

# Bangladesh: Cyclone Mocha Humanitarian Response

## Situation Report

As of 15 May 2023

### Situation Overview

**429,377**

Bangladeshi nationals affected in Cox's Bazar, Chattogram, Noakhali and Feni

**930,292**

Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar



### Situation Update

- Cyclone Mocha completed its crossing over the Cox's Bazar coast on 14 May evening, leaving considerable damage in its path. As of 15 May morning, the Bangladesh Meteorological Department had confirmed that squally weather was now unlikely and lowered danger signals for maritime ports in the impact area.
- As of 15 May, UNOSAT conducted a preliminary assessment using satellite imagery to analyze the significant damage along the coast of Saint Martin's Island in Teknaf Upazila, Bangladesh.
- The Department of Disaster Management (DDM) and the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) collected initial damage information. A total of 4 districts, 26 upazilas (sub-districts), 99 unions, and 429,337 Bangladeshi nationals were affected by Cyclone Mocha. The damage to houses included 2,052 fully damaged and 10,692 partially damaged.
- Rohingya refugees in the camps in Teknaf and neighbouring Bangladeshi communities were most affected, with thousands of shelters and service facilities destroyed, putting families at greater risk for the upcoming monsoon season. Initial Government reports indicate no loss of life.
- Humanitarian teams began post-disaster assessments on 15 May, which will continue in the coming days, to identify the intensity of the damage and needs on the ground.
- The capacity to respond now and to prepare for the upcoming monsoon season is heavily strained given the current funding levels of the [2023 Appeal](#) for the Rohingya Refugee Response in Bangladesh.
- On Bhasan Char, no casualties or damage to shelters or facilities was reported after authorities announced the evacuation of around 30,000 refugees to 53 cyclone shelters as a precautionary measure. Most reportedly returned to their homes after the cyclone passed.



### Coordination & Government Relations

- The Government of Bangladesh including the Office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation

Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner collected initial damage reports on 14 May evening, informing the ongoing assessments by the humanitarian community.

- The Government led efforts to provide immediate assistance in the aftermath of the storm, with the support of emergency humanitarian teams and volunteers, both Rohingya refugee and Bangladeshi, who were the first responders in their community.
- Coordination staff is being deployed to the camps to facilitate engagement with authorities.



## Access

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- The Bangladeshi army and local authorities took immediate action to clear road access after the storm in the evening of 14 May.
- Following road assessment by UN Security, field missions to the camps in Ukhiya and Teknaf resumed on 15 May.



## External Relations

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- Selected media reflections regarding the cyclone response:
- National: Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha, Channel 24, Prothom Alo.
- International: Al Jazeera: [Interview with Ezatullah Majeed, UNICEF](#); DW: [Interview with Ezatullah Majeed, UNICEF](#); BBC World: [Interview with Ezatullah Majeed, UNICEF](#); Independent: [Footage shared by Abdusattor Esoev, IOM](#); CNN: [Interview with Johannes van der Klaauw, UNHCR](#); Al Jazeera: [Interview with Ezatullah Majeed, UNICEF](#); DW: [Interview with Ezatullah Majeed, UNICEF](#); CBC News: [Interview with Arjun Jain, ISCG](#); CNN: [Interview with Johannes van der Klaauw, UNHCR](#); LBC: [Quotation from WFP statement](#).
- [Press Release](#) from the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator in Bangladesh.

## Rohingya Refugee Response: Cox's Bazar



### Shelter and CCCM

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#### Impact

- Over 3,500 household assessments were completed of an initial estimate of 6,200 households that faced shelter damage, both major and partial, impacting around 30,000 Rohingya refugees.

#### Response

- Support has already been provided to the majority of assessed households on the same day including shelter material, tarpaulin, rope, and metal footing.
- Joint verifications and damage assessments will continue on 16 May.

#### Partners

- UNHCR and IOM-managed camps.



### Food Security

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#### Response

- On 15 May, 2,482 Rohingya refugees received emergency rations of fortified biscuits, and 3,532 Rohingya refugees with hot meals.

#### Challenges and Needs

- Assessment of the needs in camps and host community is anticipated by end of the week.

#### Partners

- In the camps: WFP, YPSA, BRAC, CODEC, World Vision, RIC and SHED.
- In the host community: Oxfam, BRAC and Mukti Cox's Bazar.



### Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

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#### Impact

- According to the initial field assessment undertaken in two-thirds of the camps, 1,060 WASH infrastructures have been damaged, including at least 751 latrines, 261 bathing facilities, nine water networks, 14 boreholes, 16 faecal sludge treatment plants (FSTPs) and nine material recovery facilities (MRFs).

#### Response

- 75 WASH infrastructures (mostly latrines) have been repaired today.
- Around 4,000 people who stayed in safe havens received safe water supply in the past 24 hours.

## Challenges and Needs

- Three-fourth of the camps have been assessed at the time of reporting. More data on response will be available after the completion of the assessment.
- Water supply restriction (12L/person/day) in Teknaf will continue due to continued shortage despite rainfall.

## Partners

- NGO, WV, VERC, BRAC, CARE, DSK, UNICEF, IOM, UNHCR, BDRCS, MSF, SHED, Shushilan, ACF, NABOLOK, ANONADO, TdH, SCI, Green Hill, Caritas.



## Health

## Impact

- The updated information from a rapid field assessment indicates infrastructural damage to four health posts (Camp 16/AMAN, MSI; Camp 10, 14/IOM) and four primary health centres (Camp 24, 2W/IOM; Camp 25/IRC).

## Response

- The health sector partners have resumed service delivery through the pre-existing health facilities. Mobile Medical Teams (MMTs) will stand down by 16 May 2023 unless the needs change.

## Partners

- Health Sector Lead: WHO; Camp Health Focal Points: UNHCR/IOM; MMT/EPR Coordination: IOM/WHO; MMT contributing partners: IOM, Save the Children, FH, IRC, RI, HOPE, Prantic Unnayan, Friendship, BRAC, HMBD Foundation, BDRCS, UNFPA/RTMI, GK/UNHCR, and MSF.



## Protection

## Impact

- Seven Joint Government - UNHCR Registration Sites, 3 Women Led Community Centres, 18 Safe Spaces for Women and Girls, three multi-purpose centres and facilities including Community Centres and Information Service Centres have been partially damaged affecting the overall delivery of protection services to refugees.



*PERU teams and Community Outreach Members conducting household visits for assessment and awareness-raising.  
© Protection Sector/Camp 9 PERU team*

## Response

- Protection Emergency Response Unit (PERU) teams provided support to 6,052 individuals, including 358 Persons with Disabilities and an initial needs assessment of the most vulnerable households with persons with disabilities, children, women, and elderly persons was conducted for referrals and targeted assistance.
- UNHCR and Government ensured that documents that were lost or destroyed during the cyclone were reprinted and replaced; appointments for registration processes will resume on 16 May.
- 910 awareness sessions on preparedness and emergency measures were completed reaching 8,217 people. Community-based Protection staff and volunteers, community group members, and imams and Female Religious Teachers all participated in disseminating messages, including through door-to-door visits, group discussions and community announcements.
- 237 women and girls aged 12 to 59 years received Dignity Kits to ensure timely access to hygiene items during the emergency.
- 615 children and 457 parents and caregivers received Psychosocial support and 127 children, and 267 parents and caregivers received Psychological First Aid services. Para-social workers and Rohingya volunteers continue working together to conduct outreach activities to ensure that children and their caregivers receive protection services.



*Community group member assists to tie down a shelter for a vulnerable person. © Mohammed Yasin, Camp 21 (Action Aid)*

### Challenges and Needs

- Reduction of movement for women, girls, children, older persons, and persons with disabilities to access facilities and services as roads are slippery and sometimes inaccessible.
- Challenges persisted with communication and dissemination of information due to adverse weather and issues with internet and mobile network.
- Multi-Purpose Centres are temporarily being used as shelters and children do not have adequate space for learning and playing; delayed recovery of shelters can lead to enhanced protection risks.

### Partners

- Action Aid, ACTED, NGO Forum, UNHCR, IOM, UNICEF, UNFPA, BNPS, MUKTI CXB, WV, UN Women, IRC, DCA, SKUS, BLAST, BRAC, RI, TdH, SCI, PULSE, HI, Plan International, DSS, CODEC, Coast Foundation, RFIVDB, YPSA, BITA, Good Neighbor Bangladesh and Agrajatra.



## Emergency Telecommunications (ETS)

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### Impact

- Two sites in Hakimpara and Jamtoli are off due to fibre damage.

### Response

- ETS is in close contact with the supplier to restore the fibre connection, as well as working on having an alternative connection based on wireless technology to reduce the impact of the fibre cut issue.

### Challenges and Needs

- Challenges faced include deploying standard towers instead of telescopic masts which are less capable of sustaining strong winds, as well as the need to establish a second connection for some critical sites where redundancy would help mitigate downtime.

### Partners

- UNHCR and UNDSS.



## Nutrition

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### Impact

- A total of 16 integrated nutrition facilities (INFs) and two stabilization centres have been partially damaged.
- A total of around 1,150 Nutrition beneficiaries including 35 community nutrition volunteers (CNV) were affected by the cyclone.

### Response

- All nutrition services have resumed within 24 hours of the Cyclone Mocha.
- A rapid needs assessment is ongoing to estimate the loss of damage.
- Repair and maintenance works are ongoing in the affected integrated nutrition facilities and stabilization centre.

### Challenges and Needs

- Connectivity and electricity have been a challenge over the past days in Teknaf.

### Partners

- ACF, CARE, Concern, ESDO, GK, RI, SARPV, SHED, SCI, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP.



## Education

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### Impact

- 152 learning centres, 33 community-based learning facilities (CBLFs) and 14 adolescent centres have been reported as damaged in the camps. There are also 18 CBLFs reported as damaged in the host community.
- 9,312 (4,527 girls and 4,785 boys) learners of these learning facilities are being directly affected.
- 72 learning centres are currently being used as safe havens, where 207 families (983 people, including 574) are sheltered in the last 24 hours.

### Response

- The Sector is in coordination with Camp-in Charges (CiCs) on reopening learning facilities and resumption of learning activities.
- The Sector conducted a damage assessment meeting with partners' emergency focal persons and will continue to assess the impact.

### Partners

- BRAC, COAST, CODEC, FIVDB, Friends In Village Development Bangladesh (FIVDB), FRIENDSHIP, JCF, MUKTI, Mukti Cox's Bazar, PROTTYASHI, Prottiyashi, SKUS, IRC, Plan International Bangladesh, UNFPA, UNHCR, Save the Children, UNICEF.



## Livelihoods and Skills Development

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### Impact

- Two skills development centres of Christian Aid in Camps 14 and 15 were partially damaged.

### Response

- Sector partners' rescue volunteers are working in the community, including Christian Aid's partner DSK who mobilized their volunteers to work with the Cyclone Preparedness Program (CPP) volunteers in evacuation and immediate response.

### Partners

- Christian Aid, DSK, CNRS, Concern Worldwide.

## Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCTT) Cluster Response



### Food Security

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- The District Disaster Management Committee (DMC) of Cox's Bazar is providing assistance to 1,200 households in Saint Martin Island under Teknaf Upazila. Each household is receiving two hot meals, along with a one-time supply of dry food.
- The co-lead agencies WFP and FAO of the Food Security Cluster have initiated the process of conducting Rapid Food Security assessments.



### Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

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- According to the preliminary report, the Cox's Bazar Host community experienced damage to water and sanitation infrastructure. Specifically, 37 waterpoints were completely destroyed, and 516 Tube-wells suffered partial damage. In addition, 1,938 sanitation facilities were fully damaged, and 707 latrines were partially damaged.
- To address immediate needs, the distribution efforts in the shelter included providing 1,000 Jerrycans and 50 Hygiene kits. Furthermore, the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) distributed 65,000 Water Purification Tablets (WPTs) at the evacuation points to ensure access to clean water.
- To assess the overall impact and plan for recovery, the WASH Cluster members are actively gathering data on damaged WASH facilities from the field.



### Health

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- In the affected areas, a total of 43 injured individuals received first aid from various health facilities. Specifically, 16 individuals were treated in Moheshkhali, 14 in Teknaf, 11 in Ramu, and 2 in Kutubdia.
- In response to the situation, disease surveillance and health education & promotion activities have been intensified in the affected areas. These measures aim to monitor and prevent the spread of diseases while providing vital information and promoting healthy practices to the affected population.



### Shelter

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- In Cox's Bazar Districts, 3,34,620 people affected and nearly 13,000 houses in 57 unions and 3



municipality areas in Cox's Bazar have damaged, among those 10,469 partially and 2522 fully. Most of the damaged houses are Jhupri and Kutcha.

- Based on the available information, it is found that emergency shelter items and HHs NFI items required at affected areas and different sources have reported that the prices of house repairing materials increased at the local market. Yet to support has not adequate in the affected areas to repair the houses.



### Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

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- According to the data obtained from the Government's initial damage assessment, approximately 2,022 households have been completely damaged, while around 10,000 households have experienced partial damage.
- As a result, an estimated 15,000 women and girls from the affected households are now facing heightened risks of gender-based violence (GBV). These risks can be mitigated by providing them with immediate support such as food, safe drinking water, primary healthcare, and clothing assistance. This support is crucial in ensuring their well-being and safety during this challenging time.

### Contacts

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Rohingya refugee response: Cox's Bazar: [iscg@iscgcxb.org](mailto:iscg@iscgcxb.org).

Rohingya refugee response: Bhasan Char: [atri@unhcr.org](mailto:atri@unhcr.org); [desclous@unhcr.org](mailto:desclous@unhcr.org)

Humanitarian country response: [kazi.rahman2@un.org](mailto:kazi.rahman2@un.org).

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<https://rohingyaresponse.org/mocha>  
<https://bangladesh.un.org/en>