



IOM Conducting English Classes at Ranong Protection Center, Thailand © IOM 2015

Highlights 1-30 November 2015

■ **Bangladesh:** In November IOM provided return assistance including food and onward transportation to **61** Bangladeshis under IOM's AVR programme. As of 30 November, the total number of returnees is 2,266. To date IOM has provided return assistance to 2,210 Bangladeshi nationals including a reinsertion grant for 1,197 Bangladeshis.

■ **Indonesia:** **34** Bangladeshis returned in November under IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) Programme. Under the programme, IOM has assisted 707 migrants with their return to their home country. As of 30 November, there are a total of 431 migrants (62 Bangladeshi, 369 ethnic Rohingya) throughout five shelters in Aceh and North Sumatera.

■ **Myanmar:** A total of 731 migrants (including two migrants who had been included in the official list for repatriation but escaped from the camp) have been verified as Bangladeshi nationals and repatriated from Myanmar in six batches. The remaining caseload in Taung Pyo is now **76** Bangladeshi nationals and Muslims from Rakhine State.

■ **Thailand:** As of November, **434** Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine state and **328** Bangladeshi nationals remain in Thailand. Among them, 28% are boys and girls under 18 years of age and approximately 8% are female adults. The Immunization programme for beneficiaries in IDCs and Shelters was completed in all locations in November. 633 men, women and children benefited from this activity.

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 have been reported since September.

1,754 stranded Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and Bangladeshis remain in shelters and Immigration Detention Centres in Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia and Myanmar. IOM continues to provide shelter support, non-food items, health screenings, WASH support and psychosocial support.

2,266 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

During November 61 male Bangladeshis including two unaccompanied minors have returned home in five batches. Facilitated by IOM, they were flown in from Thailand and Indonesia. All of them were provided food and onward local travel assistance. Bangladesh Red Crescent Society provided free phone call service for all returnees and escort for the two minors, in coordination with IOM.

As of 30 November, the total number of returnees is 2,266. To date IOM has provided return assistance to 2,210 Bangladeshi nationals including a reinsertion grant for 1,197 Bangladeshis.



Psychosocial counselling sessions for returnees in November © IOM 2015



Psychosocial Support

670 returnees have been provided psychosocial counselling through 28 sessions. A professional counsellor helped the returnees cope with their trauma, reintegrate into their family, community and possible future local employment.



Migration Management & Coordination

The 28 psychosocial counselling sessions were coordinated with local administration and local NGOs. Free phone calls for all 61 Bangladeshis who returned during November were provided by Bangladesh Red Crescent Society in coordination with the government and IOM.

During November IOM also coordinated the safe return, family reunification, and follow up visits of the two unaccompanied minors together with UNICEF and the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society. IOM is also coordinating the operationalisation of a framework to address the human smuggling and trafficking by sea, in line with government strategy and plan of action on counter trafficking.



Psychosocial counselling sessions for returnees in November © IOM 2015



Health & Nutrition

Food and water were provided to the 61 upon arrival in Bangladesh.



Return Assistance

Onward local transport assistance was provided to 61 Bangladeshis who returned through air. Re-integration grant of USD 200 was provided to each of the 670 returnees of 25 districts through 28 occasions.

Indonesia

IOM continued developing various activities to mitigate the effects of long term stay on the psychological well-being of migrants. A special event, Tolerance Day, which celebrates diversity, cultures and arts, was held across the sites this month.

IOM facilitated two information sharing and sensitization events in Langsa and Aceh Timur to maintain effective cooperation amongst all actors engaged in working with the migrants, from government, civil society and the migrant community to religious leaders, local community and others. Led by local government in Langsa and Aceh Timur and attended by approximately 100 participants, IOM increased the understanding of the needs of migrants through the sessions. IOM Chief of Mission also visited Langsa to reinforce IOM's efforts on the ground.

Security remains an issue at Aceh shelters where criminals seek to take advantages of the migrants' desire for onward passage to Malaysia and beyond. As of November 2015, there are a total of 431 migrants (62 Bangladeshi and 369 ethnic Rohingya) throughout five shelters in Aceh and North Sumatera.



Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

IOM continued its ongoing building progress for 7 temporary shelter units in Bireum Bayeun and its ongoing work towards improving facilities at 4 shelters in Aceh. This includes dismantling old toilets and rebuilding better facility toilets, improving the sport court, refurbishing women's shelter by fixing broken window, door and roof and repainting the walls. In Bireum Bayeun shelter, Aceh Timur, construction of 32 unit toilets with shower and washing area for male and female has been completed. IOM also designed and built culturally and environmentally appropriate temporary shelter to replace existing tents and to enhanced shelter needs, in view of the rainy season. Furthermore, at the request of the local authorities, IOM refurbished the women's' shelter in Dinsos Lhokbani, concreting a pathway in the shelter and fixing the water and sanitation facilities at the Integrated Community Housing in Lhokseumawe.



Clothing packages were delivered to 34 Bangladeshis for their return in November 2015. In addition, 579 packages of hygiene kits and personal care items were distributed to all migrants in four shelters in Aceh and one shelter in Medan.



Health & Nutrition

The primary care service continued for all migrants through regular health consultation. In November, 374 consultation visits were provided for migrants. 12 health education sessions were given to all migrants across all shelters on various topics such as dangers of smoking, personal hygiene for mother and kids, toilet training and hand washing, breast feeding position and family planning. Pre-embarkation check-ups are carried out for those returning home through IOM's AVR programme. The IOM field teams in all locations continue to monitor the children under 5 years old for the vaccination programs of Polio and Measless vaccine.

Regular distribution of hand soap and hand sanitizer to all migrants were conducted to help maintain proper hygiene habits. In November, 1,865 additional nutritious food packages

and multivitamins were distributed to all migrants. The package included 1,600 grams of milk powder for infants, children and pregnant women and lactating mother.



Psychosocial Support

In November there were cases of 5 men at risk, 5 pregnant women and 36 single parents in the sites. The unaccompanied minors in this period totaled 131 and there were 19 cases of separated children. In all, there were 241 vulnerable cases, including 30 with medical concerns. The team continues to trace for the possibility of family reunification and provide care to UAM through regular monitoring and counselling. Additionally, to support the migrants with particular skills, IOM led vocational classes such as sewing, make-up and handicrafts.



Return Assistance

IOM Indonesia assisted three groups of Bangladeshis (34 migrants) with their return to their home country in November, bringing the total assisted under the AVR programme to 707 migrants (665 male adults; 42 male UAM).



Migration Management & Coordination

In following up the sexual abuse and violence incident at the Integrated Community Shelter in Blang Aldoe, Aceh Utara, a coordination meeting was conducted in Lhokseumawe and attended by the representative from the government of Aceh Utara, Head of District Police, Social Department, Immigration Lhokseumawe, IOM and UNHCR. As a result of the meeting, the police will continue to conduct the investigation and actively engage in following up if any cases of violence arise.

Myanmar

The situation in Taung Pyo has stabilized following the increase

in security in response to the escape of one adult male on the weekend of 24-25 October. Restrictions imposed by the Border Guard Police (BGP) have been eased following separate discussions between the Border Guard Police and IOM, UNHCR and MSF. Regular one-on-one counseling sessions held inside the shelters by MSF have restarted and access to the male camp for IOM daily workers is back to normal. Frequent checks by BGP still take place as the BGP attempts to prevent any further escapes. In addition, all services in the camp are addressed properly and IOM conducts a bi-weekly coordination meeting. IOM's local staff member continues to visit Taung Pyo on a daily basis to meet with the authorities, IOM daily staff and migrants in both camps.

Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

IOM continues to work to upgrade the basic facilities of Taung Pyo, including building 7 new latrines, installing new roofing, repairing doors, windows and sleeping areas, and building a permanent kitchen block. The upgrades have been coordinated with BGP and will be completed by mid-December.



Distribution of soap powder and sweaters on November 20, 2015 © IOM 2015

Regular distribution of NFIs such as soap, toothpaste, powder soap, coconut oil continues to be provided on a regular basis. There was also the daily distribution of biscuits for breakfast. IOM provided a total 481 units of NFI during November 2015, including coconut oil, skin lotion, power soap, soap, sleeper, sweater jacket, towel and razor.

Health & Nutrition

Malteser began providing nurses and a referral assistant to conduct medical consultations once a week during November. Malteser reports that in general the health status of the migrants is good, although there were reports of minor health issues including skin infection, tonsillitis, fever and stomach pains. All migrants with health issues were treated and activities such as sports and basic hygiene promotion for the female camp continued.

Regular provision of additional food supplies in Taung Pyo to complement the WFP food ration is ongoing. WFP provides 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, pots and equipment. WFP will follow up on the

one day training on food preparation and handling that was provided by WFP to the IOM kitchen staff in October to improve the quality of food being served.



Psychosocial Support

MSF continues to provide psychosocial counselors who visit 3 times per week. On 6 November CFSI received approval to access Taung Pyo and began visiting to conduct psycho-social activities, particularly for children and adolescent girls. Daily visits were conducted from 09 November following the election.



Distribution of towels on November 21, 2015 © IOM 2015

Thailand

IOM Thailand has provided humanitarian assistance including health assistance, supplemental nutrition, shelter/NFI and WASH to Myanmar Muslim from Rakhine State and Bangladeshi detainees in Thailand since 2013. As of November 2015, 434 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and 328 Bangladeshi remain in Thailand; 28% of them are boys and girls under 18 and 8% are adult females. In November the immunization programme for 633 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and Bangladeshi in all IDCs and shelters was completed in all locations.



Health & Nutrition

IOM field teams in Songkhla, Phang-Nga, Ranong and Suratthani continue providing on-site basic health care services and daily supplemental nutrition support for 633 beneficiaries. The immunization programme for 624 men, women and children has been completed in Songkhla, Phang-nga, Ranong, Suratthani, NongKhai and Chiangrai. A medical team conducted monthly health check-ups for 47 detainees in Nongkhai and Chiangrai.

IOM team followed up on one Rohingya victim of trafficking at Prathumthani Welfare Protection Center. He is scheduled for surgery on 6 December due to a neurological problem. In addition, a pregnant woman in Ranong shelter, expected to deliver around 7 December, was given routine check-ups at the hospital and from the IOM nurse.

More than 600 men, women and children in Songkhla, Phang-nga, Suratthani and Ranong provinces received supplemental food and nutrition support from IOM Thailand.



Psychosocial Support

Ongoing psychosocial activities are conducted in the Phang-Nga shelter for children and families and the Ranong IDC and shelters. Group counselling sessions are organized weekly at Ranong IDC, led by an IOM psychologist. The IOM team in Ranong conducts English classes for 32 men sheltered in the Ranong Protection and Occupational Development Centre. IOM also provided sports equipment, materials and prizes for sports games organized for 40 men including other VoT nationals.



Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

More than 700 sets of monthly hygiene kits containing anti-bacteria soap, shampoo, tooth brush, toothpaste and detergent powder were distributed to detainees in IDCs and to women and children in 20 locations covering 8 provinces. As cool season is approaching, warm jackets were provided to 20 beneficiaries who are sheltered in Chiangrai province. A washing machine was provided for 116 detainees at Phang-nga IDC to improve and promote hygiene condition of the cells. Furthermore, at Phang-nga shelter, household items and cleaning material such as brooms, dishwashing liquid, floor cleaner were provided in support to 44 Myanmar Muslim women and children.



Distribution of hygiene kits, UHT milk, fresh fruits and nutrition biscuit for 19 beneficiaries in Chiangrai © IOM 2015

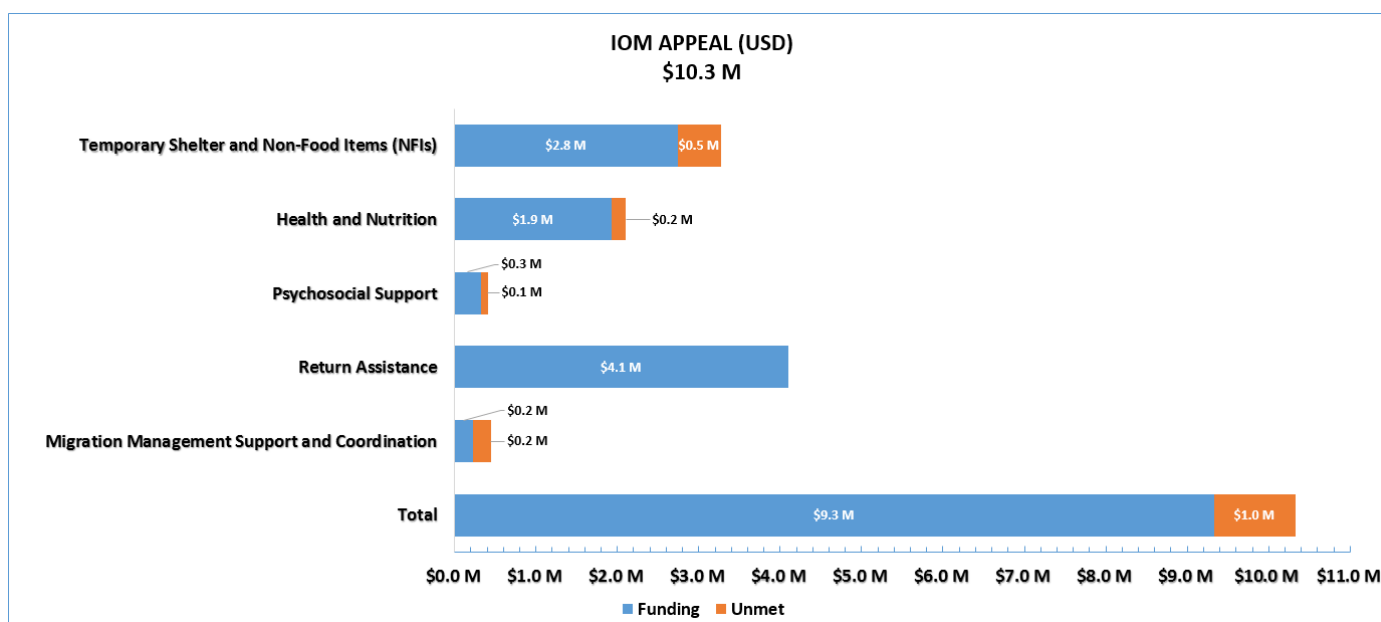
After the basket weaving training, women and children at Phang-Nga will be able to engage in income generation activities by selling the products at local markets near the shelter. For educational and personal development of Myanmar Muslim and Bangladeshi victims of trafficking, IOM supported the set-up of a library and learning zone at Ranong's men shelter which will be used for self-learning development and recreation.

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 Nov. 30 -	Bangladeshi returnees - as of Nov.30 -
Bangladesh	-	134	-	-
Indonesia	671	1,820	431	707
Malaysia	-	1,107	485	622
Myanmar	-	1,048	76	729
Thailand	738	153	762	208
TOTAL	1,409	4,262	1,754	2,266

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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