

# **Phase III Shelter, WASH and Early Recovery Detailed Assessment** *Bangladesh – Tropical Storm Mahasen*



## **WASH Cluster Factsheet** 10 June 2013

*THE PHASE III DETAILED ASSESSMENT IS A JOINT INITIATIVE OF THE  
GOVERNMENT OF BANGLADESH AND THE SHELTER, WASH, AND EARLY  
RECOVERY CLUSTERS, WITH SUPPORT FROM THE REACH INITIATIVE*

## INTRODUCTION

Cyclone Mahasen made landfall on May 16, 2013 in the Barisal division of southern Bangladesh. The Government of Bangladesh initiated the evacuation of more than 1 million people living in the storm's path to storm shelters. After landfall, the cyclone quickly weakened and was downgraded to a tropical storm before dissipating over northern Bangladesh<sup>1</sup>.

The Government of Bangladesh reported 17 casualties as a result of the cyclone with 463,303 people affected. The Government also reported 23,539 totally destroyed and 109,687 partially damaged shelters<sup>2</sup>.

Based on the initial reports of the government and humanitarian agencies on the ground, it was determined that the districts of Barguna, Bhola and Patuakhali were the most affected by the storm.

## METHODOLOGY

The sampling methodology included two sampling methods: (1) purposive sampling of most affected districts, upazilas and unions, and (2) random sampling among households within each ward.

Based on the findings of the JNA Phase 1 and affected numbers from the Disaster Management Information Center (DMIC), the top 3 most affected Districts, the top 4 most affected Upazilas within each of those Districts and the top 3 most affected Unions within each of those Upazilas were selected. Within each Union, an average of 9 Wards was assessed and the households within each Ward were randomly selected. Random selection of households within each Ward was accomplished in the field following the following steps:

1. acquiring the total number of households per Ward (both affected and non-affected) from the Union Chairman
2. dividing the total number of households in the Ward by the number of households sampled per Ward (usually 14), effectively providing the interval at which the enumerator must sample

the households (i.e. the number of houses to skip)

3. beginning at a central point in the Ward (e.g. school, central water point, mosque)
4. dropping a pencil on the ground to define the direction in which the enumerator will walk
5. skipping the number of houses defined by the interval until reaching the target number of households (usually 14)

**Table 1: Sampled Locations**

District	Upazila	Union	No. HHs <sup>3</sup>	Sample Size	
Barguna	Barguna Sadar	Naltona	4828	125	
		M. Baliatali	7093	125	
	Betagi	Dhalua	6082	125	
		Betagi	3787	125	
		Bibichini	3991	125	
	Patharghata	Sarishamuri	3582	125	
		Patharghata	7242	125	
		Kanthaltali	5137	125	
		Kalmegha	6939	125	
	Amtali	Nishanbaria	3226	125	
		Sonakata	2921	125	
		Barabagi	4321	125	
	Bhola	Bhola Sadar	Rajapur	8910	125
			Kachia	3131	125
Dhania			6456	125	
Char Fasson		Char Mukri	Kukri	1727	125
	Mukri		1993	125	
	Mujib Nagar	1993	125		
	Char Madras	7045	125		
	Lalmohan	Lord Hardinze	Dhali	5577	125
Gaurnagar			8692	125	
Paschim Char Umed		7711	125		
Manpura	Hazirhat	Manpura	5535	125	
		Manpura	4479	125	
	Uttar Sakuchia	3795	125		
Patuakali	Patuakali Sadar	Boro Bighai	4473	125	
		Chhoto Bighai	4220	125	
		Itbaria	4492	125	
Galachipa	Galachipa Sadar	Char Kajal	5376	125	
		Char Biswas	4188	125	
		Galachipa	4259	125	
Kala Para	Nilganj	Nilganj	7282	125	
		Mitiganj	2844	125	
		Lalua	5313	125	
Rangabali	Rangabali Sadar	Boro Bisdia	5669	125	
		Rangabali	6830	125	
		Chalitabunia	1646	125	

**Table 1** shows the sampled locations and their corresponding sample sizes. The target sample size for each target administrative level was: (1) District: 1500; (2) Upazila: 375; (3) Union: 125; (4) Ward: 14

<sup>1</sup> UNOCHA Flash update for Cyclone Mahasen, OCHA Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, 17 May 2013  
<<http://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/un-ocha-flash-update-7-cyclone-mahasen-bangladesh-and-myanmar>>

<sup>2</sup> DMIC Sitrep, 20/5/2013

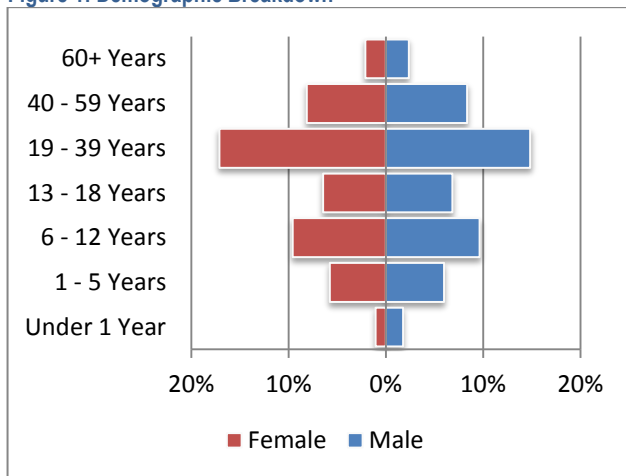
<sup>3</sup> Bangladesh 2011 Census

## ASSESSMENT RESULTS

### DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

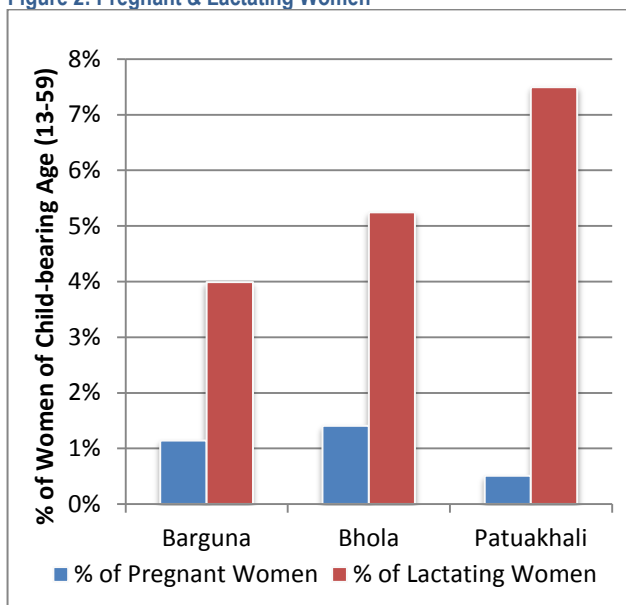
A total number of 4,615 households were assessed for this assessment. The proportion of male to female household members was nearly 50%. The largest age cohort was 19-39 years old, with slightly more females within this cohort than males. **Figure 1** illustrates the demographic breakdown of assessed households.

**Figure 1: Demographic Breakdown**



The largest minority group across all assessed areas was Hindu, with the largest concentrations in the Upazilas of Betagi, Manpura and Patharghata. Numbers for all other minority groups were minimal.

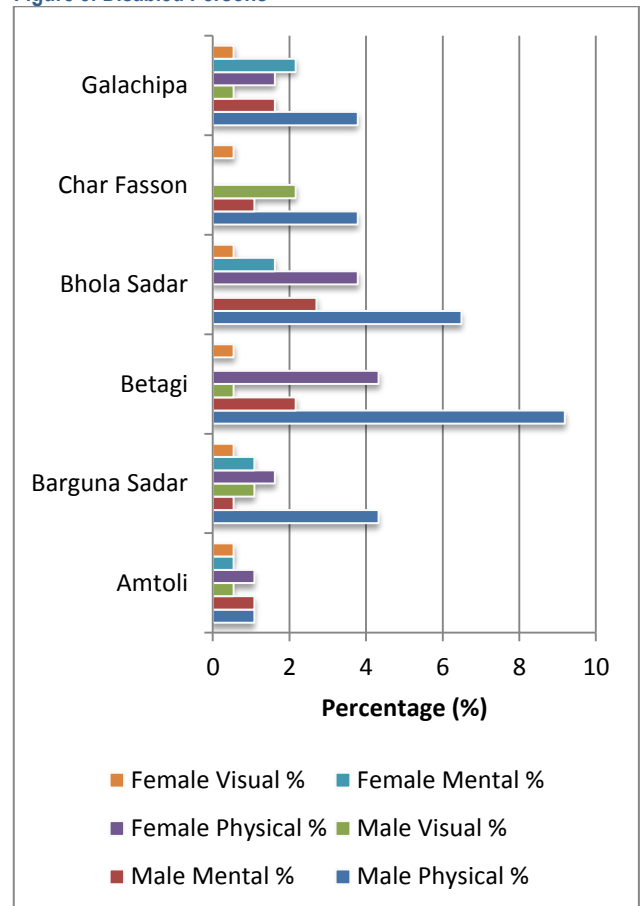
**Figure 2: Pregnant & Lactating Women**



Among all women of child-bearing age (13-59), households in Patuakhali reported having the most numbers of lactating women at nearly 8% of all women of

child-bearing age. Unsurprisingly, households in Pautakhali also reported having the least number of pregnant women among the assessed Districts, at 0.5%. **Figure 2** shows the percentages of pregnant and lactating women within each district. There are nearly equal numbers of pregnant women in Barguna and Bhola, with slightly more lactating women in Bhola.

**Figure 3: Disabled Persons**



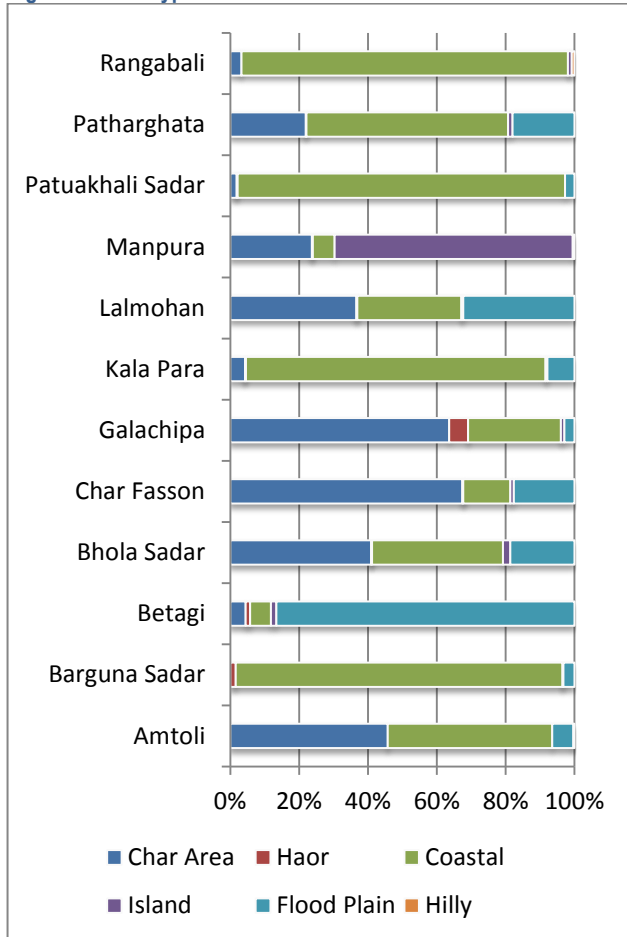
Across all Upazilas, the incidence of disability was much more common among men than women, with 66% of all reported disabilities being among men. As can be seen in **Figure 3**, Bhola Sadar and Betagi have high incidences of male physical disability at 6.5% and 9%, respectively. This was also the most common disability type reported across all Upazilas. Women with physical disabilities also had higher than average reported numbers in Bhola Sadar and Betagi Upazilas.

### SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTEXT

96% of assessed households live in rural areas. This can be generalized to all affected Upazilas and Districts (i.e. the most affected households live in rural areas). A very large number of households have lived in their current location for more than 15 years (77%) with another 15%

having lived in their current location for 5-15 years. This has a direct influence on the types and establishment of livelihoods as well as the types of shelters constructed. The assumption would be that shelters and livelihoods would be better established and more able to withstand repeated storms. The next section will cover these issues.

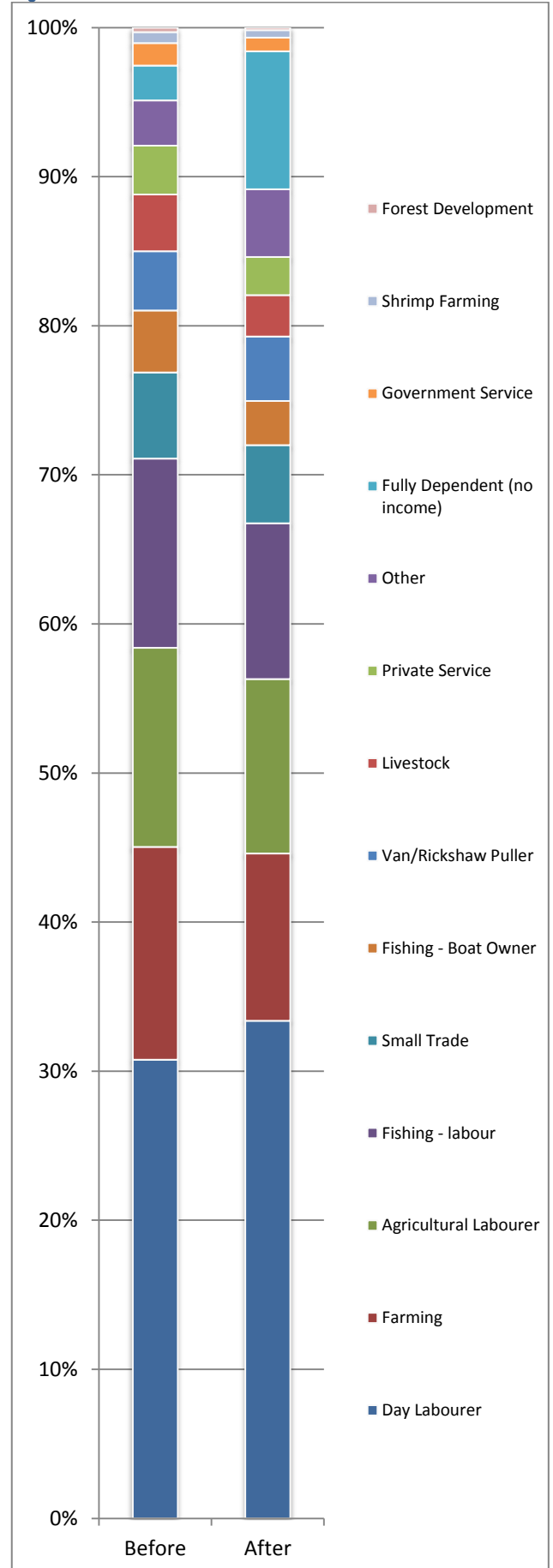
Figure 4: Land Type



The majority of households live in *Char* (islands of silt within rivers) and coastal areas – 75%. These areas are cyclone and flood-prone and often among some of the poorest households in the region. Figure 4 illustrates that the only notable outliers among this trend are Manpura and Betagi Upazilas. Manpura is an island, thus is categorized as an island land type, while Betagi sits on a wide flood plain.

Very little change occurred in the assessed areas after the cyclone compared to before. The proportion of income sources remained largely the same, with the exception of the category “no income,” which increased 257% compared with before the storm. The most common income source remained day laborer, followed by farming, agricultural labor and fishing.

Figure 5: Income Sources

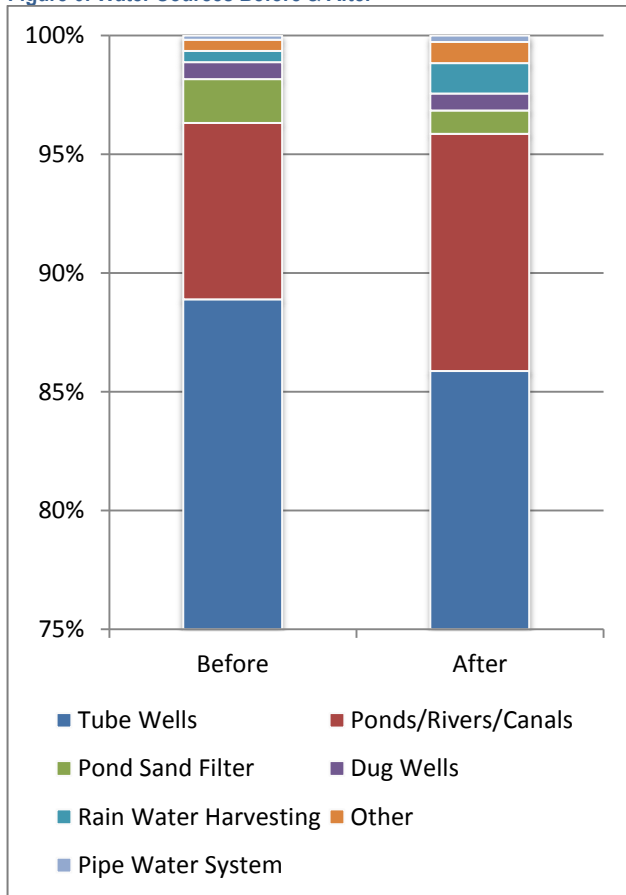


## KEY FIGURES

### Water

Comparing the situation before Cyclone Mahasen and after, shows that higher risk sources of water are being used by households now after the storm. **Figure 6** shows a 3% drop in the use of the most common water source – tube wells – with an associated increase in use of water from ponds, rivers and canals. **Figure 6** shows a 3% drop in the use of the most common water source – tube wells – with an associated increase in use of water from ponds, rivers and canals. There is also a noticeable decrease in households using water sourced from pond sand filters and an increase in rain water harvesting.

Figure 6: Water Sources Before & After

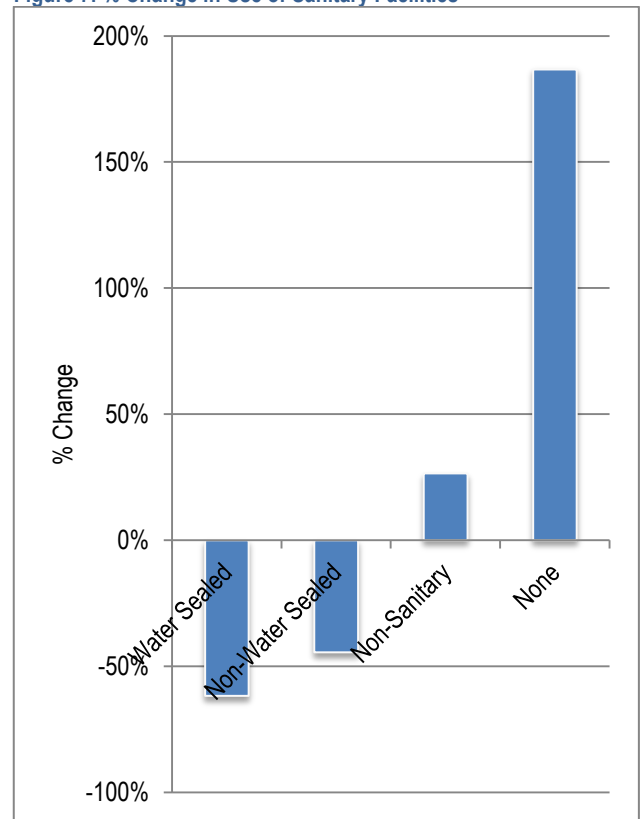


### Sanitation

79% of all assessed households report that their latrine was damaged by the Cyclone, with Char Fasson, Galachipa and Rangabali reporting slightly less than average damage, all three at around 60% of households. **Figure 7** shows the percent change in use of the different latrine types, with a 62% and 44% respective decrease in the use of water-sealed and

non-water sealed sanitary latrines and a 187% increase in no use of sanitary facilities.

Figure 7: % Change in Use of Sanitary Facilities



76% of households reported having not begun repair or rehabilitation of latrines yet, meaning that only 3% of all households have begun repairs, mostly in Manpura, Char Fasson and Bhola Sadar Upazilas.

The most common reason given for having not begun repair of latrines was that materials are not accessible (62%) likely due to cost. The second most common response was lack of availability of materials (25%). This was relatively equal across all Upazilas.

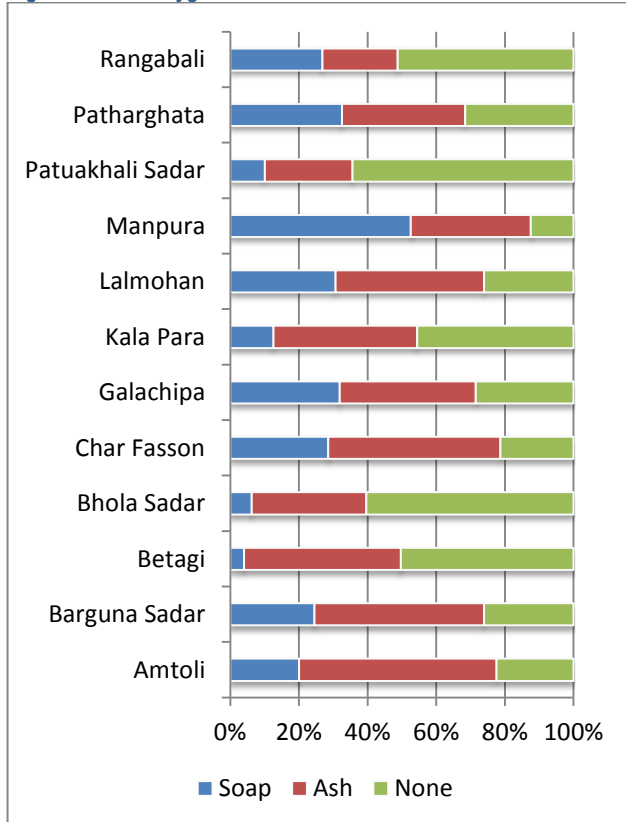
Female privacy both for latrines and bathing was relatively low, with numbers of households reporting that privacy exists hovering around 20% for most Upazilas. The notable outliers include Manpura, with 52% of households reporting the existence of privacy and Betagi and Char Fasson around 30% each.

### Hygiene

Use of hygienic materials such as soap varied across Upazilas. The most notable finding is that Rangabali, Patuakhali Sadar, Khala Para, Bhola

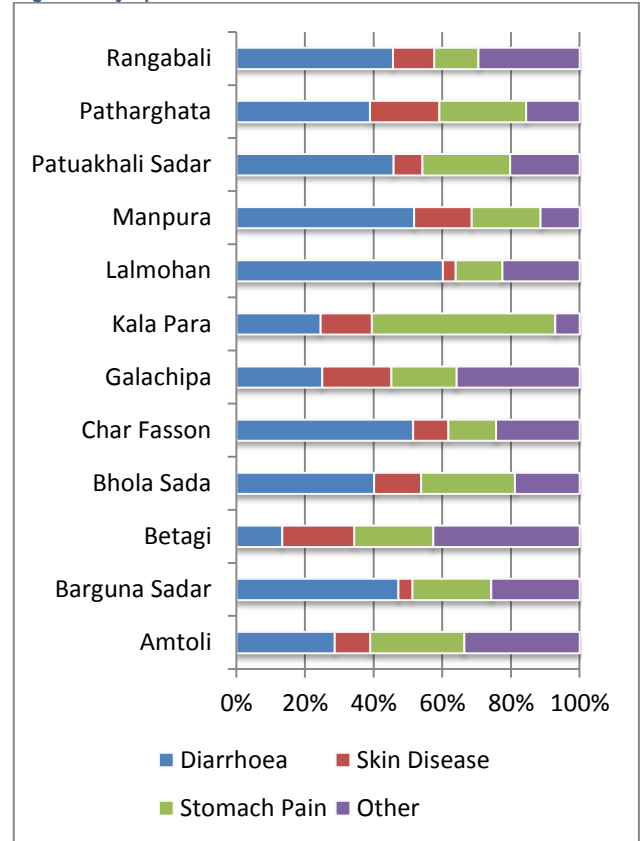
Sadar and Betagi all report relatively high numbers of households not using any type of hygienic material when washing hands. **Figure 8** shows that around 60% of households in Patuakhali Sadar and Bhola Sadar report not using hygienic material.

**Figure 8: Use of Hygienic Material to Wash Hands**



Observation of disease did not align with any other variable of analysis. Given that this question was based on observation and not actual presence of disease, these numbers may not be very accurate. **Figure 9** shows the reported incidence of symptoms of disease within each Upazila. Diarrhoea and stomach pain were the most commonly reported symptoms of disease with Lamohan, Manpura and Char Fasson as the highest reported number of diarrhoea and Kala Para with a relatively high incidence of stomach pain.

**Figure 9: Symptoms of Disease**



## Agencies and Organizations participating in the Phase 3 Shelter, WASH, Early Recovery Detailed Assessment:

ACF, ASHRAY Foundation, BDRCS, British Red Cross, Caritas, CCDB, Christian Aid, Hope'87 Bangladesh, IFRC, Impact Initiatives, Islamic Relief, Jago Nari, Muslim Aid, Oxfam, Plan International, Saint Bangladesh, SAP Bangladesh, Save the Children, Shushilan, TdH-Netherlands, UNICEF, UNDP, VOSD

*This fact sheet provides a synopsis of the key issues and summary of the data that has been collected. It is not intended or able to provide detailed programmatic information in its current form. This is designed to make the fact sheet useful for a broader audience.*

*In addition, the database is available to interested parties, with confidential information removed where necessary. Further analysis can be conducted, if needed.*

## BACKGROUND

REACH partners with the shelter cluster as part of a global agreement to facilitate the deployment of assessment teams following humanitarian emergencies with the objective of contributing to a more informed, relevant, and timely response by actors involved in the shelter sector. REACH tools include reports and fact sheets such as this one, as well as mapping data and the use of remote sensing to track developments in an emergency.

This fact sheet is the first product in a series of products as a result of the Shelter, WASH and Early Recovery Joint Needs Assessment, Phase 3 following Cyclone Mahasen in Bangladesh. Separate factsheets are developed for each sector. A fully integrated report will follow.

## GENERALIZABILITY

This assessment used a purposive sampling method to target most affected Districts, Upazilas and Unions. Households were then randomly sampled from within each Ward with a representative sample at the Upazila level. This allows for a statistically relevant analysis of affected households across all affected Upazilas, as 87% of the affected population lies within the assessed areas. The following generalizations can be made: (1) across the three assessed Districts; (2) across the twelve assessed Upazilas; (3) across all affected Districts; (4) across all affected Upazilas

Results are indicative at the Union level for those Unions that were assessed.

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