int

Abdusattor Esoev

aesoev@iom.int

Peppi Siddiq

psiddiq@iom.int

Programme Support Unit CXB

cxbpsu@iom.int

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