



Community meeting at Birem Bayeun Shelter, Langsa, Indonesia © IOM 2016

## Highlights 1-30 April 2016

■ **Bangladesh:** IOM provided return assistance to **39** Bangladeshis returning in five batches in April. Facilitated by IOM, 38 of them returned from Thailand and one from Indonesia. There were no minors among these returnees. To date, IOM has provided return assistance to **2,646** Bangladeshis.

■ **Indonesia:** As of 30 April, there are a total of **285** migrants (four Bangladeshis and 281 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State) throughout five shelters in Aceh and North Sumatera. The remaining Bangladeshis stay in Medan shelter. Since May 2015, IOM Indonesia has assisted 764 Bangladeshi migrants to return to their country under IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) Programme.

■ **Thailand:** IOM continues to provide humanitarian assistance to **372** Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and **19** Bangladeshi migrants in seven Immigration Detention Centres and ten Shelters in Thailand. Female migrants and children represent 58% of the whole population. In April, 38 Bangladeshi migrants returned home safely under IOM's AVR Programme.

## 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 2015. Embarkation recommenced on 20 September and at least **1,500** persons departed from Myanmar and Bangladesh from September to December 2015.

**1,132** stranded Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and Bangladeshis remain in shelters and Immigration Detention Centres in Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia. IOM continues to provide shelter support, non-food items, health screenings, WASH support and psychosocial support.

**2,646** Bangladeshis who disembarked after 10 May in Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand returned to Bangladesh under IOM's AVR Programme and Government agreements.

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### ACRONYMS

AVR: Assisted Voluntary Return  
IDC: Immigration Detention Centre  
NFI: Non-Food Items

WASH: Water, Sanitation & Hygiene  
ICS: Integrated Community Shelter

## IOM RESPONSE

### Bangladesh



*\*Rahim\**

*“I returned from Thailand on 12 April 2016. I wanted to earn money for my family and to improve the status of their life, by going abroad. While I was detained in Thailand, my wife gave birth to a daughter I thought I would never get to meet. I finally returned home with the assistance of IOM, who also provided me with a reintegration stipend to begin my new life”.*

#### Migrants assisted

39 Men 



#### Migration Management & Coordination

The NGO ‘Thengamara Mohila Sabuj Sangha (TMSS)’ provides skills development training and job placement support for those returnees who are willing to receive the training. Skills development training includes computer operation and service, construction work, rod binding for construction, mobile servicing, automobile, plumbing and pipe fitting, fashion and garments, etc. IOM cooperated with the TMSS and the returnees so that they can avail themselves of this opportunity and develop their skills, which will help them to migrate safely in the future.



#### Psychosocial Support

In April, IOM organized eight counselling sessions for 169 returnees in Cox’s Bazar and Bogra districts. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) provided free phone call service for all returnees in coordination with the Government and IOM.

### Indonesia



*\*Kamal\**

*“During my journey, I was about to die, I thought, that was the end of my life. But, after reaching in Indonesia, now I see hope in my life. The IOM has changed my life by giving the support for a living; they changed my vision through English language courses, motivational sessions and different activities; now I have dreams in my life”.*

#### Migrants assisted

113 Men	
40 Women	
89 Boys	
43 Girls	



#### Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

IOM continued to support the facilities in all shelters by providing regular maintenance activities including cleaning and electrical maintenance. In Birem Bayeun, IOM built additional seven family room units for newly married couples and provided two TVs with satellite at the women’s shelter and in a common area for all migrants. In Timbang Langsa, IOM provided 21 sets of cleaning tools including brooms, rubber mops, dustpans, toilet brushes, clothes hangers, buckets and water dippers for each room. In the Integrated Community Shelter (ICS) Lhokseumawe, IOM installed two miniature circuit breakers for site offices and installed two poles and spotlights for the playground area.

In April, 283 packages of hygiene kits containing soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, detergent powder, shampoo, mosquito repellent, razors for men and sanitary napkins for women were distributed to all the migrants in Aceh and Medan. Furthermore, IOM provided clothing packages for one

Bangladeshi for his return home and two starter kits for two newborn babies in ICS Lhokseumawe shelter.



### Health & Nutrition

IOM continued to provide primary health care services three days per week at each shelter, in collaboration with the Government. In April, IOM conducted 510 consultation visits; 28 cases referred to specialists, two cases were referred for treatment, and one case required hospitalization.



Health promotion and education activities, ICS, Lhokseumawe © IOM 2016

IOM also worked closely with the Government in monitoring health care post (POSYANDU) on sites to provide comprehensive health check-ups for particularly vulnerable migrants such as pregnant women, breastfeeding mothers and children under five years old. All these migrants in need of particular support received additional food nutrition and multivitamins. In this reporting period, 1,377 additional nutritious food packages and multivitamins were distributed to all migrants.



### Psychosocial Support

IOM continued to undertake activities in shelters to support migrants' well-being and to build capacity through educational activities such as basic English class, literacy class, home schooling and children's structured activity classes; recreational activities such as games for children and adults, movie screenings and weekly aerobic classes; vocational activities such as gardening, hair dressing, sewing and make up classes; and awareness-raising activities such as information dissemination sessions, community meetings and events. Furthermore, group counselling sessions, individual counselling sessions and community meetings were regularly held to share concerns and information.

Along with the uncertainty of their future, migrants in the

shelters have faced certain issues including divorce, infighting, a rise in early marriages and alleged drug use. Thus, IOM has engaged in information sharing sessions for migrants on Indonesian laws and customs as well as good practices in cooperation with the local authorities. Regular focal point meetings and Focus Group Discussions (FGD) were also conducted to share information and facilitate communication between migrants and stakeholders. This month, particular attention was paid to address the issues of protection, marriages amongst migrants in the shelters, and prevention of domestic violence. All these activities have been complemented by IOM's regular psychosocial activities in the shelters.

## Thailand

*I was caught in Thailand one year ago when I was trying to reach my husband in Malaysia, who departed six years ago. After contacting a smuggler whose details I received from my husband, I spent 23 days on a boat together with 106 people before we were caught by the Thai authorities. I am grateful to IOM for the medical support and hygiene items they provide and to ICRC who are facilitating phone calls (though limited duration of two minutes). My dream is to meet with my husband in Malaysia and live peacefully. I was unaware of the dangers of taking the boat but I had to obey to my husband.*

- Habiba

Note: no photos were allowed to be taken in the IDC nor shelter. The interviews were gathered during monitoring mission conducted by IOM staff.

Migrants assisted	
163 Men	
69 Women	
102 Boys	
57 Girls	



### Health & Nutrition

In April, an IOM physician conducted health screenings for 213 beneficiaries and an IOM nurse conducted monthly health check-ups for 211 beneficiaries in Ranong, Phang-Nga and Suratthani; seven cases required further follow-up and treatment and one case with lung crepitation was referred to a local hospital. The IOM doctor also conducted preliminary dental health screenings which found

that 6% of beneficiaries had dental caries and 38% of them had cavities. The doctor conducted a counselling session on oral hygiene and provided analgesics to those with cavities and toothaches.



Oral health screening in April, Thailand © IOM 2016

This month, fungal skin infections, skin rash and lice were reported amongst children. These infections were treated with antifungal cream and calamine lotion. The doctor conducted a counselling session on personal hygiene such as regular hair washing and wearing clean and dry hijab under sunlight. Lice treatment was provided to all children including family members. In addition, since April is the hottest season of the year in Thailand, the IOM team conducted an awareness raising session on preventing heat-related illness, heat rash, fatigue and dehydration. IOM provided talcum powder and calamine lotion during the hot season.

In Suratthani, one additional box of milk was supplied to each one of the 33 children and three women with malnutrition everyday. Monthly food and supplementary nutrition were provided in all main locations including Ranong, Phang-Nga, Songkhla and Suratthani to 332 beneficiaries.

### Psychosocial Support

During the water festival in Thailand, Ranong Welfare Protection Centre for Victims of Trafficking held a ‘Songkran’ activity for 67 individuals including 17 Myanmar Muslim men, women and children from Rakhine state. Ten Myanmar Muslim men at the centre attended English classes conducted by IOM staff three times a week. Four beneficiaries at Children and Families Shelter in Ranong participated in a three-day therapy recreational training to learn how to weave a plastic basket. In Ranong IDC, IOM provided books and other materials for games as well as colour pencils for a boy and a girl.

In Suratthani, IOM, in collaboration with Save the Children, conducted learning activities such as kitchen safety and food

tasting for 20 children at the Welfare Protection Centre for Victims of Trafficking. Edutainment activities were also organized for 20 children to learn how to count numbers, English vocabulary and songs.



Family visit at Ranong shelter, Thailand © IOM 2016

On 27 April, IOM, in coordination with the Phang-Nga shelter and IDC, organized and facilitated a family visit for beneficiaries. IOM provided transportation fee, food and interpretation support for 12 women and children in Phang-Nga shelter to visit their family members and relatives in Ranong shelter.



### Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

In April, 401 sets of hygiene kits were provided to beneficiaries in all locations. The packages included toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo, antiseptic soap, detergent, mosquito lotion and cool talcum powder.



A boy and a girl learning basic math, Ranong, Thailand © IOM 2016

### 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 Apr 30 -	Bangladeshi returnees - as of Apr 30 -
Bangladesh	-	134	-	-
Indonesia	671	1,820	285	764
Malaysia	-	1,107	456	657
Myanmar	-	1,048	-	777
Thailand	738	153	391	448
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,409</b>	<b>4,262</b>	<b>1,132</b>	<b>2,646</b>

### Summary of IOM Activities within the Regional Appeal

Activities	Country				
	Bangladesh	Indonesia	Malaysia	Myanmar	Thailand
Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Health & Nutrition Support	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Psychosocial Support	✓	✓	✓		✓
Return Assistance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Migration Management Support & Coordination	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



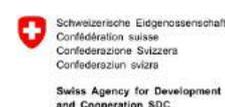
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Situational Overview - 30 April 2016



### MIXED MIGRATION MOVEMENT IN THE BAY OF BENGAL AND ANDAMAN SEA



IOM provides humanitarian assistance related to **Temporary Shelter, Health & Nutrition, Non-Food Items (NFIs), and Psychosocial Support.**

Data Source: IOM-UNHCR  
 \*individual disembarkations - Source: Arakan Project

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