



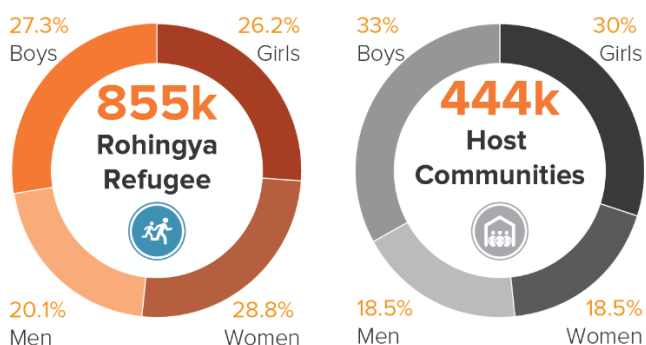
Photo: WFP/Nalifa Mehelin

Highlights

- The humanitarian community – NGOs and UN - are working closely with the Government of Bangladesh, including the Deputy Commissioner (DC), Civil Surgeon, Upazila Nirbahi Officers (UNOs), Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC), and all Camp-in-Charges (CiCs) on COVID-19 preparedness and response.
- No confirmed cases of COVID-19 have been identified so far in the Rohingya refugee camps. One COVID-19 positive case was confirmed in Cox's Bazar district on 24 March according to IEDCR sources (<https://www.iedcr.gov.bd/>).
- Urgent priorities continue to be identification of sites to build isolation and treatment facilities, intensified hygiene promotion activities through community messaging, community engagement and training of health care workers.
- From 25 March, only essential services were being delivered in the camps, to minimize risk within the camp setting.

1.3M PEOPLE TOTAL TARGETED IN JRP 2020

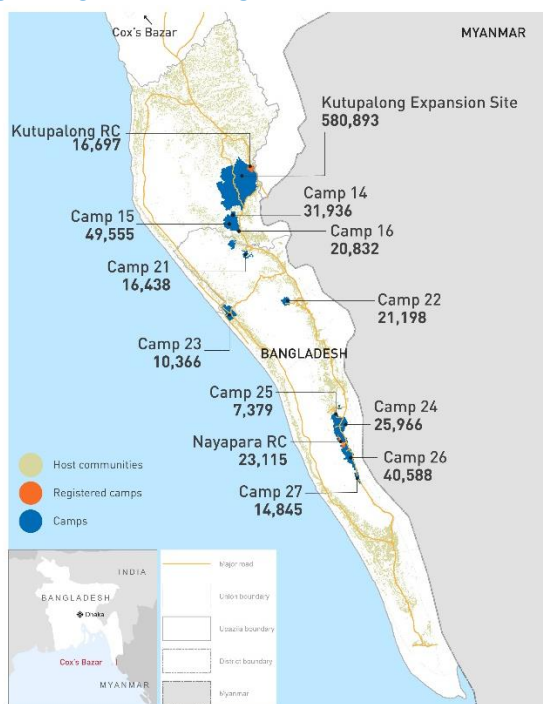
POPULATION KEY FIGURE



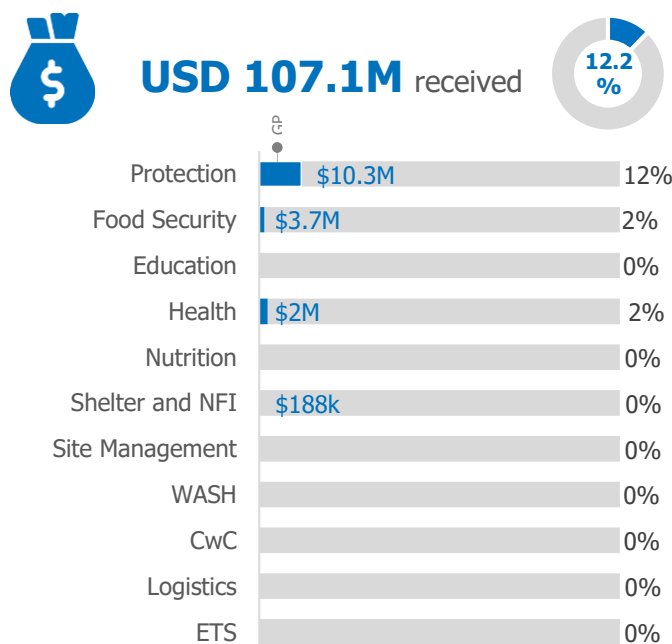
FUNDING OVERVIEW



POPULATION MAP BY CAMP



FUNDING FOR JOINT RESPONSE PLAN 2019



Funding figures are in USD and were extracted from FTS as of 31 Mar. 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: THE ROLE OF VOLUNTEERS IN COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS



Rohingya volunteers are playing an increasingly central role to the response, for example conducting soap distribution. Photo: Care

More than 2,000 volunteers are working with community and religious leaders to communicate important prevention measures on health and hygiene through multiple channels in all 34 camps and adjacent Bangladeshi communities. 1,500 of these volunteers are refugee community health workers conducting outreach to share key messages through printed, audio and video materials in Rohingya, Bangla and English language. During March, Health Sector partners trained community health workers who continue to cascade training to hundreds more volunteers across other Sectors.

There is a focus on targeted outreach to the most vulnerable; women's leaders and their networks are conducting targeted awareness sessions and outreach to women and girls and community outreach members are disseminating lifesaving messages to the elderly and persons living with disabilities. Ensuring that both Rohingya and host community volunteers have dedicated support and guidance on delivering life-saving services and assistance is fundamental to the response.

SECTOR INTERVENTION: ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGES & GAPS

Food Security Sector (FSS)

Sector Coordinator:

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Achievements in March

- Food assistance was provided to 183,678 refugee households (852,266 individuals) in all 34 camps. 10,233 households transitioned to purchasing food rations using e-vouchers, increasing the total number of e-voucher beneficiaries to 132,893 households or 72% of total households receiving assistance.
- 51,998 households received in-kind food rations and complimentary food from ICRC, World Vision and fresh food at farmers' markets by Relief International/WFP.
- 16 WFP e-voucher outlets were operational in March after the opening of a new outlet.
- WFP rolled out Building Blocks for e-voucher assistance in a TV Tower covering two camps. Building Blocks uses blockchain technology to make cash transfers more efficient, secure and transparent, while protecting beneficiary data and controlling financial risks.
- 276,264 refugee children in 4,050 learning centres received high energy biscuits.
- 13,651 refugee households in 27 camps received support for self-reliance – cash-for-work, life skills training, and technical skills training - from 4 implementing partners.

852,266 refugees receiving regular food assistance through in-kind or e-voucher disaggregated by gender and sex.

100%

13,651 households receiving livelihoods support disaggregated by sex (host-community)

15%

85%

10,381 households receiving portable skills support and self-reliance disaggregated by sex (refugees)

26%

74%

Monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Host community response achievements in March

- 10,381 households in all unions of Ukhiya and Teknaf received livelihood support from 16 implementing partners.
- 134,393 host community children in 486 government schools received high energy biscuits.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- To prepare and respond to COVID-19 spread, non-critical activities - School Feeding, Complementary Food Voucher, Farmers' Markets, Self-reliance Support, and Livelihood Support - were suspended or reprogrammed from 25 March.

Water, Sanitation & Hygiene Sector (WASH)

Sector
Coordinators:

Julien Graveleau: jgraveleau@unicef.org
Asif Arafat: washsecco-cox@bd-actionagainsthunger.org

Achievements in March

- 584 new latrines were constructed out of a total of 61,741 existing latrines, with a further 13,799 latrines desludged. 197 new bathing facilities were constructed out of 19,486 facilities, and 249 new water points were constructed, to reach a total of 10,594 existing water points.
- The WASH Sector reached 261,991 Rohingyas refugees as part of the COVID-19 response. In addition, 137,930 households received soap and 41,581 households received family hygiene kits as part of regular distribution in camps.
- 5,712 hand-washing stations were installed in public places and 22,096 shared bathing and toilet facilities were disinfected as a COVID-19 prevention measure.

Host community response achievements in March

- WASH Sector partners are supporting four district health centres with sanitation and water facilities.
- Teknaf is facing limitations with water supply due to the dry season, so 200m³ per day of extra water is being supplied by WASH Sector partners.
- 258 hand-washing stations have been built in host communities and in Cox's Bazar city and 446,000 Bangladeshis have been reached with basic hygiene messages through mass media outreach.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- Partners are responding to COVID-19 using their regular 2020 budget. To scale-up COVID-19 response without impacting activities planned in JRP, additional financial support is urgently required.

Shelter and Non-Food Items (NFI) Sector

Sector
Coordinator:
Co-Coordinator:

Tonja Klanšek sheltercxb.coord@gmail.com
Ratan Podder
sheltercxb.coord1@gmail.com

Achievements in March

- [Recommendations for distributions in light of COVID-19](#) were developed and implemented jointly with Health, Protection, Food Security, Site Management and Site Development and WASH Sectors.
- A [Pre-triage/Screening Facilities Guidance Note](#) was developed together with Health Sector to support the construction of new health facilities.
- 6,353 households were supported with Transitional Shelter Assistance I in March (84,214 households since the beginning of the program). An additional 2,393 households were supported with repair and maintenance activities in March (82,936 since the beginning of the program) and a further 196 households were supported with mid-term shelter.
- 192,803 refugee households are receiving LPG refills. Since the beginning of the LPG program in late 2018, 1,765,347 refills have been provided.

Host community response achievements in March

- In total, 29,128 host community households are receiving LPG refills; 460 new households were enrolled in March.

25,300 (new in March) targeted people disaggregated by sex, age and disability benefitting from at least 20 l/p/d of safe water for drinking and other domestic purposes.



12,880 (new in March) targeted people disaggregated, by sex, age and disability in camps who have access to functional and improved sanitation facilities.



25,100 (new in March) of targeted people disaggregated by sex in host communities who are benefitting from safe and maintained water and improved sanitation services.

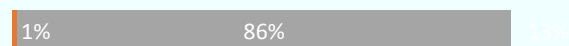


64,238 in March targeted households accessing hygiene supplies (voucher or in-kind system).

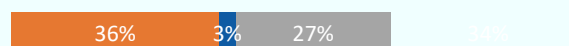


Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

1% of Rohingya households reached with NFI voucher system (targeted 87%).



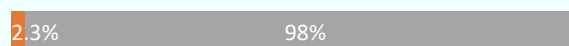
39% (including 3% new in March) of Rohingya households benefitting from treated bamboo (targeted 66%).



18,417 (including 5,477 new in March) people trained.



58 host community households benefitting from shelter support.



Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- Due to COVID-19 most of the Shelter/NFI activities have been put on hold. Activities are limited for the time being to emergency shelter response and LPG distributions.



Site Management Site Development (SMSD) Sector

Sector Coordinator Kerry McBroom smcxb.coord@gmail.com

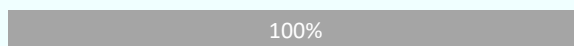
Achievements in March

- Site Management and Site Development Sector (SMSD) teams dedicated resources to COVID-19 prevention and awareness, establishing handwashing stations and conducting awareness sessions through radio, leaflets, outreach, information boards, and loudspeakers. Site development teams worked with Health Sector colleagues to identify land and existing facilities for life-saving COVID-19 services.
- SMSD teams successfully piloted a new Remote Service Monitoring system where volunteer team leaders monitor service delivery, relocations, community feedback, and community-led responses. 42 volunteer team leaders received gender mainstreaming training from CiC Gender Officers as part of the pilot.
- SMSD partners conducted 12 batches of Disaster Preparedness trainings for 260 Disaster Management Unit volunteers ahead of cyclone season.
- SMSD partners cleaned 3,500 meters of drains, 2,550 meters of canals, and repaired 4,702 meters of roads throughout the camps. In Camp 11, SMSD and WASH teams partnered to clean-up 44 rubbish collection centres.
- SMSD teams received training on Women's Participation Baseline Assessments and Women's Participation and Leadership (37 SMSD and Protection staff); Disability Inclusion and Protection (40 SMSD staff and volunteers); and Counter Trafficking (85 SMSD staff).

10% of refugees living in camps where a camp representation system is in place (targeted 50%).



0% of refugees living in camps where a service monitoring system is operationalized



0 community discussions on macro-settlement facilitated (targeted 34 camps).



Prior 2020 achievement, Monthly achievement, gap against 2020

Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- Reduced humanitarian access presents a challenge for conducting awareness activities, cyclone preparedness, and ensuring service delivery to the most vulnerable.



Protection (PWG)

Sector Coordinator:

Child Protection Sub-Sector:
Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector:

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Achievements in March

- The Protection Working Group (PWG) finalized Protection Mainstreaming Focal Points Terms of Reference and identified focal points who will be embedded within other Sectors. The Focal Points will initially be activated in Health, WASH and Site Management Sectors in order to provide technical support and ensure a Do No Harm and age gender and diversity approach. In cooperation with the Age and Disability Working Group, the Sector jointly developed guidelines to ensure that persons with disabilities and the elderly are included in the COVID-19 response.
- Protection Emergency Response Units (PERU) were activated in all 34 camps, to ensure effective referral pathways, especially for the most vulnerable, and to identify protection trends.
- Community outreach members continued to disseminate COVID-19 key messages, reaching 10,708 individuals including elderly and persons living with disabilities. The Sector further engaged with Imams under religious networks, reaching more than 40,000 individuals. Camp Protection Focal Points in all 34 camps facilitated COVID-19 training sessions provided by Community Health Workers supervisors for Child Protection/GBV camp focal points, PERU teams, volunteers, and Community Outreach Member Supervisors.

490 (new in March) cases supported with legal aid and related services including victims of trafficking and exploitation disaggregated by age and sex.



41,323 (new in March) people reached by community-led messaging on key protection risks and related mitigation measures



418 (new in March) individuals from service providers and authorities trained on protection including gender



Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020

- 1,276 individuals at heightened risk were identified and supported through protection case management mechanisms.
- 1,859 community-led initiatives were supported by protection actors in order to continue strengthening community-based structures in the camps.

Host community response achievements in March

- In March, a Protection Sector partner received anti-trafficking training which was cascaded to 123 female-headed households in camps and the host community. The trained women undertook community outreach activities, reaching 1,860 women and girls in four camps and the host community.
- Protection partners began construction of new classrooms for a high school and women's college in Ukhiya Upazila. Support to the (Ukhiya Press Club), was also initiated. The projects will be completed within two months and will contribute to social cohesion between host communities and refugees.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- Due to reduction in the footprint of service providers in the camps, the lack of effective communication remains of concern for effective referral of cases (especially health and emergency protection cases).
- Essential protection services are being negatively impacted by restricted camp access. There has been a reported rise in frequency and severity of intimate partner violence in some camps.

Child Protection Sub-Sector (CPSS)

Achievements in March

- 39 children oriented on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) in the context of COVID-19.
- 30 case worker supervisors reached through Child Protection (Information Management System (IMS+) virtual training.
- CPSS partners carried out awareness messages on personal hygiene, child protection and referral pathways with both parents and children.
- More than 8,000 children were reached through psychosocial support services and a further 1,728 children and adolescents were reached through life skills programming, psychosocial support and awareness raising activities. 623 children received individual case management support.
- Due to the impact of COVID-19, the modality of individual case management support shifted to home-to-home visits and the use of child-friendly corners of closed facilities.

Host community response achievements in March

- CPSS partners reached 1,849 host community children, adolescents, and parents/caregivers with COVID-19 awareness sessions through community-based child protection mechanisms.
- CPSS partners facilitated an awards ceremony for adolescents who have completed 6-month training on vocational skills, including tailoring and computer literacy.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- Lack of mobile network creates difficulties for partners to support remote case management and other services.
- Closure of child-friendly spaces and multi-purposes centres as preventative measures for COVID-19 required partners to adjust programming to ensure continuity of care for at-risk children as well as mitigate against secondary child protection risks.
- Rumors and misconceptions among community members, families and children was a challenge for child protection actors, particularly in dissemination of preventative messages.

2,989 (new in March) community activists (women, adolescent girls, adolescent boys and men) trained and engaged in GBV prevention strategies using tested social change approaches in the camps and targeted host community.



10,833 (new in March) individuals benefitting from structured PSS services that meet minimum standards (by age, sex, diversity), in the camps and targeted host community.



10,972 (including 10,833 new women and girls reached in March) benefitting from skills development and empowerment programming (by age, diversity) in the camps and targeted host community.

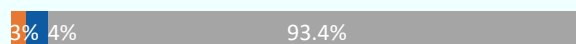


Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

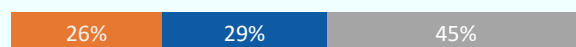
32,061 (new in March) girls and boys benefiting from age, diversity and gender sensitive structured and sustained, mental health and psychosocial support services



1,981 (new in March) identified girls and boys at risk who received specialized age and gender sensitive child protection service through individual case management to meet their unique needs.



20,331 (new in March) adolescents receiving services including life skills, and pre-vocational skills, resilience activities and peacebuilding skills.



Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector (GBVSS)

Achievements in March

- Essential services (psychosocial support, case management, midwifery) continued in all 34 camps, including awareness sessions on handwashing and prevention of the spread of COVID-19.
- 25 people were trained on Primero/GBVIMS+ (information management systems for the GBV response).
- A lesson on GBV has been included in the education curriculum in two camps and host communities which represents progress towards gender mainstreaming efforts.

Host community response achievements in March

- 12 COVID-19 awareness/hygiene sessions were conducted for 180 people in four unions in Ukhiya and Teknaf.
- Essential services (psychosocial support, case management, midwifery) continued in host communities.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- GBV SS is working with partners to address issues of rumours, movement restrictions, and staff workload.



Health Sector

Sector

Coordinator:

Mukesh
Prajapati:

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Achievements in March

- Health Sector partners continue to assess the capacity of existing isolation and treatment facilities, as well as identify new sites and expansion possibilities for existing sites for COVID-19 response. The government is also establishing isolation and treatment facilities in Ukhiya, Teknaf, Ramu, and Chakaria Upazila Health Complexes.
- Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) training was provided to 284 healthcare workers (36 humanitarian organizations and government healthcare workers).
- The number of measles cases has consistently decreased since week 6 (3-9 February 2020) following the Measles and Rubella campaign. A total of 323 suspected measles cases were reported in March.

52% of deliveries assisted by a skilled birth attendant (targeted 65%)



3.1 consultations per person per year disaggregated by age and gender



55% of coverage of Diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis (DPT3) among <1-year-old (targeted 95%)



Monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Host community response achievements in March

- A rapid assessment to assist in the establishment of isolation and treatment centres for COVID-19 was undertaken at Ramu Upazila Health Complex. The aim of the exercise was to identify the support required to scale up isolation and case management services for the district. The Health Complex is planned to function as a 50-bed referral facility. Partners are supporting with human resources, laboratory, ambulance, and personal protective equipment (PPE), among other items.
- The Cox's Bazar Sadar District Hospital is being supported to set up an Intensive Care Unit (ICU), with a maximum of 10 beds and a maximum of 10 high dependency beds. PPE has also been provided to the facility.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- Partners continue to report reduced patient flow and 4W data similarly reveals a reduced uptake of health services.

Education Sector

Sector Coordinators:

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Ralph Zivera lcfa.cxb@humanitarianresponse.info

Achievements in March

- 40 Adolescent and Youth Clubs were created in two camps where literacy, numeracy and life skills sessions were conducted in shifts for 800 boys and girls.
- Two surveys were conducted in two camps for the Myanmar Curriculum Pilot, reaching 360 learners.
- 50 community-based early childhood care and education centres are operating in different blocks with 1,500 children between 3-5 years. These centres allow children to develop in a creative and enjoyable space while preparing for basic education.

Host community response achievements in March

- Early learning opportunities reached 2,200 children from 3-5 years in five Unions in Ukhiya sub district. 100 female facilitators received training on early learning pedagogy and COVID-19 awareness.
- Financial Literacy education conducted for 120 learners in 36 sessions.
- An Ability Based Accelerated Learning session was conducted in 51 parent-meetings with 1,566 participants.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- Closure of Temporary Learning Centres (TLCs) due to COVID-19 prevention.
- Low attendance rate of adolescent girls, highlighting the need for female-only TLCs.
- Teacher attrition due to low salaries.

325,764 refugee girls and boys aged 3-24 years old having access to equitable learning opportunities, including life skills and resilience programs, in a safe, inclusive and protective environment.



39,651 crisis-affected host community girls and boys aged 4-24 years old provided support to equitable learning opportunities, including life skills and resilience programs, in a safe, inclusive and protective environment



8,559 learning facilitators from the host and refugee community trained in advanced/thematic education principles, including DRR



Prior 2020 achievement, Monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Nutrition Sector

Sector Coordinator:

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Achievements in March

- 11,450 malnourished boys and girls aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women received essential nutrition treatment services. Beneficiaries reached in March represent 16% of the annual target.
- 168,573 boys and girls aged 6-59 months reached with Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme. Beneficiaries reached in March amounts to 120% of the monthly target.
- 11,235 new pregnant and lactating women and caregivers (23 percent of the annual target) of children reached by IYCF counselling and participated in the IYCF group sessions (conducted until mid-March, after which group sessions changed to individual counselling due to social distancing restrictions in the camps).
- COVID-19-modified nutrition services are being rolled out due to COVID-19 preparedness, including increased volume of ready-to-use therapeutic foods and reduced distribution frequency to ensure social distancing at nutrition centres.

11,450 (including 3,403 new in March) malnourished boys and girls aged 6-59 month, including children with disabilities, and PLW reached by the essential curative nutrition services.



168,573 boys and girls aged six-59 months and Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW) reached through Blanket Supplementary Feeding services.



11,235 (including 2,761 new in March) PLWs and caregivers of children under five receiving Maternal Nutrition, IYCF counselling and participated in the IYCF group sessions.



Prior 2020 achievement, monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Host community response achievements in March

- 29,803 boys and girls were screened for malnutrition, of which 64 were admitted for treatment of severe acute malnutrition; 50 were successfully cured and discharged.
- COVID-19 awareness materials was disseminated in all target communities.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- Insufficient quantities of infrared thermometers and disposable personal protective equipment for the pre-screening points of nutrition facilities.
- Limited variety and number of Information and Education Communication/Behaviour Change Communication materials on disinfection basics for both service providers and communities.
- Funding gaps for procurement of additional, unforeseen items (e.g. PPE) for protecting staff at pre-screening points of the nutrition facilities.

Communication with Communities Working Group (CwC WG)

Coordinator: Md. Mahbubur Rahman cxb.cwcwg@gmail.com

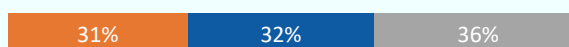
Achievements in March

- 173,936 people were reached through 15,827 awareness-raising sessions and 345 community volunteers were engaged to carry out awareness-raising activities.
- 16 printed, audio and video materials/messages and 35 podcast programmes were developed to be disseminated to the Rohingya community were developed on COVID-19 awareness, and other topics including risks of trafficking, the importance of nutrition for Pregnant and Lactating Women, and fire safety.
- 33,315 people participated in 3,095 listener group sessions focusing on COVID-19 awareness including hygiene practices, safe drinking water, social distancing and coughing etiquette. A further 13,698 people were reached through 1,071 video screening sessions.
- 6,763 people were reached through 250 meetings with community level committees and 21 community theatre/drama were organized for community members.

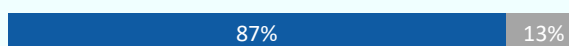
295,788 refugee and host community members reached through CwC services.



957 (including 487 new in March) humanitarian staff/volunteer trained/oriented on CwC and humanitarian principles.



26 humanitarian organizations regularly participating in coordination meetings.



Monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Host community response achievements in March

- 60,400 people were reached through 546 awareness raising/sensitization sessions on the risks of COVID-19. 3,194 people were reached through 116 listener group session.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- Regular communication and daily reporting from field offices is difficult due to telecommunications restrictions.
- Restrictions of delivery of non-essential activities and services in the camps makes it more difficult to reach Rohingya and host communities at scale.

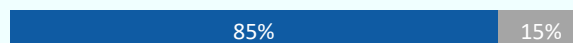
Logistics Sector

Sector Coordinator: Cameron Kiss
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Achievements in March

- As of March, the Sector received a total of 40,795 m3 (12,895 mt) of relief items for 36 organisations.
- Logistics Sector distributed hand sanitizer to 27 organisations, including national NGOs, international NGOs, and UN agencies, to facilitate office hygiene and staff wellbeing in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- The Cargo Limit Recommendation Inside Camps guidance was translated and published in Bangla.
- As part of preparation measures for COVID-19, the Logistics Sector assisted World Concern/Medair with technical support to set up tents which will be used as isolation units in Camp 20 extension.
- Customs and import information and lists of suppliers for medical PPE and equipment are being compiled and shared.

17 organizations are using common logistics services.



60 logistics staff (national/international/ male/female) attending training activities.



2 logistics staff received basic gender training.



Monthly achievement, gap against 2020 target

Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- Entry to Kutupalong Camp through Foliopara road is closed as it is under construction, which is estimated to continue for the next 3 months, causing heavy traffic congestion on alternate routes.
- Overwhelmed national and international market for COVID-19 response items.

Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group (GiHA)

Co-Chairs: Marie Sophie Pettersson:
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 Priscilla Tamale: tamalep@unhcr.org

Achievements in March

- To ensure gender commitments are central in the COVID-19 preparedness and response at all stages, a Call for Urgent Gender Actions in COVID-19 response was drafted and circulated widely.
- CiC Gender Officers and volunteers as well as women's leaders and their networks in camps and host communities conducted COVID-19 awareness sessions and consultations across camps especially targeting women and girls.
- Gender and COVID-19 Information Education Communication material was developed and is being finalized in coordination with the CwC WG.
- Orientations on gender impacts from COVID-19 have been provided to sectors.
- A joint gender analysis on COVID-19 in Cox's Bazar is being conducted.

Sector Gaps/Constraints in March

- Community engagement and consultations on COVID-19 have not adequately targeted women and girls, including women leaders and networks, and RCCE strategies have not adequately looked at gender dimensions.
- Men and women in communities demand gender-segregated facilities for possible shielding, isolation and treatment in order for them to be socially acceptable, and to prevent risks of GBV.

For more information:

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