

SITUATION REPORT ROHINGYA REFUGEE CRISIS

Cox's Bazar | August 2020

ISCG

INTER SECTOR COORDINATION GROUP



- On 25 August, Rohingya refugees commemorated the third mark of the mass influx of Rohingya fleeing from Myanmar to Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh in 2017. The day was commemorated in a low-key manner, with no gatherings of more than 5 individuals permitted in the camps due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Refugees marked the day by sharing artwork and holding small gatherings in their shelters.
- Partners provided emergency assistance for damage caused by ongoing monsoon rains, including shelter repair and tarpaulin distribution, repairing latrines and facilitating temporary relocations to emergency shelters.
- As of 31 August, 101 confirmed cases of COVID-19 had been identified in the Rohingya refugee camps, with 6 deaths.
- 3,965 COVID-19 positive cases and 63 deaths were reported in Cox's Bazar District, according to the Institute of Epidemiology Disease Control and Research (IEDCR).
- 14 Severe Respiratory Infection Isolation and Treatment Centres (SARI ITC) facilities were operational, with 513 beds ready to receive patients as well as 433 stand-by beds and 62 active isolation beds. The SARI ITCs are run by health partners, serving both refugees and local communities.

KEY COVID-19 HIGHLIGHTS

946

isolation and treatment beds ready by the end of August (of a target of 1,900).

14

SARI ITCs operational by the end of August (of a target of 14).

838,100

refugees and host community members received cloth masks by the end of August (of a target 1.5 million).

42,279

public WASH facilities disinfected during August.

26,335

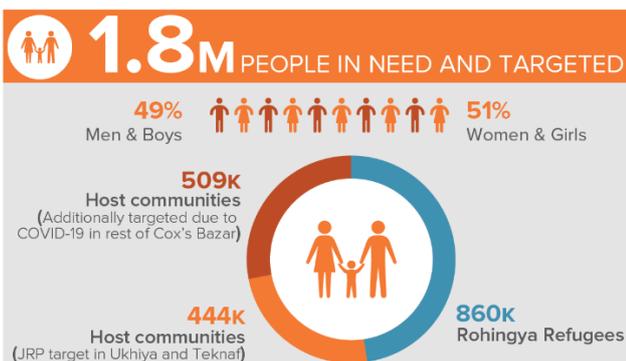
older persons supported with specialised NFI kits by the end of August.

52,237

caregivers and youth and adolescent volunteers trained on Education in Emergencies in August.

JOINT RESPONSE PLAN: KEY FIGURES

KEY POPULATION FIGURES



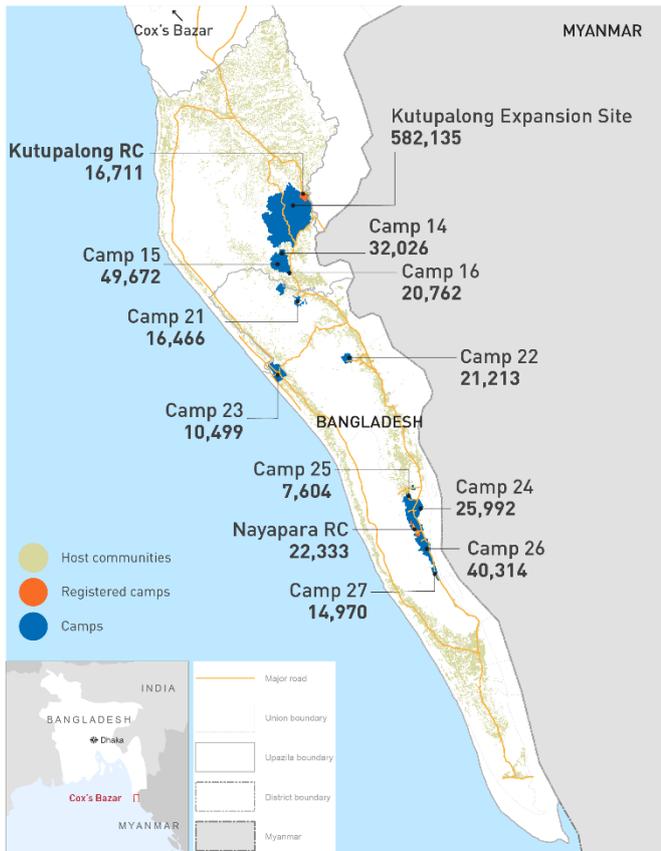
Rohingya refugees registered under the joint Government-UNHCR registration exercise, 31 Mar 2020

FUNDING OVERVIEW

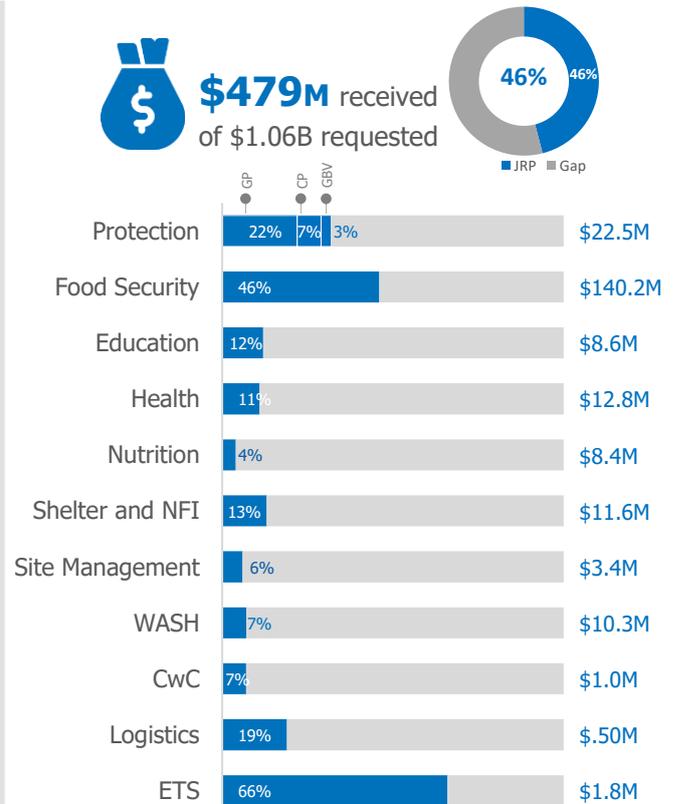


*This includes 58 partners appealing directly, with 77 implementing partners identified thus far

POPULATION MAP BY CAMP



FUNDING FOR JOINT RESPONSE PLAN 2020



Funding figures are in USD and were extracted from FTS as of 31 August, 2020. Total funds received under the JRP2020, includes funding not yet allocated to a specific Sector.

Protection Sector funding level is sub-divided into General Protection (GP) and the respective Sub-Sectors: Child Protection (CP) and Gender-Based Violence (GBV).

SPOTLIGHT ON:

Hasan*, an Imam in one of the Rohingya camps, is working to raising awareness of gender issues among men and boys in his community. Using training he has received from the Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group (GIHA WG), Hasan arranges regular sessions at mosques in his camp to share information with men and boys on their equal role in the household.

"I have learned a lot about my duty to my family by attending these sessions" says Anwar, a regular participant.

The burden of caretaking has increased for Rohingya women during the COVID-19 pandemic as learning centres are closed and children are at home full-time. Awareness sessions like those run by Hasan help to increase the gender balance of roles in the household during the pandemic and beyond. *Name changed to protect identity.



Photo: ISCG/Saiikat Mojumder

Achievements in August

- As of 31 August, 486,600 individuals across camps had received two cloth face masks as a measure to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19, of a total target of 722,953 individuals. 17,100 individuals received masks in August alone.
- Food assistance was provided to 856,783 Rohingya individuals in all 34 camps and Konopara.
- 11,279 individuals received complementary food voucher assistance from a partner to purchase fresh food items.
- 10,547 individuals were transitioned to e-voucher assistance from in-kind food distribution, increasing the total number of e-voucher beneficiaries to 754,804 individuals, or 88% of all refugee households. 34 e-voucher shops were operational in 17 e-voucher outlets by the end of August.
- 551,879 individuals - 64% of all refugee households – were reached with food assistance using Building Blocks – a type of blockchain technology where individuals are issued an encrypted ID/code number to distinguish them from others, ensuring their security and privacy, as well as optimising and harmonising collective efforts between humanitarian organisations.
- Partners provided rapid food assistance to 2,916 individuals in 15 camps in response to new arrivals, referrals of extremely vulnerable individuals, and planned relocations to extension sites and displacements caused by floods.
- 62,684 individuals received vegetable seeds, 10,000 individuals received inputs for aquaculture and 6,000 individuals received training for micro gardening.

1,276,988 individuals reached through food or cash distributions among both refugees and host communities in August.

100%

49,109 households reached through agricultural and non-agricultural livelihoods support in August.

49%

51%

A total of 1,676,200 cloth masks have been distributed to refugees and host communities as of August, 476,200 of which were distributed in August alone.

40%

16%

44%

Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Host community response achievements in August

- As of 31 August, 351,500 individuals had received two cloth masks as a measure to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19. 221,000 individuals received masks in August alone.
- 130,205 individuals received unconditional cash grants and 213,490 individuals received in-kind food rations in Chakaria, Cox's Bazar Sadar, Kutubdia, Maheshkhali, Pekua, Ramu, Teknaf and Ukhiya as part of the COVID-19 response.
- Agricultural support was provided to a total of 38,155 individuals in Ukhiya, Teknaf, and Cox's Bazar Sadar. Agricultural trainings were given to 17,907 individuals in Cox's Bazar Sadar, Ramu, Teknaf and Ukhiya.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in August

- Self-reliance activities in the camps and livelihoods support activities in the host community are ongoing with limited capacity, contributing to the vulnerability of beneficiaries who rely on agricultural inputs and other forms of support. In addition, inconsistencies in approvals for self-reliance activities in the camps continue to limit programme effectiveness.

Key Trends and Analysis

- Since April, partners had reprogrammed livelihoods support to host communities to compensate for the negative economic impacts of COVID-19 restrictions and expanded their operational coverage across all 8 upazilas of Cox's Bazar District. As of 31 August, 720,640 individuals had been reached with unconditional food and cash support.
- The rollout of e-voucher outlets has significantly increased the number of Rohingya refugees with regular access to fresh and nutritious food items. The proportion of refugees receiving food through the e-voucher modality has increased from 57% in January to 88% as of August.

Achievements in August

- WASH Sector constructed 222 new latrines and decommissioned 178 latrines out of a total of 62,906 existing latrines.
- 233 bathing facilities were newly constructed, with 2,023 of the total 27,465 existing latrines maintained during August.
- The WASH Sector Hygiene Promotion Working Group held community consultations in five camps in Ukhiya and Teknaf to receive feedback on the existing hygiene promotion strategy.

Host community response achievements in August

- An average of 42,279 facilities (public buildings and WASH facilities including latrines and showers) were disinfected every week by WASH Sector partners in both the camps and host communities.
- 139 hand washing stations were installed in public places during the reporting period.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in August

- Heavy rain and landslides impacted WASH infrastructure in several camps, including flooding and collapsing of some structures. WASH Sector partners repaired latrine doors and tube well handles and continued to conduct other repair work.
- Significant financial gaps continue to seriously impact sanitation management and quality of solid waste management.

14,250 newly reached individuals benefitted from at least 20 l/p/d of safe water for drinking and other domestic purposes in August.



10,500 newly reached individuals in host communities benefitted from safe and maintained water and improved sanitation services in August.



42,279 WASH facilities and public buildings were regularly disinfected in August.



42,779 targeted households accessing hygiene supplies (voucher or in-kind system), including 3,220 new households in August.



Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Achievements in August

- Partners continued providing emergency shelter assistance to respond to shelter damage caused by ongoing monsoon rains. 6,214 shelters were damaged (partially severe and fully damaged shelters including roofs or/and walls blown away, or structural bamboo posts and/or beams were damaged or missing), of which 6,208 were assisted in August. Refugees were provided with materials to help with shelter repair (bamboo, tarpaulins, rope, jute bags) in relation to the level of damage. 73,830 households received tarpaulins to respond to the most acute needs of leaking roofs.
- 147,218 Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) refills were provided in August, meaning that 100% of households living in the camps continued to receive regular LPG refills.
- The delivery of special NFI kits to older persons was completed in 32 camps, with the final 216 kits distributed throughout August.

44% of Rohingya households benefiting from treated bamboo, of a total target of 66%.



412 individuals in quarantine supported with NFIs during August.



4,997 households with older persons were supported with continuous LPG delivery in August.



26,335 families with older persons supported with NFIs by the end of August.



Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

- 412 NFI kits including blankets, floor mats, mosquito nets, solar lamps, and kitchen utensils were provided to three COVID-19 quarantine centres in Nayapara, camp 20 extension and the Transit Centre in camp 7.
- 401 mid-term shelters were completed for relocation of refugees. 802 households were assisted with Transitional Shelter Assistance (phase 1).

Host community response achievements in August

- 31,503 LPG refills were provided to the most vulnerable host community households. A total of 11,122 households are receiving regular LPG refills.
- 23 shelters were repair and maintained in the host community in Raja Palong Union in Ukhiya upazila.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in August

- Distribution of special NFI kits to older persons remains in two camps, pending approval from authorities.
- Bamboo and tarpaulin on shelters in the camps continue to weaken over time, making shelters more susceptible to the impacts of small-scale weather events. Therefore, shelter materials require frequent replacement. Partners are analysing what can be done by the end of the year to repair shelters in the worst condition.

Key Trends and Analysis

- The Shelter Sector's Rapid Damage Verification recorded over 100% increase in damages in 2020 comparing to the damages reported in 2019, with a total of 26,739 verified damaged shelters recorded between May and August 2020, compared to 10,073 during the same period in 2019. This can be explained by several factors: a reduction of shelter activities due to COVID-19 containment measures (thus shelters were not repaired/upgraded for a year), heavy rainfall and winds during monsoon season and Cyclone Amphan, and the ongoing use of lightweight and temporary materials such as untreated bamboo and tarpaulin.



Site Management Development (SMSD)

Site

Sector Coordinator: Kerry McBroom
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Achievements in August

- Partners provided COVID-19 awareness sessions for 117,002 refugees, including 62,454 women.
- At ten camp Points of Entry, SMSD partners screened 45,664 individuals for fevers prior to entering the camps.
- Partners rolled out the final orientations on safe and dignified burials in the COVID-19 context for over 100 religious and community leaders.
- Community assessments and projects resulted in camp clean-ups, the organisation of waiting systems at some water points, traditional food fairs, and site development projects including a new pathway that will benefit 2,000 individuals in camp 9.
- In camp 20, partners installed benches for persons with special needs based on community inputs. Partners also assessed infrastructure relocation needs, solar street light status, emergency flagpoles, and lightning arrestors.
- During Eid celebrations, partners worked closely with community members to ensure safe slaughter and meat distribution throughout the camps.
- Partners conducted road safety meetings for 81 refugees in camp 14 and sessions on water safety and child safety risks for 1,366 refugees in camp 12.
- Volunteers monitored damages from the monsoon and facilitated temporary relocations to emergency shelters for refugees during heavy rains in mid-August. In camp 23, SMSD partners successfully activated the emergency relocation plan prior to heavy rains and tides. Volunteers also installed fire drums throughout the camps.

34 camps with harmonised remote service monitoring systems.

100%

By the end of August, **823 Imams and Mosque committees** had received materials for safe and dignified burials.

55%

45%

A total of **2,124 SMS volunteers** had received COVID-19 related training in collaboration with health actors, as of the end of August.

52%

10%

38%

Prior 2020 achievement, Monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target



Protection (PWG)

Sector Coordinator:

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Achievements in August

- Registration activities resumed in the camps; FAQs were disseminated on the re-opening of the registration sites and an information session on the re-opening procedures was organised for Protection Focal Points (PFPs).
- Anti-Trafficking Working group (ATWG) members continued to identify and assist refugee survivors of trafficking. 6,903 refugees were reached by anti-trafficking awareness activities in August and 1,692 copies of educational pocketbook comics were developed and distributed. 27 participants from partner organisations completed an online Counter Trafficking in Humanitarian Settings training.
- Protection partners, including PFPs and Protection Emergency Response Unit Teams, reached some 71,000 refugees with COVID-19 messaging. Community Outreach Members (COMs) conducted 7,860 COVID-19 awareness sessions for 27,257 refugees, including 4,775 older persons and 362 persons living with disabilities. COMs conducted 1,927 home visits and 780 monitoring assessments for 8,198 individual refugees to ensure timely referrals of 1,362 cases.

In August, **10,470 individual cases** were supported with legal aid and related services including victims of trafficking and exploitation, of a target of 9,293 individual cases.

100%

In August, **753,871 individuals** were reached by community-led messaging on key protection risks and related mitigation measures, or a target of 661,237 individuals.

100%

In August, **2,191 individuals** from service providers and authorities were trained on protection including gender.

63%

37%

Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Host community response achievements in August

- Sector partners initiated six new peaceful coexistence projects (road improvements and renovation of primary school WASH facilities) to strengthen relations between refugee and host communities in Ukhiya and Teknaf upazilas. Support was also provided to build new facilities at the Ukhiya Press Club.
- ATWG members continued to assist victims of trafficking from the host community. 4,886 individuals were reached through 713 awareness sessions. 168 educational pocketbook comics were distributed.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in August

- Due to the heavy rainfall, travel to and within camps for service providers and refugees has become more difficult. Persons with specific needs are facing mobility constraints in accessing services and assistance.
- The temporary relocation of refugees during the monsoon season to communal facilities or learning centres increases the risk of exposure to COVID-19. The Protection Sector is working with other Sectors to revise the Guidelines for the Use of Community and Humanitarian Facilities as Emergency Community Shelters.

Child Protection Sub-Sector (CPSS)

Achievements in August

- In August, a total of 952 refugee children with protection concerns were identified and referred for assistance through case management activities.
- 29 children were reunited with parents/caregivers.
- 2,005 refugee children and adolescents received psychosocial support in August.
- To prioritize and standardize child protection awareness in the camps, CPSS partners developed 21 key child protection messages targeting the refugee community, parents, caregivers, and children. 32,488 refugees (15,960 adults and 16,528 children) were reached with messages on monsoon-related child protection risks.

In August, **2,005 girls and boys** benefitted from age, diversity and gender sensitive structured and sustained, mental health and psychosocial support services.

33%

2%

65%

In August, **952 identified girls and boys at risk** received specialised age and gender sensitive child protection service through individual case management to meet their unique needs.

9%

2%

89%

In August, **1,571 adolescents** received services including life skills, and pre-vocational skills, resilience activities and peacebuilding skills.

33%

2%

65%

Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

- In collaboration with the Age and Disability Working Group, 62 individuals from partner organisations were trained on disability and inclusion in the humanitarian response.

Host community response achievements in August

- A total of 1,701 beneficiaries (of whom 715 were children) received information on child protection risks during COVID-19 and the monsoon season during August.
- Psychosocial support continued to be provided through home visits, remote counselling sessions and small group activities. 126 children and caregivers were supported with structured case management.
- In response to the growing number of cases of violence against children at home amid the COVID-19 pandemic, partners organized capacity building sessions on positive parenting skills for 184 parents and caregivers to protect children from abuse.
- In August, 1,035 adolescents participated in life skills training. Partners launched a virtual platform for life skills training for adolescents.

Gaps and Constraints in August

- Heavy rainfalls damaged children's facilities (Child Friendly Spaces/Multi-Purpose Centres) and timely approval for repair is required. Increased incidents and injuries caused by heavy monsoon rains were reported in the camps. There is need for increase familiarity with the Emergency Child and Caregiver Information Points for timely and effective referrals of such cases.

Key Trends/Analysis

- Child marriage was the most reported protection risk affecting children identified in August. Often facilitated by religious leaders, there is an increasing trend of child marriage being celebrated at night in small groups. Other child protection risks on the rise are violence against children in the home and child labour. Cases of kidnapping and abduction for ransom were also reported.

Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector (GBVSS)

Achievements in August

- Psychological First Aid and Psychosocial Support were provided to 1,824 individuals, including 1,656 females, and an additional 3,398 females received dignity kits.
- Awareness-raising sessions on GBV, COVID-19, protection against sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), and protection risks linked to the monsoon season reached 74,772 individuals, including 47,279 females, in all the camps.
- 1,626 men and 1,093 boys in camps and host communities were targeted with awareness sessions on how they can contribute to household chores and support their partners with domestic duties.
- 53 persons with disabilities (of whom 52 are females) were referred for assistive devices and rehabilitation services.

In August, **481 community activists** (women, adolescent girls, adolescent boys and men) were trained and engaged in GBV prevention strategies using tested social change approaches in the camps and targeted host community.



In August, **2,154 individuals** benefitted from structured PSS services that meet minimum standards (by age, sex, diversity), in the camps and targeted host community.



As of the end of August, **a total of 14,336 individuals** are benefitting from skills development and empowerment programming in the camps and targeted host community. 93 women and girls were reached for the first-time during August.



Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Host community response achievements in August

- Partners provided Psychological First Aid and Psychosocial Support to 35 girls and 249 women. An additional 854 males and 3,028 females were reached with awareness-raising activities on GBV, COVID-19, PSEA and flood-related GBV-risk mitigation actions.
- Two Virtual Women and Girls Friendly Spaces were launched with 16 community women and girls from Ukhiya and Teknaf. 12 male participants from Teknaf joined the Virtual Platform for Engaging Men and Boys.

Gaps and Constraints in August

- Limited access to mobile phones and weak internet connection in the camps hamper the access of women and girls to remote GBV services provided during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Due to the lack of electricity and malfunctioning of some solar panels, poor lighting in the camps creates an increased protection risk for women at night time. Partners are repairing broken lights and installing new ones.

- The monsoon season has caused challenges for women and children to access GBV response and prevention services in the camps.



Health

Sector
Coordinator:

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Achievements in August

- 14 SARI ITCs are active in the camps and ready to receive patients with 513 SARI ITC beds, 433 stand-by beds and 62 active isolation beds.
- Eight Camp Health and Disease Surveillance Officers have been deployed to support investigation of COVID-19 confirmed cases, suspect cases and deaths, working with Rapid Investigation and Response Teams in 34 camps.
- The Sexual and Reproductive Health Working Group completed a second 4-day Clinical Management of Rape/Intimate Partner Violence (CMR/IPV) training, targeting 22 medical staff working in 10 Primary Health Care centres.
- WHO/Health Sector together with the Civil Surgeon Office and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Coordination Centre completed a round of supervision visits to four Upazila Health Complexes (UHC) to discuss COVID-19 interventions and continuity of essential health services with emphasis on immunizations, maternal health services, non-communicable diseases, infection prevention and control (IPC) and community engagement.

A total of 946 functional beds at isolation and treatment facilities including SARI ITCs.



100% of households were reached by community volunteers at least once per month with COVID-19 messages. 15% of these households were reached in August. 80% of households are targeted in JRP 2020.



A total of 60% of medical and paramedical workers have been trained on COVID-19 related IPC, of which 15% were trained in August. A total of 80% of workers are targeted in JRP 2020.



Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Host community response achievements in August

- Trainings for humanitarian workers on case management and IPC in all upazilas in Cox's Bazar District continued. As of 31 August, 125 humanitarian workers from five upazilas (Ukhiya, Teknaf, Ramu, Chakaria and Moheshkhali) have been trained.
- WHO donated 5,000 surgical masks to the Civil Surgeon Office in Cox's Bazar.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in August

- While dissemination of information on the importance of face masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19 continues, low use of face masks among Rohingya refugees continues to be a challenge.
- High risk for rapid spread of COVID-19 due to overcrowding and limited access to water, sanitation and hygiene in the camps remains a key challenge.

Key Trends and Analysis

- The number of COVID-19 tests conducted among the Rohingya population is increasing. In week 35 (24-30 August 2020) 1,127 tests were conducted in the camps compared to 878 tests in the previous week. However, a decrease in testing per million was observed among the host community in the same timeframe, from 490 to 356 tests.
- In response to a drop in the uptake of essential services at Primary Healthcare Centres in the camps in the first quarter of 2020, the Health Sector adopted outreach strategies in May (including engaging community influencers and sensitising health facility staff) to boost the Rohingya community's confidence in seeking health services. As a result, the number of Rohingya refugees accessing essential health services increased in June - August 2020.

Achievements in August

- 65,061 children, adolescent, and youth benefitted from remote guidance on COVID-19 prevention, and 37,668 learners were reached by 1,864 Burmese Language Instructors (BLI) who visited households to meet learners.
- 134,295 caregivers, community volunteers, youth and adolescent volunteers were reached through COVID-19 awareness messages.
- 17,413 parents and community members received awareness messages and education instructions by 815 educational facilitators.
- 13,808 audio clips and 10,021 awareness leaflets were disseminated by 295 BLI.
- 4,315 girls received Menstrual Hygiene Kits which were distributed by 148 female BLI.

In August, **65,061 children, adolescents and youth** benefitted from remote guidance on COVID-19 prevention, how to remotely support adolescents and youth well-being and play, and self-care.



In August, **52,237 caregivers, community volunteers, youth and adolescent volunteers** engaged in capacity building opportunities on Education in Emergencies and child, adolescent and youth-friendly messages.



Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Host community response achievements in July

- Teachers in three upazilas in Cox's Bazar district conducted awareness sessions for out-of-school children on COVID-19 hygiene measures and proper mask use.
- 1,604 children and their parents received key COVID-19 awareness messages delivered by 94 teachers.
- 216 children were provided support by their teachers to study at home.
- 1,123 beneficiaries received COVID-19 awareness leaflets distributed by 95 volunteers.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in July

- All Learning Centres remain closed, continuing to hamper access to education for Rohingya youth and adolescents.
- There is a need to improve education technology to be used as a complementary solution for learning.
- Multi-annual funding is required to implement and expand the Myanmar Curriculum Pilot.

Achievements in August 2020

- A total of 6,335 malnourished children aged 6-59 months and Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW) were admitted to nutrition treatment programmes in August, comprising 66% of the annual JRP 2020 target.
- The Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) reached 144,148 children under five, which is 116% of the monthly JRP target.
- A total of 4,118 new PLW and caregivers of children were reached with Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) one-on-one counselling sessions in August 2020, which is 53% of the annual JRP target. In August, IYCF counsellors were able to return to integrated nutrition facilities (after five months of not being able to work in the centres due to COVID-19 and physical distancing restrictions). The return of these counsellors means more mothers and caregivers of children under five can now be reached with IYCF individual sessions.
- In August, a total of 30,388 mothers were trained on measuring and monitoring the nutrition status of their children using the "Mother-Led Mid-Upper Arm Circumference" (MUAC) method. A total of 113,309 mothers

A total of **42,216 malnourished children** aged 6-59 months, including children with disabilities, and PLW have been reached by essential curative nutrition services, including 6,335 individuals reached in August.



144,148 children aged 6-59 months and PLW were reached through Blanket Supplementary Feeding services in August.



A total of **25,388 PLWs and caregivers of children under five years** old have received maternal nutrition, IYCF counselling and participated in the IYCF group sessions. 4,118 individuals were reached in August.



Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

have been trained since March. In August, mothers referred 418 malnourished children to nutrition facilities, with a total of 4,087 referrals since March.

Host community response achievements in July

- In August 2020, a total of 55,560 children were screened for malnutrition in host communities. 702 of these children were referred to respective treatment programmes, including 162 children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) and 540 children with Moderate Acute Malnutrition (MAM). 229 new PLW with MAM have been enrolled in the Therapeutic Supplementary Feeding Programme.
- IYCF counselling messages reached 5,003 mothers of children under five.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in July

- Reaching PLW with IYCF messages remained a challenge. Only 1,240 women were reached by the end of August, only 16% of the annual target for JRP 2020. Strengthening provision of Antenatal and Postnatal Care was identified as a priority by partners for improving outreach to targeted PLW.

Communication with Communities Working Group (CwC WG)

Coordinator: Md. Mahbubur Rahman
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Achievements in August

- 393,039 individuals were reached through 117,387 neighbourhood-based inter-personal communication sessions. 399,169 individuals were reached through 79,920 awareness-raising sessions which shared key information on COVID-19, hygiene practices, cyclone and monsoon preparedness, nutrition and vaccinations for children was shared to 17,866 individuals through 2,273 group listening sessions and 15,990 individuals through 2,216 video screening sessions.
- Feedback and complaints from refugees were received through 92 information centres and help desks.
- 20 communication materials and 1 video programme were developed to share key messages with refugees on COVID-19, the re-opening of registration centres and road safety, among others.

346 humanitarian staff/volunteers trained or oriented on issues related to COVID-19 in August.



20 new COVID-19 focused contents/materials developed by CwC actors in August.



637,058 refugee and host community individuals reached through CwC COVID-19 services in August.



Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Host community response achievements in August

- 77,309 individuals participated in 21,679 awareness-raising sessions on COVID-19 with an additional 376 individuals reached through 84 group listening sessions. 4 information centres received feedback and complaints from the host community.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in August

- Heavy rains prevented refugees and host community members from accessing Information Centres due to flooded roads and mud.

Key Trends and Analysis

- As of August, 78% of refugees reported that they have enough information to make decisions about their daily lives¹. 56% individuals generally feel informed about assistance available to them². 64% of refugees and 46% host community individuals reported of knowing how to make suggestions/complaints about the assistance they receive³. 80% refugees and 60% host community members reported that aid providers take their opinion into account when providing assistance/services⁴. 97% of refugees and 88% of host community individuals feel that aid workers treat them with respect⁵.

¹ COVID-19 Samaj O Unnayan Shangstha (SKUS) Survey Results:

<https://onedrive.live.com/?authkey=%21AP22g%5F%2D5faY%5F10o&id=6C67BA54410E75A5%214249&cid=6C67BA54410E75A5>

² Average of 59% in refugee and 52% in host communities GTS (round-4), Jul, 2020: <https://groundtruthsolutions.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/GTS-Bangladesh-report-R4.pdf>

³ GTS (round-4), Jul, 2020: <https://groundtruthsolutions.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/GTS-Bangladesh-report-R4.pdf>

⁴ GTS (round-4), Jul, 2020: <https://groundtruthsolutions.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/GTS-Bangladesh-report-R4.pdf>

⁵ GTS (round-4), Jul, 2020: <https://groundtruthsolutions.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/GTS-Bangladesh-report-R4.pdf>

Logistics Sector

Sector Coordinator: Cameron Kiss
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- In August, 987 m3 of new relief items were received into common storage on behalf of seven organisations (of a total of 4,312 m3 of relief items stored on behalf of 14 organisations) in five logistics hubs in Cox's Bazar District.
- The Logistics Sector used 356 trucks to transport 3,441 m3 of relief items for 15 organisations.
- Partners facilitated the distribution of 8,500 donated pieces of Disposable Isolation Gowns to the Health Sector, for use in Isolation and Treatment Centres in the camps.
- The Logistics Sector received six solar direct drive vaccine refrigerators for storage of vaccines and medicine requiring cold storage. The refrigerators will be placed in the Logistics Sector hubs in Madhu Chara and Cox's Bazar for common storage services and will be loaned out to SARI ICTs upon request.

31 organisations are using common logistics services as of the end of August.

100%

60 logistics staff have attended training activities in 2020.

30%

70%

3 logistics staff received basic gender training in 2020.

30%

70%

Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Emergency Sector (ETS)

Telecommunications

Sector Coordinator: Habib Shashati
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Achievements in August

- ETS has connected 26 sites with internet connectivity as of end of August and has provided data connectivity services to 11 NGOs and 7 UN agencies.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in August

- Heavy rainfall during the monsoon season has affected the expansion plans of the ETS team in Cox's Bazar, and the team is now primarily focused on providing maintenance and emergency preparedness support for the expected monsoon-related floods.

Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group (GiHA)

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Achievements in August

- CiC Gender Officers and GiHA WG members targeted Rohingya women, including those with disabilities and transgender persons, for outreach awareness and consultations on COVID-19 and monsoon preparedness.
- GiHA WG members coordinated with SMSD Sector to ensure women and their families had information on monsoon preparedness and response, and regarding the use of women spaces as temporary emergency shelter due to flooding.
- Through a newly established Virtual Safety Network of local women's and men's groups in the host community, members continued their virtual engagement with refugee women and girls using mobile phones.
- CiC Gender Officers worked with Rohingya volunteers and women leaders across 13 camps to address gender issues and identify solutions and led orientation sessions on PSEA.
- The Gender Hub held a Learning Circle, "Feminism: Diverse Women as First Responders" on 19 August to commemorate World Humanitarian Day and as part of the Three-Year Mark of the Rohingya Response, with speakers including a Rohingya woman and other women leaders and over 90 participants.
- UN Women, UNFPA and the Gender Hub presented to the humanitarian community on the [findings and recommendations](#) of research on financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls on 24 August 2020.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in August

- A number of Women Safe Spaces have been used as temporary emergency shelter for families affected by the monsoon rainfall, causing challenges related to practicing COVID-19 mitigation measures and also continuing to ensure safe access to regular services and activities for women and girls in the centres. Guidelines from 2019 are being updated to address these challenges.

- Rohingya refugees have expressed concern that due to gender norms and increased domestic responsibilities, girls will face barriers in re-joining education programs once activities resume in camps.
- Women also report continued issues with accessing toilet facilities at night as well as gender barriers in accessing food distribution and the proportions and frequency of rations distributed.

Key Trends and Analysis

- There has been a reported increase in GBV and security risks for women, girls and transgender persons in the camps and host communities, including physical and verbal harassment, kidnapping, and trafficking, combined with reduced access to reporting mechanisms, protection and security services.

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