

## **SIDR Cyclone Bangladesh 2007**



UN SIT REP #10

Dhaka, Bangladesh, 26 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 7.0 million people in 31 districts have been affected by the storm. Latest official reports indicate 3,243 killed, 34,708 injured, and 880 unaccounted for. Material damage is severe, with 366,000 homes completely destroyed and another 875,000 partially. Damage to public building also widespread, with 1,374 educational institutions totally damaged and some 8,600 partially.

As the storm hit right before harvest time, it severely affected agricultural lands, destroying or damaging some 1.85 million acres. The loss of Amon crops is estimated to 800,000 tons.

Post-cyclone health problems are affecting people in at least 57 upazillas, with 210 people suffering from diarrhoea and about 600 from typhoid/fever. WHO reports that one person has died of causes related to post-cyclone disease.

### **Government of Bangladesh Response**

So far, MoFDM has allocated 10,890 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. Maj Gen (ret'd) MA Matin will be the chief of this coordination cell. 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 475 tons of relief goods have so far been distributed by the Air Force, with 28 tons delivered by 22 missions today.

DMIC hosted an information management coordination meeting at CDMP today, with the participation of a number of UN agencies and NGOs. A technical group, meeting for the first time tomorrow, Tuesday 27 November, will consider alternatives for common information management systems.

The next meeting of the Disaster and Emergency Response group meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 27 November, 11:00 am.

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

### **UN Response**

WFP initiated delivery of 750 tons of rice yesterday 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.

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. UNICEF moved two mobile water treatment plants to affected districts that are currently operational, two more are on their way to other districts.

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).

### **International assistance**

Relief assistance from now totals USD 147.5 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 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), Turkey (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 will soon deploy four medical teams.

### **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. Health, 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](http://www.lcgbangladesh.org/derweb/cyclone_updates.php)

# Cyclone SIDR: Damage Information

