

Disaster Risk Reduction in Christian Aid's Rohingya Response

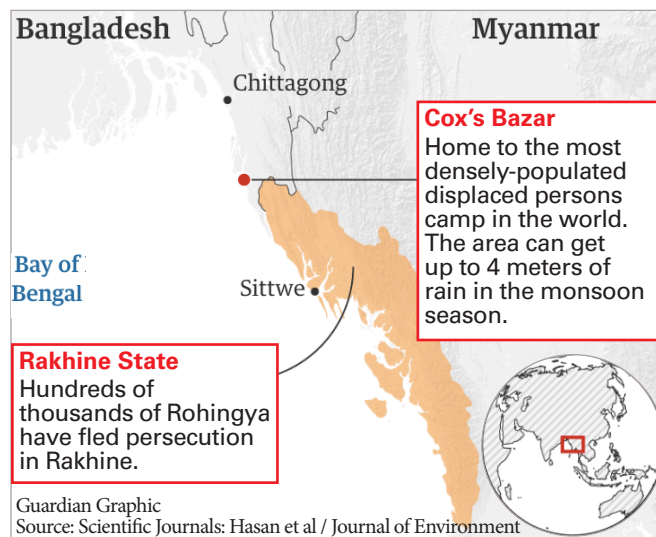
Cox's Bazar
June 1, 2018



Rohingya resident Mohammad Ilias and his family outside their wind and rain-damaged shelter in Jamtoli's H Block. Strong winds blew off Ilias's tarpaulin roof and cracked the flimsy bamboo lattice-work that forms the shelter's walls. In addition to wind damage, sustained rain poses the threat of landslide and flooding. Photo: Christian Aid/Faysal Ahmad

The situation:

- > Cox's Bazar experiences some of the **heaviest monsoon rains in the region**. The monsoon season runs from June-September, with the amount of rainfall doubling from May to June.
- > Bangladesh has two cyclone seasons: April-May and October-November. CxB has been hit by cyclonic storms in each of the last three years.
- > In May 2017, **Cyclone Mora affected 355,000 in Cox's Bazar**. In the Rohingya camps, an estimated **70% shelters and 70-80% latrines were damaged**. In Kutupalong and Balukhali camps, 20,000 shelters were severely damaged. In the host community, 500,000 people were evacuated to 400 cyclone shelters. Only the most vulnerable Rohingya (i.e. pregnant women) were evacuated from the camps.
- > **There are no cyclone shelters within the Rohingya camps and settlements**, due to land constraints and government restrictions on permanent structures. With exceptions for the most vulnerable, **there is no plan to evacuate the Rohingya camp population to cyclone shelters in the host community**.
- > Warming seas & a rise in sea-levels may increase the intensity and frequency of cyclones in the region.



- Because of scale and density of the camps (current population = 900,000+ people), a cyclonic storm would have the effect of an **"urban disaster."** WaSH facilities may be destroyed. **Health centers may be suspended** for 24 hours due to damage. Waterlogging and contamination from damaged latrines are may lead to **outbreaks of communicable diseases**, such as cholera or acute watery diarrhoea (AWD).

The strategy:

- > Community Risk Analysis (CRA)
- > Risk mitigation
- > Increased community resilience
- > Pre-positioning of supplies

Key activities:

> Vulnerability & Risk Analysis

Christian Aid's Site Management team and Rohingya community members conducted a **Community Risk Assessment (CRA)** to assess hazards, vulnerabilities, risks, and ability to cope. • **319 HHs were identified at risk** of waterlogging, flooding, landslide or fire • Based on findings, CAID has prepared a **Risk Reduction Action Plan (RRAP)**.

> Shelter Upgradation & Advance Relocation

CAID, with IOM support, and shelter partners SKB and BRAC are working to upgrade all 11,500 households in Jamtoli. • As of May 2018, **CAID has supported 6,792 HHs with shelter upgrade kits** (full + partial) • **3,477 HHs have upgraded their shelters** (not including HHs supported by SKB & BRAC) • **150 HHs in at-risk areas have been relocated** • **20 communal shelters will also be upgraded.**

> Community Awareness & Capacity Building

In partnership with the GOB & other agencies, CAID has trained **Rohingya community volunteers to be deployed as first responders** & disseminated **emergency preparedness messages** through the camp. Volunteers include: 20 **Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP)** volunteers • 64 Safety Unit Volunteers (SUVs) • 198 volunteers trained in **First Aid, Search & Rescue, Early Warning & Firefighting** • 48 Psychosocial Support volunteers • 64 Joint Needs Assessment (JNA) volunteers • 212 Block Development Committee (BDC) members • 109 Majhis • 100 porters & cleaners.

> Protection Emergency Response Unit

Camp-level unit response team, including GBV and child protection specialists.



CAID's engineer directs stairway construction in Jamtoli. 68 pathways have been constructed to reduce risk of landslides. Photo: Christian Aid/Kuldeep Sagar

> Site Improvement Activities

Construction of 650 meter access road • 68 pathways covering 1574.5 meters • Drainage improvement • Slope stabilization.

> Pre-Positioning of Supplies (see map)

First aid kits • stretchers • tools (excavation) • cutting tools (axe, chainsaws, saws) • tie-wires & ropes • blankets • emergency tarps • raincoats • gum boots • torches • reflection vests • hand sirens • whistles • loudhailers/megaphones • aquatabs • dry rations • bottled water.

> Vaccinations

As of May 13, 2018, **96% of Jamtoli residents received cholera vaccinations** • **97% of Jamtoli residents have been vaccinated for diphtheria.**

> Mock Drill of Response Plan

To train the community & test the plan's various elements in order to reevaluate and revise it.

> Establish Family Counting System

> Dead Body Management

> Alternative Plan to Continue Current Services

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