



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

WFP Bangladesh Country Brief September 2025



Rohingya children smile as they receive fortified biscuits, thanks to the generous support of the United States. ©WFP

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 (crisis) level acute food insecurity or above, including 400,000 people classified as facing Emergency food insecurity (IPC Phase 4). The situation is particularly severe among Rohingya refugees, with 20% of the entire Rohingya refugee caseload 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 2022-2026 Country Strategic Plan 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 natural disasters and emergencies.

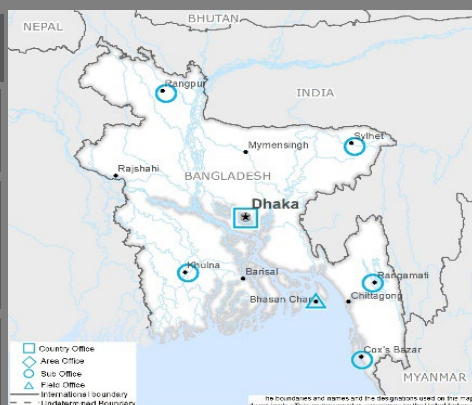
Since 2017, in response to the massive influx of Rohingya people fleeing Myanmar, WFP has been providing critical food, nutrition, resilience, school feeding and disaster risk reduction (DRR) assistance for the Rohingya population, including food assistance to new arrivals in Cox's Bazar. WFP also supports the most vulnerable/food insecure Bangladeshi communities in Cox's Bazar through longer-term nutrition, school feeding, livelihoods and DRR interventions. From late 2021, WFP has also 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



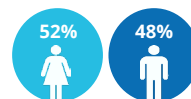
In Numbers

16,660.7 mt. food distributed

USD 9.26 million distributed in cash-based transfers

USD 68.48 million net funding requirements under the country strategic plan (Oct 2025 – Mar 2026)

1.2 million people assisted*



Operational Updates

Rohingya Refugee Response

- In September, WFP continued providing critical humanitarian assistance to over 1.1 million Rohingya refugees. To maintain Rohingya operations, WFP requires USD 144 million over the next 12 months. Of this, USD 126 million is required for lifesaving interventions, including: General Food Assistance – USD 112 million, Nutrition Support – USD 8 million, and Fresh Food Corner – USD 6 million.
- A malnutrition screening and deworming campaign was conducted across 33 refugee camps from 21 to 25 September, reaching over 160,000 children for screening and some 107,800 for deworming.
- In August and September, through its school feeding programme, WFP distributed high energy biscuits provided by the United States to children in the Rohingya camps as well as in host communities in Cox's Bazar and Chittagong Hill Tracts. A total of 332,057 children were reached, and 548 mt. of biscuits were distributed.

Resilience and Innovation

- Under the Shock-Responsive Social Protection (SRSP) programme, WFP is supporting 5,000 households across five coastal areas with the provision of Climate Risk Insurance, which is designed to protect vulnerable communities from the impacts of climate shocks. Around 1,500 households already receiving social protection assistance (e.g., engaged in income-generating activities or running small businesses), have received cash grants to further strengthen their resilience.
- WFP held a consultation on 24 September with the Department of Social Services on the development of a Joint Action Plan and Memorandum of Understanding, and an SRSP Standard Operating Procedures Dissemination Workshop with the Cabinet Division.

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

Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)

Total Requirement (in USD)	Allocated Contributions (in USD)	Six-month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)
1.56 bn	1.17 bn	68.48 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.

Funding sources

Government donors: Australia, Bangladesh (via the World Bank), Belgium, Canada, China, the European Union, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

Other funding sources: The United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and other UN funds, the WFP Changing Lives Transformation Fund, and private donors.

Technical Assistance

- WFP facilitated the participation of the Honourable Advisor to the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (MoPME), Prof. Dr. Bidhan Ranjan Roy Podder, and Mst. Noorjahan Khatun, Additional Secretary (Development) and focal person School Meals Coalition in the [School Meals Coalition \(SMC\) Global Summit](#), held on 18-20 September, in Fortaleza, Brazil.
- WFP facilitated sessions and presented at the [National Conference on Social Protection](#) (1–3 September).
- WFP and the Department of Women Affairs (DWA) jointly reviewed the Vulnerable Women Benefit Programme Implementation Guideline during a two-day workshop (21–22 September). Major revisions will be shared with senior officials of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and DWA for next steps.
- WFP, in collaboration with the SUN (Scaling Up Nutrition) Academia and Research Network, is currently conducting a Modelling and Mapping of the Risk of Inadequate Micronutrient Intake (MIMI) exercise. On 8 September, WFP conducted a capacity-building workshop with students and faculty members from the Institute of Nutrition and Food Science, University of Dhaka, in support MIMI analysis.
- As part of the ongoing Social and Behaviour Change (SBC) strategy, WFP tested innovative communication tools such as outdoor games in designated playgrounds and health education sessions at nutrition facilities - between 8 and 11 September, engaging both Bangladeshi and Rohingya communities. These tools were systematically assessed for contextual relevance and effectiveness, and findings will guide future programme rollouts upon finalization.
- As part of the Early Warnings for All (EW4All) initiative, WFP facilitated key engagements to strengthen early warning and anticipatory action (AA) linkages. On 17 September, WFP convened a plenary session during the [3rd National Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Action](#), bringing together over 220 key government and partner agencies.
- WFP also held a working group meeting on 18 September with the Department of Disaster Management and NGO Friendship to finalize a volunteer training manual integrating EW4All and Anticipatory Action.
- To protect coastal communities, WFP launched a cyclone-index insurance product covering the period from 1 October to 30 November 2025. As part of its capacity-building efforts, WFP trained 72 staff on index-based flood and cooperative self-help insurance, and oriented 145 members of the Upazila Disaster Management Committees during sessions held from 1–2 September in Sirajganj and 7–9 September in Cox's Bazar.