Adapting to the new COVID-19 reality also involves adapting the delivery of the ICRC’s operational response, including by integrating messages related to the pandemic into dialogue aimed at influencing behaviours and implementing infection prevention and control (IPC) measures in the delivery of programmes. From 10 – 16 May, the ICRC has implemented following activities in Bangladesh:

**PROTECTION**

**RESTORING FAMILY LINKS (RFL) AND HUMANITARIAN FORENSICS**

Forensic technical advice was shared with the safe and dignified burial working group in Cox’s Bazar which seeks to strengthen the management of burial and death registration in the Displaced People of Rakhine (DPR) camps.

A virtual dissemination session took place with 35 UNHCR Field Officers in Cox’s Bazar to sensitize them on ICRC’S RFL/Forensics work in situations such as when fatalities occur during LEA operations and the families don’t know where/how to retrieve the body.

ICRC donated 82 COVID-19 emergency kits to the BDRCS RFL team to ensure that volunteers could accomplish their job with safety as RFL emergency and urgent activities meant to be face to face (provision of phone calls, registrations, collection and distribution of Red Cross Messages, family reunification...).

**HEALTH CARE IN DETENTION**

Donation of emergency kits to the Prison Directorate and 180 guards accompanying detainees to the hospital.

**SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

A joint BDRCS, ICRC, IFRC webinar on Preventing and Responding to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence during COVID-19 was delivered on 12 May to foster the integration of SV/SGBV within the Movement’s current response to COVID-19. The webinar was attended by over 70 staff members across different departments of BDRCS, ICRC and IFRC.

**WATER AND HABITAT**

The works for the refurbishment of the morgue at Sadar Hospital are ongoing, expected completion during week 20.

Ongoing works for the Emergency Department at Sadar hospital should be finalized by the 20th of May.

In the detentions facilities, 124 volunteers are monitoring the application of SOPs to tackle the spread of COVID-19.

Handwashing station has been completed at BDRCS Cox’s Bazar Unit to support hand washing of BDRCS staff, volunteers and local community.
HEALTH

Cox’s Bazar Sadar Hospital Emergency Department (ED) team, celebrated the International Nurses Day on May 14th, 2020 along with the current and new ED nurses at CXB Sadar Hospital. In addition, 17 new nurses joined the ED for the new COVID-19 ED.

The medical team at Nayapara health post, resumed their work this week.

ECONOMIC SECURITY

Activities have started at the field to respond to BDRCS emergency support targeting around 6’000 families directly or indirectly affected by the COVID-19 situation in three districts of Chittagong Hill Tracks. Based on a pre-determined selection criterion, the BRCs branches have started registering the beneficiaries.

Eight former MEI beneficiaries (assisted in 2018 and 2019) who have raised concerns on their business triggered by the COVID-19 situation, were provided unconditional cash grant amounted at around BDT 4,500/family to cover temporarily their basic needs, in collaboration with the Center for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed.

COMMUNICATION

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION

ICRC Bangladesh Twitter account has been mobilized widely; six tweets received 15.3K impressions during the week.

BDRCS Facebook page was mobilized for joint ICRC/BDRCS activities on RFL and Community engagement.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Communities in northern Kurigram district were sensitized on flooding and lightning as well as COVID-19 amid cyclone and monsoon season, facilitated by the BDRCS and community radio Chilmari with the help of ICRC.

Information regarding COVID-19 preventive measures and symptoms, along with messages to respect health workers in medical facilities are being broadcasted through loudspeakers on a tomtom in Cox’s Bazar district, reaching 71 unions.

Information/awareness campaign through COVID-19 messaging with tomtom’s loudspeakers has started throughout CXB district in collaboration with BDRCS’s Unit and volunteers. The plan is to reach the 71 unions of Cox’s Bazar District to disseminate information about COVID-19, as part of implementation of the remote Community Engagement Strategy.