

SIDR Cyclone Bangladesh 2007

UN SIT REP #13

This situations report is compiled from information provided by the Coordination Clusters, from Government Sitreps, and other sources.

Dhaka, Bangladesh, 06 December 2007

Situation

1. 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.
2. More than 8.7 million people in 31 districts have been affected by the storm. Latest official reports indicate 3,301 killed, 52,810 injured, and 871 unaccounted for. Material damage is severe, with 563,877 homes completely destroyed and another 940,438 partially. Damage to public building also widespread, with 2,400 educational institutions totally damaged and some 12,626 partially.
3. Government relief operations have been ongoing since the cyclone made landfall. Up to 4 December, the Government had allocated 808 million BDT from the Chief Adviser's Relief and Welfare Fund, in addition to 16,890 tons of rice, 27,000 food bags, 16,454 tents, 26,700 blankets and 13,000 bundles of CI sheets.

Food

4. WFP, FAO and ILO have met on assessment missions to share objectives, field coverage and data collection instruments, to ensure complementary information is gathered regarding food security, nutrition and livelihoods.
5. FAO, as lead of the LCG working group on agriculture, has shared an analysis of potential rice import needs, incorporating flood and cyclone losses and all imports (Government of Bangladesh, private sector and aid). Food Cluster members are using this information to assess the macro food requirements from December – June 2008. FAO is conducting an "Emergency Livelihood Protection and Rehabilitation Programme Identification and Preparation Mission from 4-22 December 2007.
6. WFP, as Food Cluster lead, is providing input to the Emergency Response and Action Plans for a coordinated response.
7. The Cluster has registered a total of around 26,000 MT of food distributed to people affected by the cyclone: 16,890 MT by the Government of Bangladesh, and around 9,000 MT by other agencies. WFP will commence its fourth round of distributions on 10 December in nine of the most affected districts.

WASH

8. There is a collective sense amongst WASH cluster participating agencies, that the WASH situation is under control, with the resources and efforts deployed collectively to have reasonable overall impact. However there are still some reports that some communities living in remote coastal locations, who suffer from water shortage issues in normal times, still have not received assistance, but these are pockets of people in small numbers. Mapping of non government agencies work locations and activity show concentrations around areas with greatest numbers of people most acutely affected and we are not hearing reports of overlap of efforts, except for some duplication of efforts around pond cleaning and some gaps in dealing with displaced population sanitation needs. DPHE reports of activities also show their efforts and rate of work progress most focused upon the severely affected areas.
9. Populations along roadsides who remain displaced are now being targeted to have their sanitation and hygiene needs addressed through partnerships agreements with UNICEF. Poor sanitation and hygiene had remained lost in the flurry of activity to address water concerns. The diarrhea situation remains manageable at this moment; even though we believe some cases are going unreported. The MoH Cumulative Disease profile for last 3 days recorded 1177 cases of Diarrhea, with 01 associated death

(please see Health cluster report). However previous experience in these situations often shows a rise after 3 or so weeks after such a rapid onset event as cyclone SIDR and continued vigilance and efforts are required to avoid a steep rise in cases.

10. More information on the cyclone website, WASH Coordination Cluster sitrep.

Health

11. Overall high Prevalence of Typhoid / fever and skin diseases are reported in comparison to Diarrhoea and ARI/Pneumonia cases. 38 Jaundice cases were reported from 5 out of 9 districts, during this reporting period.
12. The 3rd Health Coordination Cluster meeting was held December 3rd. Four sub-groups were formed to facilitate uniform reporting and emergency activities. The sub groups are on: Surveillance, Nutrition, Reproductive Health, and Psycho social & Mental Health. District level Health Coordination Cluster meetings took place. A new meeting is scheduled for the 13th of December in Barisal. WHO will carry out in-depth health needs assessment for long term interventions.
13. The priorities are: a) to promote uniform collection of health information maybe through a common case definition and reporting format, b) Increase focus on health issues like reproductive, maternal, child & psychosocial/mental health needs of SIDR Victims, c) Identify links between malnutrition, micronutrient deficiency and diseases like TB and HIV/AIDS, d) Strengthening ongoing disease surveillance

Logistics

14. The two member Logistics Clusters field mission has returned from Burisal, Patukhali, and Burguna. The detailed report with recommendation as well as contact lists for transport companies and warehouses can be found on the following web site: <http://www.logcluster.org/>
15. The Logistics Response mission will return this week. Logistics Cluster coordination will now be lead by the WFP Logistics Officer in country. Details below

Shelter

16. 9 agencies are targeting some 186,579 families in 13 affected districts with NFI and shelter construction materials. Many agencies preparing to do assessments, planning their activities, and looking for funding. Plans are not yet reported.

17. A Technical Working Group has been formed to resolve technical difficulties and offer guidance on the construction/reconstruction of houses and family shelters. The cluster strategy formulation is in its final stage. Coordination will take place in Dhaka for the national level and at district level for field activities. The fourth meeting was on the 5 Dec with 14 agencies in attendance. New agencies are joining the cluster with each meeting.

Early Recovery Cluster

18. A draft TOR for Environmental Rapid Assessment, to be undertaken with the Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS) has circulated. Preparations are ongoing in coordination with UNDP and government authorities.
19. Concurrently, a group with Government participation is putting together tools and methodologies for needs assessment on early recovery: governance, community infrastructure, short-term livelihood, risk reduction and cross-cutting issues. Assessments are expected to conclude with a public discussion scheduled for the end of December. Early recovery strategic planning will commence the first week of January. The ER Cluster coordinator is in the field returning on Sunday 9 December.

Donor contributions

20. Relief assistance pledges from international donors now totals USD 237.8 million. The World Bank has pledged funding of up to USD 250 million, and the Asian Development Bank is formulating a relief and reconstruction proposal worth USD 150 million, potentially above USD 200 million, pending co-financing arrangements.
21. The top-five donors are: Saudi Arabia (USD 102.7 million), United States (USD 19.5 million), Japan (USD 18.0 million), UN (USD 15.4 million, incl. CERF), United Kingdom (USD 14 million), Kuwait(USD 10 million).
22. A number of governments are giving in-kind assistance. United States is providing airlift capabilities of 50 tons a day in collaboration with the Bangladesh Air Force, a helicopter medical team and a 250 bed hospital. Pakistan has delivered relief goods via air and set up a 30-bed hospital in Matbaria. India, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia have also contributed in-kind humanitarian assistance

Coordination

23. Cluster leads and information managers continue to work on the Who, What, Where, When information. Some clusters have posted the information on the web. Many

clusters undertake assessment, coordinated and joint assessments are appreciated. The recovery and reconstruction phase will be sought coordinated through the LCG mechanism.

24. The Government has requested information on relief distribution shared with the Relief Operations Coordination Centre in Barisal to avoid duplication and gaps. Local level government authorities should also be kept informed (more information on the Sidr Cyclone webpage, se below)

For more information, please contact:

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LCG Disaster Emergency Response – Cyclone Updateshttp://www.lcgbangladesh.org/derweb/cyclone_updates.php**Relief Operation Coordination Centre in Barisal**

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