

## Background

In the early hours of 25 August, violence broke out in Rakhine State, Myanmar. As a result, an estimated 370,000 people<sup>1</sup> are believed to have crossed the border into Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh<sup>2</sup>. The extent and implications remain uncertain.

There has been a continued influx of people across the border since 25 August, as well as high levels of mobility within Cox's Bazar. New arrivals join existing Rohingya populations who had crossed from Myanmar into Bangladesh in previous months and years, and had already settled in formal refugee camps and makeshift settlements. These sites are expanding with the new influx, while new spontaneous settlements have also formed and are quickly growing. Significant numbers of new arrivals are also being absorbed into the local host community. As of 9 September, several thousand people remain in the border areas at Palonkhali, Gundum and Naikonchari (the latter two in Bandarban District).

In response to the influx of Rohingya into Bangladesh, inter-agency rapid assessment teams were deployed on **6 and 7 September** to four pre-existing makeshift settlements (MS), two formal refugee camps and five new spontaneous sites and host communities<sup>3</sup>. Teams were composed of focal points from each sector active in the current response, and included representatives from multiple agencies. The assessment methodology involved direct observation, key informant interviews and focus group discussions with target population groups. The following report provides a snapshot of the needs of the new arrivals in assessed settlements.

More assessments are ongoing and planned for other new spontaneous settlements and other sites where large clusters of new arrivals have been reported.

This document provides a summary of all assessment results. The full report with findings for specific sites will follow.

## Key Figures

 **389,000** Total cumulative arrivals since 25 Aug (as of 13 September)

 **23** Sites assessed

**Influx Locations Assessed/Planned by Rapid JNA**



Data Source: Rapid Joint Needs Assessment (as of 8 Sept).

<sup>1</sup> As of 11 September 2017

<sup>2</sup> This estimation is unverified and is based on consolidated field reports of the agencies working in Cox's Bazar

<sup>3</sup> Since 1990s more than 200,000 Rohingyas/UMNs have crossed borders and entered Cox's Bazar district in Bangladesh, most of which residing in Ukhia and Teknaf upazilas. Three makeshift settlements were established (Kutupalong, Leda and Shamlapur), following the violence outbreak in October 2016 and influx, a fourth settlement Balukhali was formed. While 113,000+ UMNs are residing in makeshift settlements, a 50,000 are residing in host communities. After Aug 2017 violence influx, new spontaneous sites are forming and are quickly expanding. As of the reporting date, six of these spontaneous sites are identified with new arrivals of Aug 2017 (Mainnerghona, Unchprang, Burma para, Hakimpara, Rubber Garden and Jomtoli). Four of those are covered in the rapid JNA.

## Key Findings and Needs Overview

- **Across all sites new arrivals have little knowledge of what services are available and how to access them.** Strengthened outreach and referral, including the creation of information hubs to receive, orientate and refer new arrivals remains a significant gap. In formal refugee camps, the referral and outreach is reported to be stronger, with many registered refugees hosting newly arrived families and providing them with support to access available services.
- **Most new arrivals in makeshift settlements and spontaneous sites need immediate food assistance.** They are without their own food supplies and are dependent on humanitarian distributions, which are not yet systematic in the new spontaneous sites, or on what is provided by undocumented Myanmar nationals (UMN) who were already present in Cox's Bazar prior to this latest influx and by the local host community.
- **Overcrowding and lack of space for new shelters is a major concern.** While many new arrivals are building bamboo structures and covering them with locally bought plastic, the quality of the plastic is extremely poor. There are many who do not have the resources to purchase the necessary shelter materials from the local market, as they spent a significant amount of their savings getting to Cox's Bazar (5,000 to 10,000 taka on average), and are paying rent to 'land owners' at an average of 1,500 – 2,000 taka per month. Many are going into debt to secure access to land or shelter.
- **Almost all arrivals lack the means to make an income.** The majority of people do not have sufficient household items with them or the means to buy basic items, including cooking utensils, hygiene supplies, blankets or clothing.
- **Access to safe water and sanitation facilities is a key priority that must urgently be addressed.** The new sites have no pre-existing facilities at all. Even in sites where facilities exist, these are under immense pressure with one latrine per 100 people on average noted in one site. New arrivals also urgently require WASH supplies including soap and buckets. The quality of groundwater in Unchiprang is poor, leaving water trucking as the only solution for the scale required. This is a particular issue for Teknaf.
- **Safety and security concerns of women and girls need to urgently be addressed,** especially with regards to accessing basic services including water and sanitation facilities. Across all sites it was found that women and girls do not have any personal dignity items, with the lack of suitable clothing creating movement restrictions for women. Individuals who reported they had experienced gender-based violence have not been able to access appropriate support.
- **Education is a priority for newly arrived children.** Most children assessed had access to madrasas or schools prior to leaving their homes in Myanmar but all those assessed reported that they had not been able to access schools since they arrived in Cox's Bazar.
- **Efforts need to be made to reduce communal tensions** between UMN that were already present in Cox's Bazar prior to this latest influx, and the new arrivals, especially when the latter are approached by humanitarian staff. New arrivals reported that more than 100,000 people are still waiting to cross the border which is true will put even more pressure on overstretched services and communities.

## Population Movement

- Shamlapur and Leda makeshift settlements are transit points for new arrivals who are staying for a few days before moving onto other locations. This constant movement of people makes systematically tracking new arrivals challenging.
- Kutupalong and Balukhali are the main sites that are receiving the greatest number of new arrivals and are quickly expanding. Most new arrivals are receiving information from UMN who were already in Cox's Bazar prior to this influx, which may be why most are moving toward these pre-existing sites.
- Many smaller, spontaneous sites are forming and expanding. Unchiparang site, for example, has grown substantively with Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) and other local stakeholders guiding new arrivals to the site.
- New arrivals are spending most of their money on transportation, across the border and within Cox's Bazar.
- The number of people who are on the move is creating security and protection complications, with two children killed in a car accident on 10 September and more injured.

## List of Assessed Locations and Date

Assessed Location	Upazila - Union	Assessment Date	New Arrival (Households)	New Arrival (Population)
Balukhali MS	Uhkia-PalongKhali	9/6/2017	2,600	13,500
Kutupalong MS	Uhkia-RajaPalong	9/6/2017	9,000	50,000
Leda MS	Teknaf-Nhilla	9/6/2017	1,435	9,775
Shamlapur	Teknaf-Baharchhara	9/10/2017	650	4,500
Unchiparang	Teknaf-Whykong	9/7/2017	5,000	50,000
Nayapara RC	Teknaf-Nhilla	9/7/2017	3,600	18,000
Kutupalong RC	Uhkia-RajaPalong	9/7/2017	5,060	25,300
Kathakhali	Teknaf - Whykong	9/7/2017		1,700
Nayapara village	Teknaf - Whykong	9/7/2017		11,000
Doingakata	Teknaf - Whykong	9/7/2017		3,102
Naittongpara	Teknaf - Teknaf Paurashava	9/7/2017		10,000
Nayapara village	Teknaf - Nhilla	9/7/2017		15,260
Jadimura	Teknaf - Nhilla	9/7/2017		13,000
Leda village	Teknaf - Nhilla	9/7/2017		14,850
Mochoni	Teknaf - Nhilla	9/7/2017		2,500
Pankhali	Teknaf - Nhilla	9/7/2017		3,500
East Dighalia	Uhkia-RajaPalong	9/13/2017	200	1,600
Lambashiya	Uhkia-RajaPalong	9/12/2017	2,060	15,450
Madhur Chara	Uhkia-RajaPalong	9/12/2017	500	3,500
Jamtoli/Thangkhali	Uhkia-PalongKhali	9/11/2017	4,000	24,000
Hakimpara	Uhkia-PalongKhali	9/11/2017	12,000	45,000
Burma para / Tasnimarkhola	Uhkia-PalongKhali	9/11/2017	3,500	21,000
Mainnerghona	Uhkia-PalongKhali	9/13/2017	12,000	72,000

\* Please note that the population figures above are the number of people at those specific sites on the day they were visited. Estimated figures of the total number of UMN's in Cox's Bazar is available through the Situation report and daily updates.

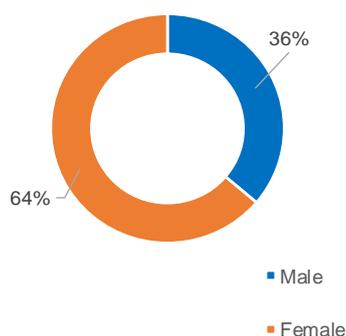
As part of the Joint Rapid Needs Assessment these 23 sites were assessed to identify key priority needs, urgent issues, and to hear from the newly arrived UMN's. The results of those assessments are in this report. Continuous monitoring will take place as part of the monthly multi-sector Needs and Population Monitoring (NPM) assessments, which will cover all UMN sites in Cox's Bazar.

It is therefore assumed that all humanitarian partners have the necessary information they need to initiate emergency operations. There should be no more ad-hoc general needs assessments. The only assessments outside of the NPM process that should occur should be those which fill very specific information gaps needed for the technical delivery of specialized assistance.

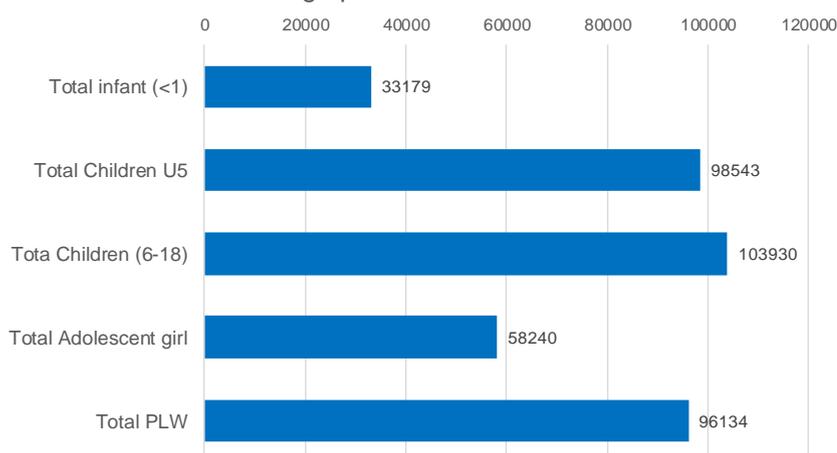
## Overall Demographic Profile

- 64% Female
- 9% Infant <1
- 28% Children < 5
- 29% Children between 6 – 18
- 17% Adolescent girl
- 27% Pregnant and Lactating Women

Demographic - Gender



Demographic - Children and PLW



## Sector Findings



### Shelter/NFI and Site Management

- Significant numbers of new arrivals have no shelter and are staying out in in open air. Others are living in temporary shelters or with other UMN who were in Cox's Bazar prior to this latest influx. Overcrowding has been noted in all sites.
- New arrivals lack basic NFI items such as cooking utensils, clothing and blankets.
- Materials to build new shelters, such as bamboo and plastic sheeting, are available in the market but are too expensive for most new arrivals to afford.
- There is lack of access to reliable information and no self-identified leadership amongst the communities. There are however self-identified Bangladeshi camp managers in at least two locations, Moiner Gona and Hajimpara.



### Food Security and Livelihood

- Majority of new arrivals need immediate food assistance, with the main source of food reportedly what can be provided by other UMN or the host community.
- Most of the new arrivals do not have cooking utensils, money, access to firewood or space to cook.
- Up to 90 per cent of new arrivals are only eating one meal a day, and do not have a sufficiently diverse food intake and are primarily eating rice with salt.
- The vast majority of new arrivals have no source of income and have spent all their savings traveling across the border and establishing a shelter.



### WASH

- New arrivals have limited access to safe drinking water, although those who are living with UMN families in pre-existing settlements have reported easier access to water points.
- Limited space is available for new WASH facilities, and those that have been established are often far from people's shelters.
- Due to lack of latrines, open defecation is common, and due to insufficient washing facilities women are struggling to bathe on a regular basis, which is causing extreme health concerns with high risk of outbreak.
- Secondary contamination of safe drinking water is also a concern due to lack of clean containers to collect water and poor sanitation practices. This is compounded by poor hygiene practices.



### Health

- Lack of medical staff reported at all assessed sites.
- New arrivals noted that they are not aware of how to access medical care even when it does exist.
- Main health care needs include treatment for physical injuries including gunshot wounds and burns, prevention and treatment of communicable diseases, antenatal care, emergency obstetric care services, reproductive health and S/GBV management.
- Skin diseases have been reported, especially amongst women, due to lack of WASH facilities.



### Education

- Limited informal education available through Moktab/Madrassas, however, in most sites there is no access to any education and newly arrived children are not attending informal or formal education.
- Limited teaching and learning materials are available.
- Children reported that they would prefer to be taught English, Burmese and Arabic.
- Children with physical or mental disabilities require specialist assistance.



### Safety, Dignity, Respect for Individual Rights

- 50 per cent of new arrivals do not have safe access to essential services including latrines, bathing spaces, education and distribution points.
- Sites are overcrowded without proper planning and lighting, which is causing safety and security concerns especially for women and girls. Due to overcrowding, lack of privacy has also been reported as a key concern.
- Lack of dignity and hygiene materials available for women and girls, which are necessary to ensure their basic dignity, safety and mobility.
- Separated and unaccompanied children identified at all sites.
- Support-services for GBV has been identified as a critical need



### Nutrition

- Women do not have private and safe spaces for breast-feeding.
- New arrivals have insufficient information about how to access nutrition assistance.

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