



Girls on their way to the learning centre in the Rohingya refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh on 9 July, 2023.

unicef 
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Humanitarian Action for Children

Bangladesh

HIGHLIGHTS

In 2023, Bangladesh experienced various emergencies that have necessitated the revisions to the HAC 2023 (Cyclone Mocha, Chittagong floods Floods and the Dengue Outbreak). In addition, the Rohingya Refugee Crisis Joint Response Plan 2023 was developed, with new planning figures. The funding requirement and program targets for 2023 have therefore been revised due to these contextual changes as stated below:

- Bangladesh hosts 963,038 Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar District, including 500,780 children. This includes 30,607 Rohingya refugees relocated to Bhasan Char Island¹.
- Cyclone Mocha (May 2023) affected 334,620 Bangladeshi nationals in Cox's Bazar District and 36,907 Rohingya refugees in camps.
- Floods and landslides in Chittagong and Cox's Bazar affected 1.3 million people².
- The ongoing Dengue outbreak has affected 121,500 people (August 2023), 19% children (0-15 yrs) and with 576 deaths (12% children (0-15 yrs))³ reported.
- UNICEF is appealing for US\$173.5 million to provide child-focused and gender-sensitive humanitarian assistance in the areas of water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), health, nutrition, child protection and education for refugees, host communities and the most vulnerable people at risk of dengue, floods and cyclones for 2023.

KEY PLANNED TARGETS



1.7 million

children and women accessing primary healthcare



2.9 million

children/caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support



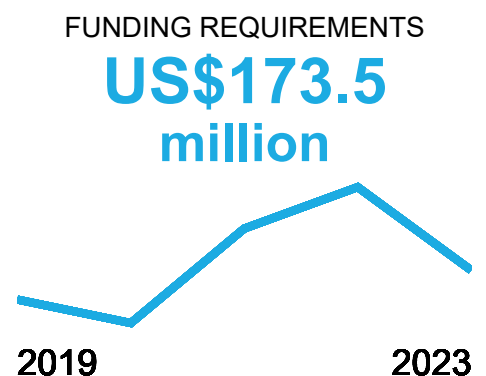
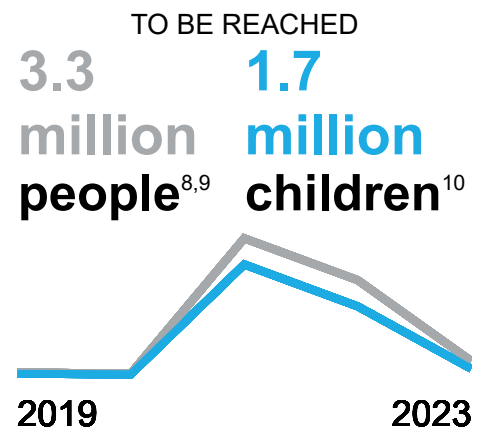
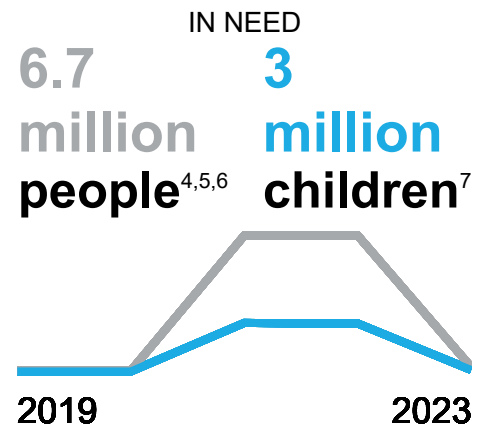
605,833

children receiving individual learning materials



643,491

people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water



Figures are provisional and subject to change based on the humanitarian situation.

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND NEEDS

Bangladesh is facing a complex humanitarian situation due to the protracted Rohingya crisis, recurrent natural disasters, including the recent dengue outbreak. Large-scale forced displacement of Rohingyas occurred following violence in Rakhine State in 1978, 1992, 2012, and again in 2016, with by far the largest forced displacement taking place in 2017. As of 31 August 2023, Bangladesh hosts 963,038 Rohingya refugees, including 500,780 children and 30,607 relocated to Bhasan Char Island.

Refugees are residing in 33 extremely congested camps formally designated by the Government of Bangladesh in Cox's Bazar District, as well as on the island of Bhasan Char. Women, girls and boys, who make up the majority of the Rohingya refugee/Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMN) population, are particularly vulnerable to risks of abuse, exploitation, and gender-based violence (GBV). Children make up more than half the refugee population and have been disproportionately affected by the crisis due to physical, psychological, and social vulnerabilities (JRP 2022).

Of late, the Rohingya response has faced financial challenges with funding. For example, food rations being reduced by WFP from \$12 per HH in 202 to \$6 per HH now. WFP's decrease to the voucher value has, as expected, resulted in a negative impact on nutrition among refugee children, where 12% of children were acutely malnourished and 41% of children were chronically malnourished (March 2023).

In May 2023, Cyclone Mocha made landfall and a total of 334,620 Bangladeshi nationals were affected in Cox's Bazar Districts and 36,907 Rohingya refugees living in camps had their shelters damaged or destroyed¹¹. More than 110,000 (47,906 children) people lost access to clean drinking water and other sanitation and hygiene services.

In August 2023, the heavy rains triggered flash floods and landslides across Chittagong¹². In Cox's Bazar, approximately 538,373 people (including 25,533 in Rohingya camps and 185,200 children) were exposed after the floods and landslides, while nearly 85,500 people (3,500 children and 3,974 Rohingya refugees) were displaced and sheltered in temporary flood shelters. 22 people including 12 children died in Cox's Bazar district in August 2023.

Additionally, Bangladesh is facing the worst dengue outbreak in its history. As of 30 August 2023, 121,500 dengue cases (19% children (0-15 yrs) have been infected, with 576 deaths (12% children(0-15 yrs)). According to WHO, the mosquito-borne disease has spread to all 64 districts in Bangladesh.

SECTOR NEEDS¹³



2.4 million children in need of immunization services¹⁴



24,419 children in need of severe wasting treatment¹⁵



3 million children need psychosocial support¹⁶



2.7 million children in need of education support¹⁷



6.3 million people lack access to safe WASH services¹⁸

STORY FROM THE FIELD



She had a high fever and tested dengue-positive upon admission to the children's ward. Currently, she is receiving treatment and being monitored.

[Read more about this story here](#)

Three-year-old Raiseen was brought to the Mugda Medical College and Hospital, Mugda, Dhaka on 27 July 2023.

UNICEF will reach crisis-affected populations in Bangladesh with an integrated package of life-saving services that includes health, nutrition, WASH, Education and Child Protection services, humanitarian cash grants and risk communication and community engagement activities. UNICEF will invest in preparedness, build communities' resilience, and strengthen humanitarian and development nexus.

UNICEF is part of the interagency Rohingya Refugee Crisis Joint Response Plan 2023, which focuses on the refugee response in Cox's Bazar District, including meeting the humanitarian needs of those refugees who have been relocated to Bhasan Char. In response to the refugee crisis (Rohingya Camps and Bhasan Char), UNICEF will support the continuity of services in all sectors, with a specific focus on 1) scaling up the Myanmar Curriculum; 2) maintaining resilient water, sanitation and hygiene promotion; 3) enhancing primary health care and improving the coverage of immunization services; 4) expanding the community-based nutrition programme; and 5) supporting community-based structures to identify vulnerable children in need of protection and provide them with adequate care and psychosocial support.

UNICEF accessed funds from the Today and Tomorrow initiative towards Cyclone Mocha, evidence of the practical effectiveness of the disaster risk financing to benefit children. UNICEF will continue focusing on Anticipatory Action as a key component of our preparedness actions. Beyond the Rohingya crisis, and in response to the cyclones, floods and dengue outbreak, UNICEF is strengthening the capacity of the Disaster Management Committees (DMCs) at the divisional level to improve their preparedness and response capacities and plans. The findings from a recent Climate Landscape Analysis for Children (CLAC) in 2022 from the report will be considered for implementation in 2024. UNICEF is supporting the Government in innovating climate resilient safe water supply and sanitation facilities that are more adaptive to the changing climate context and lead to social and behavioral changes in cyclone/floods affected areas and dengue hotspots. UNICEF is supporting partners in keeping schools and learning centres operational by providing learning materials and supporting the roll-out of SOP implementation for dengue outbreak. UNICEF is strengthening social workers' capacity to prevent, report and respond to cases of violence against children and women in cyclone/floods and dengue affected areas. UNICEF is advocating for health system capacity strengthening, effective case management, mortality audit and implementation of the audit recommendations while also assisting the Government in sustaining the quality of nutrition services at the cyclone/floods affected areas, facilitating the treatment of children with severe wasting to strengthen nutrition service delivery in community clinics.

UNICEF will continue leading the nutrition, WASH and child protection sectors/clusters and co-leading the education sector/cluster and actively contributing to Access Working Group (AWG), Emergency Preparedness and Response Working Group (EPRWG), Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (DRRWG), Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) Working Group and co-lead the AAP Working Group. UNICEF will prioritize gender responsiveness and community engagement to ensure the participation of women, girls, and persons with disabilities in decision-making, and to ensure accountability to the affected population. Preventing sexual exploitation and abuse and strengthening mechanisms for reporting and for supporting survivors will be prioritized. UNICEF will also work with the Government and civil society organizations to strengthen the localization approach and humanitarian-development nexus through integrating build back better principles following HCTT's nexus strategy.

This appeal is aligned with the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, which are based on global standards and norms for humanitarian action.



Health²¹

- **1,747,167** children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities²²
- **1,012,073** children aged 0 to 11 months who have received pentavalent 3 vaccine²³
- **43,026** children and adults who were treated for dengue in UNICEF supported health facilities²⁴
- **550** healthcare providers trained in detecting, referral and appropriate management of dengue cases²⁵



Nutrition²⁶

- **10,172** children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment²⁷
- **200,508** primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling²⁸



Child protection, GBViE and PSEA

- **2,901,078** children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support²⁹
- **1,191,772** women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions³⁰
- **1,159,185** people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations³¹



Education

- **353,457** children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning³²
- **605,833** children receiving individual learning materials³³



Water, sanitation and hygiene³⁴

- **643,491** people accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs³⁵
- **528,491** people accessing appropriate sanitation services³⁶
- **1,600** volunteers/government staff trained on effective WASH responses for dengue³⁷



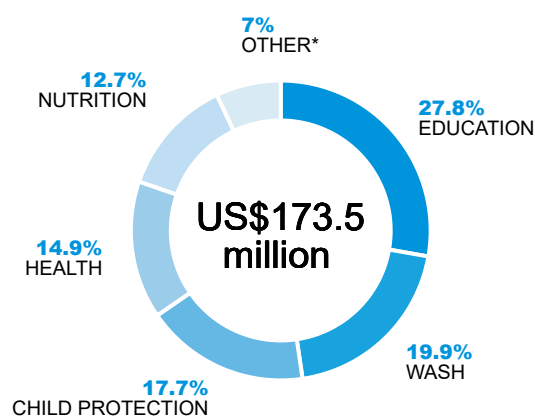
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)

- **5,000** households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers across sectors³⁸
- **1,364,864** people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services³⁹
- **116,418** people sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms⁴⁰
- **155,000** people engaged in discussion and prevention actions on Dengue⁴¹

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2023

UNICEF's revised appeal requirement is US\$173.5 million to support the continuity of life-saving services and meet the needs of vulnerable populations. The HAC appeal has decreased by US\$0.35 million to align with the funding requirements under the Rohingya Refugee Crisis Joint Response Plan 2023, Cyclone Mocha flash appeal and case for funding for Dengue Outbreak. The health, education and WASH funding requirement have increased due to the new programme targets for dengue response while the child protection and gender-based violence, cross-sectoral have decreased as the anticipated monsoon massive floods did not occur in 2023. Essential water, sanitation and hygiene, nutrition, health, education, child protection and gender-based violence prevention and response services, along with humanitarian cash transfers, will be provided at scale.

This appeal includes the US\$129.1 million required to support critical needs of Rohingya refugees and host communities in Cox's Bazar District and in Bhasan Char. The other US\$44.3 million will support work linked to the inter-agency Nexus Strategy for climate-related disasters and dengue outbreak. With the increasing frequency and intensity of climate-related disasters, urgent donor support will be life-saving for the children and families in Bangladesh.



Appeal sector	Revised 2023 HAC requirement (US\$)
Health	25,818,757
Nutrition	22,026,730
Child protection	30,774,603
Education	48,184,253
WASH	34,521,320
Cross-sectoral	5,159,100
Emergency Preparedness	7,000,000
Total	173,484,763

*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions : Emergency Preparedness (4.0%), Cross-sectoral (3.0%).

Appeal sector	Original 2023 HAC requirement (US\$)	Revised 2023 HAC requirement (US\$)	Funds available (US\$)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health	25,698,387	25,818,757	18,060,941	7,757,816	30.0%
Nutrition	22,026,730	22,026,730	16,803,507	5,223,223	23.7%
Child protection	33,930,737	30,774,603	10,930,823	19,843,780	64.5%
Education	46,269,606	48,184,253	35,624,570	12,559,683	26.1%
WASH	32,430,036	34,521,320	22,378,093	12,143,227	35.2%
Cross-sectoral	6,482,690	5,159,100	1,824,252	3,334,848	64.6%
Emergency Preparedness	7,000,000	7,000,000	4,924,916	2,075,084	29.6%
Total	173,838,186	173,484,763	110,547,102	62,937,661	36.3%

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ENDNOTES

1. UNHCR Population Factsheet (as of 31 August 2023)
2. CHATTOGRAM DIVISION FLASH FLOODS AND MONSOON RAIN HCTT Humanitarian Response Plan 2023 (August 2023-January 2024)
3. the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of Bangladesh
4. UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children; and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.
5. In line with the Nexus Strategy, the total people in need includes 5,180,000 people in Bangladesh affected by natural hazards (4,040,000 in 20 flood-prone districts, 1,140,000 in 11 cyclone-prone districts); 962,416 Rohingya refugees, including 30,456 in Bhasan Char, based on the Joint Government of Bangladesh-UNHCR Population fact sheet (as of 31 July 2023); and 541,021 people Ukhiya and Teknaf Upazila in Cox's Bazar District host community, based on the Rohingya Refugee Response Joint Response 2023.
6. After the revision, 18,887 People in Need and 10,821 Children in Need have increased, respectively.
7. In line with the Nexus Strategy, the number of children in need includes 2,241,386 children in Bangladesh affected by natural hazards (1,748,108 in 20 flood-prone districts and 493,278 in 11 cyclone-prone districts); 234,100 children in Cox's Bazar District host communities, based on the Joint Government of Bangladesh-UNHCR Population fact sheet (as of 31 July 2023); and 500,456 Rohingya refugee children living in Bangladesh (including those in Bhasan Char), based on the population fact sheet.
8. The total number of people to be reached is 3,332,140 (51 per cent women and girls, 2.8 per cent people with disabilities and 370,389 Rohingya refugees including children). This is the sum of the maximum number of people to be reached across the programme in flood- and cyclone-prone areas, refugee camps and host communities (1,464,605 adults receiving mental health and psychosocial support in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, 74,314 adults receiving health consultations in Cox's Bazar District host communities, 142,314 adult having access to safe water in refugee camps and Bhasan Char and 1,650,907 children receiving services through all UNICEF interventions).
9. The targets for 2023 have been reduced as the anticipated monsoon floods did not occur in 2023.
10. The total number of children to be reached is 1,650,907 (50 per cent girls, 2.8 per cent children with disabilities and 228,075 Rohingya refugee children). This is the sum of the maximum number of children to be reached across the programme in flood- and cyclone-prone areas, refugee camps and host communities (1,344,832 children receiving health consultations in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, 78,000 children receiving mental health and psychosocial support in Cox's Bazar District host communities, 211,000 children receiving learning materials in Rohingya camps, 17,075 having access to safe water in Bhasan Char). UNICEF is committed to needs-based targeting, which means covering the unmet needs of children, and will serve as the provider of last resort where it has cluster coordination responsibilities.
11. CYCLONE MOCHA FLASH APPEAL BANGLADESH
12. Bangladesh Country Office Humanitarian Situation Report No.01 and Bangladesh: Chattogram Division Flash Flood and Monsoon Rain 2023 Situation Report No. 01
13. Sector targets from JRP 2023 haven't been released in the Monitoring Framework to guide Sector targets in 2023. Therefore, those used in 2022 are remained in revised HAC 2023.
14. This includes 31,173 Rohingya refugee children aged 0-11 months living in refugee camps and in Bhasan Char, based on the Rohingya Refugee Crisis Joint Response Plan 2022; 84,346 children in host communities; and 2,241,386 Bangladeshi children under 1 year of age in flood- and cyclone-prone areas, based on the Nexus Strategy.
15. This includes 12,291 Rohingya refugee children aged 6-59 months in Cox's Bazar District and in Bhasan Char and 1,045 children in the host community, based on the Rohingya Refugee Crisis Joint Response Plan 2022; and 10,365 Bangladeshi children aged 6-59 months in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, based on the Nexus Strategy. The total target includes 575 children with a disability.
16. This includes 2,241,386 children in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, based on the Nexus Strategy; 317,224 children in Cox's Bazar District host communities, based on the Rohingya Refugee Crisis Joint Response Plan 2022; and 410,539 refugee children living in Bangladesh, based on the Joint Government of Bangladesh-UNHCR Population fact sheet (as of 31 August 2022).
17. This includes 2,029,798 school-age children in flood- and cyclone-prone districts in Bangladesh, based on the Nexus Strategy; 426,785 school-age refugee children, including those in Bhasan Char; and 228,240 school-age children of affected host communities in Cox's Bazar District.
18. This includes 5,180,000 people in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, based on the Nexus Strategy; 943,529 Rohingya refugees, including those in Bhasan Char; and 200,000 members of affected host communities, based on the Rohingya Refugee Crisis Joint Response Plan 2022.
19. This appeal is aligned with the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, which are based on global standards and norms for humanitarian action.
20. UNICEF is committed to empowering local responders in humanitarian crises in a variety of ways. The revised Core Commitments made investing in strengthening the capacities of local actors in the humanitarian response a mandatory benchmark for UNICEF action in line with the Grand Bargain. A more localized response will improve humanitarian action and is fundamental to achieving better accountability to affected populations.
21. The target of primary healthcare has been reduced as the anticipated monsoon floods did not occur in 2023.
22. This includes 1,344,832 children (51 per cent girls) and 129,500 women in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, based on the Nexus Strategy; 108,199 Rohingya refugee children (48 per cent girls) and 47,478 women, including in Bhasan Char; and 117,158 children and women in affected host communities in Cox's Bazar District. The total target includes 45,265 children with disabilities.
23. This includes 896,554 Bangladeshi children (51 per cent girls, 2.80 per cent children with disabilities) aged 0-11 months in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, based on the Nexus Strategy; 31,173 Rohingya refugee children (52 per cent girls), including in Bhasan Char; and 84,346 children aged 0-11 months in affected host communities in Cox's Bazar District. The total target includes 27,777 children with disabilities.
24. This includes 27,083 Bangladeshi children (25 per cent girls, 2.8 per cent children with disabilities) at national level and 115 Rohingya refugee children (6 per cent girls, 1.4 per cent children with disabilities) in Rohingya camps; 14,590 adults at national level and 1,238 Rohingya Refugee in Rohingya camps are included. The total target includes 1,187 people with disabilities.
25. This includes 550 healthcare providers (50 per cent women) trained in detecting, referral and appropriate management of cases.
26. The targets have factored in the impact of the WFP food ratio cuts.
27. This includes 1,886 children (51 per cent girls, 2.8 per cent children with disabilities) aged 6-59 months in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, based on the Nexus Strategy; 7,554 Rohingya refugee children (52 per cent girls), including in Bhasan Char; and 732 children in affected host communities in Cox's Bazar District. The total target includes 200 children with disabilities.
28. This includes 77,700 women (2.8 per cent with disabilities) in flood- and cyclone-prone districts as per the Nexus Strategy; 51,808 Rohingya refugee women (1 per cent with disability), and 71,000 women in affected host communities in Cox's Bazar District. The total target includes 3,938 children with disabilities.
29. The target includes 161,867 Rohingya refugees (including 7,500 in Bhasan Char) in camps and 150,000 people from the host community in Cox's Bazar District to be reached under the Joint Response Plan 2023; and 2,581,711 Bangladeshi children and parents/caregivers (50 per cent female, 2.8 per cent people with disabilities) in flood- and cyclone-prone districts. In late 2022, the Child Protection Sub-Sector embarked on a rationalization effort, aimed at optimizing effective operations centered on consolidating resources, focusing on two partners per camp for ensuring quality programme responses. Simultaneously, UNICEF progressively bolstered the localization approach, gradually phasing out the involvement of International Non-Governmental Organizations and strengthening the Department of Social Services presence in camps. Consequently, UNICEF's presence within the camps underwent a reduction from 24 to 16 camps. As a result of these initiatives, UNICEF's operational scope has contracted, prompting a revision of mental health and psychosocial support interventions within the camps.
30. The target includes 23,928 Rohingya refugee children and women in the camps (including 2,550 in Bhasan Char) and 7,524 children and women from the host community in Cox's Bazar District to be reached under the Joint Response Plan; and 1,160,320 Bangladeshi children and women (79 per cent female, 2.8 per cent people with disabilities) in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, based on the Nexus Strategy.
31. The calculation is based on 660,470 Rohingya refugees (52 per cent female) in the camps, including 18,230 in Bhasan Char; 378,715 people (51 per cent female) from host communities in Cox's Bazar District to be reached, based on the 2023 Joint Response Plan; and 120,000 Bangladeshi people (50 per cent female, 2.8 per cent people with disabilities) in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, based on the Nexus Strategy. This target is based on the availability of various safe reporting channels and community-based mechanisms, among other channels.
32. The target includes 129,945 Bangladeshi children (aged 4-18 years) in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, based on the Nexus Strategy; 211,000 Rohingya refugee children and adolescents in Cox's Bazar District camps, and in Bhasan Char (6,187), who will access the Myanmar Curriculum and life skills education. Another 6,325 vulnerable children and adolescents from the host community will be supported through accelerated ability-based learning and vocational education skills training.
33. The target includes 389,833 Bangladeshi children (aged 4-18 years) from flood- and cyclone-prone districts; 211,000 Rohingya refugee children and adolescents in camps in Cox's Bazar District and in Bhasan Char (5,000). The Bangladeshi children will be reached with individual learning materials as a way to continue their education.
34. The target of accessing safe water has been reduced as the anticipated monsoon floods did not occur in 2023.
35. This includes 320,000 people (50 per cent female, 2.8 per cent people with disabilities) in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, based on the Nexus Strategy; 298,491 Rohingya refugees (52 per cent children, 52 per cent female) in eight camps of UNICEF's area of responsibility, including in Bhasan Char; and 25,000 people in affected host communities in Cox's Bazar District. The total target includes 12,645 people with disabilities.
36. This includes 80,000 people (50 per cent female, 2.8 per cent people with disabilities) in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, based on the Nexus Strategy; 298,491 Rohingya refugees (52 per cent children, 51 per cent female) in eight camp's of UNICEF's area of responsibility, including in Bhasan Char; and 150,000 people in affected host communities in Cox's Bazar District. The total target includes 9,425 people with disabilities.
37. This includes 1,000 volunteers/government staff (50 per cent female) at national level, 500 volunteers/government staff (50 per cent female) in Rohingya Camps including Bhasan Char and 100 volunteers/government staff (50 per cent female) in affected host communities in Cox's Bazar District.
38. The target includes 5,000 households/families with children aged 0-4 years in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, based on the Nexus Strategy. UNICEF will apply the government's selection criteria for mother and child benefits to identify beneficiaries who will receive the humanitarian cash transfer in flood- and cyclone-prone districts.
39. This includes 715,000 people (50 per cent female, 2.8 per cent people with disabilities) in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, based on the Nexus Strategy; 499,864 Rohingya refugees (43 per cent children, 52 per cent female); and 150,000 people in affected host communities in Cox's Bazar District. The total target includes 27,209 people with disabilities.
40. This includes 8,348 people (50 per cent female, 2.8 per cent people with disabilities) in flood- and cyclone-prone districts, based on the Nexus Strategy; 86,000 Rohingya refugees (One per cent children, 60 per cent female); and 22,070 people of affected host communities in Cox's Bazar District. The total target includes 1,416 people with disabilities.
41. This includes 5,000 people (50 per cent female, 2.8 per cent people with disabilities) at national level and 150,000 Rohingya refugees (43 per cent children, 52 per cent female) in Rohingya camps. The total target includes 1,640 people with disabilities.
42. UNICEF will maintain and expand support for continuity of services within the targeted 20 flood-prone districts and 11 cyclone-prone districts, and in Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar District and in Bhasan Char.
43. UNICEF will maintain and expand support for continuity of services within the targeted 20 flood-prone districts and 11 cyclone-prone districts, and in Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar District and in Bhasan Char.