

# MONSOON EMERGENCY RESPONSE UPDATE

Rohingya Refugee Crisis, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh (11 - 17 July 2018)



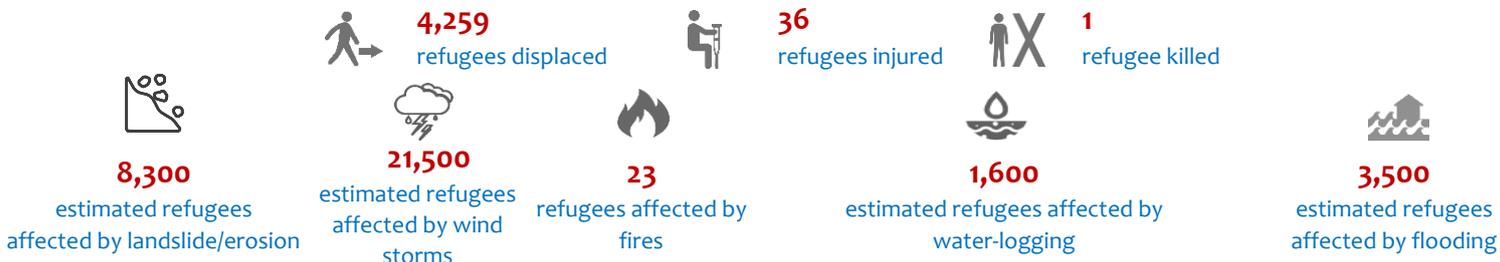
Monsoon mitigation measures in Shamlapur, 13 July 2018. Photo: ISCG/Sudhir Kumar

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

During the reporting week, Cox's Bazar recorded 115 mm of rain compared to the 140 mm received in the previous week. Respite from heavy rains provided an opportunity for further progress on monsoon mitigation measures, construction and repair of infrastructure, including access roads in the camps. Heavy rains are anticipated next week, from 21 to 23 July specifically with over 70 mm on Sunday alone. High winds, including gusts of up to 90 km/h are also expected. ISCG has issued an alert to all sectors, Agencies, NGOs and competent Authorities to ensure adequate response mechanisms at the field level. Relocation of refugees to safe areas continues and mitigation measures are ongoing. During reporting period, tides of over 4m were anticipated in Cox's Bazar between 12 and 15 July, posing a high risk of flooding in the low-lying Shamlapur area. Timely preparedness and mitigation measures helped to reduce the risk of the impact as a result of rising waters. The ISCG shared details of the high tide (date/time) with partners, district administration, RRRC and Army who in turn communicated this to partners in the field. In Shamlapur, Site Management reviewed the preparedness measures and sand bags were placed in critical areas to reduce the impact of the tides. The community was informed and safety volunteers deployed to keep vigil on the water level. A safe area/shelter on high ground was identified for emergency evacuation, in case of need.

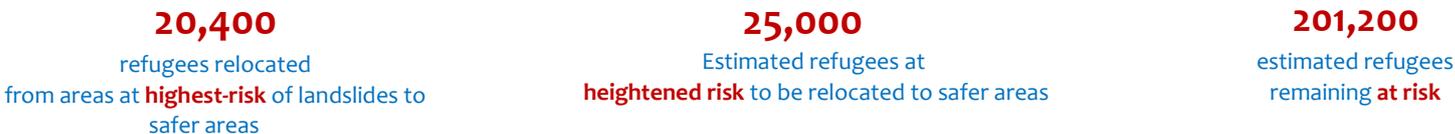
## WEATHER-RELATED INCIDENTS (cumulative data as of 17 July 2018)

Since 11 May, an estimated **35,000** refugees affected by weather-related incidents, including:



## 246,600 REFUGEES AT RISK OF LANDSLIDES OR FLOODINGS

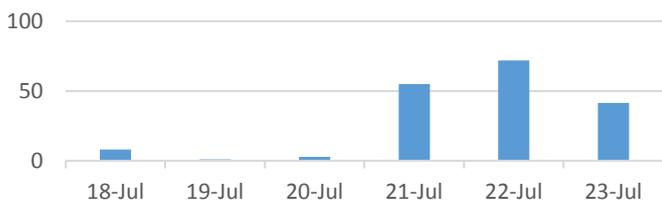
Estimated individuals at risk in Ukhiya and Teknaf prior to relocations (as of 15 July). Of these:



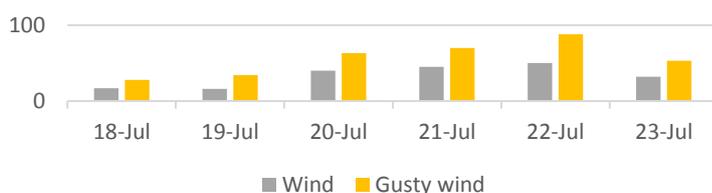
## WEATHER TRENDS AND ROAD CONDITIONS

(sources: BMD and windy.com)

### Rainfall precipitation forecast(mm)



### Wind forecast (km/h)



**Road Conditions:** The three-ton restriction imposed on vehicles using roads within the Kutupalong camps will continue through the end of the monsoon season to prevent further damage, ensure repairs and reinforcement works to infrastructure, and restore access with minimal disruptions. The Madhu Chara Hub is accessible from the south via Ukhiya-Balukhali Army road. Access from the North, through Folyapara, will be limited until 20 July due to improvement works. An alternate route is available through Lambashia at the northeast of Kutupalong Camp. Road 7 and the Oxfam Foecal Plant Bypass remain inaccessible to vehicles due to ongoing construction.

## SECTOR ACTIVITIES UPDATE



There was no damage to health facilities as a result of weather incidents during reporting period. A total of 3,830 cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) were reported, including 4 cases admitted to the Diarrhoea Treatment Center (DTCs) during epidemiological week of 8-14 July. This brings the total number of reported AWD cases to 133,164 in 2018. To date, no notable increase has been reported in the cases of AWD during the ongoing monsoon season. Trainings were completed for the DTC staff on sample collection. Mobile Medical Teams on standby are undergoing readiness drills. The Health situation was closely monitored in Shamlapur following the high tide alerts.



Mitigation activities during the reporting period included sand bagging and protection of latrines, latrine desludging (5,455) and decommissioning (326), water quality surveillance, stockpile mapping and hygiene promotion with a focus on diarrhoea illnesses. An online interactive incident response tracking tool has been developed to follow up facilities damaged due to adverse weather. Water quality monitoring is ongoing.



199,784 Shelters have been upgraded with bamboo/tarps/rope (94% of target). 115,572 Tie-down kits have been installed (55% of target). While these kits help shelters resist winds of up to 40 km/hr, they do not protect shelters against very high winds or sustained heavy rains. 66 mid-term shelters and 1,256 transitional shelters to resist winds up to 70 km/hr have been constructed. To date 1,312 shelters have been fully damaged due to weather-related incidents. The damaged shelters are older shelters that have not been upgraded yet. All damaged shelters have been rehabilitated.



No food distribution points were affected during the rains last week. Assessment is ongoing to identify new areas within the camps to preposition supplies for emergency distribution. 3,500 individuals, including recently relocated refugees, benefited from cooked meals during the last 15 days. 287 new arrivals and 682 HH affected by flooding and landslides received high-energy biscuits (HEB) for 3 and 6 days respectively. Food distribution points and e-voucher outlets are being reinforced to mitigate the risk of flooding and landslides.



An estimated 87,000 men, women, boys and girls were reached through outreach activities on emergency preparedness. An additional 20,000 HH received community messages on mitigating risks of family separation and protecting important documents and belongings. Protection partners continue to support inter-sector efforts to relocate households who are most at risk of landslide and flooding by identifying persons with specific needs and accompanying them to relocation sites. Works are ongoing to fix and upgrade existing Child-Friendly Spaces affected by the monsoon rains or construct new ones. Distribution of 250,000 water-proof child safety bracelets is also ongoing to facilitate speedy tracing of children's families in case of an emergency.



The Ukhiya, Madhu Chara and Teknaf logistics Hubs and Unchiprang Common Storage are fully operational with 6,400 m<sup>3</sup> of free common space available for humanitarian agencies to store their aid and relief materials.



ISCG is following up on government permission for NGOs to access the UN security VHF radio network and to import compatible handheld/mobile radios. Mapping of mobile network coverage and business continuity plans for emergencies is ongoing.



One nutrition facility in Camp 9 that was damaged due to severe flooding, repairs are underway. All other facilities are operating, with a number through temporary locations. New Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP) facilities in Camp 20 and Camp 19 have been set up. Training of OTP staff is ongoing on how to operate as Mobile Nutrition teams in case of an emergency.



Slope stabilization continued on Oxfam Road, 50m of brick work on the western side of Fish road and about 100m on Lambashia road were completed. Teams in Chakmarkul, Unchiprang and Leda are carrying out repairs to primary access roads and drainage channels. The Madhu Chara Logistics & Engineering Hub is due to be officially opened on 21 July for office use only. The opening date for the overnight stay is pending security clearance. Ground preparation works for the new CiC accommodation hub adjacent to Madhu Chara Hub has started and prefabs are expected to arrive from Chittagong in the next days. Prefab erection is planned to start on 1 August and to be completed in the first half of September. The CiC hub will be composed of 9-10 accommodation prefabs (21 beds) and one office (approximately 29 m<sup>2</sup>).



97 learning facilities have been affected by landslides and 56 by floods, reflecting an increase of 3 additional flood-affected facilities compared to the previous week. Closure of the learning facilities as affected an estimated 15,000 children who have been reassigned to other facilities.



The Communicating with Communities Working Group (CwC) is working closely with the Health Sector to improve community outreach materials to be used by more than 700 community health workers and mobilisers and 1,000 community volunteers so they can better inform refugees about the risk of potential disease outbreak and encourage health-seeking behavior such as routine childhood vaccinations. Info hubs were used to provide refugees crucial information on emergency preparedness and response measures. An assessment on how to improve the Cyclone Prevention Program (CPP) Early Warning mechanisms is underway through the CwC WG members.

## NEEDS, CHALLENGES AND GAPS

- **Land:** There is a need of land in order to decongest the camps and provide additional structures and improve services.
- **Shelter:** The need for resilient shelter that can withstand heavy rains and high winds continues.
- **NGO partners:** Timely clearance of stocks and materials, visas for staff and permits for NGO activities is needed.
- **Funding:** Sizable funding gaps restrict capacity of key Sectors such as Health, Food Security, Shelters, and Logistics.
- **Health:** The risk of disease, in particular water-borne diseases, lingers in the event of heavy rains and strong winds that may cause flooding, landslides and/or other incidents damaging water points, latrines and sanitation facilities.
- **Protection:** Increase services to ensure support and assistance to girls and women as well as men and boys, survivors of SGBV including psychosocial support, medical and legal assistance.
- **Logistics:** Access routes to camps require continuous monitoring, maintenance and rehabilitation for prompt delivery of assistance.
- **ETS:** NGO partners face urgent challenges regarding permission to use the security telecommunications network and to import the requisite radio equipment.



as reported by FTS  
(USD 951M required)