Humanitarian Context in 2019

Approximately 745,000 people, who were displaced in 2017 from Rakhine State in Myanmar, continued living in 34 camps and surrounding areas in Ukhia and Teknaf sub-districts of Cox’s Bazar in 2019. Two years since their arrival, the situation is now considered a protracted crisis. Affected people in the camp settlements and host communities still need humanitarian assistance for basic survival while work continues towards finding more durable solutions.

The second phase of the Government of Bangladesh-UNHCR Joint Registration process is now complete. As of 31 December 2019, a total of 854,704 forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals (including 35,000 in the two registered camps) have been issued with identity documents entitling them to assistance and protection in Bangladesh. The third phase will commence in January 2020 with continuous registration including new births, marriages, divorces, deaths and other scenarios that require updating family composition.

Over the year, two plans related of this the crisis gained prominent media attention in 2019. One was the government plan for relocation of displaced people to Island and another was the repatriation of around 160 people to Myanmar following arrangements agreed between the Bangladesh and Myanmar Governments.

In addition of these two, approximately 100,000 residents of Kutupalong’s Modhurchhara camp gathered to commemorate the second anniversary of their arrival in Bangladesh on 25 August 2019. This led to develop a kind of trust lacking situation among the authorities and humanitarian actors in relation to this crisis. As a consequence, there are some additional administrative protocol has been introduced by GoB for INGOs/NGOs to enter into camps - including telecommunications facilities – has been restricted in the camps and surrounding areas.

Prevalence of a few communicable diseases in camp areas also increased. A total of 8,734 Diphtheria cases were reported in August; out of which 300 were confirmed, 2,745 were probable and 5,689 were reclassified as suspected. In October, there was increased prevalence of Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) in the camps with 103 cases reported positive; while in November, AWD (158) cases continued to rise alongside Measles (1,343) cases.
BDRCS, with support from IFRC and partner national societies, took as the following measures:

- 188 Community Health Volunteers took preventive actions including awareness sessions
- 8,400 ORS and 40 ORT kits are readily available
- 30,000 ORS available in stock.
- 2.7 million aqua tabs and 15,000 hygiene kits are in stock
- Oral Rehydration points are present in some BDRCS Health facilities
- Health post in Camp 12, supported by Japanese Red Cross introduced AWD response protocols including isolation process
- BDRCS Field Hospital started isolation unit.
- Health posts pre-positioned Oral Rehydration Solution (ORS).
- Infection, Prevention & Control (IPC) assessment was done at health facilities for measles outbreak areas.

In 2019, two cyclones mildly affected Cox’s Bazar and several spells of heavy rainfall caused many of camps to be flooded and waterlogged, leading to damage to the access roads inside and on the outskirts of the camp settlements. On 4 May, Cyclone Fani crossed over Odisha state of India and into Bangladesh. By 2 July 2019, the monsoon had caused heavy (44–88mm) to very heavy (>80mm) rainfall over Cox’s Bazar district. On 8 November 2019, a cyclonic storm called ‘Bulbul’ approached west central bay and nearby Cox’s Bazar, with warning signal ‘Four’ announced by the Bangladesh Meteorological Department. In response to these cyclones, BDRCS with the support of IFRC and partner national societies was prepared and made the following responses:

- BDRCS raised signal no. 4, which means that flag no. 1 was hoisted in the camps by the volunteers in close coordination with CiCs (Camps-in-Charge) and Site Management.
- Along with flag hoisting, Cyclone Preparedness Program (CPP) volunteers were mobilized and did block wise dissemination and awareness using megaphones.
- EOC (Emergency Operation Cell) with updated contingency was functional with NDRT (National Disaster Response Team) on board.
- Contingency stock was updated.
- Communication with camp focal and CPP supervisor was done.
- Car requisitions were planned and managed for emergency response.
- External communication with CwC (Communication with Community), ISCG (Inter Sector Coordination Group), and UN Agencies continued.

### Health and Psychosocial Support

In December 2019, 24,876 people from camps and host communities were provided with healthcare services through continued operation of nine health facilities of BDRCS. These included one field hospital, five Health Posts and three Primary Health Centres supported by IFRC (Camp 17), Canadian RC (Camp 8w), German RC (Camp 26) Japan RC (Camp 12), Qatar RC (Camp 4 and 19) and Swiss RC (Camp 11, 13 and 15). In field hospital, outpatient department (OPD) delivered services for most of the people. The German RC-supported health post in Camp 26 was phased out, handing over to ICRC in December.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPD</th>
<th>In-patient Services</th>
<th>Total Admitted</th>
<th>ANC</th>
<th>OT</th>
<th>Delivery</th>
<th>PNC</th>
<th>Others Patient</th>
<th>Pathology</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
<td>Pediatric</td>
<td>Maternity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,687</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

www.bdrcs.org
Since October the number of patients decreased by 7.5% at 9 RCRC health facilities (to 24,876 in December), while patient flow of five health posts also decreased (by 16%) during the same period. The field hospital and three PHC centres maintained consistent patient flow over the last three months.

**Psychosocial Support (PSS)**

In December, BDRCS continued PSS services with the support of IFRC and Danish RC (DRC) reaching 11,987 camp residents including children, adolescent girls and women who enjoyed participation in the following modalities:

- Community Based Psychosocial Support (CBPSS)
- Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA)

PSS activities are implemented in camps 13, 14 and 19 through three Community Safe Spaces (CSS) and three Child Friendly Spaces (CFS). Japanese RC in technical collaboration with DRC has also been implementing CBPSS activities in Camp 14.

**Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA)**

- 186 Children participated in recreation activities inside the BDRCS Hospital and health centres.
- 28 participated in Group Sessions with male and female patients inside the BDRCS health centres
- 3,629 people received awareness and relaxation exercises through group sessions at camp level.
- 4,234 people received Psychological First Aid (PFA) at household level in all catchment areas of BDRCS health centers (total 287 HHs).
Community Based Psychosocial Support (CBPSS)
- 108 adults participated in 49 group sessions
- 515 attended 246 group sessions on life skills including English
- 104 adolescent girls received enhanced psychoeducation and life skills through 86 sessions
- 473 children participated (89 sessions) in recreational activities
- 608 youth in recreational and psycho-education activities (65 sessions).
- 2,018 people reached with Psychological First Aid Outreach (742 HHS, including male, female and children).
- 08 household members were referred to special service centres.
- 76 Community Based Child Protection Committee Meetings are functioning
- 10 persons received in-depth training on CBPSS (professional development)
- 04 Follow-up Visits were conducted.

Non-Food Items (NFI) Distribution

In December 2019, BDRCS, with support from IFRC, German RC (GRC), Qatar RC (QRC) and Turkish RC (TRC), distributed NFI items and supplementary food parcels, with additional support from Qatar RC for livelihoods of 39,865 affected households in camps 11, 12, 13, 14, 17 and 18, and host community. The distribution included water purification, winterization, shelter and food items as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Name</th>
<th>Camp/Host</th>
<th>HHs</th>
<th>Specification per packet</th>
<th>Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aqua tab and soap</td>
<td>Camp 13 &amp; 18</td>
<td>2,976</td>
<td>140 water and 2 soaps</td>
<td>IFRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hygiene Top up Kits</td>
<td>Camp 18</td>
<td>2,942</td>
<td>Bathing and Laundry Soap, Shampoo, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Cloth Bag Soap Dish</td>
<td>IFRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Menstrual Hygiene (MHM) kits</td>
<td>Camp 13</td>
<td>5,017</td>
<td>6 Pieces of cloth, 2 laundry soap, 1 small 5 litre bucket and 1 small bag.</td>
<td>IFRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sleeping mats and blankets</td>
<td>Camp 11, 12</td>
<td>13,890</td>
<td>1 blanket and 1 sleeping mat</td>
<td>GRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sleeping mats and blankets</td>
<td>Camp 13</td>
<td>8,057</td>
<td>1 blanket and 1 sleeping mat</td>
<td>IFRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPG-Refilling – 6th round</td>
<td>Palongkhalı</td>
<td>374</td>
<td>Filled up new LPG gas cylinder</td>
<td>IFRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplementary Food Parcel</td>
<td>Camp 14</td>
<td>3,220</td>
<td>2 kg Pea, 3 kg pulse, 2 kg sugar, 2 kg salt, 2 2 litre oil and 2 kg beans</td>
<td>QRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional Shelter Assistance</td>
<td>Camp 11</td>
<td>739</td>
<td>Shelter materials based on prior assessment</td>
<td>IFRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional Shelter Assistance</td>
<td>Camp 11</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>Shelter materials based on prior assessment</td>
<td>GRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tarpaulin</td>
<td>Camp 13</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>1 Tarpaulin per household</td>
<td>TRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blankets</td>
<td>Camp 13</td>
<td>1,600</td>
<td>1 blanket per household</td>
<td>TRC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Shelter Assistance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Partners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 model houses were built to demonstrate their durability and comfortability</td>
<td>Camp 11, 12</td>
<td>IFRC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 households were provided with Transitional Shelter Assistance (TSA) essential and flexible materials</td>
<td>Camp 11 (Block D)</td>
<td>German RC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>28 households</strong> received Mid-term Shelter Assistance (MSA), with concrete floor/pillars. (Approved by CiC and endorsed by ISCG)</td>
<td>Camp 17</td>
<td>Turkish RC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>850 ft Palisading and 900 ft drainage were completed, and another 450 ft of palisading and drainage are under construction</td>
<td>Camp 17</td>
<td>Turkish RC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 kw solar power and 28 light poles are under installation</td>
<td>Camp 17</td>
<td>Turkish RC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Model shelter house was built in Camp 11. *Photo: IFRC*](image_url)

### Water Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)

In the reporting month, BDRCs continued the implementation of WASH activities with the support of IFRC, Danish RC, Swedish RC, Qatar RC, Turkish RC, German RC and Swiss RC. As a result, people in camps 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18 and 19 continue to access pure drinking and other household water through water supply systems including tube wells, production boreholes, tap stands and distribution of aqua tabs. People in the camps use the RCRC built latrines and bathing facilities, which were under regular maintenance. Hygiene promotion activities of BDRCs assisted people in the camp become better aware of cleanliness and prevention of water-borne diseases. Major accomplishments and challenges relating to water supply, maintenance of sanitation and hygiene promotion are described below:

**IFRC**
- **4 solar pumps** and systems were installed with solar motor upgrades in camp 18.
- **40 water samples** were collected by trained volunteers from camps 13 and 18. Results will be analyzed and action taken in following month.
- Site selection for new production borehole in Camp 11 was finalised. CiC and community stakeholders will be consulted in coming months for the installation process.
- **62 latrines** were repaired and upgraded in camp 19.
- **64 sessions** on menstrual hygiene management (MHM) for 2,289 females in camp 13.
- During MHM kit distribution it was found that some girls were not registered in the distribution system and, as a result, they could not receive the MHM kits.
- **6,439 people** in camp 18 were given individual hygiene kits.

![Hand Washing demonstration in camp 13 (Left) and Completion of latrine facilities in host community (Right). *Photo: IFRC*](image_url)
Turkish RC
- 501 (male-311, female-190) people in camp 17 were given demonstrations of hand washing steps.
- 25 filled latrines were Dislodged in association with NGO Forum reaching 1057 (male-519, female-538) in camp 17.
- 31 cleaning campaigns were done with slogan, ‘Clean Camp Clean Mind’ reaching 422 people (male-246, female-176) in camp 17.
- 618 people (male-279, female-339) were reached through 40 hygiene promotion sessions in camp 17.

German RC
- 4,287,600 liters of chlorinated drinking water was distributed through small piped water supply networks, in which 2,447,600 liters (20,397 l/d per site) in Camp 18, and 1,840,000 liters (30,667 l/d per site) in camp 13.
- 54 latrines were dislodged - 21 in camp 13 and 33 in camp 18.
- 80 household latrines were constructed in host community (Baharchhara union, wards 7, 8, 9).
- 5 out of 10 deep tube-wells construction in host community (Baharchhara union, wards 7, 8, 9) were completed.
- 2,394 hygiene kits were distributed as per BDRCS distribution plan. From a total no. of 16,000 hygiene kits. distributed at camp 18.

Swedish RC
- Aqua tabs (2,65,300 pc) produced 11,16,500 litres water for 1,895 households in camps 13 and 18.
- Maintenance of 9 bathing cubicles and 44 hand washing facilities was completed alongside completed construction of 16 hand washing facilities in camp 18.
- 18 focus group discussions (FGDs) and 35 household visits were conducted to promote proper water uses.
- 45 sessions on ‘Container Cleaning Campaign’; ‘proper use of water’ and ‘Tap Stand cleaning campaign’ were conducted in camps 11,12 and 18 as a part of community mobilization on water supply.
- Decommission of 10 latrines following repairs and dislodgement of 122 latrines were done in camp 18.
- 536 feet drainage and anti-erosion protection was completed in camp 18.
- 4300 (cubic feet) sludge was treated in camp 18.

Solid Waste Management (SWM)
Regular solid waste collection from block-G and all sub blocks in camp 15.
- Two color bin distribution only 2,784 bins.
- Communal bin installation at G block, 20 sets
- Drain and open space cleaning in block-G, Ccommunal bin waste collection,
- Waste separation and transportation at Material Recovery Facilities (MRF) centre
- Awareness building at HH level in G block
- Enhanced outreach of SWM and waste collection process activities
- Source segregation, waste measuring, transportation and segregation at MRF center and composting supported by Swiss RC in camp 15.

Solid Waste collection in Camp 15. Photo: BDRCS

Session on Solid Waste management in Camp 15. Photo: BDRCS
BDRCS continued Protection Gender and Inclusion (PGI) activities through DAPS (Dignity, Access, Participation and Safety) approach at three DAPS centres (camps 13, 14 and 19). BDRCS is integrating protection, gender equality and inclusion of most vulnerable people in the camps including elderly, PwD (People with Disabilities) and others. PGI accomplishments in December are stated below:

- 981 Children (6-15 years) took part in activities of origami and flower groups
- 967 Children (5-12 years) attended English and Burmese language lessons.
- 242 Children, adolescents and adults (male & female) benefitted through awareness sessions on PGI and other current issues
- 100 Females involved in tailoring activities
- 1,025 Children, adolescents and adults (male & female) participated in structured games
- 367 Adults participated in fishing net making (Disability Inclusion)
- 108 Children, adolescents and adults (male & female) engaged in other activity at DAPS Centres
- 08 Women with critical protection condition were referred for better service.

165 HHs ensured outreach activity for Disability Inclusion and Community Feedback.

Total 4,047 people including children and adolescents of different ages (1,623 males & 2,424 females) reached through Gender and Protection services in an inclusive manner in camps 13, 14 & 19. In this month, 468 new people were benefitted participating the PGI activities with the support from IFRC, Danish RC, Qatar RC, Turkish RC & Swedish RC.
Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Community Resilience (CPP)

BDRCS with support from American RC and IFRC conducted ‘Disaster Preparedness’ training at five camps with 543 CPP camp volunteers including 150 males and 41 females. A Table-Top simulation exercise (TTX) was organized in order to review the PMO contingency plan to test the alert and trigger mechanism at PMO level, the emergency information coordination and management mechanism at Emergency Operation Cell (EOC), and the sector response plans. BDRCS installed 38 fire extinguishers at 10 educational institutions and organized an orientation session based on fire safety and fire extinguisher operating procedures. A day-long workshop on ‘Lessons Learnt’ (LL) from Cyclone Bulbul Preparedness and Early Actions in Camp Settlements’ was organized in order to share the assessment findings with Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) staff. The findings showcased good practices related to cyclone preparedness and also captured a few areas where RCRC actions need to be strengthened in future. The DRR sector of BDRCS with the support from American RC arranged a “DRR Reflection Workshop” to share the accomplishments of 2019 with the Red Cross Red Crescent (RCRC) staff and discussed relevant aspects including quality improvement of the interventions and strengthening the internal and external coordination for 2020. Moreover, the following are the key activities conducted during the reporting month:

1. CPP with the support from American RC distributed Personal Protection Gears (PPGs) for the newly trained CPP camp volunteers at camp settlements
2. CPP/ American RC provided technical support to site management support agencies to organize block level mock drill as part of regular awareness raising on multi-hazard among the forcibly displaced people from Rakhine state.
3. BDRCS and American RC DRR facilitated sessions at Capacity Sharing Initiative (CSI) training at camp level which was organized for the RRRC/CiC officials by UNHCR, IOM, UNDP in coordination with the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commission (RRRC) office.
4. BDRCS DRR organized “Road Safety training” in coordination and collaboration with Traffic Police Department, Cox’s Bazar.
5. BDRCS and American RC participated in Cyclone Simulation Exercise for Testing Emergency Telecommunication functionality organized by ISCG at Teknaf camps.
6. BDRCS and American RC organized half day long Tabletop Simulation Exercise to review PMO contingency plan to respond to disasters/crisis.
7. Staff attended meetings through various platforms for external coordination (ISCG, BDRCS, and other stakeholders level) for example, Communication with Communities (CwC), Working Group meeting, Inter Management Assessment & Working Group (IMAWG) meeting, Emergency Preparedness Working Group (EPWG) meeting etc. to ensure BDRCS positioning in this complex humanitarian context.
Community Engagement & Accountability (CEA)

During December 2019, CEA Team reached a total of 2,776 people (1401 male and 1375 female) through Community Radio listening program, Staff training, Block meeting, Household visits and Information and Feedback services. The team received 651 items of community feedback.

- The team facilitated 8 Community Radio Listening Program episodes on different issues including acute watery diarrhea, safety for women in camp, cholera vaccination, scope card for food, fire safety in camp, winter care, supporting people with disabilities, trafficking risk and precaution.
- Majhi and Imam Meeting: we collected feedback on the major issues of winter materials, drinking water, beneficiary cards, health facilities, shelter materials, water supply, LPG supply, education
- CEA developed IEC (Information, Education and Communication) and SBCC (Social Behavior Change Communication) materials including DRR tips on road safety, poster on Beneficiary criteria awareness.
- FGD (Focus Group Discussion) and household visits were conducted to capture beneficiary perception about the PSS activities.

CEA Feedback and Response

- 1,157 people benefited through community radio listening show
- 140 Majhi and Imams attended sharing meetings.
- 1169 inputs at Information & Feedback Hub and desk service
- 102 people surveyed on PSS Performance through 8 FGD (4 male groups +4 female groups)
- 24 sector representatives received training on feedback mechanism
- 28 CEA training sessions for health staff
- 16 PSS Performance survey through door to door outreach

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