

**SIDR Cyclone Bangladesh 2007**

UN SIT REP #14

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

Dhaka, Bangladesh, 10 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 8.9 million people in 31 districts have been affected by the storm. Latest official reports indicate 3,347 killed, 55,282 injured, and 871 unaccounted for. Material damage is severe, with 563,877 homes completely destroyed and another 955,065 partially. Damage to public building also widespread, with 4,231 educational institutions totally damaged and some 12,723 partially.
3. Government relief operations have been ongoing since the cyclone made landfall. Up to 9 December, the Government had allocated 1721 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, 66,700 blankets and 13,000 bundles of CI sheets.

### **Food**

4. MoFDM and the Indian High Commission met to organize the import of 500,000 MT of rice. The Ministry requests the shipment to arrive within February 2008.
5. BRAC assistance to 4 cyclone affected districts (Barisal, Khulna, Patuakhali, and Faridpur) has reached approximately 184,700 families with 2037 MT food. As of 5th December, WFP has assisted approximately 1.2 million cyclone victims, with 1157 MTs (mostly rice, and high energy biscuits). UNDP has distributed dry food packages to approximately 70,000 families.
6. WFP and Partners food security assessment (9/12 – 14/12) covers 62 randomly selected unions in the 12 most affected districts. WFP is finalising field level agreements, with six NGOs for its fourth round food distribution. The prices of essential commodities are still reported high.

### **WASH**

7. The rate of tube well repair by DPHE and others now mean water supply concerns really only remain in those areas that are normally water scare areas, (along with underserved char areas). Temporary water supply arrangements are operating in the vast majority of these water scare areas, though there may still be isolated pockets with limited water availability.
8. Sanitation is being recognized as an increasing concern now that water supply issues are mostly dealt with. Sanitation remains a problem across the whole affected area, so unlike water supply issues which are localized to water scare areas, this presents a greater challenge in terms of scale and geographical spread.
9. Coordination amongst WASH organizations is improving at district and Upazlia levels now that WASH specific meetings are being held to complement Gov coordination mechanisms through UNO and DC etc.
10. More information on the cyclone website, WASH Coordination Cluster sitrep.

### **Logistics**

11. Contact lists for transport companies and warehouses can be found on the following web site: <http://www.logcluster.org/> along with information on Customs.
12. Logistics Cluster coordination is now led by the WFP Logistics Officer in country. Details below

### **Shelter**

13. Operations plans are arriving from the field from different agencies/NGOs but many others are still planning or assessing. Thirty agencies/NGOs are registered with the Shelter Coordination Group.
14. For NFIs, twenty agencies/NGOs are planning to distribute in 20 districts targeting just over 308,000 households; of these 67,145 households, or 21% have already received their lot. Regarding Shelter materials, only four agencies/NGOs have declared their plans which are to target 67,249 households in 12 districts.
15. The Shelter Coordination Group has decentralised the coordination to the district level with very successful meetings already held in Barisal and Pathuakali.
16. UN-Habitat has provided a resource person to guide the shelter coordination group in all aspects of Early Recovery and ensure that ER is built in the activities of all agencies/NGOs from the start.

### **Early Recovery Cluster**

17. The Early Recovery Cluster will meet this week to endorse the TORs for the Environmental Rapid Assessment and the Early Recovery Assessment on core business i.e. governance, community infrastructure, short-term livelihood, risk reduction and cross-cutting issues. The Early Recovery Assessment will bring together over 60 Government and NGO representatives who will conduct assessments in 6 districts, 12 upzilas and 36 unions. In addition 108 household case studies will be conducted. Both these assessments will be fundamental in the development of an early recovery strategic plan, which will be undertaken in early January.

### **Donor contributions**

18. 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.
19. 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).
20. 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**

21. Cluster leads and information managers continue to improve on the Who, What, Where, When information. Some information has been posted on the web. UNDP is preparing an assessment for early recovery actions. Others are invited to join the initiative. The immediate relief phase is concluding, giving way for the Early Recovery and Residual Relief phase, coordination cluster are incorporating an increasing number of Early Recovery elements into their work. The Coordination Clusters will seek to further integrate its support into the GoB actions. The recovery and reconstruction phase will be sought coordinated through the LCG mechanism. Wednesday this week the LCG plenary meeting will have the cyclone response on the agenda.
22. 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, see below)

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**LCG Disaster Emergency Response – Cyclone Updates**[http://www.lcgbangladesh.org/derweb/cyclone\\_updates.php](http://www.lcgbangladesh.org/derweb/cyclone_updates.php)**Relief Operation Coordination Centre in Barisal**

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