



IOM staff listening to the plight of Bangladeshi returnees while giving advice on safe migration in Cox's Bazar © IOM 2015

Highlights 1-31 October 2015

■ **Bangladesh:** During October 2015, IOM provided return assistance including food and onward transportation to **275** Bangladeshis including **58** who returned under IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) Programme and **217** who were repatriated with the assistance of the Government of Bangladesh. This includes **17** Un-accompanied minors.

■ **Indonesia:** **31** Bangladeshis returned under IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) Programme. IOM continues to maintain and improve water and sanitation facilities in all locations, provide regular health sessions and organize educational activities. As of October 31, there were a total of 584 migrants in Aceh and North Sumatera.

■ **Myanmar:** **103** Bangladeshis were repatriated on October 12. IOM monitored the event and provided transportation assistance and nutrition support incl. biscuits, bags, lunch packs and water. The remaining caseload in Taung Pyo is now **76**. Regular provision of additional food supplies in Taung Pyo to complement the World Food Programme (WFP) food ration is ongoing.

■ **Thailand:** **27** Bangladeshi migrants including one minor returned to Bangladesh under IOM's AVR Programme. IOM medical teams initiated the first round immunization programme for beneficiaries in all Immigration Detention Centres and Shelters. IOM continues providing health assistance, nutrition, NFIs and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) support to 443 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and 319 Bangladeshi migrants.

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.

1,907 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 temporary shelter & non-food items, health and nutrition, psychosocial, return assistance and migration management support & coordination assistance in the affected countries.

2,210 Bangladeshis who disembarked after May 10 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

During October, 275 male Bangladeshis including 17 unaccompanied minors returned home in six groups. Facilitated by IOM, 162 of them were flown in from Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia. The Government provided its national airlines for the return of 114 migrants from Malaysia. IOM also supported the Government in the return of 103 migrants from Myanmar over land. All of the 275 returnees were provided food and onward local travel assistance. In addition, the 103 Bangladeshis who returned through land were provided accommodation in the border city of Cox's Bazar by the Government, while IOM provided health screening and consultation, medicine and counselling. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society provided health check-ups, free phone call service and escort for minors, in coordination with IOM. In addition, Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF)-Holland provided counselling to the returnees in Cox's Bazar.



Migrants return home with transportation provided by IOM © IOM 2015



IOM appointed counsellor conducting one of the sessions on psychosocial counseling with returnees © IOM 2015



Health & Nutrition

The 103 returnees who were repatriated through the Bangladesh – Myanmar land border underwent health screening in Cox's Bazar. Food and water were provided to the 275 returnees upon arrival in Bangladesh.



Psychosocial Support

Through 22 sessions, 571 returnees have been provided psychosocial counselling. Through group therapy, a professional counsellor helped the returnees cope with their trauma, reintegrate into their family, community and possible future local employment.



Return Assistance

Onward local transport assistance was provided to 275 Bangladeshis who returned either through air or land border. A re-integration grant of USD 200 was provided to each of the 571 returnees of eight districts on 22 occasions.



Migration Management & Coordination

The eight psychosocial counselling sessions were coordinated with local administration and local Non Governmental Organizations (NGO). Free phone calls for all 275 Bangladeshis were provided by Bangladesh Red Crescent Society in coordination with the Government and IOM. During October, IOM has also coordinated the safe return, family reunification, and follow up visits of 17 Unaccompanied Minors together with UNICEF and the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society.

Indonesia

Since the alleged incident of sexual abuse and violence against four female migrants at the Integrated Community Shelter in Blang Adoe, Aceh Utara, the ethnic Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State migrants felt increasingly disturbed and somewhat demonstrated aggressive behaviour. With the declining overall security during the month of October 2015 alone a significant number of migrants have left the shelter, including the sexual gender based violence (SGBV) survivors and their children. The situation also intensified due to a few incidents across the shelters, such as: (1) disputes between local communities and migrants, which led to physical abuse of the migrants; (2) investigation of a smuggling case by the Indonesian National Police (INP) which brought about resentment and, ultimately, riots by women migrants in the shelter prompting warning shots to be fired in the air by the INP; (3) a case of a 16-year old migrant woman who delivered a baby recently after which she left the shelter with her friend in order to seek medical assistance. Her departure was presumed by authorities to be an escape attempt, which then led to harassment by the police until they noticed the woman's medical concern

(bleeding) and finally allowed her to the hospital. IOM continued to coordinate with Langsa Hospital, Camp Manager, UNHCR and Immigration Department for any medical treatment and address additional needs of the migrants.



Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

As of October 31, there were a total of 584 migrants (104 Bangladeshi, 480 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State) throughout six shelters in Aceh and North Sumatera. During this reporting period, cleaning equipment such as 30 brooms, 16 mops, 15 water buckets, 16 toilet brush, 15 dustbin and 15 dustpan were distributed to migrant groups in Integrated Community Services Blang Adoe shelter.

IOM continues to improve the water and sanitation facilities in all locations. In Bireum Bayeun shelter, Aceh Timur, the female toilet improvement continued and a fence was installed for a fish pond in the shelter location. In Lhokbani shelter, Aceh Timur, a bore hole was installed to complement the existing well and a water pump was replaced. IOM together with the Department of Social Affairs (DINSOS) also sustained the supply of clean water for migrants on a daily basis in four shelters. To date, more than 22,6 million liters of water have been delivered. In October, 356 packages of hygiene kits and personal care items were also distributed to all migrants in six shelters.



Health & Nutrition

The primary care service continued for all migrants through regular health consultation. Up until now, 2,459 consultation visits have been provided for migrants with health concerns. In addition, 45 health education sessions have been given to all migrants across all shelters on various topics, such as Dental Hygiene, Personal Hygiene, Waste Management and Tuberculosis.

IOM also provided inpatient care for three patients with mental health and intoxication. Tertiary treatments were also provided to a total of 42 migrants with health problems, such as Hypertension, Dyspepsia, Epilepsy and Vertigo. Moreover, routine fumigation (twice a month) was conducted across two shelters in Aceh Utara. IOM continues to provide daily meals



Health education session with female migrants in Indonesia © IOM 2015

for all migrants at the shelters. Up until this period, 5,743 additional nutritious food packages and multivitamins have been distributed. The package includes 1,600 grams of milk powder for infants, children and pregnant women.



Psychosocial Support

The educational activities including language classes English, Indonesian and Arabic continued and were facilitated by IOM's local partner, Puspeskesos. Up to 28 language sessions were conducted across three shelters. IOM also provided counseling to six migrants with psychological concerns and referred two migrants to a psychologist and one migrant to a psychiatrist. By the end of October, 268 or 46% of the migrant population have been identified as children, whereas 154 among them confirmed as Unaccompanied Minors (UAMs). Three migrant women across three shelters also delivered a baby in this reporting period and were provided psychosocial support, IOM also flagged other vulnerable cases to the Department of Immigration, such as 21 separated children, two sexual gender based violence survivors and five pregnant women in the interception site for follow-up in a tailored manner.



Return Assistance

In October 2015, IOM Indonesia assisted two groups of Bangladeshis (31 migrants) with their return to their home country, bringing the total assisted beneficiaries under the AVR programme to 673 migrants (634 male adults; 39 male UAM).



Migration Management & Coordination

The Government will maintain the coordination with all parties on the handling of Bangladeshis and



English placement test for migrants in Medan © IOM 2015

Myanmar Muslims of Rakhine State. As a result of the stakeholders meeting in Aceh Timur on October 21, attended by representatives from the government of Aceh Timur, District Military, Health Department, Area Military Command, Village Leader and Head of sub-district, a government secretariat was

established on October 26. The Aceh Timur Task Force will set a new structure, that will be in charge of the management of Birem Bayeun shelter. The Aceh Timur government has also started the construction of 24 units of temporary shelter together with the facilities for Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State in Timbang Langsa on October 29 on 6 Ha land.

Myanmar

To date a total of 731 migrants from Taung Pyo have been verified as Bangladesh nationals and repatriated in six batches. 195 migrants were released and allowed to return to their home communities in Rakhine State. The remaining caseload in Taung Pyo is now 76. The total number in the men’s camp is 58 and the total in the women and children’s camp is 18. The total number of adults (18+) is 56, and the total number under 18 is 2). On October 12, a total of 103 people were repatriated. Officially 105 were reported to have been repatriated. IOM provided nine vehicles for the Immigration team and Consul and one vehicle was provided by UNHCR for this repatriation. Biscuits for breakfast, bags, lunch packs and water were distributed to the 103 migrants that were actually repatriated on the day. The migrants were received by the Bangladesh Government and IOM on the Bangladesh side. On Oct. 15 and 24, verification activities took place at Taung Pyo involving the eight (one mal, five women, two children) refugees registered with UNHCR Bangladesh. Discussions are underway about the date for their repatriation.

The situation in Taung Pyo is stable. Following the escape of the last migrant the security in the camp was tightened with regular spot checks by the Border Guards Force who are under pressure to ensure there are no further escapes. UNHCR and



A migrant displays wallets he made from biscuit packets whilst in the transit centre © IOM 2015

MSF are in discussions with the camp management regarding their concerns and to ensure that regular counseling is not interrupted due to these new arrangements. All services in the camp are delivered properly. As agreed with the partners, IOM conducts a bi-weekly coordination meeting. Coordination meetings were held during the month of October, with the last one held on Oct 29 in Maungdaw at the UNHCR compound.

Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

NFIs such as soap, toothpaste, powder soap, coconut oil were provided on a regular basis and 180 packs

of biscuits for breakfast were distributed daily. IOM provided a total 1,814 units of NFI covering the period 9 September to 18 October 2015 including clothes, toothpaste, slippers, soap, and longyis.



Health & Nutrition

Regular provision of additional food supplies in Taung Pyo to complement the World Food Programme (WFP) food ration is ongoing. The food supply has been adjusted to deal with the reduced numbers following the recent repatriation. WFP will continue to provide 750g/per person/day of rice, beans, salt and cooking oil. IOM continues to supports the daily kitchen operation through of the provision of staff, firewood, pots and equipment. One day training for food preparation and handling for kitchen staff was provided by WFP on Oct 22. to improve the quality of food being served.

Ongoing water and sanitation support continues with five daily workers hired for regular water purification and latrines sanitation. Improvements of hand water pump near the kitchen have been completed and the two old wooden latrines are scheduled to be fixed. IOM is working to upgrade the basic facilities of Taung Pyo in November including new roofing, additional latrines, and a permanent kitchen block. MSF continue to support by providing psychosocial counselors who visit three times per week. Medical consultations are no longer taking place as the number of migrant is now down to 76 and there are currently no urgent medical issues in the camp. Activities such as sports and basic hygiene promotion for the female camp will still continue during those visits.



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.



IOM staff provides NFIs in the transit centre Taung Pyo town, Maungdaw district, Rakhine state. © IOM 2015

Thailand

IOM continues to provide humanitarian assistance in terms of health assistance, supplemental nutrition, shelter/NFI and WASH to 443 Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and 319 Bangladeshi detainees in Thailand. The first immunization programme for Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and Bangladeshis in all IDCs and Shelters has been completed in all locations. Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State in Phang-Nga IDC conducted two series of hunger strikes to express their frustration at their period of detention.



Health & Nutrition

IOM field teams in all locations continue to provide basic health care services and daily supplemental nutrition support for detained beneficiaries in Ranong, Phang-Nga, Songkhla, and Suratthani.

IOM teams in Songkhla, Phang-Nga and Ranong provide basic health assistance and screening on a daily basis. In Prachuab Khiri Khan, Pathumthani and Nongkhai, a medical team also conducted monthly health check-ups. In general, most detainees are in good health condition. Two cases that needed additional medical attention were identified and are followed up. In addition, IOM also support IDCs for basic medication and first aid kits for immediate needs of detainees.



IOM Nurse giving vaccine to a boy at Phang-Nga IDC © IOM 2015

The first dose vaccinations and deworming activity is now completed. Myanmar Muslims from Rakhine State and Bangladeshi migrants in IDCs and Shelters in Songkhla, Phang-Nga, Ranong, Suratthani, Nongkhai, and Chiang Rai received the 1st dose vaccination. The second follow-up dose of HBV and MMR is planned to be administered in November. 600 detainees in Songkhla, Phang-Nga, and Ranong province were provided supplementary nutritious foods to ensure their basic nutritional requirement is met. These foods include, boiled eggs, supplemental protein kits containing nutrition biscuits fresh fruit and UHT milk for detainees in Songkhla province. In Ranong and Phang-Nga, Myanmar Muslim from Rakhine State and Bangladesh detainees received weekly supplemental nutrition support and a daily provision of UHT milk for Myanmar Muslim women and children in Suratthani and Phang-Nga shelters was also provided.



Psychosocial Support

Ongoing psychosocial activities are conducted in Phang-Nga shelter for children and families and Ranong IDC and shelters. A group counselling session is organized weekly at Ranong IDC for small group discussions of problems and sharing of concerns, struggles, led by an IOM psychologist. In Phang-Nga shelter, IOM organized a vocational training to teach women and children plastic basket weaving. IOM team in Ranong is also planning to conduct an English class for Myanmar Muslim men sheltered in the Ranong Protection and Occupational Development Centre for Men.



Temporary Shelter & Non-Food Items (NFIs)

Monthly hygiene kits containing antiseptic soap, shampoo, tooth brushes, toothpaste, mosquito lotion, deodorant and detergent powder were distributed to detainees in Songkhla, Phang-Nga, Ranong, Prachuabkhirikhan, Prathumthani, Nongkhai and Chiangrai. Furthermore IOM provided extra clothes for detainees in Nongkhai as well as for 35 Bangladesh detainees in Phang-Nga who are scheduled to be transferred to Bangkok for repatriation.



Women and Children in Phang-Nga shelter actively participated in basket weaving training. © IOM 2015



Return Assistance

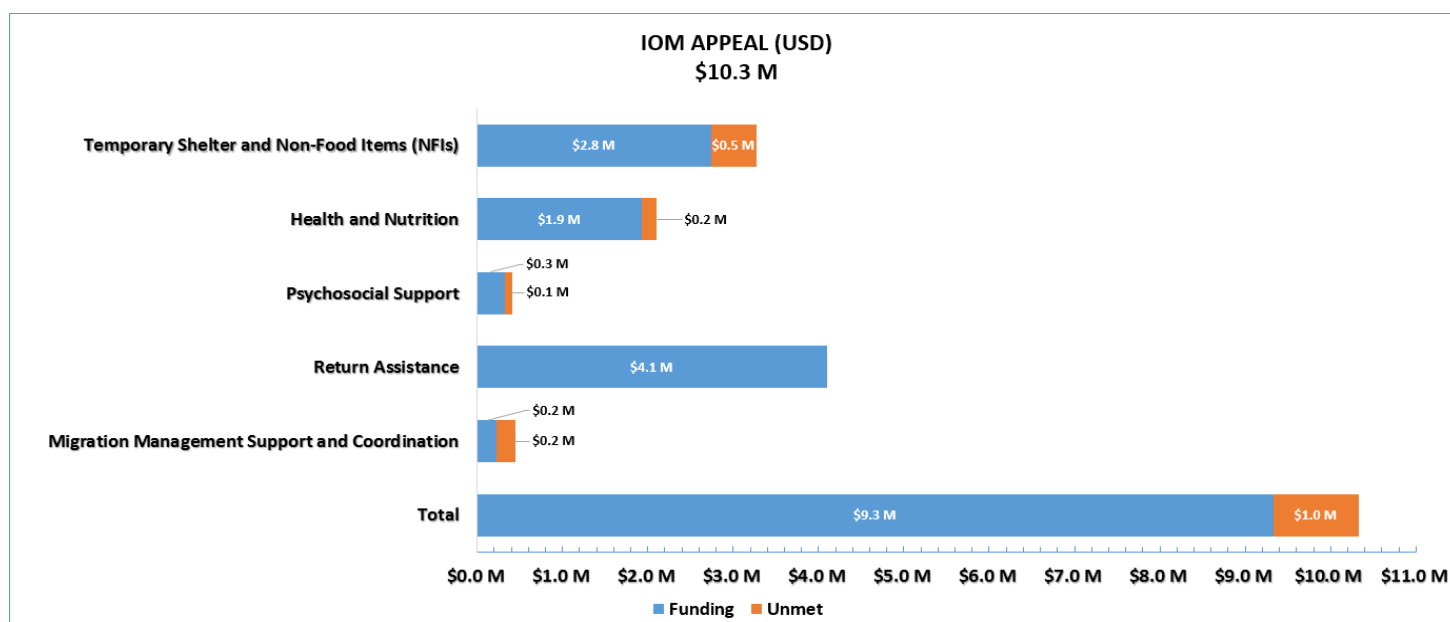
During October 28 Bangladeshis returned under IOM's AVR Programme. They were provided NFIs including clothing and travel bags for their return. One beneficiary was referred for a mental health screening and two were referred for physical health screening. Of the 28, one is a minor who reported having heart issues in the past and is being referred to a specialist for additional screening. At least 10 are expected to return in November.

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 Oct. 31 -	Bangladeshi returnees - as of Oct. 31 -
Bangladesh	-	134	-	-
Indonesia	671	1,820	584	673
Malaysia	-	1,107	485	622
Myanmar	-	1,048	76	731
Thailand	738	153	762	184
TOTAL	1,409	4,262	1,907	2,210

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	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



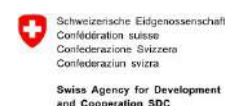
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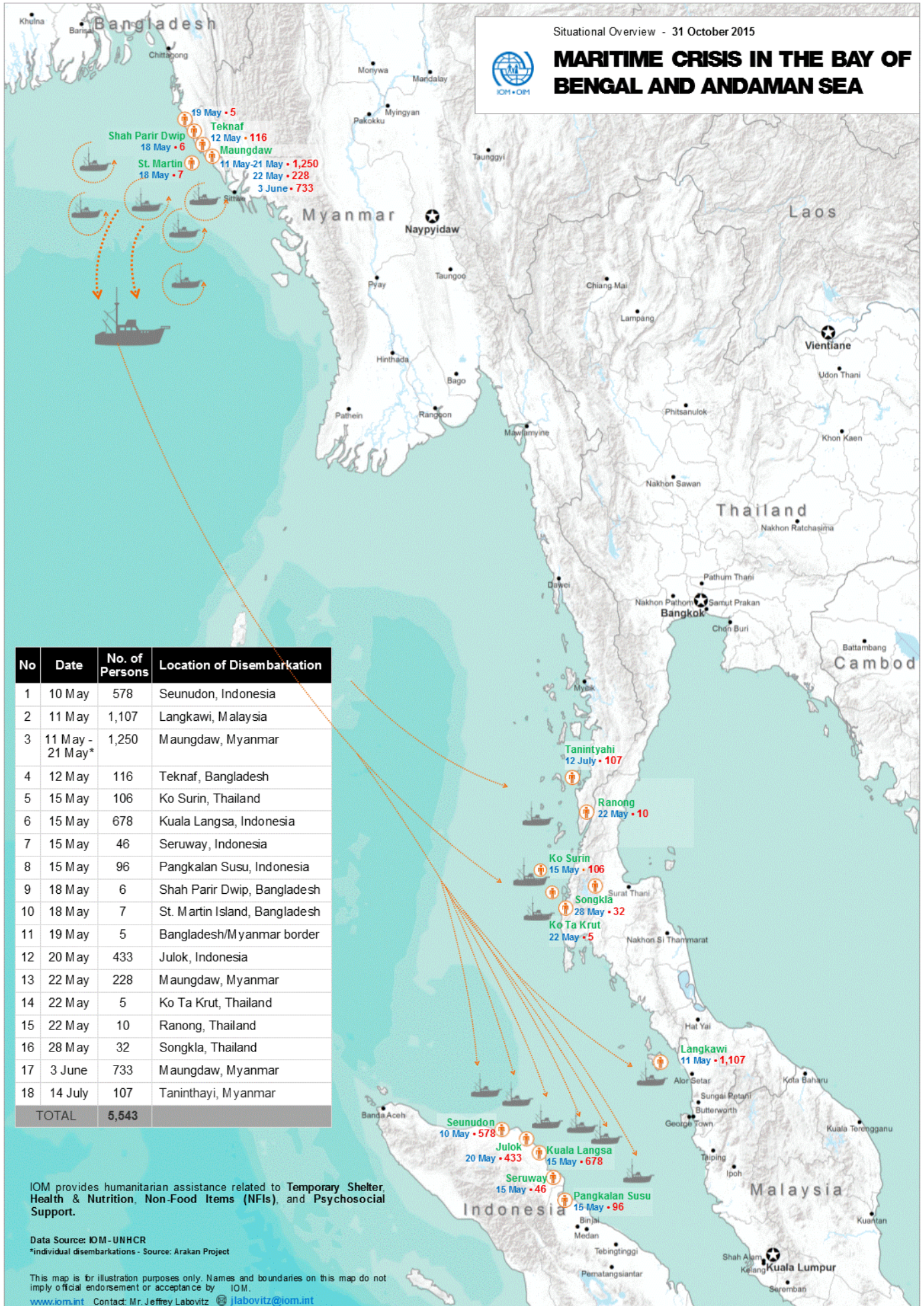


From the People of Japan



Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection





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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