

<p><b>Emergency appeal No:</b> MDRBD018</p> <p><b>Emergency appeal launched:</b> 18/03/2017</p> <p>Revised appeal published: 20/11/2021 (7<sup>th</sup> Revision)</p> <p><b>Operational Strategy published:</b> 25/11/2021</p>	<p><b>Glide No:</b></p> <p><a href="#">OT-2017-000003-BGD</a></p>
<p><b>Operation update # 21</b></p> <p><b>Date of issue:</b> 15/10/2024</p>	<p><b>Timeframe covered by this update:</b></p> <p>From 01/05/2024 to 31/08/2024</p>
<p><b>Operation timeframe:</b> 18/03/2017 - 31/12/2027 (Revised Emergency Appeal no. 8 period: 1/1/2025 – 31/12/2027)</p>	<p><b>Number of people being assisted:</b> 1 million people. (Camp: 944,154; Host community: 100,000; Bhashan Char: 35,152)</p>
<p><b>Funding requirements (CHF):</b> 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><b>DREF amount initially allocated:</b> CHF 1.4 million</p>

To date, this Emergency Appeal which seeks a total budget of CHF 198.2 million, is 45.6 per cent funded (funding coverage as of August 2024 is CHF 90.5 million). Further funding contributions are needed from all sources including IFRC and its membership to enable the **Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS)**, to continue to meet the humanitarian needs of displaced people from Rakhine, as well as the local community affected by the influx of displaced people.

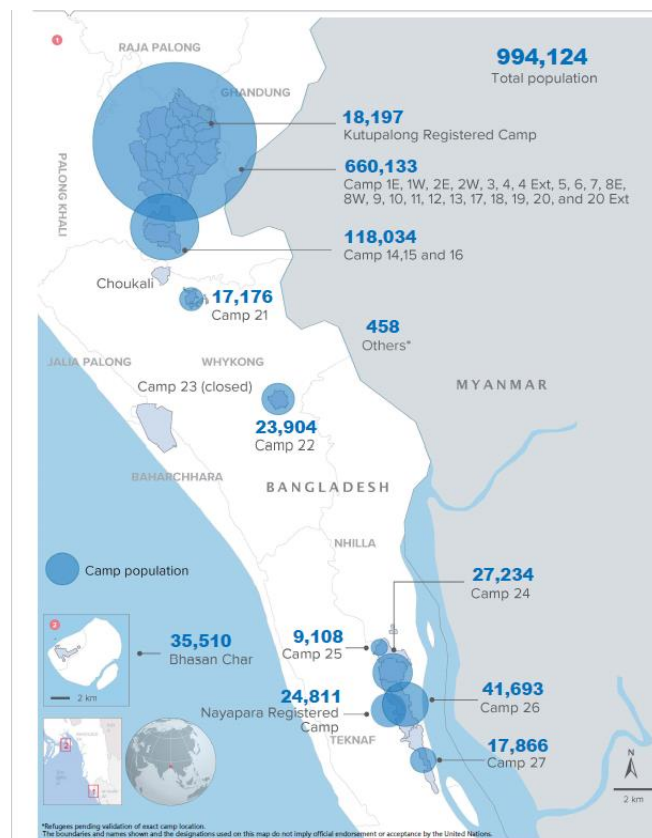


In the camp settlement, Cyclone Preparedness Program (CPP) Camp Volunteers have been trained on multi-hazard preparedness as well as anticipatory action and response. The CPP program in camp is jointly run by the Government and BDRS in collaboration with key humanitarian actors. **(Photo: IFRC)**

## A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

### Description of the crisis

A significant movement of people from Rakhine State in Myanmar to Cox's Bazar district of Bangladesh was triggered in 2016 by an escalating conflict. In August 2017, an estimated 655,500 people crossed the border within a month. Adding to the existing population of displaced people from Rakhine who have been seeking refuge in Bangladesh for many years, the arrivals of August 2017 brought the total number to 994,124 displaced people from Myanmar in Bangladesh as of 31 August 2024. Of these, 958,614 currently live in 33 overcrowded camps located in Ukhiya and Teknaf sub-district of Cox's Bazar. Since late 2020, a total of 35,510 people have been relocated from the Cox's Bazar camps to Bhasan Char Island. This ongoing complex and protracted population movement crisis has left the displaced population fully reliant on humanitarian assistance to meet their basic needs with no durable solutions in sight and uncertainty surrounding their repatriation. The situation has been further compounded by frequent cyclones, seasonal rainfall, flash flood, fire incidents and heightened security concerns in the camps.



**Source:** Population Factsheet of Government of Bangladesh and UNCHR, as of 31 August 2024

According to the population factsheet, displaced people comprise 51 per cent females and 49 per cent males. The population include 52 per cent children, four per cent elderly and 5.57 per cent extremely vulnerable individuals (EVI) with at least one special need<sup>1</sup>. Their essential basic needs include food, healthcare and safe shelter, water, sanitation, hygiene, lifesaving information, protection services, and preparedness for seasonal cyclones, monsoon rains, multi-hazards and disease outbreaks (cholera, dengue etc.) as well as prevention of environmental and ecosystem degradation.

The ongoing protracted crisis is also manifested in the continuing challenges directly faced by around 538,000 local Bangladeshis in Cox's Bazar (also referred to as the "host community") in terms of pressure on livelihoods and the local economy, among other factors, brought about by the presence of the huge number of displaced people from Rakhine.

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 eight occasions, with the last revision covering the period 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2027. The eighth revision marks a new phase of IFRC support to BDRCS in its continued response to the protracted crisis and following key recommendations of a rationalization exercise conducted in early 2024, i.e. extension of emergency appeal, restructuring human resource and updating the One Window Framework and strengthening of the National Society Capacity. The extension of the emergency appeal also considers the likelihood of fresh influx with disease spread and social tensions, as a consequence of ripple effect rooted from the escalating conflict between insurgent groups and the army in Myanmar.

<sup>1</sup> <https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/111124>

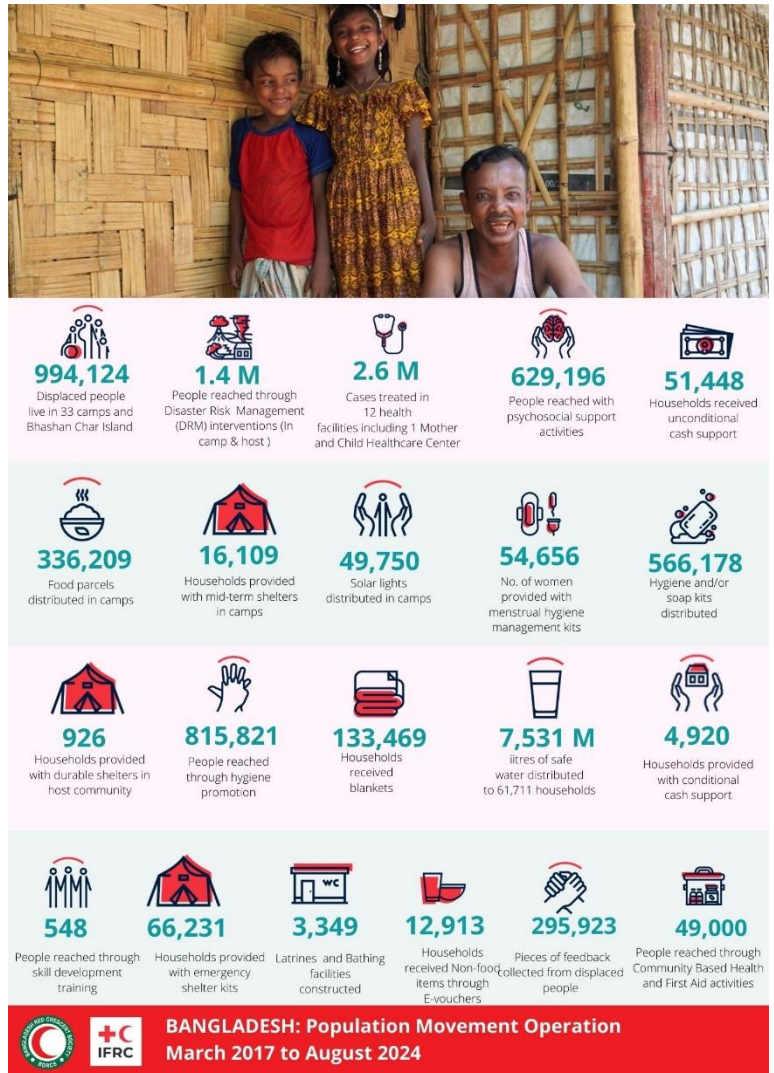
# Summary of response

## 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 231, while the Cox's Bazar unit<sup>2</sup> of BDRCS has been supporting the operation from the beginning of the crisis. The operation, by rotation, deploys its 700 Red Crescent Youth (RCY) volunteers as well as 667 community volunteers from host and camps. 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 to managing population movement operations across 33 camps, 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, one warehouse, three logistics hubs and a field office (known as hub office) in Ukhiya.



Federation-wide infographic as of 31 August 2024

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, approaching to the final year of current phase of its emergency appeal starting on 1 January 2022 and ending on 31 December 2024. Accordingly, from May to August 2024, BDRCS with support from IFRC and American Red Cross, under a shared leadership approach, **1 million people were reached indirectly across 33 camps and five host communities** by 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 or household-level direct programmatic support implemented between May and August 2024, through the programming of disaster risk management, health, and care, shelter and settlement, water,

<sup>2</sup> 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.

sanitation and hygiene (WASH), livelihood, protection, gender and inclusion (PGI), and community engagement and accountability, approximately **244,169 people, comprising 159,497 people in the camps and 84,672 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 Members contributing to the PMO **reached 461,933 people comprising 356,659 people in 17 camps and 105,274 people in five sub-district level host communities** during this reporting period. 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 sectoral interventions 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 safe return to Myanmar, and Government of Bangladesh (GoB) imposed restrictions on free movement and the prohibition on construction of permanent infra-structure within the camp settlement.

### *Reliance on humanitarian assistance*

Nearly one million displaced people in 33 overcrowded camps with significant population growth are fully reliant on humanitarian assistance due to various factors. Displaced people from Rakhine do not have legal status in Bangladesh and are therefore unable to access formal education or legal employment opportunities. On top of this, overcrowded and inadequate living conditions exacerbate their vulnerability, leaving them dependent on external aid for basic needs such as food, water, shelter, and medical care. The ongoing humanitarian crisis, compounded by funding shortages, seasonal cyclones, heavy rainfall, landslides, fire incidents and environmental challenges, further limits their access to essential services.

### *Collective effort of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent (RCRC) Movement*

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 supported by its RCRC partners, in accordance with existing and agreed geographical areas and sectoral responsibilities per area allocated to BDRCS supported by the wider IFRC membership and to other humanitarian actors.

### *BDRCS scope of work*

Furthermore, PMO programming under the IFRC Emergency Appeal is guided by UN-led Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) joint multi-sector need assessment (J-MSNA) data<sup>3</sup> and complemented by findings of sector-specific assessments undertaken by BDRCS/IFRC. In collaboration with government authorities in the camps, ISCG and Site Management Support (SMS) service agencies, BDRCS has been taking responsibility for meeting the specific 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 Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in all 33 camps, 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 extension and 22, livelihood skills training in camps 11, 13, 14 and 19; and protection services in camps 13, 14 and 19. However, BDRCS follows the recommendations of sector-specific rationalization exercises led by the specific sub-sector of the ISCG, conducted to maximize the collective result avoiding duplication of effort and ensuring the quality standards.

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<sup>3</sup> J-MSNA 2023, available at: [https://rohingyaresponse.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/BGD\\_CXB\\_J-MSNA-2023\\_Factsheets\\_Camps\\_Feb-2024.pdf](https://rohingyaresponse.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/BGD_CXB_J-MSNA-2023_Factsheets_Camps_Feb-2024.pdf)

### *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 ROCT<sup>4</sup>), sub-sectors and WHO have started the '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 more durable solutions of mid-term shelter, mother and child healthcare, mental health and psychosocial support, as well as responding to needs as a result of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

In this connection, IFRC in collaboration with Red Cross Red Crescent partners 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 for the displaced population in the camps was developed and validated by the leaderships of BDRCS, IFRC and IFRC members in Bangladesh. The key strategic directions from the rationalisation exercises are to:

1. Extend and revise the Emergency Appeal period from 2025 to 2027. The timeframe extension would allow for the integration of the Operational Strategy into the Bangladesh Unified Plan by the end of 2027.
2. Review and update the One Window Framework.
3. Restructure the PMO organigram based on the rationalisation process.
4. Strengthen the National Society Capacity Development Strategy.
5. Implement a marketing strategy for a multi-year fundraising plan specifically tailored for Cox's Bazar.

### *Continued priorities*

Moreover, the PMO continues to focus on a care and maintenance approach for WASH, shelter, healthcare and DRR 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 enhancing disaster risk management governance in 33 camps and four host communities; the solar-powered water network in Camp 11, faecal sludge and solid waste management plants in camps 18 and 19; strengthening shelters in camps 11 and 12; healthcare facilities in camps 2E, 6, 7, 8E, 12,13, 17, 19, 20 extension and 22 and Teknaf and Ukhiya host communities; and livelihood skills training in camps 11, 13, 14 and 19.

### *Relocation reality*

Besides this, the relocation of people from the camps to Bhashan Char Island continues, with a total figure of 35,510 people as of 30 April 2024. The Government has indicated that it intends to continue relocating displaced people from the camps in the coming years. Given the growing number of displaced people from Rakhine now living on Bhashan Char, there is a need for emergency preparedness plans and relevant disaster risk reduction measures together with site management, protection, WASH and livelihood assistance.

### *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. The intensify of armed clashes and the threat and reality of forced recruitment and conscription in Myanmar are leading to further displacement, increased security incidents, and protection concerns. Aerial bombardment and heavy shelling have been reported in Rakhine state. Although Myanmar-Bangladesh remains closed, according to UNHCR, an estimated 20,000 displaced people from Rakhine have newly arrived in Bangladesh in the last few months, with up to 6,000 people arriving in August 2024 alone. However, most new arrivals

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<sup>4</sup> Refugee Operations and Coordination Team

remain unregistered, fearing deportation by the Bangladeshi authorities, which limits their access to services in the camps. As such there might be a need for emergency response to assist those seeking refuge<sup>5</sup>.

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 extension of the newly revised Emergency Appeal (2025 – 2027) and its Operational Strategy aim to support BDRCS in addressing the gaps. In addition to its auxiliary status, it is envisaged that the BDRCS will continue to apply its advantage of greater access to affected communities, and cost-efficiency, as it is a leading local organization with thousands of volunteers across Bangladesh and a wealth of technical expertise provided by its international counter parts – IFRC and its member societies.

## Operational risk assessment

During the reporting period, the operational risks maintain the status quo with an addition of political risk. The PMO Risk Register serves as an important management tool for the operation risk assessment and undertaking risk mitigation measures. Last revised in August 2024, it outlines several main risks and mitigating action – as follows:

- the effect of recent nationwide uprising characterized by curfew, movement restriction and internet blackout resulted in the ousting of the previous regime on 5 August 2024 and an escalating mob justice: BDRCS and IFRC network strongly maintain the humanitarian principles to avoid any unexpected consequences and developed a plan for emergency evacuation, if triggered.
- seasonal cyclones and monsoons, and other hazards including fire incidents and floods
- clashes or violence using firearms in the camps
- social discord between displaced and host communities
- petty 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 a number of measures have been taken. PMO issues regular security updates for its staff, volunteers and IFRC in-country members. 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.

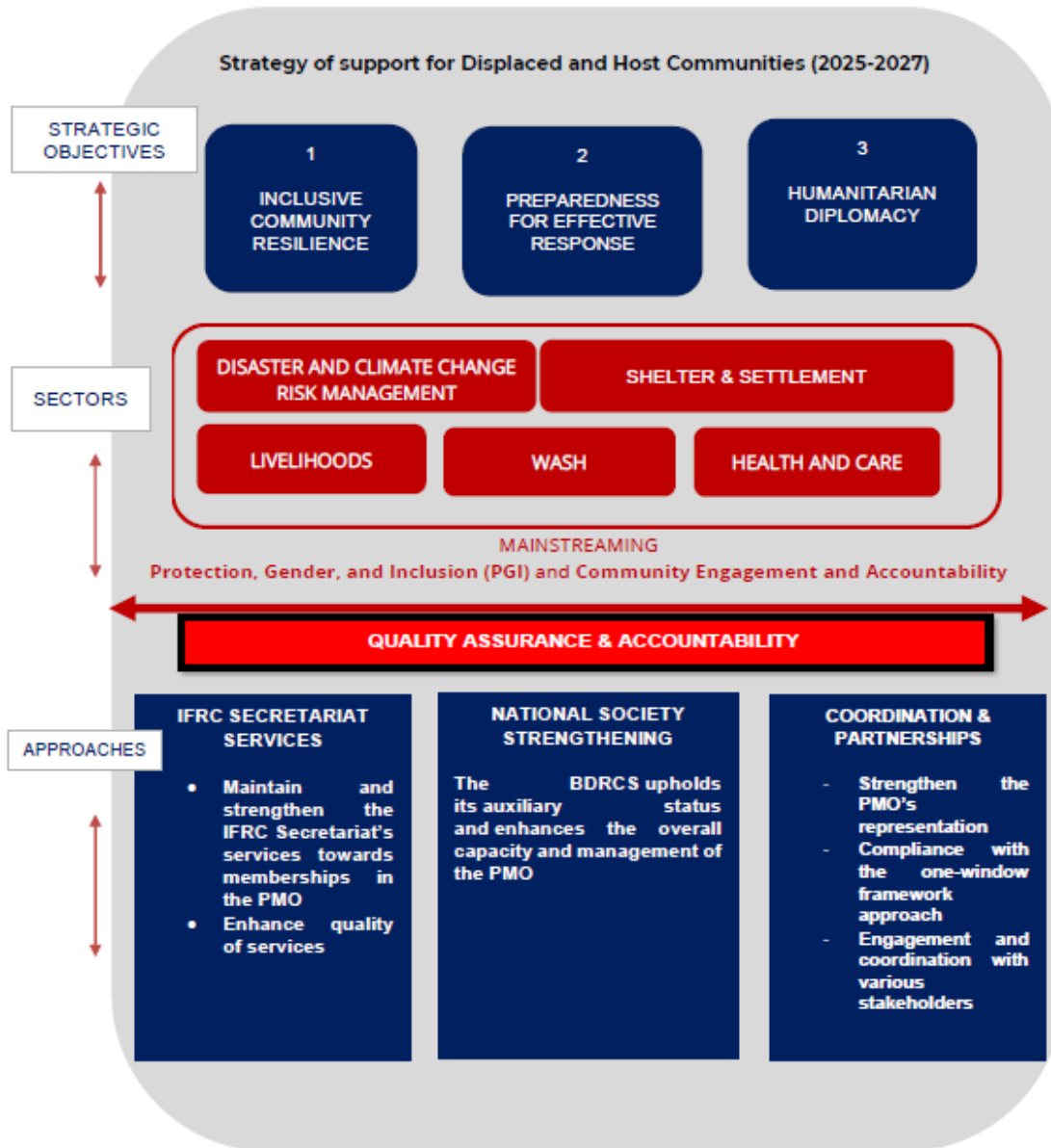
## B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

### Update on the strategy

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<sup>5</sup>[Human Rights Watch report, 25 September 2024](#)

There is a significant change to the [emergency appeal and its operation strategy](#)<sup>6</sup>, published on 26 July 2024, in complement with the revised Emergency Appeal extended till 2027. An illustration of the strategy can be found below.



The strategic change focuses on efficient programming amid a declining funding landscape for the PMO, identifying core activities to continue and other additional activities that will be funded, subject to fund availability. In terms of efficient mobilization of PMO human resources, national societies, IFRC and the member societies will work out 'One Team Approach' in which parallel human resources will be avoided through the localisation lens. To align the Bangladesh Government skills development framework, a livelihood programme has been extended for the displaced people in several camps (11, 13 and 19). On top of this, humanitarian diplomacy at all levels and the capacity of BDRCS to raise funds for the PMO have been prioritised under the national society strengthening effort.

The response will continue to be guided by the existing PMO Resilience Framework, developed in April 2019, to ensure the linkage and integration of every sector and support the BDRCS's efforts in assisting displaced and host communities to adopt risk-informed, holistic approaches which aim to address their underlying vulnerabilities and


<sup>6</sup>Also available on IFRC GO platform, <https://go.ifrc.org/emergencies/2#reports>

strengthen their resilience. As indicated in the graphic featured, three strategic objectives of the PMO over the next three years (2025 – 2027) are:

1. **Inclusive Community Resilience:** This will encompass efforts to integrate or complement various programmatic support through a risk reduction lens wherever possible, with the aim of providing holistic support to help improve the resilience of the targeted camp and host communities.
2. **Preparedness For Effective Response:** This will focus on continuously strengthening the BDRCS’s capacity to mitigate, anticipate, prepare, and respond to evolving disasters and crises ensuring timely and effective delivery of humanitarian life-saving assistance in both camps and host communities.
3. **Humanitarian Diplomacy:** The PMO will focus on strengthening the BDRCS’s position in advocating among all its key stakeholders by upholding the fundamental principles and improving protection and security. Through ongoing diplomatic negotiations, the PMO will ensure safe access to populations affected by the crises, leveraging the BDRCS’s auxiliary status. It will also promote strategic partnerships and dialogues with both humanitarian and development agencies, including current and prospective donor groups.

## C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

### STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

	<b>Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery</b>	<b>People target</b>	
		<b>People reached</b>	
		1.3 million	
		439,092	
<b>Objective:</b>		<i>The disaster readiness and resilience of communities are strengthened</i>	
<b>Key indicators:</b>	<b>Period Actual (May – Aug 2024)</b>	<b>Cumulative (Jan 2022 – Aug 2024)</b>	<b>Target (by Dec 2024)</b>
<i># of displaced people living in camp settlements reached with Disaster Risk Management intervention within the intervention period</i>	17,933	341,157	930,292 (All 33 camps)
<i># of host community people reached with Disaster Risk Management intervention within the intervention period</i>	4,231	68,967	100,000
<i># people in camp and host communities reached through Cyclone Preparedness Programme- (CPP)<sup>7</sup></i>	Camp: 3,941 Host: 2,873	Camp: 270,941 Host: 31,450	Camp: 930,292 Host: 100,000
<i># of Disaster Management Committees established and strengthened in camps</i>	33	33	33

<sup>7</sup> 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.



**Left:** BDRCS continued to contribute to strengthening institutional preparedness through accelerating Disaster Risk Governance in host communities. A consultation workshop before the monsoon was organized in Ukhiya sub-district to enhance institutional coordination, better planning and safeguard community. **(Photo: BDRCS)**

**Right:** Local responders' capacity development remained a priority in Cox's Bazar humanitarian response; in line with the localization principles BDRCS continues to organize capacity enhancement trainings focusing multi-hazard in camp settlement. **(Photo: CPP)**

Between May and August, displaced people in 33 camps and influx affected people in Ukhiya host community improved their capacity to respond to disasters and emergencies including cyclone and monsoon associated incidents (flooding, landslides, drowning and lightning). Their capacity has contributed to accelerate community preparedness and response. Major interventions included supporting to strengthen disaster risk governance/coordination mechanisms, local responders' capacity development, cyclone and monsoon awareness campaigns. **22,164 people (16,463 males and 5,701 females) in the camps and the host communities were directly reached through these interventions.** Additionally, approximately one million people across 33 camps and host communities were indirectly supported through the institutionalization process of disaster risk management coordination, local responders' capacity development. Significant achievements in disaster preparedness are elaborated below.

## Disaster Preparedness

### Strengthening Disaster Risk Management Coordination Mechanism

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 settlements, support was provided to all 33 DMCs to facilitate discussions on the camp-level seasonal hazard planning, reflection and way forward. In addition, in host communities, all the DMCs including Sub-district, Union and Ward DMCs were supported to renew the memberships and continued coordination meetings following Standing Orders on Disaster (SOD) 2019.

### Local Responders' Capacity Development

A total of 941 CPP camp volunteers including 675 males, and 266 females received trainings on multi-hazard preparedness, anticipatory action and response. In addition, around 3,000 CPP camp volunteers also received orientation on monsoon preparedness following the approved guidebook for multi-hazard preparedness, anticipatory action and response. Their capacity is envisioned to better facilitate community preparedness activities in all 33 camps.

### *Mass awareness raising on multi-hazard preparedness*

During this period, two collaborative campaigns were launched, involving multiple stakeholders such as ISCG, UNHCR, and IOM. This joint effort resulted in a plan of action to be conducted across 33 camps that include, among others, the creation of audience-specific IEC materials, and capacity-building sessions tailored to various groups on cyclone and monsoon-associated preparedness and response. Additionally, the campaign facilitated the widespread dissemination of essential messages to diverse community groups. Consequently, the campaign reached 16,992 displaced people comprising 12,944 males and 4,057 females.

### *Youth engagement in Disaster Risk Management*

As part of capacity building of BDRCS local branch, 30 school Red Crescent Youth (RCY) committees were reformed in Ukhiya sub-district. They also participated in basic orientation on Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. These RCYs will be further brought under wider capacity enhancement on multi-hazard risk management.

### *Anticipatory Action and Response*

During the reporting period, Cox's Bazar faced cyclone REMAL where BDRCS/IFRC provided technical support to monitor and produce synoptic reports on cyclonic situations through Anticipatory Action Working Group at the national level. Besides, BDRCS played a pivotal role in the wider dissemination of synoptic reports and Special Weather Bulletin published by the Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) among the humanitarian community and Government stakeholders. In addition, coordinating with Site Management 3,000 trained CPP camp volunteers were mobilized and deployed to conduct life-saving anticipatory actions across the 33 camps. In the host communities, 4,000 CPP unit volunteers were also mobilised in Ukiya, Cox's Bazar to disseminate updated cyclone signal information and associated preparedness as well as extending support to local administration to motivate people to take shelters to the cyclone shelter facilities as evacuees and providing essential food parcels.

Moreover, the onset of the devastating flood affected both Cox's Bazar camp and host communities during this reporting period. Wider mass awareness raising was undertaken to evacuate most at-risk people from identified landslide-prone areas in the host community. At the same time, collaboration was continued with the site management to mobilize all the trained volunteers to conduct relevant anticipatory actions across the 33 camps. Subsequently, 2,873 trained CPP camp volunteers were mobilized for wider mass awareness raising, relocating of people at higher risk, conducting primary damage assessment and extending support to the displaced people.

### *Social media contents:*

- [CPP Tabletop simulation](#)
- [First aid training for Camp Volunteers – the first responders](#)


### **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 remains coordinated for smoother implementation of DRM interventions across the district which was reflected during the joint observation of 'World Environment Day 2024' across the district and sub-districts. In addition, BDRCS facilitating the joint initiative to update existing Risk Reduction Action Plan (RRAP) for Ukhiya sub-district jointly with UNDP, BRAC and other key partners.

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). The collaborative working modality is reflected in the joint initiative towards facilitating the revision of existing Disaster Management Committee guidelines for camp settlement which was developed and approved in 2022. Besides, ongoing advocacy to develop a standardized module for Disaster Management Committee (DMC) capacity enhancement jointly with IOM, UNHCR, ISCG and RRRC office is also evidence of a collective working approach.

 <b>Health &amp; Care</b> <i>(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)</i>	<b>People targeted</b>	500,000	
	<b>People reached</b>	654,242	
<b>Objective:</b>	<i>Health risks of targeted communities are reduced, and communities enjoy improved health and wellbeing</i>		
<b>Key indicators:</b>	<b>Period Actual (May – Aug 2024)</b>	<b>Cumulative (Jan 2022 – Aug 2024)</b>	<b>Target (by Dec 2024)</b>
<i># of people in camps and host communities reduced health risk receiving medical management of injuries and diseases, and community health messages</i>	Camp: 36,712 Host: 68,641	Camp: 489,703 Host: 164,539	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: 18,459 Host: 17,430	Camp: 137,078 Host: 87,392	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: 18,253 Host: 51,211	Camp: 352,625 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, **105,353 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 36,712 people from camps and 68,641 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 7 camps and the Ukhiya and Teknaf host communities in the Cox's Bazar district.

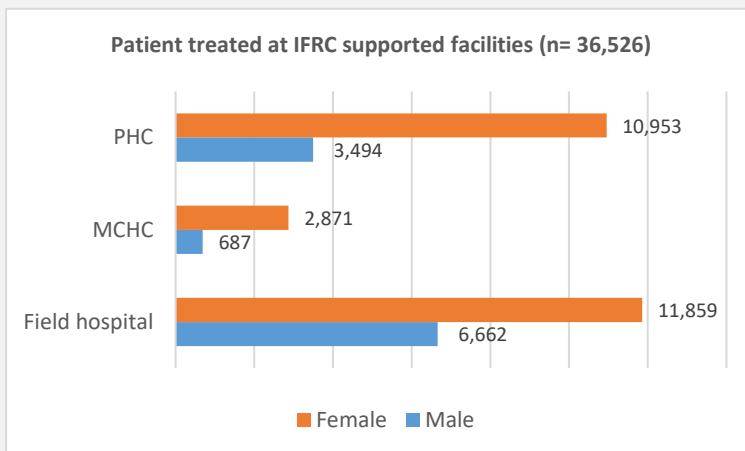
#### *Field Hospital (FH)*

A total of 18,521 people including 86 persons with disabilities, the majority from camp 7 (13,239) and adjacent host community (5,282), 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. From the beginning of 2024, Emergency Preparedness and Response Center (EPRC) services became fully operational in FH considering outbreak and outbreak-prone disease case management and till date, after its operationalization, a total of 54 confirmed dengue, Acute Watery Diarrhea patients served. During this period, 1,531 patients were admitted to the IPD of the hospital with various conditions – this included 926 women admitted to the maternity ward for normal delivery.

### MCHC

A total of 3,558 women, men and children including 6 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, 42 cases have been treated daily during this period as opposed to 38 cases in the last period. That included outpatient, inpatient child delivery support, antenatal and post-natal care, and family planning.



### PHCC

A total of 13,810 patients including 4 persons with disabilities, mostly from the host community (8,590 people), 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 Balukhali, Ukhiya.



**Left:** Doctor undertakes general checkup for children with paediatric health issues at MCHC. (Photo: BDRCS)

**Right:** Host community people have access to disease prevention information through CBHFA community meeting. (Photo: BDRCS)

The services include curative care, maternal, new-born, child and adolescent health, family planning, sexual-Reproductive and gender-based violence prevention, nutrition, communicable diseases treatment, mental health and psychosocial services, non-communicable diseases, and emergency referrals. An average of 139 cases were treated daily during the reporting period.

## CBHFA

In the reporting period, 69,464 people (28,419 males and 41,045 females) including 397 persons with disabilities were provided with key health messages through the provision of Community Health and First Aid (CBHFA) service. This service aims to complement the healthcare service provided at the Maternal Child Hospital and other BDRCS health facilities and increase the general health awareness of the affected people. Community-based health messages have been disseminated through regular household visits in 7 camps (2E, 6, 8E, 12, 13, 14, and 19) of around 340,000 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. Besides That, through CBHFA activities Routine Immunization (RIA) and Supplementary Immunization Activities (SIA)/ mass campaign covers.

**Health facilities supported by IFRC member societies:** Apart from the BDRCS health facilities supported by IFRC, there are 9 other health facilities in the camp run by BDRCS with the support of IFRC memberships. These comprise three PHCs supported by the Swiss Red Cross (in camps 2E and 6) 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, 135,331 cases were treated, with a daily average of 1,127 patients, representing a 14 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.

### *Social media contents:*

- [Watery diarrhea awareness by community volunteers](#)
- [BDRCS community volunteers support in government poliovirus vaccination campaign](#)

### **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

<b>People targeted</b>	155,000
<b>People reached</b>	97,870

Objective:	The safety and well-being of communities are strengthened through shelter and settlement solutions		
Key indicators:	Period Actual (May – Aug 2024)	Cumulative (Jan 2022 – Aug 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: 14,165 Host:	Camp: 92,360 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: 2,833 Host:	Camp: 16,092 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: Host:	Camp: 9 Host: 2	Camp: 6 Host: 2
<i># of people in the camp increased knowledge and awareness on safe shelter</i>	Camp: Host:	Camp: 3,109 Host: 1,470	Camp: TBC <sup>8</sup> Host: 12,075

During the reporting period, the shelter intervention included construction of Mid-Term Shelters (MTS) based on need identification, assessment for care and maintenance support, provision of emergency shelter assistance, and site development for the camp community. As such, a total of **14,165 people comprising 6,941 males and 7,224 females from 2,833 households in camps 11 and 12 received various forms of shelter and settlement assistance** to ensure their safety and well-being.

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

The provision of mid-term shelters for displaced people in camps is driven by the need for improved safety, durability, community involvement, and adaptability to changing circumstances adhering to restriction to permanent structures in camp imposed by the government. 1,540 households' shelters were identified with needs of MTS in camps 11 and 12, where BDRCS is the shelter focal organisation. Out of these shelters there are 1,000 shelters' construction have been ongoing from August which are expected to be completed by November. So, far 110 shelters were completed (50 in Camp 11 and 60 in Camp 12) and handed over to the households.

These MTSs have been associated with site development works such as guide wall, stair and slope protection. The sector's standard MTS design was followed in constructing shelters 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.

Apart from assigned camps for shelter and settlement support, BDRCS with support from IFRC is committed to extend additional support to other camps, subject to fund availability – the approach is called 'build and go'. Following 'build and go' approach of the PMO and collaborating with UNHCR and IoM, an initiative has been taken

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

to support 1,500 households in camps 10, 26 and 27 with MTS to fulfil the existing gap of shelter assistance. Under this initiative a joint assessment has been ongoing together with IoM and UNHCR to identify the needs of MTS.



Households who have shelters damaged due to disasters take shelter kits i.e. bamboos. (Photo: BDRCS)



Mid-term shelters in camps 11 and 12 were constructed along with site development works, such as stair, protection wall. (Photo: IFRC)

### **Emergency Shelter Assistance based on Rapid Damage Verification (RDV)**

2,723 households of 13,615 family members were provided with emergency shelter kits (Borak bamboo, Muli bamboo, ropes and tarpaulin). They were affected by the heavy rainfall and strong wind during the monsoon season causing damaged to their shelters in camps 11 and 12. These damages were reported through site management and site development (SMSD) agencies, as BDRCS plays shelter focal role in these camps. During this reporting period, the categories of shelter damage were verified through a joint assessment in which BDRCS, IoM, Danish Refugee Council were involved.

### **Care and Maintenance**

2,800 households were selected in Camp 12 through an assessment (who received MTS support earlier) who will receive materials for the care and maintenance of their partially damaged shelters from October on ward. The assessment report revealed that there were mild to moderate degrees of damage to the shelters that require care and maintenance with shelter kits comprising bamboo, tarpaulin and ropes as well as installation and porter support for Extremely Vulnerable Individuals (EVIs) headed households. In addition, an assessment has been ongoing in Camp 9 which will finish in September and support will be provided in November.

### **Host Community Shelter Support**

Under the host community shelter repair and maintenance assistance, 1,000 vulnerable households were targeted in Ukhiya and subsequently collaboration with local government and local leaders have been underway. So far, vulnerable areas were identified through consultation with the local stakeholders. As per plan, a comprehensive need assessment will start from September, and thereafter, selection will be based on the criteria collaboratively set with the communities. The assistance package will include CGI sheets, toolkits, and cash grants. Special support, such as technical and labor assistance, will be provided to families headed by persons with disabilities or elderly people. Feedback from the households will be captured and addressed adequately.

#### *Social media contents:*

- [Emergency shelter kits distributed to households affected by heavy rainfall](#)

## 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 a collaboration process between UNHCR, IoM and IFRC, BDRCS took responsibility for constructing an additional 1,500 shelters in three 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. A series of FGDs with the general community to set selection criteria will be taken place. The partnership with IOM for a bamboo treatment facility has been continued and has strengthened the sector's coordination and quality benchmarks.

 <b>Water, Sanitation and Hygiene</b>	<b>People targeted</b>	150,000
	<b>People reached</b>	143,020

**Objective:** *Communities experience reduced risk of waterborne and water-related diseases, and as such, enjoy improved wellbeing*

Key indicators:	Period Actual (May – Aug 2024)	Cumulative (Jan 2022 – Aug 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: 10,500	Camp: 95,513 <sup>9</sup> 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: 00	Camp: 21,500 Host: 7,130	Camp: 23,500 Host: 25,000
<i># of people practicing improved hygiene</i>	Camp: 34,112 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 9 water networks, repair of hand tube wells, operation of one Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) plant, 11 Solid Waste Management (SWM) plants and camp cleaning campaigns, repair of latrine and bathing cubicles as well as hygiene promotion with kits distribution. During the period, **58,306 people comprising 27,984 males and 30,322 females including 47,806 people in camps 11, 13, 18 and 19 and 10,500 people in the host community (Ratnapalong, Ukhiya) reached through the WASH programme.** Highlights are as follows:

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

### *Water supply system*

Around 35,070 people in camps 11 and 19 have access to safe and chlorinated water for drinking and cooking purposes through nine water network systems — eight in Camp 11 and one in Camp 19. On average, 18,915 cubic meters of water have been supplied monthly after extracting and chlorinating groundwater. All water supply networks have been adopted with 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.

As part of the care and maintenance intervention of water supply networks, 724 times repair works were conducted for different water network facilities, including tap stands, pipelines, tank stands, and pump houses in Camp 11. Similarly, 543 times of repair works were done for hand tube wells (both deep and shallow) in Camp 19. Regular water quality monitoring has been conducted to ensure that the water consumed is safe and free from faecal contamination. Samples were collected regularly from various points in the water chain, including the source, distribution points, and household level. Critical parameters that have been monitored include pH, turbidity, E. coli, total dissolved solids, iron, nitrates, fluoride, and arsenic.



*Community volunteers take responsibility of collecting source segregated wastes and process in the solid waste management plan. (Photo: BDRCS)*



*Households collect water from tap stand connected to water network water in Camp 11 (Photo: IFRC)*

### *Sanitation*

Around 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 23,911 kg of household solid wastes monthly and processed them at the plants. Additionally, 78,580 RFT roads and drains were cleaned in Camp 19 monthly.

A Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) plant in Camp 19 (D block) continuously treated 209 cubic meters of sludge/wastewater monthly, serving more than 5,500 people. Trained community volunteers desludging around 139 latrines each month, with the sludge/wastewater being treated and decontaminated before being discharged into the environment.

Furthermore, a Faecal Sludge Field Lab (FSFL) continues to test the effluent before it is discharged into the environment. Additionally, 245 shared latrines and bathing cubicles were repaired in Camp 19. Besides, different WASH facilities in camps 11, 18 and 19 have been disinfected, 23,764 times in total.

#### *Hygiene promotion*

Approximately 34,112 people in Camps 11, 19, and the host community were educated on personal and household hygiene through participation in 8004 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) other aspects of personal and household hygiene including messages on Dengue and scabies. 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 66,965 soap kits and 8299 MHM kits were distributed.

#### *WASH Intervention supported IFRC member societies*

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. The activities include the continuation of supplying safe drinking water, maintaining the functionality of the hand tube well, operating of faecal sludge management plant, repairing and maintaining existing shared latrine and bathing facilities, dissemination of hygiene promotion messages and soap kit and Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) kit distribution. These WASH interventions reach around 50,000 people and are supported by the German Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, and Turkish Red Crescent.

#### *Social media contents:*

- [Hygiene promotion sessions engaging community volunteers](#)
- [Solid waste collected from households in camps and processed](#)

#### **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 is 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 participate Technical Working Group meetings to contribute to the development of the "Water Strategy" for the WASH Sector in Cox's Bazar.



## Livelihoods

People targeted

70,000

People reached

107,513

### Objective:

*The livelihoods of communities are restored and strengthened*

Key indicators:	Period Actual (May – Aug 2024)	Cumulative (Jan 2022 – Aug 2024)	Target (by Dec 2024)
# of people in the camp and host communities reached by restoring and strengthening their livelihoods	Camp: 548 Host:	Camp: 40,373 Host: 67,140	Camp: 20,000 Host: 50,000
# of people in camp and host communities provided with cash and voucher assistance (CVA)	Camp: 548 Host:	Camp: 40,128 Host: 64,470	Camp: 20,000 Host: 50,500
# of people in camp and host communities provided with skills development opportunities	Camp: 548 Host:	Camp: 793 Host: 3,391	Camp: 10,000 Host: 10,000

Livelihood intervention during the last period catered skills training and necessary inputs (cash and logistics) support for most vulnerable households in camps 11 and 13. Specific trades were identified through community consultation which included tailoring, net making, chicken farming, vegetable gardening and barber service. Skills training on these trades were conducted following the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) and government livelihood framework agreements. The ongoing and completed skills training reached **548 people, comprising 265 males and 283 females, benefited from these efforts to strengthen and maintain their livelihoods**. Highlights are as follows:

#### Tailoring Training in Camp 13

A total of 53 women were selected through assessment and applying vulnerability criteria such as separated women, female-headed households, and disability. They were enrolled in a tailoring training program of 44 days. The training equipped these women with improved sewing and dress-designing skills alongside daily cash incentives.

#### Net Making Training in Camp 13

The net-making training was conducted in Camp 13, for 25 selected men. They were trained by community trainers for a 22-day course. These participants received cash incentives as per government guidelines, and BDRCS provided net-making materials upon completion.



*Elderly men in a batch practicing to develop fishing net making skills in Camp 13. (Photo: BDRCS)*

#### Chicken Farming Training in Camp 19

This training was organized for 60 individuals with each participant undergoing a 7-day course facilitated by BDRCS community trainer. While participants were receiving cash incentives to attend the training sessions, upon successful completion, they received live chickens, a chicken house, feeders, and other essential items.

### Vegetable Gardening Training in Camp 11

During this reporting period, 390 individuals in Camp 19 were trained in vegetable gardening. It was a one-day training session, followed by a refresher training day after participants received their cash incentives and gardening materials.

### Barber Training in Camp 11

20 selected men were currently participating in a 66-day long barber training program beginning in August. Upon completion, participants will receive toolkits to start their barber service in the camp community. These livelihood activities aim to enhance skills, improve self-reliance, and create sustainable income opportunities for the FDMN community. The sector remains committed to supporting the development and empowerment of displaced populations through targeted training programs.


### Social media contents:

- [Sewing training and distribution of machines as part of livelihood support](#)

### 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 Qatar Red Crescent (on the skills training in the camp) are the major collaborating partners in identifying the most vulnerable men and women from the target camps of the displaced population.

*With external actors:* To harmonize the livelihood programming with government and other humanitarian actors, the team works closely 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.

 <b>Protection, Gender and Inclusion</b>	<b>People targeted</b>		115,000
	<b>People reached</b>		166,255
<b>Objective:</b>	<i>Vulnerable and marginalised individuals and groups are supported and empowered</i>		
<b>Key indicators:</b>	<b>Period Actual (May – Aug 2024)</b>	<b>Cumulative (Jan 2022 – Aug 2024)</b>	<b>Target (by Dec 2024)</b>
<i># of people provided with essential PGI services (camp community)</i>	Camp: 42,881 Host: 1300	Camp: 160,200 Host: 6,055	Camp: 115,000 Host: 5,000
<i># of referrals made to protection case management actors (camp community)</i>	359	1,533	As necessary
<i>% of PGI mainstreaming checklist updated for each programme sector</i>	In progress <sup>10</sup>	In progress	75% Annually

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.

The PGI intervention continues to include, among others, 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. **Consequently, 44,181 people (including 42,881 from Camps 13, 14, and 19 and 1,300 from the Ukhiya host community), including 1,200 persons with disabilities (PWDs), were reached with 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, 3,795 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:

#### *PGI essential services at the DAPS centre*

Approximately 22,456 people, including 712 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 cap producing, fish net weaving, 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.



*Adolescent girls were engaged in skill-based activities enjoyed quality time at DAPS centre in Camp 13. (Photo: IFRC)*

#### *Awareness on PGI in Camps and Host*

A total of 9,336 people (Male:2,953 and Female: 6,383) from 2,334 households including 726 persons with disability 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.

Protection referrals						
Referral types	May - August 2024			January 2017 - August 2024		
	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
<b>SGBV</b>	38	0	38	701	0	701
<b>Child Protection</b>	17	30	47	307	293	600
<b>Trafficking</b>	7	9	16	151	145	296
<b>Restoring Family Links</b>	18	36	54	172	242	414
<b>Others</b>	76	128	204	106	153	259
<b>Total</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>1,437</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>2,270</b>

*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.*

#### *Case Referral and Follow up*

BDRCS, being only responsible for essential PGI support services in camps 13, 14 and 19, refers the protection cases to the ISCG-assigned case management actors in these three camps. Technical Assistance Inc. (TAI), Save the Children Bangladesh, IOM, Ministry of Women and Child Affairs (MoWCA) and Care Bangladesh are the major case

management actors that deal with cases like victims of sexual or domestic violence, survivors of trafficking, child abuse through an established referral pathway. In these three camps, 359 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, 185 were adolescent girls, boys, and children (see the table above). 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.

#### *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 period, the following mainstreaming initiatives were undertaken, which supported around 1,200 vulnerable households in camps and host communities.

Sector	Mainstreaming initiatives undertaken by programme sector
Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-construction of Information and feedback hub in Camp 11 that features ramps for easy accessibility of person with disabilities and elderly people.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
Water, sanitation & hygiene (WASH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Floor of tap stands were repaired with frictions floor material to protect fall over on wet floor and incorporate privacy with wall.</li> <li>• Inclusion of women with disabilities in hygiene promotion sessions.</li> <li>• Need based hygiene kits distributed to the different households having members with EVIs.</li> </ul>
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Distributed Mama kit to newborn baby and the mother included baby towel, dress, sanitary napkin for mother.</li> </ul>
Livelihoods and basic needs (including relief distributions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• The distribution centres continue to have provision of breastfeeding corners for lactating mother.</li> <li>• Provision of desks at distribution centres for the collection of feedback on protection, safety and security during the distribution process.</li> </ul>
Disaster risk reduction (DRR)/disaster management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disaster management training package incorporates PGI minimum standard selecting female, elderly, PWDs as the participants for disaster prepare.</li> <li>• Disaster preparedness drill include importance of early evacuation of children, women, elderly and person with abilities.</li> </ul>

#### *Social media contents:*

- [IFRC Article 'We will be there for them': In communities most vulnerable to storms, volunteers rise to the challenge | IFRC](#)


#### **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

 <b>Community Engagement and Accountability</b>	<b>People targeted</b>	400,000	
	<b>People reached</b>	329,113	
<b>Objective:</b>	<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>		
<b>Key indicators:</b>	<b>Period Actual (May - Aug 2024)</b>	<b>Cumulative (Jan 2022 - Aug 2024)</b>	<b>Target (by Dec 2024)</b>
<i># of people reached through community consultations/outreach</i>	Camp: 48,972 Host: 836	Camp: 288,254 Host: 40,859	Camp: 300,000 Host: 100,000
<i># of pieces of feedback received</i>	Camp: 7,233 Host: 31	Camp: 80,934 Host: 2,547	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%

In PMO's planning and implementation, community engagement has been pivotal in capturing feedback and sharing key information with the displaced population and affected host communities. As such, **49,777 people comprising 27,295 males and 22,482 females (48,972 from camps and 805 from host community) in 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 continued to function 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 community 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 192 community radio listening sessions were conducted, reaching 3,120 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 7,233 pieces of feedback were collected, including 4,944 from males and 2,289 from females. Of these, 90 per cent were collected from camps where sector activities were ongoing and the remaining from host community intervention areas. 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).



Community feedback was captured, and key information were disseminated through radio listening programme at an info-hub in Camp 11 (Photo: IFRC)

### 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.



## National Society Strengthening

### Objective:

BDRCS has strengthened capacities, systems and procedures at central and Cox's Bazar levels

### Key indicators:

# of staff and volunteers trained on search and rescue, first aid, disaster preparedness, early warning and anticipatory actions

**Period Actual  
(May – Aug 2024)**

1,590

**Cumulative  
(Jan 2022 – Aug 2024)**

2,762

**Target  
(by Dec 2024)**

1,500  
volunteers and  
staff

During this period, Cox's Bazar camp and host communities experienced a number of extreme weather events including several spells of cloud bursts leading to record high rainfall causing a number of landslides, cyclones, and extreme heatwaves. To build the local capacity of the volunteers – the first responders of BDRCS, 30 school RCY

committees comprised of an average of 53 members have been formed by the BDRCS local branch with the support from the 'Comprehensive DRM and Community Resilience Building Programme' in Ukhiya sub-district of Cox's Bazar. These committee members were trained on various response techniques including disaster preparedness, search and rescue.



## 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*

**Period Actual  
(May – Aug 2024)**

**Cumulative  
(Jan 2022 – Aug 2024)**

**Target  
(by Dec 2024)**

-

Yes

During this reporting period, one RCRC coordination meeting took place. The meeting discussed future strategies of the PMO through the rationalization phase III, the revised emergency appeal with extended time frame and ways to continue support for camps and host community people in the face of changing needs and funding challenges. The meeting concluded with the following major outcomes:

**Rationalization and EA revision:** Considering the present situation and efficiency of PMO collective effort it has been imperative to work out **one team approach** in which HR streamlining would take place from 2025 onward, amid the funding shrinkage. The Swedish Red Cross-supported bilateral programme stands out as an example of best practice to follow.

- **Review One Window Framework (OWF):** Considering the evolving camp context and the global funding landscape, the RCRC collective effort under the PMO will be reviewed. A workshop will be organized engaging key staff of BDRCS, IFRC and IFRC member societies to review the OWF effectiveness and set strategies beyond 2025.
- **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** – Abduction, armed conflicts and target killings were on the rise in the camp and border line. Around 15,000 people were waiting on the other side of the border amid the continuing airstrikes on the Myanmar side. The Arakan Army does not accept them as their fellow countrymen but as stateless Bangladesh people. The camp youth are reportedly recruited by some separatists in Myanmar and used in warfare.
- **New Governing Board of BDRCS:** Amid the country-wide uprising and ousted regime, there were the spread of mob justice and crime. Subsequently, BDRCS has opted new chairman and recruited Secretary General. New senior management visited PMO in September. IFRC and its member societies decided to maintain a working relationship with them.
- **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.
- **Seven years mark:** On 25 August 2017, approximately 700,000 Rohingya men, women, and children fled Myanmar due to widespread violence and persecution in Rakhine State. This year humanitarian actors including BDRCS, and its Red Cross Red Crescent partners observed the seven years anniversary, as it stands out as one of

the largest cross border displacement in recent history. Rallies in Cox's Bazar, photo exhibitions at the PMO office, art competition and community engagement were major events organized to observe the day.

Seven years marking social media contents from Asia Pacific Regional Office, IFRC

[Shelter support for Nur Islam](#)

[Psychosocial self-care activities](#)



## 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*

Period Actual (May - Aug 2024)	Cumulative (Jan 2022 - Aug 2024)	Target (by Dec 2024)
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8

8

10

Among the eight in-country Participating 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

35,510<sup>11</sup>

People reached

35,510

### Objective:

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

### Key indicators:

*# of displaced community, relocated on the island are enabled to be disaster-ready and benefit from improved health*

Period Actual  
(May - Aug 2024)

Cumulative  
(Jan 2022 - Aug 2024)

Target  
(by Dec 2024)

35,510<sup>12</sup>

35,510

18,000<sup>13</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Total relocated people at the island as of 31 August 2024.

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

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

As of 30 September 2024, a total of **35,629 people (8,477 families)** displaced from Rakhine State of Myanmar to Cox's Bazar camp settlements have been relocated to Bhashan Char Island in Noakhali District<sup>14</sup>. 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 Bhashan Char 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 the relocated people through various interventions, including cyclone preparedness, WASH, health services, site management, and response preparedness activities. During this reporting period, the BDRCS team at the island, with the support of the IFRC, continues to provide guidance to the families who received livestock support in December 2023, which includes regular monitoring visits to the households and guiding them for getting necessary treatment at the veterinary clinic on the island.

#### *Background of Bhashan Char programme*

The Government of Bangladesh (GoB) started the relocation process in December 2020. In response to a request from the 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 activities, WASH, health services, livelihoods, PGI, CEA, emergency preparedness and response (ERP), and site management support (SMS). The multisectoral coordination group led by UNHCR in close coordination with the Additional Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (ARRRC).

Key highlights of achievement during this period are as follows:

#### *Site Management Support (SMS)*

BDRCS, together with UNHCR, is collaborating with the WASH sector to maintain the cleaning of faecal issues and ensure functional biogas kitchens throughout occupied clusters. Considering the cyclone season, the evacuation-related cyclone shelter mapping assessment has been completed by BDRCS.

The raw data are being processed and will be presented through Power BI, and they will be put into the Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) database to enhance response and evacuation planning, reducing risks during any potential cyclone that may affect the island.

BDRCS is currently conducting an analysis of the drowning incident on the island, which is expected to be shared in the coming month. In August, the BDRCS-SMS team assisted in conducting the wall crack assessment and prepared a report to be shared with the RRRRC office and the Navy. BDRCS SMS team regularly participate in sectoral meetings and shares key issues/updates related to different sectors.

#### *Energy, Shelter, and Environment*

BDRCS Energy team is continuing to monitor gas emission/leakage throughout the clusters, especially the biogas facilities points, including the digester, inlet, and outlet chamber, using handheld monitoring devices to ensure the safety of the people. BDRCS is providing services to fix any issues regarding the electricity connection/wiring, except the replacement of any major equipment. BDRCS coordinated with the WASH sector and supervised the cleaning of the biogas digester area.

#### *Emergency Preparedness and Response (ERP)*

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<sup>14</sup> <https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/111687>

In June, BDRCS provided fire safety training to the staff of the other organization working on the island. The main objective was to strengthen the staff members' capacity for effective response in case of fire incidents. In total, 36 people (23 Males and 13 females) participated.

#### *WASH Support*

BDRCS, with the support of the German Red Cross, continues to provide solid assistance in waste management, covering drainage management and household waste collection of the occupied clusters. BDRCS also supported fumigation spray for mosquito control on the island.

#### *Coordination*

The BDRCS team on the island regularly coordinates with the RRRC office, Navy, UNHCR, and other organizations active there. BDRCS participates in relevant sectoral meetings. BDRCS also shares updates and analyses with relevant actors on the feedback and complaints that they received as part of their site management responsibility.

#### *Challenge and continuing funding support*

Major challenges encountered by the Bhasan Char programme include the shrinkage of the funding landscape amid the increasing number of relocated displaced people from Cox's Bazar camp settlement, cyclones, and seasonal heavy rainfall. Continuing support for the growing number of populations is imperative. The IFRC submitted a proposal focusing on livelihoods and other activities. Also, through the revised PMO emergency appeal for the three-year period of 2025-2027, a funding ask of 9 million CHF was put in place.



*A woman of Bhasan Char Island, continued cattle rearing as a means of livelihood, once received the support from BDRCS in December 2023. (Photo: BDRCS)*

## **D. FUNDING**

Up to 31 August 2024, the appeal coverage for Cox's Bazar operations is 45.6 per cent funded, while Bhasan Char is 2.6 per cent funded. More details on the income and expenditure for the operation, including the financial report, will be provided in the next report.

## Contact information

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

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### For IFRC Resource Mobilisation and Pledges support:

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### For In-Kind Donations and Mobilisation table support:

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

- Mursidi Unir, PMER in Emergencies Coordinator, email: [mursidi.unir@ifrc.org](mailto:mursidi.unir@ifrc.org)

### 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.

# Annex 1: 4W map of PMO

