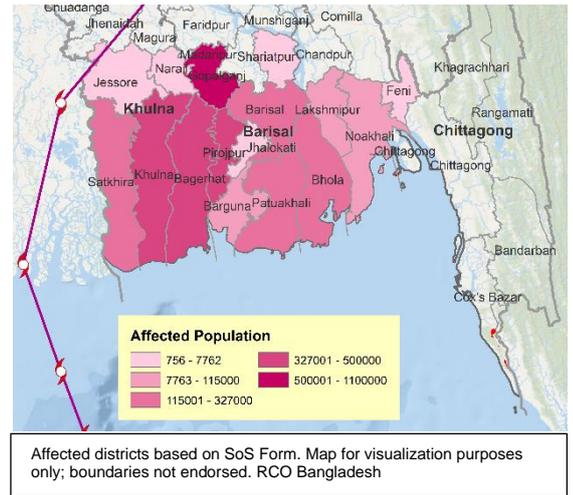


This report is produced by the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG), the Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) and the Bashan Char Rohingya Response in collaboration with cluster and sectors coordinators and humanitarian partners, based in Bangladesh. It was issued on 29 May 2024. It covers the period from 28 to 29 May after the landfall of Cyclone Remal. No other Situation Report will be issue on the Cyclone Remal.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Cyclone Remal stands as the most devastating cyclone to strike Bangladesh in recent years. According to the Government preliminary assessment (SoS Form) 3.75 million people were affected across 19 districts (107 sub-districts, 914 unions). Around 150,475 houses have been damaged (114,992 partially and 35,433 fully damaged) and additionally, 10 deaths are officially recorded.
- Pirojpur, Khulna, Bagerhat, Satkhira, Patuakhali, Barguna, Bhola and Barisal remain the most affected. The tidal surge breached embankments, resulting in extensive flooding and damage to homes, agricultural fields, and fishing farms in low-lying areas. The Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock reported 50,000 fish enclosures, 34,000 ponds, and 4,000 crab farms were flooded during the cyclone.
- As of May 28, approximately 17 million people were still without power, and around 20,000 cell towers remained out of service across the country.
- Initial reports from eight districts (Patuakhali, Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat, Barisal, Barguna, Pirojpur, Bhola) show 16,500 non-functional water points/tube wells and 30,301 damaged sanitation facilities.
- The Sundarban forest lost wildlife and ecosystem. Forest rangers discovered 39 dead deer and rescued 17 injured deer in the Sundarbans until now.
- Cyclone Remal worsens conditions for pregnant women due to flooding, transportation hurdles, and delayed medical aid. Hundreds, such as 300 in Golachipa upazila and 400 in Kalapara upazila under Patuakhali district, struggle to reach essential maternal health care services.



3.75M¹
Affected population



150,475
Houses damaged



16,500²
Tube wells damaged



10³
Death confirmed

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Health

- As of May 28, 2024, the Directorate General of Health Services reports 16 deaths from causes including falling trees, wall collapses, drowning, and snake bites, with 22 injuries.
- Polluted water and disrupted sanitation systems in cyclone-affected low-lying areas pose a potential risk of disease outbreaks, including diarrhea, acute respiratory infections (ARI), as well as skin, eye, and ear infections.
- Expanded Program on Immunization sessions suspended in multiple upazilas for last three days. Flooding damages medical stores, including essential drugs and logistics, in several upazila health complexes of Bagerhat.
- Cyclone Remal worsens conditions for pregnant women due to flooding, transportation hurdles, and delayed medical aid. Hundreds, such as 300 in Golachipa upazila and 400 in Kalapara upazila under Patuakhali district, struggle to reach essential maternal health care services.
- 521 medical teams are operating across 3 divisions. For rapid Sexual Reproductive Health response, UNFPA has stepped in to provide 200 baby kits in Bagerhat and Satkhira
- There are urgent needs of strengthening disease surveillance, health education, mental health support for containing the impending disease outbreak. Deploy mobile medical teams, restore MNCAH services, provide SRH kits and transportation assistance in critical areas.

¹ The Government SoS form compiled on May 27, 2024, reported that 3.75 million people were affected across 914 unions and 107 upazilas under 19 districts.

² 16,500 non-functional water points/tube wells and 30,301 damaged sanitation facilities.

³ 10 deaths have been reported as per government SoS form finalized on 27 May 2024. The Daily Star has reported 26 people deaths as of May 29 2024.

Shelter

- 150,475 houses were damaged across 19 districts, with 35,483 fully and 114,992 partially damaged, leading to loss of essential household materials and kitchen utensils among affected individuals.
- Shelter partners provided assistance, with BDRCS allocating 9,700 tarpaulins and 1,900 sleeping mats for multiple districts, Islamic Relief contributing GBP 100,000 for Barguna district, BRAC providing tarpaulin and rope for 1300 households, and Caritas Bangladesh supporting 800 households with shelter aid.
- Shelter needs encompass emergency shelter support like tarpaulins and toolkits, essential household supplies, conditional cash and technical assistance for house repairs and constructions, as well as shelter aid for host families and subsidized rental assistance.

Displacement Management

- 807,023 people were evacuated into 9424 shelters across 19 districts; while many have returned home, those with destroyed houses remain in shelters or with neighbors or families.
- Urgent needs include provision of assistance for displaced people and closure of embankments, and emergency shelters, while medium-term needs encompass resilient housing and livelihoods restoration.
- Urgent needs include provision of assistance for people who are still displaced, proper closure of embankments and emergency shelter, while medium-term needs encompass resilient housing and livelihood restoration.
- Partners are collecting data on long-term displacement and their needs and planning support to those population with Multi-Purpose Cash Grant, among other initiatives.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- Initial reports from eight districts (Patuakhali, Satkhira, Khulna, Bagerhat, Barisal, Barguna, Pirojpur, Bhola) show 16,500 non-functional water points/tube wells and 30,301 damaged sanitation facilities. Cyclone damage severely affects WASH conditions, risking water source contamination.
- Preliminary assessment highlights the urgent need for safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, adherence to water quality standards via testing, restoration, operation, and maintenance of water systems, disinfection of household water points, installation of new water points/tube-wells, and repair/reconstruction of damaged and new latrines.
- Funding support is needed for the repair, maintenance, installation of new WASH infrastructures to sustain basic services, and distribution of life-saving WASH supplies.
- DPHE with UNICEF support, distributed 215,000 Water Purification Tablets (WPTs), 3,800 Jerry Cans, 300 water buckets, and 500 Hygiene Kits in affected areas (Bagerhat, Satkhira, and Barguna), including shelters in Patuakhali. Additionally, 9 Mobile Treatment Plants were deployed in Barisal, Barguna, Pirojpur, Satkhira, Khulna, and Bagerhat. WASH cluster partners are also providing life-saving drinking water in cyclone-affected districts.

Food Security

- Cyclone Remal inflicted severe damage on food security, including damage to crops, fisheries and livestock, destroyed cooking facilities, damaged cattle feed, livestock loss, and scarcity of drinking water for remaining animals.
- Immediate food security needs: ready-to-eat/cooked meals, specialized children's food, general food aid, restoring cooking facilities, life-saving livelihood support, cattle feed and veterinary care, and emergency agricultural inputs.
- Government and food security cluster partners swiftly responded, providing immediate assistance: World Vision distributed dry food packages to 12,250 people, Save the Children supplied 450 dry food packages benefiting 2,250 people, and Concern Worldwide distributed 2,200 food packets aiding 10,000 individuals.

Logistics

- Chittagong seaport resumed operations at 10:00 am on May 28, with incoming ships instructed to berth at the jetties. Airport operations also resumed on May 27. Movement from Bhasan Char will resume tomorrow.
- Due to flooding, road communications are disrupted in many places, impacting the movement of both food and non-food items, necessitating close coordination among logistics cluster members.

Child Protection

- UNICEF, alongside the Department of Social Services (DSS), deployed 108 Social Workers, 10 psychosocial counselors, and 5 expert consultants across three affected divisions.
- UNICEF with DSS engaged 135 Community-based Child Protection Committees involving 2,295 community members and 593 social service volunteers. In partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS), UNICEF deployed over 90 community mobilizers and facilitators to raise awareness on drowning prevention, Child Helpline 1098, and disaster preparedness in cyclone shelters, reaching more than 11,000 children and families across seven affected districts.

- Moreover, UNICEF, in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs and police headquarters, maintained active communications with Child Affairs Police Officers and Officer in Charge of 72 police stations across various districts.
- Urgent child protection needs include the provision of basic necessities and assistance, safe spaces, mental health and psychosocial support services and ensuring safety and security in temporary shelters for children.

GBV

- Recurring power outages and reduced connectivity heighten gender-based violence risks for displaced women and girls, especially in areas lacking adequate shelter and sanitation facilities, exacerbating the differential impact on women and girls who have lost household belongings compared to male household members.
- Government SOS forms prioritize clothing (esp. for children), shelter, health services, and food (esp. baby food) for women, and overall protection include GBV response support.
- GBV cluster members plan to support joint needs assessments, rapid gender analysis, and the integration of GBV across sectors to address protection, inclusion, and GBV response needs.
- There is a lack of information and analysis regarding the percentage of women receiving government relief support and the impact on marginalized communities, including female sex workers and transgender/Hijra individuals.
- GBV cluster partners, including UNFPA with Prerona and CWFD, distributed 1,000 Dignity Kits to affected women, along with 1,200 MHM kits in Bagerhat and Satkhira, focusing on evacuation centers. JAGO NARI, supported by Save the Children, provided vehicles for safe evacuation to 16 shelters in Kalapara, Patuakhali, and ensured safe spaces in cyclone shelters for women and children. Local WLOs supported safety and security of women and girls in evacuation centers. Prerona plans to distribute 600 hygiene kits in Bagerhat and Satkhira, while Concern Worldwide plans to distribute dignity kits among affected women in Patuakhali and Khulna.

Education

- School closures, damaged infrastructure, student displacement, and interrupted teaching exacerbate learning loss, as coastal schools are closed and repurposed as cyclone shelters by authorities.
- Immediate support is needed for minor repairs to damaged or partially damaged schools, replenishment of destroyed teaching materials, and proper cleaning and disinfection of schools after displaced communities vacate the premises.
- Adequate capacity is necessary for continuous social-emotional learning, psychosocial support, and designated student learning spaces.

Nutrition

- Displaced children lack adequate breastfeeding and complementary feeding, pregnant and lactating women face challenges in accessing sufficient food, and inundated areas may experience increased gastrointestinal diseases, all contributing to malnutrition.
- Nutrition cluster partners distributed IYCFE messages and pre-positioned therapeutic milk to treat children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). Urgent nutrition needs include child food packages, rapid identification of SAM children, distribution of IYCF-E messages and counseling, and additional supply of nutrition commodities.

GENERAL COORDINATION

- Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG) will be finalised the Joint Needs Assessment for 7 districts (Khulna, Bagerhat, Satkhira, Patuakhali, Barguna, Bhola, Barisal) by 30 May 2024. A Humanitarian Response Plan will be developed to complement the Government efforts.

ROHINGYA REFUGEE RESPONSE: COX'S BAZAR

The following actions are taking place across affected Sectors in Cox's Bazar as part of the Rohingya Refugee Response.

Shelter and CCCM: *Lead Agency IOM and UNHCR*

- 1,887 Site Management Unit (SMU) volunteers were engaged in preparedness and early warning message dissemination using megaphones, hand sirens and mosque mics.
- 1,803 Site Management Support (SMS) volunteers engaged in cyclone preparedness and messaging to the community groups (plus rapid damage assessment and verification).
- 28 Disaster Management Committee (DMC) meetings were held for cyclone preparedness and response coordination.
- In total, 1,922 damaged shelters were referred to the shelter teams. Assessments have been completed for 1,665 of these shelters, out of which 48 are fully damaged, 583 are severely damaged, and 481 are moderately damaged and are eligible for assistance.

- 134 households (666 individuals) who were relocated from landslide and other hazard prone locations to safer areas, 117 households (591 individuals) are yet to return to their shelters and are currently hosted in learning centers and or are staying with relatives.
- 188 instances of minor slop failure have been reported.
- In response to the damage caused by Cyclone Remal, shelter materials were distributed to 483 households, with further distributions planned over the upcoming days. Partners have prepositioned shelter materials in their warehouses and will continue to distribute covering all eligible households.
- Extremely Vulnerable Households in need of shelter repairs are prioritized for support, including shelter material transportation and labour support for reconstruction.
- The management and clearing of debris, including fallen trees, has been carried out.
- Distribution of LPG refills has continued.
- Multisectoral teams continue to carry out joint damage assessments leading to referrals to relevant sectors, and in some cases the camp-level DMCs were notified.
- Identification of landslide risk areas, alerting the community about the risk and mobilizing the households to move to communal shelters for their safety has been priority preparedness work of SMS.
- Emergency damage assessment, joint verification and referral for emergency support, and support to the relocated families and monitoring of the families living in flood and landslide risk areas has been the priority SMS after the landfall.

Food Security Sector: Lead Agency WFP and FAO

- WFP has distributed 96 cartons (0.480mt) of fortified biscuits to 580 individuals from 96 households.
- WFP has distributed 944 hot meals as rapid food assistance.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) Sector Lead Agency: UNICEF

- In the camps, a total of 178 latrines, 53 bathing cubicles, five Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants (FSTP), 5 tap stands, 4 Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) have been partially affected by the cyclone.
- No major damage to the water networks and handpump-tubewells was reported.
- In the host communities (Ukhiya and Teknaf), a total of 266 latrines and 32 bathing cubicles have been partially affected, and 15 latrines have been fully affected.
- In the camps, WASH community-based volunteers are engaged in the response along with the WASH community structures.
- A total of 144 latrines, 41 bathing cubicles, 3 FSTPs, and 3 MRFs have been repaired. Five tap-stands have been repaired and connected to the piped water network to ensure chlorinated water supply.
- In the host communities (Ukhiya and Teknaf) the respective households repaired their own facilities, including 147 latrines and 21 bathing cubicles.
- For Menstrual Health Management, 150 pcs sanitary napkins were distributed at three cyclone shelters.

Health Sector Lead Agency: WHO

- One health post has been partially damaged due to the weather conditions. Additionally, three health centers (two Primary Healthcare Centers and one field hospital) downscaled their outpatient services to emergency healthcare services only due to the weather conditions.
- No injury cases have been reported due to the weather conditions during the past 24 hours.
- A total of 29 normal deliveries and 5 C-sections have been provided over the past 72 hours.
- A total of 14 obstetric referrals have been successfully provided during the past 72 hours.
- Updated stockpiles of emergency health logistics and medical supplies have been maintained by health-sector partners.

Protection (including Child Protection and Gender-Based Violence) Sector Lead Agencies: UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA

- Heavy rains and strong winds continued to affect protection facilities, community centers, and registration sites used for daily protection and community meetings. Daily protection activities were postponed given the weather.
- Protection Emergency Response Units (PERUs) continue to address protection concerns in the communities. They assisted 509 individuals, including 59 people with disabilities, through counseling and door-to-door visits. UNHCR volunteers conducted 901 visits after the cyclone to ensure the cleaning of drains and identification of damages reaching 9,229 persons to ensure safety of refugees and facilitate identification of possible actions and repairs. IOM provided psychosocial support, counseling, and specialized services to 73 individuals and 35 refugees received protection counseling. There were 366 non-protection cases referred (shelter, health, etc.) and 67 refugees for shelter/NFI.
- Movement within camps has been severely hindered by slippery and muddy paths, further complicating the delivery of child protection services and the mobilization of community volunteers.
- Community-based child protection committees (CBCPC) have been essential in addressing immediate safety and child protection needs. These teams have been critical in managing the initial response to the cyclone.

- CP facilities have been prepared for temporary shelter, and dry food and essential supplies have been distributed to affected communities to address immediate needs.
- Awareness sessions on cyclone safety and child protection, as well as door-to-door visits, have been conducted to educate the community and provide psychosocial support (PSS) to affected children and families.
- Children and Caregivers have been reached with child protection awareness and messages in every camp.
- 880 children (355 girls, 5 girls with disabilities, 444 boys, 8 boys with disabilities) have been supported with PSS.
- 160 staff, 369 community volunteers, along with 460 CBCPC members and were on standby to provide emergency support.
- Escalating distress, discomfort, and safety apprehensions prevail among women and girls due to compromised privacy resulting from shelter damage.
- There is heightened anxiety and fear of displacement among women and girls, due to minor damages such as small landslides.
- Women and girls including those with disabilities received Psychosocial Support and Psychological First Aid from dedicated GBV actors and volunteers.
- Referrals were directed to essential service facilities, encompassing Shelter, Site Management, Health, and other fundamental needs provisions.
- GBV actors and volunteers undertook follow-ups, ensuring constant communication with family members of vulnerable groups such as pregnant women, elderly individuals, Children with Disabilities (CwD), and Persons with Disabilities (PwD), to ensure their safety and well-being during the cyclone.
- Dissemination of messages concerning responsive strategies and post-cyclone impacts was conducted at the community level, engaging the collective efforts of staff, volunteers, and response team members.
- GBVSS has secured around 2070 dignity kits for post-cyclone distribution to women and girls of reproductive age in need.

ROHINGYA REFUGEE RESPONSE: BHASAN CHAR

The following actions are taking place across affected Sectors in Bhasan Char as part of the Rohingya Refugee Response.



Site Management Support/ NFI/ Shelter: *Lead agency: UNHCR*

- Reduced mobile network coverage and Wi-Fi network issues have been observed due to the cyclone.
- The referral of sectoral issues is ongoing, especially those related to the WASH Sector.
- Cyclone preparedness programme volunteers are on standby at their respective clusters and can be activated at any time.



WASH: *Sector Lead agency: UNICEF*

- No major damage to WASH facilities has been reported.
- 49 water tanks (300 L & 500 L) for rainwater collection have been partially damaged.
- In refugee houses on Bhasan Char, 54 latrine doors, two bathrooms doors and false ceilings have been damaged, along with 19 bathing cubicle doors, windows, and pipelines partially damaged.
- There was sludge overflow from the biodigester plant.
- 226 communal bins have been partially damaged and displaced, and 205 out of 226 bin platforms were flooded.
- 18 tube wells, including ten pathways, have been partially damaged.
- Eight deep tube wells have been repaired to provide drinking water for beneficiaries.
- WASH partners repaired the pipeline fittings of 49 water tanks and set them up in the correct locations.
- Approximately 40,600 feet of drainage have been cleaned by partners to prevent waterlogging and overflow.
- The WASH sector continues to repair minor damages reported.

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