

INFORMATION BULLETIN



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

BANGLADESH: STORM

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The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 185 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the situation and the information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

As an effect of low depression over the Bay of Bengal, a violent storm struck the coastal belt of Bangladesh on 19 September 2006 and caused tornados and heavy rain in different parts of the country. So far, about 1,000-1,500 fishermen are reported missing and, according to some reports, 115 people have been killed. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) has been assisting the rescued people, helping to recover bodies along the coast and, jointly with the Federation, conducting needs assessments and distributing relief materials in the affected districts.

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The Situation

A low atmospheric depression over the Bay of Bengal caused a violent storm at sea and along the coastal belt of Bangladesh on 19 September 2006. It generated tornados that struck various localities and caused heavy rain across the country for over four days. According to media reports, the sudden storm capsized hundreds of fishing trawlers and other boats, as well as a Bangladesh navy ship in the Bay of Bengal, which were caught unaware. About 1,000-1,500 fishermen and a naval commander are reported missing. According to some reports, around 115 bodies were recovered (as on 28 September) and so far 6,000 survivors have returned home.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) staff and volunteers have been assisting the rescued people and helping to recover bodies along the coast. During a meeting held between the government and various other

agencies in Burguna district on 30 September, the cyclone preparedness programme of BDRCS was praised for its proactive role during the rescue and relief operation.

Four BDRCS/Federation joint assessment teams were deployed after the storm to carry out immediate needs assessment in Noakhali, Hatya, Potuakhali, Borguna and Bagherhat districts. Based on the assessment reports and recommendations, the BDRCS and Federation have been providing assistance by distributing family kits and blankets among 690 affected families as follows:

Table 1: Distribution of relief material package among affected families

Name of the affected area	Number of badly affected families	Number of families targeted	Package of relief materials
Potuakhali	1,087	0	No intervention
Hatya	40	40	1 blanket and 1 family kit per family
Borguna	350	350	
Bagherhat	350	350	

[Please return to the title page for contact information](#)

The International Federation undertakes activities that are aligned with its Global Agenda, which sets out four broad goals to achieve the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

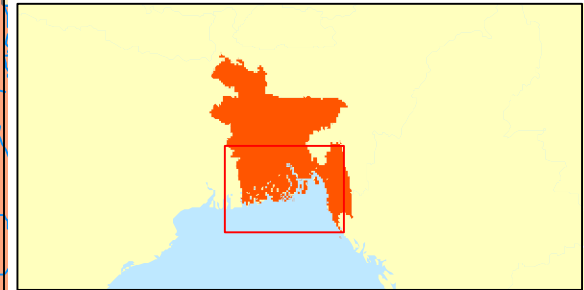
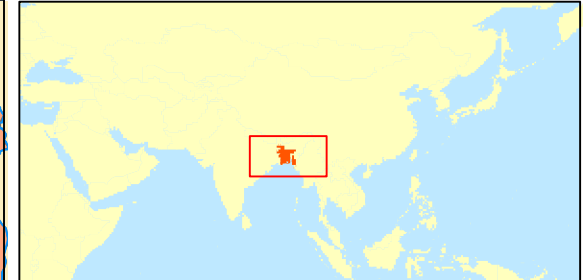
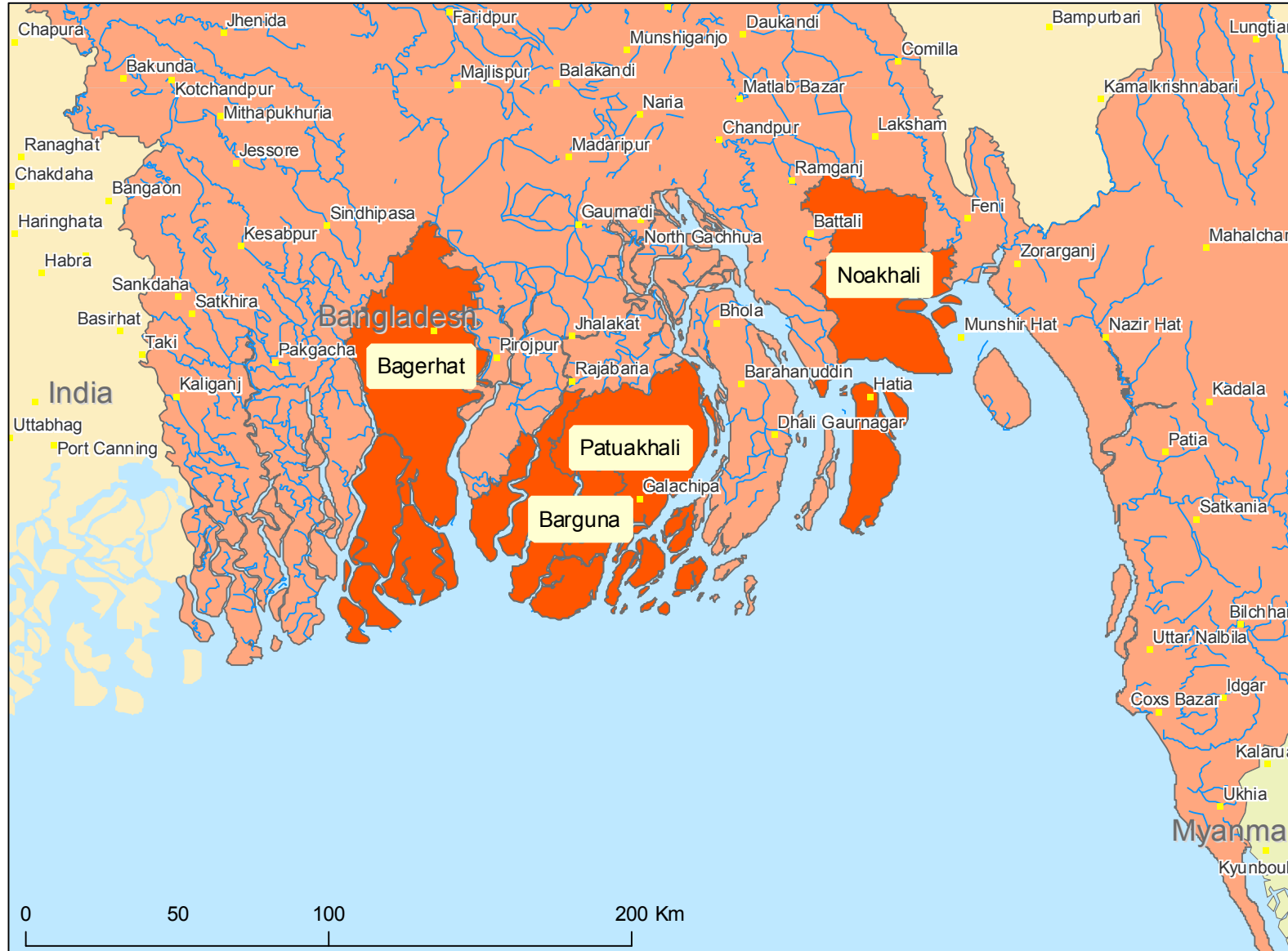
- *Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.*
- *Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.*
- *Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.*
- *Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.*

All International Federation 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 is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

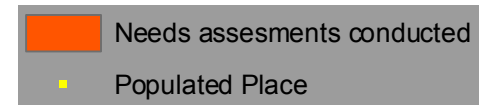
For longer-term programmes in this or other countries or regions, please refer to the Federation's Annual Appeal. For support to or for further information concerning Federation programmes or operations in this or other countries, or for national society profiles, please also access the Federation's website at <http://www.ifrc.org>



Bangladesh: Storm



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The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of a territory or of its authorities.

Map data sources: ESRI, Federation