Bangladesh

HIGHLIGHTS

- Bangladesh is facing multiple humanitarian crises, which include the residual impact of COVID-19, the protracted Rohingya refugee crisis and flooding, among others.
- The humanitarian situation has deteriorated significantly with the recent flooding in the North-East affecting 7.2 million people, including 3.5 million children. Substantial reduction in provision of essential services is increasing the vulnerabilities of the affected population.
- Bangladesh hosts 929,606 refugees in Cox’s Bazar district and 26,908 refugees in Bhasan Char.
- In line with the Joint Response Plan (JRP) for the Rohingya crisis, Bangladesh Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) to floods and COVID-19 Response plan, UNICEF will support the Government to prepare for and respond to needs, providing equitable health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, education, child protection and gender-based violence services at scale.
- To date, UNICEF reached 5.9 million people of whom about 40 per cent are children with one or more humanitarian services/assistance. Also, 22.5 million people have been reached through messaging on prevention and access to services.
- UNICEF is appealing for US$ 233.6 million to maintain life-saving services for refugees and host communities, flood-affected communities and mitigate the impacts of COVID-19. The appeal has been revised to align with the funding requirements under the JRP and the HRP. Without additional funding, UNICEF will be unable to deliver the required services.

KEY PLANNED TARGETS

- 5.4 million children and women accessing health care
- 2.9 million people use safe and appropriate sanitation facilities
- 10 million children/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support
- 961,268 children receiving individual learning materials

Figures are provisional and subject to change based on the humanitarian situation.
The humanitarian context in Bangladesh remains complex due to the protracted Rohingya crisis, recurrent natural disasters, and the COVID-19 pandemic. As of 30 June 2022, Bangladesh is hosting 929,606 Rohingya refugees, including 483,395 children, for nearly five years. While durable solutions are sought, the COVID-19 pandemic, upsurge of acute watery diarrhoea/cholera, fire incidents, floods and landslides have further exacerbated their living conditions, especially for women and children. The humanitarian community remains concerned about the deterioration of the overall protection environment and limited services in the camps. Therefore, the need for reliable access to services, including psychosocial support and referrals, response to gender-based violence, as well as education, remains critical. As of 30 June 2022, approximately 26,000 refugees have been relocated to Bhasan Char to decongest the cramped camps.

In June 2022, heavy flash floods rapidly inundated large parts of the north-eastern region impacting 7.2 million people, including 3.5 million children in nine districts. This is one of the worst floods in north-eastern Bangladesh in the past 122 years which struck when people were recovering from the earlier May flood. People with disabilities, particularly women and girls, are disproportionately at risk of violence, exploitation, and abuse, including gender-based violence. The flooding damaged water points and sanitation facilities increasing risk of waterborne diseases, including acute watery diarrhoea. Access to healthcare and nutrition services was reduced due to the damage of 90 per cent of health care facilities. Over 3,300 primary schools and 2,400 non-formal learning centres have been affected requiring repair and replenishment of learning materials for children.

In addition to the negative impact on health (including mental health), education and increased protection concerns, the COVID-19 pandemic has severely affected the economy and triggered a reverse trend in poverty reduction. The significant distribution of COVID-19 vaccines country-wide has contributed to the reduction of infection rates in the first quarter of 2022, thereby facilitating the re-opening of schools, among other key outcomes. As of 30 June, 70 per cent of the target population have received the second vaccine dose while 24 per cent have received the 3rd dose.

**SECTOR NEEDS**

- **3.4 million** children in need of immunization services
- **71,407** children in need of SAM treatment
- **33.5 million** people lack access to safe water
- **21.3 million** children need psychosocial support
- **33.2 million** children in need of education support

**STORY FROM THE FIELD**

The lives of 3.5 million children have been disrupted by floods in north-eastern Bangladesh. Floodwaters have severely damaged almost 106,727 water points and 283,355 sanitation facilities, leaving families with no clean water or toilets. On top of the food shortage, increased risk of drowning, separation from families and violence, children are at increased risk of waterborne diseases. Since the floods started, UNICEF has delivered water purification tablets, water containers, dignity kits, and therapeutic milk. But the impact of the flood will be felt for a long time to come and the need for clean water and sanitation remains high.

[Read more about this story here](#)
HUMANITARIAN STRATEGY

Guided by the interagency response plans, under the leadership of the Government, UNICEF will continue providing the most vulnerable children and women with an integrated package of lifesaving services that includes health, nutrition, WASH, education, child protection and risk communication. Given the increase in climate related hazards, UNICEF will focus on preparedness, resilience building and strengthening linkages between humanitarian action and development programmes.

UNICEF will adhere to COVID-19 control measures and prioritize continuity of services in the camps and host communities, including on Bhasan Char, focusing on: 1) safe reopening and operation of learning centres and schools and transition to the Myanmar Curriculum; 2) maintaining resilient water, and sanitation infrastructure and supporting adoption of appropriate hygiene practices; 3) enhancing primary healthcare, improving coverage of immunization services and expanding the community-based nutrition programme; and 4) supporting community-based structures to identify vulnerable children in need of protection and provide adequate care and psychosocial support. UNICEF will address the needs of women and girls, including through mitigation, prevention and response to gender-based violence and sexual exploitation, and engaging communities, especially adolescents and youths, in preparedness, response and resilience-building.

At the national level, UNICEF will support the Government of Bangladesh to address and mitigate the direct and indirect impacts of COVID-19 and recurrent disasters. With strong field presence and operational capacity, UNICEF will monitor and support essential services for girls and boys, women, and vulnerable communities. UNICEF will assist the government to maintain and improve the quality of health and nutrition services at community and facility levels. UNICEF will assist the Ministry of Education and partners to maintain safe operation of schools/learning centres through supplies, communication materials and a monitoring system to track equitable learning. UNICEF and the Department of Public Health Engineering will emphasize uninterrupted safe water supply and implementation of safe school protocols, including access to hand hygiene services. UNICEF will continue strengthening partners and social workers’ capacity to prevent, report and respond to increasing child protection, gender-based violence and sexual exploitation/abuse incidents and address child marriage.

Furthermore, UNICEF will continue leading the nutrition and WASH sectors/clusters, child protection sub-sector/cluster and co-leading the education sector/cluster. UNICEF will also co-lead the Risk Communication and Community Engagement Pillar to support the Government’s efforts to combat COVID-19. UNICEF will prioritize Grand Bargain commitments, mainstreaming child-centred disaster risk reduction across sectors, ensuring accountability to affected populations and supporting localisation of humanitarian assistance to strengthen national actors’ capacity to lead the response.

2022 PROGRAMME TARGETS

**Nutrition**
- 15,680 children aged 6 to 59 months with severe acute malnutrition admitted for treatment
- 240,500 primary caregivers of children aged 0 to 23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling

**Health**
- 5,366,068 children and women accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities
- 1,091,135 children aged 0 to 11 months who have received pentavalent 3 vaccine

**Water, sanitation and hygiene**
- 4,034,360 people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs
- 2,885,330 people use safe and appropriate sanitation facilities

**Child protection, GBViE and PSEA**
- 9,955,063 children and parents/caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support
- 209,728 women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions
- 753,965 people who have access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse by aid workers

**Education**
- 268,188 children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning
- 961,268 children receiving individual learning materials

**Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)**
- 50,970,440 people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services
- 495,289 people with access to established accountability mechanisms

Progress against the latest programme targets is available in the humanitarian situation reports: [https://www.unicef.org/appeals/bangladesh/situation-reports](https://www.unicef.org/appeals/bangladesh/situation-reports)

This appeal is aligned with the revised Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action, which are based on global standards and norms for humanitarian action. Programme targets are provisional and subject to change based on the humanitarian situation.
FUNDING REQUIREMENTS IN 2022

UNICEF’s revised appeal requirement is US$233.6 million to support the continuity of life-saving services and meet the needs of vulnerable populations. The HAC appeal has increased by US$17 million to align with the funding requirements under the 2022 Joint Response Plan and interagency Humanitarian Response Plan to the floods. The funds will enable UNICEF and partners to maintain critical services for Rohingya children and their families, support host communities affected by the refugee influx, and mitigate the worst impacts of COVID-19 and natural disasters on children and families across the country. Nutrition, health, WASH, education, child protection and gender-based violence response will be provided at scale, adhering to COVID-19 prevention measures.

This appeal includes the US$152 million required under the JRP to support critical unmet needs identified in the Humanitarian Needs Overview, US$58 million to mitigate impacts of COVID-19 on children and their families, with specific focus on education and protection needs, and US$22.7 million to contribute to the inter-agency humanitarian response plan to recurrent floods and cyclones nationwide. There are critical funding gaps in Nutrition, Education, WASH, and Child Protection - without timely multi-year and flexible funding, UNICEF will not be able to effectively address the needs of the most vulnerable children, women and differently abled individuals affected by emergencies.

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Appeal sector

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal sector</th>
<th>Revised 2022 HAC requirement (US$)</th>
<th>Original 2022 HAC requirement (US$)</th>
<th>Funds available (US$)</th>
<th>Funding gap (US$)</th>
<th>2022 funding gap (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>25,034,742</td>
<td>24,965,142</td>
<td>14,073,480</td>
<td>10,961,262</td>
<td>43.8%</td>
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<td>Health</td>
<td>42,346,721</td>
<td>37,489,701</td>
<td>39,175,550</td>
<td>3,171,171</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
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<td>WASH</td>
<td>42,746,000</td>
<td>42,746,000</td>
<td>31,016,564</td>
<td>11,729,436</td>
<td>72.6%</td>
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<td>Child protection, GBViE and PSEA</td>
<td>37,167,523</td>
<td>34,579,382</td>
<td>26,664,921</td>
<td>10,502,602</td>
<td>71.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>70,502,402</td>
<td>65,282,855</td>
<td>49,841,445</td>
<td>20,660,957</td>
<td>70.7%</td>
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<td>Emergency preparedness</td>
<td>7,000,000</td>
<td>7,000,000</td>
<td>1,303,179</td>
<td>5,696,821</td>
<td>18.6%</td>
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<td>Cross-sectoral</td>
<td>8,824,120</td>
<td>8,302,120</td>
<td>4,869,253</td>
<td>3,954,867</td>
<td>55.2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>233,621,508</td>
<td>216,527,920</td>
<td>127,827,795</td>
<td>105,793,713</td>
<td>54.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*This includes costs from other sectors/interventions: Cross-sectoral (3.8%), Emergency preparedness (3.0%).
UNICEF’s public health and socioeconomic COVID-19 response, including programme targets and funding requirements, is integrated into the standalone country, multi-country and regional Humanitarian Action Plans. These plans reflect the deviations related to equitable access achievable to COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines fall under the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) global appeal.

1. UNICEF data as of 30 June 2022

2. In line with the Bangladesh Preparedness and Response Plan for COVID-19, this includes the population of Bangladesh (172,809,384 as per Ministry of Health and Family Welfare); and 926,606 Rohingya refugees living in Bangladesh, as per the Joint Government of Bangladesh - UNHCR Population Factsheet as of 30 June 2022. This is based on the availability of various safe reporting channels and community-based mechanisms among other channels. The target also includes refugees and the host population with two

3. The target has increased by 974,000 to align with the 2022 Joint Response Plan. The calculation is based on 250,000 Rohingya refugees in eight camps, 40,000 in Bhasan Char and 25,000 people from the host community in Cox’s Bazar to be reached under the Bangladesh Preparedness and Response Plan to COVID-19, and 1,211,500 people to be reached through flood response. In the camps and host communities, the WASH sector prioritized improving access to chlorinated piped water to reduce public health risks, taking into account the upsurge of AWD/cholera in 2021.

4. Includes 534,245 Rohingya refugee children and adolescents (3-24 years) including Bhasan Char as per the ‘2022 Joint Response Plan: Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis’; 900,000 flood-affected Bangladeshi children as per Flood Preparedness and Response Plan 2022; and 31,803,817 Bangladeshi children nationwide as per the Ministry of Education/BANBEIS report 2020. Education sector needs have increased due to the heavy flash floods in June, by the priority of the needs are covered by the government and non-governmental education sector partners.

5. The SAM target has been reduced as the initial SAM caseload was expected to the maximum by using the COVID-19 interim guideline. As the COVID-19 situation improved, in consultation with the government counterparts, the standard method was modified to project SAM caseloads. The calculation is based on 6,530 Rohingya refugee children (including 30 in Bhasan Char), 600 children from the host community to be reached under the Bangladesh COVID-19 preparedness and response plan and 1,350 people being reached during the flood response.

6. The target has increased to align with 2022 JRP and includes Bhasan Char targets. In 2022, Nutrition will report on the number of people reached with IYCF counselling, as vitamin A supplementation will be supported through the development programme, focusing on technical assistance only. The target has increased to include 19,500 refugees (including 2,500 in Bhasan Char) to align with 2022 JRP and include Bhasan Char targets. Targets in host community and floods are not added to the overall target to avoid double counting.

7. The calculation is based on 623,193 Rohingya refugees in the camps (including 16,000 in Bhasan Char), and 130,772 people from the host communities in Cox’s Bazar to be reached under the 2022 Joint Response Plan, 2,045,330 people across the country to be reached under the Bangladesh Preparedness and Response Plan to COVID-19 and 470,000 people to be reached through flood response.

8. The calculation is based on 269,367 Rohingya refugees (including 563 in Bhasan Char) and 84,346 children from the host community to be reached under the 2022 Joint Response Plan, 975,741 children to be reached under the Bangladesh COVID-19 preparedness and response plan, and 84,000 children under the UNICEF Flood Preparedness and response plan.

9. The target is increased by 21 million due to the heavy flash floods in June that require humanitarian assistance. Also, 70 per cent of the population targeted will be supported through the development programme led by the Government and development partners. UNICEF will continue to focus on preparedness and response to potential COVID-19 upsurge (Data, Oxygen and case management, vaccination, supplies and continuity of services in camps and nationwide). The calculation is based on 164,374 Rohingya refugee children and women, 102,406 children and women from the host community to be reached under the 2022 Joint Response, 5,099,288 children and women to be reached under the Bangladesh COVID-19 preparedness and response plan. The total figure also includes 1,128,600 people targeted for the flood response.

10. The calculation is based on 274,500 Rohingya children and adolescents (3-14 years) including Bhasan Char as per the Joint Government of Bangladesh - UNHCR Population Factsheet as of 30 June 2022. The population is projected to include 7,524 people from the host community in Cox’s Bazar to be reached under the JRP; 177,983 people across the country to be reached under the Bangladesh Preparedness and Response Plan to COVID-19, and 212,045 people from the host communities in Cox’s Bazar to be reached under the 2022 Joint Response Plan, 2,045,330 people across the country to be reached under the Bangladesh Preparedness and Response Plan to COVID-19 and 470,000 people to be reached through flood response.

11. The calculation is based on 443,395 Rohingya refugee children (52 per cent CWD) as of June 2022. The number of children to be reached has increased by 2,163,745 compared to the original HAC appeal to align with the 2022 JRP and reflect the number of children to be reached under the UNICEF Flood Preparedness and Response Plan.

12. OCHA ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, Weekly Regional Humanitarian Snapshot, 1 - 7 June 2022

13. The calculation is based on 6,530 Rohingya refugee children (including 30 in Bhasan Char), 600 children from the host community to be reached under the Bangladesh COVID-19 preparedness and response plan and 1,350 people being reached during the flood response.

14. OCHA ASIA AND THE PACIFIC, Weekly Regional Humanitarian Snapshot, 1 - 7 June 2022

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16. UNICEF’s public health and socioeconomic COVID-19 response, including programme targets and funding requirements, is integrated into the standalone country, multi-country and regional Humanitarian Action Plans. These plans reflect the deviations related to equitable access achievable to COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines fall under the Access to COVID-19 Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) global appeal.

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