MOVEMENT-WIDE MONTHLY REPORT ON COVID-19
August 2020
1. Situation Overview (As of 20 September 2020):

- **Recovered**: 22,587,048
- **Confirmed Cases**: 30,987,466
- **Deaths**: 961,401

Figure 1-2: Infection and Recovery Trends and daily deaths due to COVID-19 in Bangladesh (data source: DGHS).
2. BDRCS Response Highlights:

15,600
Drinking water bottles (500ml) distributed among selected COVID-19 dedicated hospitals, test and response centers, Police stations, DC offices at several districts.

252
COVID-19 infected patients treated through Holy Family Red Crescent Medical Collage Hospital.

37676
Individuals took part in several COVID-19 awareness raising sessions during August 2020.

1,042,908+
People received life-saving awareness messages on COVID-19 through social media (facebook, twitter, viber) in August 2020.

142,258
Surgical masks distributed among field staff, volunteers, and selected people including Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMN).

170
People received support through Psychosocial Support Call Center.

3. BDRCS RESPONSE OPERATION ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Shortly after the outbreak of the novel coronavirus turned into pandemic as declared by the World Health Organization (WHO), Bangladesh has been working to address it like all other countries around the globe. As an auxiliary workforce to public authority and country’s leading humanitarian organization, BDRCS closely collaborating with the Government of Bangladesh for a better synchronized COVID-19 response with particular focus on health and well-being of the people of the country. BDRCS deployed its nationwide largest volunteer network to operate this response operation. To fulfill the immediate priority needs, planned activities have been carried out systematically which includes but not limited to the major sectors e.g. Health and Psychosocial Support (PSS), Infection Prevention and Control (IPC), Livelihood and Basic Needs, and some other integrated issues such as Protection, Gender, access to essential healthcare through Mother and Child Health (MCH) care centers, clinical case management for COVID-19 patients in Holy Family Red Crescent Medical College Hospital, Epidemic control measures, risk communication, community engagement, as well as health and hygiene promotion.

3.1. HEALTH AND PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT

⇒ RCY volunteers provided Oxygen services 20 times to 12 patients in Chattogram.
⇒ RCY volunteers of Chattogram Unit assisted “Gausia Committee” to ensure healthcare support provided through Medical camp in Chattogram.
⇒ BDRCS organized total 405 Health Education courtyard sessions where 5243 participants took part.
⇒ 3671 individuals received personal counselling while 8814 individuals (Male 2981, Female 5833) took part in awareness raising programs.
⇒ 1500 posters disseminated through 10 MCH centers.

The report on COVID-19 monthly accomplishments by BDRCS and RCRC movement partners during July 2020 can be accessed here:
Psychosocial support (PSS):

In this reporting month 310 peoples (190 male and 120 female) reached with Psychological First Aid (PFA) through PSS Call Center at National Headquarters of BDRCS. The key concerns of the callers were mostly sleeping problem, fear of being infected, sadness, frustration and anger due to loss of job/not getting job, anxiety, SGBV, suicidal thought, family issues, loss of loved one, some pre-existing mental health condition such as diagnosed OCD, nightmare, Post-traumatic Stress Disorder etc. The following activities depicts BDRCS responses in this regard:

- Developed a training guide on Psychological First Aid for Volunteers.
- 7 people referred to specialized Mental Health services.
- 22 staff and volunteers reached with Caring for Volunteers activities.
- 2132 people including male, female and children reached through psychosocial support activities through BDRCSs Community Safe Spaces (CSS) at the camp setting in Cox's Bazar.
- During the month of August, 12 BDRCS RCYs in Teknaf trained on Basic Psychological First Aid.

Holy Family Red Crescent Medical College Hospital- COVID-19 treatment:

Holy Family Red Crescent Hospital (HFRCH) has been providing medical services to the COVID-19 patients as dedicated COVID-19 hospital Since April 2020. In August, 252 new COVID-19 positive patients got admitted for treatment while 279 COVID-19 patients recovered and discharged.

3.2. INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC)

- 5,000 people reached with awareness messages on coronavirus infection, prevention & control and face mask distribution in Barguna and Chattogram where a total of 50 RCY volunteers were involved.
- RCY volunteers of Barguna Unit assisted local government to bury 09 COVID-19 positive dead bodies.
- Chattogram city and district RCY Volunteers disinfected stretcher at different hospitals.
BDRCS volunteers has been working at the entrance of the 60 district Central Jails through respective Unit Offices in order to monitor Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) activities. A total of 240 RCY volunteers are involved in this activity while 9,600 people reached so far with infection control & prevention (IPC) materials and awareness raising message and materials for behavioral change in prisons.

1713 people covered through COVID-19 awareness and discussion sessions in Jamalpur, Nilphamari and Lalmonirhat districts under Integrated Resilience Programme (IRP), Integrated Flood Resilience Programme (IFRP) and Economic Empowerment of Rural Women (EERW) project.

390 people (male 115, female 275) from 4 communities of Jamalpur districts participated in practical sessions on proper hand washing techniques through IRP.

5430 beneficiaries reached in person and through cell phone to aware them on COVID-19 by providing health guideline in order to avoid health risk under V2R Barishal project.

500pcs of surgical masks were distributed among the field staff, volunteers and participants of refresher training and orientation on “COVID-19 and personal safety” under Costal DRR programme.

BDRCS Received 14,280 surgical masks as gift from Yunan Province handed over by the Chinese Ambassador in Bangladesh.

3.3. LIVELIHOOD AND BASIC NEEDS

15,600 drinking water bottles (500ml) distributed among selected COVID-19 dedicated hospitals, test and response centers, Police station, DC office, at several districts.

An inception meeting was organized for the relevant stakeholders of DSCC on ‘Cash Grant & Infection Prevention Control’ as part of Emergency COVID-19 Response at Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) under COVID-19 response project supported by German RC.

3 batches day-long data collection training through Kobo collect app were conducted for 50 volunteers at NHQ in order to select beneficiaries for Multipurpose Cash Grants (MPCGs) support under COVID-19 response project.

Bagerhat and Chattogram district unit RCY volunteers carried out home delivery service for medicines and essential daily products during lockdown in the selected areas.

3.4. PROTECTION GENDER AND INCLUSION (PGI)

Orientation on Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI), Prevention and Response to Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Child Protection (CP) was organized remotely for ULOs and Volunteers of Bogura, Manikganj, Lalmonirhat, Sirajganj, Munshiganj and Gaibandha districts in response to present flood situation as well as COVID-19 situation where 33 individuals (25 male and 8 female) took part.

COVID-19 related information along with other contemporary information shared with IFRC, ICRC, all movement partners, GBV cluster and CP cluster through e-mail and cell phone.

3.5. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (CEA)

170 call has been received through BDRCS Hotline on COVID-19 during this reporting period. Major feedback and information request were information about Polio Vaccine, demand for blood plasma remain high, information on First Aid training, treatment facilities of COVID 19 patients, request for cash and food support, dead body management (COVID-19).

155 feedback and complaints received from two flood affected districts named Tangail and Sirajganj. Most of the calls/information were related to support and diseases came from community people including widow and disable people.

2.5 lacs people reached in this reporting through month community radio program.

An orientation module developed on CEA with particular focus on basic concept, feedback mechanism, FCRM committee formation and reporting system.
3.6. POPULATION MOVEMENT OPERATION (PMO)

⇒ 80 beds are being ready to use at Integrated Isolation and Treatment Centers (IITCs) for COVID-19 patients in Camp-2E and Camp-7.
⇒ 21,681 people reached through outreach on handwashing, mask using, PGI, IITCs available services, properly hand sanitizing and physical distancing.
⇒ 1569 people reached with Integrated Community Based Psychosocial Support and Risk Communication Messages.
⇒ 560 individuals provided with general Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) services.

The below chart 1 represents the status of life saving messages dissemination & nonfood item (NFI) distribution at camps and host community while chart 2 represents the services provided through Integrated Isolation and Treatment Centers (IITCs) in camp respectively.

Communication:
⇒ BDRCS continues providing awareness raising and life-saving messages on COVID-19 through social media (Facebook, Twitter, Viber). The total reach through different posts altogether by the aforementioned social media accounts counted 1,042,908+ up during 1-31 August 2020 consisting Facebook (817,181+), twitter (28,900+) and viber (196,827+).

3.7. MYANMAR REFUGEE RELIEF OPERATION (MRRO)

⇒ 71024 Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG) refills distributed to 71024 Forcibly Displaced Myanmar National (FDMN) families. Apart from this 88 FDMN new families received 88 set stove and LPG cylinder.
⇒ 7291 families from the host community received 7291 LPG refills and 1589 new families from the host community received 2983 set stove and LPG cylinder.
⇒ 28098 FDMN families provided with 126953 pcs laundry soap and 253906 pcs bath soap.
98 FDMN families received 86 set WASH hygiene kits
28348 FDMN families received 56696 pcs jerry can and 117758 pcs of 3-layer reusable cloth mask
19 set elderly kits distributed to 19 FDMN families. An elderly kit contains sleeping mat, blanket, mosquito net, tarpaulin rope, white kit bag, bath soap and cotton mask
81 bags Core Relief Items (CRI) full kits distributed to 81 FDMN new families. The package includes tarpaulins, kitchen set, blanket, jerry can, bucket, sleeping mat and solar lamp.
15446 set female hygiene kits (FHK) distributed to 10473 FDMN families as per the manifest provided by UNCHR. Besides, 15353 solar lamps were distributed to each family with the hygiene kits.
349 people admitted and 214 people released from the quarantine Centre of Nayapara and Kutupalong camps. Among the admitted and released people 258 were males and 305 females. Besides, 168 positive suspected cases (male 69 & female 99) are staying at the Quarantine Center of camps.
In the month of August, MRRO distributed following Non-Food Items stated at chart among the refugees resided currently at the quarantine centers in Kutupalang transit, Nayapara, Teknaf and MRRO Cox’s Bazar.

4. PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION

ACTION TAKEN FROM IFRC, ICRC AND PARTNERS NATIONAL SOCIETIES (PNSs)

As an auxiliary to the public authority, government of Bangladesh (GoB) is the main partner of BDRCS. Besides, it brings beneficiaries, communities, stakeholders, movement partners and non-movement partners together towards achieving its goals and objectives. Through existing partnership mechanism, BDRCS is responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. In this regard, BDRCS partnered with number of different organizations within Movement and beyond to operate the emergency operation and to maximize the reach of vulnerable people. The partners for this emergency operation include In-country Movement Partners, Government, Humanitarian Agencies and Corporates.

4.1. International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)

IFRC Bangladesh Country Office (CO) handed over 500 pieces coverall; 500 pieces goggles; 40,000 surgical masks; 1,000 face shields; 4,200 N95 masks and other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) items to BDRCS in Dhaka.
IFRC Bangladesh CO shared COVID-19 Fact sheet to the Director General of UN in Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) and different diplomatic missions in Bangladesh
A Senior health Advisor is recruited by IFRC to advise BDRCS and IFRC teams working on COVID-19 and other emergency responses.
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 IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) in consultation with all the National Societies (NSs) in the region has initiated the needs assessment for response & recovery for COVID-19 with a view to shaping the next phase of COVID-19 programming, for both response and recovery operations, in 2021 and beyond. BDRCS is also taking part in this process.

4.2. International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

 ICRC donated 100 body bags, 1600 gloves, 400 masks, and 400 surgical gowns to Al Markaz Al Islam.
 ICRC has contributed to increase the capacity of the Old Dhaka Central Jail accommodation centre for guards. It donated five tents for housing guards, set up hygiene facilities and power supply, while supporting the centre with disinfection materials and PPE.
 2120 families in Tumbru host community (adjacent to Konarpara camp) received the second round of half food rations to maintain adequate food consumption during the agricultural season amid COVID-19 pandemic.
 Together with GIZ and Dhaka Ahsania Mission, ICRC took place in the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th batches of the joint online training on disinfection procedures amid COVID-19, with the participation of 20 staff members form 4 prisons (Sylhet Central Jail, Habiganj, Moulvibazar and Sunamganj).

4.3. Danish Red Cross:

 1478 HHs (camp-14, camp-19 and host community) reached through awareness session and handwashing demonstration where 6941 soap bars distributed.
 56 deep & shallow tube wells and 02 handwashing station repaired in Camp-19 in Cox’s Bazar. In addition, 508 latrine, 343 tube well areas, 1308 HHs and communal, 83 handwashing station and 12 mosques disinfectant at camp settlements in Cox’s Bazar.
 528 pcs reusable pads for Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) and 100 pcs 3-layer reusable face mask produced by the community volunteers of the camps.
 50 handwashing stations installed at different CSS, DAPS centers and BDRCS distribution centers, market food stalls mosque etc. in Camp 14, Camp 13 and Camp 19.
 2,451 people reached across the country through BDRCS PSS call Center. Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) was conducted for 12 staff and volunteers.

4.4. German Red Cross:

 Supported a virtual technical lesson learned workshop organized by the BDRCS FbF team in close coordination and active participation of 38 participants from BDRCS, IFRC, Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD), Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) and other PNSs to capture the learning’s regarding trigger and impact based forecast for cyclone AMPHAN amid of COVID 19 pandemic.
 Self-care and personal well-being training have been conducted for DEEPER project staff and Dhaka South City Corporation health officials in collaboration with DEEPER consortium partners.
 Under DEEPER Project Post Distribution Monitoring conducted for cash grant support to COVID-19 affected ultra-poor households in Dhaka South City Corporation. Additional learning and knowledge were captured through individual case stories and key informant interviews.
 Provided preparatory support to BDRCS for COVID-19 response project in Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) for cash grant covering 12000 households and IPC in DSCC areas.

German RC-Cox’s Bazar Operation:

Camp Level:
 229 WASH facilities, 100 public spaces and infrastructures and 4680 ft drainage network disinfected with chlorine solution at Camp 13 & 18.
 8014 pcs cloth made mask distributed in collaboration with Swedish Red Cross at Camp-18.
 In the month of August 2020, number of people reached through different services in camp-13 and camp-18 in Cox’s Bazar as stated at the following chart:
**Host Community:**

⇒ 04 WASH facilities and 03 public spaces and infrastructures disinfected at Baharchara Union of Teknaf Upazila where 19 trained and equipped RCY volunteers were engaged.

⇒ 15 pcs soap bars distributed to 01 COVID-19 suspected referral household. Besides, 16 HHs (99 people) reached in the same community through hygiene promotion and handwashing messages, IEC materials, household disinfectant 0.1% chlorine water (500ml), self-disinfection items (01 pair gloves & kitchen sponge) at Baharchara Union of Teknaf Upazila as part of emergency preparedness and response activity.

⇒ Signboard installed at 20 schools about handwashing station. 01 batch RCY Volunteers training on COVID 19 tailored awareness on hygiene behavior and handwashing with soap completed.

**4.5. Swedish Red Cross:**

⇒ 15,595 feet drainage cleaning and disinfection conducted during this reporting period.

⇒ 2,080 households covered with intensified hand washing session and demonstration, including access to IEC materials.

⇒ 18,598 soap bars distributed among community peoples to encourage proper hand washing as part of the response.

⇒ 22 religious leaders received orientation on COVID-19 pandemic as part of COVID-19 awareness.

⇒ 7,000,000 (around) liters of chlorinated water distributed among community (through piped network and tap stands) to meet regular demands of water supply and encourage peoples to wash their hands with running water.

⇒ Orientation sessions arranged for the community volunteers working within the construction team in camp-18 on intensified handwashing and key protective measures.

⇒ The doughnut chart is representing the Cox’s Bazar camp level disinfectant status.

**4.6. Swiss Red Cross:**

**SRC – Cox’s Bazar Operations / PMO**

⇒ 4,979 persons received COVID-19 messages in the camps, among those 512 were pregnant and lactating women, 450 elderly and 51 persons with disabilities.

⇒ 3,151 persons received COVID-19 messages in Palongkhali Union (Host Community).

⇒ 28 community volunteers were trained on waste collection and COVID-19 awareness raising in Palongkhali Union (Host Community). 18 staff and members of the Palongkhali Union parishad were trained on COVID-10 mitigation and containment measures.

⇒ In collaboration with IFRC, BDRCS screened and triaged 177 patients at the Isolation & Treatment Center in Camp 2E. 58 thereof where referred to the closes sentinel testing sites. 2 COVID-19 positive patients were admitted to the facility and given treatment.

⇒ PPE distributed to either Isolation & Treatment Center, 3 PHCs or 3 Palongkhali level health facilities: 17 face shields, 2 sponge mops, 6,000 gloves, 12 waste bins, 15 heavy duty gloves, 15 gum boots, 139 bottles of hand rub, 9 hand washing liquids, 3 jars of chlorine solution, 1,298 napkin rolls, 24 soap bars, 8,250 masks, 6 empty sprayer bottles, 45 gowns, 3 buckets.

⇒ Support IOM COVID Dispatch & Referral Unit with 1 ambulance has continued.
**Swiss RC – National Level**

⇒ BDRCS with support from Swiss Red Cross carried out an assessment of economic impact of COVID-19 in rural and urban areas. Since the assessment covered a vast sample size in the Chars of Gaibandha and slums of Gazipur, the finding can be considered representative of impact of COVID-19 on the most vulnerable population segment in urban and rural areas. It clearly establishes the need to support the recovery of the most disadvantaged groups.

⇒ The beneficiary selection and validation for cash transfers to 300 families in Gazipur were completed. The cash transfers will be carried out in September.

**4.7. Turkish Red Crescent:**

⇒ 21 meeting on Age, Gender and Diversity Mainstream (AGDM) organized for girls, women, PwDs, UACs, elderly people and pregnant women to bring them into the mainstreaming program to include their voice at FDMNs setting.

⇒ 16 small scale sessions conducted at HHs level on how to stay safe from COVID-19 contamination.

⇒ 5 meetings with the inter sectors staff and 10 meetings with volunteers of CiC/SMS/agencies were held to integrate the PGI approach in order to ensure maximum preventive and protective support to FDMNs.

⇒ 2 orientation organized for 24 community volunteers on protective measures focusing the risks factors to avoid COVID-19 contamination.

⇒ 10 small scale awareness sessions conducted at HHs level on how to stay protected from virus through ensuring DAPS approach at communal camp setting.

⇒ 98 families reached remotely to provide instant support in order to avoid furhtur harm in CP, GBV & PSEA considering the pandemic situation.

⇒ 26 on-site sessions conducted with stakeholders to ensure engagement of the community in community awareness activities.

⇒ 30 meetings organized for GoB, UN agencies and community leads focused on safety of the community during pandemic and how to ensure the protection from COVID-19.

⇒ 1384 people were reached through 249 small scale sessions and campagine on COVID-19 messages. In addition, 122 people reached through 18 small scale sessions on managing panic and fear to stay safe from misconception during COVID-19 pandemic.

⇒ 5552 reusable masks produced for the displaced people from Mynmar resided at camp settlements in Cox’s Bazar. 5162 pieces reusable cloth masks distributed to 2581 individuals which were made by resilient community volunteers.

⇒ 656 HHs, 194 WASH facilities and 300 feet drainage disinfeted at camp-17.

⇒ 1714 people reached through 374 had washing sessions at HH level.

⇒ 144 people reached through 10 orienion on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) and 15 special sessions on MHM caring during COVID-19.

**5. COORDINATION WITH GOVERNMENT AND HUMANITARIAN AGENCIES**

⇒ BDRCS and its partners are working closely with Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), more specifically with Director General of Health Service (DGHS) and Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR). BDRCS and its Partners along with Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) worked closely with MoDMR on updating the cyclone evacuation protocols considering the COVID-19 situation.

⇒ A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between BDRCS and BRAC with a view to establish a joint response program on COVID-19 in Gazipur district.
RCRC MOVEMENT PARTNERS

- IFRC
- ICRC
- British Red Cross
- Turkish Red Crescent
- Danish Red Cross
- American Red Cross
- German Red Cross
- Qatar Red Crescent
- Japanese Red Cross Society
- Swedish Red Cross
- Swiss Red Cross
- Croce Rossa Italiana

OTHER PARTNERS IN COVID-19 EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- Unilever
- Coca-Cola
- 2030 Water Resources Group
- HSBC
- brac
- Bangladesh

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