In Numbers

725,000 refugee arrivals since August 2017
15,247 refugee arrivals since January 2018

During December:
859,200 refugees received food assistance
• 143,650 families received in-kind food
• 42,500 families received assistance through e-vouchers

Life-saving Food and Nutrition Assistance

• WFP is providing in-kind food assistance with recently adjusted ration sizes since December in 21 distribution points. Construction is ongoing at a new food distribution site in camp 4 extension. WFP plans to replace all paper-based ration cards with assistance cards, which would enhance refugees’ access to nutritious food.

• To scale-up assistance through e-voucher modality, WFP plans to open the newly constructed e-Voucher outlets in Mainnerghona and camp D5 from February. E-voucher assistance continues, for a quarter of the refugees, with a diverse food basket comprising of 18 food items including fresh vegetables, spices, dried fish, eggs, pulses and rice. WFP partner UNICEF is also distributing soaps, body soaps and detergents, in the e-voucher outlets.

• During December, WFP assisted 178,000 children under five years of age and 32,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women through malnutrition prevention and treatment programmes across 34 nutrition centres in the camps and 86 in the host community. In addition to Supercereal and Supercereal Plus, Ready-to Use Supplementary Food (RUSF) was distributed for treatment across all nutrition centres in the camps.

School Feeding: Rohingya refugees and host community

• During December, WFP expanded school feeding activities in the refugee camps to over 2,000 learning centres and reached more than 196,000 children with locally produced micronutrient fortified biscuits. School feeding is on-going across 557 host community schools and reaching over 144,000 children.

• In the host community schools, WFP also provides awareness sessions and trainings promoting nutrition and health among students, guardians and school teachers along with essential trainings for Government officials.

• WFP is actively participating in deciding a curriculum for the children enrolled across learning centres in the camps.

Cyclone Preparedness and Risk Mitigation

• WFP Rapid response plan aims to ensure food provisions including a week of high energy biscuits ration and one-off in-kind food assistance ration (rice, pulses and oil). In case people don’t have access to cooking facilities, cooked meals will be provided.

• Disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities for cyclone and forthcoming monsoon season is on-going. WFP has completed rehabilitation work on 25 cyclone shelters in the host community and work is ongoing on the other 15 shelters.

Highlights

• Princess Sarah Zeid of Jordan, a global advocate for nutrition and food security, visited the refugee camps and host community to observe WFP programmes as part of its emergency response in Cox’s Bazar.

• WFP urgently needs USD 40 million to meet the basic food and nutrition needs of the refugees through the next six months.

Photo: Accessing food assistance through WFP’s Assistance Card.
WFP/Saikat Mojumder
Self-Reliance for Refugees

- WFP with partners is providing technical and life skills trainings to 4,100 women and adolescent girls in BRAC, UN Women/Action-Aid centres and UNFPA women-led community centres (WLCCs).
- An additional 2,000 participants are also undergoing trainings on tailoring in ten WLCCs. These women receive a monthly stipend in addition to the vocational skills trainings. A month long mobile-repairing training was also undertaken for 40 participants to assess if women can undertake unconventional skill trades.

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

- Refugees and members of the host community participate in DRR activities in exchange for a daily remuneration. During December, 2,700 participants were engaged in DRR works. Alongside, WFP is continuing maintenance for land reforestation and planted seedlings in the camps.

Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE)

- WFP, in partnership with IOM and FAO, is distributing Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) and stoves. More than 27,000 families are currently benefiting from this programme through WFP assistance card.
- WFP, with IOM inaugurated a new LPG distribution site, where close to 100,000 stoves contributed by KOICA and JTS (Join Together Society) of South Korea, will be distributed to the refugee families.

Enhancing Food Security and Nutrition

- Third phase of the livelihoods activity for the most vulnerable women in the host community is on-going in Teknaf and Ukhiya sub-districts.

Site Maintenance and Engineering Project (SMEP)

- SMEP continues to repair, construct and pave roads, build bridges and culverts, implement site levelling and slope stabilisation works, as well as clean and strengthen drainage channels across the refugee camps.

Supply Chain

- During December, WFP delivered more than 12,571 metric tones of commodities. To improve the efficiency of in-store operation and beneficiary service WFP ensured effective coordination and price negotiation with the retailers, including generating regular reports from the retailers.

Clusters and Common Services

Food Security Sector (FSS)

- FSS finalized the new Joint Response Plan for 2019 with the budget of USD 255 million incorporating 22 partners.
- New partners have relayed interest in implementing innovative livelihood programmes for both the host and refugee population.

Logistics Sector

- During December, more than 3,809 metric cube of relief items were stored in Teknaf and Madhurchara Logistics and Engineering Hub, where 10 additional containers have been allocated for cyclone preparedness and prepositioning of relief items.

Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS)

- The equipment for 29 information hubs in the camp has been handed over to IOM, Radio Naf, Terre des Hommes and UNHCR. International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) will receive the equipment once the construction of the information hub is completed.

Resourcing Update

- WFP has received recent contributions from ECHO, Japan, Germany (GFFP), USAID-FFP, Switzerland and Canada.
- WFP urgently needs more funds to continue life-saving assistance for Rohingya refugees and ensure continued services to the affected host community.

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