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Bangladesh: Rohingya influx

Renewed violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State which began on 25 August 2017 has driven hundreds of thousands of Rohingya people – a long-time discriminated minority group in Myanmar – across the border into Bangladesh Cox's Bazar district. As of 17 October, the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) reported that an estimated 582,000¹ people have entered Bangladesh. With this new influx, the current total number of Rohingya refugees coupled with the local affected communities, has reached over 1.2 million people. It is estimated that 80 per cent of the new arrivals are children and women. In total, 720,000 children need urgent humanitarian assistance (including influx and host communities). In addition, between 150,000 and 200,000 additional Rohingya could be making their way from Myanmar to Bangladesh by end 2017 as the refugee movement is not over yet. Access to safe water and sanitation is a key priority. The nutrition situation is also of great concern: new arrivals are from areas in Myanmar where 2016 health survey data shows a high 3.7 per cent rate of severe acute malnutrition (SAM). Some 348,000 Rohingya children need psychosocial support and protection services, while 450,000 children - 270,000 of them newly arrived - need education services. A total of 1.2 million people are in need of health services.

Humanitarian strategy

UNICEF revised response plan has prioritized life-saving interventions to address immediate and urgent needs of affected Rohingya children, women and adolescents. With support from donors, UNICEF is working closely with key humanitarian actors at the national and sub-national level, including with Government line ministries. Immediate provision of safe water, basic sanitation and washing facilities is a priority. UNICEF and partners have developed a preparedness and response plan for Acute Watery Diarrhoea (AWD) including a mass vaccination campaign for cholera prevention. To address malnutrition, UNICEF will treat children with acute malnutrition through community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) using ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF). Nutrition and WASH will be systematically integrated in all education and child protection interventions through learning and child-friendly spaces and adolescent clubs. UNICEF will provide child protection services including psychosocial support and identification and case management of unaccompanied and separated children. Non-formal basic education will be provided to children aged 4-14 years. Efforts in social protection will focus on removing the economic barriers of access to services for families with increased vulnerabilities such as child-headed households. UNICEF leads the coordination of the Nutrition sector and Child Protection sub-sector, co-leads the WASH sector with Action against Hunger and the Education sector with Save the Children.

Results

As of 17 October 2017, UNICEF has received only US\$5.6 million against the appeal of US\$76.1 million. With the recent large and continuing influx, UNICEF has allocated additional internal resources to scale up its emergency response. Since 25 August UNICEF has reached a total of 101,100 people with clean water, close to 137,000 with appropriate latrines and washing facilities and over 17,000 with key message on hygiene practices. For prevention of diseases, over 135,000 children (6 months-15 years) were vaccinated against measles, rubella and polio. A prevention cholera campaign was also launched on 10 October. So far, more than 670,000 doses of oral cholera vaccine (OCV) have been administered to people over one year of age. A second round of vaccination will target approximately 250,000 children (aged 1-5 years). Nearly 1,000 children were treated for severe acute malnutrition; over 4,300 pregnant and lactating women received infant and young child feeding counselling support; more than 69,500 children and pregnant and lactating women received micronutrient supplementation; nearly 27,000 children received psychosocial support and child protection services through Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS) and Adolescent Safe Spaces; and over 5,000 children are attending UNICEF-supported learning centres.

Humanitarian Action for Children

unicef 

Total affected population:²

1.2 million

Total affected children (<18):

720,000

Total people to be reached:

716,000

Total children to be reached:

385,000

2017-2018 Programme targets

Nutrition

- 7,500 under-five children with SAM treated
- 43,000 pregnant and lactating women received IYCF counselling
- 335,000 children under five and PLW provided with micronutrient supplementation

Health

- 237,500 children immunized against measles and rubella
- 900,000 doses of OCV administered in two rounds (650,000 affected people vaccinated against cholera)

WASH

- 450,000 people provided with access to safe drinking water; culturally appropriate latrines; and key messages on hygiene

Child Protection

- 180,000 children received psychosocial support
- 3,500 unaccompanied and separated children identified and registered
- 35,000 of most at risk adolescents received life skills training and information on GBV referral services

Education

- 201,765 children (4-14 years) reached with emergency non-formal education, including early learning

C4D/Accountability Mechanisms

- 180,000 people reached through information dissemination and community engagement efforts on life saving behaviours and available services

	Sector Target	Total Results*	UNICEF Target	UNICEF Total Results*
NUTRITION				
Number of children 0-59 months treated for severe acute malnutrition	11,876	3,020	7,500	974
Number of pregnant and lactating women (PLW) reached with counselling on infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices	84,000	8,080	43,000	4,326
Number of children 6-59 months, adolescents and PLW in the affected areas receiving multi-micronutrient supplementation	335,000	69,168	335,000	69,547
HEALTH				
Number of children 6 months-15 years received Measles and Rubella vaccine			237,500	135,519
Number of doses of OCV administered to population aged 1 year and above (reaching 650,000 people)			900,000	679,678
Number of children under five accessing healthcare			79,800	3,244
Number of pregnant women received at least 1 ante natal consultation			7,000	1,617
WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE				
Number of people with access to safe drinking water	887,000	313,000	450,000	101,100
Number of people provided access to culturally appropriate latrines and washing facilities	950,000	370,000	450,000	136,950
Number of people who received key messages on improved hygiene practices	1,200,000	31,000	450,000	17,360
CHILD PROTECTION				
Number of children receiving psychosocial support and community-based child protection services	200,000	27,656	180,000	26,924
Number of unaccompanied and separated children identified and receiving case management services	5,000	1,675	3,500	455
Number of adolescent boys and girls receiving life skills including information on GBV	40,000	2,035	35,000	2,035
Number of GBV cases receiving referral services			2,500	
EDUCATION				
Number of children (4-14) enrolled in emergency non-formal education including early learning	370,000	8,742	201,765	5,451
Number of teachers recruited and trained	6,000	161	3,500	161
C4D/ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS				
Number of people reached through information dissemination and community engagement efforts on life-saving behaviours and available services			180,000	650,000
Number of community/opinion leaders sensitized to provide life-saving information and referral			3,000	1,050

* Results are since 25 August through 12 October 2017 unless noted

Funding Requirements

In view of the rapidly evolving situation, UNICEF has revised its appeal to US\$76.1 million to meet the immediate life-saving, protection and education needs of Rohingya children, their families and those of host communities in Cox's Bazar district (from October 2017 to March 2018), which will be incorporated in the updated Bangladesh inter-agency 2017-2018 Humanitarian Response Plan for the Rohingya emergency.

Without additional funding, UNICEF will be unable to support the national response to this growing and continuing crisis and to provide life-saving WASH, health and nutrition services to Rohingya refugees. Lack of funding will also result in the failure to provide child protection and education support to the most vulnerable children.

Sector	US\$ Requirements
Nutrition	7,721,373
Health	10,436,113
WASH	27,328,698
Child Protection	3,003,626
Education	13,406,412
Communication for development	1,056,537
Social Protection	13,150,632
Total	76,103,391

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