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Extreme Weather and Disaster Preparedness in the Rohingya Refugee Response

2018 Cyclone Preparedness Lessons Learnt



Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response

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This report is joint product of the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, American Red Cross and International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the United Nations Development Programme Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh. The UNDP Cox's Bazaar sub-office maintains a DRR Technical Advisory Unit through its Disaster Risk Management in Cox's Bazaar programme, which is funded from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the European Commission Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (ECHO), and provided with technical support from SDC and MSB (the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency).

The findings, interpretations and conclusions expressed in this work do not necessarily reflect the views of European Commission Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (ECHO), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), MSB (the Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency), Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the American Red Cross, or the Executive Board of the UNDP or the governments they represent. The findings, interpretations, lessons learnt and conclusions expressed are based on the collected reflections of non-governmental disaster management stakeholders involved in the Rohingya response.

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In reference to the Rohingya in Bangladesh, the Government of Bangladesh refers to the Rohingya as "Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals". The UN system refers to this population as Rohingya refugees, in line with the applicable international framework. The Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement uses the term 'displaced person from Rakhine' or 'people from Rakhine' in referring to the Rohingya in Bangladesh as an element in maintaining Red Cross and Red Crescent movement operational access to provide vital humanitarian assistance to those in need on either side of the border. In the Joint Response Plan document of 2019, both UN and Government of Bangladesh terms were used, as appropriate, to refer to the same population. The terminology used throughout the present cyclone preparedness lessons learnt report is in line with the applicable international framework.

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Cover photo: Rohingya camp volunteer in the Cyclone Preparedness Programme executing a cyclone early warning drill in Kutupalong Refugee Camp. (Photo credit: American Red Cross)

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