



Women, carrying WASH supplies, crossing a flooded road towards their home in Noakhali District, where approximately 2,609,535 people have been affected by recent flooding, severely impacting water supply and sanitation facilities across 81 unions in 8 upazilas. UNICEF, in collaboration with the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), has distributed 1,117,850 water purification tablets, 308 hygiene kits, and 2,401 jerry cans throughout the affected areas.

UNICEF Bangladesh

Situation Report on Cyclone Remal and Floods in Bangladesh No. 4

29th September 2024

Highlights¹

- Cyclone Remal, which made landfall on May 26, 2024, affected **4.6 million** people across **8** coastal districts of Bangladesh, leading to **18** reported deaths and leaving **1.3 million** individuals in need of humanitarian aid. Simultaneously, floods in the northeastern and eastern regions that began in June 2024, impacted additional populations. According to UNOCHA, a total of **18.4 million** people has been affected by the cyclone and floods since May 2024, with **2.7 million** in need of assistance.
- With support from UNICEF, **963,102** people (486,367 women and 372,143 children) were reached through WASH interventions in the eastern flood response activities in Bangladesh in partnership with the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE). Up to **8.8 million** water purification tablets (WPTs) have been distributed, along with **7,767** hygiene kits and **35,853** jerricans.
- In addition, a total of **42,262** children under 5 and pregnant women received primary healthcare services from UNICEF-supported facilities and supplies. Among them, **5,735** pregnant women received antenatal care (ANC) services.
- In Child protection floods response, A total of **23,801** cyclone- and flood-affected children (**12,465 girls, including 772 with disabilities**) have been enrolled in case management programs, addressing key protection concerns like Gender Based Violence (GBV), child labor, child marriage, and exploitation. An additional **2,560** vulnerable children (1,348 girls) have also been identified for support.
- With UNICEF's support, **18,669** children (including **9,234 girls and 523 children with disabilities**) received the Penta 3 vaccination in targeted Upazilas after Cyclone Remal disrupted the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI).
- A total of **6,048** households with pregnant women (comprising 25,408 beneficiaries) across 6 districts received US\$51.36 in multi-purpose cash transfers (equivalent to 60% of the Minimum Expenditure Basket) through mobile money as part of the cyclone response.
- UNICEF has mobilized **US\$5.4 million** from donors and internal resources to provide critical services for children, women, and persons with disabilities. However, UNICEF faces a significant funding gap of **85 per cent** to respond to the current emergencies, requiring approximately **US\$30.4 million** to support urgent emergency response interventions for the vulnerable women and children in Bangladesh.

Situation in Numbers¹



18.4
million

People affected by Cyclone Remal and floods in Bangladesh.



7.11
million

Children (0-19 years) affected by Cyclone Remal and floods in Bangladesh



1.3
million

People (690,881 females) reached by UNICEF through a multi-sectoral response



528,696

Children (0-19 years) reached by UNICEF through a multi-sectoral response

¹ HCTT Humanitarian Response Plan 2024 (June – Dec 2024), Situation Overview of Flood 2024 31 August 2024 and disaggregated figures are based on Census 2022

Humanitarian Situation¹

Cyclone Remal

On May 26, 2024, Cyclone 'Remal' made landfall near the Bangladesh-India border, in the western part of Sundarbans in Shatkhira District. The tidal surge accompanied by extremely heavy rainfall, caused flooding of between 5 and 8 feet in the coastal districts, affecting **4.6 million** people across **8** districts of Khulna and Barisal Divisions, resulting in **18** deaths and **1.3 million** people needing humanitarian assistance.

In total, over **800,000** people were displaced and moved into cyclone shelters for safety. Inadequate food for families and especially children, drinking water, cattle-feed, cash for buying roofing sheets and house-making materials and dry foods were critical immediate needs and gaps. Initial response efforts were hindered by disrupted logistics, communication breakdowns, and coordination issues, due to the recent civil unrest, leading to delays in delivering water and essential supplies such as water purification tablets, education in emergency kits (EIE kits) and dignity kits to impacted households. With peace and stability gradually returning, smooth emergency operations have resumed, though with challenges in coordination after the reshuffle, by the transitional government, of government officials coordinating emergency response activities.

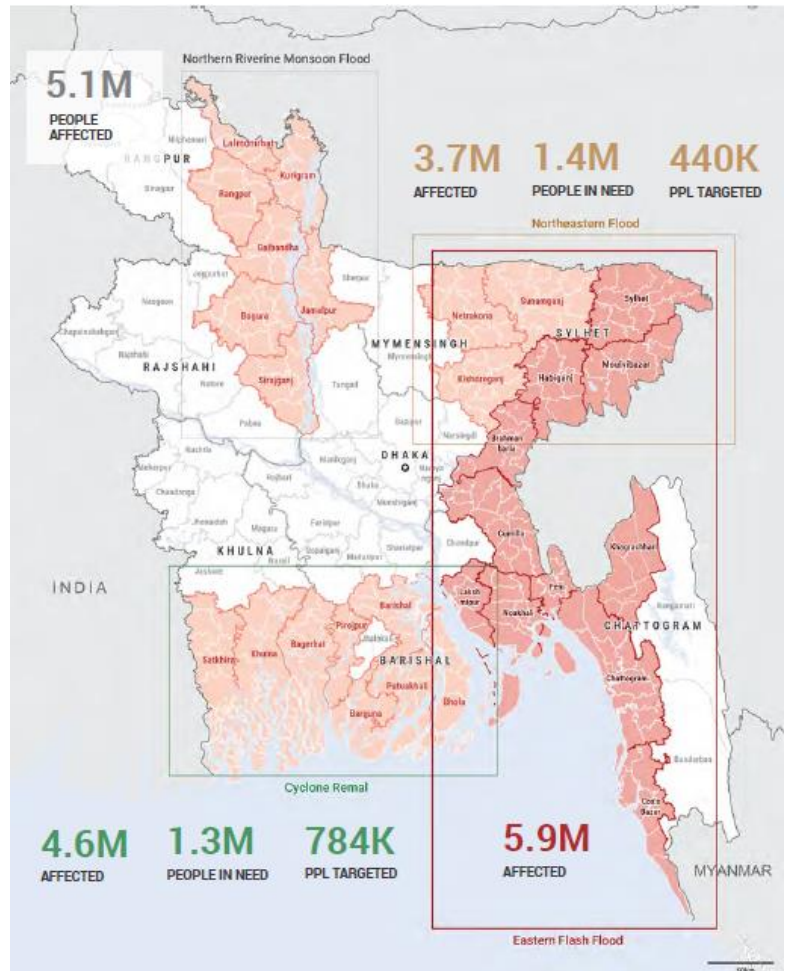
Northeastern and South-Eastern Floods

From June 2024, widespread flooding occurred in northeastern Bangladesh, impacting **3.74 million** people (**1.93 million women, 1.65 million children aged 0-19, and 37,219 people with disabilities**) in **6** districts, including vulnerable women and children. The floods damaged schools, sanitation facilities, and water sources, leading to health risks and disrupting daily life.

Further, since 17 August 2024, heavy rainfall, combined with the release of water from upstream sources, has led to severe flooding in several districts of north-eastern and south-eastern Bangladesh. A low-pressure system over the Bay of Bengal has intensified the downpours, significantly impacting the northeastern and southeastern regions of the country, as well as neighbouring Indian states like Meghalaya and Tripura. The Bangladesh Meteorological Department (BMD) and Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) have reported some locations recording over 180 mm in 3 days. This relentless rain, coupled with upstream water inflows, caused major rivers such as the Surma-Kushiara, Manu, Khowai, and Feni to overflow, severely inundating low-lying districts including Moulvibazar, Habiganj, Sylhet, Feni, Cumilla, Noakhali, Khagrachhari, Brahmanbaria, Chattogram, Lakshmipur, and Cox's Bazar. Over **540,000** people sought shelter in schools and other facilities.

These floods have severely impacted health, nutrition, education, child protection, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) services across **11** districts in the Chittagong and Sylhet Divisions. Over **7,000** schools were affected, disrupting the education of more than **1.49 million** children, with many schools submerged or converted into shelters. This led to school closures, worsening the country's existing learning crisis due to infrastructure damage, loss of materials, decreased attendance, and an increased risk of school dropouts. Administrative delays, exacerbated by recent changes in local leadership, have hindered response efforts to restore education.

In the Child Protection sector, approximately **2.06 million** children and adolescents, including **520,000** aged 0-4 years, have been directly affected, heightening risks such as violence, abuse, exploitation, gender-based violence, child labor, trafficking, and child marriage, particularly in overcrowded temporary shelters with inadequate privacy and security. The destruction of livelihoods has intensified economic pressures, pushing children into child marriage, and hazardous labor to support their families. There is a pressing need to establish child-friendly spaces, mental health services, and protection mechanisms, especially for vulnerable children, including those with disabilities or those separated from their families due to the flash flood.



The WASH sector has also been critically impacted, with **100%** of WASH facilities in 520 unions across 77 districts underwater. Up to **239,533** water sources have been partially damaged, **55,546** fully damaged and contaminated by fecal waste, chemicals, and industrial pollutants, severely affecting sanitation, and posing significant health risks². More than **387,127** latrines are partially damaged from floods, with **200,347** fully damaged³. The flooding has increased the risk of waterborne diseases, particularly for children under five, with **521,345** affected, many facing malnutrition and gastrointestinal diseases due to poor sanitation, lack of potable water, and inadequate access to age-appropriate food. Additionally, evacuation shelters lack dedicated spaces for pregnant and lactating mothers, further endangering children's health. Urgent measures are required to prevent malnutrition and safeguard public health in the floods and cyclone impacted areas.

UNICEF Response to the Cyclone Remal

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

- With the support of UNICEF, the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE), NGO Forum for Public Health (NGOF), Jagorani Chakra Foundation (JCF), and Caritas Bangladesh, have made significant progress in improving access to safe drinking water and sanitation services across **9** districts. A total of **980** tube-well pumps were raised, **2,210** tube-wells repaired, **2,320** tube-wells disinfected, **27** temporary toilets installed, **10** climate resilient new water points established, and **15** new latrines constructed, benefiting **285,630** people (144,233 women and 110,367 children).
- These efforts provided life-saving access to safe drinking water, sanitation services, hygiene kits, and hygiene messages, which played a crucial role in preventing waterborne disease outbreaks and mitigating public health risks, ultimately improving the overall quality of life in the affected areas.



In the on-going CERF funded Cyclone Remal Response, a climate resilient water point has been constructed in the Cyclone affected Mohipur Union, Kalapara Upazila, Patuakhali District. © UNICEF/Bangladesh/2024/Mahmudul Hasan

Health

- With UNICEF's support, **18,669** children (including 9,234 girls and 523 children with disabilities) received Penta 3 vaccination in targeted Upazilas after Cyclone Remal disrupted the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI). UNICEF is also assisting with the line-listing of zero-dose children, supporting additional immunization sessions, and monitoring progress through reviews.
- Through UNICEF-supported local-level microplanning, healthcare workers provided **42,407** primary healthcare consultations in cyclone-affected regions. This includes **4,301** women accessing antenatal care (ANC) services and **39,654** consultations provided under the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) program. Additionally, **508 pregnant women**, including five with disabilities, were referred to specialized health services for further medical support.

Child Protection

- A total of **23,801** cyclone- affected children (**12,465 girls, including 772 with disabilities**) have been enrolled in case management programs, addressing key protection concerns like Gender Based Violence (GBV), child labor, child marriage, and exploitation. An additional **2,560** vulnerable children (1,348 girls) have also been identified for support.
- Social workers and community volunteers reached **49,495** cyclone- and flood-affected families, providing life-saving support through referrals for relief items, food, cash assistance, and health services.
- Awareness campaigns engaged **469,387** community members on child protection issues, including GBV, child marriage, trafficking, and access to the Child Helpline (CHL-1098), with specific sessions benefiting **119** vulnerable individuals (56 women) in Khulna.
- A total of **8** children (4 girls) were referred for assistance in obtaining duplicate birth certificates to secure their access to essential services and legal identity.
- A total of **300** family kits and **300** dignity kits have arrived in Khulna, with distribution scheduled for next week, targeting **1,500** individuals, including **894** females.

² DPHE assessment data, September 2024.

³ Ibid.

- The Child Protection section faces significant funding challenges in responding adequately to the Cyclone Remal response in Khulna and Barisal, due to the Eastern floods and broader funding constraints. These limitations are hindering the implementation of critical interventions and reducing overall impact.

Education

- UNICEF distributed **1,005** Education in Emergency (EiE) kits to **234** cyclone- and flood-affected government primary schools in Barisal, Khulna, and Chittagong during the last quarter, benefiting **47,000** students (**23,500 girls**). School monitoring visits revealed students actively utilizing the provided materials and expressing appreciation for UNICEF's support. They also highlighted the need for school bags and personal water bottles to further enhance their educational experience.



A head teacher is providing education in emergency (EiE) in Barisal.
©UNICEF/Bangladesh/2024/17 Chapakhali government primary school

Nutrition

- In Khulna, **47,500** children (24,225 girls) aged 6–59 months were screened for acute malnutrition using the Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) method, with **1,265** identified as having moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). The project has been extended by one month to reach an additional **12,500** children in hard-to-reach areas across 15 Unions. A total of **60** children (40 girls) with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were admitted to hospitals, with **39** (31 girls) successfully discharged. Additionally, **7,549** caregivers participated in **258** community-based Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counseling sessions.
- In Barishal, **74,178** children (37,589 girls) aged 6-59 months were screened for acute malnutrition using MUAC, with **579** identified with SAM (305 girls). A total of **132** children with SAM were referred to inpatient facilities, with 68 girls admitted for treatment. Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergencies (IYCF-E) messages reached **72,178** caregivers of children under-two years of age. At the community level, **19,423** caregivers of children with MAM received IYCF counselling.
- In Chattogram, **7,640** children aged 6–59 months (3,813 girls) were screened for acute malnutrition. Of these, **120** children (77 girls) were identified with severe acute malnutrition (SAM), and **549** children (323 girls) were classified with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Due to bed shortages, with occupancy rates between 150% and 300%, only **81** SAM children (53 girls) were admitted for treatment. Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling was provided to **3,001** pregnant and lactating women (PLWs) and caregivers. Additionally, **2,600** children (1,334 girls) received micronutrient powder, and **3,750** children (1,954 girls) were given deworming tablets. The emergency partnership with Caritas concluded on 28 September 2024.



Sahed, a 14-month-old child with SAM, was treated with therapeutic milk at Ramgati Upazial Health Complex in Laxmipur district.
©UNICEF/Bangladesh/2024/Uba Swee

Social and Behaviour Change (SBC)

- UNICEF reached **235,982** people (115,631 women), in Barishal and Chattogram division including **760 persons with disabilities**, with vital health, nutrition, hygiene, and child protection messages through public announcements, community radio, and networks. Out of the total number, Lokobetar, community radio reached **202,206** people (99,081 woman) in Barishal division.
- As of 25 September 2024, more than **1,700** feedback and concern has been resolved through the Feedback mechanisms established by the implementing partner in Barishal, Khulna and Chattogram divisions, The complaint box alone received **1,213** feedback and concerns, leading to repairs for **482** latrines, **413** tube wells, **20** houses, and support for **49** individuals with disabilities.
- Community consultations engaged over **3,000** participants (2,000 females) discussing hygiene, sanitation, nutrition, and education. Participants committed to applying and sharing their new knowledge.

Humanitarian Cash Transfer (HCT)

- A total of **6,048** households with pregnant women (comprising **25,408 beneficiaries**) across **6** districts received **US\$51.36** in multi-purpose cash transfers (equivalent to 60% of the Minimum Expenditure Basket) through mobile money as part of the cyclone response.
- Post-distribution monitoring has been initiated to capture insights and generate evidence, which is currently ongoing.
- UNICEF has established a database of **22,073** vulnerable households (**53,864** individuals) with pregnant and lactating women across **18** cyclone-prone upazilas in **7** districts, including 914 persons with disabilities (PWD).



A pregnant mother is receiving HCT assistance in Barguna.
©UNICEF/Bangladesh/2024/Suman Kanti Paul

UNICEF Response to the Floods

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)

- With UNICEF's support, **963,102** people (**486,367 women and 372,143 children**) were reached through WASH interventions (safe drinking water, jerricans, water purification tablets and hygiene promotion) as part of Bangladesh's flood response, in partnership with the Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE). Up to **8.8** million water purification tablets (WPTs) have been distributed, along with **7,767** hygiene kits and **35,853** jerricans. Approximately **2.8** million liters of drinking water have been supplied through **17** Mobile Water Treatment Plants.
- Additionally, **1,317** tube wells have been elevated to prevent contamination and remain functional in flood-prone areas, **25,304** tube wells have been disinfected, and **889** latrines have been repaired, to serve affected communities.

Additionally, UNICEF is reinforcing hygiene promotion to reduce public health risks, particularly addressing acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) and implementing water safety plans. Community volunteers, who are also involved in disinfecting water points, play a key role in this effort. UNICEF is closely collaborating with the District Civil Service Office, WHO, the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B) and UNICEF's Health section. Although solid waste collection and disposal must be conducted hygienically and frequently to address the current severe conditions, challenges such as inaccessibility to remote areas and insufficient communication persist.



26-year-old Ms. Halima cradles her 2-month-old child as she collects WASH items distributed by UNICEF Bangladesh in the flood-affected community of Badhitola Bazar, Kanchanpur, Kadir Hanif Upazila on September 9, 2024. © UNICEF/Bangladesh/2024/Royena Rasnat

Health

- UNICEF supported the vaccination of **11,551** children (**5,783 girls**) with Penta 3 in flood-impacted areas.
- A total of **42,262** children under 5 and women received primary healthcare services, including **5,735** pregnant women who received antenatal care (ANC 1) services from UNICEF-supported facilities and supplies.
- UNICEF distributed **620,000** oral rehydration salts (ORS) sachets to flood-affected districts to reduce mortality from acute watery diarrhea, reaching more than **130,000** people (66,300 females).

- Amidst rising concerns over the surge in Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD), hospitals experienced overcrowding, leading to outdoor treatment of patients. In response, UNICEF supported the health facilities in Feni and Noakhali districts by providing four tents, each equipped with 20 beds, and infusion stands, to expand patient care capacity.
- UNICEF is conducting courtyard sessions in flood affected areas, with **55** sessions completed out of a planned **150**. These sessions focus on AWD prevention, along with health, nutrition, WASH, and SBC awareness.
- The Special Care Newborn Unit (SCANU) in Feni district was damaged during the floods. Although most equipment was moved to a safer location on the second floor, the fixed structures were damaged. UNICEF immediately engaged contractors to repair the damaged structures and electric connections, making the SCANU operational. Newborns in Feni district are now receiving lifesaving services from the unit.



A mother and her three-month-old baby receiving health support from the Reach Every Mother and Newborn (REM-N). Despite experiencing challenges with her pregnancies, including two previous miscarriages, Sabikunnahar was determined to have a healthy child, which she achieved with REM-N's support. © UNICEF/UNI640731/Satu

Child Protection

- Social workers and community teams have reached over **60,687** flood-affected families in the Chattogram and Sylhet Divisions, providing critical life-saving support and essential resources. This includes referrals to partners offering relief items, food, cash assistance, and health services.
- The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) and the Ministry of Youth and Sport (MoYS) with UNICEF's support have successfully established and operationalized more than **100** Child-Friendly Spaces in Feni and Noakhali, providing critical support and services to more than **10,000** children, adolescents, parents, caregivers, and community members (5,049 females) affected by the floods.
- A total of **6,597** individuals (3,851 females), including children, adolescents, parents, caregivers, and community members, participated in life-saving awareness sessions focused on preventing harmful practices such as drowning, family separation, child marriage, and child labour. A total of **9** Child Protection Community Mobilizers (CPCMs) reached **3,748** individuals (2,736 females) through sessions addressing mental well-being, drowning prevention, and other critical child protection issues. These sessions also promoted the use of the Child Helpline (CHL-1098) and incorporated sports activities to provide psychosocial support.
- Psychosocial activities were offered to **2,343** children (1,476 girls), including adolescents, in Child-Friendly Spaces and other safe locations. These activities are crucial in supporting their emotional and psychological well-being, helping them recover from the trauma of the floods and build resilience within their communities.
- A total of **396** (238 females) children, adolescents, and caregivers received essential referral services, connecting them with specialized care, protection, and recovery services to ensure their safety and well-being.
- Through an established referral systems by the social workers, **52,512** children (26,513 girls) have received essential services, including food, clothing, healthcare, shelter, and cash assistance.
- The ongoing distribution of family and dignity kits in the Noakhali, Feni, Cumilla, Laxmipur, and Rangamati districts has so far reached **3,868** families with family kits and **3,673** dignity kit boxes, benefiting a total of **32,291** individuals. There remains a critical need for dignity kits to support approximately **100,000** women and girls still residing in shelters and those with critical protection concerns.



On September 10, 2024, at the Child Friendly Spaces—a collaborative initiative of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA)—Yamin, 5-year-old, is deeply engaged in a blend of play, learning, and drawing activities. Under the supervision of social workers, the children's interactions exemplify the supportive environment that these programs strive to provide. Dagonbhuiyan Upazila, Feni. © UNICEF/Bangladesh/2024/Royena Rasnat

Education

- A total of **500** Education in Emergencies (EiE) kits have been distributed to schools in the flood-affected upazilas of Chattogram and Sylhet Divisions, benefiting approximately **15,000 learners** (7,500 girls).
- Additionally, a total of **800** Education in Emergencies (EiE) kits and **200** Learning kits have been procured for pre-positioning. These supplies will be delivered to **463** schools this week and will directly benefit **80,574** children (41,092 girls) in three most affected districts – Feni, Noakhali and Cumilla. However, the need for education supplies remains high due to multiple emergencies in 2024.
- The response underscored the need to address the psychosocial and social-emotional learning needs of students, highlighting the critical role of teachers, not only in delivering education but also in helping children cope with the emergency.



A school sheltering families impacted by floods in – Ramgati, August 2024. Roads, houses, and other belongings were lost in flood waters. © UNICEF/UNI638203/Himu

Nutrition

- In Sylhet, a total **9,975** children (5,041 girls) aged 6-59 months were screened for acute malnutrition using MUAC at the community level. A total of **95** children (39 girls) with SAM were admitted to hospitals and completed treatment.
- The recruitment and orientation of technical staffs (1 Nutrition Manager and 6 Upazila Nutrition Facilitators) under the partnership with CODEC is completed while the recruitment of **90** Community Nutrition Volunteers (CNVs) is in progress.
- SAM inpatient management refreshers training is planned for **8** hospitals included **6** Upazila Health Complexes in Feni and Noakhali district; **1** batch inpatient SAM training (4 doctors and 6 nurses) completed in **1** Upazila Health Complexes of Noakhali district.
- IMCI-Nutrition corners of **6** Upazila Health Complexes and **2** District Hospitals have been equipped with necessary anthropometric tools and nutrition BCC materials.
- In Chattogram, a coordination mechanism has been successfully established and is operational in Feni district, led by the Civil Surgeon's Office. A total of **3** coordination meetings have been conducted, and a Rapid Facility Assessment has been completed. Distributed resources include **50** height scales, **40** weight scales, **5,000** MUAC tapes, and **300** tins of F-75 and F-100 therapeutic milk. Volunteers have been deployed from various partners, including **21** from CODEC/UNICEF, **34** from CONCERN, and **6** from Shushilan, alongside **5** Nutrition Counselors from CONCERN and SHED. A total of **7,251** children under five have been screened, with **14** identified as severely wasted; **9** of these children received treatment at SAM units with therapeutic milk. CONCERN also completed Nutrition in Emergencies (NiE) training for **29** volunteers, and UNICEF is planning further training on SAM management and NiE. In Noakhali district, SAM refresher training was completed in two Upazilas, equipping **20** health service providers and managers with essential skills for inpatient SAM management.



Bangladesh Flood - Ramgati - August 2024. Ms. Deepika Sharma, Chief of Nutrition at UNICEF, visited the flood-affected area and witnessed the conditions and suffering of the people. © UNICEF/UNI638218/Himu

Social and Behaviour Change (SBC)

- In Noakhali, Feni, Lakshmpur and Cumilla, **4.1** million people received SBC lifesaving messages at least once. Of these, **3.9** million people received messages twice and **1** million of them received messaging three times by end of September 19, 2024.
- **22,332** people (**10,938** women) people were reached in Sylhet, Moulavibazar and Sunamganj districts through message dissemination and community engagement activities on health, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), antenatal care (ANC), education, and child protection issues implemented by the District Information Offices, Sylhet regional station of Bangladesh Betar and BRAC.
- In Ghaibandha, Kurigram, and Sirajganj districts, UNICEF reached **46,489** people (**22,779** women) with messaging on access to services and resilience building during the reporting period.

- A rapid emergency SBC-AAP needs assessment survey was conducted with **116** volunteers using the KOBO platform. The survey revealed that **4** out of **5** respondents referred to volunteer organizations/groups (Scouts and the Red Crescent) as available communication channels. Other channels included the Bangladesh Army (63.25%), Fire service (36.75%), local NGOs (26.5%), faith-based organizations (24.79%) and health service providers (19.66%).
- In these locations, UNICEF developed a system in INFOM to conduct a Rapid Assessment to understand the perception of the affected people and the perception of the affected people and Tracking Tool for Emergency Response via volunteers in flood-affected districts. More than **6,900** people participated in the assessment and shared their insights and feedback.
- More than **150** volunteers were trained and deployed across **4** districts, including hard-to-reach areas, to disseminate information through IPC, including loudspeaker announcements. They provided messages on using water purifying tablets, preventing waterborne diseases, handwashing, ANC-PNC, breastfeeding, nutrition during pregnancy, VAC&W, and promoting helplines 1098 and 999.
- Additionally, regional Station of Bangladesh Betar in Sylhet orientation **60** youth from the **20** radio listeners' clubs for disseminating messages on positive behaviours to their peers and other members of the communities.

Humanitarian Cash Transfer (HCT)

- A total of **5,861** households with pregnant and lactating women, covering approximately **23,535** individuals in Sunamganj, Feni, Comilla, and Lakshmipur districts, have each received **US\$51.36** (equivalent to 60% of the Minimum Expenditure Basket) as multi-purpose cash grant.
- Post-distribution monitoring of the cash transfers in Sunamganj district is currently underway.
- UNICEF has established a database of **73,629** vulnerable households with pregnant and lactating women across **117** flood-affected or flood-prone upazilas in **18** districts, covering **269,041** individuals, including 2,019 persons with disabilities (PWD).
- UNICEF is also collecting data on an additional **13,000** households with adolescent mothers from Noakhali (Chatkhil, Begumganj, and Kabirhat upazilas) and Moulvibazar (Rajnagar and Kulaura upazilas) districts.

Government and Other Partner Response

WASH Cluster:

In response to the eastern floods, the WASH cluster significantly increased its provision of life-saving WASH services to the most vulnerable and severely affected populations to reduce the public health risk. Together with DPHE, 15 WASH cluster members, including BRAC, BDRCS, IFRC, CARE, Muslim Aid, Oxfam, Save the Children, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Gana Unnayan Kendra (GUK), CODEC, VERC, and others, are providing essential WASH services to complement the government response. In total, 1.5 million people have been reached by WASH Cluster members. For eastern flood response, DPHE installed 35 floating latrines and 43 temporary tube wells in flood-affected districts such as Feni, Noakhali, Comilla, Lakshmipur, and Moulvibazar. Additionally, 300 DPHE tube-well mechanics inspected 30,689 tube wells, repairing 5,385 and disinfecting 25,304 to ensure access to safe drinking water. In collaboration with UNICEF, DPHE distributed 8.8 million water purification tablets, 7,767 hygiene kits, and 35,853 jerry cans in the flood-affected districts of Chattogram and Sylhet divisions. Over 325,500 leaflets were also distributed with water purification tablets, providing instructions on their proper use and promoting hygienic behavior in personal and family life to improve health and well-being.

Nutrition Cluster:

A National Nutrition Cluster coordination meeting was held on 19 September 2024. All the cluster members updated their response status of disaster affected areas. While the UNICEF nutrition partner BRAC is working in the northeastern flood response, CODEC and Concern Worldwide are addressing eastern flood. The NGO Forum for Public Health, CARITAS, Jagarani Chakra Foundation have been retained to respond to the Cyclone Remal emergency. ACF nutrition response is in Sunamganj, Noakhali and Bagerhat districts. Duplication of efforts in nutrition response has been minimized by improving coordination among the concerned organizations. Other partners are involved in emergency response



Humaira, 1 year old, had some health issues at an early age. She was given formula milk instead of her mother's milk, which affected her growth. Then, Salma learned about Caritas through a volunteer and brought her baby there. Humaira received treatment and gradually recovered. Now, she eats rice, meat, and vegetables. © UNICEF/UNI638209/Himu

with food and non-food items distribution. UNICEF and WFP are planning to conduct a SMART survey in most disaster-prone districts and involve cluster members, subject to availability of resources. Lipid-based nutrient supplements (LQ-LNS) procurement is in progress for 10,000 children of 6-11 months of eastern flood areas.

Education Cluster:

All schools in Feni were inundated, while those in Noakhali, Cumilla and Laxmipur were also affected. In addition, education offices and learning institutions were flooded and became inaccessible, with some schools currently being used as shelters. UNICEF, Save the Children, Plan International, BRAC, and UNFPA are providing emergency services, including EIE kits and learning kits for the flood's response. However, the Education Cluster partners are facing significant constraints due to a lack of funding for the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). WFP is also supporting schools through a school feeding program. While the government released some funding in July 2024 for minor infrastructure repairs (classrooms, toilets) under the Education in Emergencies (EIE) funds, these repairs have been delayed due to the political unrest in the country. Some schools reported that contractors abandoned their projects during the civil unrest, leaving classrooms damaged and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) facilities in poor condition. To enhance coordination of the response, the Education Cluster has established sub-national coordination mechanisms in Feni and Noakhali.

Child Protection Cluster:

The Child Protection Cluster has established three Child Protection in Emergencies (CPiE) working groups in Feni, Cumilla, and Noakhali to enhance coordination at the sub-national level, improve child protection responses, and reduce duplication of efforts. Local partners and NGOs, including Shurjer Hashi Mohila Unnoyan Society, Plus, Mitali Women Empowerment, ADAB, Jubo Angan, Shopno Nari O Shishu Unnayan Sangstha, N RAS, Sagorica, Page, DIHA, Prottoy Unnayan Sangstha, Ma-O-Shishu Kalyan Foundation, and YWCA, are actively supporting vulnerable children and women in flood-affected areas. Their activities include providing psychosocial support, non-food items (NFIs), establishing child-friendly spaces (CFS), referrals, and multi-purpose cash assistance. In the past three weeks, six CPiE working group meetings have been convened in Feni, Cumilla, and Noakhali. Focal points from these groups have also participated in area-based inter-cluster coordination meetings at the Deputy Commissioner's offices in both Feni and Noakhali. The 4W reporting has been circulated, and data collection is ongoing. Additionally, the Child Protection Cluster is engaged in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), which targets 228,724 individuals with a funding request of \$2.16 million.

Accountability to Affected People (AAP) Working Group:

UNICEF is co-leading the AAP Working Group of the ICCG jointly with the BBC Media Action. During the reporting period, UNICEF in collaboration with the BBC Media Action and PESA network focal person in Bangladesh supported the development of a questionnaire for the detailed assessment of the flood response led by the national need assessment working group (NAWG) on behalf of ICCG. UNICEF also organized a taskforce meeting at the Save the Children Office to operationalization of the district level coordination for AAP in cyclone Remal response. Islamic Relief, Plan International, ACF and Save the Children also joined the meeting. A workshop was planned on 31 August 2024 to contextualize the AAP tool but was postponed due to the flash floods in Feni. A new date is planned for the workshop.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

The Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG), under the Humanitarian Coordination Task Team (HCTT), meets regularly to align its efforts with the Government of Bangladesh's response to the floods and Cyclone Remal. The UNRCO is updating the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) to incorporate the recent flash floods in north- and south-eastern Bangladesh. The five most affected districts—Noakhali, Feni, Laxmipur, Cumilla, and Khagrachhari—will be included, with a total population in need (PIN) of about 1.8 million people, representing 30% of the affected population. The targeted number of people for assistance is over 550,000, with a financial requirement of \$24.7 million. The HRP will remain adaptable, with goals and resources modified as necessary to prioritize the most affected populations and areas.

UN Women, UNFPA, and UNICEF are collaborating through the Gender in Humanitarian Action (GiHA), GBV Cluster, and Child Protection Cluster, sharing strategies, tools, and approaches to ensure the immediate safety and protection of women and girls in shelters, particularly against gender-based violence (GBV).

UNICEF leads the Nutrition and WASH Sectors/Clusters, the Child Protection Sub-sector/Cluster, and co-leads the Education Sector/Cluster. It focuses on the Grand Bargain commitments by integrating child-centered disaster risk reduction, ensuring accountability to affected populations, and supporting the localization of humanitarian assistance. Key government counterparts—including District Disaster Management Committees, Upazila Nirbahi Officers, Upazila Education Officers, Upazila Health & Family Planning Officers, Sub-Assistant Engineers at Upazila DPHE offices, and Union Parishad Chairpersons—are vital partners in all UNICEF-supported responses in cyclone and flood-affected areas.

Funding situation

UNICEF has successfully mobilized US\$5.4 million from various donors and internal resources to deliver essential services to children, women, and persons with disabilities. However, a substantial funding gap of **85%** remains, with an additional US\$30.4 million urgently needed to support emergency response interventions for the vulnerable women and children in Bangladesh.

External Media

Statement by the Representative:

[Over 772,000 children are affected by flash floods in North-East Bangladesh](#)

Human Interest Story:

[On Eid night, Ruksana and Rahul navigate dark water to find shelter](#)

[Hope amidst crisis: Pramita's journey of surviving Cyclone Remal](#)

Press Release:

[Two million children at risk as worst floods in three decades lash through eastern Bangladesh - UNICEF](#)

Photo Essay:

<https://www.unicef.org/bangladesh/en/stories/climate-displacement-loss-and-uncertain-futures>

Twitter:

- <https://x.com/UNICEFBD/status/1836646414757347656>
- <https://x.com/UNICEFBD/status/1837798599742414971>
- <https://x.com/UNICEFBD/status/1837841024724660441>

Facebook

- <https://web.facebook.com/unicef.bd/posts/830821665926792>
- <https://web.facebook.com/watch/?v=1269012063993355>
- <https://web.facebook.com/unicef.bd/posts/831667099175582>

Instagram

- https://www.instagram.com/p/DAFn9_rqc7t/
- <https://www.instagram.com/p/DAN0Vt4vhm1/>
- https://www.instagram.com/p/DAOH7ObS_18/

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