

# Bangladesh Country Office Humanitarian Situation Report No. 5

## North-eastern Flood



Children and families continue to live out of unprotected, makeshift shelters on the side of roads as homes have been destroyed, washed away or remain inundated in the floodwaters.  
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Report date: 7/07/2022

### SITUATION IN NUMBERS

#### Highlights

- The humanitarian situation continues to be dire in the flood affected areas, UNICEF and partners continue to scale-up lifesaving services.
- A high-level joint mission comprising UN Resident Coordinator, Representatives of UNICEF, UNFPA and WFP and Donors - FCDO and ECHO paid a two days' visit to witness the flood affected locations and response in Sunamganj and Sylhet Districts from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2022.
- A Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) was drafted to complement the Government led response in the Northeast region. The HRP appeals for US \$58.4 million to provide lifesaving assistance for six months.
- UNICEF Flood Preparedness and Response plan finalized for 20 districts in the North-east and North-west, UNICEF is urgently asking for USD18 million to address the immediate need, and USD 27.7 million for intermediate term to deliver lifesaving services to the most vulnerable children and families.
- UNICEF re-allocated USD 2.8 Million of the organization resources to ensure timely response.

#### 7.2 million

People affected by flash flood<sup>1</sup>

#### 3.5 million

Children affected by flash flood

#### 57 Deaths

Including 22 children<sup>2</sup>

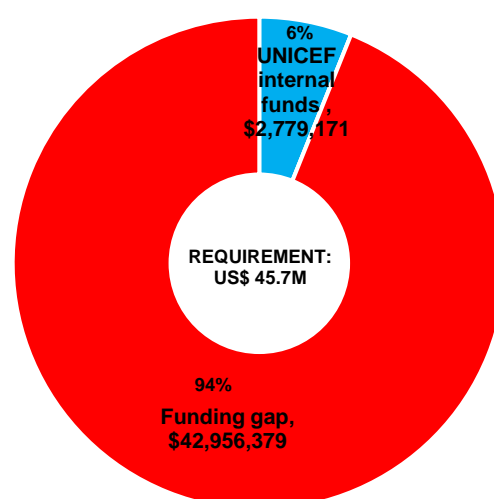
#### 9 Districts

Sylhet, Sunamganj, Moulivibazar, Habiganj, Kishoreganj, Netrakona, Brahmanbaria, Mymensingh and Sherpur affected

#### 846,600

People reached with safe drinking water and supplies.

#### Funding Status (in US\$)



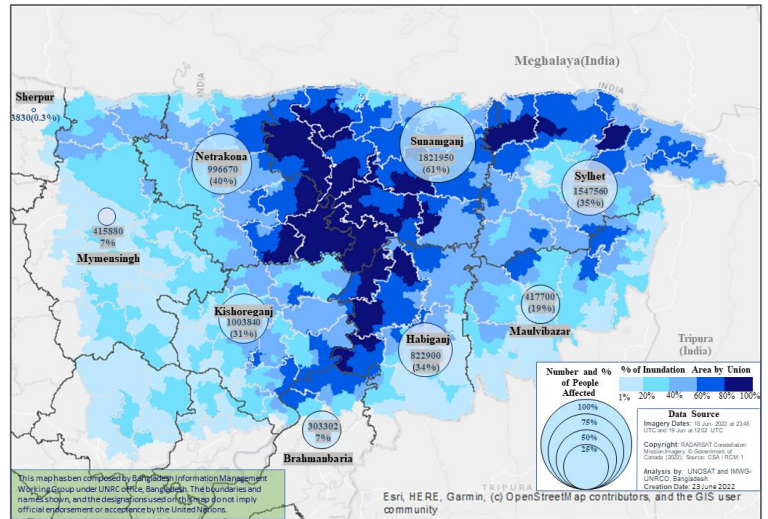
<sup>1</sup> North Eastern Flash Flood, May June 2022, Key Immediate Needs and Situation Analysis, Needs Assessment Working Group (NAWG), Bangladesh Date: 26th June 2022 (version 03)

<sup>2</sup> Sylhet Divisional director health report, 6 July 2022

## Situation Overview

Since the beginning of the flood, 472,856 people had been evacuated to 1,605 safety shelter centres with support from the Army, Navy, Fire Service, and the local authorities<sup>1</sup>. As of 4th July, 73,555 people are still living in about 700 shelter centers in Sunamganj, Sylhet and Moulvibazar<sup>3</sup> districts, centers are mostly overcrowded where girls and women are at higher risks of Gender Based Violence.

According to the recent data from the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), 106,727 water points got totally destroyed and 283,355 sanitation facilities immensely damaged, the contamination of the drinking water is quite massive and led to increasing trend of acute watery diarrhea and other waterborne diseases. As of 5<sup>th</sup> July, 8,831 cases of waterborne diseases and other diseases have been reported in Sylhet division with 57 deaths<sup>2</sup>. Services in affected health facilities are slowly returning to normal and individuals sheltered in the various health facilities have started returning to their homes. Some facilities like schools used by the displaced people requires cleaning and minor to moderate repair works.



## Humanitarian Coordination

On 27 June 2022, The Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) endorsed a Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for six months (July-December) developed by the Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCTT) that complements the GoB-led response to the Northeast region. The HRP prioritises heavily impacted five Districts – Sunamganj, Netrokona, Sylhet, Habiganj and moulvibazar. The plan will be further updated to incorporate additional need in advance of the donors and UN meeting on July 14 . The plan covers the priority sectors of food security, WASH, Child protection, Education, Nutrition, shelter and integrated GBV and Sexual Reproductive Health. The other sectors covered are displacement management and early recovery.

On 30th June, a coordination meeting was held among the UN agencies working in Sylhet division - UNICEF, UNDP, IOM, FAO and WHO at UNICEF field office. The meeting focused on sharing information and coordinating the response. Members agreed to continue the coordination meeting on a weekly basis to ensure coordinated and coherent response.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> July, the joint UN and Donor mission led by the Resident Coordinator visited areas devastated by the flood and held discussions with the affected populations and local authorities. The delegation also witnessed the ongoing responses supported by UNICEF and humanitarian actors such as Mobile health camp, Nutrition screening, Expanded Programme on Immunisation (EPI), Water trucking, Child Safe and Recreational Space, and distribution of Non-Food Items in Sunamganj district, and held a press briefing.



During a coordination meeting among UN agencies in Sylhet UNICEF Office, dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 2022



Press briefing by the UN/Donor delegation in Sylhet dated 2<sup>nd</sup> July

## UNICEF response

### Health & Nutrition

With support of the Government, additional immunization sessions were organized for drop-out children in flood shelters of Sunamganj district reaching 135 children.

The curative and preventative services continued under the UNICEF supported contingency programme, Friends In Village Development Bangladesh (FIVDB) conducted medical camps in three upazilas reaching about 75 children. In addition, two emergency medical camps have been organized in two upazilas reaching about 700 people from the flood affected communities of Sunamganj with health services. 700 cartons of therapeutic milk are in the pipeline to meet the needs.



Special I EPI sessions are conducted in Shantiganj upazila, Sunamganj dated 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2022

### WASH

UNICEF started repairing the tube-wells using its internal resources, UNICEF distributed 20,000 Jerricans and 2,000 Hygiene Kits. UNICEF partner, FIVDB continues to provide safe water to over 1,000 mostly affected people through water trucking. With UNICEF support, accumulative number of 846,600 people have been reached with WASH interventions since the beginning of the flood.



In Sunamganj, UNICEF distributes safe drinking water and jerry cans to families affected by flood dated 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2022

### Education

Out of some 3,000 primary schools of Sylhet and Sunamganj districts, more than 80 per cent of primary and secondary schools have been inundated affecting nearly 673,000 children<sup>4</sup>. A total of 285 learning centers have been severely damaged negatively impacting the education of some 8,000 children. A rapid assessment conducted on 4<sup>th</sup> July revealed that nearly seven per cent of the learning centers have been completely destroyed and most of the other learning centers are partially damaged. UNICEF is supporting early restoration learning plan in those centers, however, education activities remain halted in all 275 flood-affected educational institutions. More than 150 educational institutions are still used as shelters.



A learning center inundated in Poshchim Birergaon Union of Shantiganj upazila, Sunamganj

### Child Protection

During the reporting period, a Child Safe and Recreational Space was established to offer early childhood and psycho-social activities for children and help prevent Violence Against Children and Women (VACW) including GBV in Sunamganj. As of 5<sup>th</sup> July, some 8,802 vulnerable adolescents and family members (5,106 female, 48 persons with disabilities) benefited from psychosocial support and sensitisation on drowning prevention, GBV, family separation and information about shelter centres supported by UNICEF and partners. Through awareness messaging, UNICEF and partners have reached 9,107 people (5,312 female, 59 persons with disabilities). In addition, Child Helpline 1098 of the Department of Social Services (DSS) received 1,029 calls (322 female) from five flood-affected districts (Sylhet, Sunamganj, Moulvibazar,

<sup>4</sup> Directorate of Primary Education, Sylhet, 5 July 2022

Habiganj, & Mymensingh). The issues recorded were mostly related to floods, drowning, and physical and mental health issues. 1,770 adolescent girls and women have received Dignity Kits and the need for dignity kits continues to be high. Additionally, UNICEF has procured 3,600 dignity kits and 3,308 family kits and distribution is planned.

### Socio-behaviour and communication change

With UNICEF assistance, the Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) Consortium partners NGOs in Sylhet region have reached over 460,000 population (184,000 women) through 80 courtyard sessions and distributed 6,000 leaflets in the community and shelters. The consortium continues to disseminate messages on hygiene and sanitation practices and preventions of AWD and COVID-19.



A Child Safe and Recreational Space at a Shelter in Sunamganj

### Funding

As per UNICEF flood preparedness and response plan, UNICEF is urgently asking for USD18 million to address the immediate need, and USD 27.7 million for intermediate term to deliver lifesaving services to the most vulnerable children and families. Details as in the table below.

SECTORS	Preparedness /Immediate response (3 months)	Response and recovery (6 months)	Total response
Nutrition	1,402,208	1,297,792	2,700,000
Health	1,200,000	1,800,000	3,000,000
WASH	7,500,000	15,000,000	22,500,000
Child Protection	4,024,059	4,311,491	8,335,550
Education	2,880,000	4,320,000	7,200,000
C4D and cross-sectoral	500,000	500,000	1,000,000
Humanitarian coordination	500,000	500,000	1,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,006,267</b>	<b>27,729,283</b>	<b>45,735,550</b>

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