

OPERATION UPDATE

Bangladesh| Population Movement Operation, Cox's Bazar

<p>Emergency appeal No: MDRBD018 Emergency appeal launched: 18/03/2017 Revised appeal published: 20/11/2021 (7th Revision) Operational Strategy published: 25/11/2021</p>	<p>Glide No: OT-2017-000003-BGD</p>
<p>Operation update #18 Date of issue: 10/10/2023</p>	<p>Timeframe covered by this update: From 01/05/2023 to 31/08/2023</p>
<p>Operation timeframe: 18/03/2017 - 31/12/2024 (Revised Emergency Appeal no. 7 period: 1/1/2022 – 31/12/2024)</p>	<p>Number of people being assisted: 1 million people (Camp: 930,000; Host community: 100,000; Bhashan Char: 29,000)</p>
<p>Funding requirements (CHF): CHF 79 million for 2022 – 2024 period through the IFRC Emergency Appeal (including CHF 6 million for Bhashan Char); CHF 135 million Federation-wide</p>	<p>DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 1.4 million</p>

To date, this Emergency Appeal which seeks a total budget of CHF 133.2 million, is 55 per cent funded (funding coverage as of June 2023 is CHF 73.6 million). Further funding contributions are needed to enable the **Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS)**, with the support of IFRC and its memberships, to continue to help meet the humanitarian needs of displaced people from Rakhine, as well as the local community affected by the influx of displaced people.



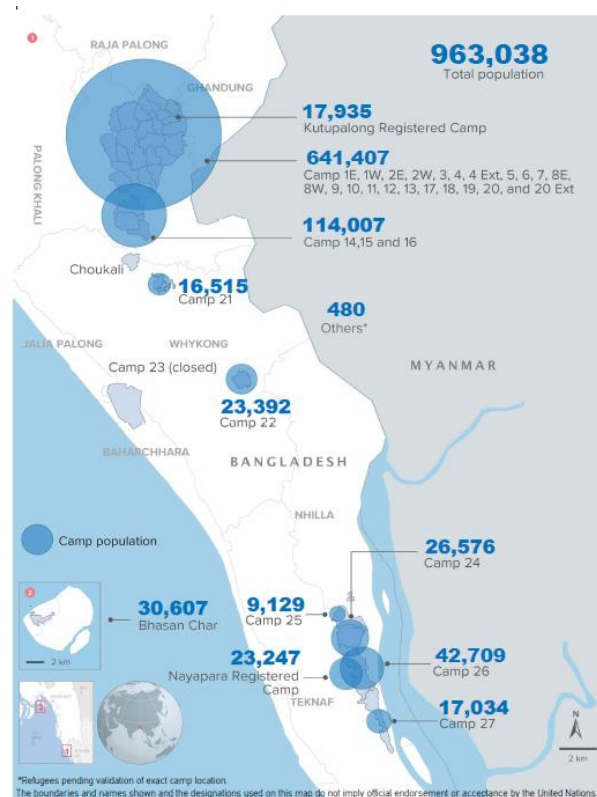
(Left) Disaster Preparedness training conducted in June, for Camp Volunteers from Camp 8W. **(Right)** Early warning with hoisting of 3 flags indicating danger signal and preparedness meeting with Cyclone Preparedness Program’s (CPP) camp volunteers prior to the landfall of Cyclone Mocha on 14 May 2023. **(Photo: IFRC)**

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the crisis

The population movement crisis that unfolded in 2016 resulted in the displacement of people from Rakhine, Myanmar, who crossed the border into Bangladesh. The situation currently continues as a protracted crisis because of the colossal number of displaced people – 963,038 people¹ – who are completely reliant on humanitarian assistance to meet their everyday needs amidst a backdrop of uncertainty on their future, including the possibility of repatriation, frequent disasters such as cyclone and fire incidents and increased security concerns in the camps.

The camp community, comprising 52 per cent females and 48 per cent males, includes 52 per cent children and 4 per cent elderly people, while 4.19 per cent people have been identified as vulnerable and have at least one special need. Their needs span food and basic needs, access to health services and safe water, shelter, protection services, and preparedness for seasonal cyclones, monsoon rains, multi-hazards and disease outbreaks (COVID-19 pandemic, seasonal cholera and dengue etc.) as well as protection against the impacts of environmental and ecosystem degradation.



The evolving crisis is also manifested in the continuing challenges faced by the local community in terms of livelihoods and the local economy, among other factors, brought about by the presence of the huge number of displaced people from Rakhine (hereafter referred to as ‘displaced people’ or ‘camp community’).²

The Government of Bangladesh called on BDRCS to respond to the emergency in December 2016, in line with the National Society’s mandate to provide humanitarian services as auxiliary to the public authorities. Accordingly, an international operation was launched with IFRC DREF support, followed by an Emergency Appeal launched in March 2017. The appeal has been revised on seven occasions, with the last revision covering the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024. The seventh revision marks a new phase of IFRC support to BDRCS in its continued response to the protracted crisis, and in compliance with the request of the Government of Bangladesh to BDRCS to continue providing humanitarian services as its auxiliary status.

Summary of response

Overview of the operating National Society and ongoing response

The BDRCS Population Movement Operation (PMO) office in Cox’s Bazar was established in 2017 and today has a staff strength of 281, while the Cox’s Bazar unit³ of BDRCS has been supporting the operation from the beginning of the crisis, particularly through deploying its 700 Red Crescent Youth (RCY) volunteers by rotation. The BDRCS

¹ Figure referenced in the [Govt of Bangladesh-UNHCR population factsheet issued 31 August 2023](#), and includes displaced people relocated from Cox’s Bazar to Bhasan Char Island. Note that the camp population figures are updated periodically.

² Joint Multi-Sector Needs Assessment of Bangladesh Humanitarian Response for Refugees, 2020, UN OCHA (J-MSNA, OCHA, 2020); Joint Response Plan, 2021, UN OCHA (JRP, OCHA, 2021); ACAPS, Covid-19 and secondary Impacts, 2020 (ACAPS, 2020)

³ Unit is a term equivalent to a BDRCS branch at district or city level. The Cox’s Bazar unit is one of 68 BDRCS units across the country in 64 districts and four city corporation.

headquarters in Dhaka has been providing oversight support and has also deployed staff and resources during this operation.

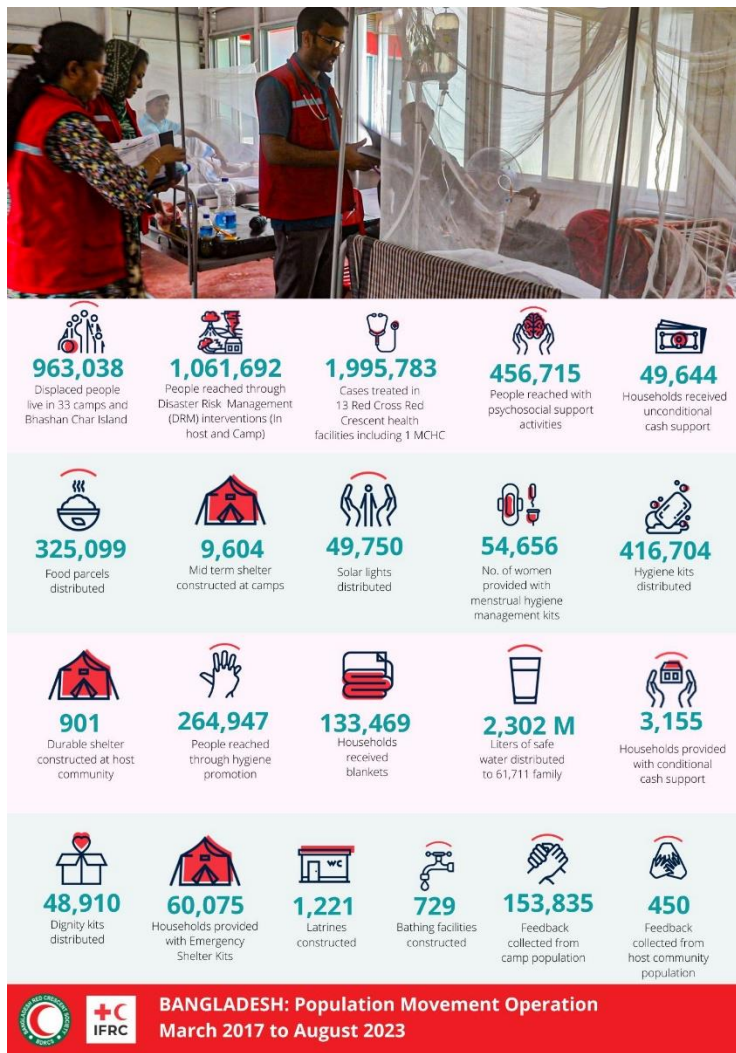
As auxiliary to the public authorities in the provision of humanitarian services, BDRCS serves as a key partner in this response and engages with various authorities at both the national and local levels. Since the 1978 movement of people from Myanmar, BDRCS' relationship with the Bangladesh authorities has been steadfast. As such, BDRCS can access all operational areas in the population movement crisis, in coordination with the authorities, the UN-led Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) and the Refugee Operations and Coordination Team (ROCT).

Apart from the PMO office and unit office (branch) located in Cox's Bazar town, key facilities of BDRCS utilized for this response include three distribution centres in camps 11, 18 and 19, and one warehouse, three logistics hubs and a field office (known as hub office) in Ukhiya.

There is also a longstanding collaboration between BDRCS and the UNHCR to jointly undertake the Myanmar Refugee Relief Operation (MRRO) - this extensive initiative has been in place since 1992.

The PMO completed its sixth year in early 2023, accomplishing the first year of the new phase of the PMO starting on 1 January 2022 and ending on 31 December 2024. Accordingly, from May to August 2023, BDRCS with support from the IFRC and American Red Cross, under a shared leadership approach, **1 million people were reached indirectly across 33 camps and the host communities** through institutionalising Disaster Risk Management (DRM) governance in camps, strengthening DRM in host communities, disseminating the key preparedness information and supporting the Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP). Note that CPP is a national flagship programme of the government, implemented jointly by the Ministry of Disaster Management (MoDRM) and BDRCS.

In reference to individual-level direct programmatic support extended **between May and August 2023**, comprising disaster risk management, health and care; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); shelter, basic needs; and protection, gender and inclusion (PGI), approximately 206,007 people, comprising 167,453 people in the camps and 38,554 people in the host communities, **were reached**. While IFRC support for PMO continues, **the Federation-wide PMO operation (supported by IFRC and 9 in-country IFRC Member Societies) reached 570,552 people comprising 464,452 people in 17 camps and 106,100 people in 5 sub-district level host communities** during this reporting period. Alongside IFRC, BDRCS has been bilaterally supported by the Swiss Red Cross, German Red Cross and British Red Cross to implement the operation for the host communities (please see the federation-wide infographic above and 4W map – detailing the 4Ws: *Who is Doing What, Where and When* – in Annex 1). Details on this reach against the IFRC-supported Emergency Appeal's Operation Strategy can be found in Section C below.



Federation-wide infographic as of 31 August 2023

Fire response in Camp 11

A total of 15,412 fire-affected people in Camp 11 have received emergency and long-term recovery support utilising the IFRC- DREF (MDRBD029) funding of CHF 500,00. In response to the fire incident that occurred on 5 March 2023 in Camp 11, BDRCS with support from IFRC, provided 3,082 households with dry food, non-food items (NFI), shelter, WASH, protection and community engagement as follows:

- **804 households** received **dry food parcels** containing 20 slices of bread, 1 kg puff rice, 500 gm molasses, 80 gm biscuit and 1 kg peanut.
- **2,632 households** received **NFI kits** comprising mosquito nets, plastic mats and blankets with one-time replenishment.
- **2,671 households** received **emergency shelter kits**, each containing bamboo (muli), ropes (3mm and 6mm) and tarpaulins, while 1,850 households were provided with mid-term shelter as part of long-term recovery support.
- **15,412 people** living in two blocks of Camp 11 were provided with **emergency water supplies** through the urgent repair of 63 tap stands.
- In the recovery phase, the following **water restoration support** was provided:
 - Pump installation and fuel supply for 3 damaged water supply systems.
 - Installation of 12 tanks to replace the damaged ones.
 - Installation of three solar systems (two with 18 kVA, one with 10 kVA).
 - Replacement of three chlorine closing pumps.
 - Installation of two sets of submersible pumps.
 - Supply of 127 plumbing materials.
- As part of protection and community engagement, 12 staff and community volunteers were deployed to operate two help desks, and one info hub and to visit households to disseminate information on ongoing emergency assistance. In this process, 376 feedbacks were captured from the affected households and addressed on the spot in coordination with site management. Requirements of necessary support (i.e., installation of shelter, carrying NFI kits) for extremely vulnerable individuals (EVI) were communicated with the shelter and WASH team. Five unaccompanied children were identified and referred to a team to support restoring family links.

A social media link on fire response can be found here: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/sanjeev-kafley-01743644/>

Needs analysis

Situation turns into longer term uncertainty

The emergency needs of the displaced community at the start of the crisis in 2017, evolved in later years to more longer-term needs given the fact that the community has continued to live amidst a backdrop of uncertainty about their future, including the possibility of repatriation.

Reliance on humanitarian assistance

In the camp settlement, children make up almost 52 per cent of the camp population; women and girls represent almost 52 per cent of the population, four per cent are elderly and 4.19 per cent of the total individuals have been identified with at least one specific need including one per cent people with disabilities⁴. Protection vulnerability includes suspected human trafficking, underage marriage, sexual exploitation, and abuse. Some ongoing interventions have certain elements of durability and sustainability such as mid-term shelters (also known as more durable housing), solar-powered water supply networks, and disaster mitigation activities and cash injection in host communities. However, six years after the start of the crisis, the displaced community remains completely reliant on

⁴ Joint Government of Bangladesh – UNHCR Population Factsheet, as of 31 August 2023

humanitarian assistance to meet their daily and longer-term needs in different sectors, given that any form of livelihood activities by the displaced communities in the camp are not permitted. This crisis is further compounded by the seasonal flood, cyclones and heavy rainfall causing landslides, water logging, shelter damages; frequent fire incidents.; outbreaks of cholera, diphtheria, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Collective effort of Red Cross and Red Crescent

Accordingly, the response to the various needs of the vulnerable displaced population as well as affected people in host communities is a well-thought-out effort undertaken over the past years by a multitude of humanitarian actors including the BDRCS and its partners, in accordance with existing and agreed geographical areas and sectoral responsibilities per area allocated to BDRCS and the wider IFRC membership and to other humanitarian actors.

Emergency appeal and BDRCS scope of work

Furthermore, PMO programming under the IFRC Emergency Appeal is guided by ISCG assessment data and complemented by findings of sector-specific assessments undertaken by BDRCS/IFRC. In collaboration with government authorities in the camps, Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) and Site Management Support (SMS) service agencies, BDRCS will take on the responsibility for meeting the needs of the community in a particular camp or a block within a camp. As such BDRCS is playing implementing focal role in several camps (fully or partly) for different types of intervention including shelter in camps 11 and 12; WASH in camps 11, 12, 18, and 19; health and care in camps 2E, 5, 7, 6 (2 facilities), 8E, 12, 13, 15, 17, 19, 20 ext and 22, as well as DRR in all 33 camps. A health sector rationalization study led by the Health Sector, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in coordination with the office of the RRRC was completed and BDRCS is complying with its recommendations and set standards in the camp settlement. Decommissioning of the Primary Healthcare Centre (PHC) in Camp 11 in March 2023, PHC in Camp 15 in October 2013 and the upgradation of several health facilities including the Field Hospital have been undertaken following the recommendation. This will have maximum impact without duplication of effort.

Strategic change through rationalisation and localisation

Gaps in humanitarian support continue to exist and widen, particularly due to funding challenges faced by the humanitarian actors. From 2022, relevant government authorities, ISCG (retitled as ROCT⁵), sub-sectors and WHO have started one camp approach that includes rationalisation and Accountability to Affected People (AAP) approach. While avoiding duplication of effort and enhancing the quality standard of the programming, this strategic forum also promotes localisation of the humanitarian support – to gradually handing over the programmatic and financial management responsibilities to the national organisations and national staff. Specific improvements are required to match the needs identified in the rationalisation exercise, notably as regards mid-term shelter, mother and child health, mental health and psychosocial support, as well as sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

In this connection, IFRC in collaboration with Red Cross Red Crescent partners has initiated a **rationalisation exercise** undertaken from June to August 2023 with a goal: **To develop a Federation-wide strategic direction of PMO beyond 2024 led by BDRCS in line with the JRP**. The final report is due in September. The goal is specifically focusing on the following objectives:

- Revisiting the programme priorities
- Programme adaptation based on the needs and funding
- Increase operational efficiency aligned with sectors and standards
- Increased compliance, risk management, and accountability
- Cost-efficiency and quality
- Appropriate HR restructure and resource optimisation
- Shared leadership approach
- Different scenario road map
- National Society's at the front line

⁵ Refugee Operations and Coordination Team

Changes in priorities

Moreover, the revised emergency appeal focuses on a care and maintenance approach for WASH, shelter, health care and Disaster Risk Management interventions to ensure the continued benefit to displaced people in the camp settlement and influx-affected people in host communities. This includes but is not limited to the continued operation of the solar-powered water network, faecal sludge and solid waste management plants, healthcare facilities, strengthening shelters, site development, and improved disaster risk management governance.

Relocation reality

Besides this, the relocation of the camp population to Bhashan Char Island continues, with a total figure of 30,607 people as of 31 August 2023. In December 2022, more than 3,500 camp people undertook six risky boat voyages⁶ to escape the camp settlement in Cox's Bazar, eventually disembarking on the northern coast of Sumatra, Indonesia and Malaysia as well as being rescued⁷ by the Sri Lankan authorities. Given that the displaced people have been living in the camps for six years and continue to do so, structural strengthening is necessary, with due attention to environmentally more sustainable solutions.

In this context, the BDRCS, as auxiliary to the public authorities in the provision of humanitarian services, will exert its efforts to fill gaps, as they arise, based on context. To this end, the latest revised Emergency Appeal and its Operational Strategy aim to support BDRCS in addressing the gaps. In addition to its auxiliary status, it is envisaged that the advantage that BDRCS will provide to the donor community is greater access to affected communities, and cost-efficiency, as it is a leading local organization with thousands of volunteers across Bangladesh and a wealth of technical expertise provided by its international IFRC-network partners.

Operational risk assessment

During the reporting period, there were a few changes in operational risks, such as mapping the security risks inside the camp and a revised risk mitigation approach, the PMO Risk Register serves as an important management tool for the operation. Last revised in June 2023, it continues to outline the same six main risks and mitigating action. The current risks comprise; **seasonal cyclones and monsoon, and other hazards including fire and floods; clashes or violence using firearms in the camps; social discord between displaced and host communities; crime (theft in camp facilities, in particular) and militant attacks.**

During this reporting period, the overall security situation across the camp settlement and the surrounding host communities remained heightened. Crime and hazard are reportedly dominating incidents in Cox's Bazar comprising 75 per cent crimes, 24 per cent hazards and 1 per cent civil unrest. There are reports of violent incidents, targeted killings, targeted attacks, and exchanges of fires/clashes. PMO issues regular security updates for its staff, volunteers and IFRC in-country membership. However, these did not impact the PMO operation as the coordination mechanism is in place to undertake timely action to avoid unexpected security threats. To mitigate the security risk, PMO introduced joint security advisory and briefings on a monthly basis, from IFRC and BDRCS for all international and national staff and volunteers.

The IFRC Security Manager specifically serves as the civil-military liaison concerning security in the camps, a crucial role for keeping abreast of developments in the operational environment in the camp settlement and adjoining host community areas, as well as maintaining good relations with law enforcement agencies. On a regular basis, security situation has been closely monitored by coordinating with the local army, police and the United Nations Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS) and key advisories have been produced and shared through dedicated email and WhatsApp groups.

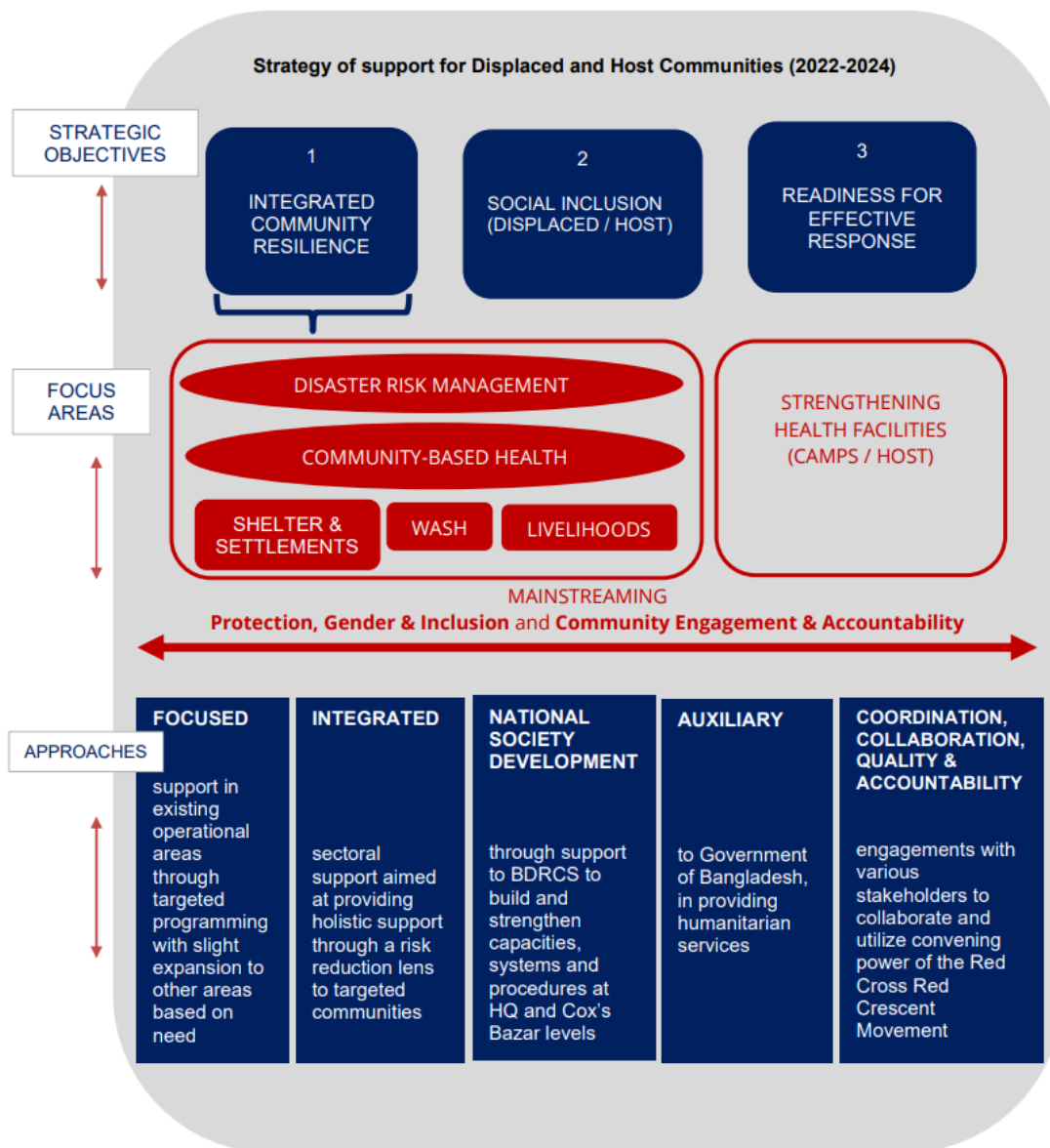
⁶ [Tweet link](#), displaced people on boat, 22 December 2022

⁷ [The Guardian report on displaced people](#), 10 December 2022

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Update on the strategy


There is no change to the [Operational Strategy](#)⁸, published on 25 November 2021, in complement with the revised Emergency Appeal of 20 November 2021. An illustration of the strategy can be found below.



⁸Also available on IFRC GO platform, <https://go.ifrc.org/emergencies/2#reports>

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

	Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	People target	984,000
		People reached	335,283
Objective:		<i>The disaster readiness and resilience of communities are strengthened</i>	
Key indicators:	Actual (May – Aug 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Aug 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)
<i># of displaced people living in camp settlements reached with Disaster Risk Management intervention within the intervention period</i>	14,304	285,223	930,292 (All 33 camps)
<i># of host community people reached with Disaster Risk Management intervention within the intervention period</i>	4,544	50,060	100,000
<i># people in camp and host communities reached through Cyclone Preparedness Programme</i>	Camp: 6,520 Host: 1,878	Camp: 243,583 Host: 19,146	Camp: 930,292 Host: 100,000
<i>Disaster Management Committees established in 33 camps</i>	33	33	33

A total of **18,848 people** (12,889 males and 5,959 females) in camps 1W, 3,11, 12, 13, 14,15, 17, 19 and 25 as well as host communities (Cox's Bazar Sadar, Ramu and Ukhiya) were reached between May and August 2023, comprising 14,304 people from camps and 4,544 people from host communities.

Important to underline is that, in addition to the people who benefited from direct support, **one million people** across 33 camps and Cox's Bazar host communities **indirectly benefited** through the support given to the government and humanitarian stakeholders in institutionalizing **Disaster Risk Management governance** in the camp settlement, as well as **timely dissemination of early warning information and anticipatory action**. People remained resilient as they were provided with disaster preparedness orientation, fire incident response and fire safety awareness campaigns through fire drills, small-scale mitigation at the affected household level, and capacity enhancement of the volunteers and stakeholders in camps and disaster preparedness committees. Significant achievements are stated below under the efforts for disaster preparedness and response:

Preparedness

Disaster risk governance

The entire camp settlement alongside six BDRCS Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) working camps (11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 19) has been supported with emergency and periodic Disaster Management Committee (DMC) coordination meetings as well as DRR trainings. Prior to the landfall of Cyclone Mocha, BDRCS with support from IFRC/American Red Cross, Camp-in-Charge (CiC) and other humanitarian actors organized coordination meetings to facilitate

collective cyclone tracking and planning for readiness. A total of 33 professionals, working in camps, participated in training and increased their knowledge of disaster preparedness. Among them, 15 DMC members were trained on DMC Guidelines, and 18 humanitarian professionals from various organizations including the International Organization for Migration (IOM) took part in the Training of Trainers (ToT) on DRR and will cascade the learning to the DMC members in respective camps.

In host communities (Ukhiya and Ramu sub-districts), 471 DMC members received a refresher training on disaster preparedness capacity; 375 DMC members at Union and Ward levels participated in Standing Order on Disaster (SOD) 2019 orientation sessions to improve knowledge on their roles and responsibilities. Participating in training sessions, 96 members in these host communities increased knowledge on Disaster Risk Management and Multi-Hazard Preparedness and Shelter Management Guideline.



CPP camp volunteers disseminated Cyclone Mocha alert using megaphone and sirens. (Photo: IFRC)



BDRCS Red Crescent Youth (RCY) volunteers assisted extremely vulnerable individuals in Ukhiya host community to evacuation at a cyclone centre before the landfall of cyclone Mocha. (Photo: BDRCS)

Mass awareness raising on cyclone preparedness

A total of 7,752 people in 10 camps (4, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19, 21, 22 and 24) received awareness messaging on overall cyclone preparedness, Early Warning – Anticipatory Action (EW-AA) on cyclone as well as multi-hazard preparedness for fire, lightning, drowning and landslide. Similarly, in the host communities, 307 people participated in various preparedness sessions to increase awareness of multi-hazard and monsoon season preparedness.

Capacity enhancement for disaster readiness

The capacity enhancement intervention has been conducted at institutional and volunteer levels. With respect to the former, 55 staff comprising 31 representatives from BDRCS and Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) partners and 24 from other humanitarian partner organizations in camps 11, 12 and 13 were trained on multi-hazard preparedness and response and inclusive disaster risk management respectively. In addition, three pre-disaster meetings to develop preparedness plans before disasters were organized in Ukhiya local administration for DMC members.

To strengthen the camp and host volunteer base, 3,145 camp volunteers from camps 3, 8W, 9, 11, 18, 19, 25 and Kutupalong were trained on various preparedness strategies including early warning system, basic disaster preparedness in the current camp context and multi-hazards. Eight Red Crescent Youth (RCY) committees were supported to organize sessions on the Comprehensive Disaster Risk Management and Resilience Building Programme at the school level that positively influences school-level disaster readiness in Ukhiya host community.

Risk mitigation

A total of 28 families of 140 members in camps 13, 14, 15 and 19 were mobilized to work on small-scale mitigation measures, including slop protection, guide wall to prevent potential landslides of shelters located on hilly slopes, and were provided with 'cash for work' support.

Response

Cyclone Moch response in camps and host communities

As part of the Cyclone Mocha response, BDRCS with support from IFRC/American Red Cross and in coordination with the Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) regional office, Office of Refugee, Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC), district/sub-district administration, Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG and other relevant partners/stakeholders disseminated early warning and anticipatory actions and hoisted the signal flags at 330 designated places across 33 camps and Cox's Bazar host communities. In each camp, 100 camp volunteers were mobilized by respective Site Management Support Agencies (SMSA) to support emergency relocation, safe sheltering of Extremely Vulnerable Individuals (EVIs), debris removal and damage assessment after the landfall.

BDRCS also provided 1,800 dry food parcels to the evacuees who took shelter during Cyclone Mocha in different cyclone shelters of Cox's Bazar Sadar, Ukhiya and Teknaf on 13 May 2023. 3,000 CPP volunteers and 325 trained RCY were mobilized to support emergency response activities across the Cox's Bazar district.

Collaboration with various actors

With Red Cross Red Crescent partners: IFRC-supported disaster management programming continues to be coordinated with the German Red Cross. As and when needed, technical support is also provided to the ICRC and the Myanmar Refugee Relief Operation (MRRO), a joint programme of the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and BDRCS.

With external actors: BDRCS serves as chair of the Technical Working Group on Cyclone Preparedness that sits under the umbrella of the ISCG's Communications with Communities (CwC) working group. Having this scope of collaboration, BDRCS and IFRC DRM teams continue to coordinate with the external stakeholders including government counterparts, UNHCR, IOM, United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and their partners on the ground for the smoothest implementation of planned DRM interventions on the ground. This collaboration was positively manifested during the fire incident response in Camp 11 and the Mocha response across 33 camps and five host communities.



Health & Care

*(Mental Health and psychosocial support /
Community Health / Medical Services)*

People targeted

500,000

People reached

439,182

Objective:

Health risks of targeted communities are reduced, and communities enjoy improved health and wellbeing

Key indicators:

**Actual
(May – Aug 2023)**

**Actual
(Jan 2022 – Aug 2023)**

**Target
(by Dec 2024)**

of people in camps and host communities reduced health risk receiving medical management of injuries and diseases, and health messages

Camp: 83,317
Host: 30,223

Camp: 345,998
Host: 93,184

Camp: 300,000
Host: 200,000

of people who have accessed medical services at BDRCS healthcare facilities in camp and host communities

Camp: 24,794
Host: 19,064

Camp: 82,966
Host: 25,670

Camp: 150,000
Host: 80,000

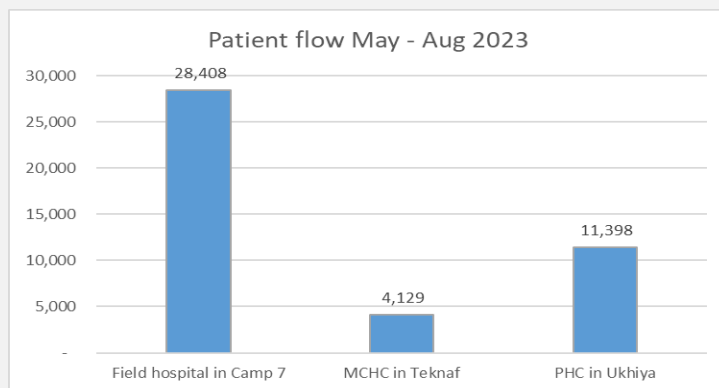
# of people in camp and host communities who have accessed Community-Based Health and First Aid services (CBHFA)	Camp: 58,446 Host: 11,159	Camp: 263,032 Host: 59,575	Camp: 300,000 Host: 200,000
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A total of **113,540 people** in camps (83,317) and host communities (30,223) were reached between May and August 2023 through three health facilities and Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) services. The health facility comprises a field hospital, a Mother and Child Health Care (MCHC) centre and a Primary Health Care Centre (PHCC) while under CBHFA services, community volunteers continue to visit target households across 13 camps and Ukhiya and Teknaf host communities under Cox’s Bazar district.

During this period the PHCC began its operation, which is run at a government-owned health complex in Ukhiya host community. As such, 439,182 people in camps and Ukhiya host communities were cumulatively reached as of 31 August 2023 in the new phase of operation. Facility-based and community-based services have been elaborated in the following sections.

Field Hospital

A total of 28,408 patients, the majority from Camp 7 (23,794) and adjacent host community (4,614) were treated at outpatient and inpatient facilities of the BDRCS Field Hospital, supported by IFRC. The hospital continues its services on a 24-hour basis, seven days a week – this includes emergency patient care, outpatient department, 10-bed inpatient, sexual and reproductive health service (including delivery), blood services, laboratory, and X-ray. During this period, 151 patients were admitted to the hospital with various conditions – this included 78 women admitted to the maternity ward for normal delivery.



MCHC

Additionally, 4,129 women and children were treated at the MCHC centre with a five-bed capacity and continued its operation on a 24x7 basis, mainly offering maternity services for the Teknaf Sadar host community. On average 34 cases have been treated daily during this period, compared to 30 cases in the last period. That included outpatient, inpatient child delivery support, antenatal and post-natal care, and family planning.

PHCC

A total of 11,398 people, mainly from the host community (10,321 people), were treated at the IFRC-supported PHCC which began its operation in dry run mode on 27 April 2023. Following a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Director General of Health Services (DGHS), and meetings with PHC coordination committee members and representatives from DGHS, IOM and United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the current funding will cover the cost of human resources for two years before handing over the PHC to the government by the end of March 2024. The PHCC, with a 10-bed in-patient facility, constructed at Balukhali sub-centre in Ukhiya sub-district is set to provide healthcare services in line with the Minimum Package of Essential Health Services for primary healthcare in Bangladesh.

The facility provides various services including curative care, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health, family planning, sexual- and gender-based violence prevention, nutrition, communicable diseases treatment, mental health and psychosocial services, non-communicable diseases, and emergency referrals. The catchment area of the centre mainly covers Balukhali, Ukhiya host community, but patients also come from nearby camps. An average of 95 cases daily have been treated during the reporting period. The facility offers services around the clock, seven days a week, targeting 25,000 people from the host and the camp population in Balukhli, Ukhia. It is worth noting that since its

operationalization and its location at the government-owned Union Sub-centre, the facility has gained local people's acceptance due to its easily recognizable landscape.



(Left) A community-based health education session was conducted in camp 12. (Right) A man at in-patient was examined by a doctor at BDRCS Field Hospital in Camp 7 (right). (Photo: IFRC)

CBHFA

In the reporting period, 69,605 people in camps (58,446) and host communities (11,159) were provided with key health messages through the provision of CBHFA outreach service. This service aims to complement the healthcare service provided at the Field Hospital, MCH and other BDRCS health facilities and general health awareness for the affected people. CBHFA service has been provided through regular household visits in 13 camps (2E, 5, 6, 7, 8E, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19 & 20 Ext.), and Ukhiya and Teknaf host communities - includes mainly general health education, recreational activities, and Psychological First Aid (PFA) for the target people. During the reporting period, 43,234 people in these camps were newly reached and others were followed up. As of 31 August 2023, cumulatively 253,002 people representing around 50,000 households were reached from January 2022, through this service.

Health facilities supported by IFRC member societies: Apart from the BDRCS Field Hospital, jointly supported by IFRC and Qatar Red Crescent Society currently there are 10 other health facilities in the camp run by BDRCS with the support of IFRC member societies, comprising five PHCs supported by the Swiss Red Cross (in camps 2E, 6, 13 and 15) and Turkish Red Crescent (in camp 20 Ext), while six Health Posts are supported by the Japanese Red Cross (in Camp 12), Qatar Red Crescent Society (in camps 8E & 19) and Turkish Red Crescent (in camps 17 and 22). A daily average of 742 patients were treated during this period in the above-mentioned facilities.

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: Within PMO, there is a health-sector coordination group comprising BDRCS, IFRC and IFRC member societies (Japanese Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent, Swiss Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent). The role of this group is to improve health services in alignment with government and WHO standards and find ways to coordinate health services within the Red Cross Red Crescent.

During the period under review, meetings between IFRC and Qatar Red Crescent were held to discuss support for the Field Hospital, the handover process, and ongoing staff development. Furthermore, IFRC and Qatar RC were collaboratively attending WHO/Government requirements regarding the Field Hospital's service data to be shared on the WHO Early Warning, Alert and Response System (EWARS) and the Government's DHIS2 database.

With external actors: A significant level of external coordination continues to be undertaken with the Government healthcare service authority (the Office of the Civil Surgeon), WHO Cox's Bazar unit and several humanitarian actors, particularly for health service rationalization across the camp settlement. In addition, collaboration has been undertaken with the Christian Blind Mission (CBM) and the Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) to establish a rehabilitation service at the Field Hospital. Partners for Reproductive Justice (IPAS) have also been consulted to improve referrals for sexual and reproductive health services at the BDRCS Field Hospital in Camp 7.



Shelter, Housing and Settlements

People targeted

155,000

People reached

45,340

Objective:

The safety and well-being of communities are strengthened through shelter and settlement solutions

Key indicators:

Actual
(May – Aug 2023)

Actual
(Jan 2022 – Aug 2023)

Target
(by Dec 2024)

of people in the camp and host communities provided with shelter and settlement solutions and strengthen their safety and well-being

Camp: 9,250
Host:

Camp: 41,065
Host: 1,565

Camp: 120,000
Host: 35,000

of shelter and settlement solutions (such as alternative construction materials, transitional shelter materials, mid-term shelters etc.) provided for the camp people

Camp: 9,250
Host:

Camp: 8,213
Host: 318

Camp: 24,000
Host: 7,000

of community structures (such as health centre, distribution point, community safe space, roads, bridges etc.) constructed (new) and improved (existing) in the camp settlement

Camp:
Host:

Camp: 8
Host: 2

Camp: 6
Host: 2

of people in the camp increased knowledge and awareness on safe shelter

Camp:
Host:

Camp: 1,000
Host: 1,470

Camp: TBC⁹
Host: 12,075

Between April and August 2023, a total of **9,250 people** in Camp 11 were reached as part of the fire response effort. The intervention included the construction of 1,850 mid-term shelters and site development works in this fire-affected camp, where BDRCS served as the shelter focal point.

Mid-term Shelter (MTS) with Household Level Site Development: In Camp 11, out of the 2,850 targets for shelter reconstruction, 1,850 households were supported by BDRCS. The same design of MTS was used with treated bamboo, metal footing, and tarpaulins and covered a space of 10X15 square feet. A fire resistance wall was also constructed in each shelter's kitchen space as part of the fire mitigation initiative. The shelter was constructed in collaboration with Site Management, Site Development, and other shelter agencies.

Durable shelter: Following the findings of the vulnerability assessment in Teknaf host community, 24 households for durable shelters were selected. These durable shelters will have concrete structures with two rooms, a verandah and a CGI¹⁰ roof following government standards and specifications.

Care and Maintenance: In Camp 12, an assessment of households who received MTS support in 2022 was conducted. The assessment report revealed types of damage to 2,500 households that require emergency shelter kits including bamboo, tarpaulin, ropes etc. to repair their shelter. This support was aimed at providing care and maintenance assistance, including repair of main components. Through the distribution of materials and providing labor and porter support, the Extremely Vulnerable Individuals (EVIs) were able to benefit from

⁹ The target is subject to households needed the training in the same camp, as before 2022 the same households were given the training.

¹⁰ Corrugated Galvanized Iron or Steel

this program. The monsoon season with heavy rainfall affected households in Camp 11, leading to the provision of emergency shelter kits to help with necessary repairs to partially damaged shelters caused by the heavy rain and strong wind.

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: Coordination with the German Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent, and Turkish Red Crescent continues with a view to align or complement the support extended to BDRCS.

With external actors: The camp authorities, such as the Refugee, Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC), Camp-in-Charges (CiCs); ISCG), and Site Management Support (SMS) agencies of the camps have been major actors for continued BDRCS/IFRC coordination and collaboration. The period under review was marked by an ongoing dialogue between UNHCR and IFRC concerning additional responsibility for 6,000 shelters construction in seven camps where previously UNHCR-supported partner organisation was a focal agency. In the host communities, the local administration and Union Parisad leaders (public representatives) are the key actors for collaboration. The partnership with IOM for a bamboo treatment facility has been continued and strengthened the sector's coordination and quality benchmark.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

People targeted	150,000
People reached	151,143

Objective:

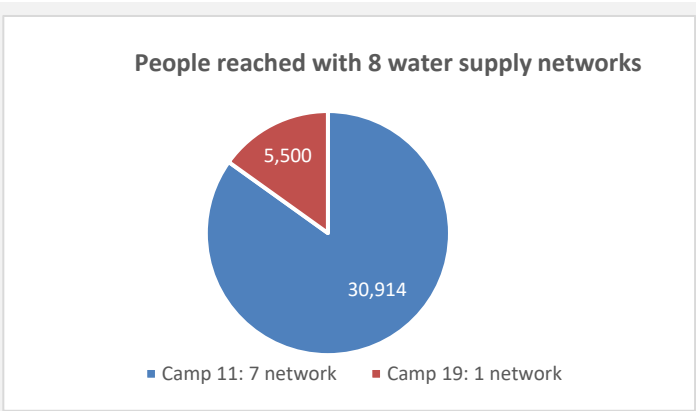
Communities experience reduced risk of waterborne and water-related diseases, and as such, enjoy improved wellbeing

Key indicators:

	Actual (May – Aug 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Aug 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)
<i># of people reached in the camp and host communities who experience reduced risk of waterborne and water-related diseases</i>	Camp: 62,099 Host: 11,067	Camp: 89,582 Host: 53,061	Camp: 115,000 Host: 35,000
<i># of people with access to safe water sourced through climate-smart, nature-based solutions</i>	Camp: 36,414 Host:	Camp: 36,414 Host: 1,840	Camp: 36,000 Host: 10,750
<i># of people benefiting from environment-friendly, innovative sanitation services</i>	Camp: 15,875 Host:	Camp: 15,875 Host: 7,025	Camp: 23,500 Host: 25,000
<i># of people practicing improved hygiene</i>	Camp: 6,810 Host: 11,067	Camp: 84,917 Host: 61,561	Camp: 55,500 Host: 30,000

A total of **73,166 people** in camps (11, 13, 18 and 19: 62,099 people) and host community (Ukhiya: 11,067) were supported between May and August 2023 with recurrent operation of eight water networks, one Faecal Sludge Management (FSM), 11 Solid Waste Management (SWM) plants, repair of latrines and bathing cubicles as well as hygiene promotion with kits distribution. Highlights are as follows:

Water supply system: 36,414 people in camps 11 and 19 continue to benefit from access to safe chlorinated water for drinking and household consumption – the water is supplied through eight water network systems comprising seven in Camp 11 and one in Camp 19. On average, 12,696 cubic meters of water have been supplied after extraction and chlorination of the groundwater every month. All water supply networks used nature-based solutions, installing solar power generation to operate the motor. In Camp 18, there are two water supply systems, constructed with the support of IFRC and handed over to the Swedish Red Cross, that continue to provide 4,066 people with safe chlorinated water.



As part of care and maintenance intervention, 406 water network facilities and 87 tube wells were repaired in camps 11 and 19 respectively. Regular water quality monitoring for camps is conducted to ensure that people consume safe water free from E. Coli. Samples were collected from the water chain regularly, such as sources, distribution points, and household storage. Critical parameters under monitoring include pH, total dissolved solids, E. Coli, iron, turbidity, nitrates, fluoride, arsenic etc.



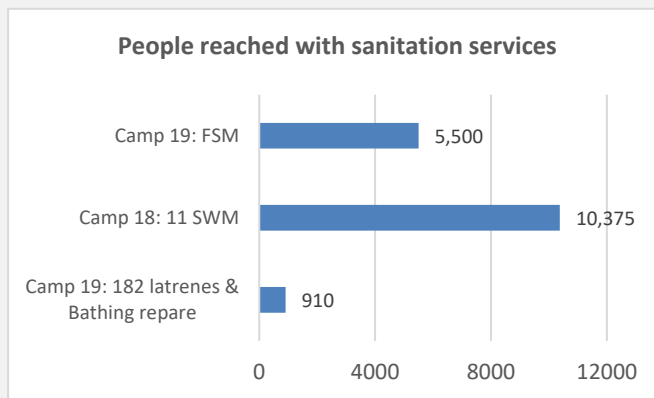
A hygiene session was conducted with people in Camp 13 who also received hygiene top-up kits. (Photo: IFRC)



Households at D block of Camp 19 are benefited from this Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) plant (Photo: IFRC)

Sanitation: 15,875 people have been provided with various sanitation services in camps 18 and 19 on an ongoing basis. These services comprise a Faecal Sludge Management plant in Camp 19 and 11 Solid Waste Management plants in Camp 18.

A total of 5,500 people were continually served through the ongoing operation of the **FSM plant in Camp 19 (D block)**, where 250 latrines were de-sludged regularly and 220 cubic meters of faecal sludge from existing latrines were treated and decontaminated before discharging to the drainage system. At the same time, 182 shared latrines and 44 bathing cubicles were also repaired in Camp 19. A Faecal Sludge Field Lab (FSFL lab continues to test the liquid sludge waste before it discharges to the drainage system. This plant ensures environment-friendly FSM service that includes sludge collection, processing, filtration, and producing outputs of soil conditioner. These are only used within the camp.



SWM plants: 10,375 people from 24 sub-blocks in camp 18 were continually served by the ongoing operation of 11 SWM plants located at block level in the camp, where a monthly average of 21,000 kg of solid waste from households was collected. The collected wastes have been segregated into organic and inorganic and organic was processed to produce compost. The community people in the camp collect compost for their household gardening.

Hygiene promotion: 17,877 people in camps 11 and 19, and Ratna Palong (11,067 people in Ukhiya sub-district) host community have been made aware of proper hygiene practice through participation in hygiene promotion sessions, receiving soap kits (that include one bathing and one laundry soap per person per month). In this effort, Camp Volunteers and WASH committee members regularly observed their practice at the household and WASH facilities levels to identify gaps in the practice and the need for hygiene promotion. This has helped improve their knowledge of the importance of hand washing with soap and other aspects of personal and household hygiene. Around 31,000 soap kits were distributed monthly in camps 13,18 and 19. In addition, 6,174 women and adolescent girls were provided with Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kits in target camps.

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: Coordination continues with the German Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent to ensure alignment and complementarity in the support provided to BDRCS. Under the sanitation programme in Camp 18, the German Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross have been jointly supporting IFRC to continue the solid waste management in 11 block-level plants. IFRC continues to support drinking water quality and faecal sludge testing lab and all Red Cross and Red Crescent WASH partners make use of it. IFRC also continues to support hygiene promotion sessions, and the distribution of WASH NFI kits (Soap and MHM kits) in camps 13, 18 and 19 where other partners bilaterally support BDRCS.

With external actors: Coordination and collaboration continue with stakeholders such as the Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE), local authorities, and humanitarian actors on the ground. Moreover, BDRCS, IFRC, Swedish Red Cross jointly with BRAC, the WASH sector supporting to Institute for Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering (IHE) Delft to conduct an FSM research project named 'RISK-WASH' – a risk-based approach to humanitarian sanitation decision making.

	Livelihoods	People targeted	70,000
		People reached	45,815

Objective: *The livelihoods of communities are restored and strengthened*

Key indicators:	Actual (May – Aug 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Aug 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)
<i># of people in the camp and host communities reached by restoring and strengthening their livelihoods</i>	Camp: Host:	Camp: 7,665 Host: 38,150	Camp: 20,000 Host: 50,000
<i># of people in camp and host communities provided with cash and voucher assistance (CVA)</i>	Camp: Host:	Camp: 7,665 Host: 38,150	Camp: 20,000 Host: 50,500
<i># of people in camp and host communities provided with skills development opportunities</i>	Host:	Host: 2,670	Camp: 10,000 Host: 10,000

Between May and August 2023, a total of **2,948 households** in Ukhiya sub-district host community of Cox's Bazar underwent an assessment, which was followed by a community consultation with 2,630 community people. The assessment findings finally selected 1,049 households, considered under the vulnerability criteria set through community consultation, for conditional cash grants. While livelihood assistance for guest communities remains restricted, a recently approved skill development framework has been strategized during this period to develop necessary skills among youth of the camps in 13, 14 and 19. Highlights are as follows:

Cash grants and skills development for camp and host community

Household selection for conditional cash grant of BDT 30,000 (CHF 250)

Initially, 2,630 people in the target community were consulted to select the most vulnerable households applying inclusion and exclusion criteria. The consultations were conducted with the target community people, wealthy groups, government authorities, and relevant agencies (Agriculture, Livestock, etc.). Area-wise community Livelihood Committees have also been formed to ensure that communities are guided and included in the overall process.



A survey was conducted at Ukhiya host community to identify vulnerable households for conditional cash grant (Photo: IFRC)

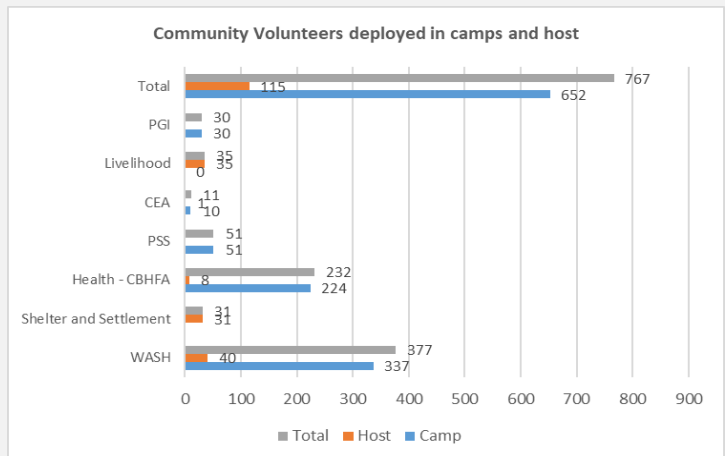
In this process, a series of Focus Group Discussions (FGD) and Key Informant Information (KIIs) were conducted in each Ukhiya host community target area (3 Unions) by deploying 10 Red Crescent volunteers, two National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members, five DRR officers, and three CEA staff members. Next step to consultation, 2,948 households were assessed deploying the criteria set out by the consultation results. This resulted in 1,049 households selected in three wards of Ukhiya host community who will get the first instalment of the cash grant. Before distributing the first instalment of BDT 20,000 (CHF 90), livelihood training will be conducted in batches for the selected households' representatives to improve their knowledge and skills on costing, books of accounts, supply chain, planning and analysis. As per the plan, 980 households will receive the first instalment in September.

Skills development for camp community

A total of 60 household representatives in Camp 13 were selected, based on their vulnerability criteria, for technical skill-based training. All 60 persons are females, including six with disabilities. The training will be conducted beginning in September at the BDRCS Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety (DAPS) centre in Camp 13 centre. The type of technical skills will depend on their interest which should be utilisable within the camp context, for example, sewing, tailoring, knitting, basket making, embroidery etc.

Cash for Work

In addition to the direct cash grant, 767 individuals from camps (683) and host (84) communities, as 'Community Volunteer', comprising 594 males and 173 females, were provided with livelihood assistance through various Cash for Work modalities. Trained community volunteers from camp and host communities were engaged across the programme sectors with various roles including faecal sludge collectors, solid waste collectors, CBHFA message disseminators, household-level hygiene promoters, community feedback collectors/communicators, protection message



disseminators, construction workers, daily labours, night guards, supervising. Although direct cash grant support is not allowed for camp communities, the 'Cash for Work' modality creates a scope for the community to get an income and take part in sectoral activities (*see the chart here*). Dashboard link for details: [Camp & host Community Volunteers deployment](#)

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: The American Red Cross (on behalf of IFRC as part of the Shared Leadership arrangement) and the German Red Cross (on the e-voucher modality of meeting household needs in the camp) are the major collaborating partners in identifying host community areas most affected by the influx of displaced people from Myanmar.

With external actors: To harmonize the livelihood programming with government and other humanitarian actors, the team works closely with the local Union Parisad, Union Nirbahi Officer (a responsible officer within the local administration) and community leaders in the host community. As for camp programming, consultation continues with the ISCG Cash Transfers Working Group and Shelter/ Non-Food Items Sectors of humanitarian actors, the Camp-in-Charge of individual camps, and Site Management Support agencies, for direct or indirect livelihood opportunities.

 Protection, Gender and Inclusion	People targeted	115,000
	People reached	68,554

Objective:	<i>Vulnerable and marginalised individuals and groups are supported and empowered</i>		
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Key indicators:	Actual (May – Aug 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Aug 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)
<i># of people provided with essential PGI services (camp community)</i>	Camp: 23,043 Host: 1,220	Camp: 67,334 Host: 1,220	Camp: 115,000 Host: 5,000
<i># of referrals made to protection case management actors (camp community)</i>	189	750	As necessary
<i>% of PGI mainstreaming checklist updated for each pro gramme sector</i>	In progress ¹¹	In progress ¹²	75% Annually

A total of **24,263 people** including 1,448 people with disabilities (PWDs) in camps 13, 14, and 19 as well as 1,220 students and teachers (1,060 students and 160 teachers) were reached through different PGI essential services. 15,437 people during this period were newly reached through disability device assistance, protection referrals and household-level PGI awareness while other people participated in the centre-based activities. The following highlights are given on the major activities and accomplishments:

¹¹ The sector team maintained the last update in 2021. PGI team accumulated some observations on it which will be revised by each of the sector in 2023.

¹² The sector team maintained the last update in 2021. PGI team accumulated some observations on it which will be revised by each of the sector in 2023.

PGI essential services at the DAPS centre: 7,606 people, including 786 PWDs, from camps 13, 14 and 19 attended various recreational and structured life skills trainings, which are regularly arranged for them to learn essential life skills through DAPS centres located in each of the camps. The training included origami work, fish net making, jute bag making, hand-made plastic floor mat weaving, making ornaments, hand embroidery, and informal education.



PGI awareness sessions were conducted for students and teachers of Ukhiya host community. (Photo: BDRCS)

As part of PGI mainstreaming in sectoral activities, persons with disability have access to health facility. (Photo: IFRC)

Awareness on PGI in Camps and Host: 15,020 people from 2,760 households in the catchment camp areas and 20 Ukhiya host community schools were covered by awareness visits and school sessions by PGI staff and community volunteers. During their visit, they conducted household-level sessions on various PGI topics which deemed relevant in the camp context. Participating in these sessions, household representatives became aware of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and its reporting, ways to empower women, prevention of child marriage, and other violations. Furthermore, the PGI team organized a series of sessions at 20 schools in Ukhiya host community covering 1,060 students and 160 teachers with awareness messages on prevention of gender-based violence, child protection, disability rights, prevention of child marriage etc.

Disability protection and device service: Under protection support activity, 1,448 people in camps 13, 14 and 19 were provided with various support including skills training, assessment of assistive devices and distribution of necessary devices. Based on the assessment report, that identified types of disabilities and needs for assistive devices, 58 persons were provided with various assistive devices including wheelchairs, special seats, hearing aids, and crutches for their independent daily living activities. This disability support activity was conducted in collaboration with CiC and CBM.

Referrals: A total of 482 people in these three camps were referred to various protection case management actors. Among this number there were 74 adolescent girls, boys, and children (see the table below).

Protection referrals						
Referral types	May to August 2023			January 2017 - August 2023		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
SGBV	116		116	614	0	614
Child Protection	69	82	151	262	246	508
Trafficking	54	74	128	134	129	263

Restoring Family Links	36	51	87	129	186	315
Total	275	207	482	1,139	561	1,700

Note: Major protection case management organizations are Technical Assistance Inc. (TAI), Save the Children Bangladesh, IOM, Ministry of Women and Child Affairs (MoWCA) and Care Bangladesh.

PGI mainstreaming: Programme sectors continue to mainstream PGI standards following the sector-specific indicators regarding the Dignity, Access, Protection and Safety (DAPS) approach. During the reporting period, the following mainstreaming initiatives were undertaken, which supported around 2,200 vulnerable households in camps and host communities.


Sector	Mainstreaming initiatives undertaken by programme sector
Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction of low-slop entrances of shelters in camps 11 and 12 for family members who have disabilities or elderly health issues. • Construction of a community centre called 'DAPS centre' in Camp 13 with rail, ramps and demarcation for male and female toilets.
Water, sanitation & hygiene (WASH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tap stands are repaired with friction floor material to protect against falling over on the wet floor. • Construction of grab rails, low height stairs at household latrines, to improve accessibility. • Inclusion of women with disabilities in hygiene promotion sessions.
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The BDRCS health team continue to collaborate with the Christian Blind Mission (CBM) and the Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) in providing rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities and the elderly at the BDRCS Field Hospital in Camp 7.
Livelihoods and basic needs (including relief distributions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The selection criteria for the conditional cash grant included the most vulnerable families that have members with persons with disabilities, elderly, woman/child-headed households, pregnant women etc. • The response team continues to use a designated waiting or rest area for priority individuals such as the elderly, lactating women, and persons with disabilities. • The distribution centres continue to maintain breastfeeding corners at the centres. • Provision of desks at distribution centres for the collection of feedback on protection, safety and security during the distribution process.
Disaster risk reduction (DRR)/disaster management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster management training package incorporates PGI minimum standard selecting female, elderly, PWD as the participants. • Maintain contingency stock of protection items (solar lights and dignity kits) for use in emergency response.

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: Coordination continues with the Swedish Red Cross, Turkish Red Crescent, and ICRC. One of the highlighted collaborations with ICRC was to assist five camp individuals with disabilities to travel outside the camp with CiC permission, to a centre located in Chittagong City for customized artificial limbs and orthotics. Trainings and workshops are conducted on a regular interval for staff and volunteers of sectors supported by Red Cross Red Crescent partners to increase awareness on PGI mainstreaming maintaining the minimum standard of Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety approach.

With external actors: The BDRCS PGI team has continued its coordination with relevant government agencies and humanitarian actors working in the camp settlement, particularly case management actors including CARE Bangladesh, IOM and Save the Children. Collaboration for disability assessment to identify the needs of specific assistive devices has also been undertaken with disability case management actors the Christian Blind Mission), Handicap International and the Centre for Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP). The BDRCS team regularly participates in various working group meetings – these include the protection working group, age and disability working group, GBV working group and child protection working group. These groups are sources of technical support and training.

Enabling approaches

 Community Engagement and Accountability	People targeted	400,000
	People reached	203,555

Objective: *Targeted communities are consulted and are able to share their views about assistance received or planned, and programmes and operations are planned and adapted accordingly*

Key indicators:	Actual (May - Aug 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 - Aug 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)
<i># of people reached through community consultations/outreach</i>	Camp: 32,884 Host: 1,334	Camp: 165,434 Host: 38,121	Camp: 300,000 Host: 100,000
<i># of pieces of feedback received</i>	Camp: 38,216 Host: 1,496	Camp: 50,377 Host: 2,356	As received
<i>% of feedback acted upon</i>	40% ¹³ (within 48 hrs.) 70% ¹⁴ (within 1 week)	40% ¹⁵ (within 48 hrs.) 70% ¹⁶ (within 1 week)	100%

A total of **4,218 people** in camps 11, 12, 13,14, 15, 18 and 19, and Cox's Bazar Sadar and Teknaf host communities (32,884 people in camps and 1,334 in host) were reached during this reporting period through community consultations, household visits, campaigns and other forms of feedback collection and information sharing. The people who have been engaged throughout the intervention process, become clear about the selection, distribution and follow-up of the assistance such as cash distribution, hygiene kit s distribution, shelter support etc. On the other hand, engaging the target population created scope for improving the intervention acceptance and quality. Highlights are as follows:

Feedback channels: Seven community feedback channels in camps continue to be functional for target people in camps 11, 12, 13,14, 15, 18 and 19. These include household visits, community consultation, radio listening programmes (RLP), information and feedback boxes, desks, hub and hotline. In the host community, a dedicated hotline - a community feedback channel, has been functional from 9 am to 5 pm during weekdays, while the information desk has been set up, but only during sectoral activities in Ukhiya and Teknaf.

Consultation with Majhi and religious leaders: 532 Muslim religious leaders (*imam*) and Majhi (community Leaders) in the camps were engaged in the dissemination of key messages and collection of feedback among the wider camp population through 19 community meetings.

Radio listening programme: 217 community radio listening sessions were conducted reaching 2,899 people in various camps with key messages and opportunities for feedback and concerns on services and the overall situation at the camp settlement.

¹³ Sensitive feedback and provide answer for frequently asked question on service-related information also.

¹⁴ Service related to non-sensitive feedback.

¹⁵ Sensitive feedback and provide answer for frequently asked question on service-related information also.

¹⁶ Service related to non-sensitive feedback.

Capturing feedback, complaints, and response: A total of 39,712 feedbacks (38,216 from camps and 1,496 from the host community) were collected during this reporting period from 14 camps and the host communities (Ukhiy and Ramu) through various feedback channels. Among them, 35,512 pieces of feedback from the camp and 1,496 from host communities related to programming, such as shelter, health, WASH, and relief distributions have been addressed and resolved. Nevertheless, some community feedback was promptly responded using Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ).

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: The CEA team continues to share community feedback reports with nine in-country IFRC member societies, ensuring that matters are addressed promptly. Specific interventions resulting from community consultations are provided to the sector teams for them to address within 72 hours-

With external actors: IFRC and BDRCS continue to consult with Camp-in-Charge attend the ISCG CwC working group, share monthly updates, and take support from BBC Media Action. For developing 25 IEC materials as a tool of social behavioral change communication, collaboration was undertaken with Translation Without Border (TWB) to translate the key information into Burmese.



Community consultation on conditional cash grant was conducted in host community to guide selection criteria. (Photo: IFRC)



National Society Strengthening

Objective:	BDRCS has strengthened capacities, systems and procedures at central and Cox’s Bazar levels		
Key indicators:	Actual (May – Aug 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Aug 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)
<i># of staff and volunteers trained on search and rescue, first aid, disaster preparedness, early warning and anticipatory actions</i>	75	617	1,500 volunteers and staff

During the reporting period, key personnel of BDRCS, ICRC, IFRC and in-country IFRC member societies participated in a Movement-wide coordination meeting as well as two workshops – PMER Workshop and Rationalisation Workshop. In those events, staff have improved their overall understanding of the context of Cox’s Bazar, IFRC-wide reporting on the PMO and its future strategic directions.



Coordination and Partnerships

Objective: *To better articulate the auxiliary role of BDRCS and its convening power among a plurality of stakeholders, and accordingly strengthen the IFRC network's footprint in the response to the population movement crisis.*

Key indicators:	Actual (May - Aug 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 - Aug 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)
<i>The One Window Framework (OWF) Plan of Action is updated regularly</i>		-	Yes

During this reporting period, one movement coordination meeting took place on 30 July. The meeting discussed future strategies of the PMO, ways to continue support for camps and host community people in the face of changing needs and funding challenges. The meeting concluded in the following outcomes:

- To showcase the overall fund mobilized across the federation (IFRC and 9 in-country memberships), RCRC partners will share the fund mobilized for 2023 and the breakdown of the expenditure against the budget.
- IFRC and BDRCS will jointly arrange security briefings – on a bi-monthly basis, as the security situation in camps has been a growing concern of all stakeholders.
- Update on PMO rationalization exercise: The team from the IFRC regional office visited PMO and conducted a number of interviews and SWOT analyses as well as a workshop with senior management and key RCRC partners' staff. The report will be shared in late 2023.
- The PMO external coordination will be updated with responsible staff of BDRCS/IFRC or PNSs representing in various meetings or events.



Secretariat Services

Objective: *To provide a high range of quality support services to in-country IFRC member societies with the aim of saving costs and improving efficiency*

Key indicators:	Actual (May - Aug 2023)	(Jan 2022 - Aug 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)
<i># of existing integrated and service agreements with respective in-country IFRC member societies are renewed</i>	8	8	10

Among the nine in-country Partner National Societies (PNSs) with a presence in Cox's Bazar, eight PNSs have entered into integrated agreements or service agreements with IFRC. Under the integrated and service agreement, the PNSs receive support from IFRC admin, finance, logistics and programme support services (PMER, PGI, CEA etc).



Support for the displaced community on Bhashan Char Island

People Targeted

30,607¹⁷

People reached

22,309

Objective:

To enable the displaced community on the island to be disaster-ready and benefit from improved health

Key indicators:

of displaced community, relocated on the island are enabled to be disaster-ready and benefit from improved health

Actual (May – Aug 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Aug 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)
10,000	22,309	18,000 ¹⁸

As of August 2023, 30,607 people¹⁹, displaced from the Rakhine state of Myanmar to Cox's Bazar Camp settlement, were relocated to Bhashan Char²⁰. Out of these relocated people, 52 per cent are women and children. Since January 2023, BDRCS with the support of the IFRC, supported 9,561 relocated people through various interventions such as cyclone preparedness, WASH, health services, site management, and emergency response. Some of the key activities of BDRCS for this reporting period with some cumulative achievements are highlighted below:

Cyclone preparedness

More than 8,000 people who were relocated observed and participated in scenario-based two simulation drills, which covered cyclone readiness, early warning and early action, and evacuation protocols. 160 community volunteers actively took part in these drills, which were planned by BDRCS with assistance from the IFRC. Additionally, a mapping exercise for cyclone shelters was carried out on the island, and a total of 120 shelters, including 61 uninhabited clusters of homes, were mapped using a GIS system by BDRCS. On top of that BDRCS SMS staff and volunteers conducted after cyclone assessment to record the damages that happened all across the camp following cyclone Mocha in May.

WASH support

At Bhasan Char ten trained National Disaster WASH Response Team (NDWRT) members are currently offering WASH support along with the community maintenance team. A total of 14 community volunteers (relocated people) are engaged by BDRCS in waste management, supported by the IFRC. This enables them to enhance their livelihood. During this reporting period, the WASH sector with the support of BDRCS completed a mass distribution of MHM kits to 8,538 eligible females who received a 6-month package.

With the support of IFRC and German Red Cross, BDRCS is involved in solid waste management, covering drainage management, and household waste collection of the occupied clusters. BDRCS also supported fumigation spray for mosquito control on the island. To date, BDRCS supported 1,565 latrine repairs, 113 bathroom repairs, 574 water network repairs, 207 deep tube repairs, 345 kitchen tube well repairs, and 75 running feet drainage repairs on the island.

Health Support

BDRCS with the support of the IFRC and Kuwait Red Crescent Society distributed 4,500 mosquito nets to protect the relocated people from mosquito-borne diseases. BDRCS also provides psychosocial support programmes, offering counselling and mental health assistance to help affected individuals cope with the situation.

¹⁷ Total relocated people at the island as of 31 August 2023.

¹⁸ As per the target mentioned in the IFRC [Emergency Appeal \(revised\)](#).

¹⁹ Source: UNHCR, Government of Bangladesh.

²⁰ An island located in the Bay of Bengal.

Site Management

BDRCS SMS team, upon request by the Assistant Refuge Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (ARRRC) – the responsible government authority and Navy of Bangladesh government evaluated the broken windows and doors of the cluster houses where relocated people are staying, and the evaluation report was shared with ARRC. Besides SMS team finished the roof leak repair work on the house where the relocated people are residing. The same BDRCS SMS team repaired 30 broken spots in the internal roads by using sand and brick sand. Also, they trained 227 different volunteers and 6,201 relocated people on safe cooking, the use of pressure cookers, and biogas. Trainees receive pressure cookers along with the replacement of regulators and hosepipes to prevent LPG-related fire occurrences. These activities were supported by UNHCR.

Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR)

BDRCS EPR team completed the training for the fire extinguisher custodian on basic fire safety and installed 1,398 fire extinguishers in the cluster houses. Also, when 2,029 displaced people visited Cox's Bazar to meet their families. BDRCS SMS and EPR volunteers facilitated their visit at Bhashan Char.

Support to newly relocated families

During the reporting period, some 163 displaced people were relocated from Cox's Bazar to Bhashan Char. As the site management lead, BDRCS provided immediate support and allocated houses in close coordination with the ARRC. All the household items were distributed among the relocated families on the day of their relocation at the island, which included jerrycans, buckets, mosquito nets, pillows, mattresses, and kitchen sets.

Community engagement

A total of 826 relocated people participated in 40 radio listening group awareness sessions on how to tackle emergencies, theft prevention, drowning prevention, the safety of electrical items and solar equipment, health issues, and so on through visual and audio messages. Also, 472 CPP volunteers participated in the radio listening programmes on drowning prevention, cyclone preparedness flag hosting, complaint, and feedback response mechanisms (CFRM), how to tackle emergencies, etc.

BDRCS SMS team started using the integrated CFRM form of UNHCR to record the concerns of the relocated people using the CFRM desk. Regular and timely data sharing between BDRCS and UNHCR helps to ensure further follow-up and to close the cases. Till August, 10,343 cases were received and referred to concerned actors from the CFRM desk managed by BDRCS and 8,106 previously recorded cases were closed. However, BDRCS with support from IFRC continue to follow the unresolved cases.

Coordination and others

BDRCS regularly coordinates with other agencies working on the island. On 2 August, a small team of BDRCS-IFRC including the Secretary General of BDRCS and Head of Delegation of the IFRC attended the Bhashan Char sub-committee meeting at the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief in Dhaka. The current status of the island and the needs of the relocation people were highlighted by the GoB, UN and other agency representatives during that meeting.

BDRCS attended the coordination meetings related to preparedness during the cyclone Mocha in May at the island. All relevant stakeholder shared their level of readiness in advance. BDRCS led the evacuation process when the great danger signal/evacuation order was given by the authority. BDRCS also attended a meeting about the Ashrayan-3 project to coordinate the response strategy with the Bangladesh Navy.

BDRCS Site Management and UNHCR team had a meeting with the Additional ARRC on household items and to collectively address the need with the other actors working on the island.

LPG gas refilling is one of the main requirements for the relocated people on the island. Accordingly, BDRCS and IFRC agreed to provide 3,000 refilled gas cylinders in the coming days. BDRCS and IFRC are also working on providing livelihood support through cash voucher assistance in the coming days.

D. FUNDING

Up to 31 August 2023, the appeal coverage is 55 per cent funded for Cox's Bazar operations while the Bhashan Char operations is only 0.06 per cent funded.

Please also see the financial report attached to the end of this report.

Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

In the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society

- Kazi Shofiqul Azam, Secretary General, phone: +880 1811458500; email: secretarygeneral@bdracs.org
- Md. Mijanur Rahman, Director, Disaster Response; phone: + 880 1811458522; email: mdmijanur.rahman@bdracs.org
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- Joy Singhal, Head of Health, Disasters, Climate and Crisis; email: Joy.Singhal@ifrc.org
- Naimatullah Akbari, Operations Coordinator; email: OpsCoord.SouthAsia@ifrc.org
- Nuraiza Khairuddin, Logistics Manager; email: nuraiza.khairuddin@ifrc.org
- Afrhill Rances, Regional Communications Manager; email: afrhill.rances@ifrc.org

In IFRC Geneva

- Christina Duschl, Senior Officer, Operations Coordination; email: christina.duschl@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support

- Maz Afqah Mohammad Khairul Azmi, Senior Officer, Partnership in Emergencies, Strategic Partnerships and Resource Mobilization Department; email: PartnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org

For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

- Mursidi Unir, PMER in Emergencies Coordinator; email: mursidi.unir@ifrc.org

Reference documents



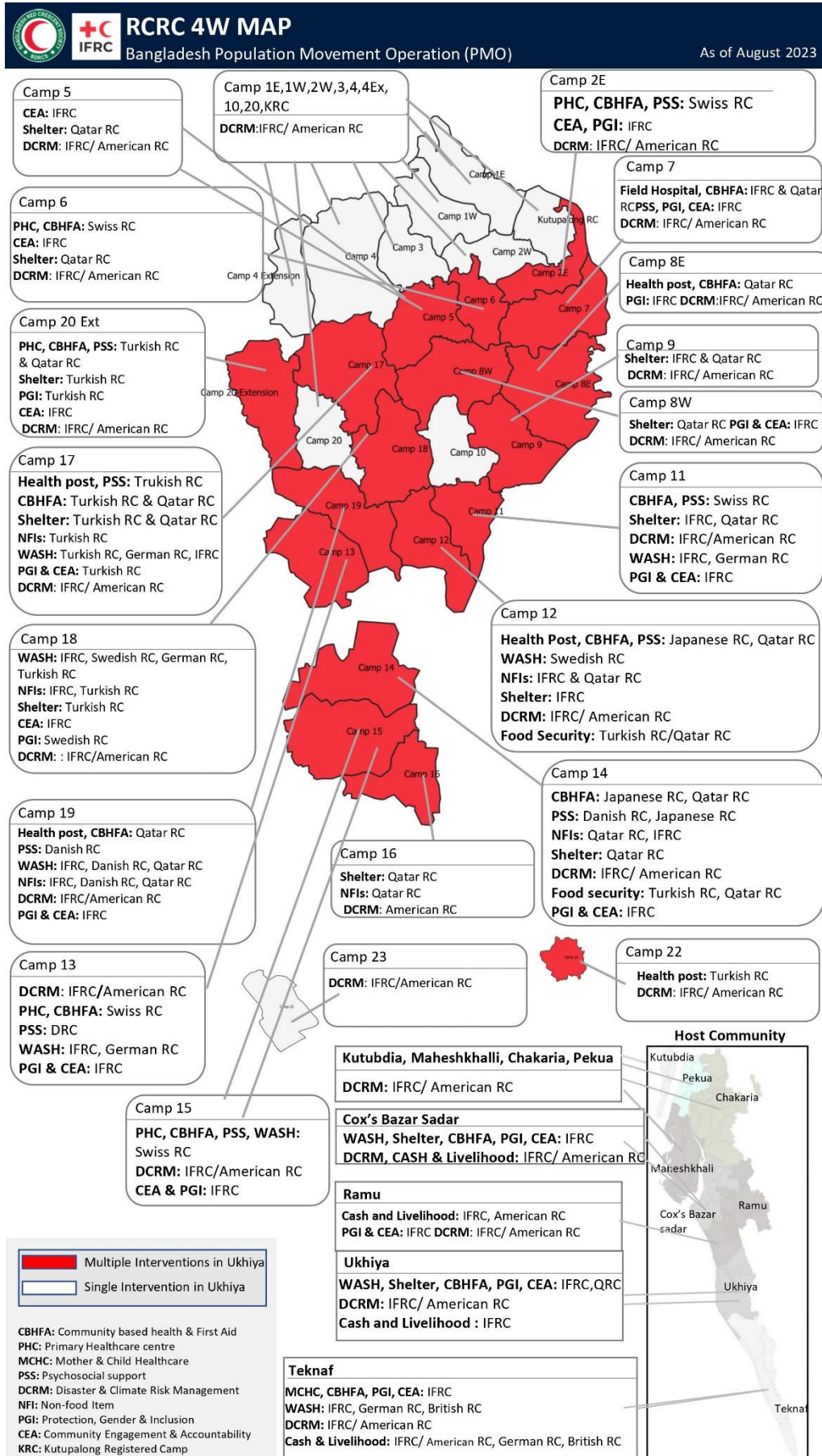
Click here for:

- [Previous Appeals and updates](#)
- [Operational Strategy](#)

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to **Principles of Humanitarian Action** and **IFRC policies and procedures**. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

Annex 1: 4W map of PMO



Emergency Appeal

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2017/1-2023/8	Operation	MDRBD018
Budget Timeframe	2017/1-2024/12	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 25 Sep 2023

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRBD018 - Bangladesh - Population Movement

Operating Timeframe: 13 Jan 2017 to 31 Dec 2024; appeal launch date: 18 Mar 2017

I. Emergency Appeal Funding Requirements

Thematic Area Code	Requirements CHF
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	28,748,000
AOF2 - Shelter	36,803,000
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	6,375,000
AOF4 - Health	18,065,000
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	22,201,000
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	5,054,000
AOF7 - Migration	0
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	1,734,000
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	14,252,000
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	0
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	0
Total Funding Requirements	133,232,000
Donor Response* as per 25 Sep 2023	78,917,698
Appeal Coverage	59.23%

II. IFRC Operating Budget Implementation

Thematic Area Code	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	1,018,167	1,274,263	-256,095
AOF2 - Shelter	17,157,247	15,527,782	1,629,465
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	2,798,012	2,196,162	601,850
AOF4 - Health	7,923,233	5,499,740	2,423,494
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	9,686,927	8,846,971	839,956
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	4,166,523	3,191,574	974,949
AOF7 - Migration	11,526,958	7,971,575	3,555,383
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	21,344,132	17,334,072	4,010,059
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	1,385,157	1,378,710	6,446
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	12,625	13,482	-857
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	1,193,291	1,167,129	26,163
Grand Total	78,212,273	64,401,460	13,810,812

III. Operating Movement & Closing Balance per 2023/08

Opening Balance	0
Income (includes outstanding DREF Loan per IV.)	70,243,221
Expenditure	-64,401,460
Closing Balance	5,841,760
Deferred Income	8,738,825
Funds Available	14,580,585

IV. DREF Loan

* not included in Donor Response	Loan :	1,385,104	Reimbursed :	1,063,858	Outstanding :	321,246
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Emergency Appeal

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Budget Timeframe	2017/1-2024/12	Budget	APPROVED

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V. Contributions by Donor and Other Income

Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income
Opening Balance					0	
American Red Cross	179,521	77,691	0		257,212	
Australian Red Cross	1,456,308		377,515		1,833,823	
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government*)	1,194,930				1,194,930	
Australian Red Cross (from Swedish Red Cross*)	24,644				24,644	
Austrian Red Cross (from Austrian Government*)	399,617				399,617	
Bahrain Red Crescent Society	88,672				88,672	
British Red Cross	2,443,596	235,324	109,476		2,788,396	
British Red Cross (from British Government*)	2,565,312				2,565,312	
British Red Cross (from mittee*)	269,459				269,459	
China Red Cross, Macau Branch	250				250	
Danish Red Cross (from Danish Government*)	147,500				147,500	
DREF Response Pillar				321,246	321,246	
European Commission - DG ECHO	165,896				165,896	
Finnish Red Cross	22,745		31,062		53,807	
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government*)	120,678				120,678	
German Red Cross	23,908				23,908	
Hong Kong Red Cross, Branch of the Red Cross Socie	228,313	131,521			359,833	
IFRC at the UN Inc	977				977	
Irish Red Cross Society	16,304				16,304	
Islamic Development Bank IsDB	7,112,629				7,112,629	612,698
Italian Red Cross	117,332				117,332	
Japanese Red Cross Society	561,805		127,729		689,534	
Kuwait Red Crescent Society	182,113				182,113	
Malaysia - Private Donors	276,153				276,153	
Maldives Government (from Maldives Private Donors*)	1,095,470				1,095,470	
Maldivian Red Crescent (from Maldives Private Donors)	491,095				491,095	
New Zealand Government	525,525				525,525	
New Zealand Red Cross	99,585				99,585	
Norwegian Red Cross	60,116		14,465		74,581	
On Line donations	1,288				1,288	
Other	100,784				100,784	
Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran	63,380				63,380	
Red Cross of Monaco	16,280				16,280	
Republic of Korea Government	2,321,429				2,321,429	
Services Fees				48,368	48,368	
Shell	121,183				121,183	
Singapore Red Cross Society	29,613				29,613	
Spanish Government	115,803				115,803	
Swedish Red Cross	865,528		31,086		896,615	
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government*)	1,730,924				1,730,924	
Swiss Government	525,000				525,000	
Swiss Red Cross	656,873		30,874		687,747	
Taiwan Red Cross Organisation	33,051				33,051	
The Canadian Red Cross Society	201,183	210,382	55,300		466,866	
The Canadian Red Cross Society (from Canadian Gov	587,103				587,103	
The Netherlands Red Cross	901,966				901,966	
The Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Govern	3,773,439				3,773,439	
The OPEC Fund for International Development	498,906				498,906	
The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation	331,679				331,679	
The Republic of Korea National Red Cross	102,033	32,573			134,606	

Emergency Appeal

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
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Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income
The Republic of the Philippines	150,530				150,530	
Turkish Red Crescent Society	496,993				496,993	
United States Government - PRM	34,915,126				34,915,126	8,126,127
United States - Private Donors	95				95	
Write off & provisions				-2,033	-2,033	
Total Contributions and Other Income	68,410,642	687,491	777,507	367,581	70,243,221	8,738,825
Total Income and Deferred Income					70,243,221	8,738,825