Situation Update

- An estimated 688,000 people have crossed the border into Bangladesh since 25 August 2017. The Inter Sector Coordination Group reports that the number of arrivals is holding steady with no significant influx in recent weeks.
- The Governments of Bangladesh and Myanmar signed a repatriation plan on 16 January 2018 to begin a repatriation process lasting two years, beginning on 23 January.
- A vaccination campaign to tackle the diphtheria outbreak is ongoing. Between 8 November 2017 and 11 January 2018, 31 deaths and 3,954 suspected cases of diphtheria have been reported from Cox's Bazar. WHO, UNICEF and health sector partners are working with the Bangladesh Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to vaccinate more than 475,000 children.

WFP Response

- WFP with the Food Security Sector undertook a Refugee influx Emergency Vulnerability Assessment (REVA) which showed that increased food assistance efforts have made a significant difference, reaching 91 percent of Rohingya refugees.
- On 9 September, WFP began distributing general food distributions, since round seven, rations have been adjusted to fit family size. 196,180 households (both 2016 and 2017 influx) have received food assistance. WFP is operating in 19 distribution points across Cox's Bazar, providing food to 1,500-2,400 households at each distribution point.
- WFP has distributed micronutrient fortified biscuits to 298,400 people (as of 21 January).
- WFP provides rice to Action Contre la Faim (ACF), who, in turn, provide hot meals of khichuri (rice and lentil porridge) to newly arrived families. This partnership fills the gap between distributions of fortified biscuits and a full ration. Community kitchens and mobile teams are feeding 50,000 people daily.
- WFP, in collaboration with UNHCR and IOM is planning to undertake engineering efforts to upgrade infrastructure within the camps in light of the upcoming monsoon season.

Food and Nutrition Assistance

- WFP plans to continue providing micronutrient fortified biscuits to families as they arrive.
- Households will continue to be provided with a food basket containing 30kg rice, 9kg pulses and 3 litres of fortified vegetable oil. The food basket is augmented to suit family size, with small families (1-3 members) receiving one food basket per month, medium families (4-7 members) receiving two food baskets per month, and large families (8+ members) receiving double rations twice per month. WFP will also continue supplying ACF with rice for hot meals.
- WFP is scaling up its nutritional outreach to serve over 237,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women by February. 12 new blanket supplementary feeding sites have been established, bringing the total number of sites to 16 with additional sites pending. To date, 122,000 pregnant and breastfeeding women and children under 5 years have enrolled onto the blanket supplementary feeding programme (BSFP) to receive SuperCereals.
- WFP plans to begin a gradual transition from in-kind food assistance to e-vouchers for the new arrivals. WFP has completed its beneficiary data collection exercise in Teknaf of the new arrivals for entry onto the WFP SCOPE platform, with 80,000 people enrolled. The exercise is ongoing in Ukhiya in 2 sites.
Logistics Sector

• A logistics hub has been established to enhance storage capacity and support the delivery of humanitarian aid. The hub is comprised of 16 mobile storage units (MSUs) with a total capacity of 6,400 m³.


Food Security Sector

• The Food Security Sector is coordinating general distributions with complementary sector members. The sector is further supporting WFP VAM to coordinate market price monitoring with sector partners.

Emergency Telecommunications Sector

• The Emergency Telecommunications Sector is engaging with the Communicating with Communities (CwC) Working Group to develop the 'ETC Connect’ mobile app, which will be used as a feedback mechanism to humanitarian organizations.

Resourcing Update

• The UN has released a revised response plan for US$434 million to assist 1.2 million people until February 2018.

• WFP’s budget for the first phase of the response is US$88.55 million to assist 1.009 million people: 700,000 new arrivals, 75,000 pre-August influx, 34,000 registered refugees, and 200,000 impacted host community members until February 2018.

• WFP requires a combined total of US$3.7 million for the Logistics Sector (US$3.03 million) and Emergency Telecommunications Sector (US$0.65 million) until February 2016.

• WFP has secured US$62.8 million for Phase I of the response to date, with a further US$20.3 million pledged or at proposal stage. Preliminary estimates for the Phase II budget indicate that US$20 million per month through to the end of 2018 is required. WFP has confirmed the following contributions:
  • US$7.2 million from Denmark
  • US$8.9 million from Australia (US$ 1.5 million allocated to Phase II response)
  • US$15 million from Japan (US$ 6.2 million allocated to Phase II response)
  • US$5.9 million from Germany
  • US$2.4 million from Canada
  • US$2.7 million from Norway

• Through the United Nations Resident Coordinator’s Office, WFP participated in a joint Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) application and has received a total of US$4.9 million in two rounds.

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