



BANGLADESH

IFRC network mid-year report, January – June 2023

24 November 2023

IN SUPPORT OF THE BANGLADESH RED CRESCENT SOCIETY



68

National Society branches



2,934

National Society staff



122,617

National Society volunteers

PEOPLE REACHED

Ongoing emergency operations



196,539

Climate and environment



189,180

Disasters and crises



53,066

Health and wellbeing



136,820

Values, power and inclusion



345

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

in Swiss francs (CHF)

Total	Funding requirements	122.5M
	Income	20.2M
IFRC	Emergency Operations	
	Funding requirements	32.7M
	Income	21.5M
	Longer-term	
	Funding requirements	23.3M
	Income	6.6M
Participating National Societies	Funding requirements	13.0M
	Income	4.5M
Host National Society other funding sources	Funding requirements	53.4M

[Click here for more IFRC financial information](#)

Appeal number **MAABD001, MDRBD028, MDRBD018**

ONGOING EMERGENCY INDICATORS

MDRBD028 / Bangladesh / Flash Flood

People who successfully received cash for basic needs after being identified and processed for transfer.	18,000
People (and households) reached by hygiene promotion activities in the response period	5,000
People provided with cash	5,000
People reached by climate-resilient livelihoods in # countries	3,000
RECF. Number of people who attended training / awareness raising sessions on safe shelter (recovery).	1,000
Number of trees planted	7,000
Number of constructed household sanitation facilities	1,000
Number of houses / shelters constructed which incorporate adaptations based on the specific needs of the users linked to impairments	1,000
Number of complaints received through feedback mechanisms [from PGI&Safeguarding]	134
Number of IFRC monitoring and support missions	15
Number of communities that have formed community committees with the support of NSs, representing community people from all walks of life and working with specific roles related to disaster preparedness and risk reduction	3
IFRC engages in inter-agency coordination during operation	3
People have access to a feedback and complaints mechanism	Yes
Sustainable construction elements are included in design of shelter activities	5,000

People covered by formal disaster preparedness and anticipatory action plans	178,000
People reached with epidemic preparedness, and health literacy information at community level	137,000
People reached by National Societies with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	96,000
People (and households) reached by hygiene promotion activities in the response period	49,000
People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	35,000
People provided with access to safely managed sanitation services or to improved sanitation facilities (according to context)	19,000
Number of community feedback reports produced	34,000
Number of volunteers involved in the response operation that have increased their skills in response and management of operations	767
Volunteers trained as Red Cross or Red Crescent WASH (community health) Volunteers	178
National Society has active coordination mechanism for operations (i.e. EOC, situation room)	Yes
National Society has adapted or developed its business continuity plan (BCP) considering a multi-hazard approach	Yes

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Climate	People reached with activities to address rising climate risks	189,000
	People reached with heatwave risk reduction, preparedness or response	160,000
	People reached with activities to address environmental problems	Applicable data not available
	National Society is implementing nature-based solutions (including those with a particular focus on the planting of trees and mangroves)	Applicable data not available
Disasters and crises	People reached per year with support services, in-kind, cash and voucher assistance for emergency response and recovery	53,000
	People reached with shelter support	5,000
	People reached with disaster risk reduction	5,000
	People reached with livelihoods support	3,000
Health and wellbeing	People reached with contextually appropriate health services	137,000
	People reached with contextually appropriate water, sanitation and hygiene services	73,000
	People reached with immunization services	37,000
	People donating blood	35,000
	People trained in first aid	2,000
	People reached with psychosocial and mental health services	44
Values, power and inclusion	People reached by protection, gender and inclusion programming	345
	Community Engagement and Accountability is integrated and institutionalized in the National Society policies, operations, and procedures (with clear benchmarks)	Yes

ENABLING FUNCTIONS

Strategic and operational coordination

Number of formal interagency/international coordination platforms the IFRC network is part of 34

Number of government led coordination platforms the National Society is part of 19

National Society Development

One National Society Development plan is in place Yes

Strategy for strengthening the auxiliary role developed or implemented Applicable data not available

Youth engagement strategy is developed or in place Yes

Accountability and agility

National Society has functioning data management systems that inform decision making and support monitoring and reporting on the impact and evidence of the IFRC network's contributions Yes

PSEA Action Plan is in place to enforce prevention and support survivors Applicable data not available

PSEA policy is in place to enforce prevention and support survivors Applicable data not available

IFRC NETWORK SUPPORTED ACTIVITIES

National Society	Multilateral Support	Bilateral Support					
		Climate	Migration and displacement	Values, power and inclusion	Enabling Functions	Disasters and crises	Health and wellbeing
American Red Cross	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Australian Red Cross	●						
British Red Cross	●	●		●	●	●	●
Canadian Red Cross Society	●			●	●		●
Danish Red Cross		●	●		●	●	●
Finnish Red Cross	●						
German Red Cross		●	●	●	●	●	●
Japanese Red Cross Society	●				●		●
Korean Red Cross	●						
Kuwait Red Crescent Society	●						
Netherlands Red Cross	●						
Qatar Red Crescent Society				●		●	●
Red Cross of Monaco	●						
Red Cross Society of China	●						
Swedish Red Cross	●						●
Swiss Red Cross	●	●		●	●	●	●
Turkish Red Crescent Society		●		●	●		●

Planned
 Supported

OVERALL PROGRESS

Between January and June 2023, as the country was still addressing the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, Bangladesh faced a series of extreme weather events, which resulted in a complex humanitarian situation. The country's geographical location, low-lying coastal areas and dense population have made it one of the most vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change. Extreme weather events such as cyclones, heatwaves, flash floods and lightning have led to loss of life, displacement and property damage. The government, **Bangladesh Red Crescent Society**, the IFRC network and other agencies have focused on improving disaster preparedness, early warning systems and emergency response to mitigate these impacts.

Bangladesh continues to host 961,729 displaced people from Rakhine state of Myanmar in 33 camps in Cox's Bazar 52 per cent of the population are children. As part of the government's relocation plan, 30,282 people from Cox's Bazar camp were relocated to Bhashan Char by 30 June 2023. Beginning of 2023, Bangladesh experienced a cold wave, with the probability of heat waves recurring 30 times. On 16 April 2023, Dhaka saw the temperature reach 40.6 degrees Celsius, the highest in the city in 58 years. The country also experienced a depreciation of the Bangladeshi currency, increasing fuel import costs and power utility costs. Road traffic accidents were a major concern, with [516 deaths and 812 injuries in 559 road accidents](#) in June.

In [March and May](#), 66 people died and eight were injured by lightning strikes, incidents of fire and explosion, including the devastating Gulshan fire, Sitakunda oxygen plant explosion (six people died), Kutupalong campfire (2,000 shelters of displaced people destroyed), Gulistan explosion (18 people were killed) and Dhaka Bangabazar fire (thousands of fabric stores were destroyed). Cyclone Mocha made landfall on 14 May 2023, causing significant damage to the country. A [DREF](#) funded operation was launched by Bangladesh Red Crescent and IFRC to assist 30,000 people.

Key achievements

The Integrated Flood Resilience Programme: Phase 2 (IFRP: Phase 2) in Tangail conducted 120 courtyard sessions on climate change, disaster risk reduction (DRR), flood vulnerability, community resilience, health and COVID-19 issues, involving 4,659 community members (1,247 males and 3,412 females).

An advocacy session was held by Bangladesh Red Crescent Society at the national headquarters in March 2023 under the road safety programme involving 20 participants from government and humanitarian organizations (16 male and four female). The focus was on affordable improvements to school surroundings and raising road safety awareness.

Under the Country Support Platform initiative, the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) and International Centre for Diarrhoeal Research Bangladesh conducted an oral cholera vaccine campaign on Bhashan Char Island, vaccinating 28,522 displaced individuals from Myanmar, achieving 96 per cent coverage. Additionally, a second dose covered 86 per cent of those receiving the first dose.

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society implemented a community-based health programme within the catchment areas of the 56 mother and children health centres to provide comprehensive health care. A total of 23,252 people were reached by health promotion sessions during this reporting period.

Within the scope of the flood response emergency operation, 15 persons with disabilities were provided with 16 tailor-made assistive devices. Additionally, among the targeted families, 20 persons with disabilities received supplementary financial support of BDT 5,000 (approximately CHF 43).

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society completed the IFRC's Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment (BOCA) for its all 68 branches, with the financial support provided by IFRC, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), American Red Cross, British Red Cross and Danish Red Cross. Technical support was provided by the IFRC. The findings will help in the upcoming mid-term review of the National Society's Strategic Plan 2021-2025.

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society is part of the Pilot Programmatic Partnership (PPP) between the IFRC and the European Commission's Directorate General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO). It is supported by the German Red Cross, as the lead EU National Society, in consortium with the Danish Red Cross and the IFRC Bangladesh Country Office.

Critically, the PPP has built on and been aligned with the National Society's overall strategy and action for the coming years. The PPP support has allowed for proactive interventions rather than reactive response to hazards and provided for an integrated and harmonized approach to interventions.

IFRC NETWORK ACTION

ONGOING EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Emergency 1

Name	Bangladesh Flood 2022
Appeal number	MDR43008
Duration	From 25 May 2022 to 30 June 2023
Funding requirements	Through IFRC Appeal: 7.5 million Swiss francs Federation-wide: 8.5 million Swiss francs
Emergency Appeal	Bangladesh Flood Emergency Appeal
Operational Strategy	Bangladesh Flood Operational strategy

Emergency 2

Name	Bangladesh - Population Movement
Appeal number	MDRBD018
Duration	From 18 March 2017 – 31 December 2024
Funding requirements	Through IFRC Appeal: 133 million Swiss francs (2017-2024) Federation-wide: 91.5 million Swiss francs (2022-2024)
Emergency Appeal	Bangladesh-Population Movement
Operational Strategy	Bangladesh Population Movement Operational Strategy
Last operation update	Bangladesh Population Movement Operations Update No 18

Emergency Operation 1: Bangladesh Flood 2022



Shelter, Housing and Settlements

Objective *Communities in disaster and crisis affected areas restore and strengthen their safety, wellbeing and longer-term recovery through shelter and settlement solutions*

The Bangladesh Flood 2022 operation provided shelter support to 1,200 households in Sunamganj and Sylhet districts during this reporting period. Each household received 30 pieces of corrugated galvanized iron sheets and cash assistance in the amount of BDT 20,000 (approximately CHF 171) to repair their houses. The National Society team provided technical assistance, guiding families on flood resilient house construction. The community development committee and Bangladesh Red Crescent Society volunteers monitored progress at the community level, ensuring the community's safety and resilience.



Livelihoods

Objective *Communities, especially in disaster and crisis affected areas, restore and strengthen their livelihoods*

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society provided conditional cash support to 619 households, each receiving cash assistance in the amount of BDT 25,000 (approximately CHF 214) through Bangladesh Post Office. The cash was used by recipients to rebuild their livelihoods, with trained volunteers guiding them through livelihood proposals. The National Society also organized a three-day livelihood training programme for Red Crescent Youth volunteers. Additionally, the National Society distributed vegetable seeds to targeted households in order to address both their nutritional needs and facilitate sustainable income generation.



Multi-purpose Cash

Objective *Households are provided with unconditional/multipurpose cash grants to address their basic needs*

During the reporting period, 4,600 of the most vulnerable households (18,266 persons) in six flood-affected districts of north-east Bangladesh received cash assistance in the amount of BDT 4,500 (approximately CHF 39) to meet their basic needs.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Objective *Immediate reduction in risk of waterborne and water related diseases in targeted communities by providing access to safe drinking water, sanitation and hygiene promotion*

1,200 households received water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) support in Sunamganj and Sylhet including corrugated galvanized iron and cash assistance in the amount of BDT 10,000 (approximately CHF 85) for hygiene latrine construction. Following the identification of key characteristics in consultation with the community, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society developed information education and communication (IEC) materials and conducted hygiene sessions. The National Society also installed ten new tube-well based on the community led approach.

A specialized training on Hygiene Promotion in Emergency (HPiE) and Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) was conducted, where 30 Red Crescent Youths from Moulavibazar, Sunamganj and Sylhet and districts joined. The trained volunteers were deployed under the flood recovery operation to conduct a hygiene promotion session and monitor other WASH activities with possible future deployment for any upcoming crisis.



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

Objective *Communities identify the needs of the most at risk and particularly disadvantaged and marginalized groups, due to inequality, discrimination and other non-respect of their human rights and address their distinct needs*

15 persons with disabilities were provided with 16 tailor-made assistive devices. Additionally, 20 households with persons with disabilities received supplementary financial support in the amount of BDT 5,000 (approximately CHF 43) to allow them to address their additional needs.



Community Engagement and Accountability

Objective *To ensure meaningful community participation during needs assessment, planning design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. Systems will be put in place to ensure that communities are well informed about operations at all stages through trusted channels and their preferred formats. A feedback mechanism will be established and well publicized so that communities can provide input and drive the operation. Community feedback will be used to better understand community perspectives, to answer feedback and to act on it.*

Throughout the flood operation, targeted communities and households were consulted and their feedback and complaints were solicited through the use of the community engagement and accountability (CEA) mechanism by using hotline number and feedback box. The National Society received 134 calls through hotline number and among them 132 issues were addressed. In addition, 40 staff and volunteers received CEA training and orientation which strengthened their capacity to actively contribute to the operation.

Emergency Operation 2: : Bangladesh Population Movement Operation in Cox's Bazar

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society's population movement operation started in Cox's Bazar in 2017 followed by the influx of approximately 750,000 people from Rakhine state of Myanmar to Cox's Bazar. Currently, the operation is staffed by 285 individuals, while the National Society's Cox's Bazar unit has been supporting the operation from the beginning of the crisis, particularly through its deployment of 700 Red Crescent Youth volunteers through a rotation process. The National Society's headquarters in Dhaka has been providing oversight support and has also deployed staff and resources during this operation.

From January to June 2023, through the dissemination of key preparedness information and supporting the Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP), the National Society with support from the IFRC and American Red Cross, reached around 178,273 directly through the population movement operation, while one million people were reached indirectly across 33 camps and the host communities through institutionalising disaster risk management (DRM) governance in the camps and strengthening DRM in host communities.

In reference to individual-level direct programmatic comprising DRM, health and care; WASH; shelter, basic needs; and protection, gender and inclusion (PGI), approximately 313,224 people in the camp community and 135,156 people in the host community were reached. While IFRC support for the population movement operation continues, the operation (supported by the IFRC and nine in-country participating National Societies) has reached around 550,000 people including 140,000 in five sub-districts level host communities during this period. Alongside IFRC, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society has been bilaterally supported by the British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, German Red Cross,

Japanese Red Cross Society, Qatar Red Crescent, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross, (GRC), and Turkish Red Crescent Society, to implement the operation for the host communities.

SECTORS OF INTERVENTION

Overall achievement of the Bangladesh population movement operations

Between January and June 2023, a total of 315,093 people in eight priority camps (11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18 and 19) and five host communities (Cox's Bazar Sadar, Kutubdia, Ramu, Teknaf and Ukhiya and) were directly reached through health, WASH and shelter interventions.

- 10,095 people were provided with mid-term shelters and site development works in camps while 24 vulnerable households in the host communities received durable shelters.
- 30,460 people of 6,092 households in host communities received conditional cash grants for planned income generation and unconditional cash grants to support students' education.
- 136,820 people received healthcare services and key health messages in camps and host communities.
- 96,014 people in camps and host communities were provided with recurrent water supplies, solid waste management, faecal sludge management services and hygiene promotion with kits distribution.
- 34,800 camp people were provided with protection awareness at centres and at household levels, skills training, recreational activities, protection referral to case management actors and disability inclusion support with provision of assistive devices.
- PGI mainstreaming checklist has been contextualized through sector consultation.
- 33,538 people in camps and host communities were reached during this reporting period being engaged in feedback or complaint sharing strategies.
- 178,273 people were directly supported through disaster preparedness and response capacities in collaboration with CPP jointly by Government of Bangladesh, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, International Organization for Migration (IOM) and camp authorities



Shelter, Housing and Settlements

Objective *The safety and well-being of the camp and host communities are strengthened through shelter and settlement solutions*

10,095 people in camp and host communities were reached between January and June 2023 through various shelter interventions provided by the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society with the support of the IFRC. The interventions included construction of 1,000 mid-term shelters with site development works, construction and renovation support of community structures (i.e., distribution centre, meeting place) covering 2,458 households. Nineteen households in host communities were provided with durable shelters and necessary site development works. Twenty-four households in host communities were provided with durable shelters.



Livelihoods

Objective *The livelihoods of communities are restored and strengthened*

30,460 people from 6,092 households in the host community of Cox's Bazar were reached during the reporting period, with conditional cash grants in the amount of BDT 30,000 (approximately CHF 270) as a major intervention,

while 4,575 households (22,875 people) including households of 1,150 students in Ukhiya host community received unconditional cash grant in the amount of BDT 4,500 (approximately CHF 45). In addition, 767 individuals from camps (683) and host (84) communities were deployed as volunteers with cash for work basis.



Health & Care

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

136,820 people (73,859 in camps and 62,961 in host communities) were reached through three health facilities comprising field hospital operation in camp 7, mother and child health care centre service in Teknaf host community, and primary healthcare centre in Ukhiya host community, as well as the community-based health and first aid (CBHFA) outreach activities.



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

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

96,014 people (including 32,321 new beneficiaries) in camps (11, 13, 18 and 19: 79,110 people) and host community (Ukhiya: 16,904) were supported during the reporting period with recurrent operation of eight water networks, 11 solid waste management plants, repair of latrines and bathing cubicles and hygiene promotion with the distribution of kits.

15,875 people have been provided with faecal sludge management and solid waste management services.

49,225 people in camps and host community reached with the awareness messages on proper hygiene practice through participating in hygiene promotion sessions, receiving full and top-up hygiene kits (kits for camps only).



Protection, Gender and Inclusion

Objective *Vulnerable and marginalised individuals and groups are supported and empowered*

23,015 people including 786 persons with disabilities in camps were reached through different PGI essential services. 2,882 people reached through household visits for PGI awareness, protection referral and assistive device service while other people participated in the centre-based activities on a regular basis.



Community Engagement and Accountability

Objective *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.*

33,538 people in camps and host communities were reached during this reporting period through community consultation, household visits, campaign and other forms of feedback collection and information sharing. In this effort, 27 feedback collection points were functional that utilized seven channels of feedback collection and key information sharing, including radio listening programme, community consultation, hotline, and household visits.



Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery

Objective *The disaster readiness and resilience of communities are strengthened*

178,273 people in 33 camps and host communities were reached between January to June 2023. They were provided with disaster preparedness orientation for strengthening of disaster governance in camps and host communities, sharing key messages and awareness, fire safety awareness campaign, small scale mitigation at affected household level, fire incident and Cyclone Mo-cha response and capacity enhancement.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



Climate and environment

Communities and Red Cross and Red Crescent staff and volunteers undertake urgent action to adapt to the rising and evolving risks from the climate and environmental crises

Integrated Flood Resilience Programme: Phase Two (IFRP: Phase 2)

A total of 177 participants (93 males and 84 females) attended different community-led meetings/sessions and enhanced their capacities to respond to climate-induced vulnerabilities and disasters. 120 courtyard sessions on issues related to climate change, disaster risk reduction, flood vulnerability, community resilience, health and COVID-19 were arranged where a total of 4,659 community members, (1,247 male and 3,412 female) joined. 132 school sessions were arranged to raise awareness among the students on community resilience, disaster management and climate change issues (3,748 total – 1,508 boys and 2,240 girls).

Road safety In Bangladesh

The programme orientation/launching event for ten headmasters/principals of the project schools was organized in February 2023 at the National Society's headquarters.

An advocacy session was organized in March 2023 at the National Society's headquarters. The main focus of the session was on ways to implement effective low-cost solutions to improve the safety of roads leading to schools and to raise awareness among school students, teachers, guardians, public about the role that the government play in ensuring road safety. A total of 20 officials (16 male and four female) from 11 humanitarian organizations and the government attended the session.

In March, two first aid trainings were organized in two schools where a total of 70 participants (52 male and 18 female) received the training which include ten teachers and 60 students.

During the two Eid festivals in the reporting period, 61 (31 male and 30 female) in April and 51 (31 male and 20 female) Red Crescent Youth volunteers in June were deployed to assist traffic police in reducing road congestion. The volunteers assisted bus station, rail station and launch terminal authorities in crowd control, providing first aid services and necessary support to the persons with disabilities in Dhaka. The volunteers also assisted pedestrians, kids, women, older persons, adults and persons with disabilities, in crossing roads and securely boarding buses, trains and created an awareness campaign on road safety targeted towards these specific groups.

During the month of Ramadan, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society collaborated with the government and a number of other organizations in an awareness campaign targeting pedestrians, with a particular focus on children, women, adults, and persons with disabilities. Eighteen Red Crescent Youth volunteers (14 male and four female) joined the campaign.

A talk show on “Road safety in Bangladesh, going home safely by road during Eid vacation time” was arranged in April on one of the TV channels. The National Society’s Secretary General and its Director of Youth and Volunteers, Chairman and Country Manager, Global Health Advocacy Incubator as well as former secretary of the Government of Bangladesh joined the talk show.

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society conducted seven stakeholder engagement sessions with students, teachers and guardians in the selected schools on the issue of road safety education, traffic rules and PGI. A total of 265 participants- students (210), teachers (35) and guardians (20) of whom 145 was male and 120 was female took part in those sessions. Quizzes and awards were given out to students at the end of the sessions.

Some supporting materials, such as raincoats, umbrellas and road safety information-related placards, were procured and distributed to the selected ten schools for school Red Crescent Youth leaders to assist other students during road crossing.

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society organized an advocacy meeting in June, with the Board of Education at Dhaka. The topic was mainly on the road safety education for students and implementation of VIA, a program that comprises detailed instruction manuals, digital and paper-based tools, instructional videos, and educational games—everything that is required to quickly and effectively implement a structured educational project designed to help make children safer on the road - manual at schools. The Chairman of Education Board and the Secretary of Education Board were present at that meeting.

Anticipatory actions

In the reporting period more than 50 of the National Society’s staff, National Disaster Response Team (NDRT)/ National Disaster WASH Response Team (NDWRT) members, Red Crescent Youth volunteers and branch executive committee members received training on anticipatory action, cyclone early action protocols and impact-based forecasting.

In the recent MOCHA cyclone operation, a massive collaborative effort was undertaken by the National Society in engaging over 600 dedicated staff and 8,700 volunteers, including both camp volunteers in Cox’s Bazar and community volunteers at Bhashan Char. Additionally, the involvement of more than 76,000 CPP volunteers proved pivotal role in providing substantial aid to the affected population. This comprehensive endeavour encompassed multifaceted actions, including the dissemination of crucial early warning messages and life-saving information, facilitating evacuations to shelters and distributing essential supplies such as water and dry food packs. The National Society maintained a seamless coordination with the IFRC and its in-country membership, as well as establishing strong connections with both national and local governmental bodies and other humanitarian agencies. The collaboration extended to proactive measures such as aiding local authorities in the preparation of cyclone shelters, including the set-up of 53 shelters at Bhashan Char. Also, 2,757 camp volunteers in Cox’s Bazar received further training on early warning and anticipatory action.

IFRC Secretariat and National Societies adopt environmentally sustainable practices and contribute to climate change mitigation

Under IFRP Phase2: 91 people (36 males and 55 females) received cash grants for climate-resilient sustainable livelihood options, including cattle (goat and sheep) rearing, agriculture, grass and fodder cultivation, and technical support, with a view to enhancing their income and reducing their climate vulnerability and resilience to disasters and floods. Fifty people (28 males and 22 females) received skill development training on cattle rearing, agriculture and technical issues. In addition, four mobile health camps were organized where 145 people (34 males and 111 females) received basic consultations and medication from the district-level specialist doctors.

Government officials from the district hired to conduct eight consultation sessions on agriculture and livelihoods at four IFRP Phase 2 supported communities in Tangail to increase community members’ knowledge of better production and income generating activities. A total of 251 people (102 males and 149 females) attended the consultation sessions on agriculture and livelihoods.

Eight consultation sessions on nutrition, maternal and child health were arranged at the community level where 256 people received advice by the experts on mother and childhood care as well as women's reproductive health issues.

The IFRC collaborated with the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) to organize the National Disaster Preparedness Day.



Disasters and crises

Communities take action to increase their resilience to evolving and multiple shocks and hazards environmental crises

One local community road was repaired and one schoolground was raised to prevent flood vulnerability under the small-scale mitigation initiative in Tangail supported by IFRP Phase 2. The community members benefited from the mitigation works, their vulnerability during the flood period will be reduced and their household resources will be saved.

With support from the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)'s [Pilot Programmatic Partnership \(PPP\)](#), the Bangladesh Red Crescent is working in 12 wards to raise awareness on risk and preparedness for disasters, including fire, earthquakes, floods, cyclones, storm surges, heatwaves, cold waves, drought and landslides.

Policy and media advocacy at central and district level on climate change adaptation, DRR and community resilience

A 'Lesson Learnt/Sharing of Best Practice Workshop' was arranged in Tangail to share the success, achievements and learning of the IFRP Phase 2 with relevant stakeholders, where a total of 58 participants (49 males and nine females) attended. The workshop played a good role from a policy advocacy point of view to make bridges with district administration, government officials and sectoral stakeholders.

The IFRC joined the Alliance for Locally Led Approaches for Transformative Action on Loss and Damage that was formed by the UK-based International Institute for Environment and Development together with the International Centre for Climate Change and Development on 6 March 2023 in Dhaka.

The IFRC joined the "SDG Cafe," a flagship roundtable event organized by United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), Bangladesh on 5 April 2023. The event aimed at enhancing the understanding of SDG achievement status and implementation challenges related to human induced climate change and adaptation technologies in Bangladesh. The IFRC demonstrated the Movement's efforts among the sectoral stakeholders to reduce climate vulnerability and help community members be resilient to disasters.

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, IFRC and the Swiss Red Cross are working together on developing an early action protocol on cold waves for CHF 500,000. A terms of reference has been developed to hire a consultant to support the development of the early action protocol.

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society and the IFRC provided technical support to the government for finalizing national level harmonized early action protocols on cyclone and flood hazards. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society prepared and shared cyclone, flood and heatwave forecast monitoring and situation update reports on a regular basis with Anticipatory Action Technical Working Group.

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society conducted meetings and continuous consultation with Bangladesh Meteorological Department, Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre and other forecasters and forecast monitoring bodies.

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society celebrated the "Heatwave Actions Day" on 2 June 2023 in eight districts of Bangladesh to raise awareness on heatwaves. 160,094 people at-risk of heatwave (rickshaw-pullers, street vendors, traffic police, pedestrians and others) were reached (direct and indirect) through awareness raising activities and drinking water distribution.

With support from the ECHO PPP, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society is working on anticipatory action and forecast-based financing. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society and the IFRC provided technical support for organizing national forecast-based financing taskforce meetings and organized series of anticipatory action training sessions with government officials and other stakeholders. The National Society organized regular Anticipatory Action Technical Working Group Meetings and developed a database to map anticipatory actors and resources across the

country. Two training sessions were conducted on anticipatory action in Gaibandha and Faridpur for the flood prone regions. Around 60 government officials from Bangladesh Water Development Board and Bangladesh Meteorological Department attended the sessions.

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, the IFRC and German Red Cross represented Movement partners and conducted several thematic sessions on anticipatory action during the Asia Pacific dialogue platform in Nepal.



Health and wellbeing

National Societies capitalize on their auxiliary role to ensure their position on relevant country level public health strategy, advocacy, and policy platforms and mechanisms

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society has already started the process of developing the health policy and strategy. The consultant which was recruited has shared the inception report that is currently under review.

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society developed Mental Health and Psychosocial Support framework which will be integrated in the National Society's health policy and strategy. The National Society is going to develop a Mental Health and Psychosocial Support roadmap and tools this year with technical support from the Danish Red Cross.

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society and the IFRC are actively participating in the health and nutrition cluster group, and during this reporting period technical support was provided to develop a health cluster terms of reference for emergencies.

The health and wellbeing of communities are protected and improved through access to sustainable, affordable, appropriate and quality health services across the life course

To strengthen the national immunization programme, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society also provided services to the expanded programme on immunization through its mother and child health centres, a total 8,299 people received vaccinations from January to June 2023.

In order to provide quality services in rural areas, the National Society, with the support of the IFRC, established a mother and child health centre in Magura district with all necessary equipment.

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, with the support of the Danish Red Cross, reached 20,546 individuals (7663 males and 12,883 females) through non-communicable disease prevention awareness messages at the household level in Gazipur. Besides sharing the message, 16 trained community volunteers measured weight, blood pressure, oxygen level, etc.

The National Society reached 23,252 people through its community-based health programme within the catchment areas of its 56 mother and child health centres.

With technical assistance of the IFRC, the National Society translated the toolkits and manual for epidemic control for volunteers into Bangla. Twenty-three National Society officials participated in a training using this translated manual and toolkits.

The health and dignity of communities in emergencies are maintained by providing access to appropriate health services

In a fire incident in March, psychosocial first aid trained volunteers actively supported and treated 44 people.

IFRC Network joint support

The IFRC is regularly assisting the National Society in developing a well-defined and operational health policy and strategy. The funding for this health policy is provided by the Danish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and the ICRC.

Communities have increased access to affordable, appropriate, and environmentally sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services

Integrated Flood Resilience Programme: Phase 2 (IFRP: Phase 2)

- 32 Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation sessions were conducted in the four communities under IFRP: Phase 2 in Tangail district where communities have been sensitized to good WASH behaviours to boost their health resiliency.
- 72 tube-wells were repaired and by raising the plinth level to ensure that they were flood resilient.
- Water quality tests for 120 tube-wells were conducted, which were found to be satisfactory.
- Two school WASH blocks were established in the two communities to ensure WASH facilities for the students and teachers as well as to promote hygiene for them, especially for schoolgirls.

Emergency WASH Response and Preparedness Project

- 25,000 packs of water purification powder were procured and stocked by the National Society, which will be used in the upcoming disaster season.
- 50 emergency WASH flipcharts were developed and printed for conducting hygiene promotion sessions in emergency operations.
- Seven onion tanks were procured, which will be mobilized during the emergency for preserving and distribution of water using water purification kits.

One WASH

- A two-pager concept note on One WASH: Cholera was developed and shared with relevant colleagues for further improvement to mobilize funds for implementing integrated health and WASH interventions at the fragile disaster-exposed communities in Bangladesh.

Communities at risk from pandemics and epidemics have increased access to affordable, appropriate, and environmentally sustainable water, sanitation and hygiene services

Epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response activities are supported by the ECHO PPP. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society is working with community-based health volunteers on health promotion and epidemic control activities. The National Society is working with relevant authorities to assess the feasibility and develop protocols for a community-based surveillance system.

Country Support Platform

Communicable Diseases Control of the DGHS, with the support of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society and the IFRC, conducted a Priority Areas for Multisectoral Interventions (PAMIs). This was followed by the validation workshop in February 2023 with a total of 48 participants from 18 organizations to finalize the PAMI's identification for acute watery diarrhoea/cholera in the country.

PAMI targeting 27 per cent of the total population in Bangladesh has been validated based on the Global Task Force on Cholera Control (GTFCC) guideline and was presented at the GTFCC Surveillance Working Group meeting in Mozambique.

DGHS with the support of International Centre for Diarrhoeal Research Bangladesh conducted an oral cholera vaccine campaign from February-March 2023 in Bhashan Char. A total of 28,522 displaced people from Myanmar were vaccinated which accounts for 96 percent coverage. While the second dose of vaccine reached 86 per cent of the first dose population.

The Country Support Platform Manager worked closely with Communicable Diseases Control of DGHS and the Department of Management Information System, to include dehydration status and rapid diagnostic test results on the on-going diarrhoea surveillance to monitor cholera incidence. This addition was done in 2023, with a new template operational from June 2023.

Communicable Diseases Control of DGHS together with the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control & Research, Department of Management Information System, International Centre for Diarrhoeal Research Bangladesh and the Country Support Platform developed a rapid diagnostic test protocol for Bangladesh.



Migration and displacement

Migrants and displaced persons have access to humanitarian assistance and protection at key points along migratory routes as well access to durable solutions when appropriate

The Displacement Management Cluster, led by MoDMR and co-led by IOM organized a consultation workshop in March at Dhaka on “Evacuation Shelter Management Guidelines” to review the draft prior to finalization and eventual dissemination and application. The launching ceremony of the “Evacuation Shelter Management Guidelines” was held on 11 May 2023 at Dhaka.

In Bangladesh, multi-purpose evacuation centres (i.e., cyclone and flood shelters) provide lifesaving, temporary accommodation to several people every year displaced by cyclones and flood. A contextualized version of the global evacuation shelter management guidelines has been drafted to provide practical advice on how best to manage evacuation centres in the context of Bangladesh and uphold the rights of persons displaced by disaster induced by natural hazards.



Values, power and inclusion

IFRC and National Societies are safe and inclusive organizations, where ensuring dignity, access, participation and safety for people of all identities is central to all that we do

From January to June 2023, a total 138 staff and volunteers (108 males and 30 females) from different branches of the National Society including its headquarters received the PGI Minimum Standards, protection mainstreaming and PGI basic training under ECHO PPP initiative. At the same time, another 130 staff and volunteers received PGI training and orientations supported by different projects and programmes. Among them 23 staff and volunteers received terms of reference to support the PGI team in conducting further training.

Minimum Standards for PGI in emergency guidelines have been distributed (950 copies) to 68 branches, in all departments in NHQ, among IFRC and membership staff in Dhaka as well as in the PMO.

Fifty (50) staff and volunteers participated in the online gender-based violence and safe access to digital platforms training, which was organized in March 2023.

Under the ECHO PPP and the 2022 flood response operation, two CEA training sessions were carried out for 49 National Society staff, National Disaster Response team/National Disaster WASH Response team members and Red Crescent Youths (35 males and 14 females) to create a CEA pool of trainers.

In the reporting time ten static information, education and communication materials were developed under the ECHO PPP on different awareness messages targeting feedback mechanisms, gender-based violence, disaster risk management and epidemic pandemic preparedness and response issues. Six radio programmes on various disaster risk management, epidemic and pandemic preparedness and response topics were broadcast in Dhaka, Cox’s Bazar and Rajshahi, reaching over 137,000 people indirectly. Ten folk fests were organized in Sylhet to reach 3,000 direct people in ECHO PPP target areas. The folk songs were based on feedback mechanisms, gender-based violence, disaster risk management and epidemic pandemic preparedness and response issues. In addition, two animations were created for raising awareness on earthquakes and gender-based violence.

Two studies covering CEA aspects (perception survey, and evaluation on feedback mechanism) were carried out under the PPP initiative. To understand the CEA/Accountability to Affected People approach in Cox’s Bazar, including how it works for both local and guest communities, existing mechanisms in place, and agency coordination, the IFRC supported the PPP team for stakeholder mapping, organizing and facilitating coordination workshops. The activity was carried out in close collaboration with the IFRC and the National Society’s CEA team. A total of 26 participants (18 males and eight females) joined from different organizations.

A total of 3,101 people attended 154 community consultation sessions on preferred feedback channels in Cox’s Bazar, Dhaka, Rajshahi and Sylhet under the ECHO PPP. Five Gambira (folk song) events focused on various protection

issues and feedback mechanisms were held in Rajshahi as part of the celebration of International Women's Day which reached 1,838 people (895 males and 943 females).

The IFRC CEA guideline is currently being translated into Bangla.

ENABLING LOCAL ACTORS



Strategic and operational coordination

Strategic and operational coordination

The IFRC supported the participation of Director (Admin), CPP and Deputy Secretary, MoDMR in the Global Disaster Alter and Coordination System Annual Meeting held from 24 to 30 April 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland.

The IFRC supported the participation from the Director (Admin), CPP, the Deputy Secretary of the MoDMR, and the Deputy Director, CPP, Cox's Bazar in the 7th Asia Pacific Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Humanitarian Action, held from June 13–15, 2023 in Kathmandu, Nepal.

The PPP has helped to further strengthen the National Society's institutional and technical capacities, while leveraging expertise and coordination across the IFRC network to harness transformational change. The PPP has also widened the enabling environment for the National Society to ensuring complementarity and synergistic approach with external partners, including close coordination with the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, city corporations and municipalities, union-level and ward-level authorities, schools and health centres.



National Society Development

Country level planning process

The National Society's 2023 operational planning was delayed and was not finalized by December 2022. The National Society continued its operational planning process in the first quarter of 2023 with technical support from the IFRC. Subsequently, a draft National Society development support plan was extracted from the operational plan and coordinated within the IFRC network and the ICRC during the first quarter of 2023.

Bangladesh is the one of the 14 National Societies selected for the new way of working piloted under the Agenda for Renewal. As a part of this, the country coordination team has been in place since February 2022. The IFRC together with the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society and nine in-country participating National Societies are ensuring that the country coordination team is efficient. The ICRC is also participating in the country coordination team meetings. Five meetings took place in 2022 and during the first half of 2023 another two meetings took place. The new way of working as guided in Agenda for Renewal is moving through a membership-wide approach. As of now, the joint contexts, situation and need analysis and the multi-year country support plan has been finalized. The multi-year country support plan has been formulated in line with the National Society's strategic plan for 2021-2205 keeping in mind the findings from latest context, situation and needs analysis. The Common Accountability Framework has been drafted.

Movement partners who are partnering with the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society to implement bilateral/ multilateral projects initiated a joint partners capacity and due diligence assessment in 2022. Through the facilitation of the Swiss Red Cross and involvement of majority of in-country movement partners (American Red Cross, British Red Cross, German Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross and the ICRC), a terms of reference was finalized for this exercise. The assessment process was completed in 2022, and the report has been shared with the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society's senior management in the first quarter of 2023.

Branch development

The National Society completed its Branch Organizational Capacity Assessment for all 68 branches in March 2023. Financial support has been provided by the IFRC, ICRC, American Red Cross, British Red Cross and Danish Red Cross. Technical support was provided by IFRC. A dashboard has been prepared with some key recommendations for future development. These findings will help in upcoming mid-term review of the Strategic Plan for the National Society.

The Swiss Red Cross is providing support to ten branches against the proposal they submitted to enhance branch capacity. Through this model the branches are contributing 30 per cent and the Swiss Red Cross is providing 70 per cent funding support.

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society has commissioned a humanitarian donor market mapping with financial support from the IFRC and the Swiss Red Cross. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society's resource mobilization steering committee has taken decision to reform its fund-raising department based on the findings from this study.

The National Society has taken the decision to develop a business development plan for its selected high potential ten properties. The main objective of this work is to maximize commercial viability of its selected land properties along with analysis and business development options. This needs to be done in accordance with Red Cross Red Crescent principles and policies.

Youth and volunteer development

The National Society organized a youth chief conference in January where the IFRC provided technical and financial support. This conference serves as a platform to collect youth voices from across the country and develop plan of actions.

The National Society's Red Crescent Youth policy and implementation guideline has been translated in Bengali and printed version has been sent to respective units.

The National Society is working to roll out the Y-ADAPT toolkit. The Y-Adapt training of trainers in Dhaka was successfully conducted with the participation of 30 volunteers from nine branches in May 2023, supported by the British Red Cross. The National Society has trained volunteers who are in a position to take their own decision to rollout climate action toolkit and Y-ADAPT at their own branches. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, with the support of the British Red Cross and IFRC, sent one trained volunteer as facilitator in the training of trainers organized at Nepal Red Cross in May.

From 15-18 June 2023, the Asia Pacific Regional Youth Mobilization Summit (Big 6 summit) took place in Malaysia, where three Red Crescent Youth volunteers took part from the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society. This participation was supported by IFRC Bangladesh and Asia-Pacific regional offices.

The IFRC Global Innovation Summit, held in Kenya from 26-28 June 2023, where one of the National Society's Red Crescent Youth volunteers participated as one of the challenge winners. This was supported from by the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, the Global Volunteer Alliance and the IFRC volunteering team.

Governance development

Governance development support has been considered through multiple ways that includes orientation, discussion, online meetings, engaging in thematic committees or facilitating the participation in international meetings. During this reporting period, the resource mobilization steering committee meeting, estate management committee meetings took place where respective governing board members were present and IFRC and Bangladesh Red Crescent Society technical teams briefed the governing board members on the priorities and way forward. The National Society, with the support of the IFRC, organized a day long workshop with 68 district councils' chairmen to orient them on the Movement and to improve the collaboration with local governance.

Revision of existing Standing Orders of the National Society

The National Society has its standing order document that outlines the basic rules and procedures for HR, finance and procurement, which need to be updated to foster innovation and the transformation that Bangladesh Red Crescent Society is committed in its Strategic Plan for 2021-2025. A consultant will be recruited to carry out this task with financial support from the IFRC and Swiss Red Cross.

Partnership meeting

The National Society is planning to organize a partnership meeting in September 2023. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society will focus the new way of working and how better partnership can be made to support collectively the humanitarian actions in Bangladesh.

The National Society has requested that the IFRC recruit a consultant for the mid-term review of their strategic plan.



Humanitarian diplomacy

The IFRC network through its different projects and programmes has been contributing to macro level activities which are contributing to broader humanitarian diplomacy. Some of the high-level interventions are given below:

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society and IFRC together with CPP and MoDMR organized a national lesson learnt workshop on Cyclone Sitrang. Minister and Secretary from MoDMR, dignitaries from Met department, Armed Forces Division, UN and other partners participated in the event. This workshop facilitated discussions on effectiveness of forecasts, issue time, early warning dissemination and anticipatory action.

A formal tripartite agreement was signed between the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, IFRC and the International Centre for Climate Change and Development to push forward the Movement's agenda towards climate action in Bangladesh.

With a view to scaling up the National Society's climate-related programming, the IFRC and American Red Cross are supporting to update the National Society's climate strategy aligning it with the IFRC's global strategy and guidelines towards climate action. The National Society has already engaged as one of the Climate Champion countries. This strategy will enable the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, IFRC and Movement partners to advocate for locally-led, sustainable climate action.

As the National Society is pioneering in the anticipatory action front in Bangladesh, it has been asked along with IFRC to provide support in developing the national early action protocols for cyclones in order to harmonize anticipatory action efforts and plans by all actors. The national early action protocols will act as a guiding document for all partners in designing anticipatory action initiatives. The IFRC jointly with American Red Cross and the German Red Cross are supporting the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society in continuing to chair the inter-agency working group for anticipatory action, and the National Society/IFRC are part of the government's taskforce for anticipatory action as well.

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society and IFRC are continuing the advocacy for functionality of inter-sector coordination group's multi-hazard response plan across the camp settlements in Cox's Bazar which was developed in 2021.

The IFRC supported DGHS in conducting a planning workshop for incorporation of SDG indicators in the 5th Health Nutrition and Population Sector Programme which was held on 15 June 2023.

In order to demonstrate tangible results and further raise awareness of the humanitarian issues which the ECHO PPP is addressing, a series of activities were implemented including the development of two audio-visual products concentrating on disaster risk management and epidemic and pandemic preparedness response, as well as shelter support that has been implemented as a result of the PPP in Cox's Bazar camp 11 for fire victims.

Under the ECHO PPP, a TV talk show was organized in one of the national television channels about fire preparedness where the Director General of disaster risk management Secretary General of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society and Additional Secretary from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change participated as panellists.



Accountability and agility (cross-cutting)

Downward accountability has been a central component of the PPP in Bangladesh – with the National Society ensuring that the programme includes diverse community participation and representation. Equally the National Society continued to share information with communities about how they can contribute to decision-making processes, feedback and complaint mechanisms as well as establishing hotlines as well as improving feedback channels. In terms of upward accountability, the IFRC network in country has designed a thorough strategy and articulated how funding streams are ensuring sustainability of interventions under the PPP.

The risk register of IFRC Bangladesh office has been reviewed in line with the new risk management policy. An updated version will be available in next quarter.

IFRC has been facilitating National Society development funding mechanisms from IFRC network through the direction paper. This process is in place since 2021. This year, the in-country partners have committed National Society development funds for branch development, resource mobilization, finance development and youth development.

IFRC Child Safeguarding Risk Analysis has been conducted in Cyclone Mocha and 2022 flood response to ensure child protection and safety throughout the operations as well as to strengthen existing child safeguarding practices and reduce the risk of harm against children as outlined in IFRC Child Safeguarding Policy (2020).

IM and PMER collaborated to generate infographics for the overall COVID-19 operation, the DFAT-funded achievement and the USAID-funded PROVASH project achievements.



The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian network, with 191 National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and around 15 million volunteers. Our volunteers are present in communities before, during and after a crisis or disaster. We work in the most hard to reach and complex settings in the world, saving lives and promoting human dignity. We support communities to become stronger and more resilient places where people can live safe and healthy lives, and have opportunities to thrive.

DATA SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS

- **Timeframe and alignment:** The reporting timeframe for this overview is covering the period from 1 January to 30 June 2023. However, due to the diversity of the IFRC and differences in fiscal years, this coverage may not fully align for some National Societies. Mid-year reporting data may have been based on estimations, with plans to submit more robust numbers at the annual reporting stage.
- **Missing data and breakdowns:** National Societies have diverse data collection systems and processes that may not align with the standardized indicators. Data may not be available for some indicators, for some National Societies. This may lead to inconsistencies across different reporting tools as well as potential under or over-estimation of the efforts led by all.
- **Reporting bias:** The data informing this Federation-wide overview is self-reported by each National Society (or its designated support entity) and which is the owner and gatekeeper, and responsible for accuracy and updating. IFRC tries to triangulate the data provided by the National Societies with previous data and other data in the public domain.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- [IFRC Global Plan and Country Plans](#)
- [Subscribe for updates](#)
- [Donor response](#) on IFRC website
- [Live Disaster Response Emergency Fund \(DREF\)](#) data
- Operational information: [IFRC GO platform](#)
- National Society data: [IFRC Federation-wide Databank and Reporting System](#)
- [Evaluations database](#)

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