



Highlights 1-31 January 2016

■ **Bangladesh:** During January, IOM provided return assistance, including food and onward transportation, to **51** Bangladeshis returning from Thailand under IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) Programme. To date, IOM has provided return assistance to **2,433** Bangladeshis. A total of 1,642 returnees have been provided psychosocial counselling through 62 sessions all over the country.

■ **Indonesia:** As of 31 January 2016, there are a total of **336** migrants (26 Bangladeshis and 310 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State) throughout five shelters in Aceh and North Sumatera. In January, Assisted Voluntary Return Assistance of Bangladeshi nationals was delayed, awaiting the issuance of travel documents. There was no AVR movement during the reporting period.

■ **Thailand:** IOM continued to provide humanitarian assistance to Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and Bangladeshis through the provision of health care service, shelter/non-food items (NFIs) support, supplemental nutrition support and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) support. As of January, **396** Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and **118** Bangladeshi nationals remain in Thailand. In January, **51** 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 restarted on 20 September and at least **1,500** persons departed from Myanmar and Bangladesh from September to December 2015.

1,341 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.

2,433 Bangladeshis who disembarked after May 10 in Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand 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

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 January, 51 male Bangladeshis returned home in 2 batches from Thailand. All of them were provided food and onward local travel assistance. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) provided a free phone call service for all 51 returnees in coordination with IOM.



Psychosocial Support

Until January 2016, 1,642 returnees have been provided psychosocial counselling through 62 sessions all over the country. Through group therapy, a professional counselor has helped returnees reduce the trauma and assisted in their reintegration into their family, community and possible future local employment.



IOM's AVR Programme for returnees © IOM 2016



Migration Management & Coordination

IOM continues to work with partners, UN agencies, international NGOs and national NGOs to address the human smuggling and trafficking by sea, in line with the Government's strategy and plan of action on counter trafficking.

Indonesia

As of January 31, there are a total of 336 (26 Bangladeshis and 310 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State) accommodated at five shelters in Aceh and North Sumatera. IOM continued its multi-sectoral activities to meet the needs of the Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and Bangladeshis that remain in Aceh.

Despite of improvement of shelter facilities and provision of regular language classes and vocational training in the shelters in Aceh, reports from the field indicated that migrants, with no viable solutions on site, have been leaving the shelters to reach

Malaysia and the numbers remaining in the shelters have significantly decreased.

Investigations of the law enforcement officials have found that migrants leave the shelters in coordination with smugglers, who claim to be taking them to Malaysia. Migrants pay smugglers, in tranches, until the smuggler is satisfied that his fee is complete. There have been instances of migrants returning to the shelters from 'halfway' houses when they are not able to meet additional financial demands from the smugglers.



IOM monitoring the new shelters in Birem Bayeun, Langsa © IOM 2016



Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

IOM installed 19 fans and provided 52 mattresses and platform steel beds in the seven newly constructed shelter units in Birem Bayeun. IOM further supported the shelter's office facilities by providing 1 computer, 3 desks, 4 chairs, 2 cabinets, 1 table and 2 fans.

To improve security and management of the shelter in Lhoksuemawe, IOM built a guard post which includes toilet facilities. IOM undertook regular cleaning and other maintenance activities throughout the four shelters in Aceh.

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, 328 hygiene kits were distributed to all migrants in Aceh and Medan.



Health & Nutrition

IOM continued to provide primary care services for all migrants through regular health consultations with support from the local government. A large number of scabies cases were reported from the field resulting from a lack of awareness amongst migrants on hygiene. 20 sessions of health education, with a special focus on scabies, were conducted in

the shelters. Pest control activities were conducted twice a month in all shelters.

IOM further initiated health training activities for all officials engaged in the shelters. In close coordination with the local government, IOM conducted First Aid training in both Langsa and Lhoksemawe. A total of 173 officials benefited from this training.

A total of 1,415 nutritious food packages 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.



Ongoing construction of security guard post in shelter of Lhoksemawe © IOM 2016

previous reporting period of December 2015, a total of 743 migrants (694 male adults; 49 male UAM).



Vocational training in Birem Bayeun Shelter, Langsa @ IOM 2016



Psychosocial Support

In January 2016, 5 men, 13 pregnant women, and 30 single parents were identified as being at-risk in the sites. Unaccompanied minors in this period totaled 91, and there were 13 cases of separated children and 2 cases of separated families. In all, there were 183 vulnerable cases, including 21 with medical concerns. In this reporting period, 27 migrants left the shelters, presumably to other areas in Indonesia or Malaysia.

IOM provided lessons in basic English and Arabic for unaccompanied minors. Vocational training related to sewing, make up, and hair dressing was conducted for migrants in the shelters in January.

Individual counseling was regularly undertaken by the IOM team to help the migrants release stress and express their concerns and needs for development. IOM also assisted particularly vulnerable groups by referring them to psychologists for further treatment.



Return Assistance

In January 2016, there was no AVR movement from IOM Indonesia. The number of AVR returns from IOM Indonesia therefore remained static and the same as the



Migration Management & Coordination

In addition to regular coordination meetings, the local government organized a meeting with the relevant government institutions, IOM, Medecins Sans Frontiers (MSF), Save the Children and local NGOs to address increasing issues of domestic violence and child abuse. The meeting stressed the need to enhance the protection of vulnerable groups and identify solutions for vulnerable cases in the shelters. The meeting concluded that the Government will assume responsibility for conducting activities preventing smuggling, trafficking, domestic violence and child abuse for all migrants in the shelters. IOM will participate in the activities and provide its expertise on irregular migration, trafficking and smuggling.

Thailand

IOM Thailand has provided humanitarian assistance to improve the physical and mental health of Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and Bangladeshis detained in Thailand since 2013. The four key areas of focus include health care service, supplemental nutrition, shelter/NFIs and WASH support. To date, 396 Myanmar Muslim men, women and children from Rakhine State and 118 Bangladesh men remain in Thailand. Out of 514, 14% are women and 52% are men, whilst 34% are boys and girls under 18 years old.



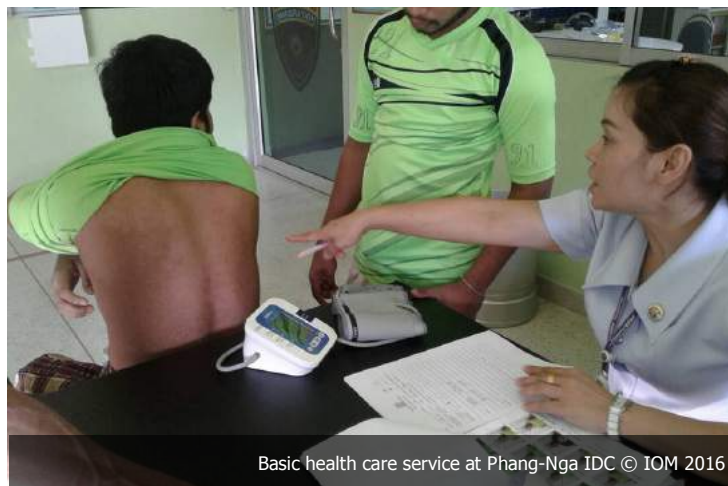
Health & Nutrition

In January, an IOM medical team visited Mukdahan, Nongkhai, Phang-Nga, and Ranong to conduct monthly health assessments. In total, 215 individuals were examined and treated by the IOM health physician. While most of the beneficiaries are in a normal health condition, many

children have been found to be underweight. The doctor, therefore, prescribed vitamins to the children. In Suratthani, the a 13 year- old-girl was diagnosed with epilepsy and was sent for CT brain scan which detected a brain atrophy (congenital), for which she received anti-convulsion treatment.

IOM nurses in Songkhla, Phang-Nga, Ranong and Suratthani also provided basic health care and treatment to follow up 66 cases of beneficiaries with health concerns. Most of the cases include respiratory infections, minor accidents, stomach problems, and skin diseases.

In Songkla, IOM provided basic medical kits for approximately 208 beneficiaries in Sadao, Padang Besar, and Rattaphum. Four tuberculosis cases were identified and IOM supported the provision of supplementary food. Additionally, fresh fruits and protein items such as UHT milk and nutrition biscuit are regularly provided in all areas.



Basic health care service at Phang-Nga IDC © IOM 2016



IOM conducting health assessment in Ranong © IOM 2016



Psychosocial Support

Ongoing psychosocial activities have been conducted in the IDCs and shelters in Phang-Nga and Ranong. A group counselling session is organized on a weekly basis at Ranong IDC, to facilitate for small group discussions on concerns and struggles, led by the IOM psychologist. 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)

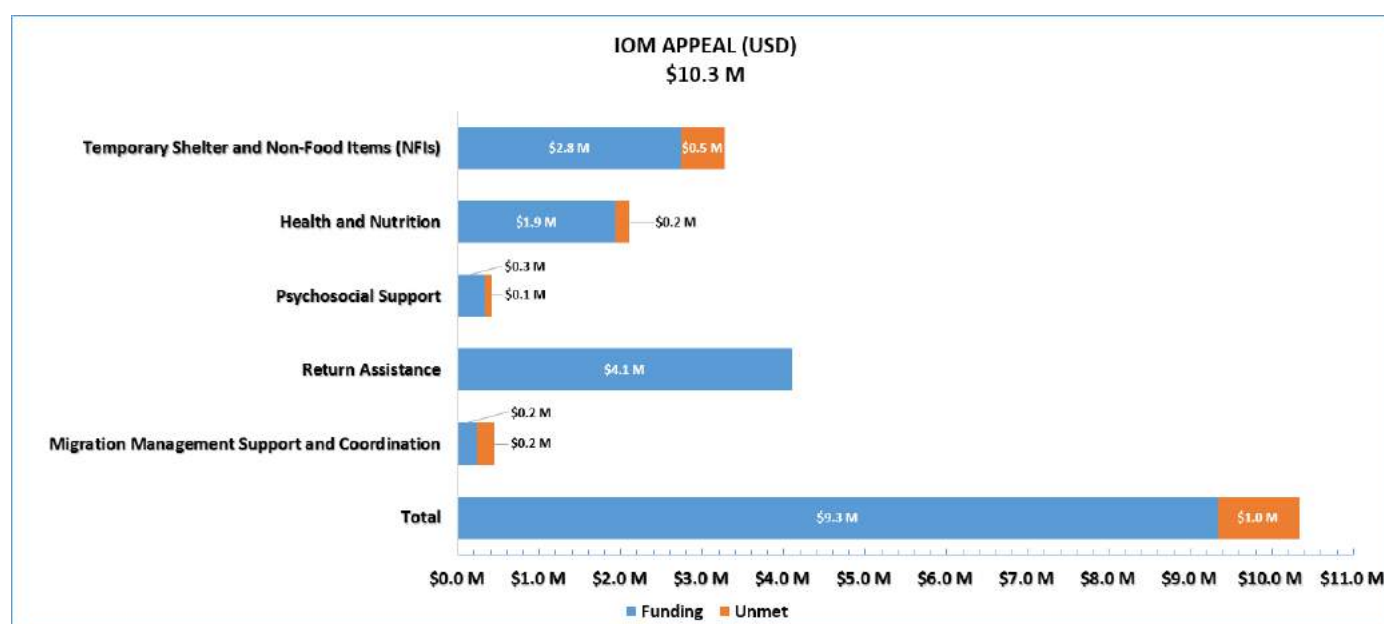
More than 500 sets of monthly hygiene kits containing anti-bacterial soap, shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste and detergent powder were distributed to the detainees in IDCs covering 6 provinces. IOM provided materials for classes at IDCs and shelters such as basket weaving classes in Phang-Nga, and sports activities in NongKhai and Mukdahan.

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 Jan.31 -	Bangladeshi returnees - as of Jan.31 -
Bangladesh	-	134	-	-
Indonesia	671	1,820	336	743
Malaysia	-	1,107	491	622
Myanmar	-	1,048	-	777
Thailand	738	153	514	291
TOTAL	1,409	4,262	1,341	2,433

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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