



Polio immunization for children, Indonesia © IOM 2016

Highlights 1-31 March 2016

■ **Bangladesh:** During March, IOM provided return assistance, including food and onward transportation, to **40** Bangladeshis returning from Indonesia and Thailand. There were no minors among these returnees. To date, IOM has provided return assistance to **2,607** Bangladeshis.

■ **Indonesia:** As of 31 March, there are a total of **291** migrants (6 Bangladeshis and 285 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State) throughout five shelters in Aceh and North Sumatera. Out of 291, there are 38 women, 118 men, 45 girls, and 90 boys under 18 years old. Four Bangladeshis returned under IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) Programme in March.

■ **Thailand:** To date, 382 Myanmar Muslim men, women, and children from Rakhine State and 20 Bangladesh men remain in 7 Immigration Detention Centres and 10 shelters in Thailand. In March, **36** Bangladeshis returned under IOM's AVR Programme. To celebrate International Women's Day on 8 March, IOM organized special events for 127 women and children in Suratthani and Padang Besar IDCs with the Thai authorities and NGOs.

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.

1,149 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.

2,607 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

In March, 40 male Bangladeshis returned home in 4 batches. Facilitated by IOM, 4 of them returned from Indonesia and 36 from Thailand. All of them were provided with food and onward local travel assistance. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) provided free phone call service for all 40 returnees in coordination with IOM. To date IOM has provided return assistance to 2,607 Bangladeshi men including reinsertion grant for 2,023 Bangladeshis.



Psychosocial Support

As of March 2016, 1,758 returnees have been provided psychosocial counselling through 66 sessions all over the country. Through group therapy, a professional counselor has helped the returnees reduce their trauma, reintegrate into their family, community, and possible future local employment.



Psychosocial counselling sessions for returnees © IOM 2016



Migration Management & Coordination

In March, IOM, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), and Winrock International jointly organized a national conference on “National Plan of Action on Combating Human Trafficking 2015-2017: From Adoption to Implementation”. The aim of the conference was to assess the progress of the NPA implementation; enhance the coordinated approach taken by MoHA among the government and NGO actors for implementation of NPA; and identify the implementation gaps and ways to address them. Representatives from different ministries, civil society organizations and development partners attended the conference. The participants pointed out that coordination among all the ministries, departments and civil society organizations is critical for proper implementation of the NPA.

Indonesia

IOM commemorated World Tuberculosis Day by sharing information with the population in the shelters, through IOM

trained TB health promoters from within the migrants’ community. Health promoters from the Government Public Health Department also participated as facilitators. TB - related information was disseminated in the migrants’ language with the assistance of an interpreter.

During the reporting period there was a rise in domestic violence, which remains a reoccurring issue within the population. The number of domestic violence cases is increasing, particularly in Lhokseumawe.



Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

On 19 March, 42 male Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State were transferred from Kuala Langsa shelter to a new permanent shelter at Timbang Langsa. The movement was undertaken by the Government of Langsa, with IOM observing the process. Kuala Langsa shelter is now closed and will not be used for housing migrants in the future. The shelter is adjacent to the Langsa port and will be reverted to its former purpose prior to housing the migrants.

IOM continued to work with local governments in providing humanitarian assistance to migrants in all shelters in Aceh, while closely monitoring the new Timbang Langsa shelter, which was not entirely ready to receive them. IOM undertook an identification process, prior to and after the move, in order to take note of the shortcomings at the facility and advise all stakeholders of the deficiencies that remain to be addressed. These deficiencies include access to clean water, installation of functional drainage systems, and completion of useable toilet and bathing facilities. IOM immediately provided essentials such as 23 fans, 43 sets of mattresses, pillows and pillow cases, cleaning tools, eating utensils, and 21 gallons of drinking water for the migrants at Timbang Langsa.

During the reporting period, IOM worked to maintain the facilities in all locations including the new shelter Timbang Langsa. Regular maintenance activities undertaken by IOM include regular inspection of water tanks, water pumps, cleaning drainage, and siphoning septic tanks. Essential cleaning services that were carried out in the shelters included garbage disposal, cleaning, and maintenance of the site. In Birem Bayeun shelter, IOM repaired the wall of the medical room and replaced 18 bamboo electrical poles with steel ones to ensure fire safety.

Regular distribution of hygiene kits comprising of soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, detergent powder, shampoo, mosquito repellent, razors for men, and sanitary napkins for women was undertaken. In this period, 249 packages of hygiene kits were distributed to all the migrants in Aceh and Medan. Additionally, IOM distributed clothing packages to 4 Bangladeshis for their return home, earlier this month.



Health & Nutrition

In this reporting period, IOM, in collaboration with the Government, continued to provide primary health care services including 528 consultation visits; 28 cases were referred to specialists and 2 cases required hospitalization. Primary medical services were organized by the Government Public Health Centre for 3 days per week at Kuala Langsa Shelter, Dinsos Lhokbani Shelter, Integrated Community Shelter (ICS) and Hotel Beraspati. Medical services in Birem Bayeun Shelter operate on a daily basis and an ambulance is on standby for 24 hour emergency calls.

Deworming tablets were distributed to the migrants in addition to the distribution of multivitamins and Polio vaccines for children under 5 years of age. IOM undertakes routine check ups for pregnant women and health treatments are available on site. Additionally, monthly health promotion and education activities are undertaken in the shelters. Regular fumigation was conducted every 2 weeks in all shelters.



Community meeting at Kuala Langsa Shelter prior to transfer to a new shelter © IOM 2016

In this reporting period, 1,545 additional nutritious food packages and multivitamins were distributed to all migrants. Each package includes 1,600 grams of milk powder for infants, children, pregnant women and lactating mothers.



Psychosocial Support

IOM conducted psychosocial activities which included educational, recreational, and vocational activities in cooperation with local partners and NGOs.

Group counselling sessions as well as individual counselling sessions for the migrants were organized on site by the IOM psychosocial team. During this month, domestic violence cases have seen an increase. In order to address this matter, representatives from Kantor Pemberdayaan Perempuan dan Perlindungan Anak (KP3A), Medicines Sans Frontiers (MSF), Save the Children, IOM, and UNHCR organized a session on the prevention of violence, communication, and information management.

There were a total of 173 vulnerable cases throughout the shelters, including but not limited to; 13 pregnant women, 26 single parents, 16 with medical concerns and 63

unaccompanied minors. In this reporting period, seven persons left their shelters including one male with a medical condition from Hotel Beraspati, one single mother with three children and one single father with one child from ICS Lhokseumawe, presumably to other parts of Indonesia, or with the services of smugglers for onward journeys to Malaysia to reunite with their spouses who still reside in Malaysia.



Return Assistance

In March 2016, IOM Indonesia assisted a group of 4 Bangladeshi migrants to return to their country, bringing the total number assisted under the AVR programme to 763 migrants (711 male adults and 52 male unaccompanied minors). In May 2015, 839 Bangladeshi migrants arrived in Indonesia while trying to reach Malaysia and applied for AVR assistance to return to their country of origin. From this total, 763 have returned under IOMs' AVR programme, while 70 migrants have left without permission from the shelters, presumably to go to Malaysia for employment possibilities.



Migration Management & Coordination

Regular coordination meetings hosted by the local government continue to be carried out on a monthly basis with all relevant stakeholders, including government counterparts, NGOs, international organizations, and task force teams, to discuss assistance and security issues in the shelters.



Immunization for children at Birem Bayeun © IOM 2016

Working group discussions with different partners also took place to share information and coordinate with partners on activities in the shelters. Protection group coordination meetings focused on migrant vulnerability cases are conducted regularly to enhance protection support to the migrants in the shelters.

Thailand

To date, 382 Myanmar Muslim men, women, and children from Rakhine State and 20 Bangladeshi men remain in Thailand. Out of 402, there are 69 women (17%), 169 men (42%), 58 girls and 106 boys (41%) under 18 years old.



Health & Nutrition

In Phang-Nga, IOM provided basic medical check ups and treatment for 48 detainees in the IDC. Most of the problems identified involve muscle pain, headache, and abdominal discomfort. IOM conducted nutrition assessments for 63 detainees in Phang-Nga IDC and 33 women and children in Phang-Nga Shelter for Children and Families, using standard anthropometric measures, which concluded that their general nutritional status is normal. In Surrathani, 79 women and children received basic medical check ups and treatments as well as education on nutrition, conducted by an IOM nurse. In Ranong, an IOM nurse conducted regular health education session for 13 beneficiaries on dental hygiene, muscle relaxation, first aid, oral dehydration, and tobacco harm.



Celebration of International Women's Day, Suratthani © IOM 2016

In Songkhla, a total of 131 cases were examined by an IOM physician; three cases of tuberculosis were treated and will be closely monitored. Nutrition assessments were conducted for 39 detainees in Sadao IDC, 54 cases in Rattaphum Welfare Protection Center for Victims of Trafficking, and 37 cases in Padang Besar IDC. Among these 5 cases of moderate malnutrition were identified. These cases will be monitored by a local nurse on a monthly basis and provided with supplementary food. An IOM medical team also facilitated physical examination for 15 resettlement cases in Songkhla, Suratthani, and Phang-Nga provinces.

IOM provided daily milk and fruits to 194 beneficiaries in Phang-Nga and Suratthani while 38 beneficiaries in Chiangrai, Nonthaburi, Nongkhai, Mukdahan, Pathumthani, Prachuabkhirikhan, and Pattani received monthly protein support including UHT soy milk, fruit juices, biscuit, and sunflower seeds. IOM also provided daily supplemental food support to 390 beneficiaries in Songkhla, Phang-Nga, Ranong, and Suratthani.



Psychosocial Support

In observance of International Women's Day 2016, the IOM team successfully organized a special event for 122 women and children at Suratthani Welfare Protection Center for Victims of Trafficking and Padang Besar IDC, in coordination with the local government, Save the Children, and Diocesan Social Action Centre (DISAC). Beneficiaries included

107 Myanmar Muslim women and children from Rakhine State and special at-risk groups. Activities included games and providing information on the 'International Women's day'.

The IOM team in Ranong conducts English classes three times per week for 9 beneficiaries at Ranong Welfare Protection Center for Victims of Trafficking. In Suratthani, IOM also conducts basic English classes two times per week and outdoor exercises for 20 children aged 7 to 12 years old. Other psychosocial activities for the children include drawing, singing, storytelling, and games. Additionally, IOM supported an 8 year old boy who stayed with his father in Ranong IDC. This month, IOM provided him with English books, painting books, and educational materials.



Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

During the reporting period, 427 hygiene kits were distributed to Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and special at-risk groups in all IDCs and shelters in Ranong, Songkhla, Phang-Nga, Chiangrai, Nonthaburi, Pathumthani, Suratthani, Mukdahan, Nongkhai, Pattani, and Prachuabkhirikhan. Monthly hygiene kits included a toothbrush, toothpaste, antibacterial soap, shampoo, mosquito lotion, and a small towel. In Ranong, IOM provided water buckets and bowls, T-shirts, pants, and underwear for 50 beneficiaries in the IDC.

Due to a temporary water system issue that caused water supply shortages in the Phang-Nga IDC, IOM provided drinking water to 62 detainees and ensured access to a minimum of 2 litres of drinking water for detainees. Each detainee received 6 bottles of drinking water per day.



Delivery of drinking water bottles to Phang-Nga IDC © IOM 2016

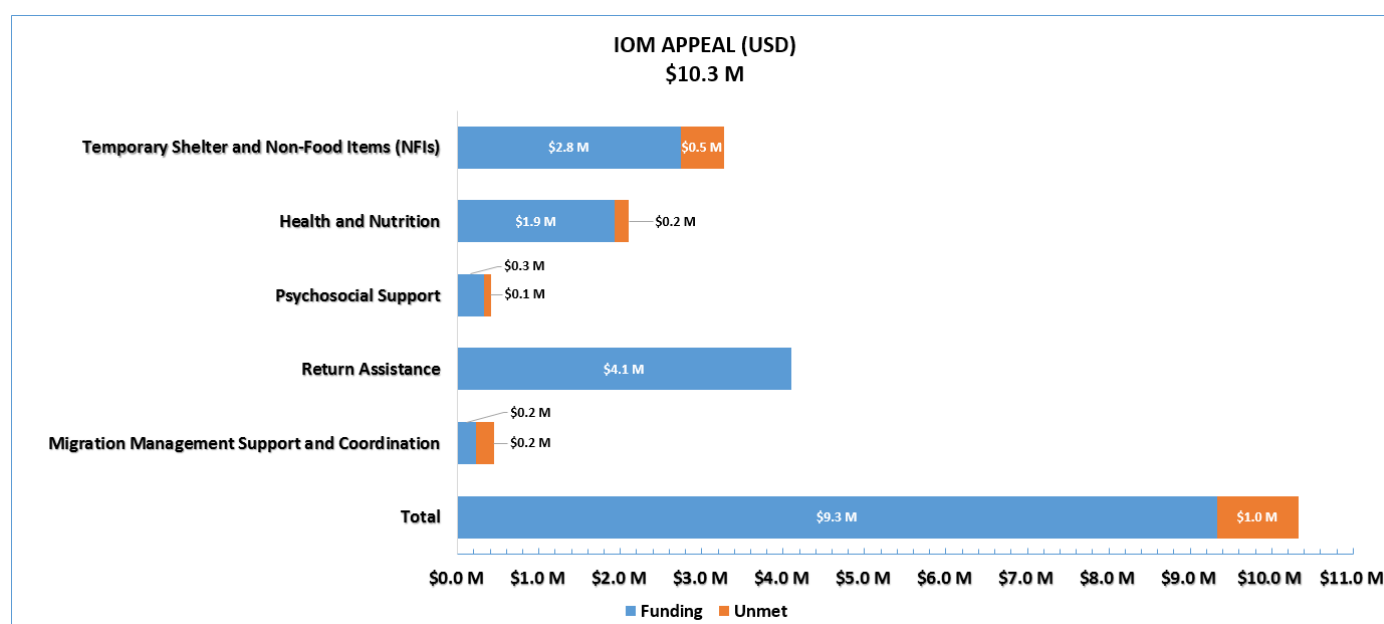
Finally, IOM facilitated and completed the construction of a washing area as well as the installation of water storage tanks in Phang-Nga Shelter for Children and Families, to the benefit of 33 women and children.

Overview

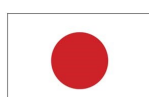
	Beneficiaries in IDC's & shelters prior May 10	Beneficiaries in shelters and IDCs since May 10	Beneficiaries currently in shelters and IDCs - as of Mar 31 -	Bangladeshi returnees - as of Mar 31 -
Bangladesh	-	134	-	-
Indonesia	671	1,820	291	763
Malaysia	-	1,107	456	657
Myanmar	-	1,048	-	777
Thailand	738	153	402	410
TOTAL	1,409	4,262	1,149	2,607

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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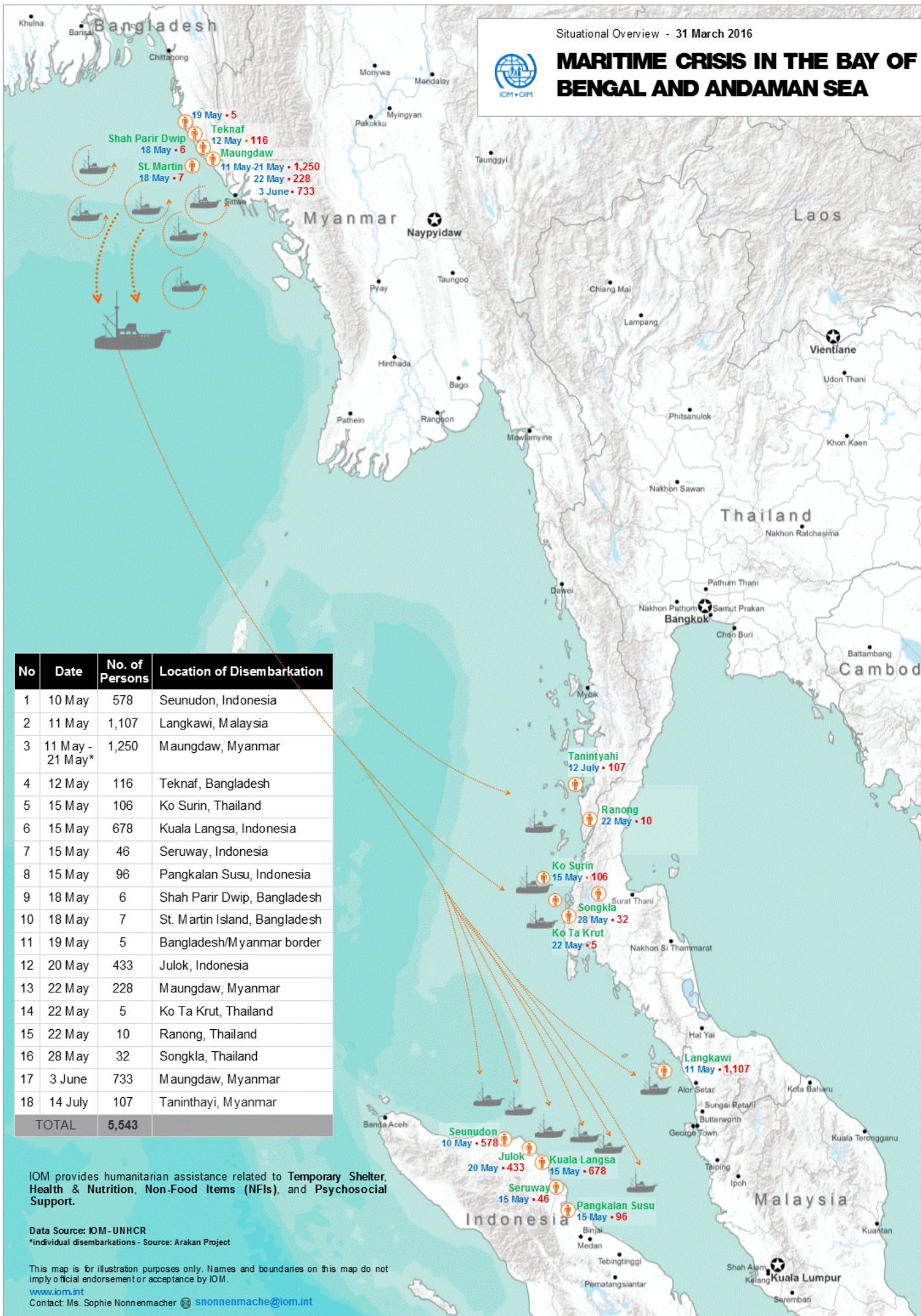


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Situational Overview - 31 March 2016



MARITIME CRISIS 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

This map is for illustration purposes only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.

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