



Promoting Safe Migration through National Plan of Action Implementation in response to the Andaman Sea Crisis, Bangladesh

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Highlights 1-29 February 2016

■ **Bangladesh:** During February, IOM provided return assistance, including food and onward transportation, to **134** Bangladeshis including 4 minors returning from Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand. To date, IOM has provided return assistance to **2,567** Bangladeshis.

■ **Indonesia:** As of 29 February, there are a total of **308** migrants (10 Bangladeshis and 298 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State) throughout five shelters in Aceh and North Sumatera. 16 Bangladeshis returned under IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) Programme in February. Under the programme, IOM has assisted **759** migrants (707 male adults and 52 male unaccompanied minors) with return to their home country.

■ **Thailand:** To date, 397 Myanmar Muslim men, women and children from Rakhine State and 109 Bangladesh men remain in Thailand. Out of **506**, 14 % are women and 52% are men, whilst 34 % are boys and girls under 18 years old; 70 women and 171 children under 18 are being detained in Immigration Detention Centers (IDCs) and shelters. In February, **83** Bangladeshis returned 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.

1,270 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.

2,567 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 Services

IOM RESPONSE

Bangladesh

In February, 134 male Bangladeshis, including 4 minors, returned home in 7 batches from Indonesia, Thailand, and Malaysia. Facilitated by IOM, 16 returned from Indonesia; 83 from Thailand; and 35 from Malaysia. The Government of Bangladesh provided its national carrier for those who were returning from Thailand and Malaysia. All beneficiaries assisted were provided with food and onward local travel assistance by IOM. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) provided free phone call service for all 134 Bangladeshis, in coordination with IOM. The BDRCS also provided escort services to 4 minors to reunite with their families.



Bangladeshi Returnees at Dhaka Airport © IOM 2016



Migration Management & Coordination

IOM continues to work with partners, UN agencies, international NGOs, and national NGOs to address human smuggling and trafficking by sea. In February, IOM organised a technical workshop on Promoting Safe Migration through the implementation of the National Plan of Action to Counter Trafficking in response to the Andaman Sea Crisis for Government representatives in Bangladesh. Representatives from the ministries and line agencies, including border forces, discussed practical challenges. One of the ways forward identified by the participants was better coordinated efforts among various Governmental agencies. The participants also visited one of the major river points that had previously been used for boat departures, namely Rejukhal ghat, Sonarpara, Dorianagar, Bara Inani, Chungkhali, Chepotkhali, Kurushkul bridge, Kosturi ghat, Shah Parir Dwip, Katabunia, Khurer Mukh, Kotchchopia, Zaliapara, Shamlapur, Sabrang, and Nayapara,

Indonesia

IOM continued to support multi-sectoral activities for the well-being of migrants, in close coordination with local authorities and local partners in Aceh.



Government Representatives' Visit to Previous Boat Departure Point

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While migrants have remained in various sites in Aceh, it has been reported that a large number of migrants have left the shelters seeking long-term solutions. While these migrants have expressed their gratitude for IOM's support, they raised concerns on behalf of their family members they left behind, who continue to subsist on extremely limited resources. As a result, many of them fall prey to smugglers who take advantage of their desperation to arrive at a destination at which they can earn and send money home.

IOM conducted an information session in Lhoksemauwe, in coordination with local government and other stakeholders, on the dangers of smuggling and irregular migration. IOM has noted that in the past month since the information session, the number of migrants has not decreased in the location. Migrants therefore require continued support and information in relation to smuggling. In Langsa, the decreased number of migrants has resulted in the development of a new permanent site from the local government, with coordination from local NGOs. IOM has been requested to intervene and support in needs that are unmet in preparing the site. IOM is assessing the situation in the new site—Timbang Langsa.



Sewing class in women's shelter © IOM 2016

In this reporting period, 12 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State in Langsa underwent pre-screening interviews with UNHCR for resettlement to the United States. An outstanding concern that needs to be addressed, however, is domestic violence amongst the Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State.



Distribution of weekly supplies in Lhokseumawe © IOM 2016



Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

The construction of a security guard post, including toilet facilities, was completed in February. IOM provided the guard post with a fan and water dispenser.

Regular maintenance activities, including regular inspection of water tanks and water pumps, and essential cleaning services were undertaken in the shelters. In this month, IOM distributed 76 sets of mattresses, pillows, pillow cases and blankets in Lhokseumawe. In addition, 29 sets of wall hangers and 2 sets of clothes lines were distributed in Birem Bayeun shelter in Langsa.

Regular distribution of hygiene kits, comprised of soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, detergent powder, shampoo, mosquito repellent, razors for men and sanitary napkins for women, takes place on a monthly basis. In this period, 287 hygiene kits were distributed to all migrants in Aceh and Medan. IOM also distributed cleaning tools for migrants in Lhokseumawe and new clothing packages for 34 migrants in Medan. Earlier this month, 16 Bangladeshis who returned home had received clothing packages.



Health & Nutrition

IOM continued to provide primary care services for all migrants through regular health consultations with support from the local government. Primary medical service is available on site for 3 days per week, organized by the Government Public Health Centre. An ambulance is also on standby for 24 hour emergency calls.

Taking into account the large number of scabies cases, all migrants in Langsa received scabies screening and treatment. In

anticipation of dengue season, IOM distributed 52 mosquito nets to migrants in Lhokseumawe and additional hand soap to the leader of the migrants for further distribution. Deworming tablets are distributed regularly to the migrants, in addition to multi-vitamin injections for migrants under 14 years old and vitamin B injections for pregnant women.

Health promotion and education activities are conducted regularly by IOM staff, in close coordination with the Government Public Health Department, addressing various topics. In the past month, IOM medical team addressed issues related to environmental hygiene, scabies and treatment, new born baby care, and health education for pregnant women. Regular fumigation was conducted every 2 weeks in all shelters.

A total of 1,144 nutritious food packages and multi-vitamins were distributed to all migrants during the reporting period. The package included 1,600 grams of milk powder for infants, children, pregnant women, and lactating mothers.



Psychosocial Support

IOM continued to provide educational, recreational and vocational activities for beneficiaries in coordination with local partners and NGOs. The activities include literacy classes, movie screenings, games, sports, hair dressing, make up, and sewing classes. The IOM team introduced a new gardening activity for migrants this month, upon their request. The activity generated great enthusiasm amongst migrants, who were provided gardening tools and seeds to make their own gardening patches.

In February, 4 men, 13 pregnant women, and 27 single parents were identified as being at-risk in the sites. Unaccompanied minors in this period totaled 63, and there were 8 cases of separated children and 1 case of a separated family. In all, there were 153 vulnerable cases, including 20 with medical concerns. In this reporting period, 16 migrants left the shelters, presumably to other areas in Indonesia or with engagement of smugglers for onward journeys to Malaysia.



Migration Management & Coordination

Regular coordination meetings, hosted by the local government and attended by relevant stakeholders, including government counterparts and national/international organizations, are held on a monthly basis to discuss all aspects of assistance and security issues in the shelters. Protection group coordination meetings, focusing on migrant vulnerability cases, are conducted regularly to enhance protection support to the migrants in the shelters.

Thailand

IOM Thailand continues providing humanitarian assistance in the areas of health care service, supplemental nutrition, shelter/

NFI, and WASH support to improve physical and mental health of Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine state and Bangladeshis temporarily detained in 4 key four provinces in Thailand, namely Songkhla, Phang-Nga, Ranong, and Suratthani.



Health & Nutrition

In February, an IOM medical team conducted the third dose of Hepatitis B vaccination for 302 beneficiaries in Ranong, Songkhla, and Suratthani. The vaccination is scheduled to be completed in March in Phang-Nga. IOM nurses in Ranong, Songkhla, Suratthani, and Phang-Nga conducted basic health assessment on a weekly basis in February; a total of 304 beneficiaries in all locations were screened and received treatment as required. Most of the problems identified involve muscle pain, gastric problems, and mild respiratory infections. One epilepsy case in Suratthani was referred to a hospital for further treatment.

In Suratthani, IOM conducted nutrition assessment for 81 beneficiaries. 5 cases of moderate malnourishment and 1 case of severe malnourishment were identified. IOM provided nutrition advice and supplemental vitamins to the beneficiaries. The IOM nurse will closely follow up the cases on a regular basis.

In February, IOM conducted medical examination for 34 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State in Prachuabkhirikhan, Suratthani, Phang-Nga, Songkhla, and Ranong for their resettlement cases.



3rd Dose of Vaccination, Ranong © IOM 2016



Psychosocial Support

Ongoing psychosocial activities have been conducted in the IDCs and shelters in Phang-Nga and Ranong. Individual and group counselling sessions were organized for 4 cases at Ranong IDC, to discuss concerns and issues, led by the IOM psychologist. At the Ranong Welfare Protection Center for Victims of Trafficking, 2 cases received individual counselling and 10 cases were allowed to phone home. In Phang-Nga Welfare Protection Center for Victims of Trafficking, one group counselling and one individual counselling were conducted. IOM organized recreational activities for 14 children. A total of 27 beneficiaries also received group counselling in Songkhla.

Save the Children, IOM's implementing partner, further conducted psychosocial activities in the shelters in Phang-Nga, Suratthani, Songkhla, and Ranong.

The IOM team in Ranong conducts English classes for 32 men, including 16 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State, accommodated in Ranong Welfare Protection for Victims of Trafficking Center.



Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

In Ranong, IOM provided nuts, fresh fruits, floor mats, TVs, wall clock, garbage bins and bags, cleaning materials, disinfectant, sports shoes and socks, sports equipment, and hygiene kits containing toothpaste, detergent, antiseptic soap, deodorant, and shampoo for 53 beneficiaries. In Phang-Nga Shelter for Children and Families, IOM supported school uniforms, shoes, socks, lunch boxes, and drinking water containers for 25 children to go to a local school. IOM continuously provided materials for basket weaving activity for women and children in the Phang-Nga Shelter. IOM's construction of washing area and provision of 7 water storage tanks in the Phang-Nga Shelter were completed in February.

More than 500 sets of monthly hygiene kits containing anti-bacteria soap, shampoo, tooth brush, toothpaste, deodorant, and detergent powder were distributed directly to detainees in IDCs and shelters in Songkhla, Phang-Nga, Ranong, Suratthani, Prachuabkhirikhan, and Prathumthani.



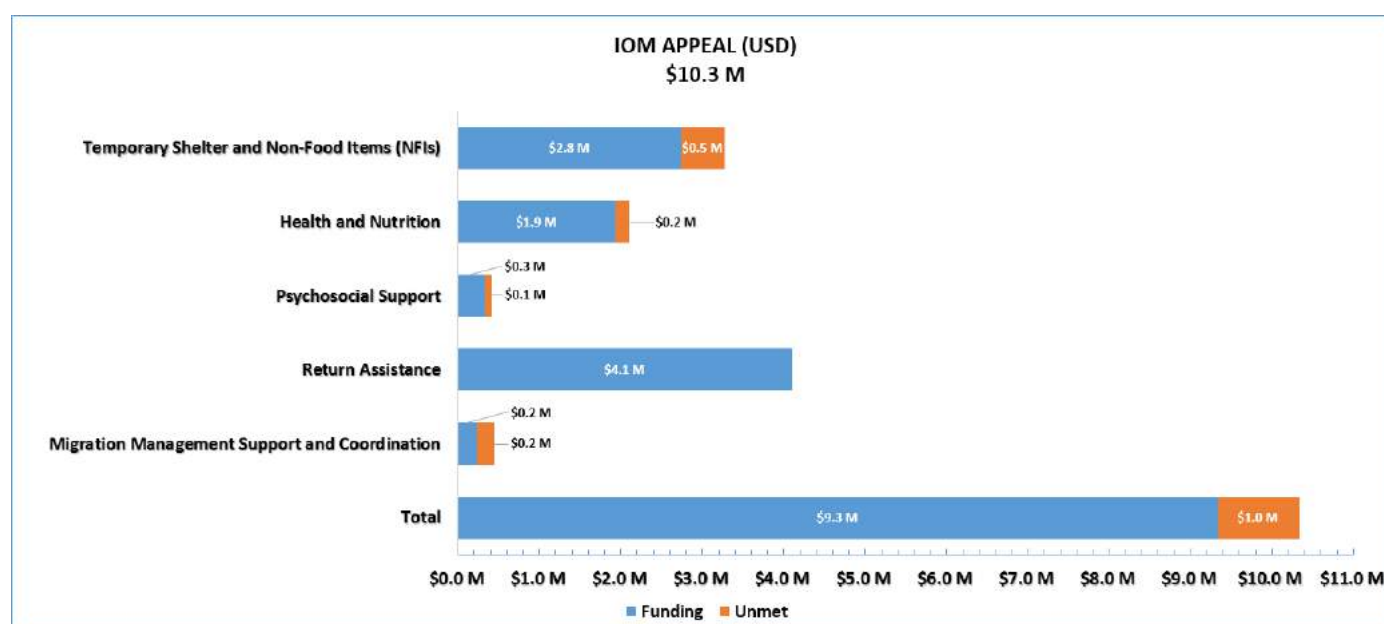
Basket weaving activity in Phang-Nga Shelter for Children and Families © IOM 2016

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 Feb 29 -	Bangladeshi returnees - as of Feb 29 -
Bangladesh	-	134	-	-
Indonesia	671	1,820	308	759
Malaysia	-	1,107	456	657
Myanmar	-	1,048	-	777
Thailand	738	153	506	374
TOTAL	1,409	4,262	1,270	2,567

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	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



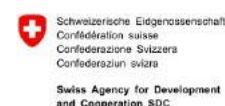
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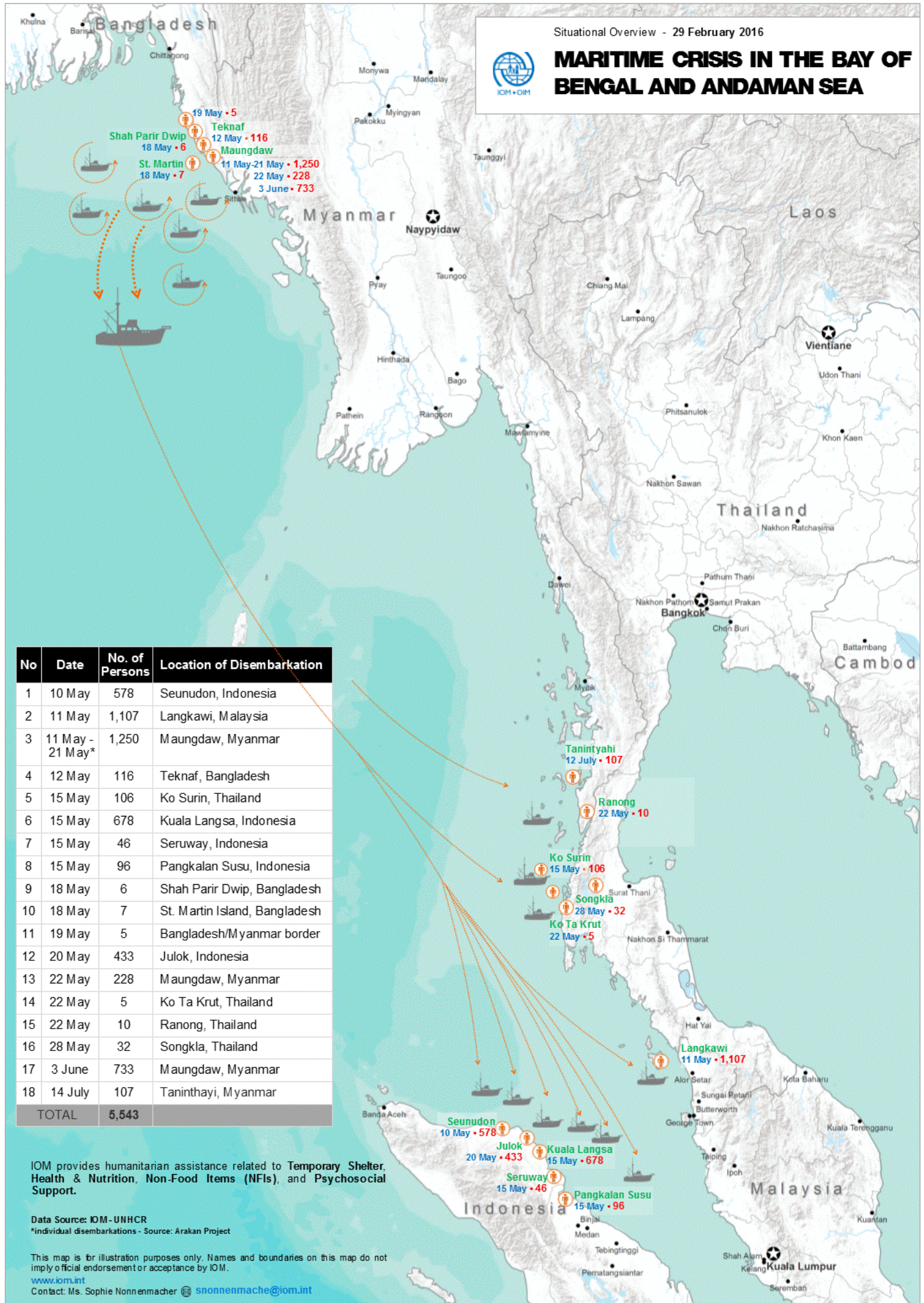


From the People of Japan



Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection





Situational Overview - 29 February 2016
MARITIME CRISIS IN THE BAY OF BENGAL AND ANDAMAN SEA

No	Date	No. of Persons	Location of Disembarkation
1	10 May	578	Seunudon, Indonesia
2	11 May	1,107	Langkawi, Malaysia
3	11 May - 21 May*	1,250	Maungdaw, Myanmar
4	12 May	116	Teknaf, Bangladesh
5	15 May	106	Ko Surin, Thailand
6	15 May	678	Kuala Langsa, Indonesia
7	15 May	46	Seruway, Indonesia
8	15 May	96	Pangkalan Susu, Indonesia
9	18 May	6	Shah Parir Dwip, Bangladesh
10	18 May	7	St. Martin Island, Bangladesh
11	19 May	5	Bangladesh/Myanmar border
12	20 May	433	Juluk, Indonesia
13	22 May	228	Maungdaw, Myanmar
14	22 May	5	Ko Ta Krut, Thailand
15	22 May	10	Ranong, Thailand
16	28 May	32	Songkla, Thailand
17	3 June	733	Maungdaw, Myanmar
18	14 July	107	Taninthayi, Myanmar
TOTAL		5,543	

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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