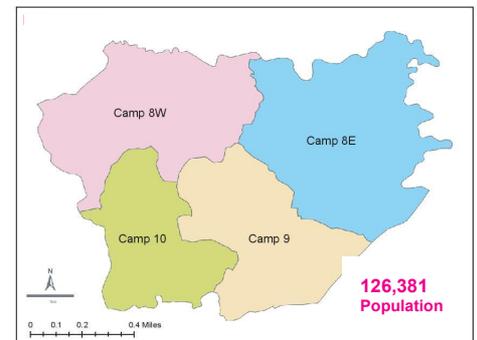
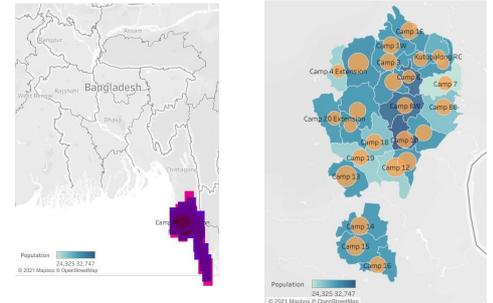




Area affected



Context

On 22nd March 2021, around 3 pm, a massive fire broke out at camp 8W, Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar. Based on the primary assessment, the fire started from a gas cylinder blast.

Due to frequent wind flow, the fire swept through camps 8E, 9, and 10, leaving over 10,000 infrastructures including shelters, mosques, community centres, learning centres, service centres, learning facilities, shops, and CIC offices burnt to ashes.

The affected camps with 26,486 households, shelters over 126,381 people, who have been displaced by the fire and are currently squatting in the nearby open areas. The affected populations from the four camps include 33,336 women, 28,380 men, and 64,665 children.

People in adjacent camps (5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 17 and 18) have vacated their households too as the fire spread and engulfed surrounding areas.

The Child Protection team, the case management staff, and CPIE volunteers have identified 30 children and adolescents (ages 5-10 years) who have been separated from their families. Of the 30, 17 children have already been reunited with their parents with the help of BRAC case workers and para counsellors. The remaining 13 children are now under the supervision and support of BRAC volunteers and staff in camp 18.

Damages

An initial rapid assessment have shown that a training centre in camp 8E, six learning centres in camp 8E; eight learning centres in Camp 9, two learning centres in camp 10; and one training centre of camp 8W are totally destroyed by the fire.

Moreover, IOM PHC, MSF clinic and Turkish hospital in camp 9 and LPG storages in camps 8E and 10 have been burnt. Shelter partners are ready to carry out the shelter emergency assessment once the situation is brought under control.

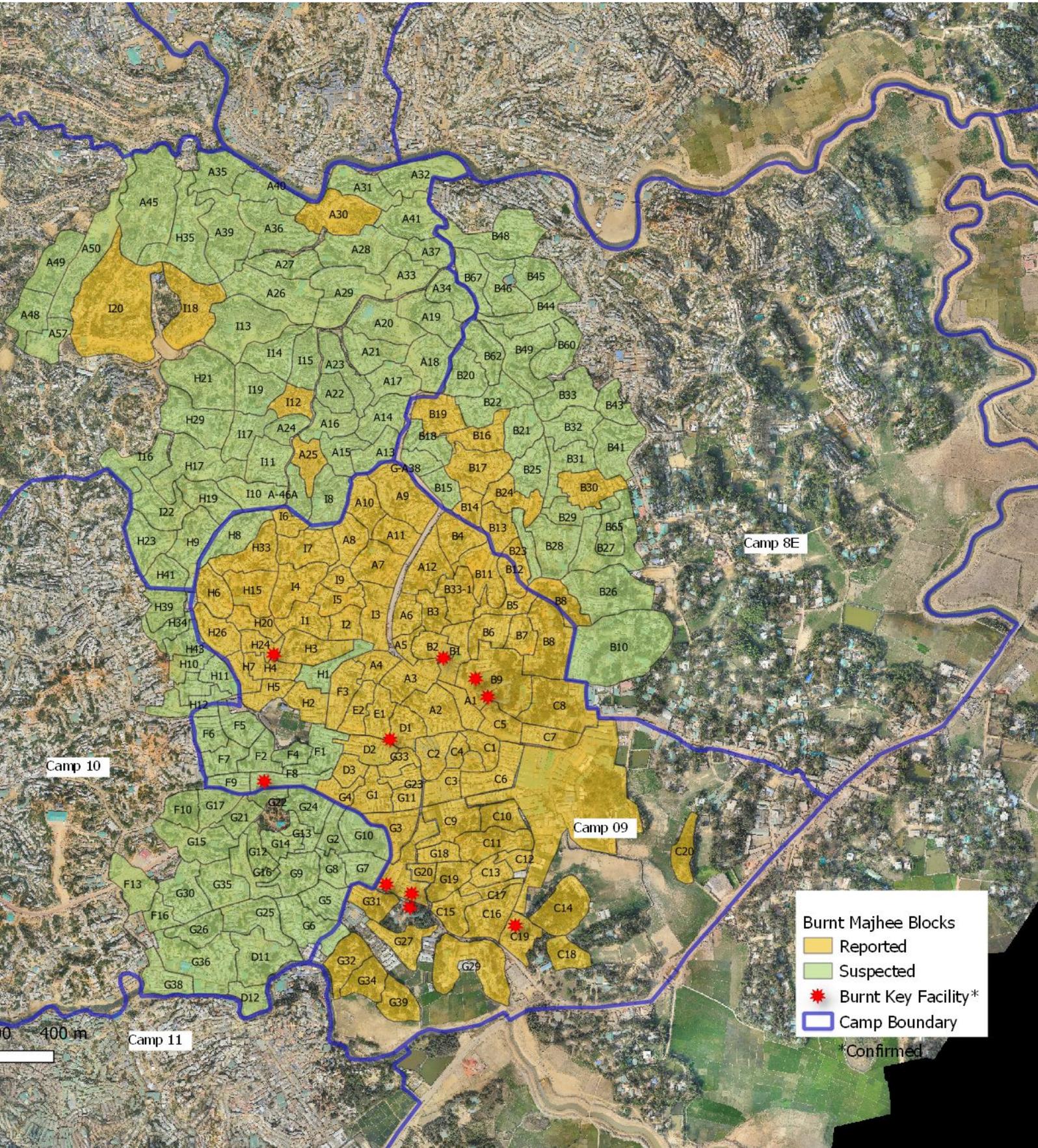
SMSD reported that there was a mass relocation due to this incident, hence, sharing the comprehensive need assessment will require some time. BRAC has opened it's community facilities to be used by other response partners for relief and response activities.

Population Affected

Total: 126,381
Women: 33,336
Men: 28,380
Children: 64,665

Casualties

As of 10:30pm, 22 March, two children have been found dead and the number of casualties is presumed to rise. A large number of people have been separated from their families, especially children. The people affected have lost all their belongings and assets.





Response

BRAC field staff, in consultation with the respective camp in charge, started responding immediately and carried out a rapid assessment. HCMP senior management and sector leads had an emergency meeting and decided to carry out a damage and need assessment tomorrow morning. Child Protection will lead at camp 8E, WASH at 9, Education at 8W and 10 for the assessment. DRR, SMS, Shelter and SMS will be on standby for further support.

GFA is ready to support fire incident victims sheltered at Camp 22 with HEB. Camp 22 has sheltered approximately 100 individuals.

The GBV team has allocated four SSWGs as emergency shelter for women and girls in camps 8E, 8W, 5, and 6. There is stockpile of 1,000 emergency dignity kits as emergency support for women and girls affected.

The DC, Cox's Bazar and UNO, Ukhiya visited the affected area and requested BRAC to urgently ensure medical support with nurses, provide tarpaulin for temporary shelter, and ensure female health and hygiene, and security services. BRAC Primary Healthcare Centres in camps 8E and 13 are fully operational and a medical team of 10-12 members are providing primary health support from the Balukhali Kashemia High School.

BRAC has distributed 3,000 fortified biscuit packets (30gms) and 1,000 water bottles (5 litre bottles) among the affected families taking shelter in the Balukhali Kashemia High School field. Another 2,000 tarpaulin pieces have been kept aside as emergency shelter support. BRAC provided 500 jerry cans to OXFAM to ensure immediate water supply among the affected people.

The Child Protection team has mobilised volunteers in the fields to identify and support separated children and adolescents. By now identified missing children have already been given energy biscuits and taken to safe shelters. Some centre managers are still near Balukhali to provide support to separated children and adolescents.



DC, Cox's Bazar visited affected camps and requested BRAC to provide emergency basic support



Emergency medical team providing basic first-aid support to the affected people at the safe shelters



BRAC volunteers with separated children and women in the safe spaces

*INFORMATION UPDATED on 22 MARCH 2021 (Upto 21.00 PM)