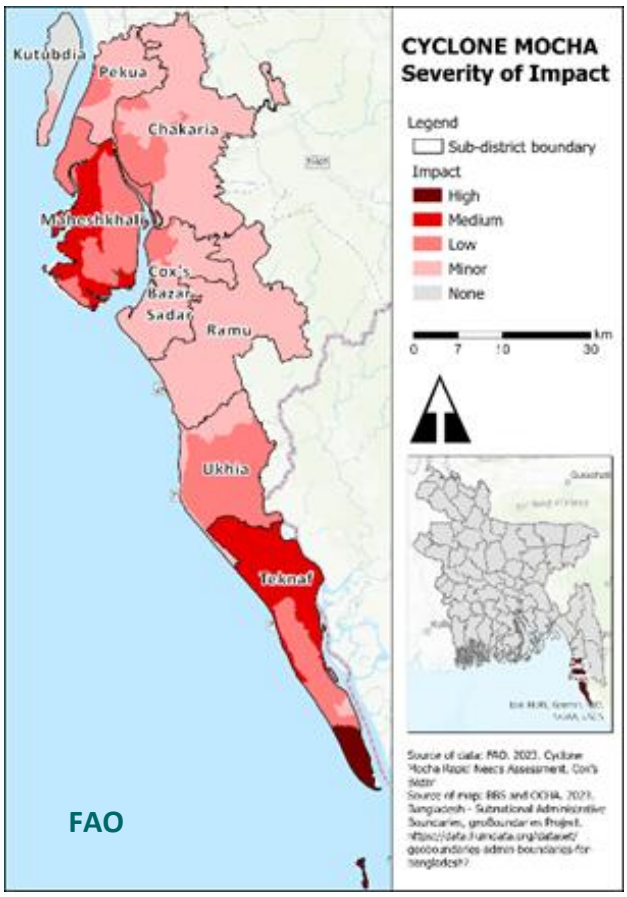
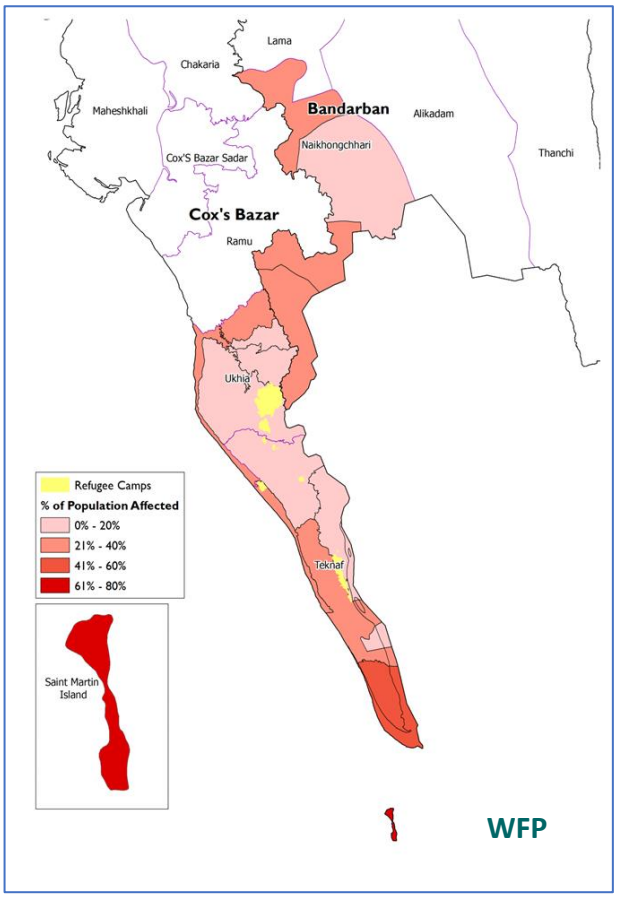
COX'S BAZAR FOOD SECURITY SECTOR

RAPID FOOD SECURITY SECTOR ASSESSMENT

CYCLONE MOCHA, MAY 2023

Date released: 25 May 2023





UPAZILA COVERED: Data collection by FAO 17-18 May 2023 and WFP 16-17 May 2023

Upazila/WFP	Total Population	KII (Host)	KII (Refugee)
Naikhongchhari	80,320	6	NA
Teknaf	366,549	19	5
Ukhiya	292,246	15	7
Grand Total	739,115	40	12

Upazila/FAO	Government Official [DAE/DLS/DoF/FD]	Trader	Disaster Management Committee Member	Grand Total
Chakoria	4	2	1	7
Cox's Bazar Sadar	4	1	1	6
Kutubdia	4	1	1	6
Moheskhali	12	7	4	23
Pekua	4	1	1	6
Ramu	5	1	1	7
Teknaf	26	7	7	40
Ukhia	3	1	1	5
Grand Total	62	21	17	100

35 %
IPC 3+

35% People of Cox's Bazar are living under moderate to high level of Chronic Food Insecurity and classified as IPC level 3+

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

WFP World Food Programme

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Cyclone Mocha made landfall in Bangladesh on the evening of 14 May 2023, leaving considerable damage in its path. The Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) estimated that a total of 4 districts, 26 Upazilas (sub-districts), 99 unions, and 429,337 Bangladeshi nationals were affected by Cyclone Mocha. In Cox's Bazar alone, 334,620 people from 60 unions of Chakoria, Kutubdia, Moheskhali, Pekua, Ramu Sadar, Teknaf and Ukhiya Upazilas were affected, more than two million people were evacuated to cyclone shelters and 12,469 houses were damaged.

FAO and WFP as Food Security Sector (FSS) co-lead agencies, undertook 2 separate rapid assessments to estimate the Food Security situation including damage and loss in the agricultural sector and needs of the affected Bangladeshi and Rohingya communities in Cox's Bazar.

METHODOLOGY

FAO and WFP, in close coordination with the Food Security Sector/Food Security Cluster (FSC), designed two rapid needs assessment questionnaires for Key Informant Interviews (KII). The sampling followed a snowball approach, starting from Upazila-level respondents, followed by purposive sampling of union-level representatives as per identification of damage and loss pockets. Data was collected using Kobo, both in-person and phone interviews with representatives from the Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), Department of Livestock Services (DLS), Department of Fisheries (DoF), Forest Division (FD), Disaster Management Committees (DMCs), and traders from the Upazila and the Union levels across Cox's Bazar. Shushilan conducted a Rapid Assessment after the immediate onset of the Cyclone MOCHA in Sabrang and St. Martin unions.
FSS with the support form FSC has compiled 2 assessments complemented by the Shushilan rapid assessment and Faith in Action rapid assessment.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS - FAO

Cyclone with landslide
Landfall: 14 May 2023
Damaged houses: 12k [CXB]
Individuals: 0.3m Bangladeshi [CXB]

Affected area
Most affected: Teknaf & Moheskhali
Most affected unions: 25

Market functionality
Sales & transport difficulties
Temporary input unavailability
Commodity & input price hike

Food security
Stored food loss
Access difficulties, temporary shortage

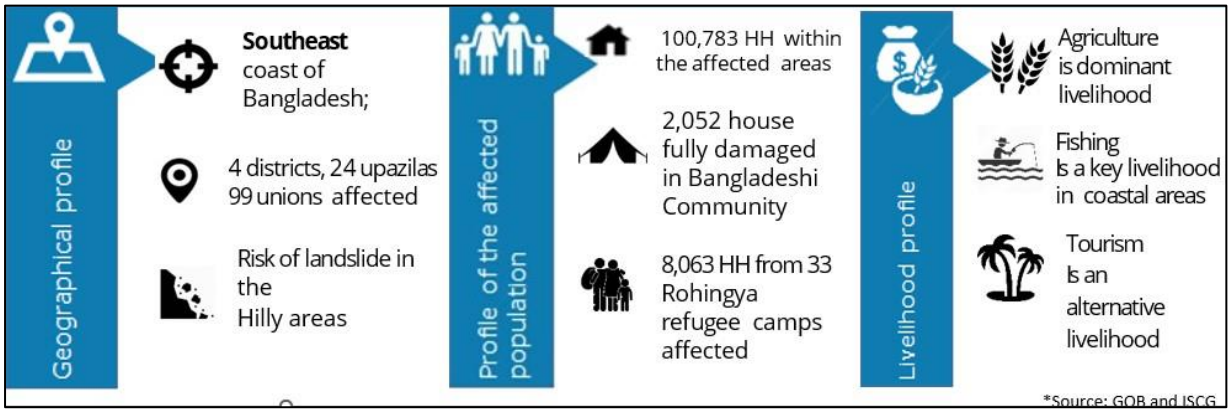
Crop
Damage: 346 Ha cropland, stored crop & infrastructure ($1m)
Affected HHs: 3.5k

Livestock
Loss: 3.3k poultry, 28 goats & 15 cattle ($17k)
Disease and destocking

Fishery
Damage: enclosures, boat & net ($307k)
Drop in catch & next 65-day ban

Forestry
Damage: 32 ha forest, plantation & nursery ($18.5k)

WFP



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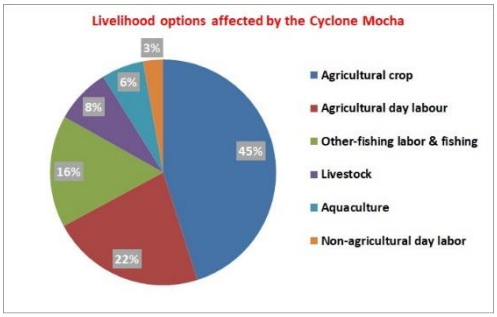


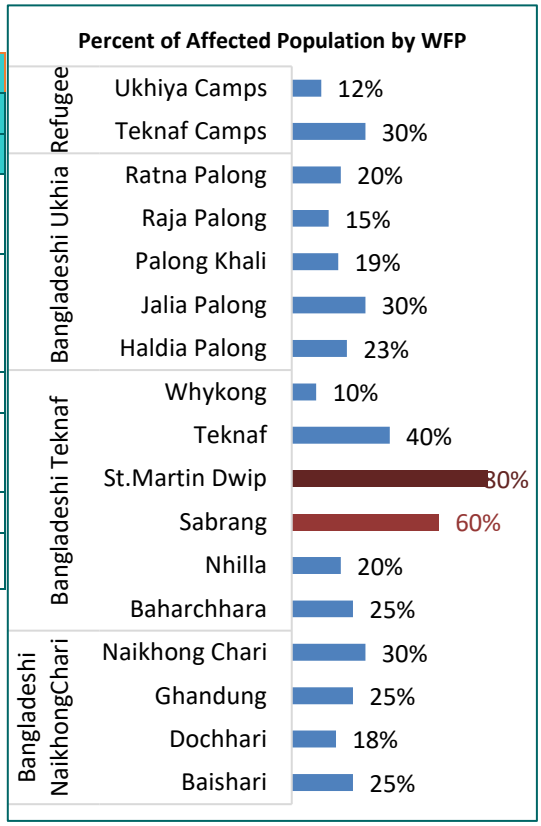
Short Term	Mid-Term/Long-Term
▪ Agricultural inputs and supporting materials, e.g., seeds, bamboo, rope, fertilizer, net, etc. ▪ Cash for work (CFW) ▪ Cash-based support/ Livelihood grant support	▪ Income Generating Activities (IGAs) for livelihoods ▪ Household-level micro-business development. ▪ Technical inputs

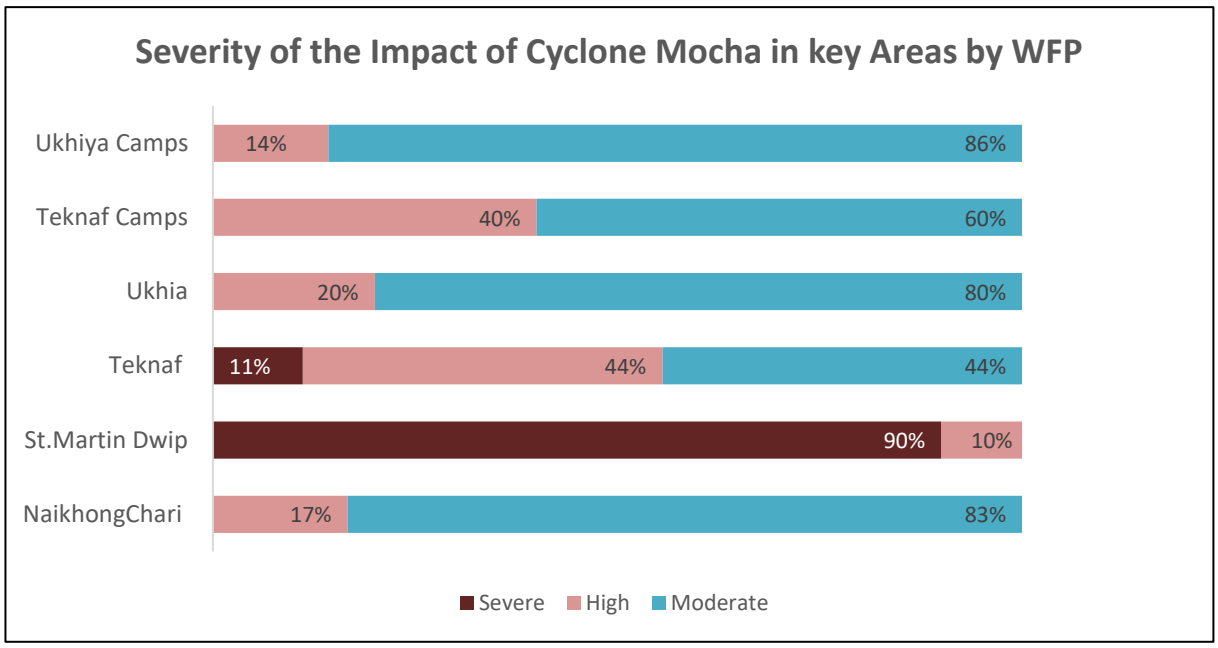
DAMAGE AND LOSS

IMPACT ON POPULATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The most affected producer groups were found to be small and marginal farmers, sharecroppers, fish producers and fishermen.

FAO			
Affected Upazila	Affected unions	Severity of impact	
		High	Medium
Moheskhali	8	-	Matarbari, Dhalghat
Teknaf	6	Sabrang, St. Martin	Baharchhara, Nhilla, Whykong
Chakoria	5	-	-
Cox's Bazar Sadar	2	-	-
Ukhiya	3	-	-
Pekua	1	-	-





CROPS

Area	Name of crop	Affected farmers (HH)	Affected crop land areas			Production loss (MT)	Total loss (USD)
			Fully damaged (ha)	Partially damaged (ha)	Total (ha)		
Teknaf Upazila	Summer vegetable	2,420	10	150	160	1,603	**721,440**
	Betel leaf	1,030	40	140	180	744	**371,720**
	Sub-Total	**3,450**	**50**	**290**	**340**	**2,347**	**1,093,160**
Moheskhali Upazila	Summer vegetable	30	0	3	3	75	**33,750**
	Betel leaf	40	0	4	4	35	**17,500**
	Sub-Total	**70**	**0**	**6**	**6**	**110**	**51,250**
Cox's Bazar District Total		**3,520**	**50**	**296**	**346**	**2,457**	**1,144,410**

LIVESTOCK

Area	Dead cattle (#)	Dead goat (#)	Dead poultry (#)	Livestock loss (TLU[1])	Total loss (USD)
Teknaf Upazila	13	28	3,370	43	**16,118**
Ukhiya Upazila	2	0	0	1	**1,500**
Cox's Bazar District	**15**	**28**	**3,370**	**44**	**17,618**

FISHERY

Area	Damaged forest (ha)	Damaged plantation (ha)	Damaged nursery (ha)	Total loss (USD)
Moheskhali Upazila	14	11	4	**15,000**
Teknaf Upazila	2	1	0	**3,500**
Cox's Bazar District	16	12	4	**18,500**

[1] Tropical Livestock Unit (TLU) conversion factors: cattle = 0.5, goats = 0.1, pigs = 0.2, and chicken = 0.01

FOOD SECURITY SITUATION

According to FAO KII, High to Moderate loss of stored food occurred in Teknaf, Moheskhali and Kutubdia (Figure 8). Eighty-six percent of the respondents from Teknaf reported challenges in accessing food, while 25 percent from Moheskhali mentioning the same. All respondents from Teknaf reported not having access to sufficient food.

FOOD INSECURITY PERCEPTION IN THE COMING 3 MONTHS according to WFP

WFP KII	Bangladeshi	Rohingya	Saint Martin
Food access problems may have in the coming months (% of the population)	40%	80%	60%
Foreseen causes for food availability degradation?	Price hikes, crop damage, income opportunities reduced, cyclone & rainy season, etc.	Ration cut, rainy season, limited livelihood, etc.	End of the tourist season, fewer income opportunities, and rainy season

MARKET SITUATION

High to medium levels of market disruptions (73 and 55 percent), sales difficulties of agro-commodities (80 and 13 percent), and higher requests for credit purchases are reported in Teknaf and Moheskhali Upazilas. Unusually lower sales were observed in Teknaf[2], Moheskhali, Pekua, and Cox's Bazar Sadar. Respondents from Teknaf (57 percent) and Moheskhali (18 percent) reported that current stocks of agro-inputs are likely to last less than a week as supply shortfalls is being observed due to transportation difficulties. Relatively less available products include seeds/seedlings, farming tools/equipment/machineries, fertilizers/hormones/pesticides, livestock feed, and livestock equipment. Moderate to sharp increase of commodity prices were found in Teknaf, Moheskhali and Kutubdia. There were reports of labor shortages and higher operating costs, and in some remote locations of Teknaf, shop damages, power-cuts and around 5 percent price increase of rice. Most respondents forecasted that the markets will resume full functionality within 10 days and suppliers will be able to replenish stocks within a week from placing their orders.

NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

Sector	Priority 1	Priority 2	Priority 3	Priority 4
Crop	Tools & equipment	Seeds[3]	Cash	Fertilizer
Livestock	Livestock feed	Shed renovation	Training	Cash
Fisheries	Fishing tools[4]	Training	Fish Feed	Cash
Forestry	Seedlings	Planting materials	Maintenance support	

[2] also reported a lower number of clients
[3] Preferred seed variety: Eggplant, Bottle gourd, Cucumber, Okra, Bitter gourd, Pumpkin, Ridge gourd, Tomato
[4] Urgent tool/equipment needs: Fishing net, life jacket, torch light and fishing hook

Top three priority needs (Bangladeshi)

1. **FOOD/CASH for FOOD**
2. **SHELTER**
3. **SANITATION**

Top three priority needs (Rohingya)

1. **SHELTER**
2. **FOOD**
3. **SANITATION/CLOTHING**

LIMITATIONS

Due to the urgency of the situation, the assessment had to be conducted within a limited timeframe, which posed challenges in reaching all the affected areas and capturing the views and experiences of every affected individual. As a result, there may be gaps in fully understanding the extent of suffering and obtaining a comprehensive representation of the affected population.

Additionally, it is important to note that Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) have inherent limitations. The information gathered through KIIs relies on the perspectives and experiences of the informants, which may vary and be subject to biases or inaccuracies. There is always a possibility of information being exaggerated or understated, depending on the informants' perspectives or other factors.

Therefore, it is crucial to exercise caution when interpreting and utilizing the results of the assessment. The findings should be considered as indicative rather than absolute, and other sources of information should be considered to obtain a more comprehensive and nuanced understanding of the situation.

Contact person: **Mohammad Mainul Hossain Rony**, FSC Coordinator, mohammad.rony@wfp.org
Takahiro Utsumi, Head of VAM and MEAL, WFP, takahiro.utsumi@wfp.org
Imtiaz Ahmad, Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist, FAO, Ahmad.Imtiazahmad@fao.org