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Information bulletin

Bangladesh: Floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

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This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) will, however, accept direct assistance to provide support to the affected population.

[<click here for detailed contact information>](#)

The situation

Heavy monsoon rains have been affecting some parts of Bangladesh since 9 June 2018. More than 20 people have lost their lives and hundreds of thousands of people are affected in south-eastern part of Bangladesh including Cox's Bazar, Rangamati, Khagrachhari, Bandorban, Chattagram districts, as well as eastern part of the country including Moulvibazar and Sylhet districts.



Monsoons rains caused landslides in camps in Cox's Bazar.
(Photo credit: IFRC)

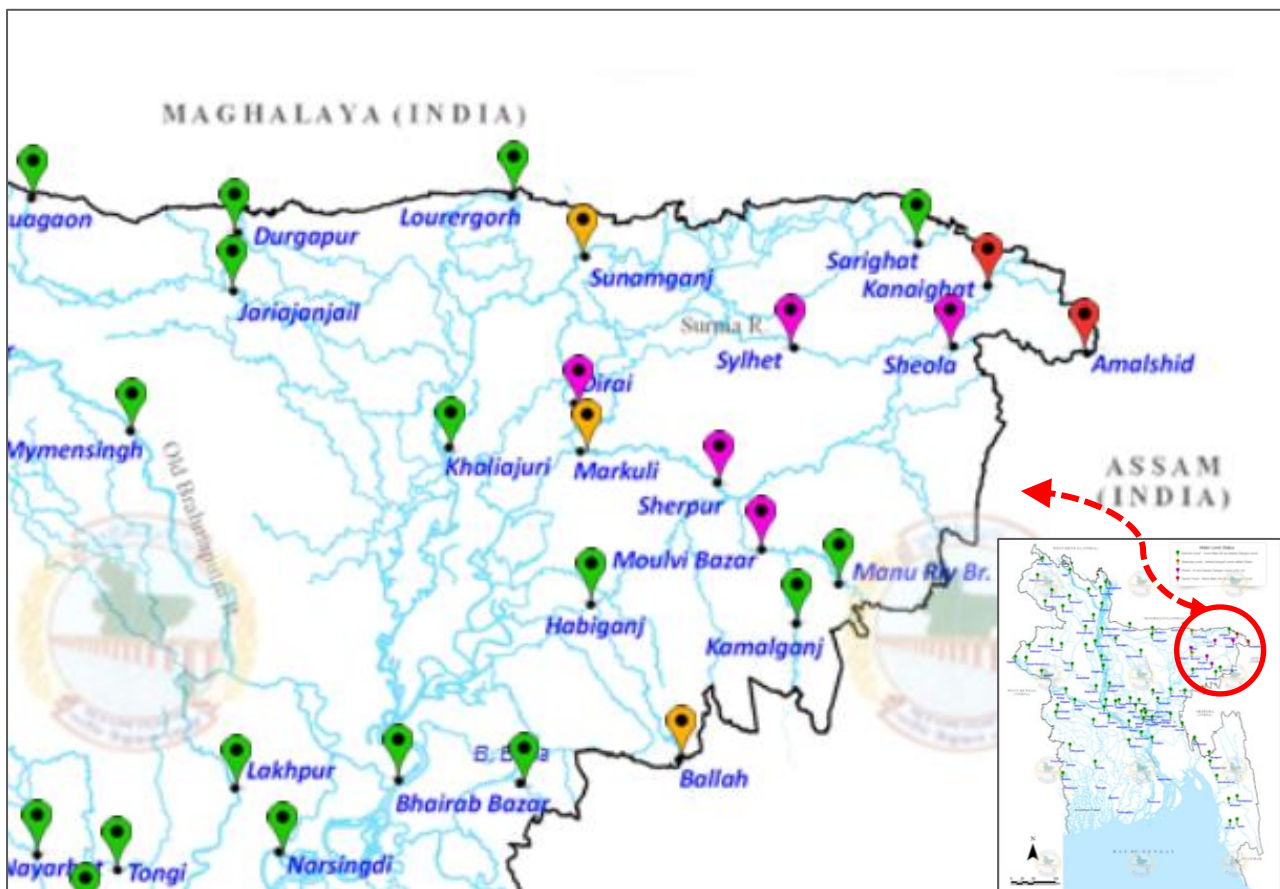
In the south-eastern part of Bangladesh, heavy downpours and high winds started on 9 June through 13 June triggering floods and landslides. At least 12 people have been killed after heavy pre-monsoon rain lashed, including two people from Rakhine. Bangladesh's meteorological office said the Cox's Bazar area where many of the refugees live in makeshift shelters on bare hillsides had 138 millimetres (5.4 inches) of rain. According to Oxfam' report on 19 June, the monsoon rains falling on the refugee camps near Cox's Bazar, have caused over 130 landslides, damaged 3,300 shelters and affected 28,000 refugees. Bridges, drainage channels, access roads and water points were also damaged. According to Inter Sector Coordination Group's report on 13 June, emergency life-saving response remains an urgent priority. The

Government of Bangladesh's (GoB) District Commissioner (DC) activated an Emergency Control Room (ECR) based in Cox's Bazar with field locations in Ukhia and Teknaf, and facilitated the coordination, communication and emergency response through relevant GoB entities. GoB were also working to relocate People from Rakhine who were affected by floods to safer places, and repairing the damaged infrastructure. Situation in the southern part is now improved, there is no warning issued by the Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) currently.

In the eastern part, the floods situation gets worse since 13 June when the flood control dams along the Monu and Dhalai rivers collapsed and submerged surrounding areas due to heavy downpour in Tripura State, northeast India. As of 20 June, more than seven rivers are above danger levels according to FFWC. Approximately 54,020 families in Moulvibazar district and 105,100 families in Sylhet district are affected, and eight people in Moulvibazar district have been killed. According to National disaster response coordination center (NDRCC) situation report dated 20 June, around 12,405 people have been moved to 67 emergency shelters. The existing flood situation in Moulvibazar district may continue improving, while the existing flood

situation in Sylhet district may remain steady in the next 24 hours.

The local government has been evacuating flood affected people from high risk areas. According to (NDRCC) situation report dated 20 June, the government has distributed 1,167 tonnes of rice, 500 packets of dry food and BDT 1,340,000 (CHF 16,750) among flood affected families in Moulvibazar and Sylhet districts. A total of 74 medical teams have also been deployed to provide medical assistance.



Flash flood affected areas in eastern part of Bangladesh. (Source: Flood Forecasting & Warning Centre, Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB))

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

BDRCS National Headquarters and respective Red Crescent unit offices have been monitoring the flood situation from the beginning, and is coordinating with government agencies.

Assistance provided at the PMO camp area

In Cox's Bazar, Federation-wide contingency plan for monsoon and cyclone has been activated since the beginning of the monsoon rains. Information cell has been set up at Population Movement Operation Office in Cox's Bazar by the BDRCS.

BDRCS relief/shelter team, with support from the IFRC, prepared the federation wide distribution plan for the monsoon response. Shelter team with the support from Red Cross Youth (RCY) volunteers, has distributed 136 shelter kits to repair damaged shelters for the affected people from Rakhine.

Prior to the monsoon rain, A DREF loan of CHF 100,000 was granted to the emergency appeal, supporting the monsoon and cyclone response activities, which include assessment, mobilization of response team and distribution of relief items.

A joint assessment team comprising staff of BDRCS, IFRC and Partner National Societies (PNS) was deployed immediately, Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) emergency hospital has been opened 24/7 to address the health needs of the people affected by monsoon flood using the current capacity, hygiene promotion is continuing in the communities, additional 174 volunteers trained on epidemic prevention and control, first aid, nutrition and psychological first aid are mobilized. In prevention of outbreaks, seven oral rehydration point are

positioned and oriented for 18 community mobilizers. A total of 188,500 oral rehydration sachet (ORS) have been already stocked and ready to be dispatched.

Assistance provided in other affected districts

In view of the flooding situation in eastern part of Bangladesh, more than 50 volunteers from the Moulvibazar Red Crescent unit have been working along with search and rescue team of the local government. Besides, one National Disaster Water Response Team (NDWRT) member and one WASH technical team consists of BDRCS and IFRC staff have been deployed from NHQ to Moulvibazar district along with two water purification units.



BDRCS volunteers evacuating flood affected people in Moulvibazar district. (Photo: BDRCS)

BDRCS has allocated BDT 100,000 (CHF 1,200) to procure dry food. BDRCS and IFRC also dispatched 1,500 jerrycans and 1,500 hygiene parcels from the joint disaster preparedness stock.

According to BDRCS situation report, the most urgent needs are food, safe drinking water and sanitation. In view of the urgent needs, BDRCS has requested in-country Movement partners to provide relief assistance among the flood affected people. On 21 June, IFRC Bangladesh country office facilitated a meeting with all the in country PNSs to support BDRCS to provide assistance among flood affected people. BDRCS is now working on rapid assessment and planning to assist flood affected families with multipurpose cash grant with the support of IFRC and in-country PNSs.

IFRC Bangladesh country office is also closely monitoring the situation and coordinating with other humanitarian agencies and clusters. No international assistance is requested from the National Society at this moment.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) in Disaster Relief and the Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response (Sphere) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

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.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace.**
