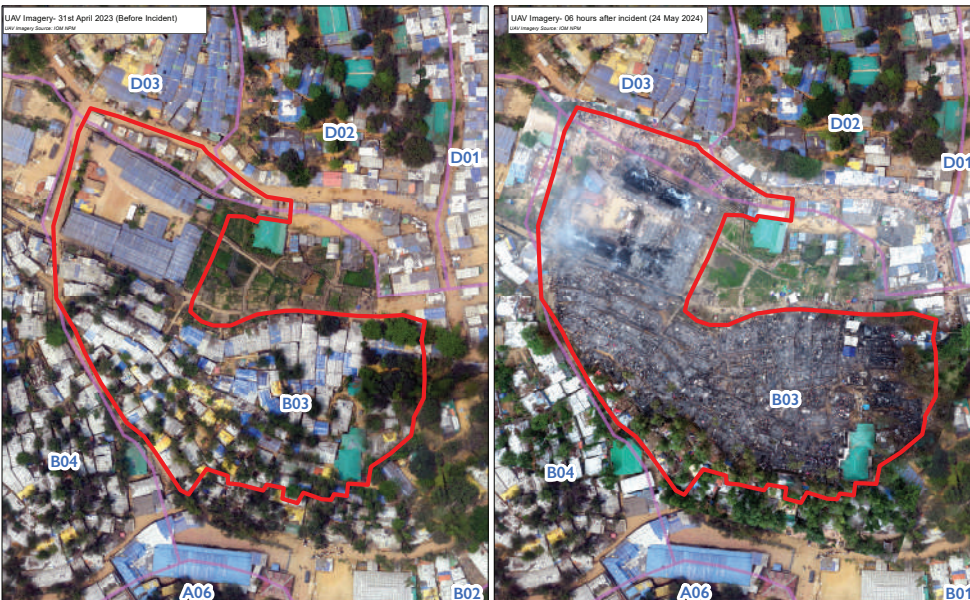


SITUATION REPORT ON THE FIRE INCIDENT IN CAMP 13 24 HOURS

CAMP 13 FIRE AFFECTED AREA

UAV IMAGERY INCIDENT BEFORE AFTER COMPARISON



Map of affected portion of Camp 13 (before-after fire). ©IOM2024

1,100 individuals affected	177 families received emergency shelter kits
Up to 221 households have been assessed burnt/damaged	372 Rohingya community volunteers mobilized
MMT provided medical attention to 54 patients, including 18 who were treated for minor injuries.	193 families received WASH Emergency NFI kits

SITUATION OVERVIEW

A fire swept through Camp 13 in Ukhiya, Cox’s Bazar, at around 10:45 AM local time on Friday 24 May. Over 1,100 Rohingyas have been affected, with their shelters and belongings burnt, and camp infrastructure damaged. IOM was on the ground at the onset of the fire, as the teams were preparing the camps for the Cyclone Remal. Under the leadership of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC) office and in coordination with the Camp-in-Charge (CiC), IOM immediately mobilized response teams to assist the refugees and bring the situation under control with the Fire Service and Civil Defense. IOM mobilized its Disaster Management Unit (DMU) volunteers with mobile firefighting units and created fire breaks to stop the fire from spreading and to mitigate the loss of life and property. 18 individuals have been injured, of which 7 are children. No fatalities have been reported thus far.

IMMEDIATE NEEDS

IOM, together with the partners, conducted a preliminary assessment of the situation and needs of the affected people. As of 25 May, around 221 shelters were either destroyed or partially damaged, and approximately 1,100 individuals were affected. The households affected by the fire are temporarily displaced and living in communal facilities and shelters of relatives and neighbours. A total of 54 water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities were also damaged. In addition, the fire damaged 2 child friendly spaces, 17 solar streetlights, one lighting arrester, over a thousand square meters of slope stabilization mitigation measures, pedestrian access pathways and stairways, the drainage network and a number of fire points. The IOM Site Management and Site Development (SMSD) team together with Shelter/Non-Food Items (NFI), WASH, and Health teams are on the ground assisting the affected population. The area is being cleared of debris to allow safe access and mobility. The distribution of emergency shelter/NFI, WASH and dignity packages is underway, to be followed by the reconstruction of shelters and facilities. However, Cyclone Remal, which is expected to make landfall on 26 May, may create additional needs and slow down efforts in the fire affected areas.



Aerial view of fire affected area of Camp 13. ©IOM2024

IOM RESPONSE

Within the first hours of the fire, an emergency coordination meeting was held under the leadership of the CiC with the presence of IOM, ISCG, partners and the service providers in the camp to plan the immediate multi-sectoral response.

IOM has advocated for support to the immediate response efforts including through a [video](#) while the fire was still going on. IOM's Director-General, who recently visited Bangladesh, [called for the attention](#) of the international community highlighting the vulnerabilities of Rohingyas and the extremely challenging circumstances they live in.

Shelter/NFI

IOM is distributing emergency shelter kits to the affected households and technical support is being provided to install emergency shelters. Shelter kits have been distributed to 177 households so far. An emergency shelter kit contains two tarpaulins, 10 pieces of muli, two bundles of 6 mm rope and two bundles of 3 mm rope. Non-Food Items (NFI) have been distributed to 154 households so far, including blankets, floor mats, mosquito nets, and portable solar lights. Clothing is being distributed by Save the Children, with support from IOM and Caritas.

SMSD

IOM's DMU volunteers were among the first to respond to the fire. The promptness of their response and their handling of responsibilities during the fire response underscore the importance of providing firefighting training and equipment for prompt actions. IOM together with the partners conducted a rapid assessment to identify the immediate needs for non-food items, shelter and health services, and the damage to the shelters and facilities. A total of 372 Rohingya community volunteers and 240 refugees through the cash-for-work facility were engaged in debris removal and clearing of walkways and other facilities to improve access through the affected area.

WASH

Emergency water supply has been secured from temporarily established facilities, and some damaged hand pumps have been repaired. IOM and SHED, IOM's implementing partner in Camp 13, have distributed WASH Emergency NFI kits to 193 families. Temporary latrine access to nearby existing latrines has been arranged in consultation with community people. Repair of damaged latrines and bathing facilities is to be started imminently.

Health

Two mobile medical teams (MMT) were deployed at the onset of the incident, including IOM protection officers. The teams provided medical attention to 54 patients, including 18 who were treated for minor injuries. There were 2 ambulances on standby to transfer patients to medical facilities with higher care capacity. Health facilities continued providing services, complemented by the MMTs. Health staff, including mental health, and protection staff were on site to provide comprehensive support to individuals affected by the fire.

Needs and Population Monitoring (NPM)

To support and inform the immediate response, NPM conducted a UAV/Drone flight over the fire-affected area within the first four hours to assess the scope of the incident and the extent of damage in the camp. NPM has also produced comparison maps showing before and after the fire and highlighting the damaged shelters and facilities on the ground to help the decision-making and response planning.

NPM intends to undertake a joint needs assessment (JNA) within 24 hours following the fire incident. The joint needs assessment aims to ascertain the most pressing needs and priorities, access to basic services, and available resources in the affected blocks. With this information, IOM and sector partners will be able to make effective decisions in responding to the needs of the affected refugees in the camp. The assessment outcomes will be published through a report on 26 May.



Fire extinguishing by Rohingya volunteers and Bangladesh fire service. ©IOM2024



Debris cleaning from the fire affected area. ©IOM2024



Emergency shelter kits distribution. ©IOM2024



Emergency WASH NFI distribution. ©IOM2024



Rapid assessment after the fire. ©IOM2024