

SIDR Cyclone Bangladesh 2007



UN SIT REP #9

Dhaka, Bangladesh, 25 November 2007

Situation

A super cyclonic storm (category 4) moved north through the Bay of Bengal and hit southern Bangladesh on 15 November with wind speed reaching 220 km/h. It continued northward causing extensive damage, especially to the country's southwestern districts.

More than 6.8 million people in 31 districts have been affected by the storm. Latest official reports indicate 3,061 killed, 34,508 injured, and 1,180 unaccounted for. Material damage is severe, with 1.8 million acres of crops damaged, 366,000 homes completely destroyed and another 843,000 partially. Over 467,000 livestock are confirmed killed. Damage to public building also widespread, with 1,355 educational institutions totally damaged and some 7,900 partially.

The 12 hardest hit districts are Bagerhat, Patuakhali, Barguna, Pirojpur, Barisal, Jhalkhati, Bhola, Mandaripur, Gopalganj, Shariatpur, Khulna and Satkhira.

Government of Bangladesh Response

So far, MoFDM has allocated 9,640 metric tons of rice, 16,500 tents, 26,700 blankets, 13,000 bundles of CI sheets, and 27,000 food bags. A special fund has allocated 211 million Taka for house building grants across 20 districts.

MoFDM has established a Cyclone Coordination Cell and requested information updates from donors and recipient organisations on contributions and relief efforts. The Army

and the civil administration have set up a joint coordination hub for relief operations in Barisal. NGOs and donors involved in field operations have been asked to share their distribution plans with this office.

The military continued to bring relief items to the affected people by planes, boats and helicopters. About 450 tons of relief goods have so far been distributed by the Air Force, with 55 tons delivered by 17 missions today.

The next meeting of the Disaster and Emergency Response group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 27 November, 11:00 am. Six coordination clusters have been organized: food, watsan, health, shelter, logistics, and early recovery. More information on coordination clusters and focal points can be found on the DER website (address below).

The Bangladesh Government welcomes assistance from the international community, as before, through the government.

UN Response

WFP initiated delivery of 750 tons of rice in five of the worst affected districts. Delivery of second tranche of 120 tons of high-energy biscuits (HEBs) will continue through 26 November. Over a period of three months, cyclone affected households will receive a monthly ration of 30 kg of rice, 3 kg of pulses, 2 liters of oil and 0.75 kg of HEBs. In addition, UNICEF is delivering 92 tons of biscuits from Chittagong port. UNICEF will procure blended food for children in affected districts for three months. UNDP is providing dry food for 70,000 families.

UNICEF is also procuring non-food relief items, including 100,000 blankets, 60,000 children's clothes, 60,000 family kits (containing 14 essential items) and 60,000 plastic sheets. UNDP distributed emergency shelter material to 100,000 families and, non-food supplies to 570,000 beneficiaries and gave shelter assistance to 16750 families.

UNICEF moved two mobile water treatment plants to affected districts that are currently operational, two more are on their way to other districts. UNDP made 1,000 portable water purification filters available.

WHO has supplied emergency medicines and USD 74,000 to replenish buffer stocks. WHO is monitoring disease outbreak situation (Diarrhea, Dysentery, ARI, skin, eye, ear infections etc) in collaboration with government authorities. Rapid assessment to identify separated, unaccompanied and distressed children undertaken with NGOs. Ten child

friendly spaces have been made operational in three of the worst affected districts. Over 1,900 recreational kits are being distributed.

FAO assists cyclone-affected farmers and fishermen through delivery of fishing nets, seeds, and other agricultural inputs (for 47,000 households). UNDP is giving support to Rapid Community Restoration through cash for work schemes.

International assistance

Relief assistance from now totals USD 147 million, besides World Bank funding of up to USD 250 million. The following donors have pledged or committed to make relief contributions: Saudi Arabia (USD 52.7 million), CERF (USD 14.7 million), United Kingdom (USD 10.3 million), Kuwait (USD 10 million), European Commission (USD 9.6 million), Netherlands (USD 7.2 million), Japan (USD 4.0 million), United States (USD 3.7 million), Canada (USD 3.4 million), Norway (USD 3.35 million), Australia (USD 2.8 million), Sweden (USD 2.7 million), Belgium (USD 2 million), Germany (USD 1.76 million), Italy (USD 1.5 million), Spain (USD 1.1 million), China (USD 1 million), India (USD 1 million), Libya (USD 1 million), Denmark (USD 950,000), France (USD 735,000), Ireland (USD 721,000), Republic of Korea (USD 500,000), New Zealand (USD 378,000), Switzerland (USD 160,000), Czech Republic (USD 80,645), Estonia (USD 46,045).

Other donors include Islamic Relief (USD 8.2 million), Muslim Aid (USD 516,000) , OPEC Fund for International Development (USD 500,000), and Caritas Spain (USD 288,000).

A number of governments are giving in-kind assistance. Pakistan has delivered relief goods via air, and United States helicopters from USS Kearsarge today delivered water tanks to the relief hub in Barisal.

Conclusion

The Government of Bangladesh, the UN, and other actors are taking action to aid the cyclone's victims, but the humanitarian situation remains dire. UN assessment teams report that food, shelter and cash are aid priorities, and that relief assistance must continue for at least 2-3 months. Water and sanitation assistance also deemed critical. Early recovery and rehabilitation should include a long-term risk reducing perspective.

For more information, please contact:

Office of the UN Resident Coordinator

Mr. Rune Brandrup

(+880) 2 811 8600 (ext. 2513 - 208)

rune.brandrup@undp.org

Mr. Magnus Lundgren

(+880) 2 811 8600 (ext. 2412)

magnus.lundgren@undp.org

LCG Disaster Emergency Response – Cyclone Updates

http://www.lcgbangladesh.org/derweb/cyclone_updates.php

Coordination Cluster Contacts

Cluster	Focal Point	Telephone	Email
Early Recovery (UNDP)	Tarik Islam	88 01713043617 or 02 8118600	tarik.islam@undp.org
Food (WFP)	John McHarris	88 01711596032 or 02 8119069 x2253	john.mcharris@wfp.org
Health (WHO)	Duangvadee Sungkhobol	88 01711549198 or 02 8614653 x27221	sungkhobold@searo.who.int
Logistics (WFP)	Paul Wyatt	02 8116344 x2118	paul.wyatt@wfp.org
Emergency Shelter (IFRC)	Malcolm Johnstone	+41792173358	malcolm.johnstone@ifrc.org
WASH (UNICEF)	Richard Luff	88 01711 820790	rluff@unicef.org

