

## Summary of Humanitarian Access and Service Delivery Daily Updates – 23 July 2024 Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh



### Situation Overview

Since the evening of Thursday, 18 July 2024, **access to internet and communications has been restricted** across Bangladesh, including Cox’s Bazar. A **nationwide curfew was declared** on Friday, 19 July, with a few hours break during daytime. As a result, services in the Rohingya refugee camps in Ukhiya and Teknaf have been hampered and only essential lifesaving activities have been authorized to proceed. During curfew, **only critical/lifesaving missions were authorized** by the RRRC’s Office with a convoy by the APBn. The Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG), in close coordination with the Sectors, developed daily inter-Sector situation updates. From 21 to 23 July, service delivery in the camps has been focusing on essential lifesaving activities. Below are updates by Sector as of **23 July 2024**.

### Inter-Sector Updates: 23 July



### Shelter-CCCM Sector Lead Agencies: IOM and UNHCR

#### Impact/Response

- Regular service monitoring and CFRM referrals have been hampered as facilities are not operational and there is limited staff presence in the camps.
- Due to rainfall, 114 shelters were reported as partially damaged. 112 incidents (fire, soil erosion, landslides, and shelter and retaining wall damages) were reported in 12 camps, but no rapid damage verification could be conducted, and no support provided due to access constraints.
- Reports of theft, illegal hill cutting, and the building of unauthorized shelters are rising during this time.
- People are disappointed at the absence of Cash for Work (CfW) opportunities.
- All Site Management Support (SMS) volunteers are actively monitoring the camp situation, sensitizing the community on forecasted rain and related warnings.
- Disaster Management Units are disseminating key monsoon and landslide messages through door-to-door visits focusing on families whose homes are at high risk of landslide.
- 7 families (34 individuals) were supported for temporary relocation to Transit Centres and/or to stay with friends and relatives.
- Site Development is providing emergency support and deploying some CfW labourers.
- 9 LPG distribution points are functional using offline servers. A total of 2,050 LPG refills were carried out and 154 stove repairs were facilitated.

#### Challenges

- Restricted movements due to the curfew is causing gaps in close monitoring.

- An increasing number of shelters are being reported as partially damaged and are awaiting rapid damage verification by shelter teams and support.
- Shelter kits distribution is on hold due to unavailability of partners in the camps, which is causing hardships for rain-affected families.
- Complaints are not being referred as per the usual standard.
- Absence of actors including SMS volunteers and Camp in Charge (CiCs) could increase security incidents and theft.
- Some families living in landslide prone areas are resisting temporary relocation assistance designed for their safety.



### **Food Security Sector Lead Agencies: FAO and WFP**

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#### **Impact/Response**

- In the camps, food assistance continued with 8 of 21 e-voucher shops processing monthly rations for 3,000 households. Four additional days are needed to cover 100% of beneficiaries this month. Resilience activities in the camps were temporarily halted.
- In the host community, partners are continuing small-scale livelihood interventions with staff from the communities they serve.

#### **Challenges**

- The manual entry of transactions in the absence of connectivity has slowed down e-voucher operations.
- Adequate supply chain for fresh foods may be challenging if the curfew persists, however, stocks of dry food are currently sufficient.
- FSS is supporting NGO partners to acquire approvals to access the camps.



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

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#### **Impact/Response**

- WASH distributions for NFI (soap and menstrual hygiene kits) have stopped.
- Water supply is not regular across one third of the camps; water quality (chlorination levels) is not being monitored.
- In some areas, WASH services (solid waste collection, sludge management) have stopped. Beneficiaries have raised concerns about the lack of desludging.
- Most WASH volunteers are working to ensure continuity of the main WASH activities: collection of household waste, desludging/maintaining latrines, and water production.

#### **Challenges**

- The quality and quantity of work undertaken by WASH volunteers is limited without partner staff supervision.
- Due to the limited operation of the 298 water networks in the camps, many beneficiaries have reported collecting rainwater as a coping mechanism, jeopardizing the fight against the current cholera outbreak.



## Health Sector Lead Agency: WHO

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### Impact/Response

- All 46 Primary Healthcare Clinics (PHCs) continue to remain open, of which 22 have full health service capacities and 24 have limited services (i.e. emergency department and existing in-patient department with basic emergency obstetrics and neonatal care services).
- Of the 58 Health Posts, only 14 are currently functional.
- The Turkish Field Hospital is providing emergency services/in-patient department only.
- The Friendship Maternity remains fully functional.
- All MSF camp facilities are operating with almost 100% staff. Over the weekend, Ukhiya-based staff worked double shifts.

### Challenges

- Fuel shipments have not come to Cox's Bazar, so fuel reserves for ambulances are getting low.
- Some NGO movements have been possible using public transportation.



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

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### Protection:

#### Impact/Response

- Lack of access to services, including health, LPG and food, has led to tensions amongst the community.
- An increase in criminal activities in Camps 1E, 1W, 15, and 16 has been noted.
- Case management service have been disrupted as volunteers are providing remote support.
- CBP volunteers continue to collect information and refer services in coordination with staff working remotely.

#### Challenges

- Protection data has not been uploaded due to lack of connectivity and no referral channels are currently working.

### Child Protection (CP):

#### Impact/Response

- All Multi-Purpose Child & Adolescent Centres (MPCACs) are closed, and children are staying at their shelters most of the time.
- Volunteers are providing support through home visits.
- Due to internet disruption, it is difficult to ensure food rations for separated children as approval is needed from the CiCs via email.
- Community volunteers are communicating and providing psychosocial support, referral, and case follow-ups.

#### Challenges

- Availability/continuation of food rations will be a concern if the situation continues.

## Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

### **Impact/Response**

- Most facilities have life-saving staff (GBV case workers) in place.
- Some of the case workers living close to the camps have made their own way to the service facilities.
- IRC has committed that from tomorrow (24 July) onwards all service providers living in Ukhiya, including the midwives and case workers, will be deployed. With this, emergency and life-saving service delivery in the camps will resume.

### **Challenges**

- There is a fear among the volunteers that insecurity is mounting with the absence of government service providers and far fewer humanitarian actors in the camps.



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### **Nutrition Sector Lead Agency: UNICEF**

### **Impact/Response**

- All integrated nutrition facilities were closed for two days as a result of the government holidays (21-22 July), halting most activities, including specialized food provision.
- As of 23 July, 28 of 45 integrated nutrition facilities (INFs) opened to provide essential nutrition services. 3 of 4 partners were active in the camps on 23 July and served 2,877 people in the Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program (1,887 children under 5; and 130 pregnant and breastfeeding women) and the Outpatient Therapeutic Program (860 children).
- The Nutrition Sector prioritized opening INF services for camps with the highest caseloads.
- 3 of 4 Stabilization Centres remain open to support SAM and MAM children with complications. Door-to-door follow up of SAM and MAM cases is ongoing by Community Nutrition Volunteers.

### **Challenges**

- Essential service gaps persist in some camps for SAM and MAM children, due to pending approvals. A limited number of staff and volunteers are able to access the camps.



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### **Education Sector Lead Agencies: UNICEF and Save the Children**

### **Impact/Response**

- In the camps and host community, education facilities have remained closed due to the public holidays since 21 July.
- Prolonged school closures will impact year-end assessment scoring and analysis. Children are losing valuable learning time, increasing learning loss.



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### **Livelihoods and Skill Development Sector Lead Agency: UNHCR**

### **Impact/Response**

- In the camps, activities have stopped, including vocational training (3,500+ beneficiaries), jute bag production for non-food item (NFI) and menstrual hygiene management (MHM) kits (450 beneficiaries) and Accelerated Adult Literacy (AAL) programming (300+ beneficiaries).
- In the Host Community, activities have also stopped, including in-kind distributions to 300 beneficiaries to start their own businesses and post-distribution support to 400 other beneficiaries.

### **Challenges**

- Partner staff cannot go to the field, and even when the situation normalizes, it may be more challenging to resume activities in the camps.
- Due to the disruption, the 3-month AAL program may take longer for refugees to complete.
- MHM annual production targets (2.7 million sanitary napkin and 700,000 underwear) may also need to be revised if the situation continues.
- Volunteer engagement and income generation opportunities for refugees will be reduced if there are further delays in training.

### **Contact**

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<https://rohingyaresponse.org/>