



UNICEF Bangladesh/2019/Chakma

## Bangladesh

Since August 2017, over 730,000 Rohingya, including 400,000 children, have fled violence in Myanmar and settled in Cox's Bazar District, Bangladesh.<sup>1</sup> Since then, with government and humanitarian partner support, refugees have gained access to basic services. The refugees remain highly dependent on short-term aid, however, and are living in precarious conditions, particularly in congested camps. These conditions and poor knowledge of hygiene practices are putting camp inhabitants at high risk of disease. Over 6,000 children identified as unaccompanied and separated are at risk of trafficking, early marriage and sexual exploitation.<sup>2</sup> Forty-nine per cent of girls and 44 per cent of women feel unsafe when using latrines.<sup>3</sup> Despite the progress made towards increasing access to emergency education, 9 per cent of children aged 4 to 14 years and 81 per cent of young people aged 15 to 24 years lack access to learning/skills opportunities.<sup>4</sup> These adolescents/youth face specific risks exacerbated by lack of education, occupational training and safe livelihood opportunities. In addition, heavy rains in July 2019 resulted in flooding across half of the country, affecting nearly 7.6 million people.<sup>5</sup> A Humanitarian Response Plan targeting nine districts was launched in August in consultation with the Government to address these needs.

### Humanitarian strategy

UNICEF's humanitarian response in Bangladesh is aligned with the 2019 Joint Response Plan and the Humanitarian Response and Recovery Plan. In cooperation with the Government and partners, UNICEF will continue to link its humanitarian response and development programmes to achieve sustainable results. UNICEF is delivering life-saving, multi-sectoral services wherever possible, while strengthening national service delivery and promoting social cohesion in host communities. This includes providing water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services; providing health services for children and pregnant women; facilitating treatment for children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM); supporting access to quality education;<sup>6</sup> reaching children affected by violence, abuse and neglect with prevention and assistance; and preventing gender-based and sexual violence and supporting survivors. The specific needs of adolescents – particularly occupational and life-skills training – will be prioritized. UNICEF will continue to invest in preparedness and accountability to affected populations. The response to flooding will include capacity and partnership building with the Government and non-governmental organizations to deliver life-saving WASH services and ensure learning spaces for children. UNICEF will continue to lead the nutrition sector/cluster and the child protection sub-sector, and co-lead the education and WASH sectors/clusters.

### Results from 2019

As of 31 August 2019, UNICEF had US\$84.5 million available against the US\$152.2 million appeal (55 per cent funded).<sup>7</sup> In collaboration with the Government and partners, UNICEF helped to avert major disease outbreaks by focusing on prevention, social mobilization, service coverage and quality improvements in health, nutrition and water services. The education sector reached over 90 per cent of Rohingya children aged 4 to 14 living in camps with education; and UNICEF achieved over 70 per cent of its share of this target. Efforts to improve the quality of education are now underway. Integrated vocational and life-skills programmes are reaching 12,500 adolescent boys and girls in camps and host communities. Due to cultural and social gender norms, reaching adolescent girls has been challenging and has required strong efforts from partners working with parents and religious and community leaders. As part of the sector-wide approach to water safety, piped water networks were constructed to improve the quality and sustainability of drinking water. However due to underfunding, only 40 per cent of the population in UNICEF's geographical area of responsibility has been reached. Additional water networks planned for 2019 will reach 80 per cent of the population if funding is adequate.

# Humanitarian Action for Children

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#### Total people in need

1.9 million<sup>8</sup>

#### Total children (<18) in need

1.1 million<sup>9</sup>

#### Total people to be reached

790,977<sup>10</sup>

#### Total children to be reached

515,824<sup>11</sup>

#### 2019 programme targets

##### Nutrition

- 17,655 children aged 6 to 59 months affected by SAM who are admitted for treatment<sup>12</sup>
- 191,074 children aged 6 to 59 months received vitamin A

##### Health

- 105,152 children aged 0 to 11 months received pentavalent 3 vaccine
- 3,200 sick newborns treated

##### WASH<sup>13</sup>

- 611,820 people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene
- 570,850 people benefiting from functional latrines built to agreed standards<sup>14</sup>

##### Child protection

- 90,305 children accessing psychosocial support<sup>15</sup>
- 46,930 adolescents who received life-skills education
- 23,500 children and women accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and response interventions<sup>16</sup>

##### Education

- 284,750 children accessing quality education<sup>17</sup>
- 40,000 adolescents aged 15 to 18 years who participated in skills development programmes for learning, personal empowerment and/or employability<sup>18</sup>

##### Communication for development<sup>19</sup>

- 825,000 people reached through messaging and dialogue (house-to-house) on key life-saving behaviours and referrals to services with a focus on health, nutrition, WASH, education and child protection
- 60,000 people accessing mechanisms for voicing their needs/concerns, including feedback and complaint mechanisms

	Cluster/ sector total targets	Cluster/ sector total results	UNICEF 2019 targets		UNICEF total results
			Refugees	Host communities and people affected by floods	
<b>NUTRITION</b>					
Children under 5 years with SAM admitted for treatment	20,652	18,092	17,000	400	11,629
Children aged 6 to 59 months who received vitamin A at least once in the year <sup>i</sup>	191,074	191,300	148,324	42,750	191,300
<b>HEALTH</b>					
Children aged 0 to 11 months who received pentavalent 3 vaccine			28,857	76,295	73,442
Sick newborns treated			200	3,000	3,114
<b>WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE</b>					
People benefiting from safe water to agreed standards that meets domestic demands	1,304,261 <sup>ii</sup>	1,005,718	250,000	361,820 <sup>iii</sup>	565,785 <sup>iv</sup>
People benefiting from functional latrines to agreed standards	1,263,291 <sup>v</sup>	858,363	250,000	320,850 <sup>vi</sup>	317,070 <sup>vii</sup>
<b>CHILD PROTECTION</b>					
Children reached with psychosocial support services	343,206	108,082	76,629	13,676	57,665
Adolescents who received life skills	74,900	65,810	34,400	12,530	39,762
Adolescent girls and women provided with gender-based violence prevention and response services <sup>viii</sup>			20,000	3,500	5,429
<b>EDUCATION</b>					
Children aged 4 to 14 years enrolled in emergency non-formal education, including early learning	396,184 <sup>ix</sup>	374,256	221,000	63,750 <sup>x</sup>	212,707
Adolescents aged 15 to 18 years who have participated in skills development programmes for learning, personal empowerment and/or employability <sup>xi</sup>	54,864	30,649	28,000	12,000	12,566
<b>COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT/ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS</b>					
People reached through messaging and dialogue (house-to-house) on key life-saving behaviours and referrals to services with a focus on health, nutrition, WASH, education and child protection <sup>xii</sup>			725,000	100,000	675,250
People accessing mechanisms to voice their needs/concerns, including feedback and complaint mechanisms			50,000	10,000	53,375

Results are through 31 August 2019.

<sup>i</sup> Vitamin A was delivered to all children in Rohingya camps and host communities in partnership with the local health authorities during Nutrition Action Week, a low-cost, high-impact biannual exercise that will be repeated in October 2019.

<sup>ii</sup> This includes 61,820 people benefiting from safe water in other parts of the country affected by floods.

<sup>iii</sup> Ibid.

<sup>iv</sup> From August 2017 to December 2018, UNICEF and other partners in the Rohingya response constructed 4,564 tube wells in the eight camps later designated as the UNICEF area of responsibility. As of November 2018, 85 per cent of those tube wells were functioning, ensuring that all beneficiaries had access to safe water above agreed standards. The continued operation and maintenance of this infrastructure has been relatively low cost. In 2019, UNICEF has shifted its strategy to focus on providing chlorinated water through piped networks to improve the quality and sustainability of the service. The networks so far cover 40 per cent of refugees in the UNICEF area of responsibility. Similarly, 34,000 of those reached in host communities were reached through the maintenance of previously UNICEF-constructed water points.

<sup>v</sup> This includes 20,850 persons affected by floods in other parts of the country who will benefit from functional latrines.

<sup>vi</sup> Ibid.

<sup>vii</sup> UNICEF supports safe sanitation in host communities through two modalities: direct construction of latrines in areas most heavily affected by the refugee influx and Community-Led Total Sanitation strategies in the remainder of the district. The latter approach, while more sustainable, is also a slower process both in developing and contracting partners, and in sensitizing the participating communities. Contracts are now in place, and sensitization is ongoing, with results expected to accelerate in the coming months.

<sup>viii</sup> Multiple services are provided through the 15 safe spaces in Rohingya camps. Work is ongoing to accelerate the reach of these programmes and improve reporting to ensure that all prevention and response activities are captured. In host communities, one safe space has been constructed as of 31 August, with three additional spaces to be completed in the coming months. These spaces will ensure access to prevention and response services, including referrals, case management, psychosocial support and skills training.

<sup>ix</sup> This includes 33,750 children who will benefit from access to learning in flood-affected areas.

<sup>x</sup> Ibid.

<sup>xi</sup> Vocational training was newly introduced in 2019 as part of the shift towards an integrated adolescent approach. There has been slow progress because partners are concurrently constructing spaces and developing vocational skills training materials. Intake has been gradually increasing but absorption capacity remains low. As such, the programme target has been decreased to 28,000.

<sup>xii</sup> This is a monthly figure for August, indicating the number of people reached with at least one round of messaging within the month.

## Funding requirements

UNICEF is requesting US\$152.2 million to meet the life-saving and humanitarian and development needs of Rohingya refugees, Bangladeshi host communities and flood-affected populations. Essential nutrition, health, WASH, protection and education services will be provided. Given the country's high risk for natural hazards, the humanitarian system's capacity to prepare for and respond to sudden-onset disasters/epidemics will be supported throughout the country. This appeal includes UNICEF's share of US\$113.7 million required under the 2019 Joint Response Plan, as well as an additional US\$38.5 million needed to strengthen UNICEF's humanitarian and development work in Cox's Bazar and emergency preparedness and flood response country-wide.

Appeal sector	Original 2019 requirement (US\$)	Revised 2019 requirement (US\$)	Funds available (US\$)	Funding gap	
				US\$	%
Nutrition	18,000,000	16,670,000	8,681,604	7,988,396	48
Health	19,773,645	19,873,645	8,620,155	11,253,490	57
Water, sanitation and hygiene	35,700,000	36,900,000	18,384,277	18,515,723	50
Child protection and gender-based violence	18,835,658	17,785,658	16,330,785	1,454,873	8
Education	47,000,000	47,200,000	24,280,610	22,919,390	49
Communication for development and accountability to affected populations	4,200,000	4,220,000	2,646,275	1,573,725	37
Emergency preparedness and social protection	9,000,000	9,600,000	5,537,824	4,062,176	42
<b>Total</b>	<b>152,509,303</b>	<b>152,249,303</b>	<b>84,481,530</b>	<b>67,767,773</b>	<b>45</b>

<sup>1</sup> United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 'Refugee Response in Bangladesh', UNHCR, <[https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/myanmar\\_refugees](https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/myanmar_refugees)>, accessed 25 September 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Child protection sector 5W monitoring tool, as of 11 October 2018.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 'Multi-Sector Needs Assessment II – All camps: Ukhiya/Teknaf, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh July 2018 and January 2019 comparison', UNHCR, <<https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/68613.pdf>>, accessed 1 October 2019.

<sup>4</sup> Education Sector – Cox's Bazar/Bangladesh, 'Dashboard and 5W Analysis', 28 July 2019, <[www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/bangladesh/document/education-sector-dashboard-and-5w-analysis-28-july-2019](http://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/bangladesh/document/education-sector-dashboard-and-5w-analysis-28-july-2019)>, accessed 1 October 2019.

<sup>5</sup> National Needs Assessment Working Group, Bangladesh monsoon flood overview report, 28 July 2019.

<sup>6</sup> In addition to continuing to improve access to education, in 2019, UNICEF will focus on strengthening the quality aspects of education. The Learning Competency Framework and Approach (LCFA) for levels 1 through 4 (equivalent to pre-primary to Grade 8) will be rolled out, including the development, printing and distribution of new teaching and learning materials for Rohingya children enrolled in learning centres. UNICEF will also focus on strengthening the quality of teaching, building the capacities of teachers to deliver lessons according to the LCFA and training them to assess and group children according to their competencies. Contact hours between teachers and students will be increased accordingly. Furthermore, learning centres will adopt more sustainable designs subject to government approval in 2019.

<sup>7</sup> Available funds include US\$55.46 million received in 2019 and US\$29.01 million carried forward from the previous year. The funds received include humanitarian and other types of funding received for the use of either Rohingya refugees, host communities or related emergencies in other parts of the country.

<sup>8</sup> This includes 899,000 refugees in camps, 7,000 refugees living in host communities and 336,000 affected people from host communities. International Organization for Migration, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Resident Coordinator for Bangladesh and Inter Sector Coordination Group, '2019 Joint Response Plan for Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis', 2019. The revised appeal includes the 700,000 people targeted in the Humanitarian Response Plan for the flood response (August 2019).

<sup>9</sup> Fifty-five per cent of the population in need is children, according to '2019 Joint Response Plan for Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis'. The revised appeal includes the population in the Humanitarian Response Plan targeted for flood response. As the Humanitarian Response Plan did not specify the percentage of children in need, the same percentage of children in the population used for the Rohingya response is used (55 per cent). The total figure includes 533,500 girls and 534,500 boys.

<sup>10</sup> This includes 45 per cent of the adult WASH target (275,153), children aged 6 to 59 months to be reached with vitamin A supplementation (191,074), and all children aged 4 to 18 years targeted for education (284,750 + 40,000). This includes 51 per cent girls/women and 49 per cent boys/men.

<sup>11</sup> This includes children aged 6 to 59 months to be reached with vitamin A supplementation (191,074) and children aged 4 to 18 years targeted for education (284,750 + 40,000). This includes 50 per cent girls and 50 per cent boys and 3,900 children with disabilities supported with rehabilitation services to enhance their access to learning.

<sup>12</sup> The second (April-May 2018) and third (October-November 2018) rounds of the Standardized Monitoring Assessment for Relief and Transition (SMART) survey highlighted a decrease in global acute malnutrition among children under 5 years in the Rohingya camps. Rates dropped from 19.3 per cent during Round 1 in October 2017 to 11 per cent in Round 3, falling below the 15 per cent World Health Organization (WHO) emergency threshold. SAM prevalence also decreased slightly from Round 1 (3 per cent) to Round 2 (2 per cent) through to Round 3 (1 per cent).

<sup>13</sup> The revised amount includes 61,820 persons from the flood response in the rest of the country.

<sup>14</sup> This revised number includes 20,850 flood-affected people who will benefit from support for latrines in the rest of the country.

<sup>15</sup> The reduction in the target for psychosocial support is due to the change of strategy to move to multipurpose centres instead of adolescent centres. While the number of children who can benefit from these services has declined, adolescents can now also receive life skills, literacy and numeracy and skills training. This was agreed to with the child protection sub-sector in August.

<sup>16</sup> The target for gender-based violence prevention and response services was reduced to meet the evolving understanding of the needs of the women and girls affected by gender-based violence. This includes a shift from outreach and awareness towards the provision of holistic services, including referral, psychosocial support, space to manage menstruation and skills and empowerment training.

<sup>17</sup> The revised number includes a reduction in the number of host community children affected by the Rohingya crisis, from 272,000 to 251,000, and the addition of flood-affected children who will benefit in the rest of the country (33,750 children), bringing the total to 284,750. The number of host community children affected by the Rohingya crisis was reduced as the target was based on the number of schools (target: 437 schools) to be provided with school effectiveness grants. UNICEF provided grants to only 50 schools because all other schools received grants from the Government under the inter-agency Fourth Primary Education Development Programme. In addition to grants, UNICEF provided supplies to 23,960 children in 599 schools. Additional children will be reached by the end of the year through classroom renovation and rehabilitation.

<sup>18</sup> The target for vocational training was reduced due to the realization that it is taking longer to establish these multipurpose centres and convince parents to allow their children, especially daughters, to attend the centres.

<sup>19</sup> Only face-to-face interventions are included.

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