The WFP Level 3 Emergency Response for the refugee crisis in Bangladesh-Myanmar has been extended until 21 March 2018.

An estimated 655,500 refugees have arrived in Bangladesh since violence broke out in Myanmar’s northern Rakhine State on 25 August 2017.

WFP is providing food assistance to the influx through the provision of a general food basket to families and SuperCereal to pregnant and nursing women and children under 5 years.

About 90,000 refugees are receiving food assistance through e-vouchers. This assistance modality will increasingly replace in-kind distributions.

Strategic Outcome 1 (SO1): The four activities of

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Focus area:</th>
<th>6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crisis Response</td>
<td>Bangladesh Country Strategic Plan (46 months)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food insecurity</td>
<td>133.23 m (39%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR</td>
<td>8.28 m (24%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus area:</td>
<td>Vulnerable groups in rural and urban settings are supported by enhanced national actions to improve their nutrition indicators in line with the national targets by 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR</td>
<td>No one suffers from malnutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus area:</td>
<td>Root causes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SR</td>
<td>Bangladesh have access to reliable services in the areas of supply chain and emergency telecommunications during crises</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus area:</td>
<td>Humanitarian and development partners in Bangladesh have access to reliable services in the areas of supply chain and emergency telecommunications during crises</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Strategic Outcome 2 (SO2): The three activities of SO2 were developed to enhance crisis response and include: delivering an integrated assistance package in Cox’s Bazar, delivering an integrated assistance package in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and delivering food assistance in emergencies.

Strategic Outcome 3 (SO3): The two activities under SO3 focus on resilience building. Activities include evidence creation on innovative approaches to enhance resilience, and implementing the Nobo Jatra programme.

Strategic Outcome 4 (SO4): The two activities under SO4 feature capacity development and include capacity strengthening for emergency response, and leading the logistics cluster and co-leading the food security cluster.

Strategic Outcome 5 (SO5): The activities under SO5 focus on logistics and emergency telecommunications support services to the Government and humanitarian community.

Through its Country Strategic Plan (CSP), WFP aims to assist 2.9 million people over five years in 15 prioritised districts. Given the Government’s commitment and increased institutional and financial ability to support Bangladesh’s development, this programme reaffirms a shift in WFP’s focus. WFP will support the country on its path to end hunger and reduce malnutrition through the following five outcomes:

**WFP Country Strategy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Requirements (in USD)</th>
<th>Total Received (in USD)</th>
<th>6 Month Net Funding Requirements (in USD)*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh Country Strategic Plan (46 months)</td>
<td>343.6 m</td>
<td>133.23 m (39%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Outcome 1: Vulnerable groups in rural and urban settings are supported by enhanced national actions to improve their nutrition indicators in line with the national targets by 2020</td>
<td>44.8 m</td>
<td>14.93 m (33%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Outcome 2: The most vulnerable population of Cox’s Bazar, the Chittagong Hill Tracts and disaster-stricken areas have enhanced food security and nutrition</td>
<td>244.9 m</td>
<td>85.9 m (35%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Outcome 3: Innovative approaches to enhance the resilience of food insecure households exposed to climate-related shocks and stresses are validated by 2020</td>
<td>36.3 m</td>
<td>25.95 m (71%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Outcome 4: The humanitarian response system for large-scale natural disasters in Bangladesh can respond with reduced cost and lead time</td>
<td>13.8 m</td>
<td>2.48 m (18%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Outcome 5: Humanitarian and development partners in Bangladesh have access to reliable services in the areas of supply chain and emergency telecommunications during crises</td>
<td>3.7 m</td>
<td>3.98 m (108%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*January – June 2018

**In Numbers**

- **1,773,515** Planned people for assistance (as per CSP)
- **655,500** Refugees newly arrived from Myanmar
- **829,400** Refugees receiving food assistance

**People Assisted**

- **53%** Female
- **47%** Male

**Credit:** WFP/Shaikat Moljunder

**Caption:** A child eating lunch in the family’s tent. Her parent receives WFP rice distributions in Ukhiya, Cox’s Bazar.
Operational Updates

- The WFP Level 3 Emergency Response for the refugee crisis in Bangladesh–Myanmar has been extended until 21 March 2018.
- An estimated 655,500 refugees have arrived in Bangladesh from Myanmar since violence broke out in Myanmar’s northern Rakhine State on 25 August 2017.
- WFP has reached 829,400 Rohingya refugees with food assistance. Rations have been increased from the seventh round to 30kg rice, 9kg lentils and 3 litres of vegetable oil to provide 2,100 kilocalories per person per day. Families with 1 to 3 members now receive rations once a month, households with 4 to 7 members twice a month and households with over 8 members receive two rounds of double rations per month.
- For the October 2016 influx of undocumented Myanmar nationals, WFP has completed the second monthly cash-based transfer of Bangladesh Taka (BDT) 757 per person to 55,342 refugees.
- As part of the northwest flood response, WFP has transferred the third and final monthly unconditional cash entitlement of BDT 4,000 per household to 9,607 households through mobile banking. Currently, WFP is conducting post distribution monitoring and providing follow-up support to the people assisted.
- The WFP School Feeding Programme has reached 487,330 students with micronutrient fortified biscuits and 16,450 children with school meals.
- For phase II of the Forecast-based Financing (FoF) initiative, WFP has partnered with the Red Cross/Red Crescent Climate Centre (RCCC), the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) and the German Red Cross (GRC) Bangladesh to set up beneficiary selection criteria and to design impact-based assessments.
- Under the Nobo Jatra project, WFP transferred conditional cash entitlements of BDT 2,200 per individual to 9,340 pregnant and nursing women for better nutrition and BDT 1,000 per individual to 6,608 women graduating from the livelihoods programme. A one-day training for 577 Village Development Committees was organized to support the local disaster management committees.
- Along with other development partners, WFP co-partnered with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to organise a nutrition-sensitive social protection symposium. WFP chaired the “Lessons Learned – from Evidence to Policy” session which concluded with a note to intensify the integration of behaviour change communication on nutrition in government safety nets to achieve nutrition outcomes.

Country Background

WFP aims to reduce hunger and undernutrition in the coming years by implementing and developing, through effective partnerships, innovative long-term solutions and by responding to emergencies. To underpin the development agenda of the Government, WFP supports selected government safety net programmes that focus on food security and help mainstream nutrition. WFP’s direct interventions are geographically concentrated in areas of great food insecurity and vulnerability, such as in Cox’s Bazar where a Level 3 Emergency Response is in operation since 22 September 2017.

Bangladesh still faces high poverty and undernutrition rates, aggravated by frequent natural disasters and a high population density. The high prevalence of child marriage, adolescent pregnancies and undernutrition in mothers and adolescent girls contributes to the intergenerational cycle of undernutrition. The prevalence of stunting in children under the age of 5 years continues to pose a major challenge, with 5.5 million children (36 percent) stunted and a global acute undernutrition rate of 14 percent (2014 DHS). Despite considerable progress in school enrolment, an estimated 3.3 million out of 20 million primary school aged children remain out of school.

WFP has been present in Bangladesh since 1974. It has assisted registered refugees from Myanmar since 1992.

Donors

Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Denmark, ECHO, EU, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Private Donors, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, UK, UN Common Funds and Agencies, UN CERF and USA.

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2 According to the Inter Sector Coordination Group report of 31 December.

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