

REVISED EMERGENCY APPEAL

Bangladesh, Asia Pacific | Population Movement Operation, Cox’s Bazar



A Bangladesh Red Crescent Society volunteer conducting household visits in the camp settlement. (Photo: BDRCS)

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| <p>Appeal No: MDRBD018</p> | <p>IFRC Secretariat funding requirement: 2017-2024: CHF 133 million 2022-2024: CHF 79 million CHF 73 million (Cox’s Bazar) CHF 6 million (Bhashan Char) <i>The current funding gap is CHF 75 million (Sep 2021)</i> Federation-wide Funding requirements: 2022-2024: 86 million</p> | |
| <p>Glide No: OT-2017-000003-BGD</p> | <p>People affected: 1.4 million people</p> <p>Appeal launched: 18 March 2017</p> <p>Revised appeal published: 20 November 2021</p> <p><i>This is the seventh revision to the appeal</i></p> | <p>People to be assisted: 1 million people¹ (2022-2024)</p> <p>Appeal ends: 31 December 2024</p> |

¹ This figure represents 1,014,879 million people. The breakdown comprises 896,879 displaced people in camps, 100,000 host community people, and 18,000 displaced people on Bhashan Char Island.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

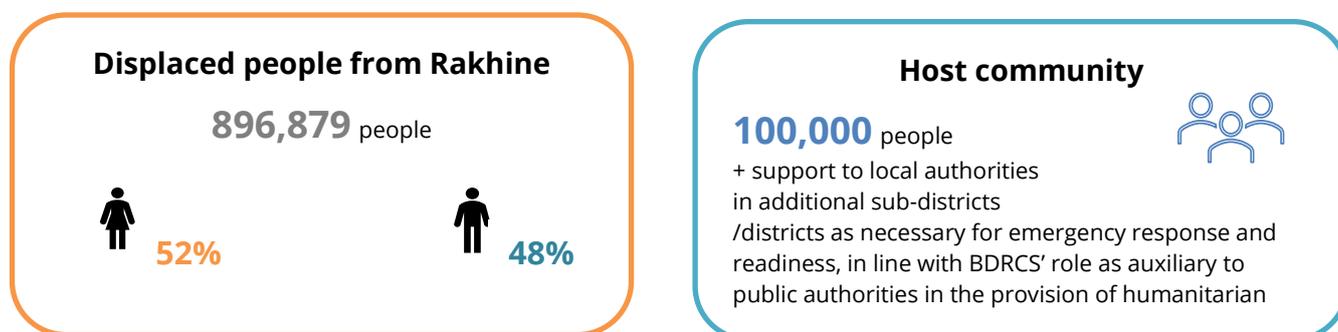
The population movement crisis which unfolded in 2016, resulted in the displacement of people from Rakhine, Myanmar, who crossed the border into Bangladesh. The situation continues today as a protracted crisis: the vast majority of 896,879² displaced people are completely reliant on humanitarian aid to meet their everyday needs.

This is against a backdrop of uncertainty on their future including the possibility of repatriation. Humanitarian needs³ span food and household items, access to health and other basic services and safe water, shelter, protection services, and preparedness for seasonal cyclones and monsoons, health crises such as epidemics and pandemics, as well as protection against the impacts of environmental and ecosystem degradation. The evolving and protracted crisis is also manifested in the continuing challenges⁴ faced by the local community (also referred to as the host community) in terms of livelihoods, the local economy and depletion of the water table, among other factors, brought about by the presence of the huge number of displaced people from Rakhine (hereafter referred to as 'displaced people' or 'camp community'). In December 2020, the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) began the process of relocating people from the camps in Cox's Bazar to Bhashan Char - an offshore silt island and a complex operating environment.

This revised Emergency Appeal, foreseen until 31 December 2024, captures the seventh revision of the operation and marks a new phase of IFRC support to the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) in its continued response in Cox's Bazar and Bhashan Char. This is in compliance with the request of the GoB to BDRCS to continue providing humanitarian services as auxiliary to public authorities in the provision of humanitarian services. Up to 30 June 2021, funding coverage of the existing Emergency Appeal stood at 70 per cent⁵. To date and through this appeal, BDRCS with IFRC support has reached 873,434 displaced people and host community members through the Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) alone, while a combination of other sectoral support reached 300,000 people among both displaced and host communities.

TARGETING

Communities targeted for support in Cox's Bazar through the revised Emergency Appeal (2022-2024)



² This is the figure referenced in the [Government of Bangladesh-UNHCR population factsheet issued 30 Sept 2021](#). Camp population figures are updated periodically.

³ [Joint Multi-Sector Needs Assessment of Bangladesh Humanitarian Response for Refugees, 2020, UN OCHA](#) (J-MSNA, OCHA, 2020); [Joint Response Plan Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis, 2021, UN OCHA](#) (JRP, OCHA, 2021); [ACAPS, Covid-19 and secondary Impacts, 2020](#) (ACAPS, 2020)

⁴ Ibid

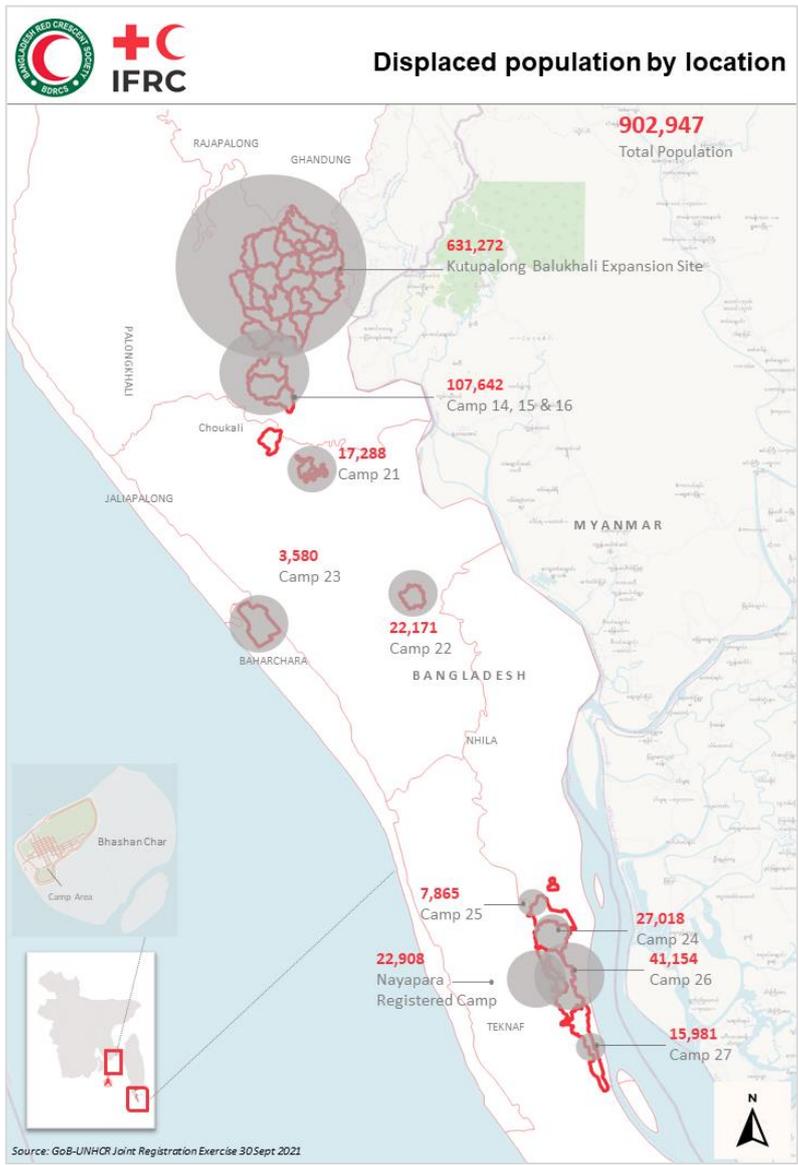
⁵ [IFRC, MDRBD018 Operational Update No. 12, 17 Sept 2021](#)

The goal to support 896,879 displaced people⁶ comprises the entire camp population across 34 camps in Cox's Bazar, which will be reached through Disaster Risk Management programming. Other programmatic support planned in the camps will encompass approximately 300,000 people. The targeted host community of 100,000 people mainly comprises the population in the sub-districts of Ukhiya and Teknaf, located in Cox's Bazar district.

This targeting has been based on existing and agreed geographical areas and sectoral responsibilities per area allocated to BDRCS and the wider IFRC membership under the UN-led Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) mechanism and in consultation and coordination with the Office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC), an agency of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) designated as the camp authority.

Other considerations that guide targeting are the findings of multisectoral needs assessments⁷ undertaken in the camp and host community areas by BDRCS/IFRC in August 2021, as well as reflections and consensus reached within the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement during a Lessons Learnt workshop held in Cox's Bazar, in early September 2021 to guide the future direction of the Population Movement Operation (PMO). The revised Emergency Appeal also complements the GoB and UN-led 2021 Joint Response Plan (JRP).⁸

The recent IFRC/BDRCS multisectoral needs assessment has served to confirm that there are particularly vulnerable groups among the displaced community that deserve specific support and consideration in BRCS programming. These comprise women and girls, transgender people, children, the elderly, people with disabilities, and other marginalised groups or individuals.

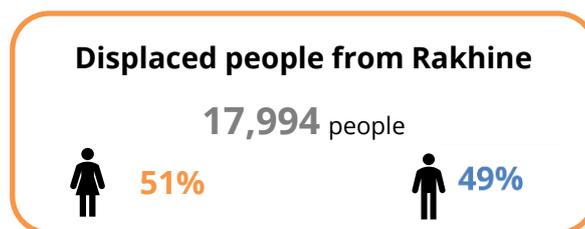


⁶ This is the figure for Cox's Bazar referenced in [the Government of Bangladesh-UNHCR population factsheet issued 30 Sept 2021](#). The map, indicates a total population of 902,947 because it takes account also people on Bhashan Char Island. That camp population figures are updated periodically.

⁷ [Highlights 2021](#)

⁸ While BDRCS and Red Cross Red Crescent partners are not part of the JRP, Red Cross Red Crescent programming is undertaken in close alignment with the JRP and the various sectors (as part of the ISCG mechanism) which BDRCS and Red Cross Red Crescent partners engage with regularly.

Communities targeted for support in Bhashan Char island



In addition to the above support focused on Cox's Bazar, support is also planned for the continuing humanitarian needs of the displaced people from Rakhine, relocated from the camp settlement in Cox's Bazar to Bhashan Char Island. There are currently 17,994 displaced individuals (4,316 families) on the island⁹. The GoB's overall target is to relocate up to 100,000 displaced individuals from Cox's Bazar to the island, as part of efforts to reduce congestion in the camps¹⁰. The displaced community currently on the island was relocated from Cox's Bazar in six phases between December 2020 and April 2021 by the authorities.

In response to a request for support from the GoB in December 2020, BDRCS in its role as auxiliary to the public authorities in the provision of humanitarian services has been supporting the displaced community on Bhashan Char with a wide spectrum of support.

On 9 October 2021, the GoB and UNHCR (on behalf of UN agencies working on the population movement response in Bangladesh) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that "establishes a common protection and policy framework" for the humanitarian response on the island.¹¹ The UN response will complement the humanitarian assistance so far provided by BDRCS and Bangladeshi NGOs on the island. On this note, BDRCS is well placed to meet the humanitarian needs on the island, in continued and strict adherence to the Red Cross Red Crescent position and that of the international humanitarian community, i.e. the relocation of displaced people must be voluntary, with safety and dignity assured, in line with the protection and policy framework established in the MoU, as well as the *Protection Framework for Humanitarian Response* which frames the JRP 2021.



With this in mind, BDRCS funding requirement for the provision of support to the displaced community on Bhashan Char is CHF 6 million for the period 2022-2024, for the provision of BDRCS flagship services comprising **relief, disaster risk reduction, health and care**, as well as livelihood and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programming, supported and complemented by protection, gender

⁹ These are BDRCS figures as at 20 Oct 2021, by virtue of the fact that BDRCS has been assisting the Bangladesh government with the registration of displaced individuals on the island.

¹⁰ [Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh Press Release, 4 dec 2020.](#)

¹¹ [Dhaka Tribune news article, 9 Oct 2021.](#)

and inclusion (PGI) and community engagement and accountability (CEA) approaches. Funding will also be utilised to cover support services.

(Note: interested donors can contribute to the intervention in Bhashan Char through a separate project code under the revised Emergency Appeal. More information is contained in the Operational Strategy that complements this revised EA)

PLANNED OPERATIONS

This Emergency Appeal aims to continue supporting BDRCS in its response to the population movement crisis. This will be in line with the shared vision of BDRCS, IFRC Secretariat and its membership, and in coordination with the International Committee of the Red Cross. The IFRC Secretariat and its membership will consolidate and improve on existing services to affected communities, in continued alignment with the three-pronged strategy adopted at the start of this operation: the strategy to achieve **integrated community resilience, social inclusion, and readiness for effective response**. The response will also continue to be guided by the existing Population Movement Operation Resilience Framework - developed in April 2019.

The strategy focuses on the following sectors:



Risk Reduction, Climate adaptation and Recovery¹²



Health & Care
(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)



Shelter, Housing and Settlements¹³



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



Livelihoods



Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI)

Enabling approaches

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:

¹² For the new phase of the PMO (2022-2024), this sector will see a shift in focus towards Disaster Risk Management programming.

¹³ Housing is not a component of this sector in this operation, in alignment with guidance from the GoB.



Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA)



Coordination and partnerships



IFRC Secretariat services



National Society Strengthening

RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN COUNTRY

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society



Core areas of operation



| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Number of staff: | 3,834 |
| Number of volunteers: | 535,654 |
| Number of local branches: | 68 |

The BDRCS Population Movement Operation (PMO) office in Cox's Bazar was established in 2017 and today has a staff strength of 370, while the Cox's Bazar unit¹⁴ of BDRCS has been supporting the operation from the beginning of the crisis, particularly through its Red Crescent Youth (RCY) volunteers. The BDRCS headquarters in Dhaka has been providing oversight support, staff and resources during this operation.

External Engagement

As auxiliary to the public authorities in the provision of humanitarian services, BDRCS serves as a key partner in this response and engages with various public authorities at both the national and local levels. BDRCS operation is being implemented also in close coordination with the UN-led Inter-Sector Coordination Group. There is a longstanding collaboration between BDRCS and the UNHCR to jointly undertake the Myanmar Refugee Relief Operation (MRRO) - this extensive initiative has been in place since 1992.

IFRC membership coordination

The BDRCS population movement operation is supported by IFRC and ten in-country Participating National Societies. Apart from their support to the operation, many Participating National Societies are also supporting BDRCS in other parts of the country with longer-term programmes including shelter and settlements, water and sanitation, health, disaster risk reduction and protection. In February 2018, the Federation-wide One Window Framework was formalized as the agreed working modality for BDRCS, IFRC and in-country partners.

IFRC on behalf of BDRCS and other members, coordinates regularly with the UN system and the wider humanitarian community in Dhaka, Cox's Bazar and camp levels. IFRC is engaged as an observer with

¹⁴ Unit is a term equivalent to a BDRCS branch at district or city level. The Cox's Bazar unit is one of 68 BDRCS units across the country in 64 districts and four city corporation.

both the Strategic Executive Group (SEG) and the UN-led Inter Sector Coordination Group and the various programmatic sectors and working groups.

Movement coordination:

Beside the IFRC and its members, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is also supporting the BDRCS operation. The existing Movement coordination mechanisms with IFRC, ICRC and in-country Participating National Societies include a bi-monthly coordination forum led by BDRCS in Cox's Bazar.

Details of this revised Emergency Appeal are provided in the Operational Strategy that complements this document. The Operational Strategy will also provide further details on the Federation-Wide approach which encompasses the shared vision of BDRCS, IFRC Secretariat and in-country IFRC members providing bilateral support, and the Federation-wide funding requirement.

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Reference



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