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Report

Distribution of Seeds and Fertilizer among Flood-Affected Farming Families in Bandarban, Bangladesh

Religions for Peace (RfP) Bangladesh Chapter

Date: 5 August 2026

Location: Noapatang Mukhpara, Bandarban Sadar, Bandarban, Bangladesh

Background

Recent floods and heavy monsoon rains caused serious damage to agricultural activities in different parts of Bandarban Hill Tracts. Many farming families lost their crops, seeds, seedbeds, and other agricultural resources. As a result, poor and agriculture-dependent families faced serious difficulties in restarting cultivation during the current rainy season. For many rural families, agriculture is their main source of food and income. After losing their crops and seeds, they did not have enough financial resources to purchase new seeds and fertilizer. Without timely support, these families faced the risk of losing another agricultural season, which could further increase their economic hardship and food insecurity.

Recognizing this urgent need, Religions for Peace (RfP) Bangladesh organized a self-funded relief initiative to provide essential agricultural inputs to affected farming families in Noapatang Mukhpara of Bandarban Hill Tracts.

Objective of the Activity

The main objective of the initiative was to provide immediate agricultural support to vulnerable families affected by the recent floods.

The specific objectives were:

- To support flood-affected farming families with essential seeds and fertilizer.
- To help farmers restart agricultural production during the current cultivation season.
- To contribute to the recovery of household food security and livelihoods.
- To provide timely assistance to families who were unable to purchase agricultural inputs on their own.
- To demonstrate solidarity and compassionate action with vulnerable communities affected by natural disasters.
- To promote the values of peace, humanity, mutual support, and social responsibility through practical action.

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Beneficiaries

A total of 22 farming families from Noapatang Mukhpara received seeds and fertilizer through the initiative. The beneficiaries were selected from among farming families who had been seriously affected by the recent flooding and who were facing difficulties in purchasing the agricultural inputs necessary to restart cultivation. The support was therefore designed not simply as short-term relief, but also as a contribution to the early recovery and restoration of livelihoods of affected families.

Accessibility and Field Visit

Noapatang Mukhpara is located in a relatively remote and difficult-to-access area. Although the village falls under Bandarban Sadar Union, reaching the community requires considerable travel. The RfP team had to travel for approximately one hour by engine-powered boat across the Sangu (Shankha) River, followed by travel through a difficult and relatively inaccessible route. The field visit therefore provided an opportunity for the representatives of Religions for Peace Bangladesh to directly meet the affected community, understand their situation, and deliver the assistance to the beneficiaries at their location.

This direct engagement was particularly important because many vulnerable families living in remote areas have limited access to formal relief and development services.

Participation

Representatives of Religions for Peace Bangladesh and local community leaders were present during the distribution of the agricultural inputs.

Among those present were:

- **Professor Dr. Masum Ahmed**, Secretary General, Religions for Peace Bangladesh
- **Mr. Bishwajit Barua**, Treasurer RfP Bangladesh, and Administrative Officer, KAFCO
- **Mr. Faruk Taher**, Organizing Secretary, RfP Bangladesh, and recitation artist and journalist
- **Mr. Koko Wai Marma**, Executive Member, RfP Bangladesh
- **Major (Retd.) Wang Ting Marma**, Peace Activist
- **Mr. Chingthowai Marma**, Religions for Peace, Bandarban
- **Mr. Mong Chohri Marma**, Karbari/Community Leader, Noapatang Mukhpara
- **Mr. Chanumong Marma**, Community Representative
- Other local representatives and community members

The participation of both RfP representatives and local community leaders helped strengthen communication, trust, and cooperation between the organization and the affected community.

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Immediate Outcomes

The activity resulted in the following immediate outcomes:

1. 22 flood-affected farming families received agricultural support.
2. Farmers received seeds and fertilizer needed to restart cultivation.
3. The assistance helped reduce the immediate financial burden on vulnerable families.
4. The activity created an opportunity for direct communication between RfP representatives and the affected community.
5. The initiative strengthened RfP's engagement with local community and peace actors in Bandarban.
6. The activity demonstrated practical solidarity with communities affected by natural disasters.

Future Considerations

Religions for Peace Bangladesh recognizes that the needs of the affected farming communities may continue beyond the initial distribution of seeds and fertilizer. Where resources permit, RfP would consider further engagement with vulnerable communities through:

- Livelihood recovery support;
- Agricultural assistance;
- Community dialogue and peacebuilding activities;
- Disaster preparedness and resilience initiatives;
- Support for vulnerable women and youth; and
- Collaboration with local community and faith leaders.

RfP also welcomes opportunities to strengthen cooperation with the Asian Conference of Religions for Peace (ACRP) and other partners in responding to humanitarian and livelihood challenges faced by vulnerable communities.

Conclusion

The distribution of seeds and fertilizer to 22 flood-affected farming families in Noapatang Mukhpara, Bandarban, was a small but meaningful humanitarian initiative of Religions for Peace. Implemented through the organization's own resources, the activity demonstrated RfP's commitment to responding to the needs of vulnerable communities through practical action. By helping farmers restart cultivation, the initiative supported not only immediate relief but also the recovery of livelihoods and household food security. The difficult journey to the remote community further reflected the organization's commitment to reaching people who are often difficult to access. For Religions for Peace, this initiative represents the practical meaning of peacebuilding: standing with people in times of difficulty, respecting their dignity, supporting their recovery, and working together for the common good.

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RfP Bangladesh remains committed to strengthening humanitarian action, community engagement, interfaith cooperation, and peacebuilding initiatives in Bangladesh and to sharing its experiences and learning with the wider Asian Conference of Religions for Peace (ACRP) network.

Photo Caption:

Seed and fertilizer being distributed to flood affected farming families in Noapatang Mukhpara of Bandarban organized by Religions for Peace (RfP) Bangladesh on 5 August 2026.

- *This report is respectfully submitted to the Asia Conference of Religions for Peace (ACRP) Secretariat for record and publicity.*

Submitted by:



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