

BANGLADESH

Situation Overview¹

- **Monsoon rains continued in Cox's Bazar causing 44 incidents², including landslides, winds, floods, and waterlogging, between 27 July and 2 August, leading to the damage of 61 shelters.**
- UNHCR deployed a **Multi-Functional Team (MFT)** comprising 16 staff members to affected areas since 25 July. The team works with Camp-in-Charges (CiCs - camp administrators appointed by the Government of Bangladesh), partner agencies, and Rohingya refugee volunteers to **conduct rapid damage assessments, mobilise response capacity on the ground, and assist relocation to safer sites for refugees** whose shelters were affected by the rains and/or live in areas at high-risk of landslides.



Trained refugee volunteers, wearing high-visibility vests, guiding the relocation to Camp 4 Extension on 31 July. @UNHCR/M. Saleh

UNHCR and Partners' Response

-  The Site Management Engineering Project (**SMEP**) team — a joint engineering project by **UNHCR, IOM, and WFP**—was deployed during heavy rains on 25 July to repair sections of Army Road at risk of being washed away. As a result, **the arterial road linking the north and south of Kutupalong-Balukhali refugee settlement remained accessible for aid distribution and emergency response in the following days.** Apart from road repairs, the SMEP team also **cleared drainage and landslide areas, and stabilised slopes in several camps.**
-  **A total of 142 Rohingya families (596 individuals) from high-risk landslide areas in seven areas** were relocated to Camp 4 Extension (west of Kutupalong settlement) between 27 July and 2 August. This permanent relocation is part of the expedited risk mitigation measures being done due to heavy rains in the past weeks. Protection staff from MFT and refugee volunteers continue to counsel the refugees prior to their relocation.
-  UNHCR and partners (NGO Forum, BRAC, and Oxfam) worked together with refugee volunteers to conduct rapid assessments on Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) and to quickly repair damaged facilities, including **218 latrines, 53 bathing cubicles, 35 tube wells and hand pumps, and 16 handwashing stations** from 23 to 28 July. The partners and refugee volunteers were also trained by UNHCR on emergency preparedness and response throughout May and June 2018.
-  The MFT distributed **145 Post-Disaster Kits (PDK)**, which include a sleeping mat, tarpaulin, and aquatabs (water purification tablets), to refugee households affected by monsoon rains between 26 July and 1 August. PDKs are stored in **98 of 116 containers pre-positioned in six locations** near the settlements in both Teknaf and Ukhiya sub-districts, with the remaining containers used for storage of tents and other purposes.
-  The inter-agency **Protection Emergency Response Unit (PERU)** teams were deployed to **six camps** from 25 to 28 July. The team worked with all key actors on the ground, including the camp protection focal points, Site Management and Shelter agencies, and CiCs to assess protection needs and risks. PERU, which is coordinated by UNHCR as the lead agency for the Protection Sector Working Group, also provided psychological first aid, made referrals to facilitate access of affected households and individuals to assistance and services as required, and assisted in the safe relocation of families whose shelters had been damaged or flooded.

¹ This flash update is produced weekly by UNHCR sub-office in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Figures are subject to change following further assessments and monitoring, particularly in hard-to-reach areas due to multiple landslides and waterlogging.

² According to reports from the Inter-Sector Coordination Group, which receives information from Site Management Support agencies, and data is based on preliminary assessments. Figures are subject to change.

Key population figures

-  **900,000** total refugees (approx.)
-  **200,000** est. total refugees at risk of flood and landslide hazards
-  **41,700** est. refugees at high risk of landslide hazards

Emergency evacuation

Relocation due to high risk of landslide

-  **23,330** refugees out of **41,700** est. at high risk of landslide relocated from all 28 identified settlements
-  **80%** of 60 acres completed in Kutupalong site

UNHCR emergency evacuation plan in case of disaster

-  **42,000** refugees to be relocated with other families within the UNHCR managed camps
-  **14,450** refugees to be relocated/hosted within existing community infrastructures such as mosques, Temporary Learning Centers, etc.
-  **14,600** refugees to be relocated to community infrastructures within the host community*
-  **60,000** refugees to be relocated in tents

Progress

Protection

-  **262** UNHCR Community Outreach Members (COMs) trained/oriented on awareness raising for landslide and cyclone risk
-  **123,724** refugees reached by **5,635** awareness campaigns on landslides and cyclone
-  **260** Safety Unit Volunteers (SUV) trained on the Government of Bangladesh Cyclone Preparedness Program (CPP)
-  **700** Safety Unit Volunteers (SUV) trained on fire fighting and landslide awareness
-  **15** Information Points out of **16** established

Shelter & site improvement

-  **32** kilometers of road (brick road/footpath, Army Road) constructed
-  **2,172** meters of bridges constructed
-  **45** kilometers of steps constructed
-  **63** running kilometers of retaining structures built
-  **91** kilometers of drainages repaired/completed
-  **86,835** shelter upgrade kits out of **86,835** distributed
-  **80,675** pre-monsoon shelter tie-down kits out of **80,675** distributed
-  **9,560** family tents pre-positioned and **467** distributed
-  **263,361** plastic tarpaulins pre-positioned and **79,436** distributed
-  **116** storage containers out of **146** pre-positioned
-  **20** host community structures being upgraded

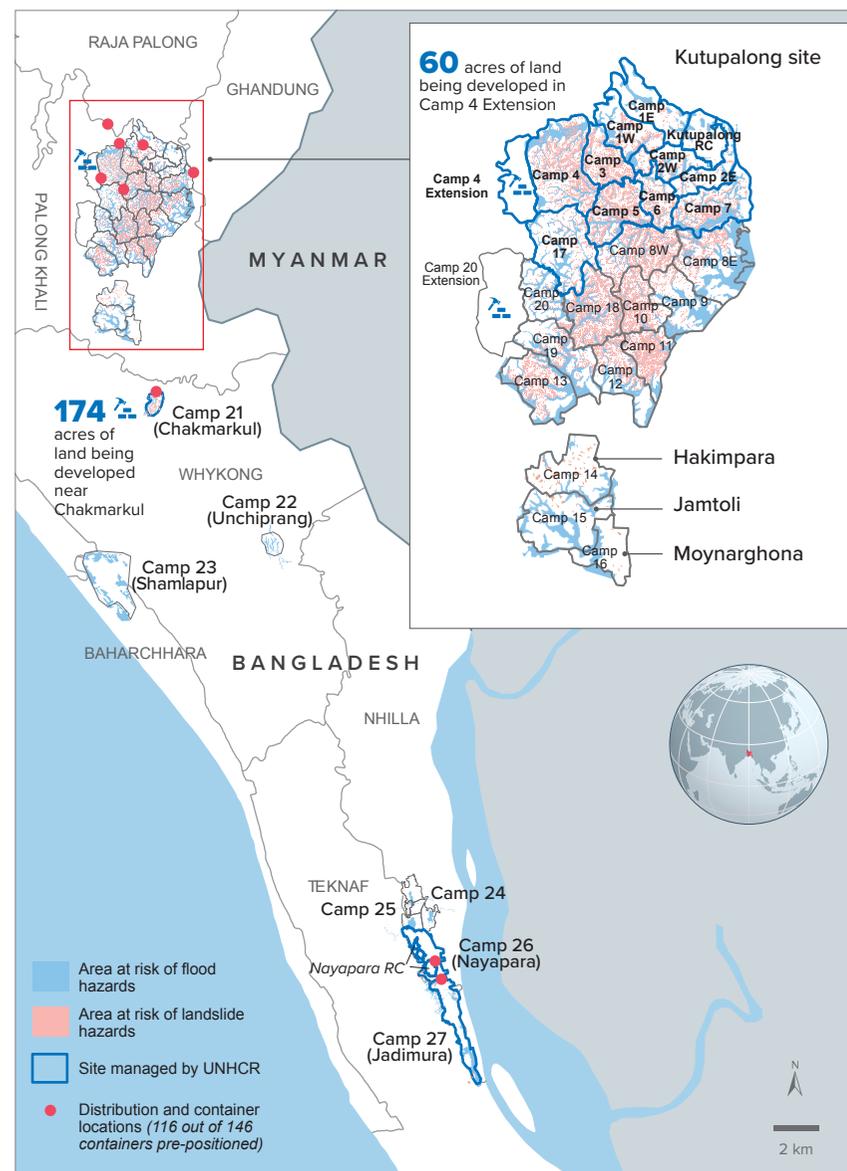
WASH

-  **958** latrines out of **958** constructed in relocation areas for refugees at high risk of landslide
-  **114** water points out of **123** installed in relocation areas for refugees at high risk of landslide
-  **12** camps out of **12** with Emergency WASH Simulation exercises completed

Health

-  **1,875** Community Health Workers out of **2,000** trained on first aid in emergencies
-  **400** Community Health Workers out of **400** trained on the Government of Bangladesh Cyclone Preparedness Program (CPP)
-  **800** Community Volunteers and Counsellors trained on psychological first aid, identification and referral of mental health cases, and basic counselling skills
-  **6** nutrition mobile teams established to reach displaced families

Landslide and flood hazard analysis



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

* Subject to approval from the government

Working in partnership

UNHCR co-chairs a Strategic Executive Group (SEG) in Bangladesh with the UN Resident Coordinator and IOM. The Refugee Agency leads on the protection response for all refugees, and heads a Protection Working Group in Cox's Bazar. UNHCR welcomes its valuable partnership with other agencies (WFP, UN-HABITAT, UNDP) and coordinates the delivery of its assistance with UN agencies and other partners through a number of working groups under the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG). UNHCR's main government counterpart is the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief and its Cox's Bazar-based Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC). In close cooperation with IOM and UNDP, UNHCR is also providing tangible support to coordination efforts of local government entities in Cox's Bazar, Ukhiya and Teknaf. UNHCR staff work closely with the Camp-in-Charge officials in different refugee settlements, as well as a range of international and national actors. It has a strong network of 23 partners, including:

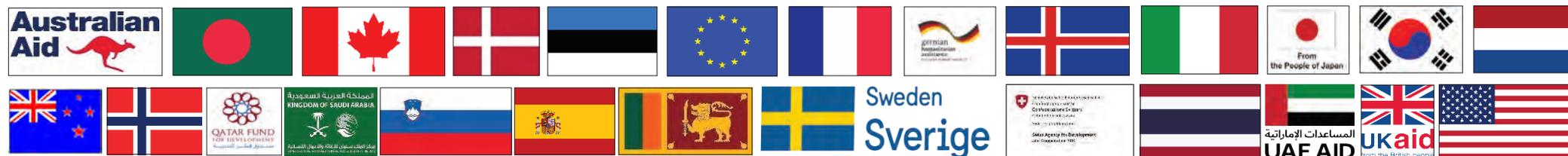
ACF (Action Contre la Faim) | **ADRA** (Adventist Development and Relief Agency) | **BDRCS** (Bangladesh Red Crescent Society) | **BNWLA** (Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association) | **BRAC** (Bangladesh Rehabilitation Assistance Committee) | **CARITAS BANGLADESH** | **CODEC** (Community Development Centre) | **DRC** (Danish Refugee Council) | **FH** (Food For the Hungry) | **GK** (Gonoshasthaya Kendra) | **HELVETAS** Swiss Intercooperation | **HI** (Handicap International) | **IUCN** (International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) | **NGOF** (NGO Forum) | **OXFAM** | **PUI** (Première Urgence Internationale) | **REACH** | **RI** (Relief International) | **RTMI** (Research Training and Management International) | **SCI** (Save the Children) | **SI** (Solidarités International) | **TAI** (Technical Assistance Incorporated) | **TDH** (Terre Des Hommes Foundation)

UNHCR would also like to acknowledge the crucial role played by the refugees in the response; with over 1,000 **volunteers from the refugee community who are often the first responders on the ground**. UNHCR and partners have trained and work with **safety unit volunteers (SUVs)** who support the emergency response, **community outreach members** who support raising awareness on important issues and in addressing protection risks, **community health workers** who assist with outreach for health and nutrition, and others who provide further critical support to the emergency response.

Donor support

The response of the Government and people of Bangladesh is extraordinarily generous. More support is required from the international community to assist the ongoing humanitarian response in Bangladesh for refugees and host communities. Continued political efforts to work for a solution to the situation remain vital. UNHCR is appealing for USD 238.8m (part of its Supplementary Appeal for 2018) in order to respond to the needs of hundreds of thousands of refugees.

Donor country contributions to UNHCR Bangladesh (2017/2018) and unrestricted funding to global operations:



With thanks to the many private donations from individuals, foundations, companies including Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, IKEA Foundation, International Islamic Relief Organization Kuwait Finance House, OPEC Fund for International Development, Prosolidar-Onlus Foundation, Qatar Charity, Rahmatan Lil Alamin Foundation, The Big Heart Foundation, The Church of Latter-Day Saints, and UPS Corporate. Special thanks also to CERF.

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