



UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency



MYANMAR REFUGEE EMERGENCY RESPONSE IN BANGLADESH

Supplementary Appeal
March - December 2018

Illustrative map



I. HIGHLIGHTS

900,000
Estimated total
refugee population
as of February 2018

1.3 million
People in need of
humanitarian
assistance in 2018

80%
Of refugees
are women and
children

UNHCR presence
220 national and
international staff
2 offices

II. OVERVIEW

In the **fastest growing refugee exodus** that the world has witnessed in decades, some **671,000 refugees fled into Bangladesh from Myanmar's Rakhine State** in less than six months starting in August 2017.

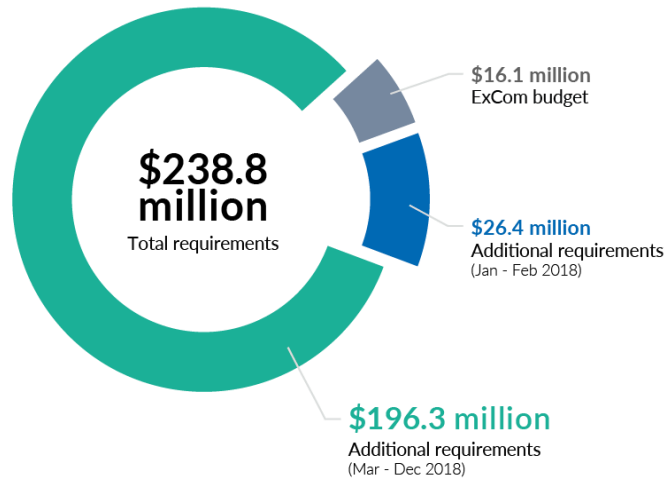
The new arrivals joined more than 200,000 refugees from Myanmar already in the country, mainly in the District of Cox's Bazaar, bringing the **total to approximately 900,000**.¹ With some 602,400 refugees in the Kutupalong-Balukhali site, it is now the largest refugee settlement in the world.

The "Rohingya refugee crisis", as it is commonly referred to, has now slowed as compared with the pace and magnitude of 2017. Refugees are, however, still arriving from Myanmar into Bangladesh, some **3,236 in February 2018 alone**.

More than **three quarters of the refugees are women and children**. Against a background of decades of discrimination and effective statelessness, they have **suffered severe violence, rape and psychological trauma** in security operations initiated in the northern part of Rakhine State following attacks on security posts by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army. In addition to the imbedded protection and psycho-social problems, refugees found themselves in conditions of severe crowding and squalor, and with shelter, food and nutrition, water, health, and sanitation conditions that stressed, to the very extreme, what were already stretched national and host community services and capacities.

Supported by several agencies including UNHCR, the Government of Bangladesh mounted a response to save lives, met the acute protection and humanitarian needs, and stabilized the overall situation. In October 2017, agency actors, 25 in total, launched the **Rohingya Refugee Crisis Response Plan** in which they sought \$434 million to support their interventions for the period of September 2017 to February 2018.²

Summary of financial requirements



¹ This figure comprises approximately 671,000 refugees who have arrived in Bangladesh from Myanmar since 25 August 2017 as well as more than 200,000 already in Cox's Bazar District who had fled in previous waves of displacement.

² [Humanitarian Response Plan: Rohingya Refugee Crisis, September 2017 – February 2018](#), available [here](#).

UNHCR declared an internal Level 3 Emergency—its highest level of alert—for the crisis and, drawing on the relevant components of the Response Plan, issued a [Supplementary Appeal](#)³ in which it presented financial requirements of \$83.7 million.

The overall response has forged ahead since then and critical protection, shelter, water, sanitation, health, nutrition and other needs have been addressed. Extensive physical, structural, infrastructural and engineering works have been undertaken to organize settlements and establish access and other public service networks. **UNHCR has made its largest deployment of its organizational emergency response capacities**, and dramatically upped its coordination and operational footprint on the ground.

As the Governments of Bangladesh and Myanmar started to discuss and work out arrangements for the return of the refugees to Myanmar, UNHCR engaged with both to underscore the imperatives of any returns being voluntary, in safety and dignity, sustainable, and with international humanitarian presence and monitoring.

Nevertheless, serious challenges remain. Notably, the **looming monsoon season** has sparked new urgency both to avoid and prepare for the impact that the expected flooding and landslides will have on an estimated 150,000 refugees, even while continuing to consolidate the wider response.

The agency actors have thus followed the initial Response Plan with a **Joint Response Plan for the Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis** which was launched in Geneva on 16 March 2018, seeking \$950.8 million to cover their activities from March to December 2018.

In this [Supplementary Appeal](#), UNHCR outlines its strategy, planning, operational and programmatic activities as part of that response, and for which the total financial requirement amounts to **\$238 million for 2018**.

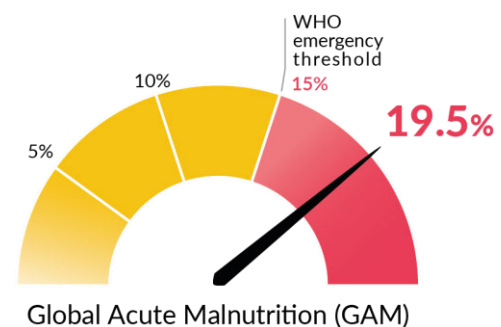
³ [UNHCR's Supplementary Appeal - Myanmar Refugee Emergency Response In Bangladesh](#), available [here](#).

III. RESPONSE

From August 2017 to February 2018

Under coordination arrangements which have evolved in a very exceptional and complex manner, **UNHCR has rallied its emergency and operational response capacities to support the Bangladesh Government** in responding to this extraordinary influx and its acute protection and other humanitarian indicators. Among others:

- 55 per cent of the refugees are under 18 years of age, many separated from family members.⁴
- 52 per cent of refugees are women, many of whom are single heads of households, elderly or people living with disability.⁵
- The Global Acute Malnutrition rate among the refugees is 19.5 per cent,⁶ exceeding the WHO emergency threshold of 15 per cent.
- 31 per cent of the households have been identified as affected by at least one vulnerability and 16 per cent are headed by a single mother.
- Many of the new arrivals are visibly traumatized and disoriented from the experience of extreme violence, sexual abuse, the loss of family members, relatives and property and the ordeal of displacement and flight they have endured.
- Refugee settlements are densely overcrowded and basic services stretched to the limit.
- With the monsoon season fast approaching, some 150,000 refugees are vulnerable to landslides and flooding.
- The Kutupalong-Balukhali site now hosts approximately 602,400 refugees, equivalent to the population of a medium-sized city. However, it possesses almost none of the critical infrastructure—including health, education, water, sanitation and security services—that would be necessary to sustain a setting of this scope.
- Problems of law and order and/or tensions within refugee groups or with the host community remained a concern, as a result of overcrowding, competing demands for limited resources and increased anxiety from the monsoon rains.



UNHCR's response strove to ensure that the lives and basic rights of refugees were safeguarded and the operational setting was organized and stabilized in the most essential and

⁴ 1 per cent of households have at least one unaccompanied child, and 2 per cent have at least one separated child.

⁵ 16 per cent of households have a single mother. 4 per cent of households have an older person at risk; 4 per cent have a person with disability; and 5 per cent have a person with serious medical conditions.

⁶ According to a health and nutrition assessment conducted in November 2017.

effective way possible. UNHCR worked pursuant to its mandated responsibilities and also in close partnership and coordination with the other agencies, particularly the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In particular:

- UNHCR collaborated with the Government of Bangladesh to create **a consolidated refugee data management system** that brought together the results of a registration exercise, which was carried out initially by the Government, and the results from a **family counting exercise**, which was jointly undertaken in a later stage by UNHCR and the Government's Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC), to collect household-level information, including gender, age disaggregation, protection needs and location, of the entire refugee population.
- The unified data facilitates the **evidence-based case management** at both the individual and collective levels, the out-reach to families to ensure appropriate support and follow-up, and the improvement of protection and delivery of assistance to the refugees. For instance, information on the location of people, which was juxtaposed to data, in areas likely to be affected by the upcoming monsoon season helped to enable better preparedness. The unified system is underpinned by a Memorandum of Understanding on data sharing between UNHCR and the Government of Bangladesh which stipulates that any use of information for purposes other than assistance and identification or transfer to third parties has to be approved by UNHCR.
- UNHCR has engaged closely with **survivors of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV)**, including some 270 who directly sought assistance from UNHCR and its partners, and referred the cases for appropriate follow-up. The vast majority of them (73 per cent) involved physical assault while more than 22 per cent involved other forms of sexual violence. By the end of January 2018, UNHCR had also registered 5,527 child-headed families and 5,575 families with unaccompanied and separated children and referred them for follow-up.
- **A unified referral system** has been launched in which individuals with protection needs are identified and referred to specialised service providers in different locations in a manner that ensures a coherent, more efficient and effective case management. Ten women-friendly spaces have also been created to provide a safe space for them to share their concerns and needs, as well as to promote women's leadership and community engagement. Twenty-six functioning **child friendly spaces (CFSs)** have been established, which offer a space to play and learn for 10,000 boys and girls. More than 6,500 children have benefited from **psychosocial support** through structured play and other activities at the CFSs. These quality child protection services, combined with community-based protection, have contributed to addressing the needs of children at risk.
- To engage the refugees themselves as agents of their own protection, **a Community Outreach Programme** has been launched in which refugees are empowered as first responders to support their peers. From an initial group of 30 individuals covering one area of Kutupalong, there are now 279 individuals covering eight areas of the settlement. The refugees, who have been selected based on their willingness to help others, have conducted a total of 2,200 **home visits** and more than 1,400 **information sessions**. Overall, the Community Outreach Members (COMs) identified some 1,900 cases in need of support. They

also provided direct assistance and support to more than 760 refugees and referred over 410 people to UNHCR's partners Technical Assistance Inc. and the Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee. The COMs have been playing an important role in the communities where refugees better understand and access rights and services in safety and dignity, and build resilience.

- In September 2017, UNHCR started **airlifts to deliver much needed aid**. In four months, some 17 airlifts delivered essential core relief items (CRIs): over 61,200 newly arrived refugee families were provided with kits containing sleeping mats, mosquito nets, tarpaulins and solar lamps. Refugees were also provided with shelter kits to build their houses. During the winter months of December 2017 and January 2018, UNHCR and partners distributed 185,000 winter shawls and sweaters to help refugees stay warm. UNHCR also started cash distribution in Kutupalong to assist initially 13,000 families with one-off cash grants.
- UNHCR has closely collaborated with the authorities, partners, and communities to **improve the protection standards** in Kutupalong and Nayapara settlements and to plan new site areas. Efforts have focused on identifying new areas for refugees to set up their homes and ensuring that services were in place in advance. UNHCR also funded the **development of a six-kilometre road to connect the north to the south of Kutupalong**, which was implemented by the RRRC and the Bangladesh Armed Forces. Completed on 12 December 2017, it now constitutes Kutupalong's main lifeline, allowing all actors access to the settlement, the delivery of aid and facilitating movement for refugees within the site. Other site improvement works include the preparation of 20,345 m² of land for communal facilities and the construction of some 6,821 steps, 12.3 km of pathways and 1.35 km of bridges.
- UNHCR and partners have already conducted **mass immunization campaigns** for refugees and host communities in Ukhia and Teknaf Upazilas in the District of Cox's Bazar, which included vaccinations against measles, rubella, cholera and polio. After two rounds of diphtheria mass immunization campaigns conducted in December 2017, a third round is scheduled before the end of March 2018.
- As part of its protection advocacy efforts, UNHCR has aimed to achieve **certified and accredited education for refugees and to increase quality service provision for local students**. To date, UNHCR has constructed some 168 classrooms in the various areas of the settlements. Some 14,027 children are enrolled in primary education in Nayapara and Kutupalong registered camps and in temporary learning centres in the settlements' extensions where UNHCR operates. An additional 569 children are enrolled in junior secondary education. The provision of these learning opportunities for children has enhanced the level of child protection.
- Kutupalong and Nayapara have now grown into what might be considered as *de-facto* cities with, among other services, 16 health units; 18 outpatient therapeutic centres; one stabilisation centre for **treatment of malnourished children**; 15 information points; over 4,700 latrines; and more than 950 tube wells, supported by UNHCR and partners. The Macro Settlement Development for Kutupalong, developed by UNHCR together with the RRRC and the IOM continues to improve access to assistance and services by refugees and to allow all actors of

the overall response in Kutupalong to identify gaps and/or address any potential duplication of service provision. UNHCR's Refugee Assistance Information System (RAIS), an online platform for distribution and monitoring of assistance, is now available with comprehensive information on the refugee population. UNHCR and its partners will update specific protection needs in the system pursuant to follow-up on individual cases and protection monitoring. Additionally, RAIS is being used as a verification tool at distribution sites.

- The emergency has presented both the imperative and the opportunity to **reinforce national systems** where needs are identified by the authorities. UNHCR thus continues to support medical and health care facilities in refugee hosting areas with logistical support, equipment and other immediate needs such as ambulances, hospital tents, medicines and medical supplies, resources, and training.
- In order to **minimise the impact of the humanitarian response on the environment** and mitigate protection risks linked to firewood collection, in early December 2017 UNHCR started to distribute eco-friendly cooking fuel sourced from local suppliers. Together with FAO, IOM and WFP, UNHCR is further planning **a pilot liquid petroleum gas initiative** to—pending the Government's approval—provide a safe fuel alternative for refugees. UNHCR is also in the process of setting up solar street lights in refugee settlements and surrounding highways. The latter will benefit both refugees and host communities. UNHCR will further explore possibilities for **Quick Impact Projects with host communities**, which have generously hosted refugees.
- Around 20 **solar street lights** are being installed by UNHCR in Foliapara village, which has a population of 10,600 people and is located on the outskirts of Kutupalong refugee settlement. The solar street lights are being installed in public places, including near schools and mosques, to benefit the local community. This forms part of a total of 270 solar street lights provided by UNHCR that are being installed in areas of Kutupalong, Nayapara host community and extension site and the Transit Centre.

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_18095

