



Popy demonstrating to her excited son Josing proper sanitation measures in Kuhlalong, Bandarban. Children were the worst affected by the flood disaster as their educational materials were washed away, along with their families' livestock, while the local primary school was shut for over a month. UNICEF and its implementation partners stepped in with a multisectoral emergency crisis response programme – sanitation, distribution of educational materials, and endeavoured to bring about social and behavioural change to enhance community resilience to future disasters. © UNICEF Bangladesh/2023/Mukut

Bangladesh Country Office

Humanitarian Situation Report No.6 Floods and Landslides in Chittagong and Cox's Bazar

13th December 2023

Highlights

- In August 2023, Chattogram Division experienced devastating flash floods that left thousands without essential provisions and services such as 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** were affected by floods and landslides while **600,000 people** were assessed to be in need humanitarian assistance in four districts (Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Rangamati, and Bandarban). **51 deaths were reported including 12 children**¹.
- **198 government primary schools with 22,619 primary school-age children that were affected by floods received Education in Emergency (EIE) kits to replace** essential learning materials and support them to continue education.
- Cumulatively, a total of **48 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)** received treatment in **9 targeted facilities** in flood affected districts.
- **More than 159,240 (110,645 women and 474 children with disabilities) children and community members were reached** with critical information and services through sporting events and hub activities via the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) and Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS) outreaches.
- In Cox's Bazar, **600 hygiene kits were distributed** among 600 women-headed families, poor lactating mothers and pregnant mothers in Chakaria Upazila of Cox's Bazar.
- UNICEF received **US\$1.5 million** from CERF to support the WASH response to the floods and landslides emergency in Chattogram and Cox's Bazar. However, critical funding gaps remain across all sectors, with a HAC funding gap of **US\$54 million (31 per cent of funding requirements)** restricting UNICEF's ability to meet the priority needs of girls, women, and persons with disabilities across Bangladesh.

Situation in Numbers



1.3 million

People (0.63 million women, 0.48 million children (0-18 years old)) affected¹



0.6 million

People in need (198,000 children, 156,000 girls, 8,100 persons with disabilities)¹



213,214

Estimated Temporarily Displaced¹



15,738

Waterpoints Damaged¹



112,820

Latrines Damaged¹

¹ Rapid Assessment of Chattogram Division Flash Flood and Monsoon Rain 2023

Humanitarian Situation and Needs³

In August 2023, Chattogram Division experienced the impact of devastating flash floods that left thousands without essential provisions and services such as 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 children¹.

38 out of the division's 51 Upazilas (sub-districts) were submerged, leading to significant destruction of public facilities and infrastructure (such as 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 are ongoing 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 CAWD²)¹ 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 impacted.⁵ 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)⁵ were impacted by the flashfloods and landslides in over 7 Upazilas. 6,579 houses were damaged (**5,173 partially damaged and 1,406 fully damaged**). 108 para-centers were destroyed. 10 people died due to landslides and drowning, while 4 others were injured.

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**.³ The damage to school infrastructure is being repaired through the regular process by the Director of Primary Education (DPE) and Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board (CHTDB).

Khagrachari District: 15,000 people (4,439 women, 5,940 children) were affected in Khagrachari District.

UNICEF Response

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

- With UNICEF support and as part of the flash floods response activities in partnership with the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), a total of 327 (out of 653) water points are under construction including 135 Deep tube-wells, 68 Deep tube-wells with submersible pumps, 16 Community piped water supply systems, 15 Gravity flow systems, and 93 Ring wells. In addition, 92 (out of 230) climate resilient latrines have been constructed with the support of DPHE in the 16 flood- affected sub-districts in Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Rangamati and Bandarban districts. **Approximately 70,000 people (50 per cent of women)** have been reached through this intervention.
- 202 climate-resilient latrines have been constructed and 300 Hygiene promotion sessions conducted in which up to **17,764 people (8,745 female and 41 persons with disability)** received hygiene promotion messages through UNICEF partners (Green Hill and DPHE) in Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT).
- **600 hygiene kits were distributed among 600 women-headed families, poor lactating mothers and pregnant mothers in Chakaria Upazila of Cox's Bazar.** Chakaria was one of the worst floods-affected sub-districts in Cox's Bazar.



Popy and neighbours of the community are collecting fresh water from the community tubewell at Kuhalong Para. Children were worst affected by the flood as their educational materials were washed away, along with their families' livestock, and the local primary school was shut for over a month. UNICEF and its implementation partners come in with a multisectoral emergency crisis response system – sanitation, education material distribution and an endeavour to bring social and behavioural change for future response to such situations. © UNICEF Bangladesh/2023/Mukut

² Children and Adolescents with disabilities

³ From the District Administration Assessment reports



Left: Climate-resilient water point (deep tube-well); Centre: Climate-resilient latrine and Right: Hygiene promotion session for the sustainable behaviour change in the CHT

Nutrition⁴

- Cumulatively, a total of **48 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)** received treatment in **9 targeted facilities** in floods-affected districts (Bandarban, Rangamati and Chattogram).

Child Protection

- More than **159,240 (110,645 women and 474 children with disabilities)** children and community members were reached with critical information and services through sporting events and hub activities via the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) and Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS) outreaches.
- The Department of Social Services (DSS) with UNICEF support did case follow-up of the children in affected areas and provided psychosocial support, reaching **approximately 17,754 beneficiaries (9,181 women, 159 persons with disabilities)**.
- In collaboration with the DSS and MoWCA, approximately **50,021 beneficiaries (34,363 women, 237 children with disabilities)** people were reached with drowning prevention, Gender Based Violence (GBV) risk mitigation and prevention messaging on child marriage, child trafficking, and child labor.

Health

- UNICEF is supporting the repair of IMCI, ANC, PNC corners, procurement of basic equipment for IMCI and ANC, PNC corners, repair of the damaged generator and provision IEC materials for continuation of basic health services. The repair work and procurement process of furniture are going on in **2 UHC in Bandarban** and **2 UHC in Chattogram districts**.

Education

- **198 government primary schools with approximately 22,619 primary school-age children received Education in Emergency (EIE) kits.** As children have lost all their essential learning materials, these kits will help continue with their education.
- **A survey in 25 most affected Government Primary Schools is ongoing** to assess the current situation of learning for children after the flash floods.
- **A total of 1,869 children aged 3 to 6 years in 150 UNICEF Para Centers received early learning materials** based on the need assessment conducted by Sustainable Social Services in CHT (SSSCHT) project authorities.



Happy children in 'Bol Piye Adam' Government Primary School. EIE kits distribution was organized on 7 November where a total of 58 children (32 Girls: 26 Boys) received essential learning materials. © Sugandi Chakma, Education Focal, Green Hill

⁴ SAM management status in the DHIS-2 is not yet uploaded by the facilities

Social and Behavior Change (SBC)

- **Community engagement sessions were organized in 7 affected Upazilas/sub-districts** (in Belaichari, Thanchi, Rangamati Sadar, Bandarban Sadar, Baghaichari, Lama and Alikadam) to complete the feedback loop and inform the communities on how their feedback was utilized.
- **Green Hill engaged 86 (38 female) adolescents, mothers/caregivers, teachers on ensuring life-saving behaviours, promote good practices on WASH and education and to mobilize their support towards the floods response.**
- **A total of 55 complaints were received** by Green Hill and reviewed by their Complaints Response Committee (FCRC) for necessary adjustment, referral and to complete the feedback loop.



Community consultation at Thoaingyo para in Bandarban district to complete the feedback loop with the affected population.

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. UNICEF coordinated with Hill District Council in Rangamati and Bandarban and advocated with ministry for mobilising funds for Para Center renovation. Bandarban Hill District Council have sent letters to the ministry for extending support to renovate damaged Para Centers. BHD also allocated funds for 5 Para-Centers renovations. Rangamati Hill District Council did not commit as they do not have any funds at this moment to support. Moreover, UNICEF participated in the Divisional Disaster Management Committee meetings chaired by the Divisional Commissioner and where several divisional- level multi-sectoral partners participated, including Deputy Commissioners. UNICEF participated in a UN coordination meeting in Chattogram and in an Emergency Preparedness and Response Working Group meeting to discuss coordination and promote a multi-sectoral floods response. A CERF joint monitoring mission was undertaken from 19 to 23 November 2023 to the affected areas in Chattogram and Cox's Bazar. UNICEF Field Office Teams are in regular contact with the sectoral focal points, the Office of The Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (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 when required. UNICEF is leading the WASH and Nutrition Clusters and Child Protection sub-cluster as well as co-leading the Education Sector in Cox's Bazar Rohingya Refugee Response.

Funding Situation

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:

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	6,864,482	0	6,864,482	4,579,224	7,504,999	18,948,705	6,870,052	27%
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	34,521,320	14,905,724	85,732	14,991,456	1,606,757	7,195,482	23,793,696	10,727,625	31%
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	25,907,037	245,399	26,152,436	5,089,101	8,460,767	39,702,304	8,481,949	18%
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	5,934,675	24,630	5,959,305	947,470	0	6,906,776	93,224	1%
Total	173,484,762	63,045,273	355,761	63,401,034	16,521,476	39,561,045	119,483,555	54,001,207	31%

As of 30th November 2023

News Links

1. UN in Bangladesh starts implementing CERF-funded activities in flood-hit areas of Ctg - <https://unb.com.bd/category/Bangladesh/un-in-bangladesh-starts-implementing-cerf-funded-activities-in-flood-hit-areas-of-ctg/123396>
2. Thousands marooned as new areas flooded in Jamalpur <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/324340/thousands-marooned-as-new-areas-flooded-in>
3. Bandarban flood causes 700C in damage, affects 20,000 families <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/322921/bandarban-flood-causes-700c-in-damage-affects>
4. Brahmaputra water overflows in Gaibandha, flooding river basin areas <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/323921/brahmaputra-water-overflows-in-gaibandha-flooding>
5. Flood situation deteriorates in Gaibandha, Jamalpur <https://en.prothomalo.com/environment/flood-situation-deteriorates-in-gaibandha-jamalpur>
6. 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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