
After their approval by the Executive Board, Country Strategic Plans may be updated as required in order to meet the needs of the population WFP serves.

Version updated as of: 01 May 2018

Bangladesh Country Strategic Plan (2017–2020)

Duration	46 months, March 2017–December 2020
Total cost to WFP	USD 530,994,600
Gender and age marker	2A

* <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/gm-overview-en.pdf>.

Executive Summary

Bangladesh graduated to lower-middle-income country status in 2015 and enters the era of the Sustainable Development Goals from a solid base, having made progress in reducing poverty, hunger and undernutrition in recent decades.

Numerous policy instruments provide a conducive environment, and emerging programmes supported by reforms, notably in social protection, have the potential to reduce the levels of food insecurity and malnutrition, which remain high, affecting a large proportion of the population.

WFP's work in Bangladesh in 2017–2020 will support the country in ending hunger and reducing malnutrition by 2030 through five strategic outcomes: i) vulnerable groups in rural and urban settings are supported by work to improve nutrition indicators in line with national targets by 2020; ii) the food security and nutrition of the most vulnerable populations of Cox's Bazar, the Chittagong Hill Tracts and areas affected by disaster are enhanced; iii) innovative approaches to enhancing the resilience of food-insecure households affected by climate-related stresses are validated by 2020; iv) the response system for large-scale natural disasters can respond with reduced costs and lead times; and v) humanitarian and development partners in Bangladesh have access to a range of reliable common services from WFP during crises, including logistics, emergency telecommunications and engineering services. Given the Government's commitment to and increased institutional and financial support for development, this Country Strategic Plan reflects a shift in WFP's focus in that the greatest value-added provided by WFP will be through its role as an enabler and supporter of national hunger solutions, thereby maximizing impact and value for money. Other direct emergency assistance for disaster- and crisis-affected populations, including people fleeing violence in Myanmar, the emphasis will be on technical assistance, policy engagement, advocacy and the accumulation of evidence, with a view to accelerate the implementation of policies and optimize the governance, efficiency and effectiveness of national initiatives to enhance the food security and nutrition of the most vulnerable people. This approach is aligned with the new United Nations Development Assistance Framework and the work of other United Nations agencies.

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Direct assistance will focus on interventions supporting particularly vulnerable populations such as refugees and ethnic minorities and on testing innovative assistance models. Emergency response will remain part of the portfolio. Joint programming with other United Nations agencies will be prioritized and strategic partnerships will be pursued, including with research institutions and the private sector.

Implementation of this Country Strategic Plan will require changes in WFP's operating model and effective risk management. Its development was informed by the strategic review of food security and nutrition in Bangladesh commissioned by WFP, and consultations with the Government, WFP staff and partners.

Draft decision

The Board approves Bangladesh Country Strategic Plan (2017–2020) (WFP/EB.1/2017/7/1*) at a total cost to WFP of USD 201.6 million.

The Executive Director approves the introduction of Strategic Outcome 5 for USD 3.3 million and the increase of Strategic Outcome 3 by USD 1.7 million. (2 October 2017)

The Executive Director and the FAO Director General jointly approve the augmentation of strategic outcome 2 for USD 125.3 million for a revised total cost to WFP of USD 343.6 million for the Bangladesh Country Strategic Plan (2017-2020). (9 October 2017)

The Executive Director and the FAO Director General jointly approve the augmentation of strategic outcomes 1, 2, 4 and 5 for USD 50.9 million, USD 404.8, USD 15.4 million and USD 23.7 million respectively for a revised total cost to WFP of USD 530.99 million for the Bangladesh Country Strategic Plan (2017-2020). (01 May 2018)

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David Beasley, Executive Director, WFP

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Date:

Date:

1. Country Analysis

1.1 Country Context

1. Bangladesh graduated to lower-middle-income country status in 2015 and enters the era of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from a solid base, having achieved significant progress towards the Millennium Development Goals for universal primary education, gender parity in basic education, and reduced child and maternal mortality. However, geographic, rural/urban, gender and wealth disparities remain, and political and environmental risks persist.
2. Following decades of steady increase, annual economic growth in Bangladesh has averaged 6 percent in recent years. In a period of demographic transition resulting from reduced fertility, per capita gross national income reached USD 1,190 in 2015, a five-fold increase from 1980. Between 1992 and 2010, the incidence of poverty declined from 56.7 to 31.5 percent, and extreme poverty declined from 41.1 to 17.6 percent. Projections indicate a continuation of this trend.
3. With a population of 160 million, Bangladesh is the world's seventh most populated country and the most densely settled, excluding city states. It hosts over 880,000 people seeking refuge from successive waves of violence in Myanmar, including more than 670,000 recent arrivals since the end of August 2017. Of these refugees, 52 percent are women, 48 percent are men, 55 percent are children, 16 percent of households are female-headed and 4 percent are child-headed.
4. Two thirds of the population is rural, but urban migration is accelerating as a result of acute population pressure, increasing landlessness and the attraction of export-sector jobs in urban areas. Projections indicate that half of the population will be urban by 2035, which will increase pressure on infrastructure and services, particularly in slums, where 70 percent of the urban population live.
5. Bangladesh lies in the cyclone-prone Bay of Bengal, and its low elevation makes it particularly susceptible to the effects of climate change; between 30 and 50 percent of the country experiences annual climate shocks, and the frequency and severity of natural disasters are predicted to increase. Because the country is located close to active tectonic plates the risk of earthquake is high, and there are concerns regarding urban readiness for such disasters.

1.2 Progress Towards SDG 2

6. The 2016 strategic review of food security and nutrition in Bangladesh highlighted the significant progress achieved in recent decades, but identified continuing challenges to ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture in line with SDG 2.

Progress towards SDG 2 targets

7. *Access to food.* Increased production has greatly improved the availability of food, particularly rice. However, although Bangladesh has attained food self-sufficiency at the aggregate level and impressive economic growth at the national level in recent years, the price of rice rose in 2017, forcing the Government to import rice after several years of not doing so. As a result, access to food remains a challenge. A large segment of the poor population still lacks the means for access to an adequate and diversified diet.
8. At 16.4 percent, the prevalence of undernourishment has fallen by half in the last 25 years, but an estimated 26 million people are still undernourished. On the other hand, the 2014 household food insecurity access scale shows that a quarter of the population is food-insecure.¹ Of these 40 million people, 11 million suffer from acute hunger and many remain vulnerable to food insecurity as a result of periodic shocks.
9. Progress in the last decade has been uneven among wealth groups, with poor groups improving their food security status more slowly than richer ones. At times of food scarcity in the household,

¹ The undernourishment index combines measures of food availability with income and calorie intake distribution data. The household food insecurity access scale aggregates several dimensions of food insecurity experienced by a household.

including after natural disasters, it is women and girls who reduce their food intake more often and sooner than men and boys.

10. Another concern is the slow improvement in the quality and diversity of diets in the last 15 years. Diets are still dominated by rice: for the average rural household, 71 percent of calorie intake comes from rice; in the poorest quintile the figure is 78 percent.
11. *Nutrition.* Between 1997 and 2007, Bangladesh achieved very rapid and prolonged reductions in child undernutrition, but the country still faces nutrition burdens that are estimated to cost USD 1 billion in lost productivity every year, and even more in health costs.
12. With regard to acute and chronic malnutrition, stunting and wasting among children under 5 remain close to the critical thresholds of the World Health Organization. Wasting affects 2.2 million children – 14 percent – and stunting, which affects physical and cognitive development and has negative consequences for school completion, adult productivity and lifetime earning potential, affects 5.5 million children – 36 percent. Stunting among children under 5 is highest in the poorest population quintile and in slums, where it affects 50 percent of children under 5. The 2.5 percent annual decline in stunting from 2007 to 2014 fell far short of the 5.3 percent needed to meet national and international targets.
13. A key determinant of stunting is low birthweight, which affects 23 percent of babies. Although low birthweight has decreased over time, it is still a serious public health problem. Major reasons for this are continuing high rates of teenage pregnancy related to a pervasive culture of early marriage, which affects 50 percent of girls under 18.
14. The adoption of recommended infant and young child feeding practices has progressed slowly. Rates of exclusive breastfeeding are about 50 percent, and the average period of exclusive breastfeeding is less than three months. Complementary feeding practices are poor: only 23 percent of children aged 6–23 months consume diets of adequate diversity and frequency.
15. Micronutrient deficiencies remain widespread and contribute to high risk of disease and sub-optimal development. Vitamin A deficiency affects one child in five, and vitamin B12 deficiency one child in three. Zinc deficiency is prevalent, and a third of pre-school children and half of pregnant women are anaemic. Undernutrition and micronutrient deficiencies are also prevalent among adolescent girls.²
16. With regard to malnutrition in the areas hosting refugees in Cox’s Bazar, the situation is more critical. The prevalence of Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) among children under five in refugee populations in October and November 2017 was found to be well above WHO’s emergency threshold: 24.3 percent in Kutupalong registered Camp, 19.3 percent in the makeshift and spontaneous settlements and 14.3 percent in Nayapara registered camp (all weight for height), with alarming rates of severe acute malnutrition (respectively 7.5 percent, 3.0 percent and 1.7 percent). Stunting rates among refugees are consistently critical at 44 percent in all three surveys, as is anaemia at 47 percent. The ongoing host community nutrition programme has maintained acute malnutrition at 11.8 percent, which is better than the national or the divisional average. The incidence of malnutrition is expected to increase during the wet season due to poor living conditions, flooding and continued limited access to clean water and sanitation, and health services. In addition, high poverty rates and limited livelihoods opportunities for registered refugees, unregistered refugees and new arrivals, as well as host communities, compromises household food and nutrition security further.
17. *Sustainable food systems.* Climate change could compromise the sustainability of food systems because crop production could be reduced by 30 percent by the end of the century while erosion of the national territory increases, the size of landholdings decreases and migration accelerates. A recent WFP study demonstrated that climate-related shocks and stresses have adverse effects on food security and nutrition: food prices in communities affected by floods or cyclones increase for up to nine months after the event, as does wasting. Potential price increases remain a significant concern for the urban poor.

² In 2012, 30 percent of adolescent girls had low height, and 11 percent were underweight.

Macroeconomic environment

18. The impressive economic growth in recent years is attributed to: i) structural economic reforms contributing to private-sector development; ii) the world's second-largest export-oriented garment industry, which supports 25 million people; iii) numerous micro-credit options that have stimulated rural entrepreneurship, especially among women; iv) major remittance flows from migrant workers; v) Official Development Assistance; and vi) foreign direct investment.
19. The Seventh Five-Year Plan (SFYP) (2016–2020), which articulates development goals supporting achievement of the Government's Vision 2021 for reaching upper-middle-income status, aims for gross domestic product growth of 7.4 percent per annum. Economic growth has proved to be resilient to shocks, natural disasters and political turmoil, but continued political polarization and security concerns are a source of economic uncertainty for Bangladesh.

Key cross-sector linkages

20. Poverty reduction has contributed significantly to food-security gains. The eradication of extreme poverty (SDG 1) remains a cardinal principle of the SFYP, but Bangladesh's Gini coefficient of 0.32 reflects high inequality leading to uneven social gains among wealth groups, and indicates the need to reduce inequalities through inclusive pro-poor growth, to which the Government is committed.
21. The expansion in education (SDG 4) has been significant, but remaining concerns include the quality of education, high drop-out rates as young boys increasingly leave school to work. Girls' enrolment in secondary education increased from 47 to 57 percent between 2008 and 2012, indicating that more future mothers are educated than ever before. This is significant in that these girls and women are likely to be more receptive to advice on behaviour change – maternal education is known to be associated with enhanced inter-generational nutrition outcomes and reduced stunting. Lack of separate sanitation facilities for boys and girls, and high incidence of sexual harassment and abuse in public places contribute to girls' drop-out from school.
22. Despite the rapid increase in educational attainment and policy changes in favour of women, prejudicial social and legal norms in this patriarchal society hold back gender equality (SDG 5). The low social status of women and girls in Bangladesh is reflected in its rankings of 107th in the Gender Development Index and 115th in the Gender Inequality Index. Violence against women is also widespread: 73 percent of women are subject to domestic violence during their lifetimes.
23. A recent national survey showed improvement in women's empowerment in all dimensions of the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index and throughout the country. This is encouraging because women's empowerment is a major pathway to improving food security and nutrition. However, if SDG 2 is to be achieved, much more must be done to address social constraints and discriminatory practices that limit women's independent movement in the public sphere, their social and economic interactions and their decision-making in the household. A fundamental step is to end the practices of early marriage and child-bearing.

1.3 Gaps and Challenges

24. There is a comprehensive set of sector and cross-sector policy instruments relevant to SDG 2, and the first national policy on school feeding is being formulated. Overall progress in operationalizing policies is slow and faces governance issues; urban policies and strategies are lacking altogether.
25. Spending on and coverage of social protection have increased, but the effectiveness of most safety nets is limited in terms of reducing poverty and enabling poor people to cope with shocks. The strategic review noted that this situation was a result of failure to ensure that safety nets and related interventions targeted the most needy, low transfer values, governance issues, and weak systems for planning, implementation, coordination and monitoring. Slums are largely bypassed by the mainstream social-protection system, even though they need special attention.
26. With regard to prevention of malnutrition, more work is required to ensure that nutrition goals are adequately articulated in social protection schemes and in all relevant strategies, policies and

programmes. Despite an explicit commitment to treating moderate and severe acute malnutrition at community health centres, access to therapeutic treatment remains limited.

27. The revitalization of an oversight body under the Office of the Prime Minister is expected to improve coordination of nutrition work, which currently suffers from fragmented responsibilities in several ministries, with overlaps and gaps.
28. The treatment of refugees is uneven.³ Of the estimated 300,000 people from Myanmar seeking refuge in Bangladesh prior to August 2017, 34,000 are officially registered as refugees. They are hosted in two camps and receive protection and assistance from the Government and the international community, but stringent restrictions on movement outside the camps limit their lawful engagement in livelihood activities and their prospects for self-reliance. The remaining refugee population live in makeshift sites or in host communities. Consequently, they do not receive the same level of protection and are excluded from most social services, safety nets and development opportunities. As “illegal immigrants” under the Foreigners Act, these people are vulnerable to human rights abuses.
29. Since late August 2017, more than half a million people fleeing violence in northern Rakhine State of Myanmar have crossed the border into Bangladesh and more people are expected to arrive. An estimated 80 percent of the overall refugee population are women and children. Protection risks and gender-based violence, including rape and sexual assault, are serious concerns.
30. The strategy developed by the Bangladesh Government in 2014 for dealing with Myanmar refugees focuses on national security; it acknowledges the need for basic humanitarian assistance but excludes provision of opportunities for achieving self-reliance. Resettlement programmes for refugees stopped in 2010 to deter further arrivals. With the latest influx of Rohingya, there are positive indications of a shift in the policy of the Government of Bangladesh towards refugees (registered and non-registered). Durable solutions, however, remain unlikely in the near to medium term given the recent events and resurgence of violence in northern Rakhine State despite the change of national government in Myanmar in 2016 and the establishment and recommendations of the Advisory Commission to resolve the crisis in Rakhine State.

1.4 Country Priorities

Government priorities

31. The Government is developing sector action plans congruent with SFYP targets to guide national-level work towards the SDGs. The following priorities are emerging in relation to SDG 2: i) consolidation of safety nets in line with the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) to enhance food access and utilization; and ii) implementation of the nutrition policy with a view to reducing stunting among children under 5 from 36 to 25 percent, and underweight from 32 to 20 percent by 2020.
32. The 2006 National Food Policy, which provides the framework for food security planning, aims to ensure: i) food security through adequate and stable supply of safe and nutritious food; ii) increased purchasing power and access to food; and iii) adequate nutrition, especially for women and children. Its associated action and investment plans, currently under revision, define targets and indicators and highlight priority investments.
33. The 2015 National Nutrition Policy prioritizes improved nutrition among mothers, children under 5, adolescent girls and vulnerable groups; it promotes development through healthy diets and enhanced living standards. Its National Plan of Action prioritizes nutrition-specific and agricultural interventions with a view to achieving healthy diets and implementing

³ In this instance, refugees is used in a broad sense and includes the following groups: (i) registered refugees who are living in the two official camps; (ii) undocumented Myanmar nationals (UMNs) who have been living outside of the official camps for some time prior to the current crisis; and (iii) “new arrivals” who have crossed from Myanmar since 25 August 2017

nutrition-sensitive programming in social protection, women's empowerment and disaster management; it also focuses on obtaining evidence, multi-sector collaboration and the enhancement of data management systems.

34. The 2015 NSSS aims to reform the national social protection system by prioritizing support for the poorest and most vulnerable people, expanding urban coverage and enhancing the disaster response element. It foresees consolidating 140 safety nets into 5 core programmes, adopting a life cycle approach focusing on pregnancy and early childhood, school age, working age and old age, and on disability. The envisaged programmes to support children and vulnerable women have significant potential as vehicles for achieving food security and nutrition outcomes.

United Nations and other partners

35. The 2017–2020 United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) introduces a strategic shift by focusing on the United Nations normative role and formulating outcomes in relation to people in terms of equal rights, access and opportunities, the planet in terms of promoting a sustainable and resilient environment, and prosperity in terms of inclusive and shared economic growth.
36. The following objectives contribute to SDG 2: i) improving social policies and programmes; ii) enhancing resilience; and iii) increasing opportunities for women and disadvantaged groups to contribute to and benefit from economic progress. Progress towards targets for complementary feeding and dietary diversity will be monitored.
37. The many actors who contribute directly or indirectly to SDG 2 include the Rome-based agencies, whose programming frameworks are valid until the end of 2018. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) delivers technical assistance and operations to: i) reduce poverty and enhance food security and nutrition by maximizing food access and utilization; ii) enhance agricultural productivity; iii) improve market linkages, value addition, and the quality and safety of the food system; iv) improve technologies; and v) increase community resilience to shocks.
38. The strategic objectives of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) are to ensure that: i) the livelihoods of poor people in vulnerable areas are adapted to climate change; ii) small producers and entrepreneurs benefit from improved value chains and greater market access; and iii) marginalized groups such as poor rural women are economically and socially empowered.
39. In 2016 the World Bank pledged USD 3 billion to the reduction of stunting and adaptation to climate change. It is also engaged in: i) system improvements for some of the largest food-based safety nets; ii) trials of the income support programme for the poorest, which combines conditional cash transfers to mothers of children under 5 with capacity enhancement for local governments; iii) support for shock-responsive social protection; and iv) promotion of urban resilience.
40. The numerous non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and their networks throughout the country have a proven track record in promoting improvements in food security, nutrition, agriculture, health, sanitation and women's empowerment. Programmes implemented by local NGOs include major government safety nets, and policy advocacy. The extensive programmes of the world's largest NGO and development organization – BRAC (formerly the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee) – contribute significantly to economic and social development, and enhanced food security and nutrition in Bangladesh. The Citizens' Platform for SDGs, a civil society initiative launched in 2016, aims to enhance accountability in delivery on the SDGs.
41. Private investments are expected to account for 80 percent of the estimated USD 409 billion cost of the SFYP. Private-sector enterprises could help to address a number of factors limiting food security and nutrition improvements, for example by increasing the availability of fortified foods. Private-sector entities include the Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce and large food production companies.

42. With the support of several donor countries and dialogue with the Government of Bangladesh, an Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG)—comprised of five UN agencies (UNHCR, UNICEF, UNFPA, IOM and WFP), NGOs and donors—coordinates the multi-sectoral humanitarian support for refugees from Myanmar.

2. Strategic Implications for WFP

2.1 WFP's Experience and Lessons Learned

43. WFP's portfolio has shifted since 2011 to institutional capacity development and a gradual reduction in direct operational delivery. Independent evaluations have found this direction to be appropriate given the evolving country context, and highlighted the achievements of WFP's technical assistance initiatives with recommendations that they be carried forward.
44. In particular, WFP has supported the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs in enhancing the design, efficiency and effectiveness of the Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) programme, a national safety net supporting 750,000 vulnerable rural women. The strategic review noted that the new VGD model with its nutrition-sensitive and promotional elements had the potential to bring about sustained improvement in the food security of vulnerable women while contributing to the nutrition outcomes of these women and their families.
45. Similarly, technical assistance for the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education has ensured robust design, implementation, monitoring, reporting and accountability for the national school feeding programme in poverty-prone areas that was created in 2010.
46. WFP has worked with public and private partners since 2013, contributing to the establishment of national food quality standards and to local production of fortified rice and related processing capacities. WFP has also facilitated the introduction of fortified rice in the national VGD and school meals programmes; this initiative has shown promising potential in reducing micronutrient deficiencies at scale.
47. Evaluation findings with regard to WFP's operational role have been varied. WFP's long experience and strong reputation in providing timely and targeted emergency assistance for the most vulnerable people affected by natural disasters was acknowledged. However, the evaluation noted the limited uptake of food-based treatment of moderate acute malnutrition and lack of donor support for cash-for-work and cash-for-training programmes, which resulted from questions as to the continued relevance of this approach in a middle-income country. The evaluation recommended the adoption of new approaches to improving nutrition and resilience, for example by creating evidence for advocacy purposes, which was noted as an area of strength.
48. The 2016 joint assessment mission considered that WFP's new integrated approach to enhancing food security and nutrition in Cox's Bazar, which covers registered and non-registered refugees and vulnerable host populations, had significant potential and recommended expansion to additional sub-districts and inclusion of people residing in makeshift sites.
49. The influx of unofficial refugees from Myanmar into Bangladesh since August 2017 has resulted in the rapid scale-up of the humanitarian response across all sectors. An effective and integrated response demands systematic coordination mechanisms and shared services in logistics and emergency telecommunications for humanitarian and development partners.

2.2 Opportunities for WFP

50. Social protection programmes designed, implemented and monitored in a nutrition-sensitive manner are an important means of enhancing food security and nutrition outcomes. Spending on social protection averages USD 3.3 billion – 12 percent of annual public expenditure. In 2010, 8 million households – 24 percent – were covered by safety net programmes. The size and reach of these programmes give them the potential to deliver impact at scale, but work is required to enhance them in line with the NSSS reforms. The strategic review identified a clear role for WFP in making these programmes more nutrition-sensitive and improving their efficiency and effectiveness.

51. The review acknowledged WFP's role in introducing fortified rice to the VGD programme, and recommended increasing the use of national food-based safety nets to provide fortified rice for vulnerable populations as a cost-effective means of addressing micronutrient deficiencies and related morbidities.
52. School feeding has been demonstrated to be a powerful social protection measure in mitigating hunger among children from food-insecure households; the strategic review highlighted its role in improving the likelihood of positive nutrition outcomes for future generations. The Government has expressed its intention to expand school feeding beyond the 2.5 million primary schoolchildren currently supported and to transform the largely biscuit-based programme into a school meals programme. WFP is in a good position to support the implementation of these plans.
53. The results of the first census of Rohingya in Bangladesh, to be released in early 2017, are not yet public. Meantime, registration is ongoing at the time of the CSP revision and expects to inform the design of enhanced protection and expanded assistance, particularly for new arrivals and residents of makeshift sites as envisaged in the national strategy. The ISCG will coordinate with humanitarian partners to enable a comprehensive and integrated emergency response to the influx of Rohingya in August 2017. At the same time, UN joint initiatives will continue to advocate for and deliver harmonized multi-sector assistance with potential for transformative impact for the most vulnerable groups in Cox's Bazar and the Chittagong Hill Tracts.
54. The joint assessment mission provided an opportunity for WFP to reshape its assistance. It recommended: i) advocacy for lifting the restrictions on refugees' mobility and work opportunities and expanding assistance to all vulnerable groups regardless of status; ii) a transition to targeted assistance in the camps on the basis of profiling, with a view to balancing the delivery of future interventions to benefit refugees and equally vulnerable host communities; and iii) the introduction of livelihood interventions to enhance self-reliance. WFP has advanced its efforts in this regard and further strengthened gender and protection considerations in its plans.
55. Bangladesh has enhanced its emergency response capacity considerably, but a large-scale disaster would nevertheless require significant international assistance. WFP's recognized expertise in large-scale emergency responses and its lead role in the humanitarian supply chain place it in a good position to enhance national preparedness and coordinate the work of humanitarian partners.

2.3 Strategic Changes

56. Given the Government's commitment and increased institutional and financial capacity to support development through large programmes, WFP's value-added will be greatest when it acts as an enabler and supporter of national hunger solutions rather than an implementer.
57. WFP will therefore expand its advisory and knowledge-sharing roles in support of government agencies working to achieve the SDG 2 targets. Technical assistance, the creation of evidence, and advocacy will support the formulation and operationalization of policies and help to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of national initiatives for achieving food security and improved nutrition for the most vulnerable groups.
58. The enhancement of nutrition and resilience will now focus on enhancing advocacy and coordination for a multi-sector approach to nutrition and on testing and validating innovative approaches for resilience.
59. WFP's operational role will be to provide emergency assistance nationally in response to natural disasters and the influx of crisis-affected people entering Bangladesh from Myanmar as well as the delivery of multi-faceted programmes in Cox's Bazar and the Chittagong Hill Tracts. While providing life-saving food assistance to all new arrivals from Myanmar, WFP will support a gradual shift to targeted food security and nutrition assistance in Cox's Bazar on the basis of vulnerability rather than refugee status, when appropriate and possible, to harmonize assistance across different population groups. In close collaboration with relevant government ministries, WFP will expand further its support to the most vulnerable host population impacted by this unprecedented influx of people from northern Rakhine State. Lessons learned from the recently concluded intervention for the host population, Enhancing Food Security and Nutrition (EFSN),

will lend key strategic insight in this regard and reinforce WFP activities that contribute towards gender equality and women's empowerment (GEWE) and protection.

60. This approach is expected to optimize the impact of WFP's operations and maximize value for money. It is in line with the UNDAF's emphasis on enhancing the capacities of the Government and civil society to deliver development results and limiting United Nations interventions to support during natural disasters and interventions to promote equity among vulnerable populations such as ethnic minorities and refugees.

3. WFP's Strategic Orientation

3.1 Direction, Focus and Intended Impacts

61. This CSP is the guiding strategic, programmatic and governance instrument for WFP in Bangladesh; it defines the portfolio of engagement from 2017 to 2020 and operationalizes WFP's Strategic Plan in support of the SFYP and long-term national work to achieve SDG 2.
62. The CSP is informed by the strategic review, evaluations of WFP's past assistance and consultations with the Government and development partners. It is articulated on the basis of five strategic outcomes with related outputs and prioritized activities. The focus is largely on SDG 2, but CSP activities will also contribute to SDG 17 on partnerships for the SDGs and, at the output level, to SDG 4 on quality education and SDG 5 on gender equality.

3.2 Strategic Outcomes, Expected Outputs and Key Activities

Strategic outcome 1: Vulnerable groups in rural and urban settings are supported by enhanced national actions to improve their nutrition indicators in line with national targets by 2020 (SDG Target 2.2)

63. The Government is committed to minimizing all forms of malnutrition in line with its targets for the reduction of stunting, underweight and micronutrient deficiencies. This work needs to be accelerated, however. Interventions towards this outcome focus on technical assistance and advocacy to enhance national initiatives that have the potential to improve nutrition outcomes at scale such as social protection programmes and nutrition-specific interventions.

Focus area

64. This outcome focuses on root causes.

Expected outputs

65. This outcome will be achieved through nine outputs:
- i) The national VGD programme delivers enhanced food security and nutrition outcomes for its beneficiaries.
 - ii) The new national child benefit and vulnerable women benefit programmes take into account nutrition sensitivity, urban coverage and responsiveness to shocks.
 - iii) Reliable data on the food security and nutrition outcomes of national social protection programmes are available from the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.
 - iv) Improved national nutrition-sensitive and nutrition-specific interventions are scaled up by the Government and its partners in rural and urban areas.
 - v) Enhancing complementary feeding practices becomes the focus of increased collaboration among the main stakeholders.
 - vi) Targeted groups receive nutrition messages.
 - vii) The demand for and supply of post-harvest rice fortification are scaled up by public- and private-sector entities.
 - viii) A nutrition-sensitive national school feeding policy is adopted and implemented.
 - ix) The national school feeding programme is scaled up in poverty-prone rural and urban areas.

Key activities and focus

66. *Activity 1: Technical assistance and advocacy to enhance the food security and nutrition impact of selected safety nets:*
- WFP will continue its technical support to the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs to maximize efficiency, effectiveness and governance of the VGD programme while advocating for and supporting scale-up of the improved VGD model, which includes nutrition-sensitive and promotional elements.
 - WFP will provide technical support for the design of the Child Benefit Programme (CBP) through the improvement of the ongoing Maternity/Lactating Mother Allowance Programme, which includes urban poor women, on a limited scale.
 - WFP will advocate with relevant ministries and partners such as the World Bank for the vulnerable women benefit and child benefit programmes of the NSSS to ensure that they: i) are nutrition-sensitive in their design, targeting and monitoring; ii) reach the urban poor; and iii) can respond to shocks. WFP will support the design and implementation of these programmes through technical assistance.
 - WFP will continue its technical assistance to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics to optimize the targeting of programmes and enhance the availability and quality of data related to the food security and nutrition outcomes of social protection programmes.
67. *Activity 2: Technical assistance and advocacy for improved nutrition.* In accordance with the Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger and Undernutrition (REACH) partnership, WFP will advocate with FAO, the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization, the World Bank and other development partners for nutrition to remain a government priority and the focus of coordinated action, supported by civil society and development partners. In particular, WFP will:
- advocate and provide technical assistance for policies and programmes supporting the scale-up of a combination of preventive and curative interventions, with a focus on enhancing the nutrition sensitivity of social protection programmes and on programmes designed to prevent and treat wasting;
 - undertake a situation analysis of complementary feeding and collect evidence, in collaboration with major stakeholders, as to the optimum means of maximizing the quality of complementary feeding; and
 - collaborate with partners from various sectors in advocacy for a large-scale communication campaign that parallels behaviour change communication interventions with a view to encouraging the adoption of sound dietary habits and enhancing dietary diversity, particularly among adolescent girls.
68. *Activity 3: Technical assistance and advocacy for scaling up post-harvest rice fortification.* WFP will continue to ensure the quality and affordability of fortified rice and to scale up its consumption, notably among women of reproductive age and young children; this will be achieved through safety nets and commercial delivery channels. In partnership with FAO and the Micronutrient Initiative, WFP will also advocate for integrating standards, regulations and policies into regulatory systems and improving the capacity of industry partners and Government with a view to sustaining production and supply.
69. *Activity 4: Policy advice and technical assistance for scaling up school feeding.* WFP will continue to provide technical assistance to the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, in line with the Systems Approach for Better Education Results and through South–South cooperation, to:
- support development of the first national school feeding policy and ensure that it is nutrition-sensitive;
 - support continued targeting, implementation, monitoring and accountability for the national school feeding programme in poverty-prone areas as it is scaled up;

- support the evolution from a biscuit-based programme into a school meals programme by informing government choices as to design, funding and testing, in collaboration with FAO and UNICEF; and
- hand the WFP school feeding programme over to the Government by mid-2018, except in areas where WFP remains operational (see strategic outcome 2).

Strategic outcome 2: The most vulnerable populations of Cox’s Bazar, the Chittagong Hill Tracts and disaster-affected areas have enhanced food security and nutrition

70. Cox’s Bazar and the adjacent Chittagong Hill Tracts are among the worst-performing districts in terms of food security and nutrition indicators. They are also home to a mix of registered refugees, unregistered people from Myanmar and ethnic groups, who face particular challenges with access to social services, safety nets and development opportunities. Because there is significant migration of men in search of employment, households headed by women are common and highly vulnerable to food insecurity in a deeply conservative context where women’s mobility is limited.
71. Following an outbreak of violence on 25 August 2017, over 670,000 new refugees arrived from Myanmar significantly expanding the scope of humanitarian operations in Cox’s Bazar. During responses to crises, interventions under this outcome take place in areas prioritized by the UNDAF for continued direct United Nations assistance; they also cover emergency assistance in the event of natural disasters and for the refugees irrespective of their official status (i.e. registered, undocumented Myanmar nationals, and new arrivals).

Focus area

72. The focus area of this outcome is crisis response.

Expected outputs

73. This outcome will be achieved through four outputs:
- i) The most vulnerable households in refugee camps and makeshift camps in Cox’s Bazar receive food assistance, primarily through e-vouchers.
 - ii) WFP-targeted communities in camps and host communities in Cox’s Bazar receive an integrated assistance package of livelihood/self-reliance support for vulnerable women, a nutrition safety net, disaster risk reduction implemented through a Food-for-Assets programme and school feeding.
 - iii) WFP-targeted communities in the Chittagong Hill Tracts receive an integrated assistance package of livelihood support for vulnerable women, school feeding and a nutrition safety net.
 - iv) WFP-targeted populations affected by natural disasters receive cash-based transfers (CBTs) or food transfers sufficient to enable them to meet their basic food and nutrition requirements.

Key activities and focus

74. *Activity 5: Deliver an integrated assistance package in Cox’s Bazar.* WFP will provide immediate life-saving assistance to newly arrived ‘refugees’ (registered and unregistered) from Myanmar and gradually move towards a targeted approach, when appropriate and possible. Furthermore, WFP will target the most vulnerable households among refugees, unregistered people from Myanmar and the host population, delivering an integrated assistance package. All activities will be informed by gender analysis and guided by protection principles and disability considerations. To maximize the impacts, WFP assistance will be coordinated with the other UN agencies, aligned with sectorial strategies and joint response plan of the Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG), and informed by the findings of the joint assessment mission, WFP will provide:

- immediate, life-saving food and nutrition assistance for newly arrived refugees in different locations and for refugees impacted by the natural hazards such as cyclones, floods and landslides;
- food assistance—informed by gender, protection and nutrition analyses—using e-vouchers for the most vulnerable registered refugees—moving away from blanket assistance—and for the most vulnerable unregistered refugees living in makeshift sites; food assistance for this group will be provided with a view to harmonizing interventions;
- enrolment of the refugee population into SCOPE, WFP’s beneficiary management platform, to facilitate the shift to cash-based transfers, establish a single beneficiary database, minimize duplication, increase the quality of beneficiary information and provide a common platform for other agencies to deliver transfers (including food, nutrition, and other interventions) in a harmonized, effective and nutrition sensitive manner, with a view to lay foundations to support the Government with a longer-term safety net for the most vulnerable among the Bangladeshi host and refugee population;
- prevention and treatment of moderate acute malnutrition targeting children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls by providing cluster harmonized IYCF-E⁴ and BCC interventions⁵, screening and referral for nutritional treatment in both host communities and refugee settlements and, in the refugee population specifically, blanket supplementary feeding and an enhanced focus on MAM rehabilitation;
- livelihood and self-reliance support through means of investment in income-generating activities, such as grants and training⁶;
- school feeding for government run or approved schools in host communities and registered camps and learning centres in the new refugee camps;
- disaster risk reduction through food assistance for assets interventions; and
- contribution to policy and advocacy dialogue on issues related to these population groups, under the leadership of the United Nations Resident Coordinator.

75. *Activity 6: Deliver an integrated assistance package in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.* A similar integrated assistance package of livelihood support,⁴ school feeding and nutrition support will be rolled out in the most vulnerable areas of the Chittagong Hill Tracts as part of the joint United Nations programming initiative with the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs and the Hill District Councils, in collaboration with FAO and UNICEF.

76. *Activity 7: Deliver food assistance in emergencies.* WFP will provide emergency assistance to respond to acute food needs among the most vulnerable households affected by disasters. This will be implemented as required, complementing the responses of the Government and other humanitarian actors and in coordination with the food security cluster.⁷

Strategic outcome 3: Innovative Approaches to Enhance the Resilience of Food-Insecure Households Exposed to Climate-Related Shocks and Stresses Are Validated by 2020 (SDG Target 2.4)

77. Bangladesh is vulnerable to climate-related shocks and stresses, which have significant negative effects on the food security and nutrition of the most vulnerable groups. Innovative approaches

⁴ Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergencies activities aim to enable adequate feeding practices and minimise harm to appropriate key behaviours as a result of coping mechanisms.

⁵ Behaviour change communication is carried out through several platforms in parallel to the supplementary feeding support, and is linked to general food assistance to improve both diet diversity and feeding and care practices.

⁶ To enhance their economic and social empowerment, targeted vulnerable women organized into self-help groups are taught basic business skills and receive cash grants to invest in productive assets and a monthly allowance to protect their investments for up to two years. This is combined with training in life skills and behavior change communication for improved nutrition.

⁷ The CSP caters for small- and medium-scale emergencies; a revision will be prepared to cater for a large-scale emergency response as required.

to enhancing resilience are required so that improvements in livelihoods, food security and nutrition are not repeatedly lost. Interventions under this outcome will serve to validate approaches that have the potential to enhance the ability of households, communities and systems to mitigate, adapt to and recover from shocks and stresses.

Focus area

78. The focus area of this outcome is resilience-building.

Expected outputs

79. This outcome will be achieved through five outputs:

- i) Evidence as to the effectiveness of WFP-piloted innovative approaches to enhancing resilience is collected and disseminated.
- ii) Local capacity to plan for disaster risk reduction is enhanced in southwestern areas targeted by *Nobo Jatra* (New Beginning) – a five-year assistance programme implemented by World Vision in a consortium with WFP and Winrock International and funded by the United States Agency for International Development.
- iii) The livelihoods of vulnerable households targeted by *Nobo Jatra* in southwestern areas are diversified.
- iv) Beneficiaries of *Nobo Jatra* receive cash transfers facilitated by WFP.
- v) Uptake of successful elements of *Nobo Jatra* is promoted through policy dialogue with the ministries concerned.

Key activities and focus

80. *Activity 8: Creation of evidence related to innovative approaches to enhancing resilience.* WFP will test innovative approaches to reducing and managing risk in disaster-prone areas such as the northern river basin and the southern coastal belt. Such approaches are likely to include micro-insurance for small entrepreneurs and forecast-based financing models to support shock-responsive safety nets.
81. Ministries, research and academic institutions and private-sector companies will be associated with this activity; partnerships will be established with FAO and IFAD. Evidence as to the effectiveness and impact pathways of the approaches will be systematically collected, and policy dialogue will encourage the uptake of research findings.
82. *Activity 9 – Nobo Jatra.* Between 2016 and 2020, WFP will participate in this programme implemented in four sub-districts in the southwest. The programme's integrated approach to improving food security, nutrition and resilience addresses direct and underlying issues affecting food insecurity such as economic access, women's empowerment, nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions and community-level disaster risk reduction. In particular, WFP will:
 - enhance the awareness and capacities of local authorities and communities regarding disaster risk reduction and community-level situation analysis, planning and implementation;
 - implement a livelihood support programme,⁵ complementing the work of the *Nobo Jatra* consortium;
 - manage cash transfers to beneficiaries who are assisted by other consortium members involved in conditional nutrition activities; and
 - create linkages at the policy level and facilitate policy discussions as to the effectiveness of the programme with the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief.

Strategic outcome 4: The Humanitarian Response System for Large-Scale Natural Disasters in Bangladesh Can Respond with Reduced Cost and Lead Time

83. Studies show that investing in preparedness has several benefits:⁸ i) it reduces response times, which in turn saves lives and livelihoods; and ii) it safeguards previous investments, protects development gains and reduces costs by maximizing cost-effectiveness. Interventions towards this outcome will be implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief to enhance capacities for preparing for and responding to large-scale disasters, with a focus on preparedness and readiness for earthquakes in urban areas.

Focus area

84. The focus area of this outcome is resilience-building.

Expected outputs

85. This outcome will be achieved through three outputs:
- i) The emergency supply chain of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief is optimized.
 - ii) A humanitarian staging area is established.
 - iii) Emergency coordination mechanisms for logistics, food security and emergency telecommunications are enhanced.

Key activities and focus

86. *Activity 10: Capacity strengthening for emergency response.* WFP will support the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief in enhancing its emergency supply chain and establishing a suitably located earthquake-resistant staging area to facilitate the reception and dispatch of humanitarian assistance in a large-scale emergency.
87. *Activity 11: Lead the logistics and emergency telecommunications clusters and co-lead the food security cluster.* WFP will continue to lead the logistics cluster and co-lead the food security cluster with a view to optimizing partners' preparedness capacities and coordination mechanisms. Given the operations of the emergency telecommunications sector in Cox's Bazar, WFP will also aim to optimize partners' preparedness capacities in this area and to ensure integration of gender, protection and accountability to affected populations. Activities will include training and simulation exercises under the auspices of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief to ensure common understanding of the coordination requirements of large-scale emergency responses.

Strategic outcome 5: Humanitarian and development partners in Bangladesh have access to reliable common services from WFP during crises in the areas of logistics, emergency telecommunications and engineering support.

88. The influx of people into Bangladesh has resulted in the rapid scale-up of the humanitarian response across all sectors. The urgency, scale and complexity of the humanitarian response—including access constraints and across Cox's demands that systematic coordination mechanisms function and shared services in logistics and emergency telecommunications and engineering support are provided to humanitarian and development partners to enable an integrated, comprehensive and effective response. Activities under this strategic outcome will contribute to, but not replace, other investments in disaster-preparedness under strategic outcome 4.

Focus area

89. The focus area for this outcome is crisis response.

Expected outputs

⁸ http://vam.wfp.org/CountryPage_assessments.aspx?iso3=BGD

90. This outcome will be achieved through two outputs:
- i) Crisis-affected populations benefit from common emergency logistics services to humanitarian and development partners.
 - ii) Crisis-affected populations benefit from enhanced emergency telecommunications coordination mechanisms.

Key activities and focus

91. *Activity 12: Coordinate the Logistics Sector/Cluster and provide efficient common logistics services to support the humanitarian community response.* Based on the needs identified and expressed by the humanitarian community the Logistics Sector will support the Government of Bangladesh-led response and facilitate access to critical logistics services, consolidate and share key information on logistics capacities and the operating environment and coordinate efforts to enhance the capacity of the responding humanitarian organizations to maintain an uninterrupted supply chain of life-saving relief items. This will include:
- establishing and maintaining a Logistics Coordination cell with information management capacity in Cox's Bazar to enable informed decision-making by all logistics and operations managers working to implement relief programmes;
 - putting into place and managing common temporary storage services in Ukhiya and Teknaf sub-districts, to be available to supplement the capacity of responding organizations;
 - continuously monitoring and re-evaluating the logistics situation; and
 - updating the profile of service(s) as needed to address emerging common constraints on humanitarian logistics operations.
92. *Activity 13: Coordinate the Emergency Telecommunications Sector/Cluster (ETC) and provide efficient services to support the humanitarian community response.* To ensure that common interagency emergency telecommunications services are available in operational areas, WFP will provide coordination, information management, and technical support to augment the current in-country telecommunications services through the deployment of staff and equipment.
93. *Activity 14: Site Maintenance and Engineering Project (SMEP).* The Kutupalong-Balukhali settlement, the largest refugee settlement in Cox's Bazar, accommodates almost 700,000 people in approximately 12 square kilometres. The population density is well above international emergency standards and land for decongestion is unavailable. Hazard risk analysis indicates that over 150,000 people in the settlement are assessed at high risk of being affected by floods or landslides, although a relocation is not possible due to current land constraints. There is a need to prioritize families to be moved to safer areas within the site, beginning with over 24,000 people assessed as being located in critically or severely unstable areas. Agencies are expediting community level activities that reduce landslide risk with mitigation measures such as improved drainage and localized slope stabilization. The SMEP project will support creation of additional safe household plots by engineering creative solutions through examination of the topography and, where suitable, supporting spatially sound 'cut and fill'-type exercises to create additional space for shelter. The MODMR and RRRC have identified a portion of land to the west of the existing settlement where levelling activities can be undertaken while preserving natural water ways and other features. Permission is given to carry out machinery-based operations coupled with labor intensive 'cut and fill' exercises (utilizing both host and refugee CFW labor) to mitigate landslide hazards and improve the landscape while providing additional and improved shelter space. SMEP will:
- relocate 'at risk' households away from high risk areas, taking into account vulnerabilities and protection-related risks faced by the households being relocated;
 - mitigate risk of landslides by slope stabilization;

- increase space available for shelter and other uses; and
 - provide food-for-asset opportunities to refugees and host communities.
94. Inclusion efforts will be made, such as including identifying tasks suitable for people of different physical capacities and by inviting women's participation. Appropriate efforts will be made for safe worksites, with the provision of basic safety equipment and through avoidance of child labour.

3.3 Transition and Exit Strategies

95. This CSP supports nationally owned and operated programmes, and WFP's direct operational assistance will accordingly diminish: for example, the WFP school feeding programme will be handed over to the Government by mid-2018. Interventions in Cox's Bazar and the Chittagong Hill Tracts towards strategic outcome 2 will continue until national social services, safety nets and development opportunities cover these areas and durable solutions to the refugee situation come into effect; advocacy by WFP and other United Nations agencies is expected to contribute to these results.
96. The Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Clusters will continue to review and monitor shared service needs and gaps in emergency response to determine when the services can be scaled down or are no longer required, either because needs are reduced or they can be met through national capacity enhancement under strategic outcome 4.

4. Implementation Arrangements

4.1 Beneficiary Analysis

97. The shift "upstream" to technical assistance in support of national initiatives envisages that WFP will contribute to enhanced food security and nutrition outcomes at scale. WFP's work, particularly towards strategic outcome 1, will hence benefit the 1.5 million vulnerable women – 7.5 million people including their household members – to be assisted by the VGD programme during the CSP and the 2.5 million children supported by the national school feeding programme. The Government has stated its intention to expand both programmes, and support for the new programmes benefiting children and vulnerable women and for the proposed national nutrition campaign is likely to benefit millions more.
98. Table 1 shows that only 7 of the 14 planned activities involve WFP's direct support to beneficiaries. Beneficiaries of Activity 5 in Cox's Bazar account for the majority of the total. WFP will collect sex-disaggregated data and gender analysis to respond to the particular needs of the affected women, men, girls and boys.

1	1	Allowance to Mother (Child Benefit programme)	CBT	-	16 000	54 400	-	54 400	27 200	13 600	-	13 600
	4	WFP school feeding	Both	286 000	114 000	20 000	-	288 000	-	146 900	-	141 100
2	5	General distribution (camps)	CBT	34 000	34 000	25 250	26 000	34 000	7 820	9 860	7 140	9 180
		General distribution (existing caseload in makeshifts)	Both	75 000	155 000	75 000	75 000	75 000	18 150	22 260	14 850	19 740
		General distribution (arrivals after 25 August 2017)	Both	700 000	830 000	-	-	830 000	200 860	246 344	164 340	218 456
		WFP school feeding	Food	341 200	339 000	167 300	170 400	545 400	-	278 000	-	267 400
		Nutrition support	Food	45 700	46 500	46 900	47 300	127 000	30 370	52 180	-	44 450
		Nutrition (arrivals after 25 August 2017)	Food	196 000	401 267	-	-	401267	95 941	164 876	-	140 450
	Livelihood support (host population)	CBT	48 000	200 000	53 000	53 000	200 000	48 400	59 360	39 600	52 640	
	6	WFP school feeding	Both	66 600	66 600	66 600	66 600	66 600	-	34 000	-	32 600
		Nutrition support	Food	-	3 000	5 000	7 300	13 400	3 369	5 016	-	5 016
		Livelihood support	CBT	-	7 500	7 500	7 500	7 500	1 725	2 175	1 575	2 025
7	Emergency assistance	Both	334 666	334 666	334 666	334 666	938 000	215 740	272 020	196 980	253 260	
3	8	Evidence creation	CBT	20 000	20 000	20 000	20 000	20 000	4 600	5 800	4 200	5 400
	9	Livelihood support	CBT	35 000	35 000			70 000	16 100	20 300	14 700	18 900
		Cash transfers	CBT	59 000	59 000	59 000	29 500	118 000	24 780	34 220	27 140	31 860
TOTAL*				2 056 166	2 197 766	780 716	758 166	3 267 100	616 720	1 212 856	391 747	1 045 777

* Excluding double counting of beneficiaries

** Number of beneficiaries for 2019 and 2020 related to Cox's Bazar components will be revised towards the last quarter of 2018, based on assessments and the evolving situation in Cox's Bazar.

4.2 Transfers

Food and Cash-Based Transfers

99. Table 2 shows that 56 percent of the total transfer value relates to CBTs; Annex III sets out the proposed rations. WFP will continue to use innovative transfer modalities such as biometrically coded electronic vouchers and mobile cash through financial service providers, and will explore other modalities as financial inclusion expands.
100. The food and CBT value has been increased by 75 percent and 59 percent respectively, from the originally approved budget. The main increase of the transfer value is due to the extended duration of the Level 3 emergency.

TABLE 2: TOTAL FOOD/CASH-BASED TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS & VALUE		
Food type / Cash-based transfer	Total (mt)	Total (US\$)
Cereals	197,557	80,700,716
Pulses	26,481	18,467,455
Oil and Fats	9,893	8,024,660
Mixed and Blended Foods	35,151	28,098,511
Other	976	1,486,448
TOTAL (food)	270,058	136,777,790
Cash-Based Transfers (US\$)		142 403 179
TOTAL (food and CBT value – US\$)		279 180 969

Capacity Enhancement, including South–South Cooperation

101. Capacity enhancement is the core of this CSP: two outcomes are devoted to it. South–South cooperation will be promoted, for example through exchanges on school feeding with the WFP Centre of Excellence in Brazil. WFP will also explore opportunities to showcase Bangladesh’s social protection programmes and post-harvest rice fortification expertise for the benefit of other countries through South–South exchanges and other mechanisms.

4.5 Partnerships

102. WFP will maintain its relationships with the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief and the Planning Commission and will cultivate high-level links with the ministries of finance, social welfare, food and health and family welfare.
103. WFP will coordinate with the Government and development partners through the local consultative groups in the sectors of poverty reduction, food security, emergency preparedness, gender and urban issues. A major CSP objective will be to optimize stakeholders’ collaboration for improved social protection and nutrition programmes; WFP will continue to be a member of the Scaling Up Nutrition movement.
104. WFP will expand its partnerships with national and international NGOs for emergency response and resilience programmes.
105. Overall coordination and operational partnerships with United Nations agencies, particularly FAO, are essential. WFP’s activities in Cox’s Bazar and the Chittagong Hill Tracts will be implemented in the context of multi-sector joint United Nations programming to enhance synergies and impact.

106. WFP will work with reputable research and academic institutions to create evidence, and will continue its partnerships with IFAD, the World Bank and the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics to map poverty and undernutrition.
107. WFP's relationships with NGOs range from operational to strategic partnerships such as that with BRAC. As co-leader of the food security cluster and leader of the logistics cluster, WFP will help to optimize coordination and knowledge-sharing among international and national NGOs.
108. WFP will continue strengthening its collaboration with private-sector companies to enhance the availability of fortified rice, promote nutrition advocacy and pilot micro-insurance schemes, bearing in mind the potential for conflicts of interest.

5. Performance Management and Evaluation

5.1 Monitoring and Evaluation Arrangements

109. The country office performance management plan, which is aligned with WFP's Corporate Results Framework, will guide monitoring and evaluation. Adequate resources have been budgeted for this purpose.
110. Given WFP's focus on technical assistance, policy engagement, evidence creation and advocacy to optimize the outcomes of national initiatives, analysis of its specific contributions will determine the overall effectiveness of its work, particularly with regard to strategic outcomes 1, 3 and 4. WFP will establish a systematic monitoring of the outcome of capacity support activities under CSP.
111. Because strategic outcome 2 involves direct assistance, rigorous outcome monitoring will be implemented. Baseline, mid-term and final outcome surveys measurement will use methods appropriate to each indicator under different components or interventions for refugees and host communities. The findings will inform periodic reviews of CSP implementation by WFP and its partners, to inform adaptations as required. In the context of the new influx beginning in August 2017, and the increased scale of the humanitarian response, WFP will institute a third-party monitoring system to ensure an adequate and systemic coverage of programme monitoring for the large-scale humanitarian response. The key focus is to measure the efficiency and effectiveness of programmes, including the emergency response, while WFP will also ensure that a beneficiary feedback system is put in place.
112. WFP will monitor the provision of common services included in strategic outcome 5 activities to ensure that partners' needs are met. This CSP will be independently evaluated by the Office of Evaluation, in line with the CSP policy.

5.2 Risk Management

Contextual risks

113. WFP will monitor contextual risks such as natural disasters, political instability or economic volatility with a view to planning mitigation measures adapted to the risk level. WFP will focus on long-term development, but will respond to emergencies as required.

Programmatic risks

114. There is some uncertainty with regard to the Government's plans for dealing with undocumented people from Myanmar, particularly following the listing of people in this population group, which is targeted by WFP in Cox's Bazar. WFP will continue to monitor the situation, to participate in the regular coordination meetings for Cox's Bazar and to advocate with its development partners for acceptable solutions. Protection, gender equality and disability considerations related to food assistance in Cox's Bazar will be addressed with highest priority, and systems and processes will be put in place to minimise and mitigate any such risks.
115. Local NGO capacity in Cox's Bazar and the Chittagong Hill Tracts is limited, and will be stretched as the joint United Nations programmes expand: this will increase risks related to the quality and timeliness of programme delivery. WFP will assess potential NGO partners rigorously before entering into agreements, advocate with development partners for collective

action to enhance local NGO capacities, and contract international NGOs to provide punctual technical support as required to develop the capacities of national partners.

Institutional risks

116. Security risks have recently increased, particularly in relation to militant groups, which could adversely affect staff and operations. Contingency planning will establish mitigation measures that maximize the continuity of operations and functions, and WFP will work with the United Nations Department for Safety and Security to ensure that adequate measures are in place for the safety of WFP staff and offices.

6. Resources for Results

6.1 Country Portfolio Budget

117. The budget required to implement this CSP for its 46 months is USD 343.6 million. Capacity enhancement under strategic outcomes 1 and 4 accounts for 17 percent of the total. The largest elements – 71 percent – are WFP’s direct operational assistance for strategic outcome 2 (SO2). Requirements are expected to decrease after 2018 as some activities wind down.

INDICATIVE ANNUAL BUDGET REQUIREMENT (USD)					
Strategic outcome	2017	2018	2019	2020	Total
1	16 144 450	14 932 010	11 210 387	8 619 663	50 906 509
2	56 407 920	266 938 475	42 369 722	39 111 744	404 827 861
3	10 957 952	11 460 210	8 682 082	5 080 271	36 180 515
4	2 684 871	8 497 444	3 380 881	814 687	15 377 883
5	2 512 487	21 189 345	0	0	23 701 831
TOTAL	88 707 679	323 017 484	65 643 072	53 626 365	530 994 600

6.2 Resourcing Outlook

118. In 2014/15, USD 8.8 billion was allocated to promoting food security and nutrition in Bangladesh – 57 percent for availability, 41 percent for access, and 2 percent for utilization; 63 percent of the resources came from the Government, which funded the availability and access initiatives as a priority. The remainder was funded by development partners, which allocated most resources to programmes promoting utilization.
119. The cost of the CSP portfolio matches the actual resource levels of recent years. Activity 9 – USD 22 million – is fully funded, and forecasts indicate that the level of contributions will be similar for all activities except the new nutrition and resilience interventions in activities 2 and 8, which will be the subject of specific resource mobilization work.

6.3 Resource Mobilization Strategy

120. Delivery of this CSP will require sustained financial support to ensure uninterrupted engagement to achieve the strategic outcomes. Continuous fundraising efforts will be necessary to sustain the substantial budget for the emergency response in Cox’s Bazar, while ensuring that the country capacity strengthening and innovations components of the CSP continue to receive the necessary financial support.
121. WFP will develop a CSP Partnerships Strategy detailing the actions necessary to capitalise on existing partnerships and foster new ones. WFP will increasingly advocate for long-term and flexible funding arrangements from traditional donors and the Government of Bangladesh, which will provide in-kind contributions, and explore partnerships with other donors such as the private sector and individuals. Partnerships with foundations and development banks will be increased,

and in-kind technical assistance from private companies will be sought. WFP will also prepare a communications strategy to articulate to stakeholders WFP's role and value-added in support of Bangladesh's progress towards SDG 2. It will share information and evidence of progress towards planned results on a regular basis.

**LOGICAL FRAMEWORK FOR BANGLADESH
COUNTRY STRATEGIC PLAN (YEAR 2017–2020)**

SEE COMET LOGFRAME ATTACHED

ANNEX II

INDICATIVE COST BREAKDOWN (USD)						
WFP Strategic Results / SDG Targets	Strategic Result 2 (SDG target 2.2)	Strategic Result 1 (SDG target 2.1)	Strategic Result 4 (SDG target 2.4)	Strategic Result 5 (SDG target 17.9)	Strategic Result 8 (SDG target 17.16)	Total
WFP strategic outcome	1	2	3	4	5	
Transfers	39 354 866	338,182,131	28 189 421	13 544 399	20 276 503	439 547 320
Implementation	5 634 506	24 147 433	3 814 704	168 424	1 166 322	34 931 389
Adjusted direct support costs	2 739 330	17,542 993	1 920 110	714 723	801 392	23 718 547
Subtotal	47 728 702	379 872 556	33 924 235	14 427 546	22 244 217	498 197 256
Indirect support costs (7%)	3 177 807	24 955 305	2 256 281	950 337	1 457 615	32 797 344
TOTAL	50 906 509	404 827 861	36 180 515	15 377 883	23 701 831	530 994 600

ANNEX III

FOOD RATIONS AND CASH-BASED TRANSFER VALUES BY STRATEGIC OUTCOME AND ACTIVITY															
Strategic outcome	1 and 2		2									2 and 3			
Activity	4, 5 and 6	4 and 6	5	5 and 6	5 and 6	5 and 6	5 and 7	7	5	5	7	5, 6, 8 and 9	5, 6, 8 and 9	5	
Beneficiary type	School children	School children (hot meal)	School children (once a year)	Pre-school children	Pregnant and lactating women	Children under 5	Households	Households	Households (makeshift sites / New Influx)	Refugee households in camps/ makeshift sites/ New Influx ¹	Households	Women (monthly subsistence allowance)	Women (cash grant)	HHs (FFA)	HHs (FFT)
Cereals		90						450	400						
Pulses		25						60	120						
Oil		12			20			25	38						
Fortified biscuits	75			50			250								
Super Cereal					225										
Super Cereal Plus						200									
Dates			400												
Total kcal/day	375	516	980	250	1 035	787	1,125	2,046	2100						
Cash (USD/person/day)		0.13								0.33	0.33	0.09	38	0.62	0.17
No. of feeding days per year	240	200	One-off	288	365 ²	365 ³	3	90	365	365	90	365	One-off	150	150

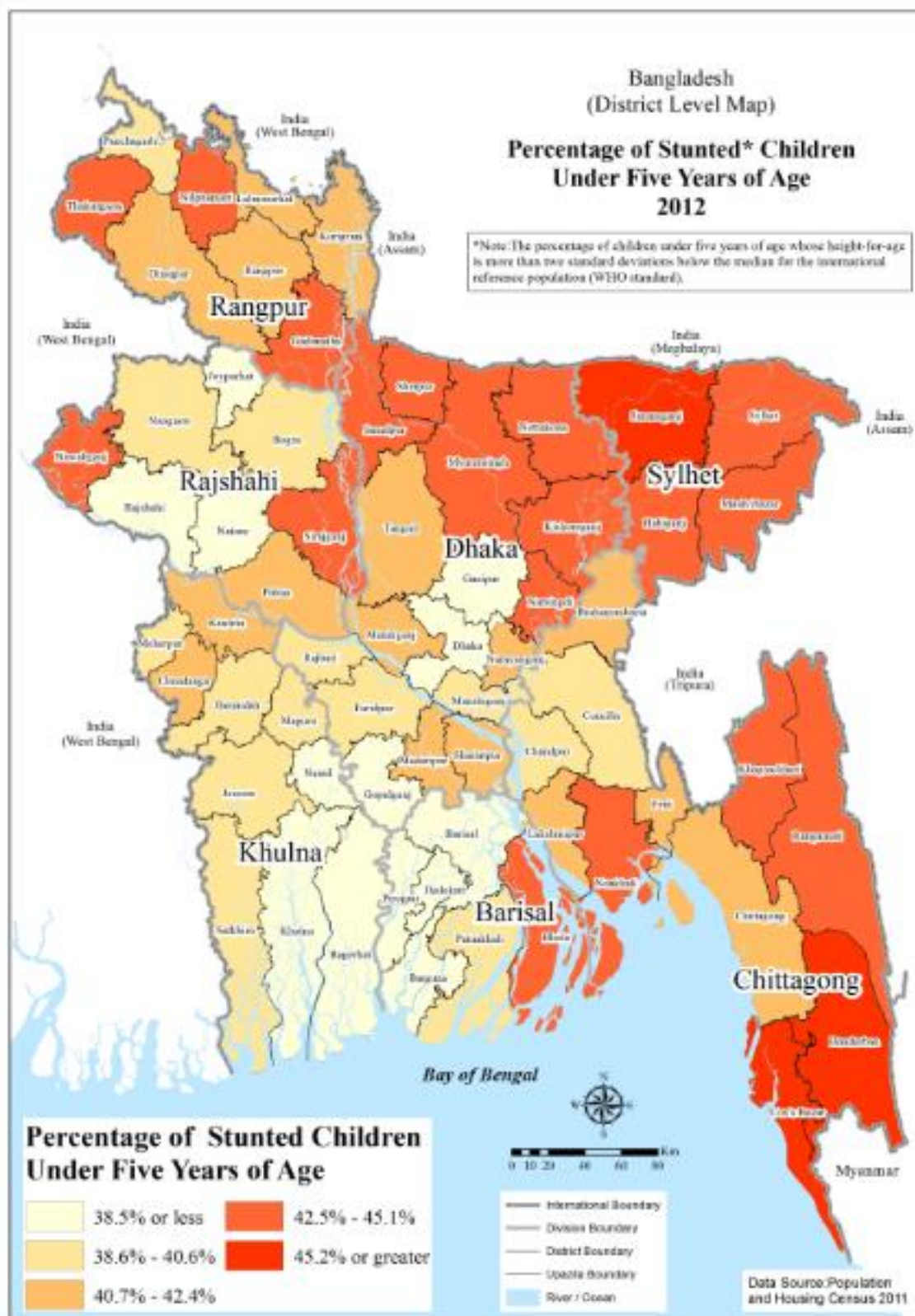
¹ There is a gradual shift from GFD to CBT/e-Vouchers at a rate of 100K per month starting from Jul-18. Therefore, 365 days shall be reduced depending on the actual rate of shift.

² 365 days for blanket supplementation, but 120 days for MAM treatment supplementation

³ 365 days for blanket supplementation, but 90 days for MAM treatment supplementation

ANNEX IV

Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 in Bangladesh, 2012



The designations employed and the presentation of material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Food Programme (WFP) concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its frontiers or boundaries.

Acronyms Used in the Document

CBT	cash-based transfer
CSP	country strategic plan
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
SFYP	Seventh Five-Year Plan
NGO	non-governmental organization
NSSS	National Social Security Strategy
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UMN	Undocumented Myanmar National
VGD	Vulnerable Group Development
