



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Bangladesh Country Brief June 2025



Beneficiaries participated in income generating activities under the Cyclone Remal response. © Mehedi Rahman

Operational Context

WFP has been operating in Bangladesh since 1974. Despite notable economic progress, food insecurity remains a concern. Between May and December 2025, 16 million people (17% of the population) are projected to face IPC Phase 3 or above, including 400,000 in Emergency (IPC Phase 4). The situation is particularly severe among Rohingya refugees, with 20% in IPC Phase 4 in Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char.

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.

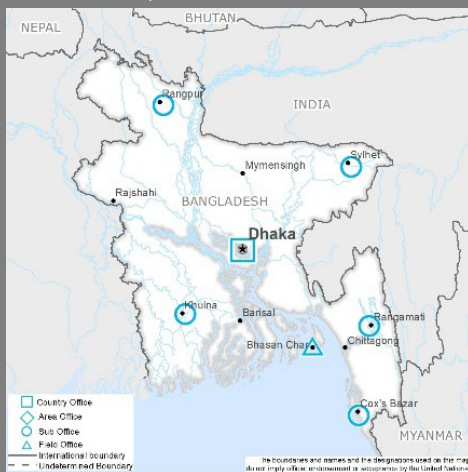
Since 2017, in response to the massive influx of the Rohingya people fleeing Myanmar, WFP has been providing critical food, nutrition, self-reliance, school feeding and disaster risk, reduction (DRR) assistance for the Rohingya population, including food assistance to new arrivals in Cox's Bazar. WFP 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 over 37,000 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



In Numbers



509 mt food distributed



US\$15.5 million distributed in cash-based transfers



US\$38.38 million net funding requirements under the country strategic plan (July – December 2025)



1.17 million people assisted*



Operational Updates

Emergency preparedness

- WFP led and coordinated a **national Early Warnings for All (EW4ALL) validation workshop**, bringing together 350 participants from government, UN agencies, and I/NGOs to finalize the EW4ALL implementation roadmap.
- Additionally, **WFP held a workshop to strengthen disaster forecasting** in Bangladesh, as part of the global EW4ALL initiative. In partnership with national and regional agencies, 15 experts came together to identify gaps and finalize a roadmap for better early warning systems.
- As co-lead of the **Anticipatory Action Technical Working Group**, WFP is coordinating the consolidation of flood anticipatory action plans from various agencies to strengthen alignment, improve coordination, and enhance operational impact.

Post-floods recovery support

- WFP continues to support flood-affected population through income-generating activity grants for their small businesses as part of the **2024 eastern flood recovery**. Through government and local networks, WFP helps these groups strengthen market linkages, grow their businesses, and address emerging challenges.

Rohingya refugee response

- The number of new arrivals has increased significantly**, now reaching 125,000, with the possibility of reaching 200,000 by the end of the year. The biometric identification exercise is ongoing. Assessments indicate that food assistance remains critical for the survival of newly arrived populations.
- WFP is providing **food assistance** to over 1 million Rohingya refugees, including newly registered individuals. To sustain this support, WFP urgently requires US\$126 million to extend assistance through June 2026.

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* Distribution figures for June 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	1.09 bn	38.38 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.

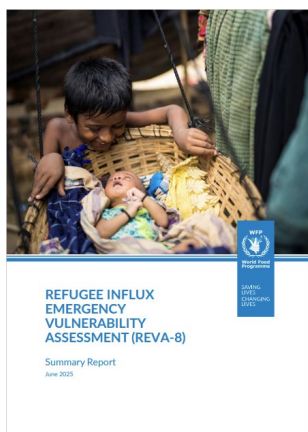
- To improve programme delivery efficiency, WFP changed the **specialized nutritious food (SNF) distributions** from monthly to bi-weekly for pregnant and breastfeeding women and children aged 6-24 months in the Rohingya camps. This change reduces the risk of sharing or selling by limiting the quantity received at once. SNF contents are now dispensed into containers, and empty sachets are retained and transformed into reusable items through WFP's upcycling project.
- Continuous rainfall has again triggered **flooding and landslides** in the Rohingya camps in Cox's Bazar. WFP has distributed some 70 cartons of fortified biscuits and over 14,700 packs of hot meals to more than 1,200 affected families.

Technical assistance

- WFP, UNICEF, and WHO have **jointly launched the Joint UN Initiative on Preventing Wasting (JUNIPr) initiative**, funded by the United Kingdom, to prevent wasting among children and mothers by enhancing access to essential nutrition and care services. The initiative was officially introduced through an inception workshop, chaired by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, which brought together representatives from the government, academia, and development partners to initiate the formative research phase.
- In collaboration with the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Academia and Research Network, WFP held a consultation to **co-design the Micronutrient Intervention Modelling Initiative (MIMI) analysis**, aimed at identifying where micronutrient deficiencies are most critical and what policy actions could have the greatest impact.
- WFP provided technical assistance to the Department of Women Affairs (DWA) to ensure timely and accurate monthly payments to over 1.7 million **Mother and Child Benefit Programme (MCBP)** beneficiaries. This included support with budget analysis, tracking expenditure and generating payroll. The efficient disbursement process enabled the Government of Bangladesh to qualify for a EUR 2 million (approximately BDT 230 million) grant from the European Union to strengthen MCBP implementation.
- WFP provided support to DWA in convening a Programme Implementation Committee meeting to **strengthen inter-ministerial coordination** among key stakeholders, including the Ministry of Health and Family Planning, the Ministry of Finance, and the Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives.

2025 donors and other funding sources

Australia, Bangladesh (World Bank), Belgium, Canada, China, WFP Changing Lives Transformation Fund, the European Union, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Lithuania, New Zealand, Norway, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom, United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund, the United States of America, UN Funds, and private donors.



The [recently released](#) Refugee Emergency Vulnerability Assessment (REVA 8) highlights persistent food insecurity, limited income opportunities, and growing reliance on negative coping strategies among Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar. The assessment points to the urgent need for sustained humanitarian support and improved access to essential services amid funding constraints.