



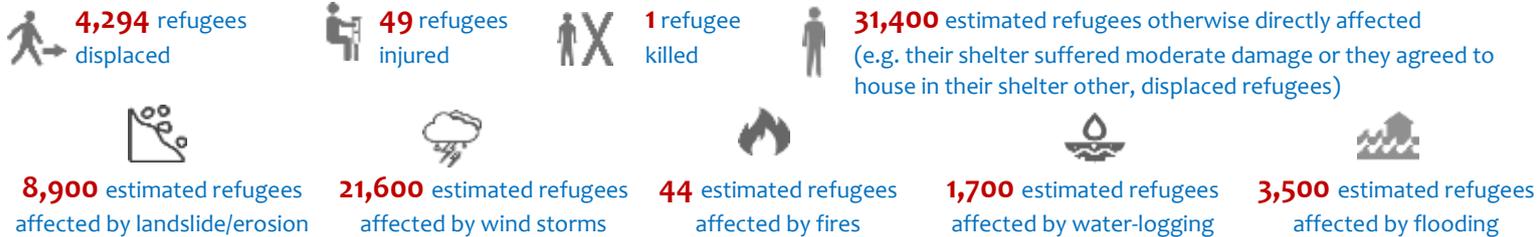
Table-Top Simulation Exercise in Cox's Bazar. Photo: ISCG/N. Bose

SITUATION OVERVIEW

During the reporting week, the Bangladesh Meteorological Department recorded 129 mm of rain in Cox's Bazar compared to the 115 mm received in the previous week. In anticipation of heavy rains, a meeting with the participation of the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC), Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC) and Senior Coordinator of the Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) was held on 18 July, to review the status of the Emergency Control Room (ECR), to identify actions to respond to a large-scale emergency and to fine-tune response coordination mechanisms. Furthermore, on 21 July a 3-day table top simulation exercise, led by the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) & WFP, with the engagement of ISCG for technical inputs and ground perspective was held in Cox's Bazaar with the participation of some 70 representatives from three Upazilas (Moheshkhali, Ramu and Cox's Bazar/Sadar) and various district entities including the Armed Forces Division (AFD), Navy, Air Force, Scouts, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS), etc. As of the time of reporting, due to heavy rains of over 460 mm during the last 21 hours, the four pillars of the DC's Emergency Control Room (DC, RRRC, AFD and ISCG), met to review the ongoing situation on the ground and to identify the immediate course of action. In order to strengthen existing support systems at the camp level and allow further prepositioning of necessary resources, restrictions on humanitarian access to camps after 5 pm will be relaxed for the next three days.

WEATHER-RELATED INCIDENTS (cumulative data as of 24 July 2018)

Since 11 May, an estimated **35,800** refugees affected by weather-related incidents, including:



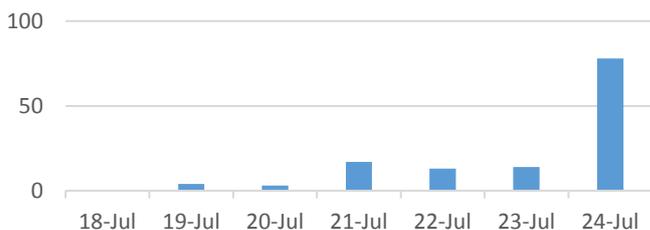
246,600 ESTIMATED REFUGEES AT RISK OF LANDSLIDES OR FLOODS in Ukhia and Teknaf (prior to relocations). Of these, as of 22 July:



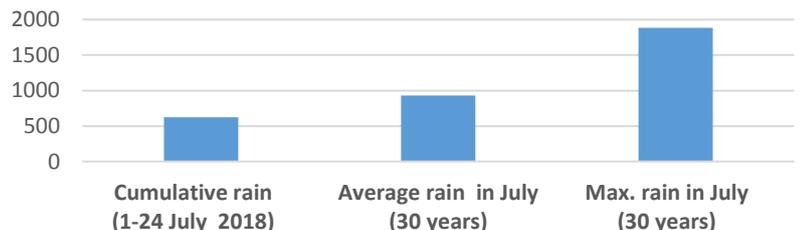
WEATHER TRENDS AND ROAD CONDITIONS

(source: BMD)

Rainfall precipitation (mm)



Rainfall comparative data for July (mm)



Road Conditions: The three-ton restriction imposed on vehicles using roads within the Kutupalong camps will continue through the end of the monsoon season to prevent further damage, ensure repairs and reinforcement works to infrastructure, and restore access with minimal disruptions. The Ukhia-Balukhali Army Road through Foliapara (north of the Logistics & Engineering Hub) remains closed due to construction. An alternate route is available through Lambashia at the northeast of Kutupalong Camp. Road 7 and the Oxfam Foecal Plant Bypass remain inaccessible to vehicles due to ongoing construction. It is advised that 4x4 vehicles be used to access roads within Kutupalong Camp.

SECTOR ACTIVITIES UPDATE



One health post in Camp 7 was rendered inaccessible as a result of flooding; health services remained uninterrupted due to the deployment of a Mobile Medical Team (MMT). A total of 3,606 cases of Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) were reported, including 5 cases admitted to the Diarrhoea Treatment Centres (DTCs) during epidemiological week of 15-21 July, bringing the total number of reported AWD cases in 2018 to 136,072. To date, no significant increase has been reported in AWD cases during the monsoon season. Two Oral Rehydration Points Plus (ORP+) have operated for over 3 months, with capacity to manage dehydration cases. MMTs provided health services to newly arrived refugees who were relocated to Camp 20 and Camp 4 Extensions and in Jadimura area.



Bottled water and Aquatabs have been prepositioned in over 10 camps for immediate support to households affected by heavy rains. The WASH Sector activated a protocol for on-site emergency sludge management and latrine decommissioning to deal with reported damage to over 50 latrines due to heavy rains. Mitigation activities during the reporting period included sand bagging and latrine protection, latrine desludging (5,455) and decommissioning (326), water quality surveillance, stockpile mapping and hygiene promotion with a focus on diarrhoea illnesses. WASH and Health Sectors have activated the rapid communication flow chart to follow up on incidents and alerts from diarrheal diseases.



203,903 shelters have been upgraded with bamboo/tarps/rope (97% of target). 149,979 Tie-down kits have been installed (71% of target). While these kits help shelters resist winds of up to 40 km/hr, they do not protect shelters against very high winds or sustained heavy rains. 66 mid-term shelters and 1,256 transitional shelters, which resist winds up to 70 km/hr, have been constructed. To date 1,326 shelters have been fully damaged due to weather-related incidents. These damaged shelters are older shelters that have yet to be upgraded. 1,248 damaged shelters have been rehabilitated.



No food distribution points were affected by rain in the reporting period. 2,200 individuals affected by landslides benefited from cooked meals and 2,118 HH received high-energy biscuits (HEB). Food distribution points and e-voucher outlets are being reinforced to mitigate the risk of flooding and landslides.



Protection outreach activities reached an estimated 87,000 men, women, boys and girls. Activities included awareness raising and group discussions on monsoon prevention measures, reducing risks of flooding and landslides, promoting safety and seeking assistance at the household and community levels. Some 20,000 HH received community messages on mitigating risks of family separation and protecting important documents and belongings. Protection partners continue to support inter-sector efforts to relocate households most at risk of landslide and flooding by identifying persons with specific needs and accompanying them to relocation sites. Child-Friendly Spaces affected by the monsoon rains are under repair; new ones are being built. Distribution of 250,000 water-proof child safety bracelets continues to facilitate speedy tracing of children's families in case of an emergency.



The Ukha, Madhu Chara and Teknaf logistics Hubs and Unchiprang Common Storage are fully operational with 6,400 m³ of free common space available for humanitarian agencies to store their aid and relief materials.



ISCG continued to advocate and follow up on government permission for NGOs to access the UN security VHF radio network and to import compatible handheld/mobile radios. ETS is working closely with local mobile network operators to ensure business continuity during the monsoon season and to update coverage maps on a regular basis.



One Stabilization Center in Camp 9 damaged due to severe flooding is still closed; repairs are underway. One Breast Feeding Support Center is also temporarily closed in the same camp due to a landslide and will be relocated. Meanwhile service provision has shifted to a nearby Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP) facility. Training of OTP staff is ongoing on how to operate as Mobile Nutrition teams in case of an emergency,



Slope stabilization works continue in the North Army Road, Oxfam Road and at the UNHCR-WFP distribution point near Camp 17. 300m of new drainage is being installed along the Army Road and drainage are being cleared in Camps 9, 10, 11 and 12. A 7m bamboo bridge is being constructed in Chakmarkul to facilitate access to a BRAC temporary learning center. Teams in Jamtoli, Unchiprang and Leda are carrying out repairs to primary access roads. The Madhu Chara Logistics & Engineering Hub is open now for office use only. The opening date for the overnight stay is pending security clearance. Ground preparation works for the new CiC accommodation hub adjacent to Madhu Chara Hub has started and all prefabs have been delivered to the site. The CiC hub will be composed of 9 prefabs (18 beds) and one office (approximately 25 m²).



103 learning facilities have been affected by landslides and 58 by floods, reflecting an increase of 2 additional flood- and 6 landslide-affected facilities compared to the previous week. Closure of the learning facilities as affected an estimated 16,500 children who have been reassigned to other facilities.



The Communicating with Communities Working Group (CwC) compiled a bulletin of links to emergency weather materials for NGOs, UN agencies and others to use in informing communities about risks involving forecasted high winds and heavy rains. CwC continued engaging with communities on risks associated with monsoon weather and the early warning flag system. A radio program was broadcast that discussed water and sanitation.

NEEDS, CHALLENGES AND GAPS

- **Land:** There is an urgent need for more land in order to mitigate the cross-cutting harms related to extremely congested camp conditions. Still more urgently, access to safe spaces for refugee evacuations are in alarmingly short supply.
- **Shelter:** The need continues for resilient shelters that can withstand heavy rains and high winds.
- **NGO partners:** Timely clearance of stocks and materials, visas for staff and permits for NGO activities is needed.
- **Funding:** Sizable funding gaps restrict capacity of key Sectors such as Health, Food Security, Shelter, and Logistics.
- **Health:** The risk of disease, in particular water-borne diseases, lingers in the event of heavy rains and strong winds that may cause flooding, landslides and/or other incidents damaging water points, latrines and sanitation facilities.
- **Protection:** Increased services are needed to ensure services for girls and women as well as men and boys, including supporting survivors of gender-based violence with psychosocial support, medical and legal assistance.
- **Logistics:** Access routes to camps require continuous monitoring, maintenance and rehabilitation to minimize closures.
- **ETS:** NGO partners face urgent ongoing challenges in securing permission to use the security telecommunications network and to import the requisite radio equipment. Without access to this network, vital humanitarian activities are obliged to rely upon mobile telecommunications that may prove unreliable due to weather or other events.



as reported by FTS
(USD 951M required)