

**India and Bangladesh**

Bangkok, 21 May 2020

SITUATION
<p>Cyclone Amphan made landfall near Sagar Island in West Bengal, India, close to the Bangladeshi border around 5 p.m. local time with sustained winds of 160 kilometers per hour (100 mph), according to the US Joint Typhoon Warning Center. Storm surge up to 5 meters (17 feet) is likely to occur along the coastline as Amphan continues to push inland across eastern India and Bangladesh. Heavy rain is also likely to lead to flash flooding across the region through Thursday morning. Once the storm pushes inland it will weaken significantly and is expected to dissipate by Friday. (Reports from CNN: https://edition.cnn.com/asia/live-news/live-updates-cyclone-amphan-intl-hnk/h_b9fc478abb1045ebbc2fc106dfebb7f)</p> <p>Disaster Alert estimated that about 6,483 people will be severely affected and about 10 million moderately affected. About 43 million people are exposed to the cyclone (https://hazardbrief.pdc.org/PRODUCTION/ui/index.html?uuid=03d54dfb-5021-4596-98e5-86bde8fa24ae#/update=1589987466942). Reports estimate that 3 million people have been evacuated before landfall in India and Bangladesh. Some people have been reluctant to move to the emergency shelters for fear of infection from COVID-19. By landfall, 12 people have died in India with expectations that there could be more as communications and electricity had been cutoff. Migrant workers, particularly those trying to go back to Odisha, have been affected as transportation systems have stopped (see https://edition.cnn.com/asia/live-news/live-updates-cyclone-amphan-intl-hnk/h_b9fc478abb1045ebbc2fc106dfebb7f). Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB) reported that one man has died when a tree fell on him while another one went missing after his boat capsized.</p>
NEEDS
<p>Bangladesh and India Forums estimate that people will need support for food and shelter. Water systems will be damaged resulting to limited sources for drinking water while farmlands will be damaged affecting the people's income capacities. Fishers will not be able to fish also as heavy rain continues in the area.</p>
STAKEHOLDERS
<p>Bangladesh government has made the arrangements for food and sanitation in the emergency shelters in the affected areas. About 2,000 medical teams are ready to provide medical support in the coastal districts of Chittagong, Basial, and Khulna.</p> <p>In India, the state governments of Odisha and West Bengal in India have provided emergency shelters, food and immediate health services have also been provided. India's government has deployed 25 teams from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) for relief and rescue operations. However, reports estimate that these are not enough. Other humanitarian actors are expected to provide support and India Forum identified UNDP and UNICEF as well as Save the Children and Action Aid.</p>
ACT Alliance
<p>India Forum, through Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA) and Lutheran World Service India Trust (LWSIT) are coordinating with state level Inter-Agency Groups, Sphere India, GO-NGO coordination meeting and establish an open line of communication with cyclone affected populations and communities to ensure a humanitarian response based on participation and feedback.</p> <p>In Bangladesh, CCDB is responding during this cyclone Amphan in the five coastal villages, the community-based organization Community Climate Resilience Centre (CCRC) and the volunteers are disseminated weather bulletins among the community members and supported them to go nearest cyclone shelter. CCDB is arranging dry foods and snacks for the sheltered people. They are also arranging the lighting inside the cyclone centre during night in order to address safety and security concerns. CCDB has adapted practices in keeping social distance as much as possible inside the shelter due to COVID-19.</p>

Both India and Bangladesh Forums are planning to respond to the COVID-19 crisis through ACT Alliance Global Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic (ACT 201). CCDB will also receive funding from the Rapid Response Fund of the same Appeal.

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to the Head of Finance and Administration, Line Hempel (Line.Hempel@actalliance.org).

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