

OPERATION UPDATE

Bangladesh Population Movement Operation, Cox's Bazar

<p>Emergency appeal No: MDRBD018 Emergency appeal launched: 18/03/2017 Revised appeal published: 20/11/2021 (7th Revision) Operational Strategy published: 25/11/2021</p>	<p>Glide No: OT-2017-000003-BGD</p>
<p>Operation update # 20 Date of issue: 09/07/2024</p>	<p>Timeframe covered by this update: From 01/01/2024 to 30/04/2024</p>
<p>Operation timeframe: 18/03/2017 - 31/12/2024 (Revised Emergency Appeal no. 7 period: 1/1/2022 – 31/12/2024)</p>	<p>Number of people being assisted: 1 million people. (Camp: 944,154; Host community: 100,000; Bhashan Char: 35,152)</p>
<p>Funding requirements (CHF): CHF 79 million for 2022 – 2024 period through the IFRC Emergency Appeal (including CHF 6 million for Bhashan Char); CHF 135 million Federation-wide</p>	<p>DREF amount initially allocated: CHF 1.4 million</p>

To date, this Emergency Appeal which seeks a total budget of CHF 133 million, is 59 per cent funded (funding coverage as of April 2024 is CHF 78.9 million). Further funding contributions are needed from all sources including IFRC and its memberships to enable the **Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS)**, to continue to help meet the humanitarian needs of displaced people from Rakhine, as well as the local community affected by the influx of displaced people.



The camp settlement in Cox's Bazar district is prone to seasonal cyclones, landslides, floods induced by heavy rainfall. Prior to the cyclone season, simulation exercises are conducted to ensure that the displaced people are aware of Early Warnings and Anticipatory Actions. **(Photo: IFRC)**

A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

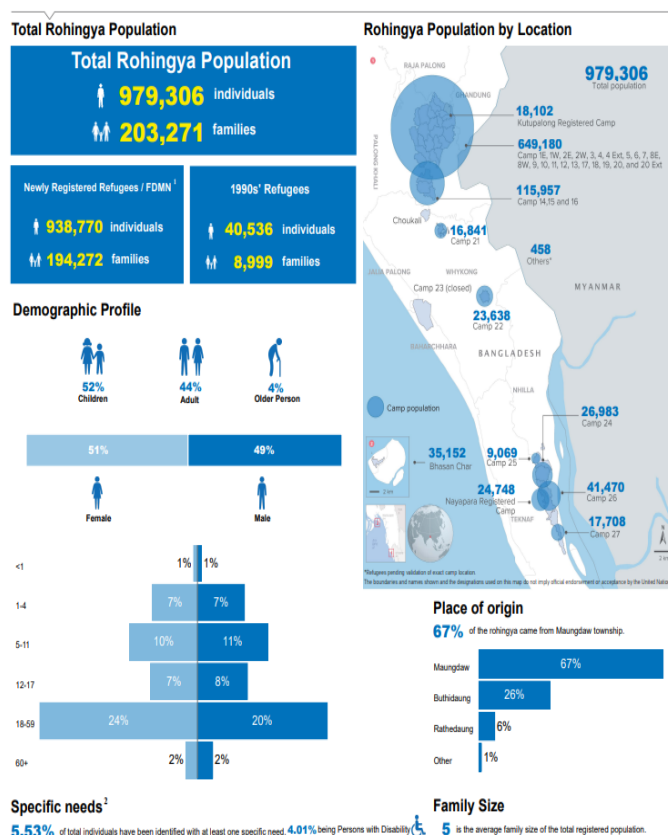
Description of the crisis

In 2016, the latest large-scale movement of people from Rakhine state in Myanmar into Bangladesh occurred triggered by an increase in conflict in Rakhine. In August 2017, an unprecedented number of people [655,500] crossed the border within a month. Since 2016, Bangladesh has been hosting 979,306 displaced people from Myanmar which is now described as a complex and protracted population movement crisis. From late 2020 until now, 35,152 have been relocated from the Cox's Bazar camps to Bhasan Char Island. All displaced people from Rakhine are almost exclusively reliant on humanitarian assistance to meet their basic needs with the absence of any durable solutions to their displacement and amidst a backdrop of uncertainty on their future, including the possibility of repatriation, frequent disasters such as cyclones, seasonal rainfall, flash flood, and fire incidents and increased security concerns in the camps.

The camp community, comprising 51 per cent women and 49 per cent men include a high per cent of children. According to the population factsheet, 52 per cent of the population are children, four per cent are elderly and 5.53 per cent have been identified as vulnerable individuals with at least one special need¹. Their essential basic needs include food, access to health services and safe water, shelter, information, restoring family links, protection services, and preparedness for seasonal cyclones, monsoon rains, multi-hazards and disease outbreaks (COVID-19 pandemic, seasonal cholera and dengue etc.) as well as protection against the impacts of environmental and ecosystem degradation.

The complex and protracted crisis is also manifested in the continuing challenges faced by the local community in terms of livelihoods and the local economy, 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').

The Government of Bangladesh called on the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) to respond to the emergency in December 2016, in line with the National Society's mandate to provide humanitarian services as auxiliary to the public authorities. Accordingly, an international operation was launched with IFRC-DREF support, followed by an Emergency Appeal launched in March 2017. The appeal has been revised on seven occasions, with the last revision covering the period 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2024. The seventh revision marks a new phase of IFRC support to BDRCS in its continued response to the protracted crisis and is aligned with the request of the GoB to BDRCS to continue providing humanitarian services based on the Fundamental Principles of the RCRC Movement, and the mandate of the BDRCS as an auxiliary to the public authorities in the humanitarian field.



¹ <https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/108556>

Summary of response

Overview of the operating National Society and ongoing response

The BDRCS Population Movement Operation (PMO), office in Cox's Bazar, was established in 2017 and today has a staff strength of 280, while the Cox's Bazar unit² of BDRCS has been supporting the operation from the beginning of the crisis, particularly through deploying its 700 Red Crescent Youth (RCY) volunteers by rotation. The BDRCS headquarters in Dhaka has been providing oversight support and has also deployed staff and resources during this operation.

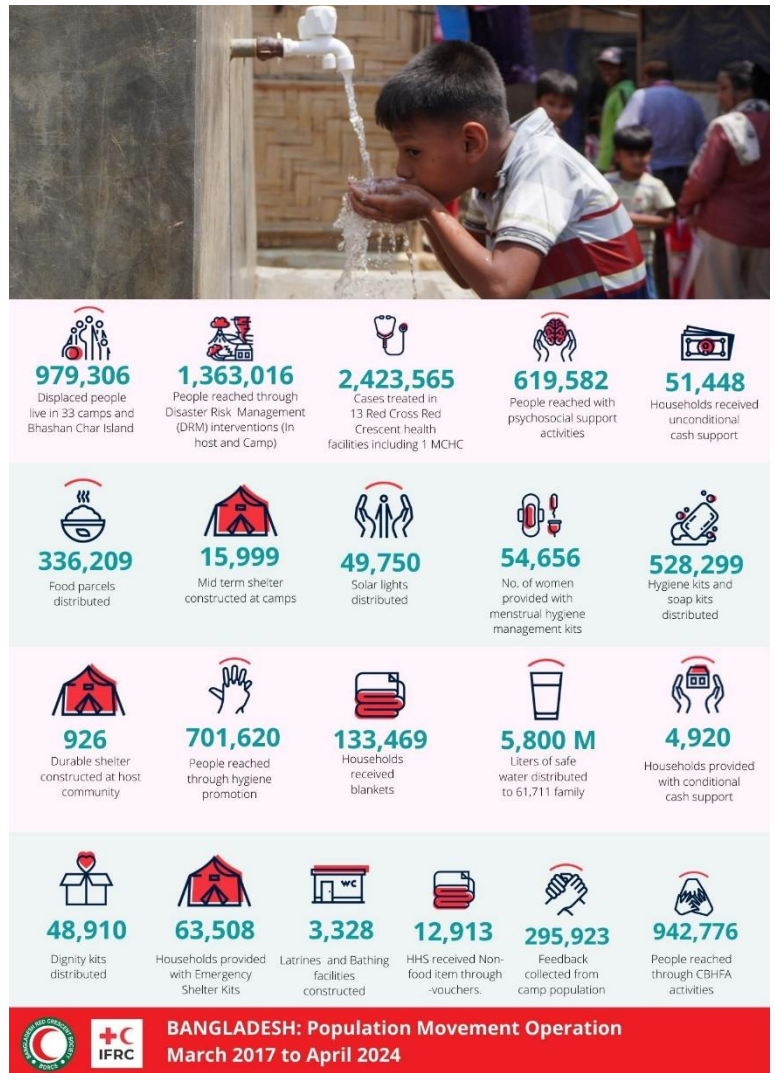
As auxiliary to the public authorities in the provision of humanitarian services, BDRCS serves as a key partner in this response and engages with various authorities at both the national and local levels. Since the 1978 movement of people from Myanmar, BDRCS' relationship with the Bangladesh authorities has been steadfast. As such, BDRCS has an added advantage in managing operations across 33 camps amid the population movement crisis, in coordination with the authorities, the UN-led Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) and the Refugee Operations and Coordination Team (ROCT).

Apart from the PMO office and unit office (branch) located in Cox's Bazar town, key facilities of BDRCS utilized for this response include three distribution centres in camps 11, 18 and 19, and one warehouse, three logistics hubs and a field office (known as hub office) in Ukhiya.

There is also 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.

The PMO completed its seventh year in early 2024, accomplishing the final year of the new phase of the PMO starting on 1 January 2022 and ending on 31 December 2024. Accordingly, from January to April 2024, BDRCS with support from IFRC and the American Red Cross, under a shared leadership approach, **1 million people were reached indirectly across 33 camps and the host communities** through institutionalising Disaster Risk Management (DRM) governance in camps, strengthening DRM in host communities, disseminating the key preparedness information, and supporting the Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP). Note that CPP is a national flagship programme of the government, implemented jointly by the Ministry of Disaster Management (MoDRM) and BDRCS.

In reference to individual-level direct programmatic support extended between January and April 2024, comprising disaster risk management, health, and care; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); shelter, basic needs; and protection, gender and inclusion (PGI), approximately **258,492 people, comprising 187,306 people in the camps**



Federation-wide infographic as of 30 April 2024

² 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.

and 71,186 people in the host communities, were reached. While IFRC support for PMO continues, the Federation-wide PMO operation (supported by IFRC and eight in-country IFRC Memberships, contributing to the PMO) **reached 481,085 people comprising 343,494 people in 17 camps and 137,591 people in five sub-district level host communities** during this reporting period. The reason for the decreased number of people reached in camp settlement during this period is due to the downgrading of Primary Healthcare Centres (PHC) in camps 13 to a Health Post run six days a week from 9 AM to 4 PM which was supported by the Swiss Red Cross. Alongside IFRC, BDRCS has been bilaterally supported by Danish Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, German Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, and Turkish Red Crescent to implement the operation across 17 camps and five host communities (please see the federation wide infographic above and 4W map – detailing the 4Ws: *Who is Doing What, Where and When* – in Annex 1). Details on this reach against IFRC-supported Emergency Appeal's Operation Strategy can be found in Section C below.

Needs analysis

Situation turns into longer term uncertainty

The emergency needs of the displaced community at the start of the crisis in 2017, evolved in later years to more longer-term needs given the fact that the community has continued to live amidst a backdrop of uncertainty about their future, including the possibility of repatriation.

Reliance on humanitarian assistance

In the camp settlement, children make up almost 52 per cent of the camp population; women and girls represent almost 51 per cent of the population, four per cent are elderly and 5.53 per cent of the total individuals have been identified with at least one specific need including four per cent people with disabilities³. Protection vulnerability includes suspected human trafficking, child marriage, sexual exploitation, and abuse. Some ongoing interventions have certain elements of durability and sustainability such as mid-term shelters (also known as more durable housing in the camp), solar-powered water supply networks, disaster mitigation activities and cash injection in host communities. However, after seven years from the start of the crisis, the displaced community remains completely reliant on humanitarian assistance to meet their every day and longer-term needs in different sectors, given that any form of income-generating activities or employment by the displaced people in the camp is not permitted, while permanent shelter for them is also not allowed. This crisis has been further compounded by the seasonal floods, cyclones and heavy rainfall causing landslides, water logging, shelter damages; frequent fire incidents.; outbreaks of cholera, dengue, diphtheria, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Collective effort of Red Cross and Red Crescent

Accordingly, the response to the various needs of the vulnerable displaced population as well as affected people in host communities is a well-thought-out effort undertaken over the past years by a multitude of humanitarian actors including the BDRCS and its partners, in accordance with existing and agreed geographical areas and sectoral responsibilities per area allocated to BDRCS and the wider IFRC membership and to other humanitarian actors.

Emergency appeal and BDRCS scope of work

Furthermore, PMO programming under the IFRC Emergency Appeal is guided by ISCG assessment data and complemented by findings of sector-specific assessments undertaken by BDRCS/IFRC. In collaboration with government authorities in the camps, Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) and Site Management Support (SMS) service agencies, BDRCS will take on the responsibility for meeting the needs of the community in a particular camp or a block within a camp. As such, BDRCS is playing implementing focal role in several camps (fully or partly) for different types of intervention including shelter in camps 11 and 12; WASH in camps 11, 12, 13, 15, 17, 18, 19, health and care in camps 2E, 6, 7, 8E, 12,13, 17, 19, 20 ext and 22, DRR in all 33 camps. A health sector rationalization study led by the Health Sector, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in coordination with the office of the RRRC was completed and BDRCS is complying with its recommendations and set standard in the camp settlement. downgrading

³ Joint Government of Bangladesh – UNHCR Population Factsheet, as of 30 April 2024

of a Primary Healthcare Centre (PHC) in Camp 13 has been undertaken following the recommendation. This will have maximum impact without duplication of effort. Also, complying with sectoral rationalization recommendations leads to strengthening BDRCS position in the longer term under the health and WASH sectors.

Strategic change through rationalisation and localisation

Gaps in humanitarian support continue to exist and widen, particularly due to funding challenges faced by the humanitarian actors. From 2022, relevant government authorities, ISCG (retitled as ROCT⁴), sub-sectors and WHO have started one camp approach that includes rationalisation and Accountability to Affected People (AAP) approach. While avoiding duplication of effort and enhancing the quality standard of the programming, this strategic forum also promotes localisation of the humanitarian support – to gradually handing over the programmatic and financial management responsibilities to the national organisations and national staff. Specific improvements are required to match the needs identified in the rationalisation exercise, notably as regards mid-term shelter, mother and child health, mental health and psychosocial support, as well as sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

In this connection, IFRC in collaboration with Red Cross Red Crescent partners has initiated a rationalisation exercise undertaken in three phases from June 2023 to March 2024 with a goal: **To develop a Federation-wide strategic direction of PMO beyond 2024 led by BDRCS in line with the Joint Response Plan 2024 (JRP)**. After conducting the final phase of the rationalization exercise, in consultation with key staff from programme sectors and the support service unit of the PMO, a menu of essential services needed by the displaced population to live a safe and dignified life in the camps was developed and validated by the leaderships of BDRCS, IFRC and IFRC memberships in Bangladesh.

The strategic direction of the rationalization will feed into the next three years PMO operation, possibly with an eighth emergency appeal revision. The report will be available on the IFRC Go platform in July 2024. Overall recommendations from the rationalization are as follows:

1. **Continue the advocacy** for improved shelter materials and structures through humanitarian Diplomacy (HD) and advocacy efforts, emphasizing durable solutions.
2. **Enhance access to shelter materials** by strengthening collaboration and partnerships with other agencies, such as through the Common Pipeline Agreement with IOM and UNHCR.
3. **Integrate sectors like WASH, DRR and Livelihood** for a more efficient and effective approach, maximizing available resources and avoiding duplication of efforts.
4. **Empower beneficiaries and promote community-driven approaches** by increasing their participation and capacity, ensuring sustainable and effective shelter interventions in the long term.
5. **Foster shared leadership and integrated planning** among IFRC memberships with specific technical capacities such as coordination and capacity building.
6. **Recruit technical people as shelter surge** for short-term deployment, instead of deployment of BDRCS National Disaster Resource Team (NDRT) members for over 3 months.

Continued priorities

Moreover, the PMO continue to focus on a care and maintenance approach for WASH, shelter, health care and Disaster Risk Management intervention to sustain the benefit to displaced people in the camp settlement and influx affected people in host communities. This includes but is not limited to the continued operation of the solar-powered water network, faecal sludge and solid waste management plants, healthcare facilities, strengthening shelters, site development, and improved disaster risk management governance.

Relocation reality

Besides this, the relocation of the camp population to Bhashan Char Island continues, with a total figure of 35,152 people as of 30 April 2024. The Government continues to ensure the relocation of the displaced people in the coming years. The growing number of relocated people need emergency preparedness plans and relevant disaster risk reduction measures together with site management, protection, WASH and livelihood assistance.

⁴ Refugee Operations and Coordination Team

Cross border tension

A ripple effect of the escalating armed conflict in Myanmar has been visible along the Bangladesh and Myanmar borderline in Cox's Bazar. It possibly would intensify armed clashes leading to further displacement, increased security incidents, and protection concerns. Aerial bombardment and heavy shelling have been reported in Rakhine state. A potential influx of 15,000 to 60,000 individuals has been anticipated and there might be a need for emergency response to assist those seeking refuge.

In this context, the BDRCS, as auxiliary to the public authorities in the provision of humanitarian services, will exert its efforts to fill gaps, as they arise, based on context. To this end, the latest revised Emergency Appeal and its Operational Strategy aim to support BDRCS in addressing the gaps. In addition to its auxiliary status, it is envisaged that the advantage that BDRCS will provide to the donor community is greater access to affected communities, cost-efficiency, as it is a leading local organization with thousands of volunteers across Bangladesh and wealth of technical expertise provided by its international IFRC-network partners.

Operational risk assessment

During the reporting period, the operational risks maintain the status quo, such as mapping the security risks inside the camp and a revised risk mitigation approach, the PMO Risk Register serves as an important management tool for the operation. Last revised in April 2024, it continues to outline the same six main risks and mitigating action – the current risks comprise; seasonal cyclones and monsoons, and other hazards including fire and floods; clashes or violence using firearms in the camps; social discord between displaced and host communities; crime (theft in camp facilities, in particular) and militant attacks.

Overall security situation across the camp settlement and the surrounding host communities continues to remain heightened. Crime and hazard are reportedly dominating incidents in Cox's Bazar comprising 76 per cent of crimes, 23 per cent of hazards and 1 per cent of civil unrest. There are reports of violent incidents, targeted killings, targeted attacks, and exchanges of fires/clashes. In addition, cross-border tension further increases the likelihood of operational risk. However, these did not impact the PMO operation as the coordination mechanism is in place to undertake timely action to avoid unexpected security threats.

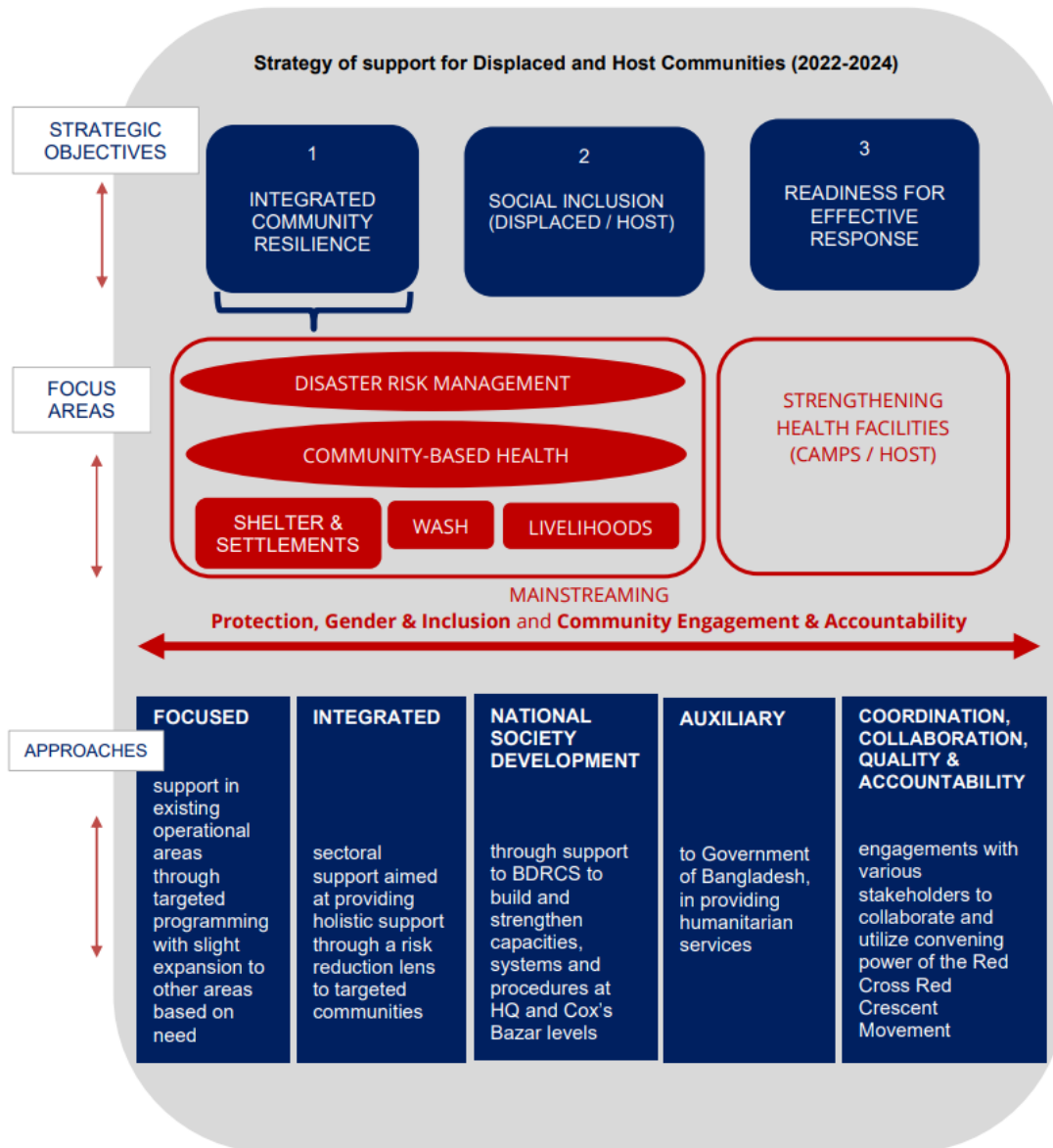
To mitigate the security risks number of measures have been taken. PMO issues regular security updates for its staff, volunteers and IFRC in-country membership. PMO introduced joint security advisory and briefings on monthly basis, from IFRC and BDRCS for all international and national staff and volunteers. Note that the IFRC Security Manager specifically serves as the civil-military liaison concerning security in the camps, a crucial role for keeping abreast of developments in the operational environment in the camp settlement and adjoining host community areas, as well as maintaining good relations with law enforcement agencies. Also, key advisories and alerts from Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS) have been produced and shared through dedicated email and WhatsApp's group.

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Update on the strategy

There is no change to the [Operational Strategy](#)⁵, published on 25 November 2021, in complement with the revised Emergency Appeal of 20 November 2021. An illustration of the strategy can be found below.

⁵Also available on IFRC GO platform, <https://go.ifrc.org/emergencies/2#reports>



C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

	Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	People target	1.3 million
		People reached	416,928
Objective:		<i>The disaster readiness and resilience of communities are strengthened</i>	
Key indicators:		Actual (Jan - Apr 2024)	Actual (Jan 2022 - Apr 2024)
			Target (by Dec 2024)

# of displaced people living in camp settlements reached with Disaster Risk Management intervention within the intervention period	20,926	323,224	930,292 (All 33 camps)
# of host community people reached with Disaster Risk Management intervention within the intervention period	167	64,736	100,000
# people in camp and host communities reached through Cyclone Preparedness Programme- (CPP) ⁶	Camp: 3,713 Host: 167	Camp: 267,000 Host: 28,577	Camp: 930,292 Host: 100,000
# of Disaster Management Committees established and strengthened in camps	33	33	33

From January to April 2024, both camp and host community residents have benefitted from the implemented interventions, as it has enhanced their preparedness for unexpected cyclones, floods, landslides, and fires. Major interventions included disaster risk governance, multi-hazard preparedness, cyclone preparedness awareness campaigns, and small-scale mitigation measures. These efforts were implemented in priority camps and host communities, **directly benefiting 21,093 people (14,389 males and 6,704 females) in the camp settlements (11, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 19) and the host communities (Cox’s Bazar Sadar, Ramu, and Ukhiya)**. Additionally, approximately one million people across 33 camps and host communities were indirectly supported through the institutionalization process of disaster risk management governance. Significant achievements in disaster preparedness are elaborated below.



Left: Stakeholders attend a training session on fire safety in the Camp. Annual fire incidents in the camp settlement cause damage to shelters and result in human casualties. (Photo: IFRC); **Right:** BDRCS participates in a multi-stakeholder meeting to observe the 'National Day of Disaster Preparedness'. (Photo: American Red Cross)

Preparedness

Disaster risk governance

The entire camp settlement alongside six BDRCS Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) working camps (11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 19) has been supported with emergency and periodic Disaster Management Committee (DMC) coordination meetings. Following the approved guidelines for the Disaster Management Committee (DMC) in the camp

⁶ CPP is a flagship programme of Government of Bangladesh, jointly with BDRCS. The programme has been supported by the PMO in camp and host community level.

settlements, support was provided to all 33 DMCs to facilitate discussions on the camp-level annual plan. This plan focuses on multi-hazard risk management and includes associated risks and assumptions to ensure improved facilitation of preparedness, anticipatory actions, and response interventions across the camps.

Volunteers' capacity enhancement

Around 3,000 camp volunteers received refreshers on the cyclone Early Warning System (EWS), Anticipatory Action, and Response in order to better facilitate cyclone preparedness, anticipatory action, and response activities across the camp settlement.

Mass awareness raising on multi-hazard preparedness

Fire Safety Awareness Campaign: During this period, a collaborative campaign was launched, involving multiple stakeholders such as BDRCS, IFRC/American Red Cross, ISCG, UNHCR, and IOM. This joint effort resulted in a plan of a series of activities across 33 camps, the creation of audience-specific IEC materials, and capacity-building sessions tailored to various groups on fire preparedness and response. Additionally, the campaign facilitated the widespread dissemination of essential messages to diverse community groups. Consequently, the campaign reached a total of 168,897⁷ displaced people comprising 97,805 males and 71,092 females.

Cyclone Preparedness Awareness Campaign: The month of April was the initiation of the cyclone preparedness awareness campaign and when activities mostly focused on mass awareness of cyclone preparedness (i.e., IEC printing, refreshers for CPP camp volunteers and consensus building among the key partners). A total of 3,713 displaced people were provided with cyclone preparedness messages participating in 319 block-level awareness sessions in all 33 camps.

While cyclone preparedness is carried out under the scope of the emergency appeal, BDRCS with support from IFRC membership (German Red Cross) conducted cyclone preparedness and fire prevention message dissemination and fire drills in camps 21,22, 24, 25, 26, 27, Nayapara registered camp and host community school in Teknaf sadar union, Sabrang, Hnila, Whykong, Saint Martin Unoin. Courtyard sessions were conducted for community people to make them aware of multi-hazards like cyclones, fire incidents, thunder, earthquakes, heatwaves and so on. With this effort, 4,050 people were reached comprising 1,782 males and 2,268 females.

Risk mitigation

A total of 1,885 displaced people (around 377 households) in camps 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 19 benefited from small-scale mitigation measures for their households and communities, including slope stabilization and access bridge construction. Furthermore, 226 displaced individuals received livelihood support through the Cash for Work (CfW) modality.

In Ukhiya host community, six small-scale mitigation schemes were accomplished that include constriction earthen access road, bridge/small-scale culvert construction, and guide wall for critical infrastructures aiming to ensure minimized risk and improved accessibility for the community dwellers. In addition, 167 people received livelihood support through the Cash for Work (CfW) modality.

Collaboration with various actors


With Red Cross Red Crescent partners: IFRC-supported disaster management programming continues to be coordinated with the German Red Cross. As and when needed, technical support is also provided to the Myanmar Refugee Relief Operation (MRRO), a joint program of the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and BDRCS.

With external actors: BDRCS, being the focal agency for DRR in Ukhiya sub-district, continued to coordinate with key agencies working in Ukhiya bearing DRM portfolio. In addition, the district administration of Cox's Bazar

⁷ This is a joint programme and that is why it is not included in the total people reach of BDRCS/IFRC effort.

remains coordinated for smoother implementation of DRM interventions across the district which was reflected during the joint observation of 'National Day for Disaster Preparedness' across the district and sub-districts.

Across the camp settlement, BDRCS/IFRC continued to play a pivotal role in camp-level multi-hazard risk management efforts. BDRCS/IFRC coordinated with the Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG), the Office of the Refugee, Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC), UNHCR, IOM, and Site Management/Site Development actors at both Cox's Bazar and the camp level. Moreover, BDRCS/IFRC continued to collaborate with ISCG Sectors and Working Groups, including the Emergency Preparedness and Response Working Group (EPRWG), Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP), and the Energy and Environment Network (EEN). This collaboration was evident through BDRCS's key role in the ISCG-EPRWG-led multi-hazard preparedness, anticipatory action, and response lessons learned workshop, as well as the subsequent high-level visit by UN OCHA and national cluster members, facilitated by ISCG EPRWG. BDRCS/IFRC also played a significant role in showcasing collective risk management efforts, reflecting broader integration in the field of Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR).

 Health & Care <i>(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)</i>	People targeted	500,000
	People reached	600,100

Objective: *Health risks of targeted communities are reduced, and communities enjoy improved health and wellbeing*

Key indicators:	Actual (Jan – Apr 2024)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Apr 2024)	Target (by Dec 2024)
<i># of people in camps and host communities reduced health risk receiving medical management of injuries and diseases, and community health messages</i>	Camp: 44,009 Host: 102,737	Camp: 452,991 Host: 147,109	Camp: 300,000 Host: 200,000
<i># of people who have accessed medical services at BDRCS healthcare facilities in camp and host communities</i>	Camp: 20,767 Host: 24,404	Camp: 118,619 Host: 69,962	Camp: 150,000 Host: 80,000
<i># of people in camp and host communities who have accessed Community-Based Health and First Aid services (CBHFA)</i>	Camp: 23,242 Host: 78,333	Camp: 334,372 Host: 174,884	Camp: 300,000 Host: 200,000

The BDRCS health and care programme, comprising clinical health services, community health and first aid (CBHFA), awareness campaigns, and psychosocial support (PSS) with support from IFRC and five in-country IFRC memberships, continues to serve the displaced people in 13 camps and two host communities in the Ukhiya and Teknaf sub-districts. During this reporting period, **146,746 people received essential health services at three BDRCS health facilities and community health educational messages at camps and host communities.** The health service coverage includes 44,009 people from camps and 102,737 people from host communities. A total of 45,171 patients were treated at the three health facilities, and 101,575 people benefited from the health messages. The health facilities comprise a field hospital, a Mother and Child Healthcare Centre (MCHC), and a

Primary Healthcare Centre (PHC). Under the CBHFA services, community volunteers continue to visit target households across 13 camps and the Ukhiya and Teknaf host communities in the Cox's Bazar district.

Field Hospital

23,656 patients including 38 persons with disabilities, the majority from camp 7 (14,381) and adjacent host community (9,275), were treated at outpatient and inpatient facilities of the BDRCS Field Hospital. The hospital continues its services on a 24-hour basis, seven days a week – this includes emergency patient care, outpatient department, 10-bed inpatient, sexual and reproductive health service (including delivery), blood services, laboratory, and X-ray. During this period, 121 patients were admitted to the hospital with various conditions – this included 69 women admitted to the maternity ward for normal delivery.



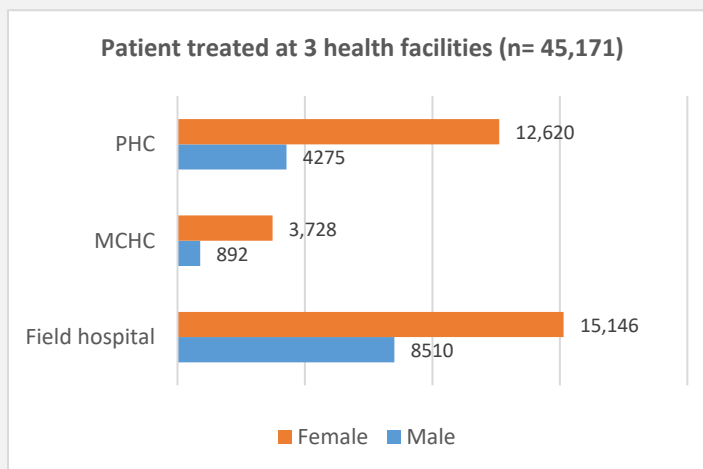
Left: An inpatient undergoes a health check at the Field Hospital. **Right:** Community health sessions for households in camps are part of the CBHFA programme, helping displaced women become aware of preventive health measures. (Photo: IFRC)

MCHC

A total of 4,620 women and children including 13 persons with disabilities were treated at the MCHC centre with a five-bed capacity and continued its operation on a 24x7 basis, mainly offering maternity services for Teknaf Sadar host community. On average, 38 cases have been treated daily during this period as opposed to 33 cases in the last period. That included outpatient, inpatient child delivery support, antenatal and post-natal care, and family planning.

PHCC

A total of 16,895 patients including 6 persons with disabilities, mainly from the host community, were treated at the IFRC-supported PHCC which began its operation on 27 April 2023. It is a 10-bed in-patient facility, located at Balukhali sub-centre in Ukhiya sub-district and set to provide healthcare services in line with the Minimum Package of Essential Health Services for primary healthcare in Bangladesh. The facility offers services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, targeting 25,000 people from the host and the camp population in Balukhli, Ukhiya. The services include curative care, maternal, new-born, child and adolescent health, family planning, sexual- and gender-based violence prevention, nutrition, communicable diseases treatment, mental health and psychosocial services, non-communicable diseases, and emergency referrals. An average of 140 cases were treated daily during the reporting period, reflecting a 38 per cent increase from the previous period.



CBHFA

In the reporting period, 101,575 people in camps (23,242) and host communities (78,333) were provided with key health messages through the provision of CBHFA outreach service. This service aims to complement the healthcare service provided at the Field Hospital, MCH and other BDRCS health facilities and general health awareness for the affected people. CBHFA service has been provided through regular household visits in 13 camps (2E, 5, 6, 7, 8E, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19 & 20 Ext.) of around 410,000 catchment population and Ukhiya and Teknaf host communities of 300,000 catchment population. The outreach visit mainly includes health awareness messages on basic first aid, nutrition, Epidemic control (ECV), Psychological First Aid (PFA), Family planning (FP) as well as prophylactic measures of contemporary outbreaks like Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD), Dengue and others communicable diseases.

Health facilities supported by IFRC member societies: Apart from the BDRCS health facilities supported by IFRC, there are 10 other health facilities in the camp run by BDRCS with the support of IFRC memberships. These comprise four PHCs supported by the Swiss Red Cross (in camps 2E, 6, and 15) and the Turkish Red Crescent (in camp 20 Extension), as well as six Health Posts supported by the Japanese Red Cross (in Camp 12), Qatar Red Crescent Society (in camps 8E and 19), Swiss Red Cross (in camp 13), and Turkish Red Crescent (in camps 17 and 22). During the reporting period, 117,863 cases were treated, with a daily average of 982 patients, representing a 32 per cent increase in caseload. In the camp settlement, unstable funding for health programming is a key challenge impacting the sustainability of basic health services, let alone specialized health facilities for critical diseases. For specialized services, people need to go to a host community hospital in Cox's Bazar, which involves a long approval process from the camp authorities.

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: BDRCS continues to collaborate closely with IFRC member societies that support health services in camps and host communities. Within the PMO, there is a health-sector coordination group comprising BDRCS, IFRC, and IFRC member societies (Japanese Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent, Swiss Red Cross, and Turkish Red Crescent). The role of this group is to improve health services in alignment with government and WHO standards and to find ways to coordinate health services within the Red Cross Red Crescent network. Furthermore, IFRC and Qatar RC are collaboratively meeting WHO and Government requirements regarding the sharing of Field Hospital service data on WHO's Early Warning, Alert and Response System (EWARS) and the Government's DHIS2 database.

With external actors: The external coordination continued with the Government healthcare service authority (the Office of the Civil Surgeon), WHO Cox's Bazar unit and several humanitarian actors, particularly for health service rationalization across the camp settlement. In addition, collaboration has been undertaken with the Christian Blind Mission (CBM) and the Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) to provide rehabilitation services at the Field Hospital.

	Shelter, Housing and Settlements	People targeted	155,000
		People reached	86,415
Objective:	<i>The safety and well-being of communities are strengthened through shelter and settlement solutions</i>		
Key indicators:	Actual (Jan – Apr 2024)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Apr 2024)	Target (by Dec 2024)

<i># of people in the camp and host communities provided with shelter and settlement solutions and strengthen their safety and well-being</i>	Camp: 25,545 Host: 3,165	Camp: 78,195 Host: 5,510	Camp: 120,000 Host: 35,000
<i># of shelter and settlement solutions (such as alternative construction materials, transitional shelter materials, mid-term shelters etc.) provided for the camp and host community people</i>	Camp: 2,729 Host: 633	Camp: 13,259 Host: 1,107	Camp: 24,000 Host: 7,000
<i># of community structures (such as health centre, distribution point, community safe space, roads, bridges etc.) constructed (new) and improved (existing) in the camp settlement</i>	Camp: 1 Host:	Camp: 9 Host: 2	Camp: 6 Host: 2
<i># of people in the camp increased knowledge and awareness on safe shelter</i>	Camp: 2,109 Host:	Camp: 3,109 Host: 1,470	Camp: TBC ⁸ Host: 12,075

During the reporting period, the shelter intervention included the construction of Mid-Term Shelters (MTS), repair and maintenance of existing shelters, provision of emergency support, and site development for the camp community. Additionally, cash assistance for shelter repair was provided to vulnerable households in the host community. During this period, a total of **28,710 people, comprising 13,781 males and 14,929 females across camps 11, 12, 26, and 27, as well as the Teknaf host community, received various forms of shelter and settlement assistance** to ensure their safety and well-being. It is noted that due to funding constraints, particularly for the host community, there is a 44 per cent variance in reaching the target.

Mid-term Shelter (MTS) with Household Level Site Development

Being shelter focal in camps 11 and 12, and having area extension to three more camps, BDRCS supported 2,729 households in camps 11, 12, 26 and 27 with MTS and associated site development works such guide wall, stair and slope protection. The same design of MTS was used with treated bamboo, metal footing, and tarpaulins and covered a space of 10X15 square feet. A fire resistance wall was also constructed in each shelter's kitchen space using cement-sand plaster with galvanized iron (GI) wire mesh, as part of the fire mitigation initiative. The shelter was constructed in collaboration with Site Management, Site Development, and other shelter agencies.

“Shelter- a better hope for family”

Nur Islam, a 45-year-old, who lives in Camp-11, Block C-3, arrived in Bangladesh during the 2017 influx with his family—wife, two sons and three daughters. The early days of the influx were difficult; he and his family lived in makeshift shelters. They lived in a shelter that required frequent repair. Also, often they faced shortage of shelter materials such as bamboo, rope, and tarpaulin to secure their shelter.

⁸ The target is subject to households needed the training in the same camp, as before 2022 the same households were given the training.

Nur Islam recounts “during every rain, cyclone, and summer, our plight intensified. We had many sleepless nights, worrying about the safety of our children and family. The heavy rains were relentless, often flooding our shelter and leaving us in despair.”

The family had spent many nights under the tarpaulin, even without food. The summer heat was unbearable, making their shelter stiflingly hot and uncomfortable, especially for the offspring. Seeing the sufferings of Nur Islam and his community, the BDRCS intervened with shelter and settlement support covering all families in Camp 11. The newly built mid-term shelter (10 x 15 sqft) is made of bamboo, tarpaulins and concrete footing which is better than the previous temporary shelter provided to Nur Islam.



The new shelter brought happiness and met their basic needs, reducing the impact of weather events. "We are so happy now," expressed Nur Islam with gratitude. "Thanks, BDRCS, for standing with us," he said with a smile on his face.

Host Community Shelter Support

A shelter repair assistance programme was provided to 632 vulnerable households affected by Cyclone Mocha in the Teknaf host community. Beneficiaries were selected based on criteria collaboratively set with the communities and involved a series of validation processes. The assistance package included CGI sheets, toolkits, and cash grants of BDT 30,000 (CHF 247), distributed in two instalments. Special support, such as technical and labor assistance, was provided to families having persons with disabilities or elderly people. Feedback from the households was captured and addressed adequately.

Care and Maintenance



Distribution of cash, toolkits and CGI sheets to households affected by Cyclone Mocha in the Teknaf host community. (Photo: IFRC)

A total of 2,109 households were selected in camps 11 and 12 through an assessment (who received MTS support earlier) and received shelter care and maintenance support for their partially damaged shelters. The assessment report revealed the types of damages to the households that require emergency shelter kits, including bamboo, tarpaulin, ropes, etc.

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: Coordination with the German Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent, and Turkish Red Crescent continues with a view to align or complement the support extended to BDRCS.

With external actors: The camp authorities, including the Refugee, Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC), Camp-in-Charges (CiCs), ISCG, and Site Management Support (SMS) agencies, have been major actors in the continued coordination and collaboration with BDRCS/IFRC. During this period, under an agreement between UNHCR and IFRC, BDRCS took responsibility for constructing an additional 6,000 shelters in six camps where previously a UNHCR-supported partner organization was the focal agency. In the host communities, the local administration and Union Parishad leaders (public representatives) are key actors for collaboration, particularly in using a community-based approach to select the most vulnerable households for durable shelter provision. In this regard, public representatives and local government authorities have been consulted, along with a series of FGDs with the general community to set selection criteria. The partnership with IOM for a bamboo treatment facility has been continued and has strengthened the sector's coordination and quality benchmarks.

 Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	People targeted	150,000
	People reached	142,054
Objective: <i>Communities experience reduced risk of waterborne and water-related diseases, and as such, enjoy improved wellbeing</i>		

Key indicators:	Actual (Jan – Apr 2024)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Apr 2024)	Target (by Dec 2024)
<i># of people reached in the camp and host communities who experience reduced risk of waterborne and water-related diseases</i>	Camp: 47,806 Host: 10,605	Camp: 95,513 ⁹ Host: 46,541	Camp: 115,000 Host: 50,000
<i># of people with access to safe water sourced through climate-smart, nature-based solutions</i>	Camp: 35,070 Host: 0	Camp: 35,070 Host: 1,840	Camp: 36,000 Host: 10,750
<i># of people benefiting from environment-friendly, innovative sanitation services</i>	Camp: 21,500 Host: 105	Camp: 21,500 Host: 7,130	Camp: 23,500 Host: 25,000
<i># of people practicing improved hygiene</i>	Camp: 28,411 Host: 10,500	Camp: 84,917 Host: 42,111	Camp: 55,500 Host: 30,000

People in camps and host communities were provided with recurrent operation of nine water networks, repair of hand tube wells, one Faecal Sludge Management (FSM), 11 Solid Waste Management (SWM) plants and camp cleaning campaigns, repair of latrines and bathing cubicles, construction of latrines as well as hygiene promotion with kits distribution. During the period, **58,411 people comprising 28,037 males and 30,373 females including 47,806 people in camps 11, 13, 18 and 19 and 10,605 people in the host community (Ratnapalong, Ukhiya and Teknaf Sadar Union) were reached through the WASH programme.** Highlights are as follows:

⁹ As water supply network, solid waste and faecal sludge management, and hygiene promotion are provided on an ongoing basis.

Water supply system: During the reporting period, a new water supply network was constructed in Camp 11. This network represents the final one identified in the gap analysis conducted last year. It now serves approximately 4,000 people in Camp 11. In total, 35,070 people across Camps 11 and 19 now have access to safe, chlorinated water for drinking and household consumption through nine water network systems — eight in Camp 11 and one in Camp 19. On average, 19,330 cubic meters of water have been supplied monthly after extracting and chlorinating groundwater. All water supply networks have adopted low-carbon energy solutions by installing solar power systems to operate the pumps. In Camp 18, two water supply systems, constructed with support from IFRC and handed over to the Swedish Red Cross, continue to provide safe, chlorinated water to 4,066 people.



Newly installed Solar System for the last water network in Camp 11 (Photo: IFRC)



Collection of water sample from a tube-well in Camp 19 (Photo: IFRC)

As part of the care and maintenance intervention, 476 water network facilities, including tap stands, pipelines, tank stands, and pump houses, as well as 533 hand tube wells (both deep and shallow), were repaired in Camps 11 and 19, respectively. Regular water quality monitoring is conducted to ensure that the water consumed is safe and free from fecal contamination. Samples are collected regularly from various points in the water chain, including the source, distribution points, and household level. Critical parameters monitored include pH, total dissolved solids, E. coli, iron, turbidity, nitrates, fluoride, and arsenic.

Sanitation: Approximately 21,500 people have been provided with various sanitation services in Camps 18 and 19 on an ongoing basis. Eleven solid waste management plants, covering 24 blocks of Camp 18, collected an average of 23,328 kg of household solid waste monthly from Camps 18 and 19 and processed it at the plants. A Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) plant in Camp 19 (D block) continuously treated 194 cubic meters of sludge/wastewater monthly, serving more than 5,500 people. Trained community volunteers desludged around 122 latrines each month, with the sludge/wastewater being treated and decontaminated before discharge into the environment. A Faecal Sludge Field Lab (FSFL) continues to test the effluent before it is discharged into the environment. Additionally, 173 shared latrines and bathing cubicles were repaired in Camp 19. In Teknaf Sadar union, an integrated approach was taken to build 21 units of single cubicle (steel frame) twin pit latrines at the newly constructed durable shelters, which were handed over in March 2024.



A lab staff conducting Quality Test on Fecal Sludge in the Faecal Sludge Field Lab to ensure Safe Sanitation. (Photo: IFRC)

Hygiene promotion: Approximately 34,849 people in Camps 11, 19, and the host community were educated on personal and household hygiene through participation in 7,252 hygiene promotion sessions, surpassing the target. Camp volunteers and WASH committee members regularly observed hygiene practices at the household and WASH facilities levels to identify gaps and needs for further hygiene promotion. This effort has improved knowledge of the importance of hand washing with soap, safe sanitation practices including environmental hygiene, menstrual hygiene management (MHM), and other aspects of personal and household hygiene. In Camps 13, 18, and 19, people received soap kits (including one bathing soap and one laundry soap per person per month) and MHM kits on a regular basis. During the reporting period, approximately 144,494 soaps and 13,331 MHM kits were distributed.

Gaps and challenges

In the Ukhiya and Teknaf host communities, the WASH sector identified a significant number of vulnerable households that require latrines. Considering funding availability, IFRC will support BDRCS in providing durable latrines. In the camps, a sludge transfer network has not been established yet due to space and funding constraints. The ongoing relocation of camp residents poses a significant challenge to constructing large WASH facilities in the camps. For example, to construct a new tank/water storage platform and undertake large-scale site protection work for WASH infrastructure, the WASH team often needs to relocate 2-3 shelters, which usually delays the construction of tank platforms in the camps.

While BDRCS implements WASH intervention supported by IFRC, there are other BDRCS water supply systems, solid waste management and faecal sludge management services in camps 12, 13, 15, 17 and 18 as well as in Ukhiya host communities. These WASH interventions, reaching around 50,000 people, have been supported by IFRC memberships, including the German Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, and Turkish Red Crescent.

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: Coordination continues with the German Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent to ensure alignment and complementarity in the support provided to BDRCS. Under the sanitation programme in camp 18, the German Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross have been jointly supporting IFRC to continue the solid waste management in 11 block-level plants. IFRC continues to support BDRCS on the quality of drinking water and faecal sludge treatment testing at two laboratories where samples from all water facilities and FSMs are tested regularly. These samples are collected and tested from the facilities that are supported by other Red Cross and Red Crescent WASH partners. IFRC also continues to support hygiene promotion sessions, and the distribution of WASH NFI kits (Soap kits and menstrual hygiene kits) in camps 13, 18 and 19 where other partners support BDRCS.

With external actors: Coordination and collaboration continue with stakeholders such as the Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE), local authorities, and humanitarian actors on the ground. Moreover, BDRCS, IFRC, and the Swedish Red Cross jointly with BRAC, WASH sector are supporting the Institute for Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering (IHE) Delft in conducting an FSM research project named 'RISK-WASH' – a risk-based approach to humanitarian sanitation decision making. IFRC consistently attends Technical Working Group meetings to contribute to the development of the "Water Strategy" for the WASH Sector in Cox's Bazar.



As part of hygiene promotion in camps, soap distribution plays a crucial role in helping the displaced people in Camp 19 develop safe hygiene practice. (Photo: BDRCS)



Livelihoods

People targeted

70,000

People reached

106,965

Objective:

The livelihoods of communities are restored and strengthened

Key indicators:	Actual (Jan – Apr 2024)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Apr 2024)	Target (by Dec 2024)
# of people in the camp and host communities reached by restoring and strengthening their livelihoods	Camp: 32,050 Host: 12,510	Camp: 39,825 Host: 67,140	Camp: 20,000 Host: 50,000
# of people in camp and host communities provided with cash and voucher assistance (CVA)	Camp: 31,915 Host: 12,510	Camp: 39,580 Host: 64,470	Camp: 20,000 Host: 50,500
# of people in camp and host communities provided with skills development opportunities	Camp: 135 Host: 721	Camp: 245 Host: 3,391	Camp: 10,000 Host: 10,000

During the reporting period, livelihood initiatives focused on emergency and recovery support for populations affected by Cyclone Hamoon and Cyclone Mocha, as well as conditional cash grants for the most vulnerable households in Teknaf, and e-vouchers for essential household items and skills training for women and adolescent girls in camp. Accordingly, **44,560 people, comprising 21,389 males and 23,171 females, benefited from these efforts to strengthen and maintain their livelihoods.** Highlights are as follows:

Multipurpose Cash Grant Distribution

Cyclone Hamoon, which struck in late 2023, caused damage to the shelters of many vulnerable households in the Moheshkhali host community. As part of the cyclone response, 1,781 households, totalling 8,905 people, in Moheshkhali received a multipurpose cash grant of BDT 5,500 (CHF 46). This grant is intended to assist the cyclone-affected population in rebuilding their lives and meeting their basic needs in the aftermath of Cyclone Hamoon.

Conditional Cash Assistance for Livelihood Restoration

In Bharchara Union, Teknaf host community, 721 households, comprising 3,605 people, received the second tranche of a conditional cash grant of BDT 10,000 (CHF 83) to help restore their livelihoods affected by Cyclone Mocha. These same households also received the first tranche of a conditional cash grant of BDT 20,000 (CHF 167) in the last quarter of 2023 as part of the Cyclone Mocha response. The beneficiary selection process included consultations with target community members, wealthy groups, government authorities, and relevant agencies (Agriculture, Livestock, etc.) to set vulnerability criteria and conduct assessments based on these criteria. Area-wise community Livelihood Committees have also been formed to ensure that communities are guided and included in the overall process.

Training Programmes

Mobilizing local resource agencies, the beneficiaries in Bharchara Union who received the conditional cash grant were also supported to participate in comprehensive training on livestock and agriculture. This training, provided by the Government Upazila administration, was specially designed to enhance their skills and ensure sustainable livelihood practices. Following the distribution of the cash grant in Bharchara Union, a Post Distribution Monitoring (PDM) survey was conducted to gather feedback and assess overall satisfaction with the cash grant and training support. The PDM revealed that most households were satisfied with the selection and distribution

process, finding it transparent. However, respondents requested increased amounts and additional technical, logistical, and skills development assistance.

Distribution of Essential Household Items- (E-Voucher)

To address the need for essential household items among the displaced people in Camp 11, a total of 6,383 households, comprising 31,915 people, received E-Vouchers. The vouchers allowed them to choose and purchase specific household items (such as utensils, pitchers, and pots) from a trade fair within a set purchase limit. This distribution aimed to ensure that the most vulnerable populations had access to necessary items to support their daily living conditions.

Skills Training for Women

A specialized skills training programme was conducted for 135 women in Camp 13. These women, selected based on a vulnerability criterion, received practical training in producing bags from recycled paper. The training, held at the Skills Training Center in Camp 13, aims to empower women by providing them with a sustainable source of income.




Households in Camp 11 have varying needs of household items. The e-voucher distribution allowed the woman head of household to buy her specific items from the given e-voucher options and purchase limit. **(Photo: BDRCS)**

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: The American Red Cross (on behalf of IFRC as part of the Shared Leadership arrangement) and the German Red Cross (on the e-voucher modality of meeting household needs in the camp) are the major collaborating partners in identifying host-affected households from displaced people.

With external actors: To harmonize the livelihood programming with government and other humanitarian actors, the team works closely with the local Union Parisad, Union Nirbahi Officer (a responsible officer within the local administration) and community leaders in the host community. For camp programming, consultation continues with the ISCG Cash Transfers Working Group and Shelter/ NFI Sectors of humanitarian actors, the Camp-in-Charge (CiC) of individual camps, and Site Management Support agencies, for direct or indirect livelihood opportunities.

 Protection, Gender and Inclusion	People targeted	115,000	
	People reached	123,248	
Objective:	<i>Vulnerable and marginalised individuals and groups are supported and empowered</i>		
Key indicators:	Actual (Jan - Apr 2024)	Actual (Jan 2022 - Apr 2024)	Target (by Dec 2024)
<i># of people provided with essential PGI services (camp community)</i>	Camp: 45,613 Host: 3,250	Camp: 117,319 Host: 4,755	Camp: 115,000 Host: 5,000

# of referrals made to protection case management actors (camp community)	157	1,174	As necessary
% of PGI mainstreaming checklist updated for each programme sector	In progress ¹⁰	In progress	75% Annually

During this period, the PGI intervention ensured the continuation of protection awareness, support for the inclusion of people with disabilities and other extremely vulnerable individuals, protection case reporting, referral and follow-up, and technical support for PGI mainstreaming across population movement operations in both camps and host communities. As a result, **49,020 people (including 45,770 from Camps 13, 14, and 19 and 3,250 from the Ukhiya host community), including 1,342 persons with disabilities (PWDs), received various essential PGI services.** These services included practice sessions on embroidery, making fishing nets, arts and crafts, floor mats, PGI awareness, and assistive devices for PWDs. During this period, 5,457 people were newly reached through household-level PGI awareness, protection referrals, and disability device assistance, while others continued to participate in centre-based activities. The following highlights summarize the major accomplishments:



Children are engaged in painting as part of their recreational activities in Camp 13. (Photo: IFRC)

PGI essential services at the DAPS centre: Approximately 37,598 people, including 1,222 PWDs, from camps 13, 14 and 19 attended various recreational and structured life skills trainings regularly arranged for them to develop essential skills at DAPS centres located in each of the camps. The training included origami work, fish net making, jute bag making, hand-made plastic floor mat weaving, making ornaments, hand embroidery, and informal education (for children and adolescent girls). These trainings aim to enhance the skills of women, adolescent girls, children, and elderly men, enabling them to use these skills as needed at the household or community level.

Awareness on PGI in Camps and Host: A total of 11,265 people from 802 households in the catchment camp areas and the Ukhiya host community were reached through awareness visits by PGI staff and community volunteers. During these visits, they conducted household-level sessions on various PGI topics, including the prevention of gender-based violence (GBV), sexual exploitation and abuse, child trafficking, and discrimination against women and PWDs, which were deemed relevant in the camp context. Household representatives who participated in these sessions gained awareness of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and its reporting, ways to empower women, the prevention of child marriage, and other violations.

Additionally, in Baharchhara Union, wards 2, 3, 4, and 5 under Teknaf Upazila, a vulnerability and disability assessment was conducted, reaching 2,155 people. This assessment identified 805 individuals in need of dignity kit support, including 12 to 45-year-old women. Furthermore, 360 women and adolescent girls received training on Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), 360 parents attended parenting sessions, 40 people participated in stakeholder training, and 50 youth, including Red Crescent Youth (RCY) members, received training on PGI.

10 The sector team maintained the last update in 2023. PGI team accumulated some observations on it which will be revised by each of the sector in June 2024.

Case Referral and Follow up: In these three camps, 157 people were referred to various protection case management actors. Follow-up was conducted to ensure that the issues were resolved, and further referrals were made to other agencies if necessary. Among those referred, around 150 were adolescent girls, boys, and children (see the table below). Notably, the child protection referrals included a higher number of boys due to the spread of child labor and engagement in illegal drug dealing activities.

Protection referrals						
Referral types	January to April 2024			January 2017 - April 2024		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
SGBV	26	0	26	669	0	643
Child Protection	17	10	34	290	263	526
Trafficking	6	5	11	144	136	269
Restoring Family Links	14	14	28	154	206	332
Others	30	28	58	30	28	58
Total	93	57	157	1,287	633	1,920

Note: Major protection case management organizations are Technical Assistance Inc. (TAI), Save the Children Bangladesh, IOM, Ministry of Women and Child Affairs (MoWCA) and Care Bangladesh.

PGI mainstreaming: Programme sectors continue to mainstream PGI standards following the sector-specific indicators regarding the Dignity, Access, Protection and Safety (DAPS) approach. During the reporting period, the following mainstreaming initiatives were undertaken, which supported around 802 vulnerable households in camps and host communities.

Sector	Mainstreaming initiatives undertaken by programme sector
Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-construction of Information and feedback hub in camp -11 that features ramps for easy accessibility of person with disabilities and elderly people. Special support, such as technical and labor assistance, was provided to families having persons with disabilities or elderly people while their durable shelters were under construction.
Water, sanitation & hygiene (WASH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Floor of tap stands were repaired with friction floor material to protect fall over on wet floor and incorporate privacy with wall. Inclusion of women with disabilities in hygiene promotion sessions.
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The BDRCS health team continue to collaborate with the Christian Blind Mission (CBM) and the Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) in providing rehabilitation services and clinical physiotherapy treatment is going to start for persons with disabilities and the elderly at the BDRCS Field Hospital. Distributed Mama kit to newborn baby and the mother included baby towel, dress, sanitary napkin for mother.
Livelihoods and basic needs (including relief distributions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The selection criteria of the conditional cash grant and multi-purpose cash grant included the most vulnerable families that have members with persons with disabilities, elderly, woman/child-headed households, pregnant women etc. The response team continues to use a designated waiting or rest area for priority individuals such as the elderly, lactating women, and persons with disabilities. The distribution centres continue to have provision of breastfeeding corners for lactating mother. Provision of desks at distribution centres for the collection of feedback on protection, safety and security during the distribution process.
Disaster risk reduction (DRR)/disaster management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disaster management training package incorporates PGI minimum standard selecting female, elderly, PWDs as the participants for disaster prepare. Disaster preparedness drill include importance of early evacuation of children, women, elderly and person with abilities.

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: Coordination continues with the Swedish Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent, as the trainings and workshops are conducted on a regular interval for staff and volunteers of sectors supported by Red Cross Red Crescent partners to increase awareness on PGI mainstreaming maintaining the minimum standard of DAPS approach.

With external actors: The BDRCS PGI team has continued its coordination with relevant government agencies to ensure referral linkages for households with PWDs and extremely vulnerable families who received conditional cash grants in the host community. In the camp settlements, coordination with humanitarian actors working particularly on case management, including CARE Bangladesh, IOM, and Save the Children, has also continued. The PGI team regularly participates in various working group meetings, including the protection working group, age and disability working group, GBV working group and child protection working group. These groups provide essential technical support and training.

Enabling approaches

 Community Engagement and Accountability	People targeted	400,000	
	People reached	239,575	
Objective:	<i>Targeted communities are consulted and are able to share their views about assistance received or planned, and programmes and operations are planned and adapted accordingly</i>		
Key indicators:	Actual (Jan - Apr 2024)	Actual (Jan 2022 - Apr 2024)	Target (by Dec 2024)
<i># of people reached through community consultations/outreach</i>	Camp: 58,589 Host: 239	Camp: 239,282 Host: 40,023	Camp: 300,000 Host: 100,000
<i># of pieces of feedback received</i>	Camp: 9,757 Host: 56	Camp: 73,701 Host: 2,516	As received
<i>% of feedback acted upon</i>	40% (within 48 hrs.) 70% (within 1 week)	40% (within 48 hrs.) 70% (within 1 week)	100%

Community engagement was pivotal during this period, particularly in planning, implementing, capturing feedback, and sharing key information with the displaced population and affected host communities. As a result, **58,828 people (58,589 from the camps and 239 from the host community) across Camps 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, and 19, as well as Ukhiya and Teknaf host communities, were effectively engaged through community consultations, household visits, campaigns, and other forms of feedback collection and information sharing.** This engagement was integral to the intervention process, including criteria selection, beneficiary selection, distribution, and follow-up of assistance such as cash distribution, hygiene kit distribution, installation of WASH facilities, and shelter support. Additionally, involving the target population helped improve the acceptance and quality of the interventions. Highlights are as follows:

Feedback channels: Seven community feedback channels were functional in Camps 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 18, and 19. These channels included household visits, community consultations, a radio listening programme (RLP), information and feedback boxes, desks, hubs, and hotlines within the camps. In the host community, a dedicated hotline operated from 9 am to 5 pm on weekdays, while the information desk was available only during sectoral activities in Ukhiya and Teknaf.

Consultation with Majhi and religious leaders: During this reporting period, 181 Muslim religious leaders (*imam*) and Majhi (community leaders) in the same camps were continuously engaged in community consultations. They played a key role in the dissemination of key messages and collection of feedback among the wider camp population through 19 community meetings.

Radio listening programme: A total of 181 community radio listening sessions were conducted, reaching 2,322 people in various camps. These sessions provided key messages and opportunities for feedback and concerns on services and the overall situation in the camp settlements.

Capturing feedback, complaints, and response: A total of 9,813 pieces of feedback were collected, including 6,549 from males and 3,264 from females. Of these, 9,757 pieces were collected from 14 camps (6,517 from males and 3,240 from females), and 56 pieces were collected from two host communities (32 from males and 24 from females). The feedback was gathered through various channels and was generally resolved within 72 hours. The issues addressed covered different sectors, including shelter, health, WASH, and cash distributions. Additionally, some community feedback was responded to on the spot through Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: The CEA team continues to share community feedback reports with in-country IFRC memberships to ensure that matters are addressed promptly. Community consultations on specific interventions are provided to the sector teams for action.

With external actors: IFRC and BDRCS continue to consult with CiC, attend in ISCG AAP technical working group meetings, share monthly updates, and take support from BBC Media Action.



Community feedback is captured at an info-hub of BDRCS located in Camp 11. (Photo: IFRC)



National Society Strengthening

Objective:	BDRCS has strengthened capacities, systems and procedures at central and Cox's Bazar levels		
Key indicators:	Actual (Jan – Apr 2024)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Apr 2024)	Target (by Dec 2024)

# of staff and volunteers trained on search and rescue, first aid, disaster preparedness, early warning and anticipatory actions	410	1,172	1,500 volunteers and staff
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In the camp settlement, 300 camp volunteers refreshed their knowledge about institutional disaster preparedness by participating in various sessions. During this reporting period, 110 Red Crescent Youth (RCY) who support the disaster management committee in Teknaf host communities were also trained. The trained RCYs successfully conducted a simulation drill at a school, where around 500 students and local people participated. The participants worked out ways to coordinate broader DRM and strengthen guidelines of DMC in camp settlement, as well as updating district-wide DRM efforts.

Planning Workshop held on 15 February 2024 was a federation-wide event. Key staff from all programme and support services participated in the workshop, where they developed a collective plan for 2024, reflecting on the lessons learnt and challenges in 2023. In addition, the IFRC memberships have shown their commitment to support the Cox's Bazar Unit development subject to a need-based plan.

Project Management Training was held on 17 – 20 February 2024, mainly for BDRCS senior programme staff and 12 IFRC and its memberships' programme staff, including two international participants from Myanmar. The training aimed to enhance staff knowledge and skills in programme planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting functions by applying result-based management. The session was conducted by three international facilitators from the Swedish Red Cross, British Red Cross and the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office, among others.



Coordination and Partnerships

Objective:

To better articulate the auxiliary role of BDRCS and its convening power among a plurality of stakeholders, and accordingly strengthen the IFRC network's footprint in the response to the population movement crisis.

Key indicators:

The One Window Framework (OWF) Plan of Action is updated regularly

Actual
(Jan – Apr 2024)

Actual
(Jan 2022 – Apr 2024)

Target
(by Dec 2024)

-

Yes

During this reporting period, two RCRC coordination meetings took place. The meeting discussed future strategies of the PMO through the rationalization phase III and ways to continue support for camps and host community people in the face of changing needs and funding challenges. These meetings concluded with the following outcomes:

- **To analyse the funding requirement** (IFRC and eight in-country memberships), RCRC partners will share the funds required for 2025 - 2027.
- **Identify core sectoral activities and the minimum funding:** Alongside the regular aspirational programme, BDRCS will be supported to come up with a list of core set of interventions across shelter, health, DRM, WASH, livelihoods, PGI and CEA support for camp and host communities.
- **IFRC and BDRCS will continue security updates** – on a bi-monthly basis, as the security situation in camps has been a growing concern for all stakeholders. A three-day-long first aid refresher training was scheduled at the end of December for staff and volunteers.

- **Human Resource (HR) support for BDRCS:** As per confirmed funding, BDRCS proposed a 2024 Organogram at the PMO level that proposes one one-team approach for all partners to follow to streamline the HR. IFRC and its partners would support BDRCS to fill the vacant positions.
- **External collaboration:** In the camp context, all sectors continue mandatory coordination with the UN-led Inter Sector Coordination Group and its specific sector group, such as the Shelter Sector group. Through this coordination, the plan has been aligned with the standard, approved by the camp-in-charge and implemented in the BDRCS focal/assigned camp only.
- **Orientation session on PSEA:** Taking initiative from the PGI team of BDRCS/IFRC a training will be organized for all volunteers to improve their knowledge and practice in preventing sexual abuse and exploitation, as well as timely reporting.



Secretariat Services

Objective:

To provide a high range of quality support services to in-country IFRC member societies with the aim of saving costs and improving efficiency

Key indicators:

of existing integrated and service agreements with respective in-country IFRC member societies are renewed

Actual (Jan – Apr 2024)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Apr 2024)	Target (by Dec 2024)
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8

8

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Among the eight in-country Partner National Societies (PNSs) present in Cox's Bazar, all continue to maintain integrated agreements or service agreements with IFRC. Under these agreements, the IFRC memberships receive support from IFRC's administrative, financial, logistics, and programme support services (including PMER, PGI, CEA, etc.). Additionally, the IFRC member (e.g. Turkish Red Crescent Society), which does not have such an agreement with IFRC, continues to play an active role, collaborating with BDRCS, IFRC, and other IFRC members.



Support for the displaced community on Bhashan Char Island

Displaced community
Target

35,152¹¹

People reached

35,152

Objective:

To enable the displaced community on the island to be disaster-ready and benefit from improved health

Key indicators:

Actual (Jan – Apr 2024)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Apr 2024)	Target (by Dec 2024)
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¹¹ Total relocated people at the island as of 30 April 2024.

# of displaced community, relocated on the island are enabled to be disaster-ready and benefit from improved health	35,152 ¹²	35,152	18,000 ¹³
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As of April 2024, approximately **35,152 people (8,497 households)** displaced from Rakhine State, Myanmar, to Cox’s Bazar camp settlements have been relocated to Bhashan Char Island in Noakhali District. Of these, 51 per cent are female, 49 per cent are male, 56 per cent are children, 42 per cent are adults, and 2 per cent are older persons, including 3 per cent PWDs. The camp area covers around 7 square kilometres, with 63 clusters and 744 occupied houses. Since January 2023, BDRCS, with the support of IFRC and other partners, has supported these 35,152 people through various interventions, including cyclone preparedness, WASH, health services, site management, and response preparedness activities.

Background of Bhashan Char programme

The relocation process began in December 2020. In response to a request from the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) and considering the humanitarian need, BDRCS deployed 11 personnel (6 staff members—1 Field Coordinator and 5 Field Officers—and 5 volunteers) to the island by the end of January 2021. With support from the IFRC, humanitarian assistance commenced in March 2021. Currently, 45 BDRCS staff members are based on the island. During this reporting period, BDRCS, with support from IFRC, German Red Cross, and UNHCR, continues to provide humanitarian assistance to the relocated population through various sectoral interventions. These include the distribution of household items, cyclone preparedness, WASH, health services, livelihoods, PGI, CEA, emergency preparedness and response (ERP), and site management support (SMS).

Key activities of BDRCS during this period with some cumulative achievements are highlighted below:

Site Management Support (SMS)

The honourable State Minister for Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) visited the island on 13 February 2024. The BDRCS SMS team along with the Field Site Management Unit (FSMU) provided the necessary support with arrangements and meeting minutes. Regular and cross-cutting sector issues were discussed, concerning seeking support from the government and relevant ministry. BDRCS with the support of UNHCR established the second Complaint and Feedback Response Mechanism (CFRM) considering the easy access of the community people from the farthest clusters. The FSMU with the support of BDRCS provided training on the safe usage of liquified petroleum gas (LPG), pressure cooker, and solar lamps to the community people who have not received the solar lamps and training previously. The SMS team also conducted training on the safe usage of LPGs, pressure cookers, and solar lights for 123 newly relocated families. UNHCR-BDRCS distributed 450 pressure cookers with training manuals, 156 hosepipes, clamps, regulators, and 127 stoves to those who had not received them previously. BDRCS has shared the IEC materials for “heat wave” with the partners/actors and BDRCS shared the awareness messages in different community gathering sessions.

Energy, Shelter, and Environment

A total of 831 biogas facilities are now operational in the occupied clusters’ communal kitchens with the implementation of grills and biogas-friendly stoves. BDRCS is selecting community people to assign them the kitchens on a rotation basis to supplement the LPG supply as many relocated people claim that their LPG finished before the next refill. The biogas will reduce the pressure on LPG.

Emergency Preparedness and Response (ERP)

Bhashan Char has received a water-based firefighting 3-wheeler from UNHCR. BDRCS SMS volunteers will operate the vehicle in case of urgent requirements, considering the fact in reality that most of the fires were doused with the

¹² BDRCS supported other organizations in different distribution besides the support in the relocation in the Island. This is how entire population was reached.

¹³ As per the target mentioned in the IFRC [Emergency Appeal \(revised\)](#).



Community volunteers at Bhasan Char Island attending a CPP training. (Photo: BDRCS)

usage of the fire extinguisher. BDRSC is coordinating with UNHCR and Bangladesh Navy to transport the 3-wheeler to the island.

With support from IFRC, BDRCS provided Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) training to 40 community volunteers during this reporting period, including 20 male and 20 female participants. The training covered topics such as an introduction to disaster risk management, an overview of cyclones and their categories, the cyclone signal and flag system and their practical uses, and methods for evacuation and emergency rescue.

WASH Support

The BDRCS, with the support of IFRC and the German Red Cross, BDRCS is involved in solid waste management, covering drainage management, and household waste collection of the occupied clusters. BDRCS also supported fumigation spray for mosquito control on the island. In December 2023, with the support of the IFRC-KRCS, BDRCS added 10 waste collection vans to ensure timely waste collection.

Coordination

BDRCS has actively engaged in effective coordination and emergency preparedness. The SMS team's support in organizing coordination meetings during the reporting period has facilitated crucial discussions on sector issues with the relocated population. Notably, BDRCS has secured approval to allocate rooms in every shelter for CPP volunteers (who are among the relocated individuals) to store necessary equipment and arrange their meetings. This enhancement aims to improve emergency response capabilities. BDRCS, with support from IFRC, is in the process of purchasing the necessary furniture and equipment for these rooms.

Challenge and continuing funding support

Major challenges encountered by the Bhasan Char programme include shrinkage of funding landscape amid the increasing number of relocated displaced people from Cox's Bazar camp settlement, cyclones, seasonal heavy rainfall. Continuing support for the growing number of populations is imperative. To address the challenges, the PMO

emergency appeal has been under revision for another three-year period (2025 – 2027) projecting a funding ask of 9 million CHF.

Major challenges encountered by the Bhashan Char programme include a shrinking funding landscape amidst the increasing number of relocated displaced people from Cox's Bazar camp settlements, cyclones, and seasonal heavy rainfall. Ongoing support for the growing population is imperative. To address these challenges, the PMO emergency appeal is being revised for another three-year period (2025–2027), with a projected funding request of CHF 9 million.

D. FUNDING

Up to 30 April 2024, the appeal coverage for Cox's Bazar operations is 59 per cent funded, while Bhashan Char is 6.9 per cent funded. Please refer to the financial report attached at the end of this report for more details.

Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this operation please contact:

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For IFRC PMER and Quality Assurance and Performance and Accountability support:

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Reference documents



Click here for:

- [Previous Appeals and updates](#)

How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere the **Code of Conduct** for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief, the **Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response (Sphere)** in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable, to **Principles of Humanitarian Action** and **IFRC policies and procedures**. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities by National Societies, with a view to preventing and alleviating human suffering, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

Emergency Appeal

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2017/1-2024/4	Operation	MDRBD018
Budget Timeframe	2017-2024	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 03 Jun 2024

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRBD018 - Bangladesh - Population Movement

Operating Timeframe: 13 Jan 2017 to 31 Dec 2024; appeal launch date: 18 Mar 2017

I. Emergency Appeal Funding Requirements

Thematic Area Code	Requirements CHF
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	28,748,000
AOF2 - Shelter	36,803,000
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	6,375,000
AOF4 - Health	18,065,000
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	22,201,000
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	5,054,000
AOF7 - Migration	0
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	1,734,000
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	14,252,000
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	0
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	0
Total Funding Requirements	133,232,000
Donor Response* as per 03 Jun 2024	81,241,234
Appeal Coverage	60.98%

II. IFRC Operating Budget Implementation

Thematic Area Code	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	1,110,176	1,494,262	-384,086
AOF2 - Shelter	17,712,929	17,655,901	57,028
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	4,297,178	2,754,659	1,542,519
AOF4 - Health	7,614,804	6,450,148	1,164,657
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	10,178,971	9,537,058	641,913
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	3,600,508	3,522,390	78,118
AOF7 - Migration	9,412,818	8,942,484	470,333
SFI1 - Strengthen National Societies	22,302,585	21,291,842	1,010,743
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	1,385,157	1,378,710	6,446
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	12,616	11,781	835
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	1,203,519	1,227,367	-23,847
Grand Total	78,831,262	74,266,602	4,564,660

III. Operating Movement & Closing Balance per 2024/04

Opening Balance	0
Income (includes outstanding DREF Loan per IV.)	78,997,591
Expenditure	-74,266,602
Closing Balance	4,730,989
Deferred Income	0
Funds Available	4,730,989

IV. DREF Loan

* not included in Donor Response	Loan :	1,385,104	Reimbursed :	1,276,963	Outstanding :	108,141
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Emergency Appeal

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters			
Reporting Timeframe	2017/1-2024/4	Operation	MDRBD018
Budget Timeframe	2017-2024	Budget	APPROVED

Prepared on 03 Jun 2024

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRBD018 - Bangladesh - Population Movement

Operating Timeframe: 13 Jan 2017 to 31 Dec 2024; appeal launch date: 18 Mar 2017

V. Contributions by Donor and Other Income

Opening Balance							0
Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income	
American Red Cross		77,691	0		77,691		
Australian Red Cross			377,515		377,515		
British Red Cross		235,324	109,476		344,800		
DREF Response Pillar				108,141	108,141		
Finnish Red Cross			31,062		31,062		
Hong Kong Red Cross		131,521			131,521		
Japanese Red Cross Society			127,729		127,729		
Norwegian Red Cross			14,465		14,465		
Services Fees				48,368	48,368		
Swedish Red Cross			31,086		31,086		
Swiss Red Cross			30,874		30,874		
The Canadian Red Cross Society		210,382	55,300		265,682		
The Republic of Korea National Red Cross		32,573			32,573		
Write off & provisions				-2,033	-2,033		
Total Contributions and Other Income	0	687,491	777,507	154,475	1,619,474	0	
Total Income and Deferred Income					1,619,474	0	