WFP Bangladesh Rohingya Refugee Response Situation Report #49 April 2021



### **WFP Programme Updates**

World Food

Programme

#### General Food Assistance (GFA)

- WFP assisted 859,705 Rohingya refugees in 34 camps with food assistance through e-vouchers.
- Beneficiaries were able to purchase 24 food items at 21 outlets. Almost US\$ 9.9 million worth of food was sold by 12 WFP-contracted Bangladeshi retailers.
- WFP opened two new Fresh Food Corners in April. Through the 15 operational Fresh Food Corners, WFP provided 27 types of locally produced vegetable to 140,146 vulnerable refugees.
- Building Blocks, WFP's blockchain-based digital ledger, was operational in all 19 e-voucher outlets in the non-registered camps and 15 Fresh Food Corners.

### Nutrition Assistance

- In the refugee camps, WFP provided malnutrition prevention and treatment services to 40,689 pregnant and lactating women and 164,732 children under 5 across 45 nutrition sites.
- In the host community, WFP provided malnutrition treatment services to 3,917 pregnant and lactating women and 6,417 children under 5 at 129 clinics.
- WFP supported 2,031 children between the ages of 3 and 5 in the newly launched nutrition e-voucher pilot whereby the households of each child could redeem US\$ 3 per child per month at Fresh Food Corners.

### Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

- WFP engaged 6,942 refugees in DRR activities.
- To improve access around the camps, WFP constructed/ reconstructed 1,321 meters (m) of pedestrian pathways, 728 m<sup>2</sup> of stairs and 477 m of access road. In preparation for the monsoon season, WFP constructed 140 m of brick guide walls and 1,660 m of drains, stabilized 3,897 m<sup>2</sup> of slopes, cleaned 7,505 m of drains and re-excavated 6 m<sup>3</sup> of canal. WFP also maintained 42,687 tree seedlings with FAO and UNHCR.

# In Numbers | April 2021

#### 859,705 Rohingya refugees assisted

**120,742** Bangladeshis supported in the host community

### Highlights

- All Rohingya refugees were provided with food assistance through the e-voucher modality in April. Live chicken and fish were also reintroduced in two out of the 15 Fresh Food Corners.
- The fourth <u>Refugee Influx Emergency</u> <u>Vulnerability Assessment</u> (REVA-4) found that 96 percent of all refugees are moderately or highly vulnerable, the highest level ever. In the host community, overall vulnerability also increased, with 51 percent of the population being moderately or highly vulnerable.
- A landmark agreement was signed between WFP and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The agreement aims to enhance self-reliance, livelihoods, and natural resource management in the refugee camps and surrounding host community.
- The Logistics Sector launched the Logistics Information Exchange - Physical Access Constraint [LOG IE (PAC)] platform. This multifunctional interactive map allows access constraint reporting during an emergency and can also be used for planning and training.

### **Situation Update**

- The Bangladesh Government relocated a sixth group of 4,750 people to Bhasan Char at the end of March/early April, bringing the total number of refugees on the island to approximately 18,750 people.
- With the increase of COVID-19 cases countrywide, a nationwide lockdown was imposed from 5 April. This is the second national lockdown since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Staff presence in all humanitarian activities in the camps has been reduced by 50 percent. The Government also closed all borders with India from 14 April.



Scan here to read the latest <u>WFP</u> in Cox's Bazar Information Booklet (April 2021)

## **WFP Programme Updates Continued**

# Strengthening Community Resilience in the camp<sup>1</sup>

- Following UNICEF's life skills curriculum, WFP trained 53 adolescent refugees on basic life skills (trust and friendship, problem solving, managing stress and emotions, positive thinking).
- WFP conducted environment and social safeguard screenings of 29 community workfare schemes to ensure that planned activities do not have an adverse impact on ecosystems and communities.

## Self-Reliance programme in the camps

- WFP engaged 382 refugees in self-reliance activities in April.
- Since September 2020, 512,310 WFP food packets have been collected from the camps and recycled into 2,460 products.
- In collaboration with ICCO Cooperation, WFP sent 36 upcycled dustbins to the area affected by the March fire to support waste management efforts.

## Livelihoods programme in the host community

- In April, beneficiaries from 878 self-help groups saved US\$ 29,053 in group activities.
- WFP trained 943 women on post-harvest management and 25 women on advanced technical tailoring in Ukhiya and Teknaf.
- WFP opened an additional ten aggregation centres and US\$ 129,360 worth of produce was sold through the 23 functioning centres with US\$ 2,894 worth of transactions made through the Farm2Go app.

# School Feeding

- WFP distributed 227 mt of micronutrient fortified biscuits to 181,200 Rohingya households and 311 mt to 109,340 host community students. Students in Ukhiya and Kutubdia also received hygiene kits.
- WFP worked with Room to Read Bangladesh (RtR) to motivate students, parents, guardians, teachers and government officials while schools remain closed. RtR sent 24,293 messages and made 21,979 calls as part of the SMS campaign on education and COVID-19 awareness and aired 52 read-aloud videos on national and local TV.

# Gender and Protection

- WFP supported 32 protection referrals from other agencies to facilitate food assistance.
- WFP trained 27 partner staff on gender, protection mainstreaming, accountability to affected populations, disability inclusion and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.

## WFP Engineering

- Under the Site Maintenance and Engineering Project (SMEP), WFP engaged 2,525 Rohingya volunteers.
- To maintain vehicular access, WFP completed construction of 165 m of road in Camp 20 and 70 m of brick retaining wall, one box culvert and 200 m of road in camps 2E and 2W.
- In preparation for the monsoon season, WFP cleaned 4,211 m of canal and completed the drainage cleaning in camps 2E and 5.

## Sectors

## Logistics Sector

- The Logistics Sector stored 4,314 m<sup>3</sup> of relief items for 17 organisations across four warehouses.
- Together with Humanity & Inclusion-Atlas Logistique (HI-Atlas), the Sector transported 165 m<sup>3</sup> of relief items for three organisations using 15 trucks.
- The Logistics Sector, as a part of the monsoon preparedness, started the Access Road Assessment to update <u>last year's dataset</u> and examine current road accessibility in the Ukhiya and Teknaf camps.

## Food Security Sector (FSS)

• The Food Security and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sectors developed a joint FSS/WASH guidance note on waste avoidance and management in emergency food assistance.

# Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS)

• ETS provided data connectivity to 506 users in 37 sites, including retail outlets, logistic and residential hubs, and Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) treatment centres. Security telecommunications services were provided to 860 users from 12 UN agencies.

# **Funding Outlook**

# **Operational requirement (May – October 2021):** US\$ 159 million

**WFP is thankful for contributions from:** US, UK, Australia, Germany, EU, Japan, Canada, Denmark, Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Sweden, Saudi Arabia, France, the Republic of Korea, Italy, Luxembourg, United Arab Emirates, Thailand, Qatar, World Bank, UN CERF and Private Donors.

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Additional Resources: <u>WFP Rohingya Refugee Response reports</u> <u>Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) reports</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Under the Emergency Multi-Sector Rohingya Crisis Response Project of the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief funded by the World Bank. Community workfare activities are reported under DRR.

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