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# WFP in Cox's Bazar INFORMATION BOOKLET

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMMES, INNOVATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS, SECTORS, CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

Photos: WFP/Nihab Rahman and Sayed Asif Mahmud

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# Emergency Response in the Rohingya Refugee Camps

## 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- > E-vouchers scaled-up to serve almost **99%** of refugees with General Food Assistance by the end of 2020
- > **Building Blocks** launched in the Rohingya refugee camps, serving **716,000** refugees by the end of 2020
- > WFP continued to provide **food assistance and nutrition services** throughout the COVID-19 pandemic
- > **Self-reliance, Disaster Risk Reduction and School Feeding** activities adapted in response to COVID-19

## CONTEXT

By the end of 2020 there were over 866,000 Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. This includes almost 600,000 refugees in the Kutupalong mega camp, the largest refugee camp in the world, and over 3,750 refugees on Bhashan Char (3,400 who were relocated in December and 306 who were rescued at sea in April 2020). Although the situation has stabilized and all refugees continue to receive humanitarian assistance, they are almost entirely dependant on humanitarian assistance and still face major challenges, particularly the lack of regular income and livelihood opportunities. COVID-19 heightened vulnerabilities for refugees with the suspension of non-essential activities in the camps impacting income opportunities, households' purchasing power and threatening food security.

## WFP RESPONSE

Since the start of the crisis in August 2017, WFP has provided food assistance to the camp population and nutrition services to pregnant and nursing mothers and young children. This assistance is complemented with life-skills training, disaster risk reduction activities and common engineering services. WFP also facilitates essential shared Logistics and Emergency Telecommunication services and co-leads the Food Security Sector. In March 2020, WFP rapidly adapted its programmes with the outbreak of COVID-19 to adhere to government restrictions while ensuring lifesaving interventions continue.

## 2020 in NUMBERS



**866,000** Rohingya refugees supported



**99%** of food assistance provided through e-vouchers and **1%** in-kind



**11** Fresh Food Corners opened at e-voucher outlets assisting **157,500** people every month



**200,000** women and children supported with nutrition services every month



**27,000** people engaged in self-reliance activities (96% women)



**33,472** volunteers engaged through Food Assistance for Assets



**285,000** students enrolled in school feeding



**2,370 m** of new road constructed





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# Interventions in the Host Community

## 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

- › Between April and November more than **USD 7 million** was disbursed and over **5,500 mt** of food distributed to **570,000** host community members affected by the COVID-19 pandemic
- › WFP continued **nutrition services** for malnourished women and children throughout the COVID-19 pandemic
- › **Livelihoods, Disaster Risk Reduction and School Feeding** activities adapted in response to COVID-19

## CONTEXT

Cox's Bazar, situated in Bangladesh's southern "cyclone belt", is extremely vulnerable to natural disasters and is one of the most underdeveloped regions of Bangladesh. The influx of Rohingya refugees is perceived to have put considerable pressure on the local economy, affecting the livelihoods of the Bangladeshi population. The situation remains challenging for both the refugees and the host communities.

The COVID-19 crisis has further affected these already vulnerable host communities with national and regional lockdowns impacting income opportunities, households' purchasing power and threatening food security and nutrition outcomes. Empirical evidence collected in April 2020 showed that after the lockdown, households dependant on wage labour lost 70 to 100 percent of their daily earnings ([PPRC-BIGD, April 2020](#)).

## WFP RESPONSE

WFP continues to support Bangladeshi host community populations through long-term interventions, including nutrition assistance at community clinics, school feeding, livelihoods programmes specifically targeting vulnerable women and disaster risk reduction activities. In response to COVID-19, WFP provided cash and in-kind assistance to over half a million people through Special Support for the Host Community (SSHC) in all eight sub-districts. Hot meals were also provided to people in government isolation and quarantine facilities.

## 2020 in NUMBERS



**700,000** Bangladeshis supported



**570,000** people supported through COVID-19 Special Support for Host Communities



**14,000** women and children supported with nutrition services every month



**30,000** women enrolled in the livelihood programme



**30** cyclone shelters rehabilitated  
**120** handwashing stations installed



**7,160** volunteers engaged through Food Assistance for Assets



**135,000** students enrolled in school feeding



**3** community clinics constructed, **6** renovated and **1** Flu Centre constructed



SCAN TO READ THE LATEST [WFP IN COX'S BAZAR HOST COMMUNITY BRIEFS](#)



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# General Food Assistance

## 2020 in NUMBERS

- > Food assistance delivered to all Rohingya refugees across **34** camps every month
- > **99%** of GFA provided through e-vouchers with **84%** channelled through Building Blocks
- > **21** e-voucher outlets and **1** in-kind distribution point
- > **51,971** refugees reached with rapid response assistance and **41,364** hot meals provided

SCAN TO LEARN MORE  
ABOUT RETAIL IN A BOX



## OVERVIEW

WFP delivers food assistance to the entire refugee population every month. The majority of assistance is provided through e-vouchers where beneficiaries receive an electronic voucher (value adjusted each month) to be redeemed across WFP assistance outlets. The remaining caseload receive in-kind food rations (30 kg rice, 9 kg lentils and 3 litres vegetable oil). WFP rapid response ensures efficient emergency intervention. At the onset of a crisis affected populations are assisted with one in-kind food basket or a six-day ration of High Energy Biscuits (HEB) Within two weeks, families are then re-integrated into the regular food assistance. Depending on access to cooking facilities, refugees can also receive cooked meals or dry food and WFP provides rice for community kitchens.

## OBJECTIVES

- **Ensure all Rohingya refugees receive a minimum of 2,100 calories of micronutrient food to meet their daily dietary needs.**
- **Enhance transparency and accountability** through digital systems (Building Blocks and SCOPE) and complaints and feedback mechanisms.
- **Allow choice and dignity** by providing assistance through e-vouchers which give people greater freedom to select from a range of food items at a time convenient to them.

## ACHIEVEMENTS in 2020

- WFP delivered food assistance to the entire refugee population every month taking over two camps from The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in January.
- Almost all complaints (98.2 percent) received were solved and others referred to UNHCR for protection related follow-up.
- WFP scaled-up porter services for older people

who were shielding and supported 4,000 households with this service.

- WFP introduced Building Blocks, an online digital transfer management system based on blockchain technology.
- In December, WFP launched the global Retailer in a Box (RIAB) project in Camp 23 transitioning 2,400 households to receive monthly food assistance through e-vouchers.
- Through rapid response efforts, WFP ensured effective and efficient emergency assistance (general food distribution, High Energy Biscuits and hot meals) to 51,971 Rohingya refugees throughout 2020.

## COVID-19 ADAPTIONS

COVID-19 compelled WFP to alter food assistance delivery and from April to November 2020, WFP shifted from a value voucher to a commodity voucher system to minimize virus transmission risks. To address market fluctuation and preserve beneficiaries' purchasing power, monthly entitlements were increased from USD 10 to USD 12. To reduce contact and ensure physical distancing, beneficiaries received 11-14 pre-packaged food items once a month.

## THE WAY FORWARD

- WFP will scale-up e-voucher modality transfers for all refugees.
- Distribute SCOPE Bangladesh 2 Assistance Cards to all beneficiaries and ensure 100 percent alignment with Government and UNHCR data.
- Promote the WFP corporate tool, MODA to strengthen data quality and ensure data protection.
- Strengthen Complaint Feedback Mechanism in coordination with WFP support units.





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# Social Cohesion: Fresh Food Corners & Farmers' Markets

## 2020 in NUMBERS

- > 11 Fresh Food Corners opened at e-voucher outlets
- > 157,500 Rohingya refugees assisted through Fresh Food Corners every month

## OVERVIEW

While the World Food Programme continues to support 860,000 Rohingya refugees across 34 camps in Cox's Bazar with monthly food assistance, dietary diversity and access to nutritious food items among the most vulnerable households remains poor. The Refugee Emergency Vulnerability Assessment (REVA III) conducted in late 2019 found that almost 60 percent of households' external purchases are fresh food items, mainly chicken and fish. Amid the current COVID-19 situation, low-income earning households, particularly child, women or older person headed households and households with a family member with a disability, are the most disadvantaged, owing to their limited access to income opportunities. This also prompts the adoption of negative coping strategies, such as reselling assistance, borrowing money and buying food on credit. Moreover, the latest WFP Social Cohesion survey found that 26 percent of refugee respondents and 11 percent of host community respondents are keen to interact with each other in the market place. In response, WFP introduced Fresh Food Corners and Farmers' Markets to provide the most vulnerable households direct access to fresh food items. Farmers' Markets also provide a platform to improve inter-community level relations and social cohesion levels which are a pre-requisite for peaceful and stable cohabitation of both the community, in the context of Cox's Bazar.

A monthly top-up of USD 3 per individual is transferred to these vulnerable households, and can be redeemed at either at the Fresh Food Corners inside the e-voucher outlets or at the Farmers' Markets, offering a more natural shopping experience. In 2019, WFP piloted its first Farmers' Markets, but due to COVID-19, it was halted in March 2020. In both outlets targeted households have the freedom of choice to purchase from a wide variety of fresh fruit, vegetables and protein-rich food items.

## OBJECTIVES

- Improve the dietary diversity of the most vulnerable households via direct access to fresh food items, particularly protein-rich items.
- Improve market linkages between the camps and host community small-scale farmers, petty traders, aggregators and retailers. Most food items will be locally purchased and/or produced to improve social cohesion between the two communities by increasing economic opportunities, agricultural production for host communities and positive interactions.

## ACHIEVEMENTS in 2020

- WFP opened/resumed 11 Fresh Food Corners.
- WFP engaged over 10 host community farmers from FAO and WFP livelihood programmes in the pilot Farmers' Market in early 2020.

## THE WAY FORWARD

- By mid-2021, WFP will open an additional three Fresh Food Corners (to have a total of 14) and eight Farmers' Markets to ensure 255,000 vulnerable Rohingya refugees have access to fresh food items.
- To benefit smaller local enterprises WFP will link FAO and WFP farmers to Fresh Food Corners through Aggregation Centres.
- WFP will digitize the process of market linkages using the in-house "Farm2Go" application which will collect digital, real-time data from smallholder farmers and their respective cooperatives and connect to WFP retailers and commercial markets
- By mid-2021, Fresh Food Corners and Farmers' Market are expected to inject around USD 760,000 into the local economy every month.





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# Integrated Nutrition Assistance in the Camps

## 2020 in NUMBERS

- > 200,000 women and children supported every month at 45 Integrated Nutrition Centres
- > 165,000 children screened and referred to the nutrition treatment programme

## OVERVIEW

To address malnutrition, WFP provides prevention and treatment services to young children and pregnant and nursing mothers in the camps.

- **Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme:** As part of the prevention programme, children between 6 and 59 months receive rations of fortified Wheat Soya Blend (WSB) while pregnant and nursing mothers receive rations of Super Cereal/WSB+ mixed with vegetable oil.
- **Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme:** As part of the treatment programme, children under 5 years identified as moderately undernourished receive monthly rations of Plumpy Sup while pregnant and nursing mothers identified as malnourished receive Super Cereal/WSB+ mixed with vegetable oil.

## OBJECTIVES

- **Malnutrition rehabilitation and treatment:** WFP aims to reduce morbidity and mortality associated with malnutrition among pregnant and nursing mothers and young children.
- **Social and behaviour change communication:** To ensure sustained change for cases of malnutrition, WFP conducts communication activities and utilizes tools that positively influence behaviour, knowledge and attitudes

privacy for mothers while encouraging them to come to the facilities.

- **Evidence based programming:** WFP supports both quantitative and qualitative assessments to ensure that nutrition programmes are tailored accordingly.

## ACHIEVEMENTS in 2020

- In collaboration with UNICEF and UNHCR, WFP successfully integrated moderate acute malnutrition prevention and treatment services with other nutrition services at 45 Integrated Nutrition Centres across the camps.
- WFP continued to provide nutrition services throughout 2020 while ensuring the safety of staff and beneficiaries through improved Infection, Prevention and Control of COVID-19 at nutrition facilities. Women and children engaged in the prevention programme also received double rations of Super Cereal at General Food Assistance sites to reduce the frequency of visits and limit interactions.
- During Nutrition Action Week, WFP supported UNICEF and Cooperating Partners to screen and supplement 140,000 children with Vitamin A capsules.

## THE WAY FORWARD

In 2021, WFP plans to provide treatment and

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\\_2398](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_2398)

