An infestation of “boring beetles” means the bamboo in almost every shelter in the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox’s Bazar — home to around 240,000 families — needs to be replaced. With just over four months to go until the beginning of the next monsoon season, the race is on to provide families living in the worst-affected shelters with new, more-durable bamboo.

Read the full article [here](#).
Site Management
Regular weekly block assessments continue in all blocks to monitor the condition of Camp facilities and structures.
During the month of December, a total of 824 community meetings were held as well as 585 radio listening sessions.
Additionally, Focus Group Discussions were held with male and female youth groups from Rohingya and Bangladeshi Communities to receive feedback on their living conditions and how they affect their daily lives, studying and social lives.
Trainings on Cyclone Preparedness organized by the German Red Cross (GRC) and IOM took place across several camps in December in order to raise awareness and prepare the community in case of cyclone as the cyclone season approaches.
Finally, with the support of the American Red Cross (ARC), IOM arranged trainings for Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) volunteers on Disaster Risk Reduction in Camps 9, 22 and 23.

Site Development
IOM and its Implementing Partners continue to support the monitoring and maintenance of tree plantation site across all camps in Kutupalong-Balukhali Extension (KBE) and Teknaf.
Additionally, solar street light installation is ongoing in Camps 11, 12, 13, 14 and 16 via IOM and its Implementing Partners.
Locations have been identified for lightening arrestors in camps of Leda and Ali Khali in Teknaf.
Finally, road demarcation activities are on going in Camp 12, 18, 19 & 20 for new major road work and infrastructure projects.

PROTECTION
IOM Child Protection is currently conducting assessments in all IOM Women and Girls’ Safe Spaces (WGSS) to establish child friendly corners.
IOM General Protection continues to conduct routine protection monitoring across all IOM areas of responsibility to monitor protection trends, issues and concerns that are raised by affected populations.
Additionally, on 18 December 2018, IOM Implementing Partner, Young Power in Social Action (YPSA) organized a celebration for International Migration Day supported by IOM titled ‘Migrant with Dignity’ at the DC Office in Cox’s Bazar. A total of 255 people participated in these celebrations.
Finally, on 10 December 2018, Human Rights Day was observed by IOM through an initiative spearheaded by IOM Protection, targeting international and national IOM colleagues.
ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATIONS

Community consultations and focus groups continued in some of IOM’s most congested camps. As IOM hopes to improve living conditions in many of the overcrowded eastern camps, relocating people from those areas to the less populated western camps is desirable. Discussions and outreach were held in several camps, asking the community how they would like to approach any relocations, what resources and infrastructures are priorities, as well as looking at any problems or reluctance to relocate.

Radio distribution has continued throughout IOM camps. Each household has (or will) receive the solar powered, hand cranked radio that also has a solar light and USB port. IOM also distributes a listening guide with each radio, with a list of important radio programming of value to the refugee community. The radio distribution has been successful and very popular throughout the camps, with people listening to new and educational programming as well as light entertainment and music.

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS (NFIs)

Pilot interventions for Transitional Shelter Assistance (TSA) have started, targeting 50 households in Camp 10. TSA interventions involve training on Shelter Maintenance and Upgrades, in-kind and voucher-based distribution of shelter materials and technical support from IOM staff.

During the month of December, 600 people participated in IOM Shelter’s Cash-for-Work programme.

A total of 2,800 pieces of treated Borak bamboo were produced at IOM’s pilot bamboo treatment facility in Nhil in December.

During the month of December, 42 community shelters received blankets and floor mats for use by community members during emergencies.

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE (WASH)

Hygiene Promotion efforts
In December 2018, 6,932 Hygiene Kits were distributed in Camp 24 by IOM WaSH with assistance from Practical Action and IOM Site Management. In addition, 14 Hygiene kits have been distributed by IOM WaSH team to relocated families in Camp 20 extension. Top-up hygiene kits and Aquatabs have been dispatched to different NGOs to be distributed in Camps 1W, 2, 3, 4 Extension, 5, 7, 9, 10, 18 and 20. The top-up hygiene kit are distributed to replenish the consumables from the hygiene kit every three months, including soap and toothpaste, together with Aquatabs to ensure water treatment at household level. Finally, regular hygiene promotion activities such as awareness sessions and cleaning campaigns are being organized by the IOM’s Implementing Partners under the guidance and supervision of IOM WaSH team.

Washing facilities
To date, 80 blocks of bathing sheds containing 160 cubicles in Camp 18, 20 and 20 Extension have been completed. Each of these cubicles is designed to serve about 20 women. A total of around 3,200 women in Camp 18, 20 and 20 Extension will now have access to dignified bathing facilities designed with their privacy and safety concerns in mind.

Sanitation
Construction of 30 Sludge Segregation Units (SSU, also known as desludging tanks) in Camp 2W, 9, 18, 20, 20 Extension has been completed and construction of two more desludging tanks is ongoing in Camps 2W and 9. These newly constructed Sludge Segregation Units (SSU) will ensure safe fecal sludge and wastewater management in the aforementioned Camps.
Capacity Building
In December, 20 doctors participated in a training on Eye Care at Ukhiya Health Complex on organized in collaboration with ORBIS international.

Additionally, Leda PHCC and Camp 2W- D4 PHCC have been selected by the National AIDS/STD program (NASP) for conducting voluntary counselling and testing for HIV. In December, an IOM Medical Officer and a Nurse received 5-day ‘on the job’ training on Antiretroviral therapy (ART) and HIV management by the Sadar Hospital Cox’s Bazar. As a result, IOM and the National AIDS/STD Control Program will be able to initiate ART services at the Ukhiya Health Complex.

Sexual and Reproductive Health Services
Products for long acting family planning methods were received and issued to health facilities for incorporation into family planning services. Delivery services were launched at newly opened Camp 3 hospital and midwives were deployed and handled two complicated deliveries on Day 1 of operations. Thanks to the efforts of the medical staff, both mothers and new-borns were discharged in good health.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Services (MHPSS)
Four healing ceremonies to protect and promote mental health through music and art have been conducted by MHPSS unit in the month of December. These commemoration ceremonies are linked to Rohingya culture and the community’s existing resources to cope with sources of distress.

Furthermore, a total of 176 beneficiaries participated in friendship sports activities organized between madrasas (religious school) and discussed social skills such as conflict resolution and communication following the sport activities.

Health Facilities
New Health Facilities in Camp 15 and Camp 18 have now been completed. The new buildings have been constructed with prefab steel and sandwich boards.

Previously managed by MSF, the clinic in Camp 9 will be handed over to IOM in early 2019. This new clinic will include a large MHPSS department along with standard medical services present in other IOM facilities.
NEEDS AND POPULATION MONITORING (NPM)

At ISCG’s request and in close coordination with the Site Management Sector, IOM NPM developed a facilities mapping tool. The full facilities mapping assessment will identify and record both the location and type of all facilities across camps under the IOMs areas of responsibility. The results of the facilities mapping pilot have been analyzed and will be discussed with the requesting bodies. Following consultation with all stakeholders the mapping tool will be finalized and a data collection plan will be outlined.

REACH and IOM NPM completed the Host Community Multi-Sector Needs Assessment data collection in order to identify the severity and geographical spread of acute needs within the host communities. ISCG, sectors, sector partners and humanitarian donors are the primary audience of this assessment. NPM provided support to the data collection through its 29 trained field enumerators.

In December 2018, NPM published results of the Site Assessment Round 13.

TRANSITION AND RECOVERY

Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE)
In December, a total of 11,121 Rohingya households have received LPG sets (cylinder, one plate cook stove, regulator and hose). In addition, 3,700 households came to IOM station to refill their LPG cylinders. The distributions and refills, all beneficiaries were trained on fire safety, the importance of environmental conservation as well as effective cooking methods. The SAFE PLUS programme is jointly run by FAO, IOM and WFP and aims at addressing cooking fuel needs, environmental degradation and food security for Rohingya refugees and host populations affected by the influx.

Women Income Generation Support (WINGS)
IOM and its partner ICCO are cooperating on the WINGS project, the first women-tailored initiative implemented in Cox’s Bazar. In December 2018:

- 15 Rohingya women in Tekaf participated in Home economics food preparation and hygiene training.
- 40 host community women began the first phase of a full package training on livestock (as supplementary capital formation for household income) and vegetable cultivation.

The WINGS project targets a total 460 women beneficiaries (260 from host community and 200 Rohingya refugees).

Livelihoods & Social Cohesion
In Ukhia Upazila, IOM is implementing social cohesion through Community-driven Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) initiatives in three host community unions and three Rohingya camps. During the reporting period, trainings were given to 125 host community beneficiaries on homestead vegetable production, poultry and livestock rearing.

The ACAPS NPM Analysis Hub published Situation Overview & Basic Need Index, which provides general situation overview, using data from five sectors to prioritize needs at the majhi block level.

---

Funding for IOM’s Response Plan is provided by:

- Australian Aid
- Canada
- Canadian Government
- European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid
- Government of Japan
- Government of Korea
- Government of Norway
- Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- SAARC
- Sweden
- UK Aid
- USAID
- UNICEF
- World Food Programme

---

FROM THE PEOPLE TO PEOPLE