



WFP Bangladesh

Rohingya Refugee Response

Situation Report #17

13 August 2018

In Numbers

706,360 refugee arrivals since August 2017

During July:

854,560 refugees received food assistance

- 145,150 families received in-kind food
- 43,780 families received food assistance through e-vouchers

Highlights

- In partnership with UNICEF, WFP has started a multi-wallet pilot, introducing soaps through WFP's e-vouchers.
- WFP urgently requires USD 110 million for a sustained response to meet the needs of the Rohingya refugees and the most vulnerable in the host community.

WFP Rohingya Refugee Emergency Response

	Total Requirements (USD)	Total Received (USD)
Phase II (March -Dec 2018)	242.6 m	101.9 m

WFP Response (July)



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- WFP and partners have developed a rapid response mechanism to effectively respond to the increasing needs of the refugee population during the monsoon season. The focus is on planned relocation of the refugees from the high risk zones as well as those being displaced due to damaged shelters. WFP is assisting with a combination of micronutrient fortified biscuits, cooked meals as well as food distributions depending on people's access to cooking and storage.
- Food distributions (rice, lentils and fortified vegetable oil), with quantities adjusted according to family size, take place on a fortnightly basis.
- Refugees receiving e-voucher assistance are able to use their Assistance Cards at 18 outlets to access food including fresh vegetables, spices, dried fish, eggs, pulses and rice.
- Nutrition support interventions are ongoing for children under five years of age and pregnant and breastfeeding women in the camps and within the local community. The women and children receive a monthly ration of a nutritious wheat soya blend (to make porridge), nutrition

counselling and growth monitoring. During July, 173,450 children and nearly 38,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women were assisted through nutrition programmes. WFP now supports 29 nutrition assistance centres in the camps and 86 in the host community.

- 269,100 refugee and host community children are receiving fortified biscuits in schools and learning centres daily. The biscuits are locally produced in Bangladesh. WFP also supports complimentary literacy improvement activities in the host community such as providing school furniture including classroom benches and display boards, establishing libraries and providing teacher training.
- Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) activities such as slope stabilisation, reinforcing WFP assistance sites, widening roads are ongoing. WFP has started construction of 21 bamboo bridges to improve access in the camps. During July, over 3,500 refugees were engaged in DRR activities for a daily cash remuneration.
- Enhancing Food Security and Nutrition: The second phase of this livelihoods activity for economically vulnerable local women has started. The women have been organised into self help groups and enterprise development trainings are being conducted. The women are screened for malnutrition and those who need undernutrition treatment are enrolled in WFP's nutrition programme for the host community.
- WFP is working with partners UNHCR, IOM and FAO, providing its beneficiary and transfer management system, SCOPE for a multi-agency cooking gas project, Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE).

Photo: Buying fresh food from WFP's e-voucher outlet. © WFP/Patrick Shepherd

Assessments

- WFP carried out its monthly market price monitoring to advise price negotiations with retail outlets for cash-based interventions. The assessment highlights continued inflation in market prices for staples such as rice and flour. Prices for firewood have also increased.

Site Maintenance and Engineering Project (SMEP)

- WFP, IOM and UNHCR are conducting urgently needed site maintenance and engineering work such as preventing road collapses, bricking of roads, building and clearing drainage channels as well as responding to urgent site maintenance requests, reported through the SMEP hotline.



Supply Chain

- Limited warehouse capacity, reduced access in the camps due to the monsoons and resultant weight restrictions on vehicles posed several challenges to maintain an uninterrupted delivery of food commodities. During July, nearly 12,600 metric tonnes of mixed food commodities were delivered to 850,000 refugees.
- For the monsoon rapid response, WFP has prepositioned 116 mt of fortified biscuits at strategic locations. Work is ongoing to identify more locations to preposition food stocks. Construction of a warehouse in Cox's Bazar has been completed, providing an additional 4,000 mt of space for contingency stocks.
- Construction and rehabilitation of a transshipment point near the camps has begun to further augment WFP's logistics capacity.

Clusters and Common Services



Food Security Sector

- The Sector continues to ensure coordination between the partners on coverage of food assistance for refugees and livelihoods activities for refugees and host community. The focus is to ensure an adequate response to the needs and balanced coverage of services across the geographical area. Additionally, a taskforce has been formed for population targeting.
- The Sector is also coordinating the monsoon and cyclone emergency preparedness plan with all partners.
- The Sector is facilitating a mid-term review for the Joint Response Plan to prioritise activities for the rest of the year.



Logistics Sector

- Maintaining access is a priority for continued humanitarian assistance. Due to heavy rains, access throughout the camps is affected. Weight restrictions (max. 3 ton) have been recommended for vehicles. The Sector continues to consolidate and maintain physical road access constraints information through a [Physical Road Access Constraints Map](#).
- The Sector is providing over 6800 m³ of common storage space and services in three locations (Ukhiya Logistics Hub, Madhurchara and Teknaf Logistics Hub) on a free-to-user basis for the humanitarian community.
- The Sector is working to ensure updated logistics capacity information is shared with the humanitarian community to support operational planning. The latest update includes a fuel section - [Bangladesh Logistics Capacity Assessment](#).



Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS)

- ETS has started providing equipment such as generators and projectors to partners to support information hubs across the camps as well as to strengthen capacity at the local government offices in the camps.



Resourcing Update

- WFP has received recent contributions from DFID, France, ECHO, Switzerland and Russia.
- WFP urgently needs more funds to continue life-saving assistance for Rohingya refugees and ensure the progress made so far with the host community does not suffer due to increased emergency needs.

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