



A mother, with her 9-month-old son, stands before their home, affected by the flash flood in Kyaching Ghata, Bandarban in August. Dealing with the wreckage, she faces the challenge of finding a safe haven and support for her little one. UNICEF remains steadfast in its commitment to provide essential support to affected families like hers, fostering the restoration of lives in the wake of climate emergencies. © UNICEF Bangladesh/2023/Mukut

# Bangladesh Country Office

Humanitarian Situation

Report No.4

Floods and Landslides in  
Chittagong and Cox's Bazar

5<sup>th</sup> October 2023

## Highlights

- Since 5<sup>th</sup> August 2023, continuous monsoon rains have affected Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Rangamati, and Bandarban in Bangladesh. **1.3 million people** including **630,000 women and 480,000 children** (0-18 years old) are affected with **51 several deaths**<sup>1</sup>. **600,000 people** need humanitarian assistance across four districts (Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Rangamati, and Bandarban).
- In Cox's Bazar, approximately **538,373 people (including 25,533 in Rohingya camps and 185,200 children)** were exposed after the floods and landslides, while nearly **85,500 people (3,500 children and 3,974 Rohingya refugees)** were displaced and sheltered in temporary flood shelters<sup>2</sup>.
- WASH Section **distributed hygiene kits** to families from **two of the most affected Upazilas** in collaboration with Upazila Administration and Local Government Institutes (LGIs), benefitting **a total of 41,370 population (16,462 male, 15,710 female and 9,198 children)**.
- With UNICEF support and in partnership with the Department of Social Services (DSS), a total of **2,850 Family kits and dignity kits were distributed** to three affected districts (Bandarban, Chattogram, Rangamati) that will benefit up to **12,825 people**. In addition, more than **4,000 kits (2,000 Dignity kits for 2,000 Family)** are **planned for distribution** in the affected districts.
- In collaboration with DSS and the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA), approximately **44,000 (31,300 women, 210 children with disability)** people were reached with Gender Based Violence (GBV) risk mitigation and prevention messaging on child marriage, child trafficking, and child labor.
- **A total of 20 severe acute malnutrition (SAM) children received treatment.** UNICEF supported the strengthening of SAM screening by mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) in targeted SAM facilities in Chattogram, Bandarban and Rangamati.
- Critical funding gaps remain across all sectors, with a HAC funding gap of **US\$58 M (33 per cent)** restricting UNICEF's ability to meet the priority needs of girls, women, and persons with disabilities.

## Situation in Numbers



**1.3 million**

People (0.63 million women, 0.48 million children (0-18 yrs old) affected<sup>3</sup>)



**0.6 million**

People in need (198,000 children, 156,000 girls, 8,100 Persons with disabilities)<sup>3</sup>



**213,214**

Estimated Temporarily Displaced<sup>3</sup>



**15,738**

Waterpoints Damaged<sup>3</sup>



**112,820**

Latrines Damaged<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Divisional Health Office

<sup>2</sup> D-form Heavy rainfall (flood 5.8.2023), Cox's Bazar and ISCG Flash Update 2 on Monsoon Response, 5-8 Aug 2023

<sup>3</sup> Rapid Assessment of Chattogram Division Flash Flood and Monsoon Rain 2023

## Humanitarian Situation and Needs<sup>3</sup>

In August 2023, Chattogram Division experienced the impact of devastating flash floods that left thousands without essential provisions like food, clean water, functional latrines, health care and electricity. Heavy rainfall, ranging from 44 to 89 mm, led to flash floods and landslides in the Hill Tracts, especially in Bandarban Town and nearby areas. **1.3 million people including 630,000 women and 480,000 children (0-19 years old) were affected while 600,000 people need humanitarian assistance** in four districts (Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Rangamati, and Bandarban). 51 deaths were reported including 12 children<sup>1</sup>.

**38 out of the division's 51 Upazilas** were submerged, leading to significant destruction of public facilities and infrastructure (WASH facilities, roads, schools, health facilities etc) in Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Rangamati, and Bandarban. Major rivers in the region were overflowing, crippling major transport routes, and resulting in the damage of up to 410 kilometres of roads. Recovery efforts have now begun and are aimed at addressing not only the basic requirements of the affected people but also infrastructure and supplies.

### Chittagong (Bandarban, Rangamati, Chattogram)

**Chattogram District:** A total of **843,505 people (401,959 women, 292,214 children including 7,013 CAWD<sup>4</sup>)<sup>5</sup>** were affected by the flash floods and landslides in Chattogram City and 15 Upazilas (sub-districts) of Chattogram District, with Chandanaisa, Satkania, and Bonagura Upazilas severely affected.<sup>5</sup> A total of 28,070 houses were damaged, 18,885 partially and 9,185 houses fully. The District Administration reported 16 deaths including 1 child.

**Bandarban District:** **62,000 people (23,677 women, 13,680 children including 589 CAWD)<sup>5</sup>** were impacted by the flashfloods and landslides in over 7 Upazilas. 6,579 houses have been damaged (5,173 partially damaged and 1,406 fully damaged). 108 para-centers have been destroyed. 10 people died due to landslides and drowning, while 4 others were injured. Currently 396 people are living in shelters.

**Rangamati District:** **30,254 people (8,954 female and 11,981 children including 161 CAWD)** from 8,425 households located in 29 unions of 7 Upazilas and Rangamati Municipality were affected. Five deaths were reported, 4 of them children.<sup>6</sup> The damages to school infrastructure will be repaired through the regular process by the Director of Primary Education (DPE) and Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board (CHTDB). Overall, the flood situation is improving though the affected communities are yet to recover from their losses.

**Khagrachari District:** **15,000 people (4,439 women, 5,940 children)** were affected in Khagrachari District. The situation in Khagrachari has gradually improved.



Rozina Begum stands helpless amidst the wreckage of her home destroyed by the sudden flash flood in Satkania, Chattogram in August. With nowhere to turn for assistance, she grappled with the overwhelming challenge of securing shelter and support for her children. In these dire times, UNICEF works around the year to ensure essential shelter, healthcare, and protection for families like Rozina's, striving to rebuild shattered lives in the wake of the calamity. © UNICEF Bangladesh/2023/Mukut

## UNICEF Response

### Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

- In collaboration with the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), a total number of **685 water points** (200 Deep tube wells, 185 Deep tube-wells with submersible pumps, 20 Community piped water supply systems, 30 Gravity flow systems and 250 Ring wells) and 230 climate resilient latrines have been planned for installation in the 14-flood affected Upazilas in Chattogram, Rangamati and Bandarban districts. This intervention will **benefit around 70,000 flood-affected people** including women, children, and persons with disabilities.

### Nutrition<sup>7</sup>

- With UNICEF support, the National Nutrition Services (NNS) in Dhaka **started to conduct Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) facility assessment** in flood- affected districts, while the Central Medical Store Department (CMSD) allocated additional anthropometric tools and nutrition kits to all flood -affected SAM facilities.
- A total of 20 severe acute malnutrition (SAM) children received treatment.** UNICEF supported the strengthening of SAM screening by mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) in targeted SAM facilities in Chattogram, Bandarban and Rangamati.

<sup>4</sup> Children and Adolescents with disabilities

<sup>5</sup> NAWG Assessment Report August 2023 and the District Administration Assessment Report

<sup>6</sup> From the District Administration Assessment reports

<sup>7</sup> SAM management status in the DHIS-2 is not yet uploaded by the facilities

## Child Protection



The Department of Social Services (DSS) distributing Family Kits and providing crucial support to the most vulnerable children & families affected by the severe flooding in Chattogram.  
© UNICEF Bangladesh/2023/Chakma

- With UNICEF support and in partnership with the Department of Social Services (DSS), a total of **2,850 Family kits and dignity kits were distributed** to three affected districts (Bandarban, Chattogram, Rangamati) that will benefit a total of **12,825 people**. In addition, more than **4,000 kits (2,000 Dignity; 2,000 Family) are planned for distribution** in the affected districts.

- Child Protection Section facilitated more than **4,300 information sessions** (including information on how to seek help, on drowning and on dengue prevention), and supported referral of vulnerable children for multi-sectoral services identified through the Child Protection Community Hubs in floods-affected locations and through **1,672 calls** received on the Child Helpline (CHL) no. 1098 (the **calls** were related to information seeking). More than **151,200 (106,200 women, 451 children with disabilities)** children and community members were reached with critical information and services such as sporting events and hub activities via the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) and Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS) outreaches.

- The DSS with UNICEF support, did case follow-up of the children in affected areas and provided psychosocial support, reaching **approximately 17,000 beneficiaries (8,700 women,**

**140 people with disabilities).**

- In collaboration with DSS, and MoWCA, approximately **44,000 (31,300 women, 210 children with disabilities)** people were reached with Gender Based Violence (GBV) risk mitigation and prevention messaging on child marriage, child trafficking, and child labor.

## Health

- Regular health activities are continuing for children, women, and girls.

## Education

- The Education team is currently working with Education partners District Primary Education Officer (DPEO), Upazila Education Officer (UEO) and also the Supply Section to distribute supplies kits to schools based on a list from the Government of 148 Government Primary Schools in need of EIE kits.



In primary education offices, warehouses/storage were also under- water for days resulting in damages to all education resources including spare textbooks stored.  
© UNICEF Bangladesh/2023/Chowdhury

## Social and Behavior Change (SBC)

- UNICEF developed contextualized messages for raising awareness on post flood situations and the messages on Lifesaving behaviors in health, nutrition, WASH and protection have been shared with 132 formal and informal community leaders (85 Male, 47 Female) including elected representatives from flood-affected areas in Bandarban district.



Affected population at lama, Bandarban are taking note of the hotline number to share their feedback and complaints, Photo/Greenhill

Lifesaving behaviors in health, nutrition, WASH and protection have been shared with 132 formal and informal community leaders (85 Male, 47 Female) including elected representatives from flood-affected areas in Bandarban district.

- A hotline has been set up by the Greenhill NGO to receive feedback from the affected population in Bandarban and Rangamati districts on the UNICEF-supported response. Boxes have been set up at different sites, to receive feedback and complaints from the affected communities to ensure accountability to the affected population (AAP). **37 (19 Male, 18 Female)** people

raised their concerns, voices, recommended activities and actions in three consultation meetings in Bandarban.

## Cox's Bazar

### Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

- In Cox's Bazar host communities, **134 latrines and 78 handwashing devices** have been installed. **429 tube wells, 1 tap stand, 2,308 latrines and 1,222 handwashing devices** have been repaired. **235 water infrastructures have been disinfected** while **15,100 aqua tabs** have been distributed.
- WASH Section **distributed hygiene kits to families from two of the most affected Upazilas** in collaboration with Upazila Administration and Local Government Institutes (LGIs), benefitting **a total of 41,370 population (16,462 male, 15,710 female and 9,198 children)** during the reporting period and cumulatively more than **150,000**.

### Child Protection

- Regular Child Protection activities are continuing for children, women, and girls.

### Nutrition

- In the host communities, a post-distribution monitoring (PDM) has been planned at the end of October 2023 to obtain detailed information how the multi-purpose cash grant distributed to 1,005 women-headed families (including women-headed families with 63 persons with disabilities) enabled them to recover from the flood impact.

### Education

- Of the total of 306 Learning Centres damaged during the period of August and September 2023 due to flooding, heavy rainfall, and landslides, **60 Learning Centres** have been repaired. The repair of an additional **64 Learning Centres** is ongoing. In total, 124 Learning Centres will be repaired within the next quarter. The rest of the Learning Centres with minor defects have been repaired and are in operation.

## Humanitarian Coordination and Leadership

UNICEF's Chattogram Field Office is in regular contact and coordination with Government Departments to monitor the situation. UNICEF was involved in updating the floods response plan in consultation with the Deputy Commissioner of Bandarban, Deputy Commissioner of Rangamati, the Chairman of the Bandarban Hill District Council (BHDC), the Chairman of Rangamati Hill District Council, Chairman of Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board and the Secretary of the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs (MoCHTA) and with other UN agencies (UNDP, UNFPA, WFP). UNICEF conducted a joint visit with Bandarban Hill District Council Chairman to flood affected communities and Para centres and advocated for the renovation of 108 damaged para centres in Bandarban. Moreover, UNICEF participated in the Divisional Disaster Management Committee meetings chaired by Divisional Commissioner and where several divisional level different multi-sectoral partners participated, including Deputy Commissioners. The Divisional Commissioner expressed his satisfaction with the UNICEF flood response support. He has urged all to put emphasis on the emergency preparedness to ensure connectivity and quick access to the affected communities as well as ensuring quick response. UNICEF participated in a UN coordination meeting in Chattogram to discuss coordination and a multi-sectoral flood response. UNICEF Field Office Teams are in regular contact with the sectoral focal points, the Office of The Refugee Relief and Repatriation (RRRC) and Deputy Commissioner's office as well as the Civil Surgeon's office and the Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE) and sharing relevant information. UNICEF is leading the WASH and Nutrition Clusters and Child Protection sub-cluster as well as co-leading the Education Sector.

## Funding Situation

In September 2023, UNICEF Bangladesh Country Office received a generous contribution of US\$ 505,000 from the Danish Government as part of Thematic Humanitarian support for the dengue and flood response in Bangladesh. A \$1.5m CERF grant for water and sanitation response in Chattogram and Cox's Bazar floods emergency has been received. However, critical funding gaps in the UNICEF Bangladesh Country Office HAC 2023 across all sectors restricted UNICEF's ability to meet the priority needs of girls, women, and people with disabilities during the flooding. Flexible donor funding is crucial to provide essential support to flood-affected communities in the southeast of Bangladesh. The current funding status is shown below:



The UNO (Upazila Nirbahi Officer) of Pekua has overseen the distribution of hygiene kits to flood affected women-headed families at the CARE field office located in Pekua. Photo Credit @CARE Bangladesh

Appeal Sector	Funding Requirements*	Funds available						Funding gap	
		Funds Received Current Year (2023)		Total	Resources available from 2022 (Carry-Over)		Total funds available	\$	%
		ORE	ORR		ORE	ORR			
Nutrition	22,026,730	3,230,884	0	3,230,884	2,894,170	10,817,027	16,942,080	5,084,650	23%
Health	25,818,757	6,682,599	0	6,682,599	4,579,224	7,504,999	18,766,822	7,051,935	27%
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	34,521,320	14,686,923	85,732	14,772,655	1,606,757	7,195,482	23,574,895	10,946,426	32%
Child Protection/GBV	30,774,603	4,596,206	0	4,596,206	1,256,920	5,077,697	10,930,823	19,843,779	64%
Education	48,184,253	22,418,702	0	22,418,702	5,089,101	8,460,767	35,968,570	12,215,683	25%
Cross-sectoral	5,159,100	1,606,264	0	1,606,264	147,835	505,073	2,259,173	2,899,927	56%
Emergency Preparedness	7,000,000	8,447,261	24,630	8,471,891	947,470	0	9,419,361	-	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>173,484,762</b>	<b>61,668,840</b>	<b>110,362</b>	<b>61,779,202</b>	<b>16,521,476</b>	<b>39,561,045</b>	<b>117,861,723</b>	<b>58,042,400</b>	<b>33%</b>

As of 31<sup>st</sup> September 2023

## News Links

1. Thousands marooned as new areas flooded in Jamalpur  
<https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/324340/thousands-marooned-as-new-areas-flooded-in>
2. Bandarban flood causes 700C in damage, affects 20,000 families  
<https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/322921/bandarban-flood-causes-700c-in-damage-affects>
3. Brahmaputra water overflows in Gaibandha, flooding river basin areas  
<https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/323921/brahmaputra-water-overflows-in-gaibandha-flooding>
4. Flood situation deteriorates in Gaibandha, Jamalpur  
<https://en.prothomalo.com/environment/flood-situation-deteriorates-in-gaibandha-jamalpur>
5. Academic activities of 60 schools suspended amid flood in Gaibandha  
<https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/academic-activities-60-schools-suspended-amid-flood-gaibandha-693502>

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