

WFP Bangladesh

COUNTRY BRIEF

March 2026

IN NUMBERS



1.193 million people assisted in February 2026; (52% female)



682.8 mt food distributed



USD 7.72M cash transferred



USD 109.5M required in the next six months (March – August 2026)

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- A total of 1.2 million people received WFP's assistance, including 1.14 million Rohingya refugees.
- Through school feeding, 29,000 Bangladeshi children across 149 government primary schools received nutritious daily snacks.
- WFP is implementing community-level flood risk insurance under the World Bank-financed Jamuna River Sustainable Management Project, in coordination with national stakeholders.
- WFP and the government expanded shock-responsive social protection (SRSP) by identifying more vulnerable upazilas and unions for inclusion.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

- WFP has been operating in Bangladesh since 1974. Despite impressive economic progress, food insecurity remains a concern. The IPC Acute Food Insecurity analysis of April 2025 indicated that between May and December 2025, 16 million people were projected to face Crisis-level (IPC Phase 3) or worse food insecurity, including 400,000 people - most of them Rohingya refugees - who were in Emergency (IPC Phase 4).
- 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 the food security, nutrition, and resilience of vulnerable communities, while also providing emergency assistance to people affected by emergencies.
- Since 2017, in response to the massive influx of Rohingya people fleeing Myanmar, WFP has been providing critical food, nutrition, resilience, school feeding assistance to the Rohingya population. WFP also supports food insecure Bangladeshi host communities in Cox's Bazar through nutrition, school feeding, livelihoods, and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) interventions.

OPERATIONAL UPDATES

Rohingya Refugee Response

- In February 2026, WFP delivered monthly food assistance to over 1.14 million Rohingya refugees, out of them, 28,395 are living in Bhasan Char.
- In response to fire incidents on 11, 13, and 17 February, WFP distributed 275 kg of fortified biscuits and 1,817 packs of hot meals to 349 affected people.
- WFP's wasting prevention and complimentary activities reached 79,100 children (6–59 months) and 36,500 pregnant and breastfeeding women, while treatment services reached 15,600 children (6–59 months) and 5,700 pregnant and breastfeeding women, along with 1,480 tuberculous patients. WFP conducted household-level screenings across Rohingya and Bangladeshi host communities, reaching 315,000 individuals. Among them, 4,500 were identified as malnourished and subsequently enrolled in treatment services.
- Through the school feeding programme, WFP distributed over 155 mt of fortified biscuits to nearly 248,000 Rohingya children (121,000 girls and 126,500 boys) across 4,221 learning centres in Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char.
- In Cox's Bazar, livelihood activities showed strong results: homestead and vertical gardening produced 27,732 kg of vegetables, benefiting 1,332 households, while pond bank cultivation yielded another 539 kg of vegetables. Fishponds generated 616 kg of fish for 134 households; and mushroom cultivation produced 61 kg mushrooms, which were shared among 121 households.

School-Based Assistance

- With support from the USDA McGovern-Dole International Food for Education and Child Nutrition Program, WFP provided nutritious snacks to 29,209 Bangladeshi school children across 149 government primary schools in Madhabpur, Habiganj District, Sylhet Division. A total of
- A total of 46 mt of diversified snacks including fortified biscuits, buns, ultra-high temperature milk, eggs, and bananas—were distributed. School attendance increased to 87

percent this month, up from 85 percent in January.

- 35 primary schools were selected to establish school gardens and Little Agriculturist Clubs. Farmer engagement expanded with 10 farmer groups (252 farmers) formed to support egg and banana production – representing 17 percent of planned groups – with full formation expected by April. Literacy efforts also progressed, with Grade 1 instruction training completed for all teachers across the 149 targeted schools.
- With WFP technical support, the Government Primary School Feeding Programme continued progressing, reaching 1.92 million students (over 60 percent of the total target) with nutritious school meals. Supplier selection for the remaining areas has been finalized, with implementation expected to begin in early April.

Social Protection

- WFP provided technical support to the Department of Women Affairs (under the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs) to enable its staff to prepare the monthly beneficiary payroll for 1.6 million beneficiaries under the Government's Mother and Child Benefit social safety net programme.
- WFP facilitated a coordination meeting on 15 February with 64 Deputy Directors from the Department of Women Affairs to develop an action plan aimed at achieving 30 percent urban enrolment during the 2025–26 fiscal year.
- With WFP's continued technical assistance, fortified rice reached 2.4 million people across 161 upazilas (subdistricts) under the Government Vulnerable Women Benefit Programme.

Resilience and Livelihood Support

- The Project Implementation Unit (PIU) of the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA) conducted a workshop on geographic and beneficiary targeting for the World Bank-financed Jamuna River Sustainable Management Project 1 on 18 February 2026. The event brought together key stakeholders, including representatives from the PIU, under the Ministry of Finance, the Department of Disaster Management (Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief), Bangladesh Water

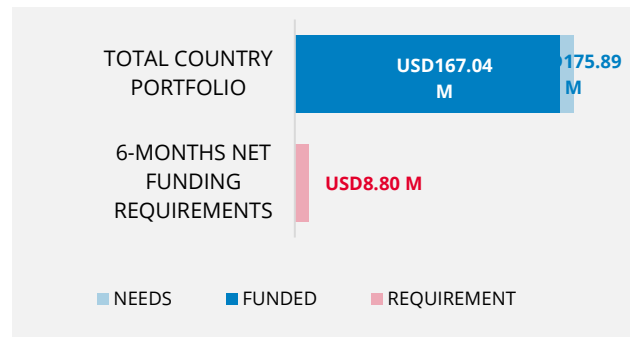
Development Board, and others. WFP participated as the implementing agency responsible for delivering community-level flood risk insurance products within Disaster Risk Financing Component 3 of the project.

- WFP organized a market linkage workshop in Kurigram on 11 February for livelihood programme participants under the aggregation centre model. The workshop served as a platform to connect producers with buyers. Following the workshop, 71 potential buyers were identified, and participants also gained insights into specific product and packaging requirements.
- In February, under the expansion of shock-responsive social protection (SRSP), WFP, in collaboration with three government ministries (Women and Children Affairs, Disaster Management and Relief; and Social Welfare) identified additional vulnerable upazilas and unions to be included. Orientation sessions were conducted for cooperating partner staff on SRSP design, database management, and beneficiary selection.



FUNDING OVERVIEW

Country Strategic Plan (2022-2026)



Funding sources

Government donors: Australia, Bangladesh (World Bank funding), 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, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and the United States of America, Portugal.

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

FOLLOW US ON



facebook.com/WFPinBangladesh



@wfp_bangladesh



@WFP_Bangladesh