



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
CHANGING
LIVES

WFP Bangladesh Country Brief April 2025



Anwar (leftmost) having a meal with her three children at their shelter in the Rohingya camps. ©WFP/Saikat Mojumder

In Numbers



1,290 mt food distributed



US\$20.5 million distributed in cash-based transfers



US\$8.1 million net funding requirements under the country strategic plan (May – October 2025)



1.2 million people assisted*



Operational Updates

Rohingya refugee response

- In April, WFP secured additional funding and averted severe ration cuts, maintaining full rations for all Rohingya refugees. Ration values were right-sized due to favourable exchange rates from US\$12.50 to US\$12 per person per month in Cox's Bazar, and from US\$15 to US\$13 on Bhasan Char.
- An estimated 150,000 new Rohingya refugees have arrived in recent months, with the number projected to reach 200,000 by the end of the year due to escalating violence in Myanmar. As the sole provider of monthly food assistance for the Rohingya population, WFP requires US\$86 million to sustain full food rations for those already in the camps for at least a year, along with an additional US\$2.9 million per month to support the growing number of new arrivals.
- To enhance dietary diversity for the most vulnerable, WFP has extended its US\$3 fresh food voucher assistance to Bhasan Char, targeting extremely vulnerable families and children aged 24–59 months. This initiative aligns with the existing support framework implemented in the Cox's Bazar camps, ensuring consistent access to nutritious food for those in need.
- WFP sustained school feeding for both refugee and Bangladeshi children. In Cox's Bazar, 226,000 refugee children in 3,919 learning centres and 11,600 children in 36 learning centres on Bhasan Char received fortified biscuits. WFP also supported 51,500 Bangladeshi children in 212 government schools across Ukhiya, Kutubdia, and Teknaf.
- As part of monsoon preparedness, WFP supported the Inter-Sector Coordination Group in organizing a workshop on landslide risk mitigation and planning for humanitarian partners engaged in the Rohingya response.

Emergency responses to 2024 Eastern Floods

- WFP has so far supported 45,640 flood-affected people with recovery assistance, including 12,480 people who received cash grants of up to BDT 20,000 (US\$172) to launch various income-generating activities, such as livestock, agriculture, fisheries, small trade, and tailoring.

Operational Context

WFP started operations in Bangladesh in 1974. Despite significant economic growth over the past decade, more than 26 percent - or 24 million people - are food insecure and 19 percent live below the national poverty line. Bangladesh is extremely vulnerable to natural hazards with most of the population residing in areas prone to floods and cyclones. The country strategic plan 2022-2026 reinforces WFP's commitment to working with the Government to improve food security, nutrition, and resilience of vulnerable communities, while also providing emergency assistance to people affected by disasters.

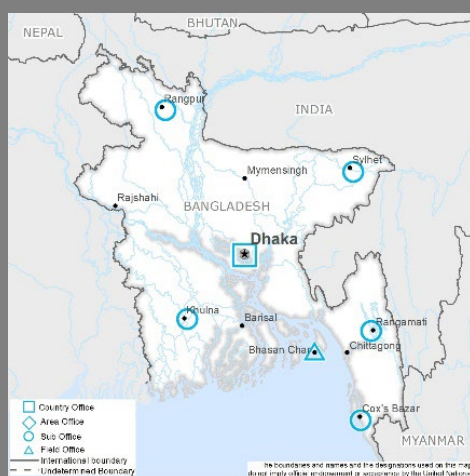
Since 2017, in response to the massive influx of the Rohingya people fleeing Myanmar, WFP has been providing critical food, nutrition, self-reliance, school feeding and disaster risk, reduction (DRR) assistance for the Rohingya population, including food assistance to new arrivals in Cox's Bazar. WFP also supports the Bangladeshi communities in Cox's Bazar, most vulnerable to food insecurity through longer-term nutrition, school feeding, livelihoods and DRR interventions. From late 2021, WFP has been supporting the Rohingya on Bhasan Char Island, now home to some 36,800 refugees who have been relocated from the camps in Cox's Bazar.

Population:
169 million people

Income Level:
Lower middle

2023-24 Human Development Index: **129 out of 193 countries**

Chronic malnutrition:
24% of children aged 6-59 months



Contact: Sharika Tafannum (sharika.tafannum@wfp.org)
Officer-in-Charge: Simone Parchment (simone.parchment@wfp.org)
Further information: wfp.org/countries/Bangladesh

* Distribution figures for April are subject to change following validation.

Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

Total Requirement (in US\$)	Allocated Contributions (in US\$)	Six-month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$)
1.56 b	1.07 bn	8.1 m

Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Outcome 1: Populations affected by crisis in Bangladesh are able to meet basic food, nutrition and other essential needs during and after crises.

Focus: Crisis response

Activity 1: Provide food, nutrition, and self-reliance assistance to crisis-affected populations.

Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Outcome 2: By 2026, the nutrition needs of women, children and vulnerable groups in Bangladesh are met through national institutions that have enhanced capacities to design and implement gender- and nutrition-sensitive social safety net programmes.

Focus: Root causes

Activity 2: Support national institutions in strengthening their capacity to design and implement inclusive and nutrition- and gender-sensitive safety net programmes to meet the nutrition needs of women, children and vulnerable groups.

Result 4: Food Systems are Sustainable

Outcome 3: By 2026, vulnerable communities in Bangladesh are more resilient to shocks and natural disasters owing to enhanced national disaster management capacity and flexible, nutrition- and gender-sensitive social safety net programmes.

Focus: Resilience building

Activity 3: Assist national institutions and communities in strengthening their capacity to implement inclusive, responsive and nutrition- and gender-sensitive safety net programmes and in disaster risk preparedness and response to protect the food security and nutrition of vulnerable populations.

Result 8: Sharing of knowledge, expertise and technology, strengthen global partnership support to country efforts to achieve the SDGs

Outcome 4: Vulnerable crisis-affected populations in Bangladesh benefit from enhanced coordination and improved common services during and after crises.

Focus: Crisis response

Activity 4: Provide coordination and common services to humanitarian and development partners and the Government.

Emergency preparedness

- Ahead of the upcoming flood and cyclone season, WFP has verified 80 percent of its 2025 target of 2.4 million people across climate-prone districts for inclusion in anticipatory action plans.
- The UN Central Emergency Response Fund (UNCERF) has allocated US\$10 million for WFP, FAO, UNFPA, and UNICEF to carry out early interventions. Additionally, WFP has committed US\$4.3 million from its corporate Anticipatory Action Trust Fund for a possible monsoon flood response.
- WFP conducted orientation sessions for standby partners in Dhaka and Sylhet on emergency protocols, coordination mechanisms, response phases, and partner responsibilities.

Nutrition based Programmes

- WFP is working with the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education to support the rollout of recently [approved](#) national school feeding programme that aims to reach 3.1 million children with a more nutritious menu. Preparatory activities include developing implementation guidelines, conducting a baseline study, organizing orientations for education officials, and carrying out a capacity gap analysis using the Systems Approach for Better Education Results (SABER) methodology.
- WFP and UNICEF supported the IPC Acute Malnutrition training and analysis, in collaboration with government partners, NGOs, and UN agencies.
- WFP supported the distribution of fortified rice under the government Food Friendly Programme (FFP), reaching 135,300 people across three sub-districts, in addition to the 12 million people that the Government reached across 251 sub-districts.

Social protection

- The Government has increased the coverage of the Mother and Child Benefit Programme (MCBP) from 1.5 million to 1.7 million people and raised the monthly cash transfer value from BDT 800 to BDT 850 (US\$7 approx.) for the next fiscal year, following WFP's sustained advocacy efforts.
- WFP and the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs conducted a joint field mission to Cox's Bazar and the Chittagong Hill Tracts to assess social protection challenges and opportunities. A follow-up workshop in Rangamati led to key learnings and the development of an action plan to strengthen the scale-up of the MCBP and the Vulnerable Women Benefit (VWB) Programme.

Donors

Australia, Bangladesh (World Bank), Canada, EU, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, UN CERF, FAO, World Meteorological Organization, USA, WFP multilateral funds and private donors.

New contributions were received from EU (INTPA), Japan, Luxemburg, New Zealand and UNICEF.



WFP launched its **2024 Annual Country Report**, capturing a year of unprecedented challenges and our collective efforts towards a hunger-free Bangladesh.

Scan the QR code or click [here](#) to read the full report

