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WFP in Cox's Bazar | Information Booklet

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMMES, INNOVATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS, SECTORS AND
CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

Photos: WFP/Nihab Rahman and Sayed Asif Mahmud

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This Operational Report is based on best available information at the time of production.
Future updates may vary as new information becomes available.

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Emergency Response in the Rohingya Refugee Camps

CONTEXT

By end-September 2021, there were over 918,800* Rohingya refugees living in the Cox's Bazar area ([UNHCR, 2021](#)), including 17,000 living on Bhasan Char island. With population density reaching 60,000 persons per km², ensuring refugees' safety and wellbeing remains a serious challenge compounded by disasters like the massive March 2021 fire and monsoon flooding. The COVID-19 crisis has heightened vulnerabilities among refugees with 95 percent considered moderately and highly vulnerable by the end of 2021 (REVA-5, 2022).

*WFP food assistance reached 888,000 beneficiaries due to relocations and absentee households

WFP RESPONSE

Since the start of the crisis in August 2017, WFP has provided food assistance to the camp population, and nutrition services to women and children. This is complemented with life-skills training, disaster risk reduction activities and common engineering services. WFP also facilitates essential shared logistics and emergency telecommunication services, and co-leads the Food Security Sector. WFP continues to adjust and innovate its programming in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, while ensuring lifesaving interventions continue unabated.

2021 IN NUMBERS

888,000 refugees received food assistance



177,700 most vulnerable received fresh food voucher top-up



195,000 women and children reached with nutrition services



32,700 women and men engaged in self-reliance activities

FFA

145,000 people engaged in food assistance for assets



302,600 students reached with fortified biscuits



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Interventions in the Host Community

CONTEXT

Situated in Bangladesh's cyclone belt, Cox's Bazar is one of the country's most underdeveloped and disaster-prone districts. In 2021, high and moderate vulnerability in the host community remained as high as 2020, reflecting households' limited ability to recover their pre-COVID-19 economic capacity (REVA-5, 2022). This can be attributed to the contractions of the pandemic lockdowns, which has led to a decline in economic activity, especially within the informal sector. Economic recovery continues to be challenged by supply shortages, high fuel costs and inflation, recurrent monsoon flooding and import disruptions.

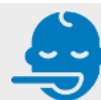
WFP RESPONSE

WFP supports the host community via long-term interventions, such as nutrition assistance at local clinics, school feeding, livelihoods programmes for vulnerable women and disaster risk reduction activities. In 2021 WFP scaled up its aggregation centres, which link local farmers, including WFP livelihood beneficiaries and FAO farmers' groups, to competitive markets and Fresh Food Corners in the refugee camps. WFP also launched its innovative forecast-based financing mechanism, whereby cash assistance is delivered before a disaster strikes, helping to minimize both household losses and the need for humanitarian assistance in the aftermath of climate shocks.

2021 IN NUMBERS

460,000 individuals benefitted from special COVID-19 cash assistance

317,200 host community members supported monthly



29,500 women and children reached with nutrition services



44,000 women engaged in the livelihoods programme



5,970 people engaged in food assistance for assets activities



136,000 students reached with fortified biscuits



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General Food Assistance

2021 in NUMBERS

- > Food assistance delivered to over **887,600** Rohingya refugees in **34*** camps each month
- > **100** percent of GFA through e-vouchers | **100** percent of transactions from non-registered refugees processed through Building Blocks
- > **22*** e-voucher outlets and **19** Fresh Food Corners operational
- > Almost **42,700** households reached with rapid food assistance following the massive March fire and severe monsoon floods from July to August

OVERVIEW

WFP delivers food assistance to refugees throughout the 34* camps in Cox's Bazar. With the transition to e-vouchers completed in April 2021, all beneficiaries receive an electronic voucher to be redeemed across WFP assistance outlets each month. Building Blocks, a shared humanitarian platform for coordinated assistance delivery, is used in all but two e-voucher outlets and all 19 FFCs.

WFP rapid response ensures efficient emergency intervention. At the onset of any crisis, affected populations immediately receive a six-day ration of micronutrient fortified biscuits. Depending on access to cooking facilities, affected households are then provided with hot meals and/or one-off in-kind basket until they can be re-integrated into regular e-voucher food assistance.

**In mid-December authorities closed Camp 23 (Shamlapur) and moved the remaining population to other sites, including Bhasan Char. The 33 other camps are served by WFP's 21 remaining e-voucher outlets.*

OBJECTIVES

- **Ensure all Rohingya refugees receive a minimum 2,100 calories of nutritious food** to meet daily dietary needs.
- **Enhance transparency and accountability** through digital systems (Building Blocks and SCOPE) and complaints and feedback mechanisms.
- **Allow choice and dignity** through e-voucher assistance which gives people more freedom to select a range of foods.

ACHIEVEMENTS in 2021

- WFP delivered food assistance to the entire refugee population every month under the e-voucher modality. Families could purchase up to 26 food items at

WFP's 22* e-voucher outlets, and up to 27 items at Fresh Food Corners (FFCs).

- Following the massive March fire, WFP reached up to 15,437 households with fortified biscuits, supported up to 63,000 people with over 1.3 million cooked meals and distributed almost 350,000 litres of water to complement IOM water distributions. Together with cooperating partners, WFP supported eight hot food kitchens near affected camps providing freshly cooked meals until LPG and kitchen sets could be distributed. WFP also provided a one-off in-kind food ration to over 2,000 households hosted in camps not directly affected.
- During the severe monsoon flooding, WFP reached more than 5,449 Rohingya households with fortified biscuits and up to 18,200 people with two cooked meals a day. WFP partners disseminated general protection messages and public service announcements on how flood-affected households could access WFP food assistance and nutrition services. In the host community, a further 552 households were supported with biscuits at 13 community evacuation shelters and 2,907 people received two cooked meals a day.

THE WAY FORWARD

- Establish three community kitchens near the refugee camps to produce hot meals at scale in case of emergencies.
- Open additional e-voucher outlets to minimize the distance beneficiaries must travel to access food assistance.
- Onboard two new local NGO partners to support localization and efficient access to local resources in Cox's Bazar.

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Social Cohesion and Localization of Food Assistance: Fresh Food Corners

2021 IN NUMBERS

- > Up to **20** fresh food items available to refugees at **19** Fresh Food Corners (FFC) at e-voucher outlets
- > Live fish and chicken were added to all FFC sites
- > The **49,500** most vulnerable refugee households (over **177,700** individuals) were provided with an e-voucher top-up of US\$ 3 every month

OVERVIEW

WFP continues to support refugees with monthly food assistance. However, among the most vulnerable, dietary diversity and access to nutritious foods remain poor. With limited income-generating opportunities, refugees are prompted to adopt negative coping strategies, such as reselling assistance, borrowing money and buying food on credit.

Preliminary findings from the Refugee Emergency Vulnerability Assessment (REVA-V), conducted in late 2021, demonstrated that increased dietary diversity continues to reduce the sale of assistance. In addition, 68 percent of refugee households' external purchases are food items, 44 and 38 percent of which are fresh fish and vegetables respectively.

Similar findings in previous years prompted WFP to introduce Fresh Food Corners at its e-voucher outlets to provide vulnerable households with direct access to healthy fresh foods. Since then, WFP has been facilitating market linkages between its contracted camp retailers and livelihoods programme participants, FAO farmers groups, other smallholder producers and petty traders in the host community.

All refugees can redeem a portion of their US\$ 12 monthly entitlement at Fresh Food Corners (FFCs). Moreover, the most vulnerable households who cannot be engaged in food assistance activities receive a monthly top-up of US\$ 3 per person to be redeemed on FFC vegetables, fruit, and live chicken and fish.

OBJECTIVES

- **Improve dietary diversity among the most vulnerable households, especially**

through protein-rich items: Households are targeted based on four criteria: child-headed (up to 17 years); women-headed; elderly-headed (60 years and above), and households with persons with disabilities.

- **Strengthen market linkages between camps and host community:** Most food items will be locally purchased or produced to improve social cohesion by increasing economic opportunities and agricultural production in host communities.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

- While one Fresh Food Corner was destroyed during the massive March fire, WFP opened eight new FFCs by August, bringing the total to 19 sites.
- Through the FFCs, WFP made up to 27 locally produced foods available for refugees every month.
- The most vulnerable refugee households (30 percent of the total caseload) received an additional US\$ 3 per person per month to increase their dietary diversity through nutritious, protein-rich FFC purchases.
- Almost 200 livelihoods programme participants from the host community sold their products to FFCs in the camps.

THE WAY FORWARD

- WFP will add additional FFCs to existing sites to reduce the caseload of existing outlets, and scale FFCs to cover 100 percent of Rohingya refugees.
- With partner support, WFP is aiming to link FFC retailers with all WFP and FAO aggregation centres in Cox's Bazar.



Integrated Nutrition Assistance in the Camps 2021 in NUMBERS

- › **200,500** women and children supported at **45** integrated nutrition centres each month. Every month **16,800** children and women received malnutrition treatment with an average of **3,100** new admissions
- › **19,700** children aged 24 to 59 months reached via WFP's new **US\$ 3** e-voucher pilot
- › **2,200** fire-affected children and women supported with two weeks of wet rations after the massive March fire

OVERVIEW

To address malnutrition in the camps, WFP offers services to children below 5 years of age and pregnant and nursing mothers.

- **Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP):** As part of the prevention programme, children between 6 and 59 months receive Super Cereal Plus (WSB++) while pregnant and nursing mothers receive Super Cereal (WSB+).
- **Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP):** In the treatment programme, children under 5 identified as moderately undernourished receive monthly rations of Ready to Use Supplementary Food (RUSF) while malnourished pregnant and nursing mothers receive Super Cereal (WSB+).

WFP is in the process of phasing out the BSFP for children over 2 years old. Since February 2021, WFP has been piloting a US\$ 3 monthly e-voucher top-up per child for attending GMP to ensure continued growth monitoring and promotion (GMP) and mitigate risks.

OBJECTIVES

- **Malnutrition rehabilitation and treatment:** WFP aims to reduce morbidity and mortality among pregnant and nursing mothers and young children.
- **Social and behaviour change communication (SBCC):** To ensure sustained change for malnutrition, WFP conducts activities to positively influence behaviour, knowledge and attitudes on nutrition, hygiene and social protection.
- **Active case finding:** WFP engages community outreach volunteers to screen, identify and refer malnourished women and children to the nearest nutrition

centre. Beneficiaries are closely followed and supported with home visits and WFP is providing caregiver training on how to screen children and self-refer.

- **Promoting an inclusive approach:** Breastfeeding corners and tailored services ensure everyone can participate.

ACHIEVEMENTS in 2021

- After two nutrition sites were destroyed in the March fire, WFP and UNICEF opened temporary sites, providing complementary feeding rations for children 6 to 23 months; moderate acute malnutrition treatment for children under 5; and Super Cereal Plus for mothers and children.
- When services became difficult to access during the monsoon floods, community outreach teams conducted home visits to the most critical beneficiaries.
- WFP distributed 11,090 mt of supplementary nutrition rations and conducted deworming and vitamin A campaigns, and mass screenings with UNICEF, UNHCR and the nutrition sector.
- WFP added referral pathways and disability reporting into its nutrition programme, and assisted the nutrition sector to incorporate disability inclusion.

THE WAY FORWARD

- Scale the US\$ 3 cash pilot for children upon approval from authorities and finalize an SBCC strategy for the pilot to increase consumption of fresh foods.
- Develop a multi-sectoral Social Behaviour Change and Communication strategy to address the causes of serious levels of acute malnutrition in the camps.

School Feeding Programme in the Camps

2021 in NUMBERS

- > 2,415 mt of fortified biscuits distributed reaching 302,600 Rohingya children
- > 419 volunteers engaged for packaging, delivery and distribution of biscuits every month on average
- > 264 mt of dates donated by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia reached 131,982 households

OVERVIEW

WFP's school feeding programme for registered refugees was first launched in 2002 with the goal of improving children's learning by addressing the root causes of hunger and micronutrient deficiencies that can have consequences on their cognitive growth.

In the camps WFP provides a 50 g packet of fortified biscuits per child per day. These locally-produced biscuits are fortified with 14 vitamins and minerals, and provide approximately half of the daily micronutrient requirements for a child 3- to 14-years-old.

WFP partners with the Bangladesh Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner, UNICEF, UNHCR, Save the Children and BRAC to support emergency school feeding in 4,200 learning centres across the camps. In line with the national de-worming campaign and in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, WFP also facilitates de-worming campaigns twice a year for Rohingya children who attend learning centres.

OBJECTIVES

- **Ensure that hunger is not an impediment** to a child's overall development.
- **Improve children's learning capacity** by providing them with fortified biscuits for every school attendance day.
- **Build capacity and promote community participation** by engaging refugee teachers and volunteers in school feeding.
- **Address root causes of hunger** and micronutrient deficiencies among refugee children.

ACHIEVEMENTS in 2021

- WFP reached Rohingya households through blanket distribution of fortified biscuits, before moving to door-to-door delivery in September.
- In October, after 18 months of closure due to the nationwide lockdown, distributions resumed at learning centres. Teachers and volunteers received orientations on biscuit distribution and storage, and COVID-19 precautions. By end-December, 2,017 reopened learning centres reached 123,000 children with fortified biscuits.
- WFP supported successful deworming campaigns in all camps in coordination with Upazila Health and Family Planning Office; District Civil Surgeon Office; and Office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner; 100,000 children consumed deworming tablets supplied by Directorate of Health.
- In quarter four, WFP distributed 172,200 reusable face masks to 86,100 learners to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Vegetable gardens were established in 15 school yards in the Kutupalong and Nayapara registered refugee camps.

THE WAY FORWARD

- Distribute dates and reusable face masks to refugee learners across 33 camps.
- Provide orientations to teachers and learning centre management committees.
- Facilitate deworming campaigns in all camps in 2022.

Resilience Building in the Camps: Self-Reliance

2021 in NUMBERS

- › 32,700 Rohingya refugees engaged in 31 camps, including 754 people with disabilities
- › Following the massive March fire, 10,000 fire-affected refugees (7,393 men; 2,607 women) supported with agricultural inputs to build homestead gardens
- › 340 kg of fish harvested and 1,420 kg of vegetables produced from 12 pond areas

OVERVIEW

Under the self-reliance programme, WFP supports refugees to enhance their resilience through skills development activities such as homestead vegetable gardening, aquaculture and tailoring.

In 2020, WFP launched the Circular Food Assistance project which, through upcycling waste into useful products, provides skills development and income opportunities for Rohingya youth, women and people with disabilities while also creating a cleaner camp environment. The project won the WFP Innovation Accelerator award and was also selected for the SPRINT, an intense six-month acceleration programme that helps innovators and start-ups reach proof-of-concept and develop prototypes ready for implementation.

In 2021 WFP scaled-up self-reliance activities targeting at-risk youth (both women and men), and extremely vulnerable individuals, such as older people, persons with disabilities and women-headed households.

OBJECTIVES

- **Strengthen food security and access to fresh foods** through urban agriculture interventions, including aquaculture and seed production.
- **Support economic empowerment**, focusing on demand created by the camp.

ACHIEVEMENTS in 2021

- WFP distributed winter and summer agricultural inputs to 30,000 people, along with pictorial training materials when in-person trainings were not possible due to the five-month COVID-19 lockdown.
- WFP launched its new disability and age inclusion project, reaching 685 elderly refugees and people with disabilities.
- In 2021, 289 participants made almost 244,000 masks through centre- and home-based production.
- WFP engaged 53 CwC volunteers across 31 camps to disseminate information on COVID-19 awareness, general food assistance, nutrition services and WFP's complaints and feedback mechanism.
- In 2021, participants collected 76,850 food packets and bottles from the camps and upcycled them into 2,290 products, including wallets, bags, baskets and jewellery.

THE WAY FORWARD

- WFP will move its disability and age inclusion project beyond the pilot phase, further develop tailored opportunities for vulnerable groups, and make its activities more nutrition-focussed.
- In 2022, WFP will pilot a new self-reliance nutrition project on indigenous food preservation techniques and cooking.

Resilience Building in the Camps: Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

2021 IN NUMBERS

- > 145,000 refugees engaged in DRR activities through food assistance for assets (FAA)
- > 584,500 tree seedlings maintained covering 219 hectares in 23 camps together with FAO and UNHCR
- > 7.7 km of brick guide wall constructed, 16.5 km² of slope stabilized and 308 km of secondary and tertiary drains regularly cleaned to ensure proper drainage
- > 21 km of pedestrian pathways, 12 km² of stairs and 3 km of access road constructed/reconstructed to improve access around the camps

OVERVIEW

WFP continues to undertake disaster risk management activities for critical construction and maintenance of community assets. Through the food assistance for assets programme, refugees engage in DRR works and receive cash assistance in return.

Since the 2017 refugee influx, WFP's response has transitioned from immediate life-saving assistance to targeted programmatic interventions to improve resilience in communities. WFP maintains regular coordination and collaboration with the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC), Camp-in-Charges, Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, the Forest Department and other relevant UN agencies including FAO, IOM and UNHCR.

OBJECTIVES

- **Strengthen resilience** through building and rehabilitating community assets; Restore the environment and improve accessibility to reduce disaster risk and improve living conditions in the camps.
- **Improving humanitarian accessibility** by strengthening drainage and roads to markets, food assistance and nutrition sites; and building bridges.
- **Site improvement and disaster risk mitigation:** Slope protection, perimeter fencing and dam construction to reduce soil erosion.
- **Community engagement and outreach:** Engaging refugee volunteers for outreach on emergency preparedness/fire safety.

- **Social inclusion and protection mainstreaming** so people with disabilities and different age groups can participate.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

- In response to the massive March fire and severe monsoon flooding, DRR engaged almost 3,000 FAA participants total.
- WFP focused on monsoon preparedness, (slope stabilization, drainage clearance & re-excavation of canals), and improving access in the camps. WFP engaged 24,700 women and 121,000 men, of which 2,071 were people with disabilities.
- In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, WFP continued to ensure worker safety by disinfecting work sites, maintaining strict social distancing and mask-wearing, and installing portable handwashing facilities.
- WFP coordinated with FAO for reforestation, fertilizer and maintenance activities, and completed fencing at all tree plantation sites with a focus on biological slope stabilization.

THE WAY FORWARD

- WFP will continue to support the RRRC in strengthening coordination of disaster risk reduction, especially that related to cyclones, flash floods and fire risks.
- Together with UNHCR and IOM, WFP is conducting a 2022 drain cleaning and waste management study to help humanitarian actors develop a robust joint operational plan for implementation across all camp areas.

Resilience Building in the Camps: Community Workfare and Services

2021 in NUMBERS

- › **73,220** Rohingya engaged in community workfare activities
- › **12,000** youth engaged in community service | **2,000** youth received technical and vocational education and training
- › **10,000** volunteers received training on life skills and awareness-raising for COVID-19, disaster risk reduction, nutrition, hygiene, early marriage and the environment
- › **181,235** vulnerable Rohingya received conditional food assistance through US\$2 e-voucher top-up redeemable at Fresh Food Corners

OVERVIEW

WFP is implementing the “Strengthening Community Resilience” component of the World Bank funded Emergency Multi-Sector Rohingya Crisis Response project in collaboration with the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief (MoDMR) of the Government of Bangladesh. The project covers the 32 unregistered camps and aims to increase the wellbeing and entitlements of the most vulnerable households, reducing the likelihood of youth idleness and improving living conditions in the camps through community services and community workfare.

OBJECTIVES

- **Improving safety and living conditions** of the displaced Rohingya population.
- **Enhancing self-reliance** and address potential conflict with host community.
- **Revert environmental degradation.**

ACHIEVEMENTS in 2021

- US\$ 2 e-voucher top-up was provided to over 181,000 extremely vulnerable individuals in 31 camps upon participation in awareness sessions, including COVID-19 prevention and control.
- WFP engaged over 12,300 women and 60,800 men (of whom 1,098 were persons with disabilities) in disaster risk reduction activities under community workfare.
- Under community services, WFP engaged youth volunteers in light works and awareness campaigns.
- As part of skills development, 2,000 refugee youth received education and training on

carpentry, masonry and plumbing in the unregistered camps.

- WFP revamped 31 Rohingya Food Security Committees with 465 members trained on inclusive community services, including identifying extremely vulnerable individuals, conducting awareness sessions for the refugee population and facilitating WFP’s complaint and feedback mechanisms.
- WFP conducted 339 environmental and social safeguards screenings of community service and community workfare schemes in 31 camps to ensure that planned activities did not have an adverse impact on ecosystems and communities..

THE WAY FORWARD

- Implementation of activities will continue up to the project end date in late February 2022.
- WFP will link the skilled labour force developed by the project to other relevant activities within and beyond WFP programmes in the camps.

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Voices from the field: Noor's story

WFP's self-reliance programme in the camps allows refugees to receive vocational skills to improve their economic and social resilience.

As physical disabilities can make it difficult to access training centres, WFP has arranged for trainers to visit people with disabilities at their homes to ensure that no one is left behind.

Noor Kayda is a visually impaired young woman whose life has been positively transformed through the WFP programme:

"I feel happy that I don't have time to leave my home. The ladies from the self-reliance centres come with the raw materials and later collect the masks," noted Noor (pictured above). **"If I have knowledge and skills, I can make my own future."**

During the COVID-19 crisis, Noor and other refugees have made 800,000 cloth masks, which have been delivered to the host community, humanitarian actors and other refugees to help prevent the virus from spreading.

[SCAN TO WATCH NOOR'S STORY](#)



Voice's from the field: Shrishti's story



Since 2011 WFP has been providing tailored nutrition assistance to treat Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) among young children and pregnant and nursing mothers in the host communities of Cox's Bazar. More than 10,000 women and children are supported every month across a network of 129 clinics.

Shrishti Sharma, a 23-year-old mother from Ukhiya, is one of thousands of host community women who've seen the life-changing impact of WFP nutrition treatment programming first hand.

"I felt sad because my child was malnourished," shared Shrishti (pictured above with her son, Opurbo). **"He looked weak and was not very active."**

"A lady from the nutrition centre visited us and measured Opurbo and told me that he needed nutrition supplements. She advised me to visit the nutrition centre."

"I was given supplements and have been feeding him these for four months," Shrishti explained. **Now his energy has increased. Opurbo is much more active and doing much better now."**

[SCAN TO WATCH SHRISHTI & OPURBO](#)





Social Safety Net in the Host Community: Disaster Risk Reduction

2021 in NUMBERS

- › 5,970 participants (4,860 men and 1,110 women) engaged in food assistance for assets
- › 2,311 women received mobile money transfer through WFP's innovative forecast-based financing programme in Teknaf
- › 30 cyclone shelters rehabilitated and handed over to the District of Cox's Bazar
- › Five agricultural infrastructure schemes completed in Ukhiya, Teknaf and Cox's Bazar Sadar, including water reservoir and deep tube well installation

OVERVIEW

WFP has operationalized the disaster risk reduction programme for the prevention and reduction of risks from natural disasters. WFP maintains coordination and collaboration with the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief and Bangladesh Forest Department for fostering dialogue on host community development. WFP is implementing the Disaster Resilience Programme for host communities in close consultation with the District Administration of Cox's Bazar.

In May 2021, WFP rolled out forecast-based financing programme in Teknaf. Ahead of the rainy season, households receive training on how to best prepare for hazards, so they can protect their assets before a disaster. Meteorological forecasts trigger electronic payments to households likely to be affected.

OBJECTIVES

- **Strengthen resilience and capacity** of the most vulnerable host communities.
- **Community-based environmental protection:** Together with the Bangladesh Forest Department and FAO, promote reforestation and restoration of damaged environments through planting of fast-growing species, bag gardening/vegetation for soil retention, seedling production and nursery propagation.
- **Emergency preparedness:** Rehabilitate existing cyclone shelters and improve access to key community infrastructures.
- **Institutional development and capacity strengthening** of government and partners via policy and strategy.
- **Evidence generation** via publications and assessments.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2021

- In June and August, WFP activated forecast-based financing for the first time in Cox's Bazar, and transferred BDT 4,100 through mobile money transfer (bKash) to a total of 2,311 host community families in Teknaf.
- To improve community access to cyclone shelters, especially in the "last mile," WFP made access improvements – such as road and drainage repair and reconstruction, and ramp installation – to 70 cyclone shelters in Ukhiya and Teknaf.
- Digital billboards were installed at three popular beach sites in Cox's Bazar to provide cyclone early warning messages.
- To stabilize land, WFP planted trees along 2,740 m of road leading to six cyclone shelters in Ukhiya, Teknaf, Pekua and Kutubdia; and reforested 17 sites under the technical leadership of FAO.
- In December, WFP launched capacity-strengthening trainings for partners, staff and Government with 80 participants.

THE WAY FORWARD

- WFP will complete access improvement works at 30 cyclone shelters.
- In consultation with the Department of Agriculture and FAO, WFP will improve irrigation, water systems and reservoirs, and solar energy in five sub-districts via the joint agriculture infrastructure project.
- WFP will conduct a need-gap analysis to assess the existing agriculture infrastructure system in Cox's Bazar, the competitiveness of the sector, barriers and opportunities.



Social Safety Net in the Host Community: Livelihoods Programme

2021 in NUMBERS

- > More than **44,000** people engaged in **five** sub-districts (over **99** percent women)
- > **USD 726,000** saved in collective bank accounts by **1,734** self-help groups

OVERVIEW

The Enhancing Food Security and Nutrition (EFSN) programme targets vulnerable women in Ukhiya, Teknaf, Moheshkhali, Pekua and Kutubdia. WFP is supporting 24,900 women with a multi-year livelihoods programming and providing technical and logistical support for market linkages and value chain development to 18,700 EFSN graduates through WFP and FAO aggregation centres.

Under EFSN, women have access to entrepreneurial skill development and life skills trainings. They are supported with a monthly subsistence allowance of BDT 1,050 (US\$ 12) and are organized into Self-Help Groups which help enhance financial accountability by monthly savings and as a social-safety net. Following training and the submission of a business plan, each member receives a substantive cash grant of 18,000 (US\$ 212) to start income generating activities. Each woman also receives a group grant of BDT 5,000 (US\$ 58) to invest in collective group businesses.

In June 2021, WFP launched its new climate-adaptive agriculture project which aims to enhance food security among 500 farmers through innovative agricultural techniques for the production of saline-resistant crops.

OBJECTIVES

- **Address the underlying drivers of food insecurity and malnutrition** by empowering women economically.
- **Enhance resilience** through financial and disability inclusion training, behavioural-change communication and networking.
- **Promote market linkages and social cohesion** by linking EFSN-run aggregation centres to local markets and WFP retail shops inside the camps.

ACHIEVEMENTS in 2021

- The EFSN programme scaled from two to five sub-districts of Cox's Bazar, and 100 percent of beneficiary entitlements were disbursed via mobile money transfer.
- Following the massive March fire in the camps, WFP mobilized EFSN partners to set up and run hot kitchens with host community cooks who produced 29,000 meals for affected refugees.
- To assist beneficiaries cope with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, WFP distributed yellow split peas to 29,900 host community households.
- WFP established 18 new aggregation centres and EFSN participants sold over USD 1.5 million worth of fresh vegetables, chicken and fish at WFP's 25 centres.
- UNFPA and WFP operationalized three training centres in Teknaf and Ukhiya.
- A new WFP shop opened in Cox's Bazar, selling USD 6,330 worth of handicrafts made by EFSN beneficiary businesses.
- Post-harvest management and value chain development trainings were provided to livelihoods programme graduates.
- As part of disability inclusion, WFP provided beneficiaries with assistive devices, services, surgery and referrals.

THE WAY FORWARD

- Continue to localize WFP's humanitarian response by increasing the number of aggregation centres and the volume of fresh foods sold.
- Expand EFSN to additional sub-districts and scale saline-resistant agriculture, sharing knowledge from the project.

Social Safety Net in the Host Community: Integrated Nutrition Assistance

2021 in NUMBERS

- > 11,000 malnourished women and children supported every month at 129 clinics
- > 665 mt of supplementary nutrition rations distributed
- > 314 community nutrition volunteers deployed

OVERVIEW

Since 2011, as part of the Improving Maternal and Child Nutrition programme, WFP has been providing tailored nutrition assistance to treat Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM) among young children and pregnant and nursing mothers. WFP also engages host communities through Social and Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) sessions on a range of topics such as hygiene, good preparation and storage of food (including WFP supplementary food), nutrition and health.

OBJECTIVES

- **Treat MAM:** Children identified with MAM in the host community receive monthly rations of Super Cereal Plus (WSB++) for malnutrition treatment. Pregnant and nursing mothers identified as malnourished receive Super Cereal (WSB+).
- **Improve livelihoods of local community women:** WFP engages women as community nutrition volunteers to conduct active case finding, nutrition counselling and conduct weekly “Courtyard Sessions” for beneficiaries on nutrition and health topics. The volunteers are paid US\$ 90 monthly, which contributes to their family and the local economy.
- **Enhance community-level knowledge:** WFP’s nutrition programme plays a significant role in raising awareness on nutrition and health among women, their families and communities.

ACHIEVEMENTS in 2021

- During severe monsoon flooding, WFP activated a mobile nutrition team to provide services to beneficiaries with critical service gaps.
- WFP provided malnutrition prevention and treatment services at six more clinics than in 2020. Each month WFP assisted almost 6,500 children 6-59 months and more than 4,500 pregnant and nursing mothers across five subdistricts of Cox’s Bazar (Ukhiya, Teknaf, Moheshkhali, Pekua and Kutubdia).
- WFP facilitated nutrition training for 450 frontline community workers and volunteers.
- In quarter three, WFP conducted SMART nutrition surveys in the Kutubdia and Pekua sub-districts in partnership with its partner, Action Contre la Faim (ACF). Findings indicate high acute malnutrition rates according to WHO standards, meaning the two populations require strengthened nutrition and health interventions.

THE WAY FORWARD

- To improve accessibility of services, WFP will shift growth monitoring and promotion activities from nutrition facilities to the community level.
- WFP will continue to conduct coverage and other assessments to inform and improve programming and service delivery; and engage community, government and partners for operational implementation.

Social Protection in the Host Community: School Feeding

2021 in NUMBERS

- > **136,000** host community students reached with **1,820 mt** of fortified biscuits in five sub-districts | **3,250** host community volunteers engaged in packaging and distribution
- > **68,100** students received hygiene kits in Teknaf, Ukhiya and Kutubdia
- > **208** government schools received infrared thermometers, soap, face masks, hand sanitizer and disinfectant spray as a part of school reopening
- > Literacy materials provided to **147,000** students and **14,200** remedial packages provided to Grade 2 and 3 students via WFP partner, Room to Read (RtR)

OVERVIEW

WFP's school feeding programme is operational in three sub-districts of Cox's Bazar. In collaboration with the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, WFP provides fortified biscuits and dates to pre-primary and primary school children in Government and NGO-run schools as well as in approved madrassas (Islamic schools). WFP also provides an essential learning package to benefit the whole community through community mobilization; de-worming campaigns; and health, hygiene, nutrition and school vegetable gardening.

The programme in Ukhiya and Kutubdia is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture McGovern-Dole Food for Education and Child Nutrition Programme and the Government of Bangladesh. It provides literacy and nutrition activities and capacity strengthening of government education officials, teachers and school management committees (SMC) as well as improved WASH facilities.

OBJECTIVES

- **Ensure hunger is not an impediment** to a child's overall development and improve learning by addressing short-term hunger and promoting development of cognitive capacities.
- **Contribute to the Government's policy of universal primary education** by improving access to basic education, particularly in poverty-prone areas.
- **Build capacity and promote community participation in the management of the schools** by engaging community in trainings and capacity building activities.
- **Improve literacy and education quality** via early grade learning interventions.
- **Promote gender equity and women's empowerment** through community

mobilisation workshops and local partners to enable women to play an active leadership role in SMCs.

- **Conduct de-worming activities** in all primary schools twice a year in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

ACHIEVEMENTS in 2021

- WFP's learning package for health and hygiene was finalized and implemented in Ukhiya, Teknaf and Kutubdia.
- In Moheshkhali and Pekua, WFP distributed fortified biscuits until July, when it handed the programme over to Government. WFP resumed the programme in December after the project was extended.
- As schools remained closed until September, WFP delivered biscuits directly to 74,500 students' homes in Ukhiya, Teknaf and Kutubdia before shifting to at-school distribution with the partial reopening of schools. As children only attend lessons for a few hours, RtR continued to raise awareness on home learning and the importance of school.
- Vegetable gardens were established at 31 schools in Ukhiya and Kutubdia with 'Little Agriculturist' groups formed to assist with gardening and awareness raising of fellow students.

THE WAY FORWARD

- Construct infrastructure, including kitchens, to support cooked meals at 170 schools in Ukhiya and Kutubdia.
- Commence hot meals in Teknaf and continue the school feeding programme in Pekua and Moheshkhali until June 2022.

Digital Solutions and Innovations

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- > **100** percent of the Rohingya population in Cox's Bazar received food assistance through e-vouchers from April | **100** percent of unregistered refugees' e-voucher transactions processed via Building Blocks
- > All refugee households provided with new SCOPE assistance cards with updated UNHCR data and biometrics as part of WFP-UNHCR interoperability
- > Farm2Go reached the beta testing phase and will collect local market prices to support negotiations with contracted food retailers and ensure best value for money

LEADING INNOVATIONS IN HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

WFP's emergency operation in Cox's Bazar leads in innovating food assistance to respond to a humanitarian crisis and feed the world's largest refugee camp. Embracing new technologies to provide life-saving food and nutrition support to Rohingya refugees as well as to assist the host community, WFP is leveraging innovation and digital solutions to achieve Zero Hunger (Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2) and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17) in Cox's Bazar.

INNOVATING FOOD ASSISTANCE: E-VOUCHERS AND BUILDING BLOCKS

- **E-vouchers** are a dignified approach to food assistance whereby refugees can choose from a range of food items each month, including fresh produce. Cox's Bazar is the first WFP operation to build e-voucher outlets.
- **Blockchain:** Building Blocks – a blockchain-based platform for inter-agency coordination and online entitlement delivery – is used in all e-voucher outlets serving unregistered refugees (Rohingya who arrived in Bangladesh from 2017).
- **SCOPECARD:** SCOPE is WFP's beneficiary management platform for offline entitlement delivery. WFP, IOM and the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) use SCOPECARDS in offline distribution points to provide food, LPG, hygiene kits, shelter kits and other items.

MARCH FIRE RESPONSE

- Following the massive March fire in camps 8E, 8W and 9, WFP printed over 7,000 SCOPECARDS for refugees who lost their ID. Cards were distributed at IOM's non-food item distribution points, where beneficiaries also received kitchen and hygiene kits, facemasks and dignity kits.
- Fire-affected beneficiaries who lost their ID were still able to redeem their March and April food entitlements using fingerprint biometrics.

STRENGTHENING DIGITAL PARTNERSHIPS

Since 2018, WFP has been supporting humanitarian agencies to make use of its corporate tools and digital platforms to digitize their assistance for the Rohingya population. In 2021, WFP tools:

- Supported IOM distributions of liquified petroleum gas in 17 camps; and hygiene and transitional shelter kits in four camps each. IOM plans to scale up its use of SCOPE beyond the 466,000 beneficiaries already served on the platform.
- Supported UNICEF with SCOPE, Building Blocks and associated retailer and retail outlet services, facilitating soap distribution for more than 249,000 refugees in eight camps.
- Assisted the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society distribute hygiene and hygiene top-up kits to 31,600 people; menstrual hygiene kits to 11,400 women; and non-food items to 26,000 Camp 12 beneficiaries with plans to further employ SCOPE services.

Monitoring and Evaluation

OBJECTIVE

- › To build knowledge and evidence to improve and adapt WFP programmes through tracking, collecting, and analysing programme achievements and performance

KEY AREAS

1. Process and activity monitoring

WFP monitors daily activities and processes, including retail transactions from its e-voucher outlets and Fresh Food Corners in the camps, and other food, cash and other distributions. Monitoring teams conducted interviews with beneficiaries, observed distributions and conducted spot checks to verify the quality and quantity of outputs and adherence to WFP safety standards. Monthly dashboards and analyses are prepared and discussed with programme teams to improve services to beneficiaries.

2. Post Distribution Monitoring

Quarterly surveys are carried out for all programme activities to obtain beneficiary perspectives on the quantity, use, acceptability and quality of WFP assistance, and, in 2021, WFP collected beneficiary perceptions on targeting, food choice and distribution procedures. WFP also conducted key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and in-depth interviews to collect beneficiary perceptions on gender and safety while accessing its assistance. Findings led to programme adaptations, including delivery and implementation approaches.

3. Outcome Monitoring

Monitoring of WFP's impact on food security was strengthened in 2021. Over 1,500 beneficiaries were surveyed to collect data on food security and livelihood indicators. Findings were shared and used to improve programme interventions and better serve beneficiaries.

4. Capacity Building

WFP conducted two trainings which aimed to improve WFP staff and partners' monitoring capabilities and thus improve the quality of food security programmes.

5. Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (CFM)

In 2021, CFM channels were expanded to enhance beneficiaries' ability to provide feedback on WFP activities. Beneficiaries can now provide feedback to Rohingya Food Security Committees and community volunteers, through the 24-hour hotline and at helpdesks at WFP assistance sites. WFP developed monthly reports and feedback analyses, feeding into other monitoring and evidence generation activities to improve overall service delivery.

WAY FORWARD

- Enhance evidence generation for decision making by improving data analysis and management and developing user-friendly monitoring products, including monitoring dashboards, showing real-time information.
- Increase data utilisation by programme teams through monitoring and evidence trackers.
- Continue to diversify CFM modalities and establish a common CFM platform for reporting and analysis.
- Build capacity for data and information management through joint monitoring and formal training with partners and WFP Staff.

UN Partnerships

OVERVIEW

- › WFP works closely with all United Nations agencies present in Cox's Bazar through the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) and has direct partnerships with FAO, IOM, UNICEF, UNDP, UN Women, UNHCR and UNFPA
- › In addition to joint projects, WFP also provides partners with SCOPE digital services for non-food items

SAFE ACCESS TO FUEL & ENERGY (SAFE+)

Started in 2018, SAFE Plus is a joint programme between FAO, IOM and WFP aiming to address cooking fuel needs, restore and protect the environment, create livelihood opportunities for host communities and build the resilience of refugees. The second phase of the programme is currently under development and will start from July 2022 under the coordination of UNHCR.

Select achievements of SAFE+ (Phase I):

- 130,000 households in the camps and host community received liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) refills for cooking;
- 2.6 million seedlings from supported host community nurseries planted;
- 7,000 Rohingya refugees engaged in skill-building activities, such as kitchen gardening, tailoring and basket weaving;
- Over 16,600 marginalized host community members supported with livelihood opportunities, and 1,000 fisherfolk supported with fishing materials and trainings.



SCAN TO WATCH THE
[SAFEPLUS VIDEO](#)

WFP-UNHCR JOINT ASSESSMENT MISSION

The Joint Assessment Mission (JAM) is a joint effort led by UNHCR and WFP every two years to revise the areas of cooperation outlined in the UNHCR/WFP Memorandum of Understanding (2011). Conducted from April to July, the 2021 JAM allows both organizations to assess progress and achievements since the first Cox's Bazar JAM report and Joint Plan of Action (JPA) from 2019. The 2021 JAM documents the food security and nutritional status of Rohingya refugees, reviews the adequacy of UNHCR and WFP programmes and identifies appropriate interventions. Recommendations are concretized into specific activities in the 2021-2023 JPA.

WFP-FAO AGREEMENT

Signed in April 2021, this landmark UN-UN agreement aims to enhance self-reliance, livelihoods, and natural resource management in 32 refugee camps and four sub-districts of Cox's Bazar: Ukhiya, Teknaf, Sadar and Ramu. The project targets 30,000 Rohingya households to enhance self-reliance and 3,000 host community households to enhance food production and promote market linkages through livelihoods activities.

SITE MAINTENANCE & ENGINEERING PROJECT (SMEP)

WFP, IOM and UNHCR jointly established SMEP to support the Government of Bangladesh with emergency preparedness, response and rehabilitation in the Rohingya camps.

See page 25 for more on SMEP

NGO Partnerships

2021 in NUMBERS

- > 24 NGO and INGO partners who collectively handled **US\$ 41.4 million**
- > Of this total, **ten national and local NGO partners handled 51 percent** of all contracts

OVERVIEW

WFP would not be able to achieve what we do without all our Cooperating Partners. In 2021, WFP implemented activities through 24 partners, including ten national and local NGOs. WFP regards localization as critical to mobilize resources efficiently and sustainably and to build upon the existing human resources, civil society and market structures from the local to the national level. To this end, the ten national and local NGO partners handled over 51 percent of all 2021 contract value.

MARCH FIRE RESPONSE

WFP could not have responded so effectively following the massive March fire without the support of its Cooperating Partners. WFP worked with Save the Children International, World Vision International, Resource Integration Centre (RIC) and BRAC to provide rapid response through fortified biscuits and cooked meals, and opened hot food kitchens with Action Aid, Concern Worldwide, ICCO Cooperation, RIC, Shushilian and World Vision. WFP also used the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency's kitchen to provide cooked meals.

PROPORTION OF FUNDS GOING TO NATIONAL VERSUS INTERNATIONAL NGO PARTNERS

NATIONAL NGOs:

- BRAC
- Caritas Bangladesh
- Centre for Natural Resource Studies
- Community Development Centre
- Eco Social Development
- Nabolok
- Resource Integration Centre
- Shushilan
- Social Assistance and Rehabilitation for the Physically Vulnerable
- The Society for Environment and Human Development



INTERNATIONAL NGOs:

- Action Aid
- Action Against Hunger
- CARE
- Christian Aid
- Concern Worldwide
- ICCO (part of Cordaid)
- HelpAge International
- Helvetas
- Islamic Relief
- Relief International
- Save the Children
- Solidarities International
- World Concern Medair
- World Vision

Food Security Sector

2021 in NUMBERS

- > Almost **888,000** Rohingya refugees reached with life-saving food assistance and resilience building activities via **52** reporting partners
- > **414,000** Bangladeshis in Ukhiya and Teknaf supported along with **306,000** host community members in non-JRP areas
- > Following the massive March fire, FSS played a key role in coordinating partners, who responded immediately with emergency food assistance, and ensuring the response was as effective and efficient as possible with no overlap

OVERVIEW

The Food Security Sector (FSS) is committed to saving lives through the coordination of appropriate, efficient and well-resourced food security responses in major emergencies. The FSS in Cox's Bazar was established in 2017 and is led by FAO and WFP, and co-chaired by BRAC. Within the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG), the FSS is a platform to strengthen food security and livelihood response through operational coordination, information sharing and identifying food security related priorities and solutions. The FSS Livelihoods Working Group strengthens coordination of livelihoods and self-reliance interventions to build the resilience of the Rohingya and host communities.

OBJECTIVES

- **Support service delivery:** Provide a platform to ensure service is driven by the agreed strategic priorities, and develop mechanisms to avoid duplication.
- **Inform and support strategic decision making for the humanitarian response:** Lead joint situation and response analyses, and identify gaps, duplications, obstacles in the FSS response, and intersectoral linkages prioritizing food security needs and responses.
- **Monitor implementation and outcomes** of activities under the FSS strategic plan.
- **Lead joint contingency planning** for potential new events or set-backs.
- **Training and capacity building:** Identify and prioritize stakeholders' training needs.
- **Develop strategy and plans** in line with humanitarian strategic priorities, and ensure adherence to existing standards and guidelines. Closely coordinate planning and implementation of the Joint Response Plan (JRP) with other sectors.
- **Undertake advocacy** activities on behalf of partners and the affected population.

- **Provider of last resort:** Identify priority gaps that cannot be covered by any partner and inform lead agencies' action.

ACHIEVEMENTS in 2021

- In February, FSS completed a second round of [local reusable mask production and distribution](#) to support the District health response to COVID-19.
- In response to the massive March fire, FSS supported operational coordination for the distribution of 1.4 million cooked meals, and developed [guidance on waste avoidance and management](#) in emergency food distributions with the WASH sector.
- During the severe monsoon floods, FSS coordinated emergency assistance, including distribution of dry breakfast snacks to complement hot meals in the camps and host community, and emergency cash support to affected host communities. FSS then coordinated with ISCG, WFP, IOM and sectors on a joint flood impact assessment.
- In line with the 2021 JRP, FSS coordinated 52 organizations via information sharing and technical support to ensure life-saving food and livelihood assistance for refugees and host community members. FSS facilitated 11 trainings for 380 partner staff, and formed the Skills Development Working Group with the Education Sector.

THE WAY FORWARD

- Support food security analyses to identify needs and gaps with local, international and government stakeholders.
- Continue to provide support for 2022 planting season planning for the Energy and Environment Technical Working Group.

CONTACT

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Emergency Telecommunications Sector

2021 in NUMBERS

- › Data connectivity provided to **535** humanitarians from **5** UN agencies and **11** NGOs
- › Security communications services provided to an average of 918 humanitarians per month across 11 UN agencies
- › **40** sites connected in three common operational areas

OVERVIEW

The Emergency Telecommunications Cluster (ETC) is a global network of organizations that work together to provide shared communications services in humanitarian emergencies. ETC is one of the 11 clusters designated by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) and is led by WFP.

In Bangladesh the Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) was activated in 2017 to support the Rohingya crisis response. As voice and data services are extremely limited in the refugee camps, ETS' mandate is to provide: (i) augmented radio (VHF) network for UN staff safety/security and general operational support and (ii) data connectivity for digital assistance services and communication between humanitarian workers.

OBJECTIVES

- **Provide telecommunications and data connectivity services** to facilitate the entire humanitarian response and ensure the safety and security of UN staff.
- **Coordinate the ETS response and develop and share operational information** to support decision-making, strengthen advocacy efforts, ensure the swift delivery of services and avoid duplication of efforts.

ACHIEVEMENTS in 2021

- ETS provided data connectivity services to 40 sites, including e-voucher outlets, logistics hubs, Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI)/ Infection Treatment Centres (ITC), nutrition sector sites, relay sites from where ETS internet signals are retransmitted, and other UN agency and NGO locations.
- The Local ETS Working Group was

reactivated with members from 15 UN agencies and NGOs in the response, so the ETS can further improve services for users.

- The annual ETS user satisfaction survey resulted in an overall satisfaction rate of 90 percent for ETS services and activities, including data connectivity, security communications, customer support, information management, and coordination.

THE WAY FORWARD

- In 2022 the Sector will continue to work with potential partners and conduct assessments on connectivity needs in the camps with plans to expand data connectivity to include 70 total sites.
- The ETS will rely on locally-procured equipment, utilizing cyclone-resistant towers from mobile companies, utilizing internet service providers where there is no ETS coverage, and work closely with partners including UNHCR, IOM, and UNDSS to serve more humanitarians and organizations in the response.
- In 2022 ETS will launch the Services for Communities project to increase engagement with affected communities by providing support through technology. The ETS will conduct assessments on the ICT needs of beneficiaries and assess the possibility of implementing communications services.

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Logistics Sector

2021 in NUMBERS

- > **100** partners assisted through storage, transport, equipment loans and trainings
- > **Five** warehouses downsized to **one** warehouse by end-2021
- > **9,100 m³** of relief items stored for **25** organisations
- > **14** coordination meetings | **58** training sessions attended by **1,000** staff

OVERVIEW

As part of the government-led humanitarian response, the Logistics Sector supports the humanitarian community in Cox's Bazar with coordination, information management/geographic information systems and common logistics support. It works with Government, humanitarian partners, the Inter-Sector Coordination Group and other stakeholders.

OBJECTIVES

- **Coordination** to ensure the humanitarian community has access to resources required for operational support and emergency preparedness while minimising duplication of efforts.
- **Information management** to support operational decision making, respond to logistical challenges and improve the efficiency of logistics responses, especially during cyclone and monsoon seasons.
- **Provision of common logistics services**, such as storage and prepositioned storage assets, to allow rapid scale up and mitigate disruptions due to natural disasters.
- **Capacity strengthening** to develop operational expertise and reduce the need for temporary logistics services, while ensuring participation of local actors.

ACHIEVEMENTS in 2021

- In response to the massive March fire, the Sector supported with skilled labour for erection of MSU/prefabs, loaned out assets and transported 170 mt of relief items for eight organisations in partnership with Humanity & Inclusion - Atlas Logistique (HI-Atlas).
- To contain the potential effects of Cyclone Yaas in May, cyclone preparedness activities were carried out across all logistics hubs and information shared with partners. Deployable hubs were also prepared for quick response.
- During the severe monsoon floods, the

Logistics Sector published a map showing the [flood's impacts on road access](#).

- Relunched in April, the sector's multifunctional interactive map [[LOG IE \(PAC\)](#)] was used 269 times by humanitarian actors to report and view access constraints.
- In collaboration with the Office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner and the Inter-Sector Coordination Group, the Logistics Sector maintained the Humanitarian Access Project (HAP). Developed during the 2020 COVID-19 outbreak, the HAP is a fully digital system for validating humanitarian vehicles access into the camps, reducing delays and bottlenecks caused by manual checks at security checkpoints.
- In collaboration with HI-Atlas, IOM, the Global Logistics Cluster and other partners, a total of 58 trainings were delivered with special attention to medical logistics. To strengthen local capacity, 60 percent were conducted in Bangla.

THE WAY FORWARD

- Improve resource utilization among partners and reduce environmental impacts related to logistics/supply chain operations in the response.
- Phase out common storage at the end of Q1 2022 based on the [2021 Gaps and Needs Assessment](#), maintaining capacity to rapidly upscale as required and continuing its overall coordination and information management role.
- Organise trainings with a focus on national NGOs to strengthen local logistics capacities and bolster relationships with national partners

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Engineering

2021 in NUMBERS

- > **72,200** refugee volunteers (**8,240** women and **63,100** men) engaged (including **833** people with disabilities)
- > **5,480 m** of retaining wall and **3,250 m** of new road constructed
- > **185 m** of roads repaired and **189 km** of drainage and canals dredged
- > **Two** new nutrition centres constructed in the camps

OVERVIEW

Access to the refugee camps is critical to the humanitarian response, particularly given Cox's Bazar's geographic vulnerability. Through providing essential engineering services, WFP ensures humanitarian and development partners can easily access intervention areas and have safe facilities to store food supplies. WFP Engineering encompasses the WFP, IOM and UNHCR joint Site Maintenance and Engineering Project (SMEP) and facility Management team. It also provides technical support to programme units including disaster risk reduction and community workfare activities.

OBJECTIVES

- **Ensure unhindered access** to the camp areas by maintaining vehicular access via roads and bridges.
- **Provide critical, safe infrastructures and facilities** through site preparation work, rehabilitation and construction.
- **Maintain well-functioning drainage systems** by clearing and strengthening primary drainage channels
- **Facilitate rapid response** by pre-positioning materials and supplies.
- **Support capacity strengthening** of the Local Government Engineering Department and coordinate to identify gaps and issues of site management with the Bangladesh military and Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner.

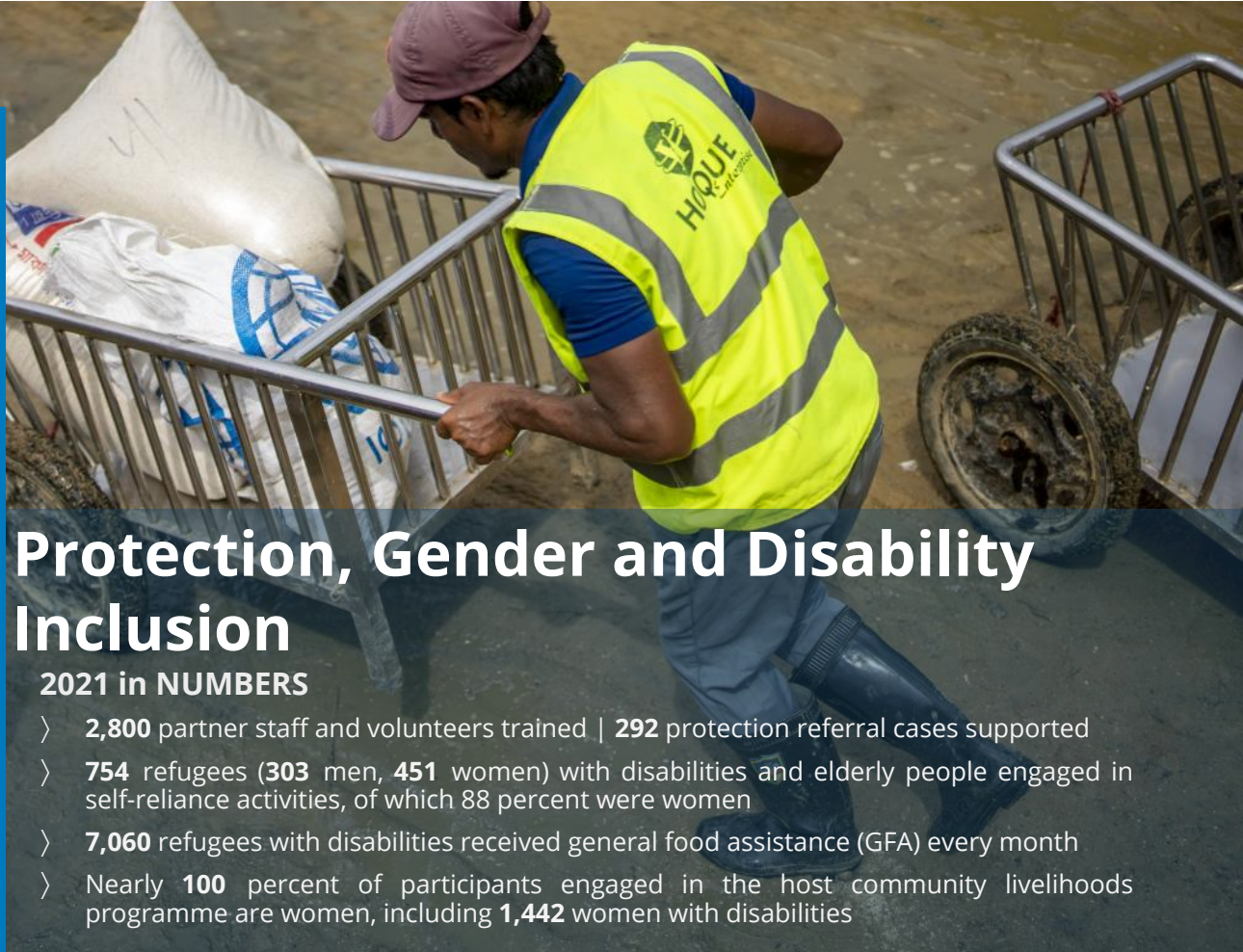
ACHIEVEMENTS in 2021

- In response to the massive March fire, SMEP deployed light and heavy machinery to remove debris, support the Shelter Sector, and undertake excavation work. SMEP also transported water and cooked meals to affected populations and partnered with IOM for waste removal.

- During the July-August monsoon floods, SMEP supported humanitarian actors with construction materials and non-food items to quickly rehabilitate key infrastructure and minimize landslide risks. 2,870 volunteer labourers were mobilized for drainage clearance and repair, and to support IOM rehabilitation.
- SMEP constructed a new road between Camp 8W and 9 to improve access for emergency responders and create a natural fire breaker in fire-affected camps. An additional 25,800 m of slope protection was built for monsoon preparedness.
- To address critical gaps in camp-level firefighting capability, SMEP and cooperating partner Helvetas/MOAS developed and prototyped five types of mobile firefighting equipment tailored to the challenging camp terrain. By year-end, the first mobile firefighting units were being constructed at WFP's Balukhali hub.

THE WAY FORWARD

- Construction of WFP's new Cox's Bazar office building will continue with completion expected in April 2022.
- SMEP will continue to engage in a multitude of emergency repair and rehabilitation works, including slope stabilization; construction of roads, bridges, culverts and water reservoirs; reinforcement of bridges and hills with terracing; and infrastructure repairs.
- WFP Engineering will continue to build resilience against climate hazards, such as landslides and floods, and increase the number of safe relocation sites for disaster-affected refugees.
- SMEP and Helvetas/MOAS will install fire hydrants in all camps and strengthen community capacity to mitigate the impacts of fire among the Rohingya population.



Protection, Gender and Disability Inclusion

2021 in NUMBERS

- > 2,800 partner staff and volunteers trained | 292 protection referral cases supported
- > 754 refugees (303 men, 451 women) with disabilities and elderly people engaged in self-reliance activities, of which 88 percent were women
- > 7,060 refugees with disabilities received general food assistance (GFA) every month
- > Nearly 100 percent of participants engaged in the host community livelihoods programme are women, including 1,442 women with disabilities

OVERVIEW

WFP works to streamline protection, gender and disability inclusion to support the participation of all beneficiaries across its programmatic interventions, and to ensure their rights and safety. Trainings and capacity building exercises are conducted with WFP staff and cooperating partners on basic concepts, frameworks, and programmatic applications of gender-transformative approaches.

Food assistance cards are issued in the name of the senior woman of the household, which contributes to enhanced decision-making and control over resources. Every distribution site has segregated waiting areas, toilet facilities, breastfeeding corners and help desks managed by at least one-woman staff member/volunteer.

At nutrition sites, priority is given to pregnant and nursing women with disabilities, and caregivers of children with disabilities. Assistive and flexible nutrition services are provided to both parents with disabilities and children with disabilities.

OBJECTIVES

- **Ensure protection during food assistance delivery:** To reduce any existing risks while providing food assistance, WFP (i) ensures that the geographical selection of distribution sites considers beneficiaries' vulnerabilities; (ii) provides access to clean and safe drinking water, a breastfeeding corner and crowd control measures and (iii) offers a porter service to alleviate the burden of carrying heavy food rations. Since the start of the
- **Protect beneficiary data:** WFP uses SCOPE to ensure beneficiary data is protected. Building Blocks further protects beneficiaries' data as individuals are issued with an encrypted ID or code number to distinguish them from others without revealing their identities.
- **Enhance accountability:** Complaints and Feedback Mechanisms (hotline and helpdesks) are in place across all programmes and regular community consultations are organized with community leaders, religious leaders, persons with disabilities and beneficiaries to understand challenges faced and potential protection risks.
- **Mainstream protection across all activities and assessments:** WFP conducts protection mainstreaming trainings and situational awareness raising sessions for WFP and partner staff and volunteers. Disability inclusive questions are included in all community consultation questionnaires.
- **Contribute to women empowerment and gender equality:** WFP integrates gender equality and women's empowerment across all activities, and works to address the different food security and nutrition needs of women, men, girls and boys. Through the Safe Access to Fuel and Energy (SAFE Plus) project, WFP ensures women and girls do not have to collect firewood, therefore reducing potential protection risks.



- **Ensure all WFP programmes disaggregate data by disability, sex and age:** WFP consults directly with people with disabilities in the camps and host communities on barriers and enablers to accessing its services. It also develops opportunities for valued roles for people with disabilities in committees, and as volunteers and labourers.
- WFP increased leadership roles of women with disabilities in livelihoods self-help groups (SHG), executive committees and union standing committees by forming four SHGs dedicated to women with disabilities.
- In September, WFP launched its new disability and age inclusion project in the camps targeting 300 people with disabilities and elderly refugees. This Self-Reliance programme will enable participants to contribute to household food security through production activities tailored to their abilities. They will also receive life skills training on topics such as nutrition, literacy and disaster risk reduction.

ACHIEVEMENTS in 2021

- During the severe monsoon floods, WFP developed and shared key protection messages to enhance the safety of disaster-affected refugees.
- A standard operating procedure for porter services was created for ensuring minimum standards for accountability, protection and safety.
- WFP developed a protection code of conduct in Bengali and English for food retailers operating in the refugee camps and a WFP Cox's Bazar-specific booklet on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA) to be used at field-level.
- Monthly protection monitoring was conducted through on-site, telephone and post-distribution monitoring, and regular focus group discussions with refugees on accessibility, accountability, safety, and security concerns, including COVID-19 containment measures. WFP conducted a thorough review of all monitoring tools to ensure maximum considerations of protection, accountability, disability, and gender; and held remote and in-persons consultation sessions to understand beneficiary perspectives on food and livelihood assistance.

THE WAY FORWARD

- WFP will carry out a beneficiary satisfaction assessment on the porter services available through its general food assistance programme.
- Data protection training will be organized for WFP Cox's Bazar staff and cascaded down to partners.

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES



WFP Environmental Action

MINIMIZING WFP'S ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT



Plastic-free e-voucher outlets with green retail initiatives

Environmental awareness campaigns among refugees

PROGRAMMING TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT



Initiatives to upcycle WFP-produced waste

Slope stabilization and drainage improvement to minimize the impact of flooding

COORDINATED RESPONSE



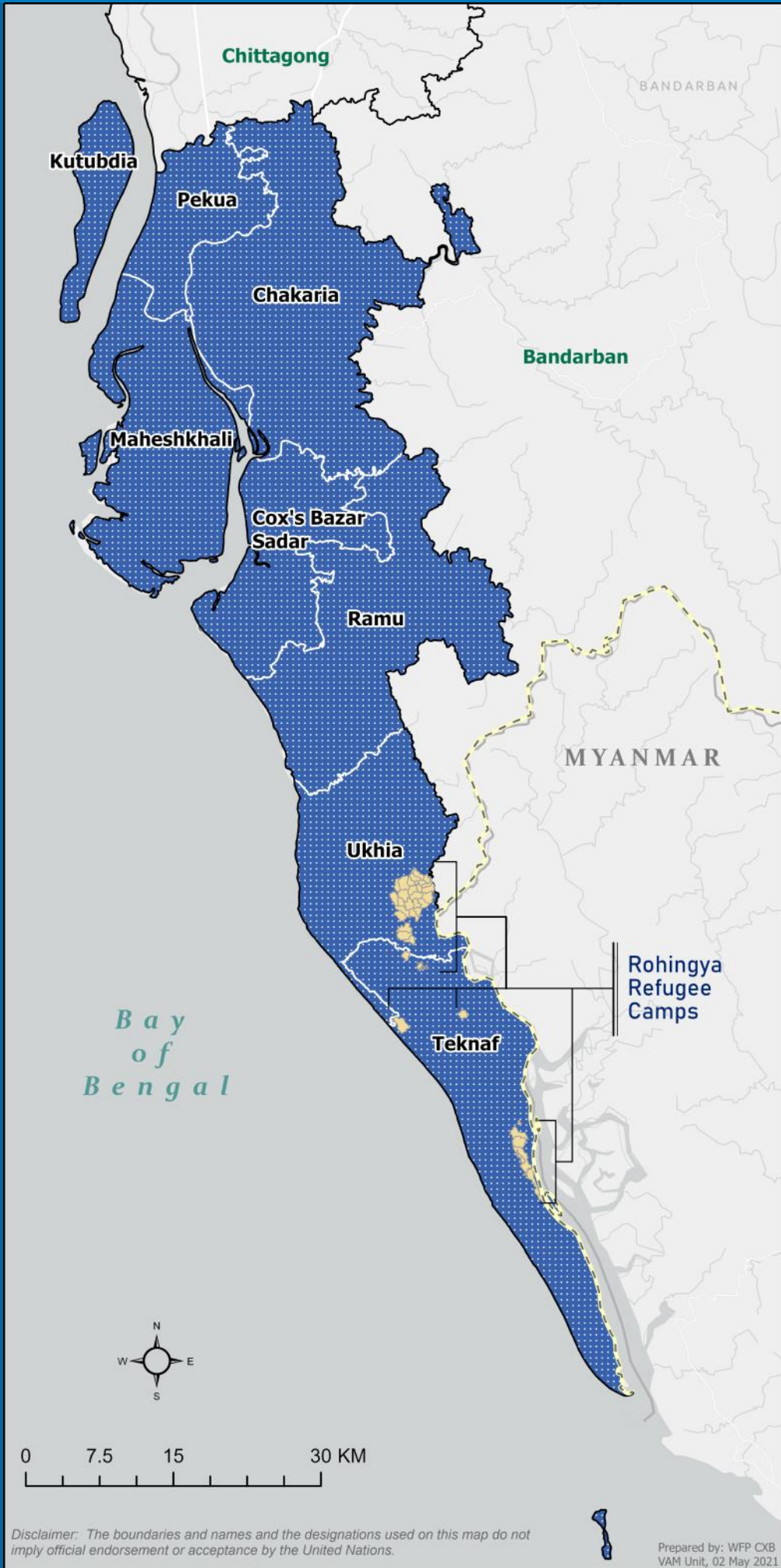
Inter-agency coordination via the Energy and Environment Technical Working Group

Coordinated reforestation activities

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

- All WFP e-voucher outlets have been plastic-free since November 2020 and WFP is working with its contracted retailers to further reduce and manage solid waste.
- Over half a million WFP food packets have been upcycled at Camp 15's upcycling centre.
- To integrate environmental considerations into programming, WFP conducted 339 environmental and social safeguards screenings.
- Together with FAO, WFP reforested over 70 hectares of land with over 254,200 seedlings.
- More than 10,400 youth volunteers and Rohingya Food Security Committee members undertook community-based environmental awareness campaigns.
- WFP improved solid waste management at its main office and hub to reduce waste generation and ensure waste is handled in line with Bangladesh's 2010 Reduce-Reuse-Recycle strategy and the WASH sector's solid waste management strategy.
- Through the Resilient Landscapes project launched in April, WFP integrates sustainable design into infrastructure around its assistance sites, and constructed a new, sustainable aggregation centre in the host community using an energy-efficient bamboo structure.

Cox's Bazar



Disclaimer: The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

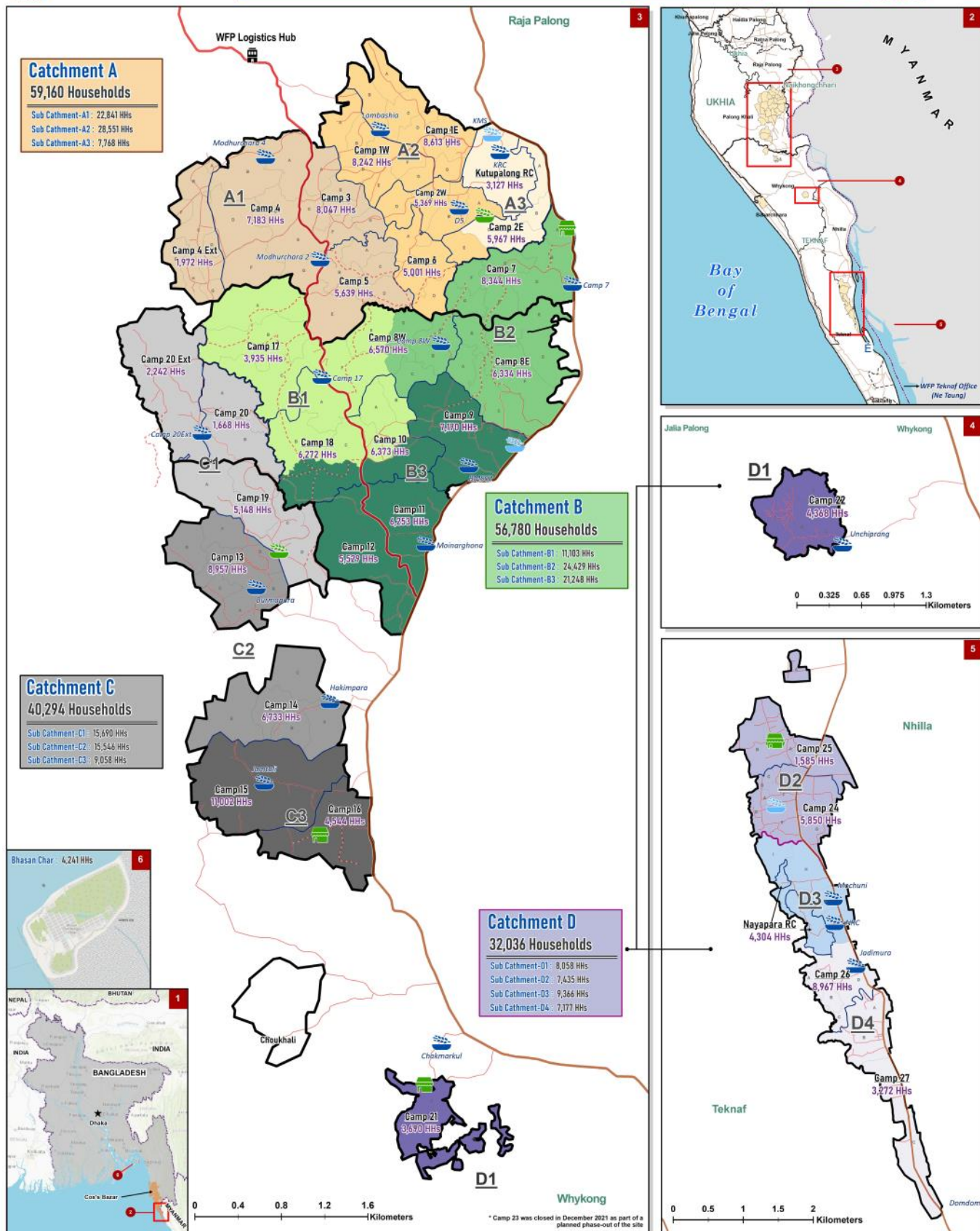
Prepared by: WFP CXB
VAM Unit, 02 May 2021

Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar



vam
food security analysis

WFP Operational Catchments 2022
COX'S BAZAR - BANGLADESH



Operational Retail Outlet
 Planned Retail Outlet
 Planned Retail In A Box (RIAB) Outlet
 Operational Retail In A Box (RIAB) Outlet
 Temporary Retail Outlet
 Camp Boundary
 Highway
 Army Road
 Secondary Road
 Proposed Road

WFP



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