

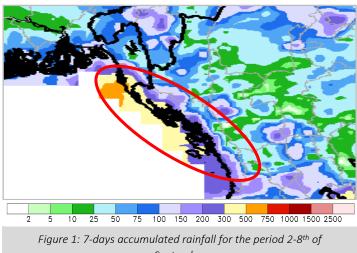
FLASH ALERT

Heavy monsoon rains leading to potential flooding in southern Bangladesh (incl. Cox's Bazar) and western Myanmar

10 September 2019

Current Status

During the last week, heavy rains of around 200-500mm, mainly associated with southwestern monsoon were recorded over southern Bangladesh (Chittagong) and western Myanmar (Chin, Rakhine and Ayeyarwady) while moderate rains were recorded in Barisal, central and eastern Chin, Magway, Bago and Yangon. In Bangladesh and Myanmar, these rains of around 200-500mm in seven days, represent 200-400% of the average during the peak rainfall period (June-July) in the highlighted areas (figure 1).



September

In late July, total rainfall amounts of around 600mm in 10 days (figure 2) caused severe flooding in Sylhet, Rangpur and Cox's Bazar in Chittagong. Since the 7th of September, around 150-300mm of rainfall in 24 hours were recorded in Chittagong, southern Bangladesh and coastal areas of western Myanmar. These rainfall amounts in 24 hours represent around 1 week of average rainfall during the peak rainfall period in Cox's Bazar.

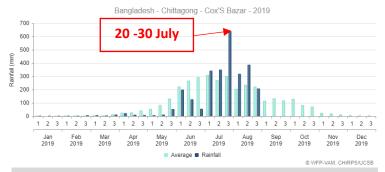


Figure 2: Rainfall amounts for 2019 in (dark blue) versus 20-years average (1994-2013, light blue) for Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.

Forecast

Bangladesh and Myanmar

Over the next 3-5 days, areas in southern Bangladesh (Sujanagar, Raojah and Cox's Bazar) are expected to receive 200-300mm of rainfall (Figure 3) representing around 130-200% of the average rainfall during the peak rainfall period (July). These rainfall amounts will potentially result in flash floods and landslides in these areas. The heaviest rainfall is forecast for 11-12 September with around 90mm expected in 24 hours (figure 4). Barisal, Kalapara, Khulna, Comila in Bangladesh will potentially receive less than 150mm of rains over the next 5 days, but are still at moderate risk of flash floods as these areas are historically prone to flooding and landslides (figure 5).



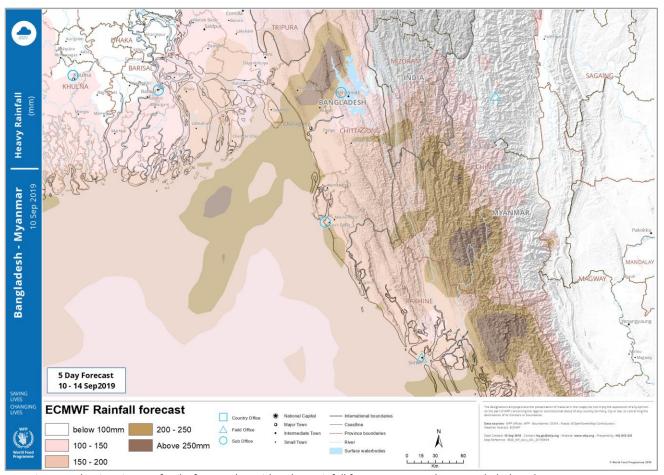


Figure 3: The situation as of 10th of September with 5-days rainfall forecast over southern Bangladesh and western Myanmar.

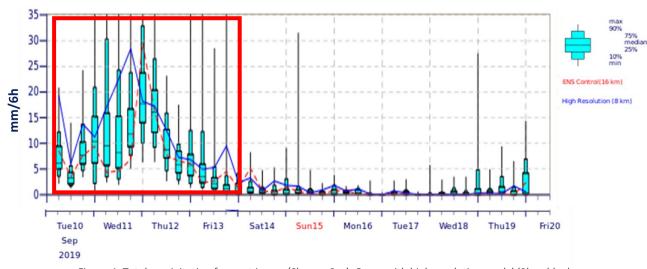


Figure 4: Total precipitation forecast in mm/6h over Cox's Bazar with high resolution model (8km, blue).

In Myanmar, Teknaf, Sittwe, Matupi, Kyaukpyu and Kyeintali are expected to receive up to 250mm of rainfall leading to potential flooding and landslides over the next 3-5 days, while Yangon, Magwe and neighbouring areas are expected to receive moderate rains, with maximum rainfall occurring over the next 2 days.





Figure 5: JRC historical flood hazard with 20-years return period in southern Bangladesh and western Myanmar



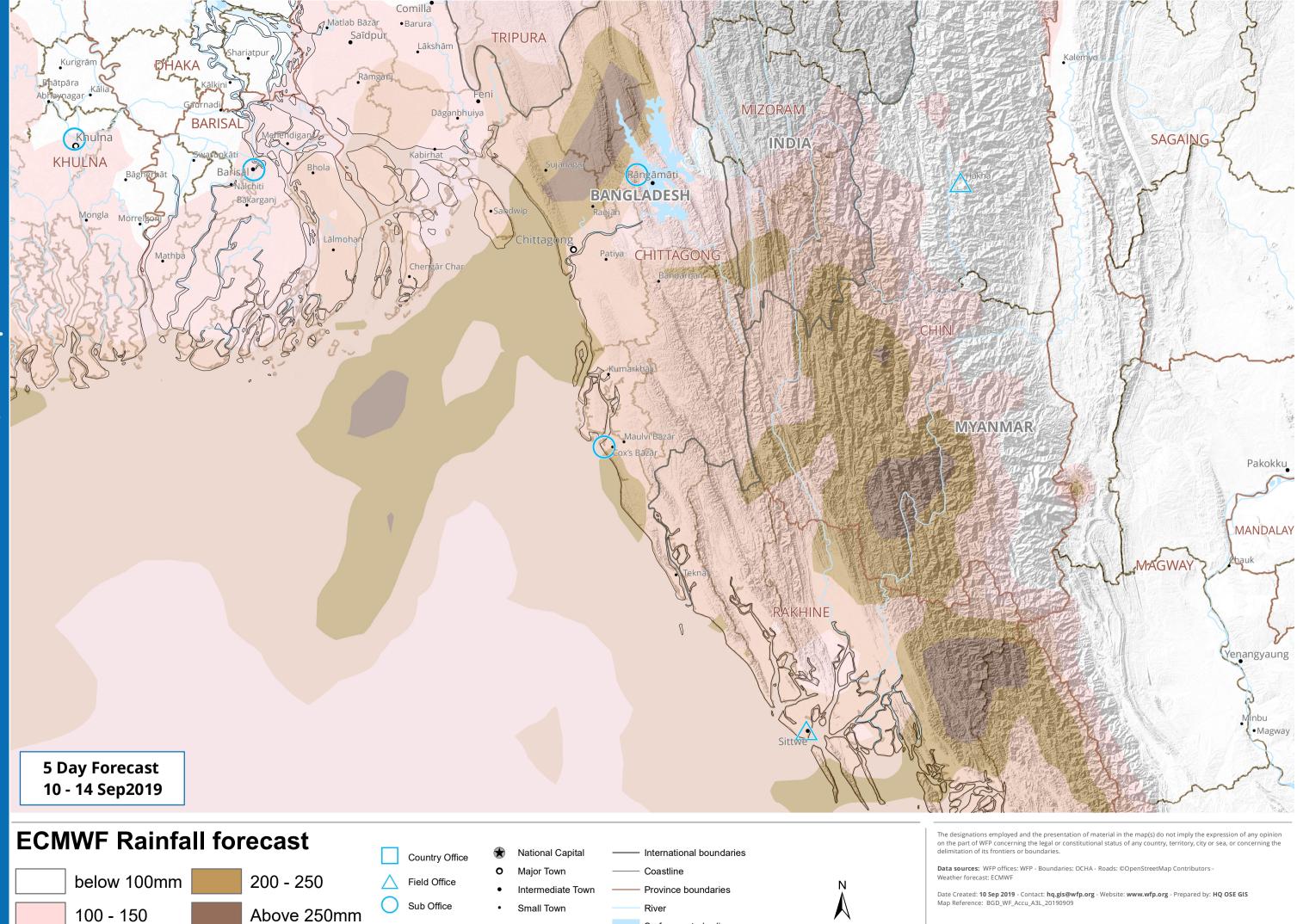
Heavy Rainfall

Bangladesh - Myanmar

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES



150 - 200



Surface waterbodies

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