Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)

BANGLADESH

Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID 2018)

Conflict displacement
Figures analysis
BANGLADESH - Contextual Update

In Bangladesh is ongoing long term displacement of certain minorities divided into two groups.

The first group consists of Buddhist tribes who were displaced during an internal land conflict from 1973 to 1997 in southeast border region called Chittagong Hills Tracts (CHT). To this day the tensions are high and cases of sporadic inter-communal violence are still occurring.

Second group are urdu-speaking Muslim migrants, sometimes called “Stranded Pakistanis”, displaced by Bangladesh Liberation War in 1971, now living in IDP camps all across the country.

In both cases we are using low confidence figures because they haven’t been updated for 7 and 10 years, respectively. Based on recent correspondence, we can be confident that in case of CHT the displacement is ongoing although we cannot obtain precise figures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stock:</th>
<th>432,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Displacements:</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Returns:</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provisional Solutions:</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Confidence Assessment (from Helix)
Approximately 5,000 people were displaced on 2 June as a result of inter-communal violence.

Locations: Tinilla, Mirakorchora, Batiya Para, Sonai, Atarakhola, Jatrapura, Mahajan Para

Date: 2 June 2017

Source: Parishyota Chittagong Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS)
Sources + source methodology(ies)
Primary source for Chittagong caseload is 2009 survey by Bangladeshi NGO Human Development Research Centre (HDRC) conducted in Chittagong Hills Tracts. This figure represents displacements between from 1997 to 2007. For the Bihari caseload the primary source is Al-Falah, a local NGO that conducted a profiling study in 2006 of Urdu-speaking Biharis living in informal settlements since their displacement in the 1970s.

Caveats, limitations, specific monitoring challenges
The stock figures should be considered as decaying data. No updates concerning old figures for Chittagong Hills Tracts or Bihari community are available.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale
We determined from HDRC’s report that there were 275,070 IDPs in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. Based on an average household size of 5.2, 291,200 people were displaced between 1977 and 2007, of whom 16,130 returned during the same period. No assessment has since been carried out to determine how many, if any of the IDPs have achieved durable solutions, but we believe that most may still be displaced. Al-Falah’s study covered Urdu-speaking Biharis living in 116 informal urban settlements across Bangladesh, which developed from camps set up when they were first displaced. They have received no restitution or compensation for their lost land and property, have suffered insecurity and continue to face discrimination when it comes to obtaining passports and accessing employment opportunities and education and health services. As such, and based on our data model, we consider them IDPs. We first included them in our analysis of internal displacement in Bangladesh in January 2015.

Significant changes from last year: methodological and contextual changes
There are no significant methodological or contextual changes in 2017.
BANGLADESH - New Displacements: 6,000
This corresponds to the estimated number of internal displacement movements to have taken place during the year

Sources and methodologies
The information was published by media organization Daily CHT. The source was correspondent for political organisation Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS). The methodology used is unknown.

Main caveats and specific monitoring challenges
The main obstacle is information scarcity. The incidents in Chittagong Hills Tracts are rarely covered by media. There is no presence of non-governmental organisations which provide support in data collection and triangulation of news sources.

IDMC figure, methodology and rationale
The new displacements figure is based on individual incident documented by Daily CHT. IDMC is using the figure provided by the media outlet.

Significant changes from last year: methodological and contextual changes
There are no significant methodological or contextual changes in 2017.
We did not record any returns in Bangladesh in 2017.
BANGLADESH - Provisional Solutions: N/A

This corresponds to cases of individuals who IDMC considers to not have achieved a durable solution.

We haven't identified or obtained relevant data in relation to this category.