



975,350

Rohingya
population in
Bangladesh

202,836

Rohingya families
in Cox's Bazar
and Bhasan Char

1.55

million

People in need

IMPROVING FIRE PREPAREDNESS ACROSS THE ROHINGYA REFUGEE CAMPS

The world's largest refugee camps, the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, are vulnerable to fire outbreaks in the dry season (from November/December to March/April). Since 2018, over 1,200 fire incidents have occurred in the camps. Following the biggest ever fire incident in the camps in 2021, it was evident that robust fire preparedness measures were critically needed.

Through comprehensive mock fire drills conducted with refugee volunteers from the Disaster Management Unit (DMU), IOM aims to reduce the risk of fire hazards for refugee populations across the camps under its Area of Responsibility (AoR).

Since the inception of these drills, IOM's camp management teams have organized over 90 simulations with 19 simulations conducted in January 2024 alone -- the simulations will continue until March 2024. Across the camps in IOM's AoR, these drills have engaged more than 1,600 dedicated DMU volunteers and over 220 Site Management and Site Development (SMSD) volunteers; to increase the number of first respondents, SMSD has also extended the drills to include other sector volunteers such as Protection and Shelter volunteers. The commitment and participation of these individuals underscore the collective determination to fortify their emergency response capabilities.

The overarching purpose of these drills is to ensure that community volunteers consisting of DMUs, other sector volunteers and SMSD teams, are well-prepared and adept at swiftly and efficiently responding to fire incidents. Through rigorous practice, volunteers are honing their skills in utilizing essential firefighting equipment, such as mobile fire-fighting units and water tanks, to contain and extinguish fires effectively.

The drills also serve as an excellent opportunity to assess and refine communication protocols among DMU volunteers and IOM teams. Clear and efficient communication is vital during emergency situations, and these exercises enable teams to streamline their coordination efforts and ensure a seamless information flow.

Lastly, the drills facilitate the assessment of accessibility to critical firefighting equipment, including Mobile Fire-Fighting Units (MFFUs) and TukTuks (three-wheeler vehicles carrying fire extinguishing equipment), ensuring that these resources are readily available and easily retrievable by DMU volunteers in emergency. IOM remains committed to safeguarding the well-being of refugees and building their resilience in the face of potential crises.

DONOR VISITS

A delegation from Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, visited the Rohingya refugee camps and explored the IOM's humanitarian interventions in the camps.

A Parliamentary delegation from the United Kingdom visited the Rohingya Cultural Memory Centre and experienced the richness of Rohingya cultural heritage.



PROGRAMME UPDATE

SITE MANAGEMENT AND SITE DEVELOPMENT, AND COMMUNICATION WITH COMMUNITIES



10,551

complaints/ feedback received; 5,787 referred; 7,576 replied; 2,657 considered resolved

1,694

different community engagement and participation activities conducted

1,998

women representatives attended 186 awareness sessions

2,183 m

of access ways constructed/ repaired/ upgraded

7,665 m²

of slope stabilized

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS



3,446

families received Shelter Upgrade and Maintenance assistance

90,155

liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) refills provided

523

cooking stoves repaired

2,639

extremely vulnerable individuals (EVI) received porter support during the LPG distribution

22,700

poles of Borak bamboo treated

HEALTH



116,470

primary medical consultations in IOM-supported facilities

18,327

consultations on sexual and reproductive health services

144,167

door-to-door visits conducted

1,782

individuals received mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) focused services

9,179

persons benefited from MHPSS community-based activities

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE



259,504

people are receiving continued life-saving WASH support

6,886 kgs

of compost produced from the Solid Waste generated in different camps

404,834

soaps distributed to the beneficiaries

40,565

dental kits distributed

300

WASH facilities rebuilt/upgraded

PROTECTION



7,133

beneficiaries reached with protection, child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) awareness messaging

14,021

individuals received GBV support services including age-appropriate psychosocial support

15,522

persons sensitized to counter-trafficking

278

EVI and non-EVIs referred for further specialized services

81

victims of trafficking identified and directly assisted

SOCIAL COHESION



623

beneficiaries received vocational skills training

165

Rohingya beneficiaries received technical skills training

100

Rohingya refugees received business development skills training

606

host community beneficiaries received conditional cash support for income generation

89 host and 75

Rohingya community beneficiaries received in-kind support

NEEDS AND POPULATION MONITORING



In coordination with the Emergency Preparedness and Response Working Group and humanitarian sectors in Cox's Bazar, a camp-level training on the "Joint Needs Assessment process for the camp focal points and sectors' representatives in 17 IOM AoR camps" was conducted

UAV mapping of fire-affected Camp 5 conducted and imagery, shapefile and damage maps prepared

15 different thematic maps, e.g. 2023 incident maps, AoR map, health facilities map etc., prepared

Funding for IOM response is provided by



Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

