

OPERATION UPDATE

Bangladesh| Population Movement Operation, Cox's Bazar

Emergency appeal №: MDRBD018

Emergency appeal launched: 18/03/2017

Revised appeal published: 20/11/2021 (7th Revision) **Operational Strategy published:** 25/11/2021

Glide №:

OT-2017-000003-BGD

Operation update # 19

Date of issue: 07/02/2024

From 01/09/2023 to 31/12/2023

Operation timeframe: 18/03/2017 - 31/12/2024 (Revised Emergency Appeal no. 7 period: 1/1/2022 –

31/12/2024)

Number of people being assisted: 1 million people. (Camp: 939,344; Host community: 100,000; Bhashan

Char: 32,560)

Funding requirements (CHF):

CHF 79 million for 2022 – 2024 period through the IFRC Emergency Appeal (including CHF 6 million for Bhashan Char); CHF 135 million Federation-wide

DREF amount initially allocated:

Timeframe covered by this update:

CHF 1.4 million

To date, this Emergency Appeal which seeks a total budget of CHF 133 million, is 59 per cent funded (funding coverage as of December 2023 is CHF 78.8 million). Further funding contributions are needed from all sources including IFRC and its memberships to enable the **Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS)**, to continue to help meet the humanitarian needs of displaced people from Rakhine, as well as the local community affected by the influx of displaced people.



Camp volunteers for Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) are conducting a cyclone Early Warning (EW) Anticipatory Action (AA) drill in Camp 14 (Photo: IFRC)

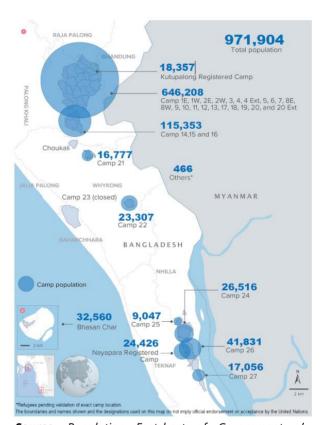
A. SITUATION ANALYSIS

Description of the crisis

The population movement crisis that unfolded in 2016 resulted in the displacement of people from Rakhine, Myanmar, who crossed the border into Bangladesh. The situation currently continues as a protracted crisis because of the colossal number of displaced people – 971,904 people¹ (including 32,560 people relocated to Bashan Char Island) – who are completely reliant on humanitarian assistance to meet their everyday needs amidst a backdrop of uncertainty on their future, including the possibility of repatriation, frequent disasters such as cyclone, seasonal rainfall, flash flood, and fire incidents and increased security concerns in the camps.

The camp community, comprising 52 per cent females and 48 per cent males, includes 51 per cent children and 4 per cent elderly people, while 4.80 per cent people have been identified as vulnerable and have at least one special need. Their needs span food and basic needs, access to health services and safe water, shelter, protection services, and preparedness for seasonal cyclones, monsoon rains, multi-hazards and disease outbreaks (COVID-19 pandemic, seasonal cholera and dengue etc.) as well as protection against the impacts of environmental and ecosystem degradation. The evolving crisis is also manifested in the continuing challenges faced by the local community in terms of livelihoods and the local economy, among other factors, brought about by the presence of the huge number of displaced people from Rakhine (hereafter referred to as 'displaced people' or 'camp community').

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



Source: Population Factsheet of Government of Bangladesh and UNCHR, as of 31 December 2023

Bangladesh to BDRCS to continue providing humanitarian services as its auxiliary status.

Summary of response

Overview of the operating National Society and ongoing response

The BDRCS Population Movement Operation (PMO), office in Cox's Bazar, was established in 2017 and today has a staff strength of 281, while the Cox's Bazar unit² of BDRCS has been supporting the operation from the beginning of

¹ Figure referenced in the <u>Govt of Bangladesh-UNHCR population factsheet issued 31 December 2023</u>, and includes displaced people relocated from Cox's Bazar to Bhashan Char Island. Note that the camp population figures are updated periodically.

² Unit is a term equivalent to a BDRCS branch at district or city level. The Cox's Bazar unit is one of 68 BDRCS units across the country in 64 districts and four city corporation.

the crisis, particularly through deploying its 700 Red Crescent Youth (RCY) volunteers by rotation. The BDRCS headquarters in Dhaka has been providing oversight support and has also deployed staff and resources during this operation.

As auxiliary to the public authorities in the provision of humanitarian services, BDRCS serves as a key partner in this response and engages with various authorities at both the national and local levels. Since the 1978 movement of people from Myanmar, BDRCS' relationship with the Bangladesh authorities has been steadfast. As such, BDRCS can access to all operational areas in the population movement crisis, in coordination with the authorities and the UN-led

Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) and the Refugee Operations and Coordination Team (ROCT).

Apart from the PMO office and unit office (branch) located in Cox's Bazar town, key facilities of BDRCS utilized for this response include three distribution centres in camps 11, 18 and 19, and one warehouse, three logistics hubs and a field office (known as hub office) in Ukhiya. There is also a longstanding collaboration between BDRCS and the UNHCR to jointly undertake the Myanmar Refugee Relief Operation (MRRO) - this extensive initiative has been in place since 1992.

The PMO completed its sixth year in early 2023, accomplishing the first year of the new phase of the PMO starting on 1 January 2022 and ending on 31 December 2024. Accordingly, from September to December 2023, BDRCS with support from IFRC and the American Red Cross, under a shared leadership approach, 1 million people were reached indirectly across 33 camps and the host communities through institutionalising Disaster Risk Management (DRM) governance in camps, strengthening DRM in host communities, disseminating the key preparedness information, and supporting the Cyclone **Preparedness** Programme (CPP). Note that CPP is a national flagship programme of the government, implemented jointly by the Ministry of Disaster Management (MoDRM) and BDRCS.



Federation-wide infographic as of 31 December 2023

In reference to individual-level direct programmatic support extended between September and December 2023, comprising disaster risk management, health, and care; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); shelter, basic needs; and protection, gender and inclusion (PGI), approximately 205,236 people, comprising 114,913 people in the camps and 90,323 people in the host communities, were reached. While IFRC support for PMO continues, **the Federation-wide PMO operation (supported by IFRC and 9 in-country IFRC Member Societies) reached 501,081 people comprising 353,494 people in 17 camps and 147,587 people in five sub-district level host communities during this reporting period. The reason for the decreased number of people reached in camp settlement during this period is due to the discontinuation of Primary Healthcare Centres (PHC) in camps 11 and 15 which the Swiss Red Cross supported, while in the host community, the increased number of people reached during this period is due to full operationalization of the PHC in Ukhiya, supported by IFRC. Alongside IFRC, BDRCS has been bilaterally supported by the American Red Cross, British Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Japanese Red Cross, German Red Cross, Qatar Red**

Crescent, Swiss Red Cross, and Turkish Red Crescent to implement the operation across 17 camps and five host communities (please see the federation wide infographic above and 4W map – detailing the 4Ws: *Who is Doing What, Where and When* – in Annex 1). Details on this reach against IFRC-supported Emergency Appeal's Operation Strategy can be found in Section C below.

Needs analysis

Situation turns into longer-term uncertainty

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

Reliance on humanitarian assistance

In the camp settlement, children make up almost 51 per cent of the camp population; women and girls represent almost 52 per cent of the population, four per cent are elderly and 4.80 per cent of the total individuals have been identified with at least one specific need including two per cent people with disabilities³. However, in the population factsheet, it was not explained the reason for dropping children per cent from 52 to 51. Protection vulnerability includes suspected human trafficking, underage marriage, sexual exploitation, and abuse. Some ongoing interventions have certain elements of durability and sustainability such as mid-term shelters (also known as more durable housing), solar-powered water supply networks, and disaster mitigation activities and cash injection in host communities. However, after six years from the start of the crisis, the displaced community remains completely reliant on humanitarian assistance to meet their daily and longer-term needs in different sectors, given that any form of livelihood activities by the displaced communities in the camp are not permitted. This crisis is further compounded by the seasonal flood, cyclones and heavy rainfall causing landslides, water logging, shelter damages; frequent fire incidents.; outbreaks of cholera, diphtheria, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Collective effort of Red Cross and Red Crescent

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

Emergency appeal and BDRCS scope of work

Furthermore, PMO programming under the IFRC Emergency Appeal is guided by ISCG assessment data and complemented by findings of sector-specific assessments undertaken by BDRCS/IFRC. In collaboration with government authorities in the camps, Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) and Site Management Support (SMS) service agencies, BDRCS will take on the responsibility for meeting the needs of the community in a particular camp or a block within a camp. As such BDRCS is playing implementing focal role in several camps (fully or partly) for different types of intervention including shelter in camps 11 and 12; WASH in camps 11, 12, 18, and 19, health and care in camps 2E, 5, 7, 6 (2 facilities), 8E, 12, 13, 15, 17, 19, 20 ext and 22, DRR in all 33 camps. A health sector rationalization study led by the Health Sector, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in coordination with the office of the RRRC was completed and BDRCS is complying with its recommendations and set standards in the camp settlement. Decommissioning of the Primary Healthcare Centre (PHC) in Camp 11 in March 2023, PHC in Camp 15 in October 2023 and the upgradation of several health facilities including the Field Hospital, has been undertaken following the recommendation. This will have maximum impact without duplication of effort. Also, complying with the rationalisation exercise recommendations leads to strengthening BDRCS's position in the longer term under the health and WASH sectors.

³ Joint Government of Bangladesh – UNHCR Population Factsheet, as of 31 December 2023

Strategic change through rationalisation and localisation

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

In this connection, IFRC in collaboration with Red Cross Red Crescent partners has initiated a rationalisation exercise undertaken from June to August 2023 with a goal: **To develop a Federation-wide strategic direction of PMO beyond 2024 led by BDRCS in line with the JRP**. The first and second phases were completed, while third phase will start in February 2024. The goal is specifically focusing on the following objectives:

- Revisiting the programme priorities
- Programme adaptation based on the needs and funding.
- Increase operational efficiency aligned with sectors and standards.
- Increased compliance, risk management, and accountability
- Cost-efficiency and quality
- Appropriate HR restructure and resource optimisation
- Shared leadership approach
- Different scenario road map
- National Society's at the front line

The following table shows specific recommendations under three areas of focus:

Area of Focus	Specific Recommendations
Strategic and Operational Coordination Mechanisms	 Establish at least one new position which has a dedicated focus on strategic and operational coordination at the PMO-level. Develop a One PMO Plan as a part of the Common Accountability Framework, practiced in Dhaka. Discussion on why the coordination functions set out in the One Window Framework and subsequent reports
Enhance Shared Leadership Practice and Skill Sharing in Operational Sectors	 Partners to re-confirm willingness to shared leadership model. IFRC needs to play enhanced facilitation and enabling role.
Investing in BDRCS and Reducing Duplication	 Continued coordinated support to respond and address BDRCS's strategic goals. Conduct a structural review and analysis – duplication and efficiencies. Recommence mapping/sharing information about all Federation-wide assets. Develop a more systematic approach to strengthening the capacity of the Cox's Bazar Unit based on BDRCS Branch Development Framework.

Changes in priorities

Moreover, the revised emergency appeal focuses on a care and maintenance approach for WASH, shelter, health care and Disaster Risk Management intervention to ensure the continued benefit to displaced people in the camp settlement and the influx-affected people in host communities. This includes but is not limited to the continued

⁴ Refugee Operations and Coordination Team

operation of the solar-powered water network, faecal sludge and solid waste management plants, healthcare facilities, strengthening shelters, site development, and improved disaster risk management governance.

Relocation reality

Besides this, the relocation of the camp population to Bhashan Char Island continues, with a total figure of 32,560 people as of 31 December 2023. In December 2022, more than 3,500 camp people undertook six risky boat voyages⁵ to escape the camp settlement in Cox's Bazar, eventually disembarking on the northern coast of Sumatra, Indonesia and Malaysia as well as being rescued⁶ by the Sri Lankan authorities. Given that the displaced people have been living in the camps for six years and continue to do so, structural strengthening is necessary, with due attention to environmentally more sustainable solutions.

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

Operational risk assessment

During the reporting period, the operational risks maintain the status quo, such as mapping the security risks inside the camp and a revised risk mitigation approach, the PMO Risk Register serves as an important management tool for the operation. Last revised in June 2023, it continues to outline the same six main risks and mitigating action – the current risks comprise; seasonal cyclones and monsoon, and other hazards including fire and floods; clashes or violence using firearms in the camps; social discord between displaced and host communities; crime (theft in camp facilities, in particular) and militant attacks.

Risky boat trip by desperate camp community continues in the year 2023. According to a <u>national daily news</u>, UNHCR reveals that 569 people drowned or went missing at sea in 2023 while 4,500 people attempted to reach countries like Indonesia, Malaysia, Sri Lanka etc.

During this reporting period, the overall security situation across the camp settlement and the surrounding host communities continues to remain heightened. Crime and hazard are reportedly dominating incidents in Cox's Bazar comprising 75 per cent of crimes, 24 per cent of hazards and 1 per cent of civil unrest. There are reports of violent incidents, targeted killings, targeted attacks, and exchanges of fires/clashes. PMO issues regular security updates for its staff, volunteers and IFRC in-country membership. However, these did not impact the PMO operation as the coordination mechanism is in place to undertake timely action to avoid unexpected security threats.

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

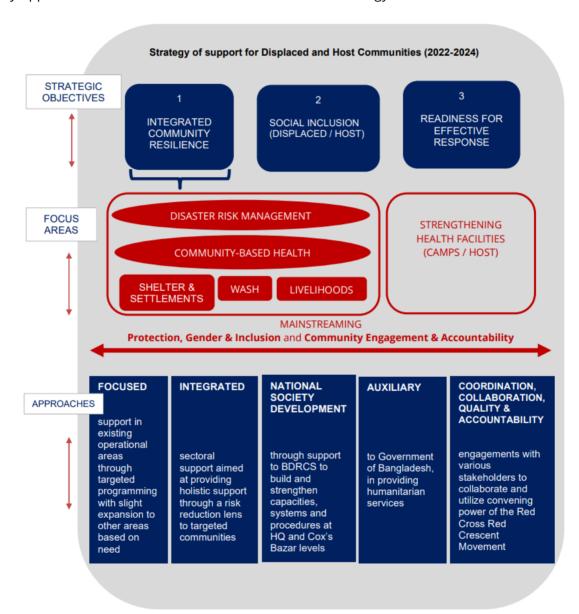
⁵Tweet link, displaced people on boat, 22 December 2022

⁶The Guardian report on displaced people, 10 December 2022

B. OPERATIONAL STRATEGY

Update on the strategy

There is no change to the <u>Operational Strategy</u>⁷, published on 25 November 2021, in complement with the revised Emergency Appeal of 20 November 2021. An illustration of the strategy can be found below.



⁷Also available on IFRC GO platform, https://go.ifrc.org/emergencies/2#reports

C. DETAILED OPERATIONAL REPORT

STRATEGIC SECTORS OF INTERVENTION



Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery

People targeted	984,000
People reached	395,835

Objective:	The disaster readiness ar	ies are strengthened	
Key indicators:	Actual (Sep – Dec 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Dec 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)
# of displaced people living in camp settlements reached with Disaster Risk Management intervention within the intervention period	17,075	302,298	930,292 (All 33 camps)
# of host community people reached with Disaster Risk Management intervention within the intervention period	14,509	64,569	100,000
# people in camp and host communities reached through Cyclone Preparedness Programme- (CPP) ⁸	Camp: 19,704 Host: 9,264	Camp: 263,287 Host: 28,410	Camp: 930,292 Host: 100,000
# of Disaster Management Committees established and strengthened in camps	33	33	33

A total of 60,552 people (34,182 females and 26,370 males) in camps 8E, 8W, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, and 24 as well as host communities (Cox's Bazar Sadar, Ramu and Ukhiya) were reached between September and December 2023, comprising 36,779 people from camps and 23,773 people from host communities.

Important to underline, that in addition to people benefited from direct support, **one million people** across 33 camps and Cox's Bazar host communities **indirectly benefited** through the support given to the government and humanitarian stakeholders in institutionalizing Disaster Risk Management governance in the camp settlement as well as timely dissemination of early warning information and anticipatory action. People resilience was strengthened through disaster preparedness orientation, fire incident response and fire safety awareness campaigns with fire drills, small-scale mitigation at the affected household level (shelter and community), and capacity enhancement of the volunteers and stakeholders in camps and disaster preparedness committees. Significant achievements are stated below under the efforts for disaster preparedness and response:

Preparedness

Disaster risk governance

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

⁸ CPP is a flagship programme of Government of Bangladesh, jointly with BDRCS. The programme has been supported by the PMO in camp and host community level.

meetings as well as DRR trainings. A total of 268 Disaster Management Committee (DMC) members received training on Disaster Risk Management in camps 8E, 8W, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 22, 24. The DMC members also enhanced their knowledge of basic Disaster Risk Management (DRM), Early Warning System (EWS)-monitor, record and communicate, roles and responsibilities aligned with approved DMC guidelines.

In the host community, 32 DMC members participated in the cyclone Hamoon's response in Ukhiya while 45 members were oriented on Standing Orders on Disaster (SOD)-2019 in Ukhiya. Similarly, 126 people participated in the Union Disaster Management Committee (WDMC) in Teknaf.





Left: DMC members in Camp 22 participating in a DMC guideline orientation (**Photo**: **BDRCS**); **Right**: A cyclone drill conducted in Camp 8W to role-play cyclone preparedness and emergency response.(**Photo**: **American Red Cross**)

Mass awareness raising on cyclone preparedness

A total of 10,872 people in 14 camps (1W, 3, 4 Ext, 5, 8W, 93, 8E, 15, 17 and 20 Ext) received awareness messaging on overall cyclone preparedness, Early Warning – Anticipatory Action (EW-AA) on cyclone as well as multi-hazard preparedness such as, cyclone drills, role-play the preparedness and emergency response, awareness sessions on cyclone preparedness, awareness rallies, community meeting, and art competition.

Capacity enhancement for disaster readiness

A total of 3,284 students and community people as well as 27 Red Crescent Youth (RCY) volunteers and 134 DMC members in Ukhiya and Teknaf increased their knowledge and awareness on multi-hazard and cyclone Early Warning System (EWS), anticipatory action and response following the Standing Orders on Disaster (SOD)-2019. The RCYs participated in an orientation on landslide EWS, while students and community people participated school-level rallies, discussions, and art competitions on disaster risk reduction as part of the observance of International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR). In addition, Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) volunteers participated in EWS and received response equipment.

Risk mitigation

A total of 18,850 people (around 3,800 households) in camps 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 19 were reached with small-scale mitigation for their households and communities, such as drainage and slab, field filling, culvert, and earthen road construction in coordination with the local government and the local authority. Among them, 516 households benefited from household-level mitigation including repair and maintenance of the shelter and other facilities to withstand strong wind, landslides, and slopes. In addition, 4,195 people from 963 households benefited under the Cash for Work (CfW) process and were mobilized to work in mitigation activities in the same camps.

Response

Cyclone Midhili and Hamoon response in camps and host communities

People in 33 camps and Cox's Bazar host communities were alerted with early warning messages and through hoisting of signal flags, following weather bulletin, before cyclone *Midhili* in November and cyclone *Hamoon* in October. In this effort, around 3,000 CPP volunteers were deployed for Anticipatory Action (AA) and to disseminate messages on Early Warning (EW) and identifying safer shelters.

Collaboration with various actors

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



A yearly multi-stakeholder workshop was conducted with Gov. UN, NGOs and Red Cross Red Crescent partners. (Photo: IFRC)

With external actors: BDRCS serves as chair of the Technical Working Group on Cyclone Preparedness that sits under the umbrella of the ISCG's Communications with Communities (CwC) working group. Having this scope of collaboration, BDRCS and IFRC DRM teams continue to coordinate with the external stakeholders including government counterparts, UNHCR, IOM, United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and their partners on the ground for implementation of DRM interventions on the ground.

Furthermore, this collaboration was positively manifested during the fire incident response in Camp 11 and Mocha response across 33 camps and five host communities. As part of this collaboration, a multi-stakeholder meeting was conducted in September, where collective recommendations were made for camp and host community disaster or multi-hazard preparedness.

Health & Care	People targeted	500,000
(Mental Health and psychosocial support / Community Health / Medical Services)	People reached	551,091

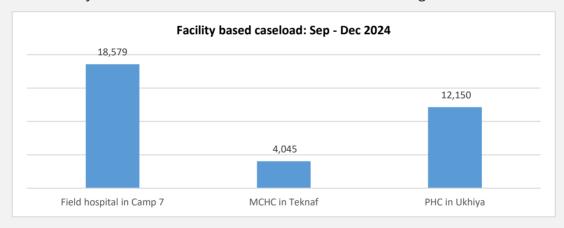
Objective:

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

Key indicators:	Actual (Sep – Dec 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Dec 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)
# of people in camps and host communities reduced health risk receiving medical management of injuries and diseases, and health messages	Camp: 62,984 Host: 48,925	Camp: 408,982 Host: 142,109	Camp: 300,000 Host: 200,000
# of people who have accessed medical services at BDRCS healthcare facilities in camp and host communities	Camp: 14,886 Host: 19,888	Camp: 97,852 Host: 45,558	Camp: 150,000 Host: 80,000
# of people in camp and host communities who have accessed Community-Based Health and First Aid services (CBHFA)	Camp: 48,098 Host: 29,037	Camp: 311,130 Host: 96,551	Camp: 300,000 Host: 200,000

A total of 111,909 people in 12 camps (62,984) and two host communities (48925) were reached between September and December 2023 through three health facilities and Community-Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) services. The health facility comprises a field hospital, a Mother and Child Health Care (MCHC) centre and a Primary Health Care Centre (PHCC) while under CBHFA services, community volunteers continue to visit target households across 13 camps and Ukhiya and Teknaf host communities under Cox's Bazar district.

During this period the newly operated PHCC continue its operation with an increasing caseload. The centre runs at a government-owned health complex in Ukhiya host community. As such, 551,091 people in camps and Ukhiya host communities were cumulatively reached as of 31 December 2023 in the new phase of operation. Facility-based and community-based services have been elaborated in the following sections.



Field Hospital

A total of 18,579 patients, the majority from Camp 7 (14,886) and adjacent host community (3,693) were treated at outpatient and inpatient facilities of the BDRCS Field Hospital, supported by IFRC. The hospital continues its services on a 24-hour basis, seven days a week – this includes emergency patient care, outpatient department, 10-bed inpatient, sexual and reproductive health service (including delivery), blood services, laboratory, and X-ray. During this period, 142 patients were admitted to the hospital with various conditions – this included 67 women admitted to the maternity ward for normal delivery.

MCHC

A total of 4,045 women and children were treated at the MCHC centre with a five-bed capacity and continued its operation on a 24x7 basis, mainly offering maternity services for Teknaf Sadar host community. On average 33

cases have been treated daily during this period as opposed to 34 cases in the last period. That included outpatient, inpatient child delivery support, antenatal and post-natal care, and family planning.

PHCC

A total of 12,150 people, mainly from the host community, were treated at the IFRC-supported PHCC which began its operation in dry-run mode on 27 April 2023. Following a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Director General of Health Services (DGHS), and meeting with PHC coordination committee members and representatives from DGHS, IOM and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the current funding will cover the cost of human resources for two years before handing over the PHC to the government by the end of March 2024.

The PHCC, with a 10-bed in-patient facility, constructed at Balukhali sub-centre in Ukhiya sub-district is set to provide healthcare services in line with the Minimum Package of Essential Health Services for primary healthcare in Bangladesh. The facility provides various services including curative care, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health, family planning, sexual- and gender-based violence prevention, nutrition, communicable diseases treatment, mental health and psychosocial services, non-communicable diseases, and emergency referrals. The catchment area of the centre mainly covers Balukhali, Ukhiya host community, but patients also come from nearby camps. An average of 101 cases daily have been treated during the reporting period. The facility offers services 24 hours a day and 7 days a week, targeting 25,000 people from the host and the camp population in Balukhli, Ukhia.

CBHFA

In the reporting period, 77,135 people in camps (48,098) and host communities (29,037) were provided with key health messages through the provision of CBHFA outreach service. This service aims to complement the healthcare service provided at the Field Hospital, MCH and other BDRCS health facilities and general health awareness for the affected people. CBHFA service has been provided through regular household visits in 13 camps (2E, 5, 6, 7, 8E, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19 & 20 Ext.) of around 410,000 catchment population and Ukhiya and Teknaf host communities of 300,000 catchment population. The outreach visit mainly includes health awareness messages on basic first aid, nutrition, Epidemic control (ECV), Psychological First Aid (PFA), Family planning (FP) as well as prophylactic measures of contemporary outbreaks like Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD), Dengue and others communicable diseases.





(Left) Follow up visit of a duty doctor at in-patient facility of Primary Healthcare Centre in Ukhiya. (Right) X-ray examination conducted at the BDRCS Field Hospital in Camp 7 (Photo: IFRC)

Health facilities supported by IFRC member societies: Apart from the BDRCS Field Hospital, jointly supported by IFRC and Qatar Red Crescent Society currently there are 10 other health facilities in the camp run by BDRCS with the support of IFRC member societies, comprising five PHCs supported by Swiss Red Cross (in camps 2E, 6, 13 and 15) and Turkish Red Crescent (in camp 20 Ext) while six Health Posts are supported by Japanese Red Cross (in Camp 12), Qatar Red Crescent Society (in camps 8E & 19) and Turkish Red Crescent (in camps 17 and 22). A daily average of 742 patients were treated during this period in the above-mentioned facilities. In the camp settlement, unstable funding for health programming is a key challenge that impacts the sustainability of basic health services provision let alone specialized health facilities for critical diseases. In case of any specialized services, people need to go to the host community hospital in Cox's Bazar through a long approval process from the camp authority.

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: Within PMO, there is a health-sector coordination group comprising BDRCS, IFRC and IFRC member societies (Japanese Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent, Swiss Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent). The role of this group is to improve health services in alignment with government and WHO standards and find ways to coordinate health services within the Red Cross Red Crescent.

During the period under review, meetings between IFRC and Qatar Red Crescent were held to discuss support to the Field Hospital, the handover process, and ongoing staff development. Furthermore, IFRC and Qatar Red Crescent were collaboratively attending WHO/Government requirements regarding the Field Hospital's service data to be shared on WHO Early Warning, Alert and Response System (EWARS) and Government' DHIS2 database.

With external actors: A significant level of external coordination continues to be undertaken with the Government healthcare service authority (the Office of the Civil Surgeon), WHO Cox's Bazar unit and several humanitarian actors, particularly for health service rationalization across the camp settlement. In addition, collaboration has been undertaken with the Christian Blind Mission (CBM) and the Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) to establish a rehabilitation service at the Field Hospital. Partners for Reproductive Justice (IPAS) have also been consulted to improve referrals for sexual and reproductive health services at the BDRCS Field Hospital in Camp 7.

Shelter, Housing and Settlements		People targeted	155,000
		People reached	57,705
Objective:	The safety and well-be shelter and settlement	~ .	re strengthened through
Key indicators:	Actual (Sep – Dec 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Dec 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)
# of people in the camp and host communities provided with shelter and settlement solutions and strengthen their safety and well-being	Camp: 11,585 Host: 780	Camp: 52,650 Host: 2,345	Camp: 120,000 Host: 35,000
# of shelter and settlement solutions (such as alternative construction materials, transitional shelter materials, mid-term shelters etc.) provided for the camp and host community people	Camp: 2,317 Host: 156	Camp: 10,530 Host: 474	Camp: 24,000 Host: 7,000

# of community structures (such as health centre, distribution point, community safe space, roads, bridges etc.) constructed (new) and improved (existing) in the camp settlement	Camp: Host:	Camp: 8 Host: 2	Camp: 6 Host: 2
# of people in the camp increased knowledge and awareness on safe shelter	Camp:	Camp: 1,000	Camp: TBC ⁹
	Host:	Host: 1,470	Host: 12,075

A total of 12,365 people in camps 3, 4 11, 12, 26 and Teknaf host community were reached during this reporting period with various shelter and settlement assistance. The assistance includes the construction of 1,930 Mid-Term Shelters (MTS), shelter repair/maintenance and site development for the camp community, as well as the construction of 25 durable shelters and distribution of Non-food Items (NFIs) for the host community.

Mid-term Shelter (MTS) with Household Level Site Development: Being shelter focal in camps 11 and 12, and having area extension to three more camps, BDRCS supported 1,930 households in camps 3, 4, 11, 12 and 26 with MTS and associated site development works such guide wall, stair and slope protection. Some 52 households of them have Extremely Vulnerable Individuals (EVIs) who need additional support. The same design of MTS was used with treated bamboo, metal footing, and tarpaulins and covered a space of 10X15 square feet. A fire resistance wall was also constructed in each shelter's kitchen space using cement-send plaster with galvanized iron (GI) wire mesh, as part of the fire mitigation initiative. The shelter was constructed in collaboration with Site Management, Site Development, and other shelter agencies.

During construction in camps 3 and 4, the workers and staff experienced risky gunfire between two rival groups. To mitigate the risk, construction work was on halt a few times, leading to delays in completing the target by the timeline. For timely and risk-free construction, all incidents were immediately reported to the government authority in the respective camps, particularly the law enforcement agencies – to deploy an armed force battalion, as well as all staff and volunteers involved in the camp to avoid unexpected consequences.





(Left) A Completed mid-term shelter made of bamboo in Camp 4. (Right) A durable shelter was constructed for one of the vulnerable households in Teknaf host community. (Photo: IFRC)

Durable shelter and NFI distribution: 25 vulnerable households in Teknaf host community were provided with durable shelters. They were selected following the findings of the vulnerability assessment. These durable shelters have concrete structures with two rooms, a verandah and CGI¹⁰ roof following government standards

⁹ The target is subject to households needed the training in the same camp, as before 2022 the same households were given the training 10 Corrugated Galvanized Iron or Steel

and specifications. In addition to that 131 households in Teknaf host community received NFIs (e.g., blankets, mosquito nets and sleeping mats).

Care and Maintenance: 387 households were selected out of 1,200 households in camps 11 and 12 through an assessment (who received MTS support earlier) and received shelter care and maintenance support for their shelters, partially damaged by heavy rain and strong wind. The assessment report revealed types of damages to the households that require emergency shelter kits including bamboo, tarpaulin, ropes etc. These households have 36 EVI family members.

Collaboration with various actors

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

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

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene		150,000	
		131,143	
•	Communities experience reduced risk of waterborne diseases, and as such, enjoy improved wellbeing		
Actual	Actual	Target	
(Sep – Dec 2023)	(Jan 2022 – Dec 2023)	(by Dec 2024)	
Camp: 46,945	Camp: 95,207	Camp: 115,000	
Host: 2,750	Host: 35,936 ¹¹	Host: 35,000	
Camp: 31,070	Camp: 36,414	Camp: 36,000	
Host:	Host: 1,840	Host: 10,750	
Camp: 21,500	Camp: 21,500	Camp: 23,500	
Host:	Host: 7,025	Host: 25,000	
	Communities experience rediseases, and as such, enjoy Actual (Sep - Dec 2023) Camp: 46,945 Host: 2,750 Camp: 31,070 Host: Camp: 21,500	Communities experience reduced risk of waterborn diseases, and as such, enjoy improved wellbeing Actual (Sep - Dec 2023) Camp: 46,945 Camp: 95,207 Host: 2,750 Host: 35,93611 Camp: 31,070 Camp: 36,414 Host: 1,840 Camp: 21,500 Camp: 21,500	

¹¹ This total figure excludes count of 1,840 water supply and 2,700 sanitation beneficiaries who also received hygiene promotion services.

Camp: 7,966 Host: 2,750 Camp: 84,917 Host: 31,611 Camp: 55,500 Host: 30,000

A total of 49,695 people (48 per cent males and 52 per cent females) including 46,945 people in camps 11, 18 and 19 and 2,750 people in host community (Ratnapalong, Ukhiya:) were supported between September and December 2023 with recurrent operation of eight water networks, repair of hand tube wells, one Faecal Sludge Management (FSM), 11 Solid Waste Management (SWM) plants, repair of latrines and bathing cubicles as well as hygiene promotion with kits distribution. Highlights are as follows:

Water supply system: 31,070 people in camps 11 and 19 continue to benefit from access to safe chlorinated water for drinking and household consumption – the water is supplied through eight water network systems comprising seven in Camp 11 and one in Camp 19. On average, monthly 15,741 cubic meters of water have been supplied after extraction and chlorination of the ground water. All water supply networks used nature-based solutions, installing solar power generation to operate the pumps. Note that, in camp 18, there are two water supply systems, constructed with support of IFRC and handed over to Swedish Red Cross, that continue to provide 4,066 people with safe chlorinated water.

As part of care and maintenance intervention, 728 water network facilities such as tap stands, pipelines and hand tube wells were repaired in camps 11 and 19 respectively. Regular water quality monitoring for camps is conducted to ensure that people consume safe water free from E. Coli. Samples were collected from the water chain regularly, such as sources, distribution points, and household storage. Critical parameters under monitoring include pH, total dissolved solids, E. Coli, iron, turbidity, nitrates, fluoride, arsenic etc.





(Left) Community Volunteers collecting faecal sludge from latrines in Camp 19. (Right) Water sample collected from a tube well in Camp 19 (Photo: IFRC)

Sanitation: 21,500 people have been provided with various sanitation services in camps 18 and 19 on an ongoing basis. Meanwhile, 11 solid waste management plants, covering 24 blocks of Camp 18, monthly collected, on average, 23,234 kg of household solid waste from camps 18 and 19 and processed at the plants.

A Faecal Sludge Management (FSM) plant in Camp 19 (D block) continuously treats monthly 221 cubic meter of sludge/wastewater to serve 5,500 people. The FSM plant continues to desludge 269 latrines and treat and decontaminate them before discharging them to the environment. At the same time, 269 shared latrines and 181 bathing cubicles were also repaired in camp 19. A Faecal Sludge Field Lab (FSFL) continues to test the liquid sludge

waste before it discharges to the environment. This plant ensures environment-friendly FSM service that includes sludge collection, processing, filtration, and producing outputs of soil conditioner.

Hygiene promotion: 10,716 people in camps 11 and 19 and Ratna Palong (11,067 people in Ukhiya sub-district) host community have been made aware of proper hygiene practice through participation in hygiene promotion sessions, receiving soap kits (that includes one bathing and one laundry soaps per person per month, in camp

only). In this effort, Camp Volunteers and WASH committee members regularly observed their practice at the household and WASH facilities levels to identify gaps in the practice and the need for hygiene promotion.

This has helped improve their knowledge of the importance of hand washing with soap and other aspects of personal and household hygiene. Around 31,686 soap kits were distributed monthly in camps 18 and 19. Note that the KAP surveys (conducted in 2020 and 2022) reported that people have improved their hand-washing practices before eating. In both 2020 and 2021 about 76.29 per cent and 80.67 per cent of respondents mentioned they wash their hands before eating.



A hygiene session was conducted with people in Camp 18 who also received WASH non-food items (NFI) kits. (**Photo: IFRC**)

Gaps and challenges

In the Ukhiya and Teknaf host communities, the WASH sector identified a significant number of vulnerable households that require latrines. Considering the funding availability, IFRC will support BDRCS to provide durable latrines. In camp, the sludge transfer network has not been established yet due to space unavailability. Ongoing relocation of the camp people is a big challenge to construct large wash facilities in camps. For example, to construct a new tank /water storage platform, the WASH team is required to relocate 2-3 shelters and it usually delays constructing tank platforms in camps.

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: Coordination continues with the German Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, Swiss Red Cross and Turkish Red Crescent to ensure alignment and complementarity in the support provided to BDRCS. Under the sanitation programme in Camp 18, the German Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross have been jointly supporting IFRC to continue the solid waste management in 11 block-level plants.

IFRC continues to support BDRCS on the quality of drinking water and faecal sludge treatment testing at two laboratories where samples from all water facilities and FSMs are tested regularly. These samples are collected and tested from the facilities that are supported by other Red Cross and Red Crescent WASH partners. IFRC also continues to support hygiene promotion sessions, and the distribution of WASH NFI kits (Soap kits and menstrual hygiene kits) in camps 13, 18 and 19 where other partners bilaterally support BDRCS.

With external actors: Coordination and collaboration continues with stakeholders such as the Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE), local authorities, and humanitarian actors on the ground. Moreover, BDRCS, IFRC, and Swedish Red Cross jointly with BRAC, WASH sector supporting to Institute for Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering (IHE) Delft to conduct an FSM research project named 'RISK-WASH' – a risk-based approach to humanitarian sanitation decision-making.



People targeted	70,000
People reached	62,405

Objective:	The livelihoods of communities are restored and strengthened			
Key indicators:	Actual (Sep – Dec 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Dec 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)	
# of people in the camp and host communities reached by restoring and strengthening their livelihoods	Camp: 110 Host: 13,810	Camp: 7,775 Host: 54,630	Camp: 20,000 Host: 50,000	
# of people in camp and host communities provided with cash and voucher assistance (CVA)	Camp: Host: 13,810	Camp: 7,665 Host: 51,960	Camp: 20,000 Host: 50,500	
# of people in camp and host communities provided with skills development opportunities	Camp: 110	Camp: 110 Host: 2,670	Camp: 10,000 Host: 10,000	

A total of 13,920 people (2,784 households) in Ukhiya and Teknaf sub-district host communities of Cox's Bazar and Camp 13 were provided conditional cash grants, orientation of business plan and skills training. While livelihood assistance for camp communities remains restricted, following a government-approved skill development framework, skills training activities began in camps. Highlights are as follows:





(**Left**) Selected individuals in Teknaf receiving conditional cash grant. (**Right**) Skills training continues in batches for vulnerable women in Camp 13, with provision of cash compensation (**Photo**: **IFRC**)

Cash grants for host community

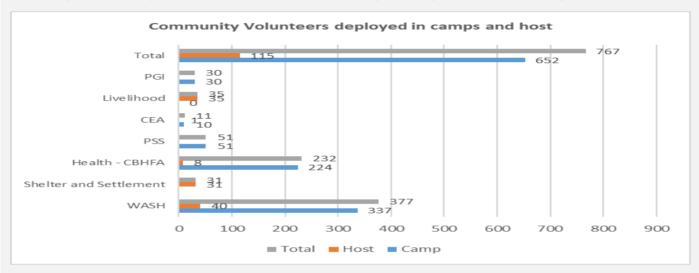
A total of 2,762 individuals (one per household) were selected for a conditional cash grant of BDT 30,000 (CHF 250) and received the first instalment of BDT 20,000 (CHF 167) during this reporting period. They utilize the grant for their planned livelihood activities such as cow/goat rearing, firming crops, and grocery shop to generate

income and establish self-employment. Among them, 725 individuals received orientation on business plans. The selection process includes consultations with the target community people, wealthy groups, government authorities, and relevant agencies (Agriculture, Livestock, etc.). Area-wise community Livelihood Committees have also been formed to ensure that communities are guided and included in the overall process.

In this process, a series of Focus Group Discussions (FGD) and Key Informant Information (KIIs) were conducted in each Ukhiya host community target area (3 Unions) by deploying 10 Red Crescent volunteers, two National Disaster Response Team (NDRT) members, five DRR officers, and three CEA staff members. Before distributing the instalment, livelihood training was conducted in batches for the selected households' representatives to improve their knowledge and skills on costing, books of accounts, supply chain, planning and analysis. The second instalment will be given upon monitoring of fund utilization.

Skills development for camp community

A total of 110 vulnerable women in Camp 13 were selected, based on vulnerability criteria, for technical skill-based training. All of them persons are females, including six with disabilities. Sewing training was conducted in batches of 50 and 60 from September at BDRCS Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety (DAPS) centre in Camp 13. During their training, they were able to make recycle bag applying sewing and tailoring skills.



Cash for Work

In addition to the direct cash grant, 767 individuals from camps (683) and host (84) communities, as 'Community Volunteer', comprising 594 males and 173 females, were provided with livelihood assistance through various Cash for Work modalities. Trained community volunteers from camp and host communities were engaged across the programme sectors with various roles including faecal sludge collectors, solid waste collectors, CBHFA message disseminators, household-level hygiene promoters, community feedback collectors/communicators, protection message disseminators, construction workers, daily labours, night guards, supervising. Although direct cash grant support is not allowed for camp communities, the 'Cash for Work' modality creates a scope for the community to get an income and take part in sectoral activities (see the chart here). Dashboard link for details: Camp & host Community Volunteers deployment

Collaboration with various actors

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

With external actors: To harmonize the livelihood programming with government and other humanitarian actors, the team works closely with the local Union Parisad, Union Nirbahi Officer (a responsible officer within the local

administration) and community leaders in the host community. For camp programming, consultation continues with the ISCG Cash Transfers Working Group and Shelter/ Non-Food Items Sectors of humanitarian actors, the Camp-in-Charge (CiC) of individual camps, and Site Management Support agencies, for direct or indirect livelihood opportunities.

Protection, Gender and Inclusion		People targeted	115,000
		People reached	73,211
Objective:	ective: Vulnerable and marginalised individuals and group and empowered		
Key indicators:	Actual (Sep – Dec 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Dec 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)
# of people provided with essential PGI services (camp community)	Camp: 12,671 Host: 285	Camp: 71,706 Host: 1,505	Camp: 115,000 Host: 5,000
# of referrals made to protection case management actors (camp community)	267	1,017	As necessary
% of PGI mainstreaming checklist updated for each pro gramme sector	In progress ¹²	In progress ¹³	75% Annually

A total of 12,956 people (12,671 people from camps 13, 14 and 19 and 285 people from Ukhiya host community) including 312 persons with disabilities (PWDs) were reached through different PGI essential services (such as practice sessions on embroidery, making fishing net, art and craft, floor mat, PGI awareness, and assistive devices for PWDs). 4,657 people during this period were newly reached through household-level PGI awareness, protection referrals and disability device assistance while other people participated in the centre-based activities on an ongoing basis. The following highlights are given on the major activities and accomplishments:



Adolescent girls are engaged in embroidery sessions as part of their life skills training in Camp 13 (**Photo: IFRC**)

PGI essential services at the DAPS centre: 8,299 people, including 312 PWDs, from camps 13, 14 and 19 attended various recreational and structured life skills trainings, which are regularly arranged for them to learn essential life skills through DAPS centres located in each of the camps. The training included origami work, fish net making, jute bag making, hand-made plastic floor mat weaving, making ornaments, hand embroidery, and informal education (for children and adolescent girls). In addition, two persons with disabilities in Camp 19 received assistive devices for their independent mobility. These trainings are provided to enhance the life skills of women, adolescent girls, children and elderly men, so that, they can use these skills whenever necessary at the household or community level.

¹² The sector team maintained the last update in 2021. PGI team accumulated some observations on it which will be revised by each of the sector in 2023.

¹³ The sector team maintained the last update in 2021. PGI team accumulated some observations on it which will be revised by each of the sector in 2023.

Awareness on PGI in Camps and Host: 4,390 people from 878 households in the catchment camp areas and Ukhiya host community were covered by awareness visits by PGI staff and community volunteers. During their visit, they conducted household-level sessions on various PGI topics (such as prevention of gender-based violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, child trafficking, and discrimination against women and PWDs) which were deemed relevant in the camp context. Participating in these sessions, household representatives became aware of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and its reporting, ways to empower women, prevention of child marriage, and other violations.

Referrals: 552 people in these three camps were referred to various protection case management actors. Of these, there were around 400 adolescent girls, boys, and children (*see the table below*). Under the child protection referral, a higher number of boys were recorded due to the spread of child labor and engagement in illegal drug dealing activities.

Protection referrals						
D. C	Septemb	September to December 2023		January 2017 – December 2023		ber 2023
Referral types	Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total
SGBV	145		145	643	0	643
Child Protection	80	89	169	273	253	526
Trafficking	58	76	134	138	131	269
Restoring Family Links	47	57	104	140	192	332
Total	330	222	552	1,194	576	1,770

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

Sector	Mainstreaming initiatives undertaken by programme sector
Shelter	 Construction of low slop entrance of shelters in camps 11 and 12 with family members who have disabilities or elderly health issues. Construction of a community centre called 'DAPS centre' in Camp 13 with rail, ramps and demarcation for male and female toilets.
WASH	 Tap stands repaired with frictions floor material to protect fall over on wet floor. Construction of grab rails, low height stairs at household latrines, to improve accessibility. Inclusion of women with disabilities in hygiene promotion sessions.
Health	The BDRCS health team continue to collaborate with the Christian Blind Mission (CBM) and the Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) in providing rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities and the elderly at the BDRCS Field Hospital in Camp 7.
Livelihoods and basic needs (including relief distributions)	 The selection criteria of the conditional cash grant included the most vulnerable families that have members with persons with disabilities, elderly, woman/child-headed households, pregnant women etc. The response team continues to use a designated waiting or rest area for priority individuals such as the elderly, lactating women, and persons with disabilities. The distribution centres continue to maintain breastfeeding corners at the centres. Provision of desks at distribution centres for the collection of feedback on protection, safety and security during the distribution process.
Disaster risk reduction (DRR)/disaster management	 Disaster management training package incorporates PGI minimum standard selecting female, elderly, PWD as the participants. Maintain contingency stock of protection items (solar lights and dignity kits) for use in emergency response.

PGI mainstreaming: Programme sectors continue to mainstream PGI standards following the sector-specific indicators regarding the Dignity, Access, Protection and Safety (DAPS) approach. During the reporting period, the following mainstreaming initiatives were undertaken, which supported around 2,400 vulnerable households in camps and host communities.

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: Coordination continues with the Swedish Red Cross, Turkish Red Crescent, and ICRC. One of the highlighted collaborations with ICRC was to assist five camp individuals with disabilities to travel outside the camp with CiC permission, to a centre located in Chittagong City for customized artificial limbs and orthotics. Trainings and workshops are conducted on a regular intervals for staff and volunteers of sectors supported by Red Cross Red Crescent partners to increase awareness on PGI mainstreaming maintaining the minimum standard of Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety approach.

With external actors: The BDRCS PGI team has continued its coordination with relevant government agencies and humanitarian actors working in the camp settlement, particularly case management actors including CARE Bangladesh, IOM and Save the Children. Collaboration for disability assessment to identify the needs of specific assistive devices has also been undertaken with disability case management actors the Christian Blind Mission), Handicap International and the Centre for Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP). The BDRCS team regularly participates in various working group meetings – these include the protection working group, age and disability working group, GBV working group and child protection working group. These groups are sources of technical support and training.

Enabling approaches

_	People targeted	400,000		
Community Engagement a	People reached	220,477		
Objective:	Targeted communities ar about assistance received are planned and adapted			
Key indicators:	Actual (Sep – Dec 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Dec 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)	
# of people reached through community consultations/outreach	Camp: 15,259 Host: 1,663	Camp: 180,693 Host: 39,784	Camp: 300,000 Host: 100,000	
# of pieces of feedback received	Camp: 13,567 Host: 104	Camp: 63,944 Host: 2,460	As received	
% of feedback acted upon	40% ¹⁴ (within 48 hrs.) 70% ¹⁵ (within 1 week)	40% ¹⁶ (within 48 hrs.) 70% ¹⁷ (within 1 week)	100%	

¹⁴ Sensitive feedback and provide answer for frequently asked question on service-related information also.

¹⁵ Service related to non-sensitive feedback.

¹⁶ Sensitive feedback and provide answer for frequently asked question on service-related information also.

¹⁷ Service related to non-sensitive feedback.

A total of 16,922 people (15,259 people from camps and 1,663 from host community) in camps 11, 12, 13,14, 15, 18 and 19, and Ukhiya and Teknaf host communities were reached during this reporting period through community consultations, household visits, campaigns and other forms of feedback collection and information sharing. The people who have been engaged throughout the intervention process, become clear about the selection, distribution and follow-up of the assistance such as cash distribution, hygiene kits distribution, shelter support etc. On the other hand, engaging the target population created scope for improving the intervention acceptance and quality. Highlights are as follows:

Feedback channels: Seven community feedback channels in camps continue to be functional for target people in camps 11, 12, 13,14, 15, 18 and 19; they include household visits, community consultations, radio listening programme (RLP), information and feedback box, desk, hub and hotline. In the host community, a dedicated hotline - a community feedback channel, has been functional from 9 am – 5 pm during weekdays, while the information desk has been set, but only during sectoral activities in Ukhiya and Teknaf.

Consultation with Majhi and religious leaders: During this reporting period, 532 Muslim religious leaders (imam) and Majhi (Community Leaders) in the same camps were continuously engaged with the community consultation, for the dissemination of key messages and collection of feedback among the wider camp population through 19 community meetings.

Radio listening programme: 227 community radio listening sessions were conducted reaching 3,823 people in various camps with, key messages and opportunities for feedback and concerns on services and the overall situation at the camp settlement.



A community consultation with women in Teknaf host community to guide selection criteria. (Photo: IFRC)

Capturing feedback, complaints, and response: A total of 13,671 pieces of feedback (13,567 from camps and 104 from host) were collected during this reporting period from 14 camps and the host communities (Ukhiy and Ramu) through various feedback channels. Among them, 6,779 pieces of feedback from camps and 103 from host communities related to programming such as shelter, health, WASH, and relief distributions have been resolved. Nevertheless, some community feedback was responded to on the spot using Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ).

Collaboration with various actors

With IFRC member societies: The CEA team continues to share community feedback reports with nine in-country IFRC member societies so that matters are addressed promptly. The Community consultations on specific interventions are provided to the sector teams to address within 72 hours.

With external actors: IFRC and BDRCS continue to consult with CiC, attend ISCG CwC working group meetings, share monthly updates, and take support from BBC Media Action. For developing IEC materials as a tool of social behavioral change communication, collaboration was undertaken with Translation Without Boarder (TWB) to translate the key information into Burmese.



National Society Strengthening

Objective:	BDRCS has strengthened capacities, systems and procedures at central and Cox's Bazar levels					
Key indicators:	Actual (Sep – Dec 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Dec 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)			
# of staff and volunteers trained on search and rescue, first aid, disaster preparedness, early warning and anticipatory actions	189	762	1,500 volunteers and staff			

During this reporting period, 145 key personnel of BDRCS, IFRC and in-country IFRC member societies participated in a multi-stakeholder meeting on cyclone and multi-hazard preparedness and response. Out of 145 staff who participated in this event, 45 staff represented the Government, UN and other humanitarian organizations. The participants worked out ways to coordinate broader DRM and strengthen guidelines of DMC in the camp settlement, as well as update district-wide DRM efforts.



Coordination and Partnerships

Objective:	To better articulate the auxiliary role of BDRCS and its convening power among a plurality of stakeholders, and accordingly strengthen the IFRC network's footprint in the response to the population movement crisis.				
Key indicators:	Actual (Sep – Dec 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Dec 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)		
The One Window Framework (OWF) Plan of Action is updated regularly		-	Yes		

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

- To showcase overall fund mobilized across the federation (IFRC and 9 in-country memberships), RCRC partners will share the fund mobilized for 2023 and the breakdown of the expenditure against the budget.
- IFRC and BDRCS will jointly arrange security updates on a bi-monthly basis, as the security situation in camps has been a growing concern of all stakeholders. A 3-day long first aid refresher training was scheduled at the end of December for staff and volunteers.
- **Update on PMO rationalization exercise**: The draft of the rationalization report circulated for feedback from all RCRC partners.
- **Human Resource (HR) support for BDRCS:** As per confirmed funding, BDRCS proposed a 2024 Organogram at the PMO level.
- **External collaboration:** Sector-wise external collaboration meetings and outputs have been systematically captured on a periodic basis using a cloud-based template (Kobo).



Objective:	To provide a high range of quality support services to in-coun member societies with the aim of saving costs and imefficiency				
Key indicators:	Actual (Sep – Dec 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Dec 2023)		Target (by Dec 2024)	
# of existing integrated and service agreements with respective in-country IFRC member societies are renewed	8		8	10	

Among the nine in-country Partner National Societies (PNSs) with a presence in Cox's Bazar, eight continue to maintain integrated agreements or service agreements with IFRC. Under the integrated and service agreement, the PNSs receive support from IFRC admin, finance, logistics and program support services (PMER, PGI, CEA etc). However, the PNS (Turkish Red Crescent Society) without such agreement with IFRC, also remain active in collaborating with BDRCS, IFRC and other PNSs as part of the PMO movement partner.

	• •	the displaced on Bhashan Char	Displaced community Target People reached	32,560 ¹⁸ 32,560	
Objective:		To enable the displaced community on the island to be disaster-ready and benefit from improved health			
Key indicators:		Actual (Sep – Dec 2023)	Actual (Jan 2022 – Dec 2023)	Target (by Dec 2024)	
# of displaced comm	nunity, relocated				

As of December 2023, around 32,560 people (7,900 households), displaced from the Rakhine state of Myanmar to Cox's Bazar Camp settlement, were relocated to Bhashan Char Island. Out of these relocated people, 51 per cent are female and 49 per cent are male including 3 per cent persons with disabilities (PWDs). Since January 2023, BDRCS with the support of the IFRC, supported 32,560 relocated people through various interventions such as cyclone preparedness, WASH, health services, site management, and emergency response.

32,560

32,560¹⁹

on the island are enabled to be

disaster-ready and benefit from

improved health

18,00020

 $^{^{\}rm 18}$ Total relocated people at the island as of 31 December 2023.

¹⁹ BDRCS supported other organizations in different distribution besides the support in the relocation in the Island. This is how entire population was reached.

²⁰ As per the target mentioned in the IFRC Emergency Appeal (revised).





BDRCS with the support of the IFRC and Kuwait Red Crescent Society (KRCS) provided 3 goats to each 150 families at Bhashan Char as part of the livelihood support. (**Photo: IFRC**)

Background of Bhashan Char programme

The relocation started in December 2020 and upon the request of the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) and considering the humanitarian need, BDRCS by the end of January 2021, deployed 11 people (6 staff – 1 Field Coordinator, 5 Field Officers and 5 volunteers) on the island and with the support of the IFRC started its humanitarian support since March 2021. Currently, 50 staff of BDRCS are based on the island. In 2023, with the support of IFRC, German Red Cross (GRC) and UNHCR, BDRCS continues to provide humanitarian assistance to the relocated people through various sectoral interventions such as distribution of household items, cyclone preparedness, WASH, health services, livelihoods, protection, gender and inclusion (PGI), emergency preparedness and response (EPR) and site management support (SMS). Key activities of BDRCS during this period with some cumulative achievements are highlighted below:

Livelihood Support

A total of 150 households of 450 people were provided with 3 goats per family, to generate income and improve their self-reliance. BDRCS provided this support jointly by IFRC and Kuwait Red Crescent (KRCS to enable them to generate income and improve their self-reliance. The households are mostly female-headed and with family members - people with disabilities. Before the distribution, each 150 families received training and basic support to rare the goats. Besides, BDRCS also supported them in building 150 shelters with bamboo and tarpaulin so that they could keep the distributed goats safe at night and during adverse weather.

WASH support

A total of 10 trained National Disaster WASH Response Team (NDWRT) members were deployed for WASH support along with the community maintenance team. BDRCS engaged 14 community volunteers (relocated people) in waste management. These volunteers engaged in cleaning the drain and collecting household garbage from 10 occupied clusters regularly. They also provide time-to-time drain cleaning support in the unoccupied clusters. They take the garbage to the solid waste management plant for further processing. During this reporting period, with the support of IFRC, Kuwait Red Crescent Society and German Red Cross, BDRCS provided WASH hygiene packages (containing 1 x grass broom, 1 x dustpan, 2 x large towels, 3 pairs sandals, 3 x toothpaste, 3 pairs toothbrushes and 1 x cotton bag) to the relocated people at Bhasan Char. IFRC-Kuwait Red Crescent Society joint programme supported BDRCS to reach 2,500 families.

With the support of IFRC and German Red Cross, BDRCS is involved in solid waste management, covering drainage management, and household waste collection of the occupied clusters. BDRCS also supported fumigation spray for mosquito control on the island. In December, with the support of the IFRC-Kuwait Red Crescent Society, BDRCS

added 10 waste collection vans to ensure timely waste collection. This will also help to engage more relocated people and help them with their daily income. In the waste collection activities, currently, 78 people from 78 families are involved in the waste collection activity. They receive a monthly payment against this service from BDRCS.

In terms of sustainable energy, 831 biogas facilities with safety features and new stoves will be completed in the coming month – which will reflect BDRCS commitment to environmental sustainability. Some 5,698 households were provided with 2,871 solar lamps, emphasizing steps in providing clean energy solutions.

Health Support

BDRCS with the support of IFRC-Kuwait Red Crescent Society pledge, in close coordination with the 20-bed government hospital at the island, organised a free three-day medical camp in Bhashan Char camp settlement. The specialised doctors on medicines, skin, pediatric and ear, nose and throats have seen more than 350 patients in those three days at the island and necessary medicines distributed by BDRCS.

Site Management Service (SMS)

As the lead agency of site management, BDRCS completed a comprehensive service mapping, encompassing activities across all sectors, coverage areas, and focal points and shared with the relevant sectors. The Field Support Management Unit (FSMU) and BDRCS continue to update the information monthly. The third phase of Cyclone shelter and house mapping, finalized in December, aims to provide a year-end update with analyzed data shared among FSMU and other stakeholders in January. Furthermore, BDRCS, in collaboration with various key actors, has facilitated the identification and verification of beneficiaries for different livelihood programs.

The SMS team conducted training on liquified petroleum gas (LPG) and pressure cooker usage for 574 families, ensuring those who missed or did not receive previous training are equipped with essential knowledge. Pond fencing initiatives have been robust, with 18 pond fences repaired and 44 newly fenced. Additionally, the SMS team of BDRCS has initiated the establishment of the second Community Feedback and Response Mechanism (CFRM) at shelter-85, having obtained approval from the GoB agency, and the implementation process is currently underway.





Free medical camp organised by BDRCS with the support of the IFRC and Kuwait Red Crescent Society at Bhashan Char. (Photos: BDRCS)

During this reporting period, BDRCS with the support of IFRC-Kuwait Red Crescent Society, distributed around 5,300 LPG gas cylinders at the island. It is to be noted that LPG demand is quite high and at the time of scarcity of necessary LPG gas, this support helped the relocated population on the island to meet their cooking needs and ensure clean fuel.

Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR)

As part of the EPR initiative, its strategy is underway as well as the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for cyclone has been reviewed, finalized, and shared with sector leads. In terms of safety, all used or damaged fire extinguishers have been refilled and strategically placed at cluster levels.

During Cyclone Hamoon in October 2023, 697 Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) volunteers, including SMS/EPR volunteers and 46 BDRCS staff were active and responded to flag hoisting, awareness messaging (covered entire island population), and cyclone shelter management including evacuation planning, and bulletin sharing. Post-cyclone damage assessment was conducted at the end of October and a report was shared about the damages.

Support to newly relocated families

During the reporting period some 2,039 displaced people were relocated from Cox's Bazar camp to Bhashan Char. As the site management lead, BDRCS provided immediate support and allocated houses in close coordination with the Office of Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC). All the household items were distributed among the relocated families on the day of their relocation to the island.

Community engagement

BDRCS SMS team using the integrated CFRM form of UNHCR to record the concerns of the relocated people at the designated CFRM desk. Regular and timely data sharing between BDRCS and RRRC, UNHCR and other agencies helps to ensure further follow-up and to close the cases. In the reporting period, 3,167 cases were received and referred to concerned actors from the CFRM desk managed by BDRCS.

Coordination

BDRCS has actively contributed to effective coordination and emergency preparedness. The SMS team's support in organizing the coordination meetings in the reporting period has facilitated crucial discussions on sector issues with the relocated population. Notably, BDRCS secured approval to allocate rooms for CPP volunteers (who are the relocated people) in every shelter, to store the necessary equipment, and ensure the necessary arrangement for their meetings, enhancing emergency response capabilities.

The accomplishment of the Joint Response Plan (JRP) process involved the participation of six organizations, including BDRCS. Moreover, the Cyclone Shelter mapping assessment and successful roof leakage proofing in 708 house rooms demonstrate BDRCS's commitment to proactive emergency preparedness and community-led initiatives. This collective effort, guided by ARRRC (Additional RRRC) recommendations and FSMU collaboration, reflects a focused approach to ensuring the well-being and resilience of the affected population.

With the support of the IFRC, BDRCS produced a video documentary about life on the island - available here.

D. FUNDING

Up to 31 December 2023, the appeal coverage is 59 per cent funded for Cox's Bazar operations while Bhashan Char operations have .06 per cent funded.

Please also see the financial report attached to the end of this report.

Contact information

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

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- Joy Singhal, Head of Health, Disasters, Climate and Crisis; email: joy.Singhal@ifrc.org
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Christina Duschl, Senior Officer, Operations Coordination; email: christina.duschl@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilization and Pledges support

 Maz Afiqah Mohammad Khairrul Azmi, Sr. Officer Partnership in Emergencies - Strategic Partnerships and Resource Mobilization; email: <u>PartnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org</u>

For Performance and Accountability support (planning, monitoring, evaluation and reporting enquiries)

Mursidi Unir, PMER in Emergencies Coordinator; email: mursidi.unir@ifrc.org

Reference documents

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Click here for:

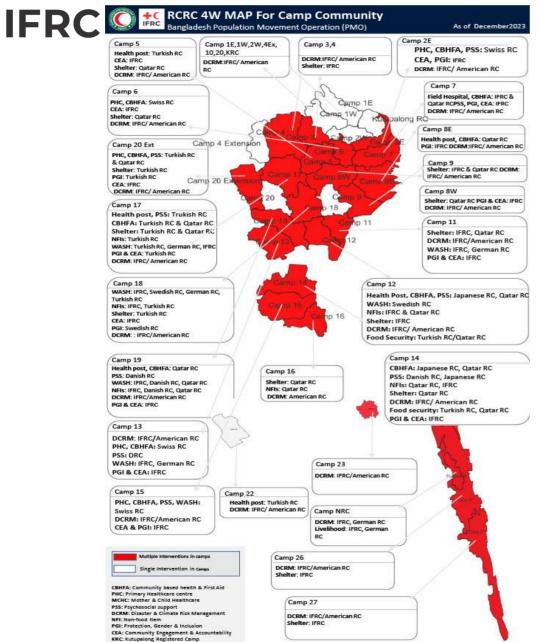
- Previous Appeals and updates
- Operational Strategy
- Landing Page GO

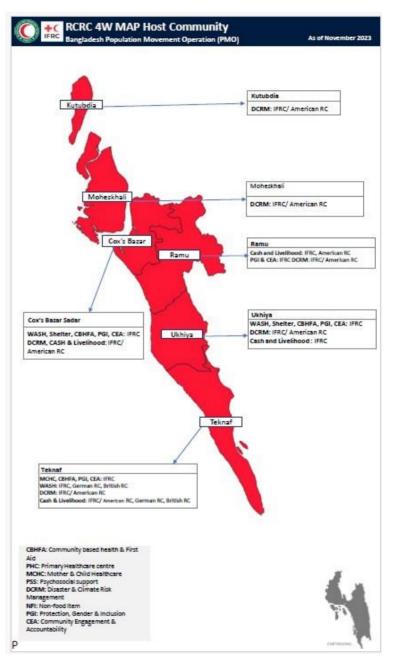
How we work

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



Annex 1: 4W map of PMO





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Public

Emergency Appeal INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

 Selected Parameters

 Reporting Timeframe
 2017/1-2023/12
 Operation
 MDRBD018

 Budget Timeframe
 2017/1-2024/12
 Budget
 APPROVED

Prepared on 04 Feb 2024

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRBD018 - Bangladesh - Population Movement

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

I. Emergency Appeal Funding Requirements

Thematic Area Code	Requirements CHF
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	28,748,000
AOF2 - Shelter	36,803,000
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	6,375,000
AOF4 - Health	18,065,000
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	22,201,000
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	5,054,000
AOF7 - Migration	0
SFI1 - Strenghten National Societies	1,734,000
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	14,252,000
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	0
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	0
Total Funding Requirements	133,232,000
Donor Response* as per 04 Feb 2024	78,350,473
Appeal Coverage	58.81%

II. IFRC Operating Budget Implementation

Thematic Area Code	Budget	Expenditure	Variance
AOF1 - Disaster risk reduction	1,110,176	1,398,427	-288,251
AOF2 - Shelter	17,546,013	16,533,659	1,012,354
AOF3 - Livelihoods and basic needs	3,355,159	2,444,607	910,552
AOF4 - Health	7,629,625	5,994,607	1,635,018
AOF5 - Water, sanitation and hygiene	10,010,463	9,231,820	778,643
AOF6 - Protection, Gender & Inclusion	3,555,155	3,348,334	206,821
AOF7 - Migration	9,241,259	8,497,240	744,019
SFI1 - Strenghten National Societies	23,769,954	19,233,905	4,536,049
SFI2 - Effective international disaster management	1,385,157	1,378,710	6,446
SFI3 - Influence others as leading strategic partners	12,616	13,682	-1,066
SFI4 - Ensure a strong IFRC	1,203,519	1,213,663	-10,144
Grand Total	78,819,096	69,288,655	9,530,440

III. Operating Movement & Closing Balance per 2023/12

Opening Balance	0
Income (includes outstanding DREF Loan per IV.)	74,418,003
Expenditure	-69,288,655
Closing Balance	5,129,347
Deferred Income	3,915,065
Funds Available	9,044,412

IV. DREF Loan

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



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

V. Contributions by Donor and Other Income

Opening Balance 0

Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income
American Red Cross	179,521	77,691	0		257,212	
Australian Red Cross	1,456,308		377,515		1,833,823	
Australian Red Cross (from Australian Government*)	1,194,930				1,194,930	
Australian Red Cross (from Swedish Red Cross*)	24,644				24,644	
Austrian Red Cross (from Austrian Government*)	399,617				399,617	
Bahrain Red Crescent Society	88,672				88,672	
British Red Cross	2,443,596	235,324	109,476		2,788,396	
British Red Cross (from British Government*)	2,565,312				2,565,312	
British Red Cross (from DEC (Disasters Emergency Co	269,459				269,459	
China Red Cross, Macau Branch	250				250	
Danish Red Cross (from Danish Government*)	147,500				147,500	
DREF Response Pillar				108,141	108,141	
European Commission - DG ECHO	165,896				165,896	
Finnish Red Cross	18,942		31,062		50,004	
Finnish Red Cross (from Finnish Government*)	120,678				120,678	
German Red Cross	23,908				23,908	
Hong Kong Red Cross, Branch of the Red Cross Socie	228,313	131,521			359,833	
IFRC at the UN Inc	977				977	
Irish Red Cross Society	16,304				16,304	
Islamic Development Bank IsDB	7,520,379				7,520,379	201,2
Italian Red Cross	117,332				117,332	
Japanese Red Cross Society	561,805		127,729		689,534	
Kuwait Red Crescent Society	178,013				178,013	
Malaysia - Private Donors	276,153				276,153	
Maldives Government (from Maldives - Private Donors	1,095,470				1,095,470	
Maldivian Red Crescent (from Maldives - Private Dono	491,095				491,095	
New Zealand Government	525,525				525,525	
New Zealand Red Cross	99,585				99,585	
Norwegian Red Cross	60,116		14,465		74,581	
On Line donations	1,288				1,288	
Other	100,784				100,784	
Red Crescent Society of the Islamic Republic of Iran	63,380				63,380	
Red Cross of Monaco	16,280				16,280	
Republic of Korea Government	2,321,429				2,321,429	
Services Fees				48,368	48,368	
Shell	121,183				121,183	
Singapore Red Cross Society	29,613				29,613	
Spanish Government	115,803				115,803	
Swedish Red Cross	865,528		31,086		896,615	
Swedish Red Cross (from Swedish Government*)	1,730,924				1,730,924	
Swiss Government	525,000				525,000	
Swiss Red Cross	656,873		30,874		687,747	
Taiwan Red Cross Organisation	33,051				33,051	
The Canadian Red Cross Society	201,183	210,382	55,300		466,866	
The Canadian Red Cross Society (from Canadian Gov	587,103	-,			587,103	
The Netherlands Red Cross	901,966				901,966	
The Netherlands Red Cross (from Netherlands Govern	3,773,439				3,773,439	
The OPEC Fund for International Development	498,906				498,906	
The Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation	331,679				331,679	
The Republic of Korea National Red Cross	102,033	32,573			134,606	



Emergency Appeal INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

Selected Parameters							
Reporting Timeframe	2017/1-2023/12	Operation	MDRBD018				
Budget Timeframe	2017/1-2024/12	Budget	APPROVED				

Prepared on 04 Feb 2024

All figures are in Swiss Francs (CHF)

MDRBD018 - Bangladesh - Population Movement

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

Income Type	Cash	InKind Goods	InKind Personnel	Other Income	TOTAL	Deferred Income
The Republic of the Philippines	150,530				150,530	
Turkish Red Crescent Society	496,993				496,993	
United States Government - PRM	38,903,167				38,903,167	3,713,843
United States - Private Donors	95				95	
Write off & provisions				-2,033	-2,033	
Total Contributions and Other Income	72,798,529	687,491	777,507	154,475	74,418,003	3,915,065
Total Income and Deferred Income					74,418,003	3,915,065

