

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives,
changing minds.

Information Bulletin

Bangladesh: Floods and Landslides

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Information Bulletin n° 1
GLIDE n° [FL-2012-000106-BGD](#)
29 June 2012

This bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), with the support of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), has determined funding from its internal sources to mobilize emergency response to the affected areas. No external assistance has been requested at this time.



Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) volunteers in search and rescue operation in Chittagong mud slide on 27 June 2012. **Photo:** BDRCS.

The situation

Monsoon rains starting 25 June in southeast and northeast Bangladesh resulted in flash floods and landslides causing at least 100 deaths. Damage has been most severe in the southeast districts of Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, and Bandarban and in the northeast district of Sylhet. Landslides, collapsed houses, drowning and lightning following torrential rains on 27 June caused further damages and loss of lives in Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Bandarban and Sylhet.

Thousands of people remain stranded in low-lying areas and many communities in the Chittagong Hill Tracts are still unreachable due to the landslides. Many areas are cut off from the rest of the country as roads and railway tracks are unusable due to the floods and landslides. Displaced people in the affected districts of Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Bandarban, Feni, Sylhet, Habiganj and Sunomganj are residing on road sides, schools and colleges, and need shelter, food, clean water and medical care. The risk of certain water-borne diseases is high.

The Bangladesh Army, Fire Brigade and Civil Defence have been rescuing those trapped in the landslides. Livelihoods dependent on agriculture may be at risk due to flood damage to the rice-paddy fields and loss of livestock. Local authorities have distributed rice and cash to assist people in Feni, Chittagong, Bandarban, Bhola and Sylhet districts.

Flights resumed at the international airport in Chittagong on 27 June after being closed since the flooding began. The rail authorities have restarted passenger traffic in and out of the Chittagong region after restoring one of the tracks on the broken rail bridge in the Bhatiari area. Authorities said that rail freight traffic will remain suspended in the region until the line is repaired, which will take another 15 days. It may take several

days, or even weeks, before all of the debris is cleared and streets are fully reopened. Telecommunication and utility disruptions will probably continue in hard-hit areas for at least several days until crews are able to repair the lines.

Flooding may worsen in the north-eastern districts of Sylhet and Sunamgonj in the next 24 hours, according to a 28 June report from the Flood Warning and Forecasting Centre (<http://www.fwc.gov.bd/pdfs/fsumm.pdf>).

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) national headquarters' response department has been opened around the clock daily since the flash floods and landslides to monitor the situation and coordinate relevant unit offices to conduct necessary follow-up actions. BDRCS has deployed assessment teams in the Chittagong and Cox's Bazar region, in Teesta Basin (covering Rangpur, Lalmonirhat, Kurigram districts) and in Sylhet basin.

The BDRCS youth volunteers in Chittagong and Cox's Bazar are on the ground conducting search and rescue operations with the Bangladesh Army, Fire Brigade and Civil Defense. BDRCS, with support from the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), is providing cooked food and dry rations to 3,000 people in six of the affected districts (Cox's Bazar, Bandarban, Feni, Sylhet, Hobiganj and Shunomganj) for five days, with two meals a day.

Damage situation at a glance	
No. of affected districts	13
No. of affected upazilas	58
No. of affected unions	181
No. of people affected	416,000
No. of death	110
No. of houses fully destroyed	29,800
No. of crops damaged in acre	58,000
No. of IDP shelters	602
No. of IDP in shelters	290,000
<i>Sources: Government district office and Red Crescent field information</i>	

The BDRCS national disaster response teams (NDRT) will also be deployed to gather more information and define if additional assistance is required. The IFRC's country office and Asia Pacific disaster management unit in Kuala Lumpur remain on standby to provide further support based on the outcomes of the evolving situation.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

Bangladesh Red Crescent Society:

- Capt (ret'd) Abu Bakar, Secretary General, phone: +88 02 935 2226, email: bdrcs@bangla.net

IFRC Bangladesh country office:

- Sajit R Menon, Acting Head of Delegation, phone:+88 02 933 7314, fax: +88 02.934 1631, email: sr.menon@ifrc.org

IFRC South Asia regional office:

- Azmat Ulla, Head of regional office, phone: +91 112411 1122, fax: +91 11 2411 1128 email: azmat.ulla@ifrc.org
- Maija-Liisa Fors, Regional programme coordinator, phone: +91 11 2411 1125, fax: +91 11 2411 1128, email: majjalisa.fors@ifrc.org

IFRC Asia Pacific zone office:

- Jerry Talbot, Acting head of operations, phone: + 603 9207 5702, email: jerry.talbot@ifrc.org
- Mathew Schraeder, Operations coordinator, phone: +603 9207 5735, mobile: +6012 6200 758, email: mathew.schraeder@ifrc.org



Click here

1. **Map below**
2. **Return to the title page**

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 \(NGOs\) 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.

www.ifrc.org
Saving lives, changing minds.

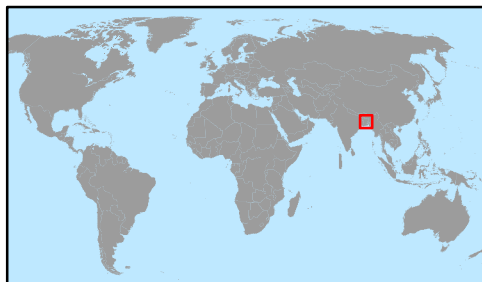
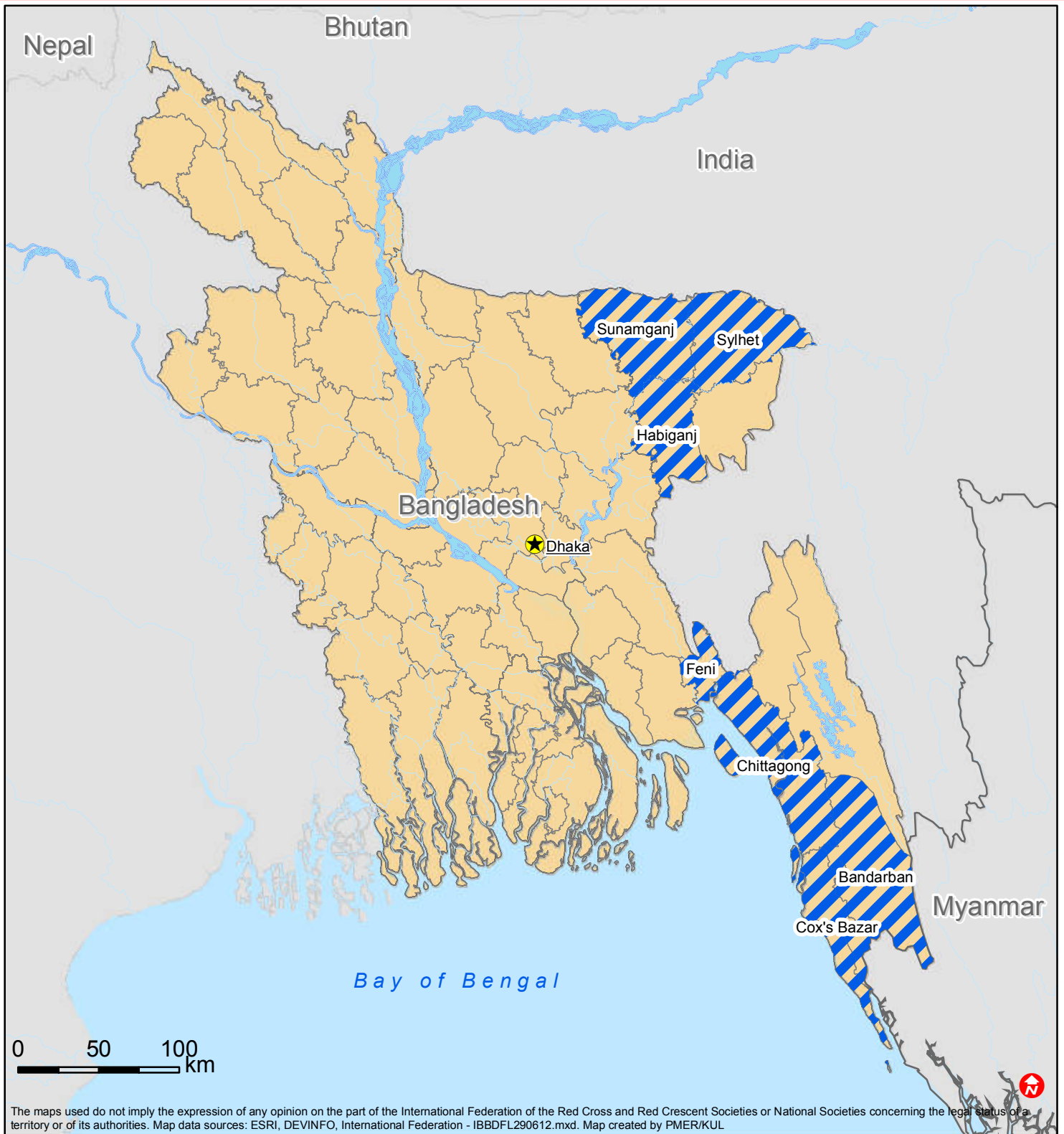


The IFRC's work is guided by [Strategy 2020](#) which puts forward three strategic aims:

1. Save lives, protect livelihoods, and strengthen recovery from disaster and crises.
 2. Enable healthy and safe living.
 3. Promote social inclusion and a culture of non-violence and peace.
-



Bangladesh: Floods and landslides



 Affected districts