



IOM medical team conducting a health assessment, Thailand © IOM 2016

Highlights 1-31 July 2016

■ **Bangladesh:** A total of 16 Bangladeshi returnees contacted a local NGO 'Thengamara Mohila Sabuj Sangha (TMSS)' for skills development training. IOM cooperated with the TMSS and the returnees so that they can avail themselves of this opportunity and develop their skills. In July, there were no Bangladeshi returnees. To date, IOM has provided return assistance to **2,679** Bangladeshis.

■ **Indonesia:** As of 31 July, there are a total of **257** migrants (253 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and four Bangladeshis) throughout five shelters in Aceh and North Sumatra. IOM continued to support multi-sectoral activities for migrants and governmental partners. During the month of Ramadan, IOM distributed clothing packages for all migrants observing Eid celebrations.

■ **Thailand:** IOM provided humanitarian assistance to **343** migrants (327 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and 16 Bangladeshi migrants) in seven Immigration Detention Centres, five Shelters for Children and Families, and five Welfare Protection Centres for Victims of Trafficking in Thailand. Of the 343 migrants, 68 are female adults, 131 are male adults, and 144 are children.

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.

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

2,679 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



Alim

“I come from Bangladesh where I lived with my parents and two brothers. My family lived in poverty and I decided to go abroad by sea. My family were not in favour of this irregular journey and told me that it was not possible to go abroad without a passport and visa. After a while, my family lost hope that they would ever see me again.

Subsequent to my arrest in Thailand, I spent eight months and returned home to Bangladesh in June 2015. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to IOM for their assistance to the boat crisis victims and to the psychosocial counselling they provided. IOM’s counselling enabled me to start again and move forward with my life, and I do not wish the pain I endured to be the fate of others. I later completed my college final examinations and I now work in a mobile shop and am the only earning member of my family. I hope to be able to bring my family a better life without poverty”.



Migration Management & Coordination

The NGO ‘Thengamara Mohila Sabuj Sangha (TMSS)’ provides skills development training for returnees who are willing to receive the training. A total of 16 returnees contacted TMSS and expressed interest in the training; two returnees are participating in an engineering programme for three months and one returnee is learning computer skills for one month. Three Bangladeshis who recently returned also contacted TMSS and expressed their interest in computer skills and graphic design training. Discussion between the returnees and TMSS is in progress.

Indonesia



Jamil

“I left Bangladesh in March and arrived in Indonesia in May 2015. The English classes provided by IOM are very useful and important for us in the shelter in Timbang Langsa, especially since I never had an education in my country. I learned a significant amount of English vocabulary and also gained conversational skills. I now feel confident enough to speak English”.

Migrants assisted with shelter/NFIs, health/nutrition and psychosocial support in July 2016

112 Men	
37 Women	
79 Boys	
29 Girls	



Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

IOM continued to provide refurbishment and maintenance work for the shelters. IOM replaced a damaged plywood wall and ceiling in Lhokbani shelter and installed new wooden windows and frames for a family room in Bayeun shelter. In the Integrated Community Shelter (ICS) Lhokseumawe, IOM repaired electrical cables, fences, and the doors of the rooms housing the migrants.

In July, 60 sets of clothes hooks, 40 sets of clothes lines, 16 sets of cleaning tools, and 60 sets of soup bowls were distributed in Langsa and Aceh Timur. In Birem Bayeun shelter, IOM provided two water tanks with a capacity of 2,000 litres, in order to ensure sufficient water supply. IOM further distributed nine wall fans to the Task Force Team to support the camp management office in Langsa and Aceh Timur shelter.

In the reporting period, 262 hygiene kits containing soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, detergent powder, shampoo, mosquito repellent, men’s razors, and sanitary napkins for women were distributed to all migrants in Aceh and Medan.



Health & Nutrition

IOM continued to provide primary health care services three days per week at each shelter, in collaboration with the Government. In July, IOM conducted 328 consultation visits, through which 26 beneficiaries were referred to specialists and one beneficiary required hospitalization.

IOM continued to work closely with the Government's on-site health monitoring posts in order to provide comprehensive health check-ups for particularly vulnerable migrants. In July, 49 migrants including pregnant women, lactating mothers, and children under five years old received health check-ups. All migrants in particular need of additional nutritional support received such support, which also included multivitamins.

In July, the IOM medical team conducted 16 health promotion and education activities for migrants in Aceh and Medan. IOM also distributed 1,286 additional nutritional food packages and multivitamins to all migrants.



Psychosocial Support

In July, there were 127 vulnerable migrants throughout the shelters, including 11 migrants with medical concerns. In July, four migrants escaped from their shelters.

IOM continued to provide psychosocial support through educational, recreational, and vocational activities on a weekly basis. In July, IOM started basic guitar classes for migrants in the ICS Lhokseumawe. To enable gardening activities, IOM distributed ten packages of seeds, seven farming hats, and two sets of water cans to migrants in Tambang Langsa shelter. Individual and group counselling for the migrants was also organized on site by the IOM psychosocial team.



Migration Management & Coordination

Coordination meetings hosted by the local government take place every month with all relevant stakeholders, including government counterparts, NGOs/ International Organizations and the Task Force Team, to discuss all aspects of assistance and security issues in the shelters. In addition, monthly community meetings with migrants are also convened in all shelters, with camp managers, IOM, and UNHCR, in order to discuss and address migrants’ concerns.

Thailand



“My dream was to earn money in order to continue my children’s education and enable them to pursue higher education, which is impossible for me to achieve as a simple farmer in a village, since I do not own any land. My neighbor and I started traveling together from our village and we followed the broker’s instructions. We arrived in Thailand nine days later, where the broker made a phone call to my wife to pay money to the agent in Bangladesh.

When I was caught by the Thai police about 22 months ago, I was in a very weak and sick condition. IOM’s coordination with other agencies to facilitate family phone calls helped to reduce high levels of stress I had been experiencing, especially now that I am getting old and have hypertension disease. IOM also provided me with regular medication, essential vitamins for my recovery, and hygiene materials in order to keep me healthy and also assisted me greatly with my desire to go back home”.

Note: The individuals featured herein have provided their informed consent for the use of their images.

Migrants assisted with shelter/NFIs, health/nutrition and psychosocial support in July 2016

131 Men	
68 Women	
91 Boys	
53 Girls	



Health & Nutrition

In Phang-Nga, an IOM nurse conducted weekly health check-ups and follow-up treatments for 33

detainees in the IDC, as well as biweekly health check-ups for 32 beneficiaries in the shelter; common problems identified amongst detainees included fevers, sore throats, and muscle pain. In Ranong, IOM conducted 106 health check-ups and follow-up treatments for beneficiaries in the IDC and Welfare Protection Centre. In addition, IOM provided haircut services for 27 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State, conducted health education on hygiene, diabetes, and basic nutrients, and organized a cleaning day for female detainees in the IDC. IOM also conducted 78 medical check-ups and follow-up treatments for the cases of scabies, fever, headache, diarrhea in the IDC and Welfare Protection Centre in Songkhla. In Suratthani Welfare Protection Centre, an IOM nurse conducted 32 health check-ups and follow-up treatments.

In July, an IOM medical team conducted periodic health assessment for 315 beneficiaries in the IDCs, shelters, and Welfare Protection Centres in NongKhaj, Prachuab Kiri Khan, Ranong, Phang-Nga, Songkhla, and Suratthani; no major medical problems were identified during the assessment.



Psychosocial Support

During the reporting period, group sharing, cooking activities, vocational training, and learning activities were carried out for four beneficiaries at Ranong Shelter for Children and Families. Books and toys were also brought for two children at the shelter, as well as books and related materials for two women. At Ranong IDC and Phang-Nga Shelter, family visits were organized for 18 beneficiaries while Eid-al-Fitr arrangements were made for 40 beneficiaries. At Phang-Nga shelter, individual counselling was also conducted for a case suffering from confusion, anxiety, and frustration with the resettlement process. At the shelter, IOM conducted education and guidance sessions, as well as individual counselling sessions. IOM also organized an excursion for 32 beneficiaries.



Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

In July, IOM distributed 377 sets of hygiene kits containing a toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, detergent, mosquito repellent, razors for man, underwear, cooling talcum, hair removal cream, and sanitary napkins for women in all locations.

In Phang-Nga, IOM provided learning materials for 32 children and women in the shelter. IOM also conducted cooking classes for six Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State in the Welfare Protection Centre and provided clothes including long sleeve shirts, sarong, hijab, and underwear for 51 beneficiaries in the

IDC, shelter, and Welfare Protection Centre in Ranong. For outdoor activities at Ranong IDC, IOM provided three futsal balls and one futsal net for 38 detainees. IOM also provided cleaning materials and clothes for 102 beneficiaries at Songkhla IDC and clothes for 76 beneficiaries at Suratthani Welfare Protection Centre.



Migration Management & Coordination

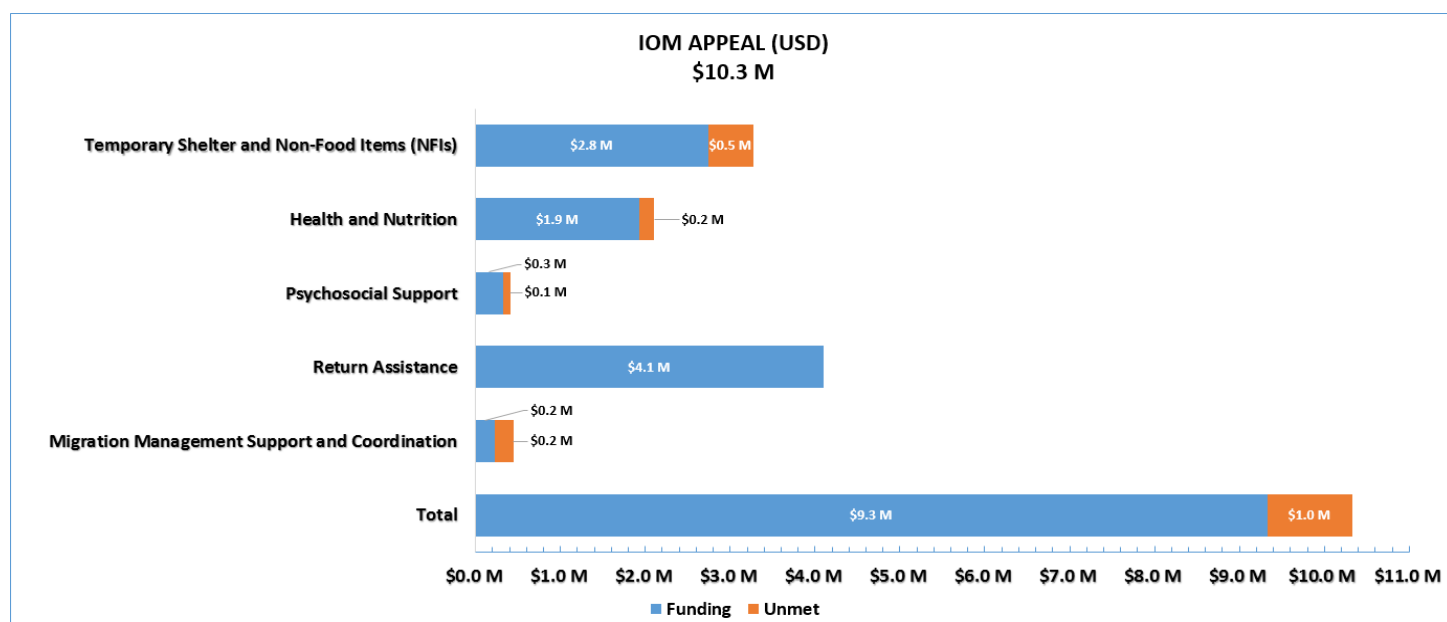
IOM attended a regular Inter-Agency Coordination Meeting in July to discuss the current situation of Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State in Thailand. The meeting was attended by ICRC, IOM, UNICEF, UNHCR, Sheikhul Islam, and matters discussed included humanitarian assistance provided by each organization and shared challenges and concerns in protection of Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State. Regular information exchange served to strengthen coordination within the overall intervention, thus preventing overlap, and ensured that any mutually-beneficial synergies were identified and capitalized upon.

Overview

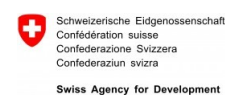
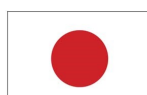
	Beneficiaries in shelters and IDCs since 10 May 2015	Beneficiaries currently in shelters and IDCs - as of 31 July 2016 -	Bangladeshi returnees - as of 31 July 2016 -
Bangladesh	134	-	-
Indonesia	1,820	257	764
Malaysia	1,107	N/A	657
Myanmar	1,048	-	777
Thailand	153	343	481
TOTAL	4,262	600	2,679

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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