



Highlights September 2015

- **Bangladesh:** During September 2015, IOM provided return assistance including food and onward transportation to 57 Bangladeshis returning from Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand. As of Sept. 30, 81 migrants attended the first session of the psychosocial counselling sessions planned between September and December. These 81 migrants were given a reinsertion grant of USD 200.
- **Indonesia:** There were reports of gender-based violence in an integrated community shelter established by a local NGO in Aceh Utara district. IOM is providing support in coordination with local authorities. During September 21 Bangladeshi migrants in Indonesia returned under IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) Programme.
- **Myanmar:** The situation in Taung Pyo is relatively stable. There was a transition period when the camp services had to be adjusted due to the arrival of 105 migrants who disembarked in Zarni Island in Tanitharyi Region and arrived at Taung Pyo on Sept. 6. As of Sept. 30, there are 180 migrants in Taung Pyo shelter.
- **Thailand:** 27 Bangladeshi migrants returned from Thailand to Bangladesh under IOM's AVR Programme. A second group of at least 24 migrants who signed up for IOM's AVR Programme are expected to return in October. IOM continues to provide humanitarian assistance in the area of health assistance, supplemental nutrition, and shelter/NFI and WASH items to 869 beneficiaries.

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. No departures were reported in September.
- **2,624** stranded Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and Bangladeshis remain in shelters and Immigration Detention Centres in Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and Myanmar. IOM continued to provide shelter support, non-food items, health screenings, WASH support and psychosocial support.
- **1,932** Bangladeshi migrants returned to Bangladesh under IOM's AVR Programme and Government agreements.

CONTACTS

IOM Thailand
Preparedness and Response Division
Donor Relations Division

✉ iombangkok@iom.int
✉ prd@iom.int
✉ drd@iom.int

IOM RESPONSE

Bangladesh

During September 2015, IOM provided return assistance including food and onward transportation to 57 Bangladeshis. 48 migrants returned under IOM's AVR Programme and 9 were repatriated with the assistance of the Government of Bangladesh. To date IOM has provided return assistance to 1,932 Bangladeshis who were victims of irregular maritime movement in the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea.



Health, Nutrition & Psychosocial Support

Food and water were provided to the 57 returnees upon arrival in Bangladesh. During September the first psychosocial counselling sessions were held with a total of 81 returnees. It is expected that by December all returnees will have undergone counselling in seven locations across Bangladesh. Through this group therapy, facilitated by a professional counsellor, returnees will be provided support in order to re-unite with their family and resettle into their community while preparing for future local employment.



Psychosocial support, Dhaka, Bangladesh © IOM 2015



Return Assistance

Onward local transport assistance was provided to 57 Bangladeshis who returned by air. 81 migrants attended the first session of psychosocial counselling sessions. These 81 migrants were given a reinsertion grant of USD 200.



Migration Management & Coordination

The psychosocial counselling sessions in the seven locations were coordinated with local administration and local non-governmental organizations. During September IOM has also coordinated the safe return, family reunification, and follow up visits of two Unaccompanied Minors together with UNICEF and the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society.

Indonesia

Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and Bangladeshi migrants who disembarked in Indonesia in May 2015 have been accommodated in six shelters in Aceh and North Sumatra. At the end of September in Blang Adoe shelter – an integrated community shelter established by a local NGO in Aceh Utara district – there was an incident following alleged sexual assault and violence against some female and male migrants in the shelter. Protesting the incident, the migrants left the shelter the following day. However, dialogue and negotiations with local authorities resulted in their return to the shelter. Immigration authorities with the assistance of IOM re-counted the migrants as they returned to the shelter, and referred victims of the alleged assault to local hospital. Local police will investigate further. As a result of this incident, direct humanitarian assistance delivery to the shelter was temporarily disrupted. In addition, across the Aceh and North Sumatra locations 174 migrants left their temporary shelters unreported. As of September 30th, there were 141 Bangladeshi and 703 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State in the six temporary shelter locations.



Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

The migrant population in three shelters in Langsa and Aceh Timur district received in September a total of 433 sets of sleeping mattresses, pillows and pillow sheets. The Birem Bayeun shelter facility in Aceh Timur district was also refurbished. The refurbishment comprised of floor elevation of the women's shelter, painting, corridor improvement and ceiling repair and construction of a kitchen.

IOM continues to improve the water and sanitation facilities in all locations. For Kuala Langsa, the improvements include toilet and bathroom repair, toilet fence cover installation, water tank tower installation, electrical works for toilet lighting and pathway improvement to bathroom and washing area. A new bore well construction also started in Lhok Banie shelter, while



Water bucket distribution for migrants in Beraspati, Medan © IOM 2015

in Birem Bayeun, 26 units of new toilets and bathroom are under construction. In four shelter locations, IOM together with Social Affairs Department (DINSOS) also continue to supply clean water for migrants on a daily basis. To date more than 19 million liters of water have been delivered. In September, 900 packages of hygiene kits and personal care were also distributed to all migrants in six shelters.



Health & Nutrition

In Lhok Banie shelter, DT and Polio vaccinations were given to infants under one year old, while Measles and Polio vaccination were given for infants under two years old. Tetanus Toxoid vaccines were also given to pregnant women. In Birem Bayeun, Polio vaccines were given to children under five years old. The in-patient care at hospital for patients (diagnosed with Dyspepsia and Hepatitis) and regular health consultation through local clinic (Puskesmas) also continues to care for migrants with health concern. Health education facilitated by Puskesmas was conducted in all shelters covering topics on Lactation, Personal Hygiene, Dental Hygiene, Female Health Reproduction, Family Planning and Healthy Environment. Moreover, at four shelter location routine fumigation (twice a month) was also conducted for pest control.

Other than 3 time regular meals a day, IOM continues to provide 2,009 packages of additional nutritious food and multivitamins for all migrants. The package includes 1,600 grams of milk powder for infants, children and pregnant women. For adults, fresh milk, bread and biscuits are also provided for daily consumption.



Lactation counselling for mother in Lhok Banie shelter, Aceh Timur district © IOM 2015



Psychosocial Support

A total of 34 sessions of language class (English, Indonesian and Arabic) were held in four shelters for educational activities and facilitated by IOM partner, Puspelkessos, Three literacy sessions were also held in Lhok Banie shelter for children migrants. Recreational activities such as sport and games, movie screening and fun games also continues in all shelters. IOM also provided counseling to two migrants that have psychological concern and referred five migrants to a psychologist and one migrant to a psychiatrist. By the end of September, 434 or 51% of the migrant population are children, and 257 among them are confirmed Unaccompanied Minor (UAMs). IOM also alerted the Department of Immigration other vulnerable groups such as 32 separated children, one elderly person, seven sexual gender based violence survivors and eight pregnant women in the interception site for a follow up tailored case support.



Migration Management & Coordination

The government will maintain the coordination with all parties on the handling of Bangladeshis and Myanmar Muslims from Northern Rakhine State in the shelters. The local government has formally requested IOM to continue providing food, NFI, utility services, health care, water sanitation, infrastructure of shelter facility, psychosocial support and allowance for the security officers for the shelter. IOM has conveyed its commitment in supporting the local government for the well-being of the migrants.



Return Assistance

In September, IOM Indonesia has assisted two groups of Bangladeshis with their return to their home country, bringing the total assisted under the AVR programme to 642 migrants (606 male adults; 36 unaccompanied minor boys).



Distribution of additional nutritious food supply in Kuala Langsa, Langsa district © IOM 2015

Myanmar

To date a total of 626 migrants from Taung Pyo have been verified as Bangladesh nationals and repatriated in five groups. The situation in Taung Pyo is relatively stable. Due to new arrivals, the camp services had to be adjusted and related issues have been promptly and properly addressed.

The 105 migrants who landed on Zarni Island in Tanitharyi Region arrived at Taung Pyo on Sept 6. All of them are male. Two were arrested as traffickers and were not transferred. The group from Zarni Island were transferred to Rakhine State by boat by the Myanmar authorities. IOM and the Bangladesh Embassy both visited Tanitharyi to assess this group prior to the transfer. IOM facilitated transportation to the Immigration and National Registration Department for their staff from Maungdaw to Taung Pyo for the verification process and provided fuel to the Border Guard Police to transfer the migrants from the Maungdaw jetty to Taung Pyo shelter upon their arrival.



Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

IOM and UNHCR distributed NFIs in response to the needs of the new arrivals in Taung Pyo including blankets, mats, mosquito nets, buckets and plastic plates, hygiene items, clothes and slippers. IOM provided additional new clothing and a special meal for the day in observance of Eid. Local communities donated food in coordination with the Myanmar Border Guard Police for Eid. IOM continues to provide fuel for generators to be able to provide lighting at night to improve protection and safety.

Ongoing WATSAN support continues with five daily workers hired for regular water purification and latrines sanitation. Due to the new diarrhea cases. IOM is reviewing water treatment and will make necessary improvements to ensure the quality of water to avoid contamination.



IOM staff provides NFIs including T-shirts, Longyi, and raincoats, Taung Pyo ©

There are two latrines and each has two cubicles which are all working properly. IOM plans to rehabilitate the old existing latrines to increase the capacity of the current facility, this will be discussed and will be endorsed to the camp commander for their approval.



Health & Nutrition

For Health, five patients who were transferred from Zarni Island were admitted over the weekend (September 25-26). Two of whom tested positive to Malaria and one remains under observation for potential Malaria. The patients are being treated and will most likely be discharged from the township hospital on September 29. Malteser International and Medecines Sans Frontieres (MSF) were alerted to the new arrivals and continue to provide weekly visits to Taung Pyo.

Regular provision of additional food supplies in Taung Pyo to complement the WFP food ration is ongoing. The food supply has been adjusted to deal with the new arrivals from Zarni Island which doubled the camp population. WFP continues to provide 750g/per person/day of rice, beans, salt and cooking oil. IOM supports the daily kitchen operation through of the provision of staff, fire wood and new pots and equipment.



Nutrition support, Taung Pyo © IOM 2015



Migration Management & Coordination

IOM has been coordinating with the Bangladesh Embassy, in close coordination with UNHCR and UNICEF, to resolve the situation of the women and children still accommodated in Taung Pyo and who are awaiting nationality verification.

Thailand

IOM Thailand continues to provide humanitarian assistance in terms of health care service, supplemental nutrition, shelter/NFI and WASH to 491 Myanmar Muslims from Northern Rakhine State and 367 Bangladeshi detainees in Thailand. Among the group, 63% are male adults, while 31% are boys and girl under 18 years of age and 6% are female adults. Immunization programmes for Myanmar Muslims from Northern Rakhine State and Bangladeshi detainees continues in Songkhla province. Bangladesh detainees in Phang-Nga province conducted a one-day hunger strike to protest the length of the national verification process.



Health & Nutrition

IOM Thailand immunization programme for Myanmar Muslims from Northern Rakhine State and Bangladeshi detainees continued in September. 259 Myanmar Muslims from Northern Rakhine State and Bangladeshi detainees in Sadao IDC and Rattaphum PODC received vaccinations. The IOM team in Songkhla province gave injections of TD (Tetanus-Diphtheria), MMR (Measles, Mumps, and Rubella), HBV (Hepatitis B), and DTP (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis). Following doctors' recommendations from the health assessment and screening activity in August, IOM nurses in Songkhla, Ranong, and Phang-Nga followed up on identified cases of concern such as diabetic, asthma, bed sore, and suspected TB. The IOM Field teams continued providing basic health care services, daily supplemental nutrition support to beneficiaries for 507 detainees in Ranong, Phang-Nga, Songkhla, and Suratthani. The IOM nurse in Ranong paid special attention to a five-month pregnant Myanmar Muslim from Northern Rakhine State woman by regularly visit and ensuring the appointment with a doctor for antenatal care, supported by IOM. More than 500 sets of hygiene kits containing antiseptic soap, shampoo, tooth brush, toothpaste, and detergent powder were distributed to detainees in Songkhla, Phang-Nga, Ranong, Prachuabkhirikhan and Chiang Rai.



Health assessment Protection and Occupational Development Center, Chiang Rai

© IOM 2015

More than 17,000 meals of supplemental food were provided by IOM to nearly 700 detainees in Songkhla, Phang-Nga, and Ranong province. Additional nutrition support such as boiled eggs and protein kits containing nutrition biscuit, fresh fruit and UHT milk was also supplied to 301 detainees in Songkhla province. The IOM team in Ranong and Phang-Nga arranged a provision of UHT milk, biscuit and fresh fruit to detainees in their respective areas on weekly basis. The IOM team also ensured a daily provision of UHT milk for 163 women and children in Suratthani and Phang-Nga shelters.



Psychosocial Support

Outdoor exercise activity for detainees in Ranong, Phang-Nga and Chiang Rai were promoted by IOM field team to ensure the improvement of both physical and mental health.



Sport activities for detainees promoted by IOM © IOM 2015



Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

The repair of toilet/shower facility in Phang-Nga IDC was supported by IOM to improve the conditions of toilet and shower rooms for 155 detainees. IOM also support the change of 4 water filters in Phang-Nga IDC to ensure access to clean drinking water for all detainees. To improve personal hygiene of the detainees, IOM provided hair barber set at Phang-Nga IDC and coordinated with IDC officers to provide hair cutting service for the detainees. At Phang-Nga shelter for Children and Families, IOM provided 6 sets of long-bench tables, over 500 sets of hygiene kits containing antiseptic soap, shampoo, tooth brush, toothpaste, and detergent powder were distributed to detainees in Songkhla, Phang-Nga, Ranong, Prachuabkhirikhan and Chiangrai.



Return Assistance

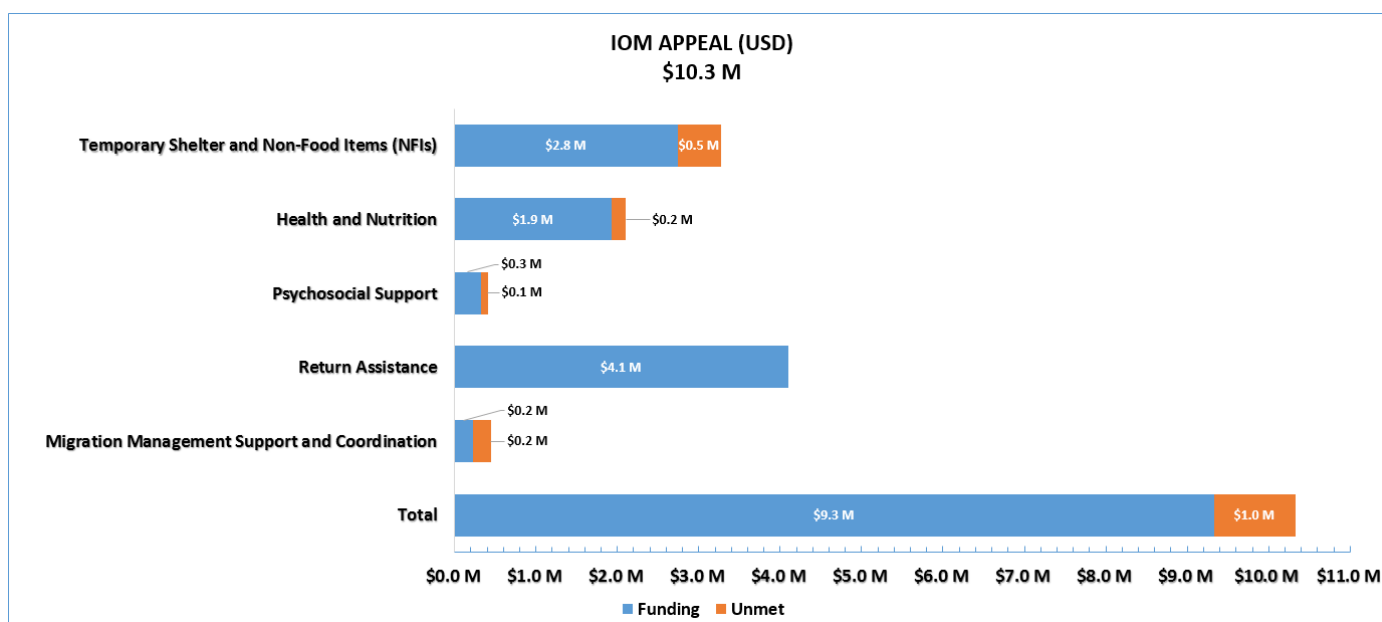
On Sept 16, a total of 27 Bangladeshi migrants returned from Thailand to Bangladesh under IOM's AVR-Programme. A second group of at least 24 migrants who signed up for IOM's AVR Programme are expected to return in October. This group includes a minor from the earlier caseload who has spent nearly two years in detention.

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 Sept. 30 -	Bangladeshi returnees - as of Sept. 30 -
Bangladesh	-	134	-	-
Indonesia	671	1,820	976	642
Malaysia	-	1,107	599	508
Myanmar	-	1,048	180	626
Thailand	725	153	869	156
TOTAL	1,396	4,262	2,624	1,932

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	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



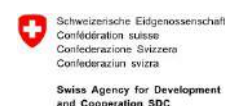
IOM operations are supported by :



From the People of Japan



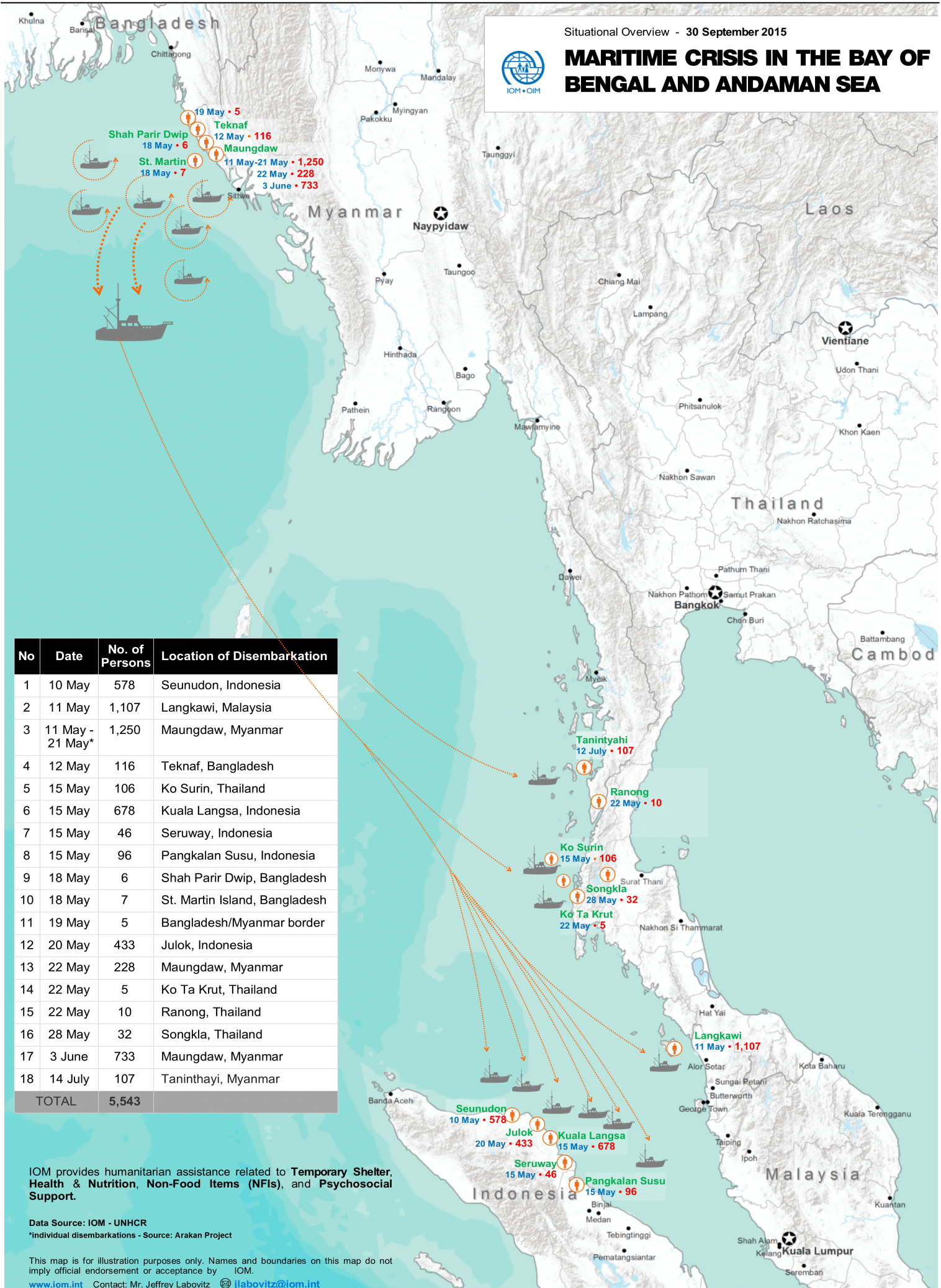
Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection



Situational Overview - 30 September 2015



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.
www.iom.int Contact: Mr. Jeffrey Labovitz @jlabovitz@iom.int

