

DREF OPERATIONAL UPDATE

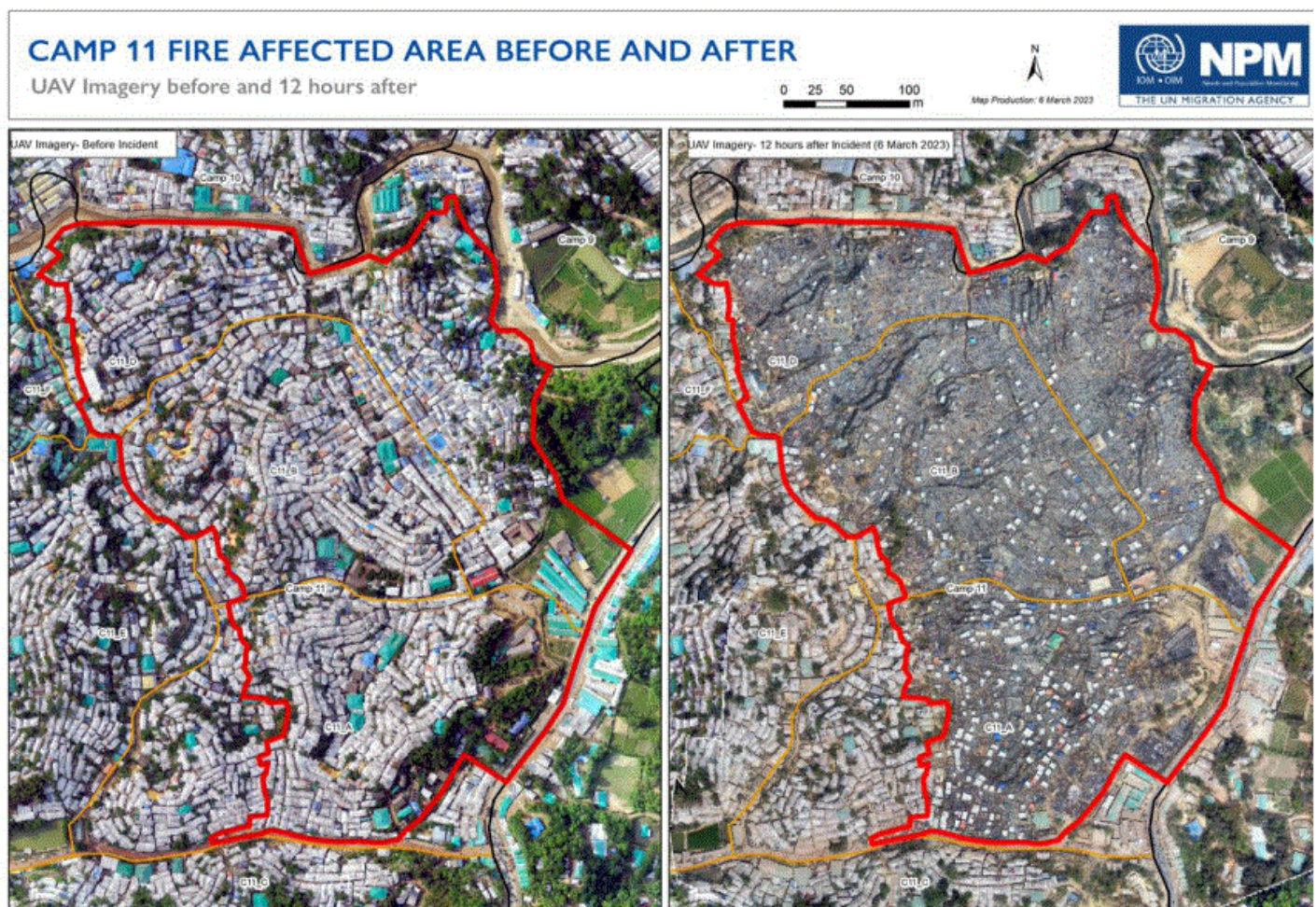
IFRC Fire Incident: Emergency Response for Displaced People from Rakhine in Camp 11



Photo taken during the distribution of essential household items to fire affected beneficiaries in Camp 11.
(Source: BDRCS/IFRC Communications team)

Appeal: MDRBD029	Total DREF Allocation CHF 500,000	Crisis Category: Yellow	Hazard: Fire
Glide Number: FR-2023-000031-BGD	People Affected: 15,000 people	People Targeted: 15,000 people	
Event Onset: Sudden	Operation Start Date: 2023-03-10	New Operational end date: 2023-09-30	Total operating timeframe: 6 months
Additional Allocation Re- quested -	Targeted Areas:	Chittagong	

Description of the Event



This map released by IOM depicts the comparative imagery of Camp 11 before and after the fire incident. (Source: IOM NPM)

What happened, where and when?

On 5 March 2023, a massive fire broke out through Camp 11, where it immediately spread across three (3) blocks (A, B, and D) and caused severe damage to certain areas within the said blocks.

And through the collective efforts of the humanitarian community and the Government of Bangladesh, the Fire Service and Civil Defense (FSCD) units and trained Disaster Management Unit (DMU) volunteers in the camp were able to manage and suppress the fire and also assisted in relocating individuals to temporary safe spaces. Additionally, as part of the existing fire preparedness and response measures in the camp, shelters near to the areas where the fire is taking place have been dismantled in order to prevent its further spread. All these have contributed to effectively controlling the fire, which after approximately three (3) hours of response, was declared out.

Immediately after the fire has been suppressed, an emergency meeting has been called upon by the Camp in Charge (CIC) among all the member agencies and sector focal points of the Disaster Management Committee (DMC) in Camp 11, including BDRCS as the camp's shelter/NFI focal agency, to identify the existing resource capacity of all concerned agencies, determine the magnitude of the incident, and collectively identify the immediate courses of action. And following the existing Multi Hazard Response Plan of ISCG, an initial Joint Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment (JNA) was initiated led by IOM where all the immediate interventions from different sectors and member agencies have

been derived from which included the provision of emergency rapid food assistance, emergency shelter kits and essential household items, immediate restoration of water supply networks including the temporary setup of water distribution points and provision of hygiene and menstrual kits, debris clearing, establishment of mobile health units and activation of adjacent health facilities to augment in the provision of essential health services, deployment of Mobile Medical Teams and Community Health Workers for disease surveillance, among others.

In parallel to these immediate rapid responses, another coordination platform was established within the government through the RRRC, IOM, and BDRCS to jointly develop a plan for the immediate restoration of damaged shelters from the incident. Through this, a re-planning and shelter reconstruction guidance was developed, which detailed the roles and responsibilities of agencies in the shelter reconstruction as part of the second phase of the Camp 11 fire response plan.

Notes on below pictures:

Photo 1: BDRCS/IFRC WASH team assessing the extent of damage to one of BDRCS Water supply networks in Camp 11 (Photo: BDRCS/IFRC Communications Team)

Photo 2: BDRCS/IFRC team conducting needs assessment to one of the fire affected households who lost their shelter and belongings. (Photo: BDRCS/IFRC Communications team)

Photo 3: Emergency shelter items distributed by BDRCS/IFRC to the fire affected households immediately after the fire incident (Photo: BDRCS/IFRC)

Photo 4: BDRCS/IFRC teams were mobilized to temporarily install water points while the water networks that were damaged by the fire incident are being restored (Photo: BDRCS/IFRC)



Photo 1

Photo 2

Scope and Scale

Based on the IOM's Initial and In-Depth Needs Assessment Report issued on 9 March 2023, there were 15,926 individuals or 3,011 households affected by the fire incident. Among these, 2,805 individuals lost their shelters (fully and partially) along with their essential household items, while 212 individuals were injured. Moreover, 5,274 individuals, or 795 Households were also displaced and temporarily sheltered in strategic safe spaces within and neighboring camp and host communities. Some also stayed in their relatives' shelters, and after the incident, the majority of them (83 per cent) have already returned to their respective blocks and utilized the emergency shelter items provided to them.

Service Facilities:

Three (3) damaged health facilities (2 PHCs and 1 HP), including their valuable assets (medical supplies, equipment, furniture and generators), have been reported - temporarily disrupted the provision of essential health services to the community in Camp 11. However, they were immediately managed as they were complemented by the

neighboring health facilities activated by the Health sector. Apart from the health facilities, there were 35 learning centers, 4 Women and Girls Safe Spaces (WGSS), 32 mosques, 13 Child Friendly Spaces (CFS), 1 Nutrition facility, and 30 Moktabs reported damaged.

WASH Facilities:

A total of 992 WASH Facilities (458 latrines, 189 bathing facilities, 236 tubewells, 72 water tabs, 28 water points, and 8 Fecal Sludge Management units) have been damaged, including the 2 water networks installed and managed by BDRCS in Camp 11.

Critical Infrastructures:

A total of 1,578 critical infrastructures such as 86 pathways, 65 stairways, 18 bridges, 295 slopes/stabilization schemes, 2 electrical units, 144 drainages, 295 streetlights, 11 lightning arrestors, including 662 trees were reportedly damaged by the fire incident.

Although these reported damages were immediately addressed and attended to by concerned sector agencies after the incident, weather conditions in Cox's Bazar, such as the cyclone in May and the heavy rain and windstorms caused by the monsoon, which are still happening, have significantly slowed down the overall reconstruction plan in Camp 11, especially for those households whose shelters have not yet been restored. Additionally, as part of the camp's overall emergency preparedness and response plan, the site management prompted the temporary relocation of shelters within this fire-affected household to strategic safe spaces within the camp due to their location in high-risk areas.

Summary of changes

Are you changing the timeframe of the operation	No
Are you changing the operational strategy	Yes
Are you changing the target population of the operation	No
Are you changing the geographical location	No
Are you making changes to the budget	No
Is this a request for a second allocation	No
Has the forecasted event materialize?	No

Please explain the summary of changes and justification

While developing the IFRC-DREF application, one of the identified and considered risks was the potential impact of natural hazards on implementation, aligning with the seasonal calendar in Cox's Bazar and/or the camp settlement. As the implementation period has progressed, as expected, several incidents, mostly hydro-meteorological in nature, have occurred in Cox's Bazar. These include inclement weather conditions after Cyclone Mocha, considered a pre-monsoon cyclonic event, and torrential rain and windstorms that began in early June and had a significant impact through July and the present, further exacerbating the challenges faced by the fire-affected people in Camp 11.

Among those most severely affected are households whose shelters were still under rehabilitation or reconstruction when these incidents occurred. According to the Rapid Damage Validation (RDV) conducted by the BDRCS shelter team, more than 1,000 households reported significant damages from the third week of May to August



2023.

Despite the assistance provided to these fire-affected households during the initial phase of the fire response by BDRCS through the IFRC-DREF, as well as support from other external agencies following the guidance of the Government of Bangladesh through the office of the Refugee Repatriation and Relief Commissioner (RRRC), these subsequent incidents have compounded the impacts. Some of the items previously provided were already damaged, and others went missing during temporary relocation, particularly in landslide-prone sub-blocks of Camp 11.

Due to significant savings from the IFRC-DREF procurement and volunteer mobilization costs, as most the IFRC-DREF activities were carried out ahead of the original timeline (e.g., food distribution, emergency household item distribution, assessments, etc.), additional activities were initiated under the guidance of the PMO management to address the multi-hazard effects. These activities included the procurement of additional shelter materials and essential household items, such as bamboo (borak and muli), ropes (3mm and 6mm), blankets, mosquito nets, and plastic mats.

While the procurement process was ongoing, and coordination with APRO was underway, the distribution of items by BDRCS using PMO's existing contingency stocks was activated in June - since this is considered urgent and requiring immediate response. Specific items and quantities provided to households were determined based on actual needs and gaps identified through shelter household validation, aligning with the minimum shelter/NFI standards set by the ISCG shelter/NFI sector for camp settlement. As this distribution is still ongoing, BDRCS and IFRC ensure that the households receiving this additional assistance are not the same as those who were already covered under the IFRC-DREF Cyclone Mocha operation, with the aim of completing it within the planned implementation period.

BDRCS and IFRC considered this additional support to ensure the fulfillment of their recognized institutional role and responsibility within the humanitarian community, as mandated by the ISCG and the government of Bangladesh through the RRRC, as the lead focal agency for shelter/NFI in Camp 11, continuously and consistently.

Details on the savings and additional activities proposed for this IFRC-DREF operation are as follows:

I. Overall Cost Savings (procurement and Volunteer Mobilization) from the initial IFRC-DREF activities: CHF 116,868

a. Total Savings on Procurement of Shelter and Household Items: CHF60,662

- 9,000 Blankets: Approved Budget: 72,000; Actual Cost: 35,791; Incurred Savings: 36,209
- 9,000 Bamboos: Approved Budget: 4,500; Actual Cost: 2,273; Incurred Savings: 2,227
- 6,000 Tarpaulins: Approved Budget: 90,000; Actual Cost: 65,911; Incurred Savings: 24,089
- 9,000 Plastic Mats: Approved Budget: 22,500; Actual Cost: 15,293; Incurred Savings: 7,207
- 6,000 Mosquito Nets: Approved Budget: 21,000; Actual Cost: 30,070; Incurred Savings: -9,070

Remarks: The savings for all items were based on the result of actual cost of procurement of items processed through IFRC Procurement Policy.

b. Total Savings on 3,000 Dry Food Packs: CHF23,321

- Approved Budget: 28,500; Actual Cost: 5,179; Incurred Savings: 23,321

Remarks: The savings were based on the actual expenses submitted by BDRCS to IFRC.

c. Total Savings on Volunteer Mobilization Cost: CHF32,885

- The savings were based on the actual expenditures incurred and currently booked on volunteer mobilization as a result of early completion of activities from its original timeline.
- Possible submission of additional volunteer mobilization charging may still be expected.

II. Summary of Additional Activities Proposed under DREF



- Distribution of 3,000 Blankets: CHF15,320
- Distribution of 3,000 Plastic Mats: CHF5,098
- Distribution of 3,000 Mosquito Nets: CHF14,756
- Distribution of Bamboos (67,000 Muli & 3,000 Borak): CHF26,892
- Distribution of Ropes (15,000 6mm & 25,000 3mm): CHF34,446

Current National Society Actions



Photo 3



Photo 4

Livelihoods And Basic Needs

In coordination with the Food Security Sector in Cox's Bazar, BDRCS provided emergency dry food package composed of bread, puffed rice, molasses, biscuits, and peanuts to complement the ongoing hot meal support being provided by FSS partners in Camp 11.

BDRCS engaged 116 individuals in Camp 11 through cash for work to support in the repacking of household items, porter support to Extremely Vulnerable Individuals (EVIs), and crowd control management during the relief distribution.

After the emergency support was provided, these affected households have been supported through the General Food Assistance (GFA) that is regularly provided by the Food Security Sector.

Assessment

BDRCS mobilized staff and volunteers jointly with the site management lead agency to validate the affected households in Camp 11 and identify the most prioritized needs. Sectoral teams were also mobilized to conduct rapid assessment to identify the extent of damages on the BDRCS facilities.

Additionally, part of the role of BDRCS/ IFRC as the Shelter focal agency lead in Camp 11 is to conduct periodic household validation and verification not only to the fire-affected households but also to the whole camp population to ensure that all shelter/NFI related concerns are addressed and provided. These also include periodic monitoring of assistance provided by other agencies

	especially to the fire response in close coordination with the site management agency and office of the Camp in Charge (CIC).
Coordination	Coordination Meeting among RCRC Partners have been conducted and presided by BDRCS and IFRC Management to provide progress update of situation on the ground. In parallel, Disaster Risk Management (DRM) team led by the Emergency Response organized an emergency meeting among sector team leads to identify existing capacities of BDRCS and collectively determine initial response actions. Since then, periodic coordination meeting among sectors for both BDRCS and IFRC are being organized to ensure regular monitoring and updating of status of progress of activities planned, including collective development of resolutions to operational challenges encountered by the team not only under the DREF but the overall fire response.
Activation Of Contingency Plans	BDRCS and IFRC activated its Multi-Hazard Response Plan (MHRP) which includes its emergency contingency stocks as well as its trained Emergency Response Teams such as the Quick Response Team (QRT), Rapid Response Team (RRT) and Unit Disaster Response Team (UDRT) to take part in emergency response activities jointly with Site Management Agency and key partners/stakeholders. Currently, all items used from the contingency stocks during the initial response phase have already been replenished through the procurement process under this IFRC-DREF except for the mosquito nets, which are expected to be delivered within September.
National Society EOC	BDRC activated EOC immediately after the Fire incident (from 06.00 PM of 5 March 2023) to collect/compile relevant information and mobilize resources for effective and efficient response. This EOC has paved way for PMO to be able to capture collective efforts internally among the RCRC movement partners supporting BDRCS as well as externally through the ISCG that were translated into situational reports produced and circulated to all intended recipients.
Shelter, Housing And Settlements	Shelter team of BDRCS/IFRC facilitated the distribution of emergency shelters kits composed of tarpaulins, muli bamboos, and ropes (6mm and 3mm) following the primary damage information from site management agency. In addition, trained shelter volunteers of BDRCS together with shelter sector member agencies have been mobilized to provide technical support in the installation of temporary shelters to families who received the emergency shelter items. Also, jointly with IOM, BDRCS/IFRC has also provided emergency household items, such as blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets, and solar lights to 2,872 fire affected families. As part of its second phase of response, BDRCS as the Shelter/NFI lead focal agency in Camp 11, have already started its reconstruction of mid-term shelters to 1,850 families.

Health	Health team of BDRCS and IFRC mobilized Mobile Medical Team (MMT) to provide emergency medical services and community health volunteers to facilitate emergency First Aid and Psychosocial First Aid to the fire affected population. In addition, 3 ambulances were also on standby especially during the initial phase of response as an extension of support to Cox's Bazar Health Sector and casualty/patient transportation to BDRCS field hospital.
Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	In coordination with WASH Sector in Camp 11, BDRCS installed emergency water points in the fire-affected sub-blocks to facilitate temporary water supply for the affected people while the restoration of water networks was still being planned. To complement the hardware support, WASH volunteers in the camp were also mobilized to conduct hygiene promotion within these emergency water points. Presently, the installation of two water networks planned under this IFRC-DREF has been completed and already operational, serving at least 10,000 people in Camp 11.
Protection, Gender And Inclusion	During the initial phase of the response, BDRCS and IFRC PGI team mobilized staff and volunteers to ensure the needs of the EVIs among the affected population are addressed. These efforts formed part of a wider coordination group focusing on General Protection of vulnerable persons and contribute to maintaining referral pathways for different protection related services in close coordination with different sector lead agencies in Camp 11 such as IOM (Site Management lead), UNHCR (Registration, documentation, and Case Management), BLAST (legal assistance), Mukti CXB (GBV), Save the Children (Child Protection), HelpAge and CDD (Physiotherapy/rehabilitation), and RRRC through the Camp in Charge (Safety and Security). And through this IFRC-DREF, a Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis using the newly updated tool shared by APRO has been conducted in order to identify areas on how BDRCS can continuously strengthen its existing child safeguarding practices through a developed child safeguarding action plan that is currently submitted and reviewed by the BDRCS and IFRC management.
Community Engagement And Accountability	BDRCS activated its Information hub and desks and mobilized staff and volunteers in setting up complaints and feedback mechanism during the distribution. Awareness dissemination on the basic information related to the assistance by BDRCS have been provided to the targeted people to be assisted. As BDRCS has an existing information hub facility in Camp 11 which is linked to the broader community feedback and response mechanism (CFRM) in the said camp, it served as a platform of receiving feedback from people in the camp which triggered sectors to mobilize its trained volunteers to conduct verification/validation, thereby facilitating opportunities to improve its quality of assistance being provided and/or address further needs/ gaps in the ongoing response.
National Society Readiness	BDRCS activated its emergency contingency stocks prepositioned as well as the trained Emergency Response Teams (ERT) within Cox's Bazar. Also, the Emergency Operations Fund was activated to support in the mobilization of resources as well as emergency procurement of dry food items.



IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	IFRC Sector leads such as Shelter, WASH, and CEA have worked closely with their BDRCS counterparts to ensure that the quality of response is provided. IFRC also extended its logistical support through activating its logistics hub and manpower as well as fleet in ensuring that the emergency stocks prepositioned are dispatched on a timely basis. IFRC is also currently supporting BDRCS in the ongoing reconstruction of midterm shelters in Camp 11. Furthermore, IFRC supported BDRCS in organizing RCRC Movement Partners Meeting in Cox's Bazar to provide periodic update of situation and activities related to the ongoing operation.
Participating National Societies	American Red Cross/IFRC mobilized its existing staff from DRM (DRR, ER, CPP) to support in the ongoing response of BDRCS in Camp 11. In addition, the Emergency Operations fund allocated from the DRM readiness budget have been activated for quick response from PMO. Danish Red Cross is currently providing technical support to BDRCS on the ongoing planning for implementation of Psychosocial support activities in Cox's Bazar and camp level. Swiss Red Cross and Qatar Red Crescent through its bilateral agreement with BDRCS have jointly collaborated with IFRC to support in the reconstruction of midterm shelters in Camp 11. German Red Cross activated its Emergency Flexi Funds under its existing Pilot Programmatic Partnership (PPP) and complemented IFRC's support to BDRCS in the reconstruction of midterm shelters in camp 11. Swedish Red Cross are providing technical support to BDRCS WASH team in identifying additional needs and gaps on water and sanitation, solid waste and fecal sludge management.

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

ICRC is on standby to provide any possible support related to Restoring Family Link (RFL) through the BDRCS local Cox's Bazar unit (equivalent to a branch).

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	The Government of Bangladesh dispatched the Firefighting units from Fire Service and Civil Defence (FSCD) to suppress the ongoing fire while Law Enforcement Agencies (APBN) are on the ground ensure law and order in the affected camp. Additionally, through the Office of Refugee Repatriation and Relief Commis-



	sioner (CIC), an ad hoc field coordination platform led by the CIC and Site Management Agency including BDRCS and other relevant agencies has been created focusing on monitoring the overall efforts on the second phase of the fire response focusing on the reconstruction of Mid Term Shelters (MTS) planned for the fire affected households in Camp 11.
UN or other actors	IOM: As Site Management Sector Agency, led the overall coordination of responses as well as conducting Joint Needs Assessment (JNA) along with other sector lead agencies in Camp 11. As they are also the overall WASH Sector Focal agency in the camp, IOM led in restoring WASH facilities where BDRCS/IFRC have closely coordinated and complemented with its water network installation. IOM also provided Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) assistance including stoves and kitchen set. WFP: as Food Security Lead agency across the camps, jointly with its partner agencies in Camp 11, have provided High Energy Biscuits (HEB), hot meals, as well as dry food packages distribution where BDRCS/IFRC have complemented during the first 72 hours of response to affected population. Norwegian Refugee Council and SAWAB: augmented in providing NFI's such as kitchen set and WaSH item along with installation of emergency latrine. IRC, Action Aid and Dan Church Aid: provided dignity kits. Save the Children: provided standard clothing items. For the second phase of the fire response in Camp 11 as part of the overall response plan among the humanitarian community, the following are agencies that were authorized by the Government of Bangladesh through the RRRC to augment BDRCS/IFRC in the re-construction of Mid Term Shelters based on the RRRC issued Office Order: - DCA and World Vision: 200 shelters - Save the Children and NRC: 325 shelters - Islamic Relief Bangladesh: 215 shelters - Qatar Charity: 215 shelters

Are there major coordination mechanisms in place?

BDRCS and IFRC are following the existing coordination mechanism with the humanitarian partners in Cox's Bazar established by Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC) office and Guided by the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG). BDRCS and IFRC field teams are engaged with camp administration authority and partners to continuously update Red Cross efforts in the coordination meetings organized by Camp in Charge Office. In Cox's Bazar, the Heads of Sub-Offices (HoSDs) of BDRCS and IFRC are continuously in touch with RRRC office and ISCG for progress sharing and cascading the key guidance to the wider teams working on the ground. This coordination mechanism is also helping us to allocate resources efficiently, avoiding duplication and collectively achieve the overall humanitarian imperatives.

At present, a regular coordination meeting is taking place at camp level that are being jointly organized by the Camp in Charge (CIC), IOM, BDRCS/IFRC, and other relevant agencies to related to the ongoing reconstruction efforts for midterm shelters in Camp 11.



Needs (Gaps) Identified



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

All protection related systems and existing referral pathway mechanisms that were disrupted during the fire incident have already been restored and are currently operational.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

According to the In-depth Needs Assessment report issued by IOM on 9 March 2023, during the initial phase of the emergency, a significant proportion of people, ranging from 40-70 per cent, lacked access to safe drinking water and functional latrines, particularly in Block D. Since access to water is one of the highest priority needs for the affected population, IOM, in collaboration with its WASH partners including BRAC, SHED, ACF, Shushillan, DSK, MSF, and BDRCS as one of the focal agencies responsible for water supply in Camp 11, immediately responded to and addressed these needs.



Health

According to the WHO Health Resources and Services Availability Monitoring System (HeRAMS) Report dated 8 March 2023, out of the six Health Service Delivery Units (HSDUs) in Camp 11, three facilities - one Health Post (HP) and two Primary Health Centers (PHCs) - were damaged by the fire incident. This directly affected access to health services for nearly 16,000 people within the three fire-affected blocks and a total of more than 32,000 people in the entire Camp 11. One of the damaged facilities was the BDRCS Primary Health Center (PHC), which was supported by the Swiss Red Cross. As part of the ISCG health sector's facility contingency plan, 19 facilities (13 HPs, 4 PHCs, 1 Secondary Health Facility, and 1 other facility) from neighboring camps were activated to complement in providing basic health care services. Currently, three health facilities (two HPs and one PHC) are functional, with one partially operational in Camp 11. One health post remains non-functional, while two facilities (one HP and one PHC) have been closed as a result of the health facility rationalization exercise conducted in 2022.



Shelter Housing And Settlements

According to the IOM's In-Depth Rapid Needs Assessment Report dated 9 March, a total of 2,805 shelters (2,664 fully damaged and 141 partially damaged) were directly affected by the fire incident in blocks A, B, and D, with 3,011 households (15,926 individuals) affected. Additionally, 5,274 individuals were displaced, 212 were injured, and fortunately, no casualties were reported in the incident. According to the same assessment report, shelter including basic non-food items, food, and torch lights were identified as the first priority needs of the affected population while water, storage and fuel for cooking and kitchen items came out as the second priorities. Most of these needs have been immediately addressed and already provided to all fire-affected households collectively



by the humanitarian community including BDRCS and IFRC through this IFRC-DREF in the immediate phase of the response. Currently, BDRCS/IFRC, in collaboration with IOM and other agencies, is in the process of reconstructing Mid-Term Shelters (MTS) for these fire-affected households, as part of the second phase of the fire response, which began in April. However, inclement weather conditions in Cox's Bazar, including Cyclone Mocha in May and occasional rain and windstorms associated with the monsoon season, have posed significant operational challenges in the response. These weather conditions have also resulted in damage to or loss of materials provided during the initial phase.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Since communication channels availability was already considered limited even before the fire incident occurred, and with some of the information hub facilities currently damaged, it is crucial to prioritize the restoration and enhancement of access to life-saving and practical information regarding the types of services available and where individuals can seek assistance. Simultaneously, ensuring community participation and giving access to hear their perceived needs, especially when determining the most appropriate assistance, will be crucial for ensuring that sectoral interventions provided in this emergency are both acceptable and appropriate to the affected people in specific assistance areas.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

As food has been identified as one of the top priority needs in the fire-affected areas, based on the in-depth needs assessment report released by IOM on 9 March 2023, the Food Security Sector (FSS) agencies, led by WFP, activated their 72-hour response plan. They focused their efforts on providing High Energy Biscuits (HEBs) and hot meals at their temporary food distribution center in Camp 11. To complement the assistance outlined in the FSS response plan, BDRCS also contributed by providing dry food packages. Currently, all fire-affected households, including the rest of the population in Camp 11, are receiving regular food provisions through the General Food Assistance Program led by the FSS.

Any identified gaps/limitations in the assessment

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The overall objective of this operation is to provide immediate needs such as in the shelter, WASH, Health, CEA and PGI sectors for the fire affected population through life-saving interventions and restoration of basic services in Camp 11, Kutupalong Refugee Camp in Cox's Bazar.



Operation strategy rationale

Following the operational strategy used for the fire response under this IFRC-DREF as reflected and highlighted during the IFRC-DREF application submitted, the major activities implementation is currently estimated at 90 per cent. The remaining activities are particularly related to the National Society Strengthening efforts, such as the lessons learnt and the development of communication materials are currently ongoing, with the confidence that both activities will be completed by the by the end of September.

The following are some of the key interventions and progress to date:

- a. Provision of Emergency Shelter Kits:
 - 2,562HH out of target 3,000HH reached (85%); the remaining have been covered by augmenting agencies.
- b. Provision of Essential Household Items:
 - 2,872HH out of target 3,000HH reached (96%); the remaining have been supported by augmenting agencies.
- c. Provision of Dry Food Packages:
 - 1,994 HH out of 3,000HH reached (67%); this is a complementary support of BDRCS/IFRC to the Food Security Sector (FSS) where the remaining were covered by WFP and their partner agencies.
- d. First Aid, PFA, and health education sessions:
 - 1,188 individuals out of 1,000 target reached (119%) through the established mobile health station adjacent to the fire affected PHC facility of BDRCS.
- e. Water networks construction/rehabilitation:
 - Both (2) water networks installed (100%) and already operational reaching 10,000 individuals benefitting from the rehabilitated units.
- f. Hygiene promotion:
 - 2,581HH out of 2,000 target reached (129%)
- g. Complaint and feedback boxes:
 - Both (2) boxes installed (100%)

Additionally, part of strategy significantly accomplished by BDRCS and IFRC through this IFRC-DREF Fire response, is the Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis, which paved the way for the development of BDRCS' Child Safeguarding Action Plan.

Additional Strategy Proposed:

As there are additional activities proposed and put forward by BDRCS and IFRC, which are related to the provision of shelter and household items, their justification and explanation have been detailed in the previous section of this Operational Update. Since the proposed activity is considered urgent and requires immediate action, the response to this need was initiated in June and is currently ongoing. Meanwhile, the procurement of the necessary items is still in progress, and the approval to have these expenses covered under this IFRC-DREF Fire Response has been initiated. To address this immediate need, BDRCS has utilized its existing contingency stocks. The quantity and items provided will be replenished accordingly. It's important to note that this additional provision does not aim to increase the number of beneficiary households but rather targets those within the original households by replacing items that were previously provided but have since been found missing, damaged, or lost.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

The activities proposed in this IFRC-DREF application aims to meet the needs of up to 3,000 families and 15,000 individuals who are affected by the fire incident in Camp 11.

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

Families or households whose shelters have been damaged both fully and partially that are identified and validated through joint needs assessment.



For the additional operational strategy proposed, the targeted households to be reached will be the same households affected by the fire incident but whose shelter materials and/or household items have been found missing and/or damaged during the household validation and not yet supported by BDRCS from its other funding sources (Mocha DREF, regular program, etc.) or other external agencies.

Total Targeted Population

Women:	4,360	Rural %	Urban %
Girls (under 18):	3,640		
Men:	3,660	People with disabilities (estimated %)	
Boys (under 18):	3,340	12.00 %	
Total targeted population:	15,000		

Risk and security considerations

Please indicate about potential operational risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk	Mitigation action
Threats and Mitigation measures identified in the SRR for camps.	IFRC Sub-Delegation to ensure fire incident awareness and preparedness among staff and volunteers are at acceptable level.
Potential occurrence of natural hazards affecting the camp settlements	Ensuring available alert and early warning system in place and continuous response readiness capacity enhancement
Internal security situation in camps is unpredictable	Adherence to UNDSS alerts and existing IFRC Security protocols.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

As the fire affected camp is situated in an area that is fully occupied by the displaced people from Rakhine where no host Bangladeshis co-exist, the potential risk for increasing social tension between the host and camp communities that may be associated to the possible disproportion of allocation of support by humanitarian community related to the fire response may not be significant compared to the other camps. However, BDRCS in all activities have strongly considered this in the development and planning of any operational planning within the camps they operate in, including Camp 11.



Planned Intervention

	Health	Budget	CHF 0
		Targeted Persons	1045
Indicators	Target	Actual	
# of community health volunteer mobilized as first aider	15	18	
# of people reached through first aid, psychological first aid, and health education sessions	1000	1188	
# of staff and volunteers participated in the MHPSS activities	30	34	
Progress Towards Outcome			
BDRCS/IFRC mobilized a team of at least 18 community health volunteers trained in CBHFA in Camp 11. They provided immediate assistance, including first aid management for wounds and lacerations, patient transport and referral, and support for relocating individuals to safe spaces, especially during the fire incident. As the BDRCS health facility sustained significant damage in the fire, BDRCS, with the support of IFRC, Swiss Red Cross, and Japanese Red Cross, established a mobile health unit near the facility to restore essential health services. These services included medical management of burns, fractures, minor injuries, Ante-Natal Care (ANC), and psychological first aid. In total, 1,188 individuals were reached, exceeding the target by 119 per cent. In total, 34 health personnel, including BDRCS/IFRC staff, doctors, nurses, and trained health volunteers, were deployed and mobilized. Regarding the procurement of 10 First Aid kits, as recommended by BDRCS due to the availability of an existing RCRC partner in health supporting a similar activity, the procurement plan has been canceled. However, this cancellation did not significantly impact the overall implementation, as it was initially intended for replenishment purposes only.			

	Shelter Housing And Settlements	Budget	CHF 298,036
		Targeted Persons	15000
Indicators	Target	Actual	
# of households received emergency shelter kits	3000	2562	
# of households provided with household items that support the restoration and maintenance of health, dignity and safety	3000	2872	

and the undertaking of daily domestic activities in and around the home		
# of households provided with technical support on shelter	3000	2562

Progress Towards Outcome

For the provision of Emergency Shelter Kits (tarpaulin and bamboos), BDRCS/IFRC has assisted a total of 2,562 households out of the 3,000 target households (85%) through the IFRC-DREF. The remaining were covered by other agencies that augmented during the initial phase of the fire response.

Regarding the provision of Essential Household Items (blankets, mosquito nets, and plastic mats), BDRCS/IFRC has assisted 2,872 out of the 3,000 target households (96%) through the IFRC-DREF. The remaining have been covered by other agencies.

As part of a comprehensive approach, BDRCS/IFRC also provided technical support on how to properly install the emergency shelters to those who received the emergency shelter kits, benefiting a total of 2,562 households (85%).

However, due to certain circumstances experienced during the implementation period, additional activities have been proposed to replace items previously provided but found damaged and/or lost during the validation process:

- Distribution of Ropes (3mm and 6mm)
- Distribution of Bamboos (Muli and Borak)
- Distribution of Essential Household Items (blankets, plastic mats, mosquito nets)

	Community Engagement And Accountability	Budget	CHF 0
		Targeted Persons	2000
Indicators	Target	Actual	
# of community volunteers and staff mobilized on CEA Activities	10	10	
# of complaint and feedback boxes installed	2	2	

Progress Towards Outcome

As Camp 11 is one of the BDRCS priority camps with an established information hub/center situated inside the BDRCS distribution center where most of the shelter/NFI related distribution activities related to both fire response and the regular programming services took place, this has paved way to enabling the operation to provide access to communities especially those that were intended to be supported by this fire response to capture information/ feedback/ concerns. Additionally, in order to have more comprehensive platform in the camp, based on its protocol, BDRCS also established two help desks with feedback boxes within the fire affected blocks especially during the initial phase of the response in order to provided extended access to sharing information, concerns and/or complaints and at the same time for BDRCS to immediately take action through validating and/or verifying and provide feedbacks and responses to information being received.

	Protection, Gender And Inclusion	Budget		CHF 0
		Targeted Persons		2000
Indicators		Target	Actual	
# of volunteers and staff mobilized on PGI related activities		10	10	
# of people reached with basic PGI services		2000	1652	
Progress Towards Outcome				
BDRCS/IFRC have mobilized at least 10 trained volunteers both from the BDRCS unit and at camp level and was able to assist at least 1,652 individuals in providing PGI related services within the RCRC interventions during distribution activities and conduct of assessments within the fire affected blocks. Also, BDRCS/IFRC successfully conducted the child safeguarding risk analysis which led to the development of the BDRCS Child safeguarding risk action Plan have been carried out and completed. However, cost of mobilization of volunteers have been covered by BDRCS' existing quick response fund.				

	Secretariat Services	Budget		CHF 43,355
		Targeted Persons		0
Indicators		Target	Actual	
% of financial reporting respecting IFRC procedures		100		
Progress Towards Outcome				
Activities related to this section are still ongoing as of this report updating period.				

	National Society Strengthening	Budget		CHF 4,500
		Targeted Persons		40
Indicators		Target		Actual
# of workshop organized to capture best practices and lessons learnt		1		
		3		

# of communication materials (Videos, stories, etc.) produced		
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Progress Towards Outcome

A series of activities related to the lessons learned process is currently underway. The results will be presented through a workshop, and communication materials are also being developed concurrently. The workshop is planned to be organized in the first week of September.

	Water, Sanitation And Hygiene	Budget		CHF 102,397
		Targeted Persons		10000
Indicators		Target	Actual	
# of water sources constructed or rehabilitated (wells with pumps, spring protection, community ponds with filtration)		2	2	
# of people who have been supplied by RCRC with an improved protected source of drinking water (according to WHO and Sphere standards)		10000	12905	
# of households reached by hygiene promotion activities in the response period		2000	2581	

Progress Towards Outcome

After completing a series of procurement processes for all materials required to restore the water supply networks, two water supply networks, representing 100 per cent of target plan, have already been installed and are operational in Camp 11.

During the initial phase of the fire response, the BDRCS, through its WASH team, immediately installed 26 water distribution points, comprising 16 temporary water points and 10 repaired brick-structured water points, in identified sub-blocks. This provided temporary access to safe water supply for at least 2,581 camp households, or 12,905 individuals, surpassing target by 129 per cent. Meanwhile, the two water networks were set to be restored.

In addition to the hardware support provided, hygiene promotion sessions have been conducted. Trained WASH volunteers have been deployed at all water points, as well as at the household level, as part of preventive measures to reduce the risk of water-borne disease outbreaks resulting from the secondary impact of disasters or emergencies. These hygiene promotion sessions reached a total of 2,581 households, exceeding target by 129 per cent.

	Livelihoods And Basic Needs	Budget	CHF 5,179
		Targeted Persons	15000
Indicators		Target	Actual

# of households provided with dry food packages	3000	1994
Progress Towards Outcome		
In close coordination with the Food Security Sector (FSS), BDRCS/IFRC was able to augment in the provision of emergency food assistance through the distribution of dry food packages to 1,994 households in Camp11. This is 67 per cent achieved from the 3,000 target beneficiaries, while the remainder have been covered by the FSS partner agencies present in Camp 11.		



About Support Services

How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

Camp 11 is one of the priority camps of BDRCS and IFRC, being the shelter lead focal agency and recognized as one of the lead agencies in providing water supply for the past 4 years. In consideration of the existing coordination mechanism in the camp settlement among humanitarian sectors and local authority, as well as the acknowledgment and acceptance of these stakeholders with the existing representatives of BDRCS and IFRC, it is crucial and significantly more efficient for the activities proposed in this DREF have been implemented and managed by the existing BDRCS and IFRC staff.

Although this particular emergency has put an additional workload on the existing staff, it has never become a challenge for PMO to deliver both the activities planned to be carried out in this DREF and the regular programming as the operational strategy was made in a manner that the responsibilities assigned to particular staff were aligned with their overall sectoral duties where BDRCS and IFRC have fully allocated the Shelter, WASH and supporting personnel including the wide array of volunteers of BDRCS (RCY and camp based volunteers) and have been dedicated to deliver the expected outcomes set forth in this DREF especially for Shelter and WASH interventions which are considered the biggest components of the plan.

And through this approach and factoring in the good coordination established and maintained with its external stakeholders, it has significantly helped in completing the activities related to distribution and assessment ahead of its originally planned timelines.

Will surge personnel be deployed? Please provide the role profile needed.

This operation will be managed through its existing human resources.

If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?

The procurement plan made for this response were as follows:

- a) The procurement of shelter/NFI items such as tarpaulins and blankets for replenishment of PMO's contingency stocks were made through the IFRC Regional logistics Framework Agreement.
- b.) The procurement of mosquito nets and plastic mats for replenishment of PMO's contingency stocks were made through local procurement process due to customs clearance related considerations. As the specifications required for these materials that it should be treated, it has undergone laboratory testing procedure as additional layer of process before a technical evaluation was made.
- c.) The procurement of bamboos for replenishment of PMO's contingency stocks was made through local procurement as per IFRC's original procurement process.
- d.) The items related to the installation of two units water supply networks such as solar panel, wash pipes and networks, etc., was processed through IFRC procurement procedures.
- e.) The procurement of dry food packages was made through BDRCS procurement procedures with close coordination with IFRC Bangladesh Delegation to ensure alignment with standards.

How will this operation be monitored?

Periodic coordination meetings among sectors of BDRCS/IFRC have been regularly organized to ensure collective alignment of status of progress of implementation and at the same time, share the respective operational challenges (both existing and new) and jointly develop recommendations in overcoming resolutions. Additionally, periodic meeting with BDRCS and IFRC Senior Management were regularly taking place for updating and further strategic guidance and advice.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation.

Sectoral coordination and communication have been aligned with the ISCG. BDRCS through the support of IFRC communications shall manage media and external relationships including organizational branding and promotional aspects.



Contact Information

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

- **National Society contact:** Kazi Shofiquel Azam, BDRCS Secretary General, secretarygeneral@bdracs.org, -
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