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Bangladesh

Since August 2017, more than 730,000 Rohingya, including 400,000 children, have fled violence in Myanmar and settled in Cox's Bazar District, Bangladesh.¹ Since then, with the support of the Government and humanitarian partners, 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. The congested conditions and poor knowledge of hygiene practices continue to put 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.² Twenty-three per cent of girls and 57 per cent of women feel unsafe when using latrines.³ Despite the significant progress made towards increasing access to emergency education, 39 per cent of children and 97 per cent of adolescents still lack access to learning opportunities. Adolescents and youth face specific risks⁴ that are exacerbated by the lack of education, occupational training and safe livelihood opportunities. Parts of Bangladesh, including Cox's Bazar, are regularly threatened by cyclones and monsoon flooding. Nationally, 60 per cent of the country is vulnerable to floods. Cyclones and storm surges are common in coastal areas, with devastating effects on local populations.

Humanitarian strategy

UNICEF's humanitarian response in Bangladesh is aligned with the 2019 Joint Response Plan for the Rohingya crisis. In cooperation with the Government and partners, UNICEF will continue to link its humanitarian response and development programmes to achieve sustainable results. In 2019, UNICEF will deliver life-saving, multi-sectoral services wherever possible, while strengthening national service delivery and promoting social cohesion in host communities. This includes providing water and sanitation; providing health services for children and pregnant women; facilitating treatment for children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM); supporting access to quality education;⁵ reaching children affected by violence, abuse and neglect with prevention and assistance; and preventing gender and sexual violence and supporting survivors. The specific needs of adolescents will be prioritized, particularly their access to education, health care, occupational and lifeskills training and participation opportunities. UNICEF will continue to invest in preparedness, accountability to affected populations and gender-based violence mitigation. Where agreed with the Government, cash assistance will be linked to social protection measures. Lessons learned in Cox's Bazar will be used to strengthen government service delivery across Bangladesh. UNICEF will continue to lead the nutrition sector and the child protection subsector, and co-lead the education and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sectors.

Results from 2018

As of 29 October 2018, UNICEF had received US\$116.7 million against the US\$149.8 million appeal (78 per cent funded).⁶ UNICEF achieved remarkable results for children and affected populations, especially in camp settings, and strengthened its work in host communities. The emphasis on WASH activities, particularly the establishment of diarrhoeal treatment centres and the delivery of strong behaviour change communication messaging, contributed to averting a potentially major cholera epidemic. The establishment of more than 1,300 learning centres provided education opportunities for more than 70 per cent of targeted school-aged children. Nutrition Action Week allowed for the screening of over 149,000 children, with more than 1,000 children referred for SAM treatment. UNICEF also scaled up efforts across all programme areas to provide children and adolescents with opportunities for a better future. With UNICEF support, the education sector developed a learning framework for pre-primary through Grade 8 that will provide standardized teaching and learning for refugee children. A learning framework for adolescents is under development. In host communities, UNICEF is implementing a tailored strategy in close cooperation with and through government systems. Although results in host communities were initially low, enhanced efforts will be made throughout 2019 to achieve planning goals.

Humanitarian Action for Children

unicef 

Total people in need: 1.2 million⁷

Total children (<18) in need: 683,000 (341,000 girls and 342,000 boys)⁸

Total people to be reached: 685,574⁹

Total children to be reached: 438,074¹⁰

2019 programme targets:

Nutrition

- 24,500 children under 5 years with SAM admitted for treatment
- 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

- 550,000 people benefiting from safe water to agreed standards that meets domestic demands
- 550,000 people benefiting from functional latrines to agreed standards

Child protection and gender-based violence

- 160,000 children, including adolescents, received mental health and psychosocial support
- 46,930 adolescents received life-skills education
- 27,000 adolescent girls and women provided with gender-based violence prevention and response services

Education

- 272,000 children aged 4 to 14 years accessed formal or non-formal education, including early learning
- 52,000 adolescents aged 15 to 18 years participated in skills development programmes for learning, personal empowerment and/or employability

Communication for development/ accountability mechanisms¹¹

- 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
- 50,000 people accessing mechanisms for voicing their needs/concerns, including feedback and complaint mechanisms

	Sector 2018 targets	Sector total results	UNICEF 2018 targets		UNICEF total results
			Refugees	Host communities	
NUTRITION					
Children aged 0 to 59 months treated for SAM	35,093	26,161	24,000	546	17,299
Pregnant and lactating women reached with counselling and messaging on infant and young child feeding practices ⁱ	85,956	196,939	50,780	13,178	123,322 ⁱⁱ
Children aged 6 to 59 months receiving vitamin A	187,576	195,323	187,576	48,676	250,628
HEALTH					
Children aged 0 to 11 months who have received pentavalent 3 vaccine			26,518	72,298	53,337
Children under 5 years, including newborns, receiving primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities			46,440 ⁱⁱⁱ	40,000	134,954
Sick newborns treated in UNICEF-supported newborn stabilization units and special care newborn units			360	3,240	3,034
People older than 1 year who have received oral cholera vaccines			815,000	135,000	879,273
Pregnant women who have received HIV testing and counselling			2,000	3,000	1,179
WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE					
People who have continued access to safe drinking water to agreed standards	1,025,495	834,237	400,000	200,000	334,650
People who have access to culturally-appropriate latrines and washing facilities	1,025,495	783,719	400,000	200,000	638,130
People receiving key messages on improved hygiene practices ^{iv}	1,025,495	985,579	400,000	200,000	682,793
CHILD PROTECTION					
Children reached with psychosocial support services	400,000	214,387	210,000	90,000	158,707
Children at risk, including unaccompanied and separated children, identified and receiving case management services	22,000	11,403	7,000	3,000	5,000
People accessing gender-based violence services ^v			7,000	3,000	42,224 ^{vi}
EDUCATION^{vii}					
Children aged 4 to 14 years enrolled in emergency non-formal education, including early learning ^{viii}	368,000	181,877 ^{ix}	151,765	50,514	147,558
Teachers trained to support improved learning	9,000	4,929	3,449	750	3,958
COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT/ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS					
People reached with information, dissemination, community engagement and accountability mechanisms on life-saving behaviours and available services ^x			300,000		330,000
Adolescent girls and boys engaged to provide life-saving information and referral to services as change agents			10,000	5,000	13,630

Results are through 31 October 2018.

ⁱ Results for pregnant and lactating women who received infant and young child feeding counselling and children reached with health care may include recurrence during the response period. UNICEF and the nutrition sector are reviewing this indicator to enhance the quality of reporting.

ⁱⁱ This indicator was overachieved due to nutrition sector reporting tools capturing both messaging (group-based dissemination of infant and young child feeding care and feeding practices) and counselling (skilled, one-on-one support for feeding challenges and during critical complementary feeding ages of 6 to 12 months). For 2019, the sector agreed to capture counselling only not the messaging so only one-on-one support will be considered counselling.

ⁱⁱⁱ This refugee result was overachieved as the number of consultations were measured instead of the number of children. It was noted that one child had approximately three to four consultations.

^{iv} Results for this indicator may include recurrence during the response period.

^v This refers to gender-based violence prevention and response services, which include medical referrals, psychosocial support, health services, legal services and dignity kits.

^{vi} This indicator was overachieved. Initially, this indicator was limited to case management, including medical referrals, psychosocial support and/or relevant supply/material assistance. Later, this indicator started to include all women (older than 18 years) and girls (under 18 years) who access safe spaces regardless of the service they receive and include all men and women participating in at least one gender-based violence prevention and response programme (psychosocial support, case management, medical referrals, relevant supply/material assistance) through outreach activities and other means.

^{vii} The education sector and UNICEF initially focused on the provision of emergency education to children aged 4 to 14 years. In the last quarter of 2018, the education sector established a technical working group on youth and adolescents and UNICEF started to roll out its adolescent programming, including regular education and skills-based training. These results will be reported in 2019.

^{viii} The host community result covers children from 47 government schools in Ukhiya and Teknaf reached with educational supplies such as school bags, school-in-a-box kits, early childhood development kits, education-in-emergencies kits and/or school improvement grants. The age group for the education sector is based on the Joint Response Plan age disaggregation (i.e., 3 to 5 years and 6 to 14 years).

^{ix} This result varies from the October 2018 situation report (sector result was reported as 242,448) as it mistakenly included results for youth as well as host communities.

^x Point-in-time coverage. This indicator is specific to UNICEF-supported household-level mobilization efforts and does not include coverage of the target population through radio and other local media initiatives.

Funding requirements

UNICEF is requesting US\$152.5 million to meet the life-saving and humanitarian-development needs of Rohingya refugees and Bangladeshi host communities. This includes the provision of essential nutrition, health, WASH, protection and education services. Given the country's high level of 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\$38.8 million needed to strengthen UNICEF's humanitarian and development work in Cox's Bazar District and strengthen emergency preparedness elements countrywide.

Sector	2019 requirements (US\$)
Nutrition	18,000,000
Health	19,773,645
Water, sanitation and hygiene	35,700,000
Child protection and gender-based violence	18,835,658
Education	47,000,000
Communication for development and accountability to affected populations	4,200,000
Emergency preparedness and social protection ¹²	9,000,000
Total	152,509,303

¹ Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, '2019 Joint Response Plan for Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis' (draft), OCHA, 2018. The 2019 Joint Response Plan was not finalized/published at the time of writing this appeal. The appeal may be updated to be aligned with the published 2019 Joint Response Plan, once finalized.

² Child protection sector 5W (monitoring tool), as of 11 October 2018.

³ REACH household survey conducted in June 2018.

⁴ According to the protection sector, adolescents face specific risks, exacerbated by the absence of education, vocational training and safe livelihood opportunities. Early or forced marriage is a negative coping mechanism with some girls marrying as young as 12. Boys are at heightened risk of child labour, exploitation and trafficking. Agencies continue to monitor the worst forms of child labour, involving children as young as 7 years old being recruited into abusive and exploitative work.

⁵ 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.

⁶ Available funds include US\$77.2 million received against the 2018 appeal and US\$39.5 million carried forward from the previous year.

⁷ This includes 899,000 refugees in camps, 7,000 refugees living in host communities and 336,000 affected people from host communities. '2019 Joint Response Plan for Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis' (draft).

⁸ Fifty-five per cent of the population in need is children, according to '2019 Joint Response Plan for Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis' (draft).

⁹ This figure is a combination of 45 per cent of the target for water and sanitation for adults (247,500) and the vitamin A (191,074 children aged 6 to 59 months) and education (247,000 children aged 5 to 18 years) targets.

¹⁰ This figure is a combination of the vitamin A (191,074 children aged 6 to 59 months) and education (247,000 children aged 5 to 18 years) targets.

¹¹ Only face-to-face interventions are included.

¹² It was agreed at inter-agency level and with partners, that preparedness measures and related funding are necessary to deal with the recurrent and potentially severe impact of the monsoon/cyclone season.

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