

Flash Update #2 on Landslides, Flooding, and Waterlogging Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

23 June 2024

Overview

14,509

Rohingya refugees affected in 33 camps
(Figures are subject to ongoing verification)

3,651
Refugees displaced

1,549
Shelters fully and/or
partially damaged

1,266
Damaged
infrastructure

1,256
Land slide incidents



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Situation Overview

On 19 June 2024, the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) issued a heavy rainfall warning due to the active monsoon. The warning highlighted the likelihood of heavy (44-88 mm) to very heavy rainfall (≥ 89 mm) within the following 24 hours, especially in four Divisions – Rangpur, Mymensingh, Sylhet and Chattogram. The heavy rainfall forecasted for 72 hours did lead to landslides, flooding and

waterlogging in the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar, with **14,509 refugees affected** across the 33 camps. At least **10 deaths have sadly been confirmed**, and around 16 people have sustained injuries. More heavy downpours are expected as the monsoon season continues in the coming months.

Immediate Needs and Response



Shelter-CCCM Sector Lead Agencies: IOM and UNHCR

- All 33 camps have been impacted with 1,256 landslide incidents (small and large) and flood damage. The heavy rainfall has hindered and delayed damage assessments.
- 1,480 damaged shelters were referred to shelter teams. Assessments have been completed for 1,155 of these shelters (out of which 27 are completely damaged, 348 are severely damaged, 280 are moderately damaged, and 336 are partially damaged and are eligible for assistance).
- 777 households (3,651 individuals) were relocated from landslide and other hazard prone locations to safer areas.
- 155 households (852 individuals) are yet to return to their shelters and are currently hosted in learning centres and or are staying with relatives.
- In response to the damage reported, shelter materials were distributed to 382 households, with further distributions planned in the coming 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 being prioritized for support, including shelter material transportation and labour support for reconstruction.
- 831 landslide risk areas have been identified. Alerting the community about the risk and mobilizing the households to move to communal shelters for their safety continues to be a priority activity for Site Management teams.
- 56 slope stabilization responses have been initiated.
- Site development actors have limited capacity to safeguard large-scale landslide-prone areas.
- Residents in landslide-prone areas are hesitant to relocate to safer locations in the camps.



Food Security Sector Lead Agencies: FAO and WFP

- WFP is continuing its emergency response due to households remaining at-risk of further landslides and displacement.
- As of 23 June 2024, WFP has provided cartons of fortified biscuits to 715 households, and a total of 8,403 hot meal packages (lunch: 3,404; and dinner: 4,999), to the affected households in 25 camps.
- WFP is continuing to provide hot meals to the affected people.



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

- 431 latrines, 153 bathing facilities, 48 tapstands have been damaged (mostly partially damaged).
- Five heavy WASH infrastructures (Material Recovery Facilities, Faecal Sludge Treatment Plants) have been partially damaged.
- More than 200 WASH infrastructures are at risk of collapsing (latrines, bathing facilities or water tanks).
- 82% of the small repairs have been done and regular repairs will continue during the rainy season.

- Major repairs will be carried-out in the coming two weeks.
- 70 water-tanks are at risk of collapsing in the camps. Unfortunately, capacity to secure them or space for relocation is lacking.



Health Sector Lead Agency: WHO

- There was no direct impact on the health services and the functionality of health facilities.
- Three Mobile Medical Teams (MMTs) were deployed in three camps to conduct the initial assessments, and all MMTs were ready to deploy in accordance with the needs. Additionally, as the major incidences occurred in camps 8E, 9, 10, 13 and 14, due to the heavy rainfall and landslides, a total of 187 Community Health Workers were deployed for the post-landslide awareness message dissemination and visited 587 households in these locations.
- Due to the landslides, the movement and transportation of numerous cases for referral have been impeded by road blockages. Additionally, tracking displaced households for medical services and disseminating awareness messaging has proven challenging.



Protection (including GBV and CP) Sector Lead Agencies: UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA

Protection:

- Coordination and collaboration across protection actors for a holistic approach and assistance is ongoing, including relocation of affected families to safer areas.
- Psychosocial support is being provided to families who have lost family members.
- Ongoing door-to-door sensitization of families in landslide-prone areas by volunteer site managers is ongoing, as well as awareness messaging to refugees in landslide-prone areas.
- All learning centres, offices, masjids and community centres are open for emergency use.

Child Protection (CP):

- There has been an increased risk of drowning and injuries among children due to rising water levels and hazardous conditions.
- Adverse weather conditions and infrastructure damage is impeding the mobility and effectiveness of Child Protection services.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

- In Camp 6, 11, and 16, multiple Women and Girls' Safe Spaces (WGSS) have been soaked and some items are damaged within. Damage to fencing has been reported. Shelters have also been affected, including those of volunteers. Waterlogging has also interrupted some activities.
- Staff and volunteers are on the ground providing services, including psychosocial support and referrals, and conducting outreach sensitization sessions in the affected areas. Awareness on landslides and flooding is ongoing, despite limited staff mobility due to the weather.
- Self Help Group and Community Watch Group volunteers are visiting areas to assess the extent of damage, and awareness activities have been organized in the affected areas.
- Despite damage to some, all WGSS remained functional, with most staff present at the respective locations. Response activities are ongoing to address the situation.
- Need-based Dignity kits are being provided to affected families.
- Reduced mobility due to ongoing weather, landslides, and uprooted trees, is a challenge, especially for those with disabilities, as well as pregnant women, adolescents, and children.



Education Sector Lead Agencies: UNICEF and Save the Children

- A total of 190 Learning Facilities (169 Learning Centres, 18 Community-Based Learning Facilities, and 3 Youth Centres) are fully or partially damaged from heavy rain, landslides and waterlogging across 26 camps (camps 1E, 1W, 2E, 2W, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8W, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 26 and 27).
- 64 Learning Centres are being used as temporary shelters.
- During this period, the Education camp focal points, Rohingya teachers, Education volunteers and staff of Education partners gathered information and communicated with Site Management Services (SMS), CiC officials and the Education Sector. Rohingya teachers and volunteers worked to reduce the damage by coordinating and supporting SMS volunteers to clear the waterlogged areas near to and within learning facilities and to protect learning materials as much as possible.
- Rapid assessments were completed on 20 June. Construction engineers are continuing to assess the damage and prioritize Learning Facilities for repairs, so that reconstruction and repair work can commence.



Nutrition Sector Lead Agency: UNICEF

- The regular flow of beneficiaries has been reduced due to rain and damaged pathways/roads especially in hilly areas.
- A total of 1,540 (U5 children: 876; PBW: 299; Adolescents: 365) benefiting from nutrition programming have been displaced and relocated.
- 10 Integrated Nutrition Facilities (INFs) have been partially damaged.
- Mobile Nutrition Teams have been activated to provide services to displaced beneficiaries and Outreach Nutrition Volunteers are tracing those displaced to ensure continuity of services.
- Regular communication is ongoing with the CiC office and other sector partners to ensure that nutrition beneficiaries are also included in their responses.
- Most INFs' solar systems malfunctioned due to the lack of adequate sunlight, and staff and volunteers have had to rely on candles and portable lights to deliver services. This may continue to disrupt regular service delivery.
- Poor drainage systems in those INFs located in lower areas has been a challenge.
- The mobilization of the outreach team and facilitation of outreach activities have been hindered.
- Partial roof and fence repairs were made to INF structures with existing bamboo, rope, and tarpaulin. Additionally, food items and non-food items within INFs were covered with tarpaulin.
- There is need for tarpaulins and other materials for Nutrition partners to reinforce INF structures.

Contact

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<https://rohingyareponse.org/>