# SITUATION REPORT ROHINGYA REFUGEE CRISIS

Cox's Bazar | January 2019





The joint registration by the Government of Bangladesh and UNHCR was scaled up with registration sites added in Kutupalong and a camp-level information campaign. The exercise will provide identity documents to refugees and support their protection in Bangladesh.

There has been an increase in threats against women in the camps — targeting refugee volunteers and aid workers. UN and NGOs are engaging with local authorities to respond and develop an intervention strategy.

Most bamboo in the camps predates the 2018 rainy seasons and will need to be replaced.

# 911,000 Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar

903,788 refugees identified in camps according to 6,827 refugees estimated in host communities in the RRRC-UNHCR Family Counting exercise (including Ukhiya/Teknaf Upazilas per Needs and Population 34,172 registered before 31 Aug 2017).

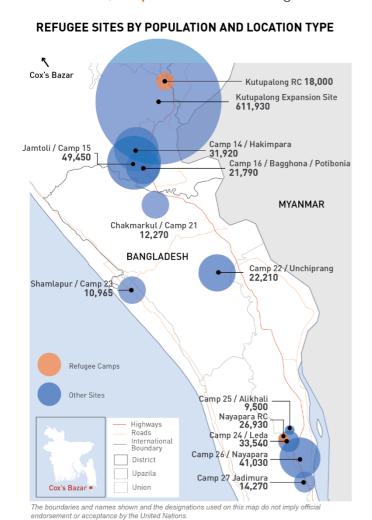
Family Counting data also counts 5,447 refugees outside of formal camp boundaries. The methodology is based on interviews with each family, collecting gender- and agedisaggregated statistics, geolocations & protection needs.

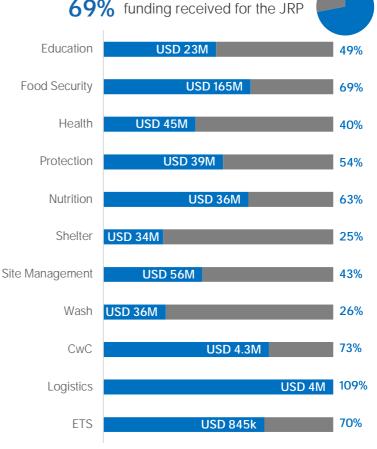
Monitoring (NPM).

NPM estimates are based on key informant interviews and triangulated through field observations and spontaneous community group discussions.

**FUNDING FOR JOINT RESPONSE PLAN 2018** 

So far over 61,700 persons have been registered through the Government-UNHCR registration exercise.





#### **Protection**



#### **Gender-based Violence**



# **Child Protection**

psychosocial activities

management services

Health



695 persons at heightened risk identified and supported through protection case management mechanism (not including CP and GBV)

600 individuals received case management services by social service providers trained on GBV survivor-centred care approaches

3,069 at-risk girls and boys, including unaccompanied and separated children, who received individual case

19,229 girls and boys benefiting from

aid and related services including victims of trafficking, and exploitation

77 new of cases supported with legal

114 safe, accessible entry points for GBV case management services (same total)

youth 23,026 adolescents and receiving services, including life skills, hands on skills and resilience activities

**15,594** *more* persons benefitting from awareness raising and communitybased protection mechanisms

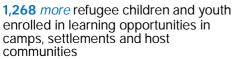
## **Education**



## **Food Security**



6 more basic health units (158 total)



907,366 people receiving food assistance (60,817 less than previous report)

2 more health centres open 24/7 (27 total)

60 more learning spaces established and functional.

130,027 people receiving cash/in-kind livelihoods and self-reliance support including income generating activities (same as previous report)

8 hospital facilities (same total)

**373,550** outpatient consultations

# **Shelter &** Non-Food Items



# Site Management &



Water, Sanitation &

37 refugee households received transitional shelter assistance

292 refugee households received midterm shelter (2,123 total)

3,870 households given portable lights

31,781 households received LPG refills (89,379 total hhs receive LPG support)

3,832 Bangladeshi households received blankets

# **Development**



783 plots available in existing sites (due to abovementioned relocations and limited opportunities to develop new spaces)

# **Hygiene (WASH)**



**10,600** *more* people in settlements benefitting from safe water to agreed standards and meeting demand for domestic purposes (15 litres per person per day)

11,985 *more* people have received a WASH hygiene kit and/or a top up kit and/or a voucher

16,043 more women, men, children in settlements benefitting from functional latrines to agreed standards

#### **Nutrition**

acuté malnutrition



2,346 children aged 0-59 months newly admitted for treatment for severe

**Logistics** 

The Logistics/Engineering Hub in Madhu Chara provides 2,160m<sup>2</sup> of common storage space, while the Teknaf Logistics Hub provides over 480m<sup>2</sup>.

Storage facilitated for 26 humanitarian organizations totalling 28.254m3 of humanitarian relief items (same totals)

# Communicating with **Communities**



Communication for Development volunteers conducted 146,717 interactions with beneficiaries and reached 265,794 people through 40,000 household visits

21,826 people received nutrition aid.

3,464 children aged 6-59 months

newly admitted for treatment for

moderate acute malnutrition

Spotlight on Aid to Affected Host Communities: Nutrition Services in January

39,406 Bangladeshi children under the age of 5 were screened for malnutrition 91 Bangladeshi children with severely acute malnutrition were admitted for treatment 628 Bangladeshi children with moderately acute malnutrition were admitted for treatment 274 pregnant Bangladeshi women with moderately acute malnutrition were admitted for treatment 846 pregnant Bangladeshi women received one-on-one counselling on Infant and Young Child Feeding Sector Coordinator:
Child Protection Sub-Sector:
Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector:

Anna Pelosi Ranjini Paskarasingam Nejemalmolook Ibrahim

# **Sector Achievements in January**

- UNHCR continued to monitor arrivals of Rohingya refugees from Myanmar and from India. At the Transit Centre (TC) near Kutupalong, new arrivals receive food, temporary shelter, information, counselling and vulnerability screening. A total of 1,062 new arrivals approached the TC.
- A total of 15,594 persons have directly benefitted from community-based awareness raising sessions on key
  protection issues, including via door-to-door visits by Community Outreach Members and Community Groups to
  identify persons at heightened risk and refer them to appropriate services.
- A total of 84 humanitarian staff from other service providers have been trained on protection principles including GBV, child protection, Code of Conduct and PSEA.
- With the support of UNHCR, ECHO, the Global Protection Cluster and DRC Denmark, a Protection Working Group Protection Information Management (PIM) training was held 20-24 January in Cox's Bazar. 25 protection and information management staff participated and collectively reviewed the information management landscape, information gaps and priorities, and jointly developed a PWG PIM Action Plan for 2019.

#### **Sector Gaps/Constraints in January**

- The Sector was 54% funded under the 2018 JRP, limiting access to and quality of case management for persons at heightened protection risks, projects in host communities, and support to governmental protection services.
- National policy restrictions continue to impact on refugee rights, such as freedom of movement, civil documentation, education and access to justice.
- Areas for multi-purpose community centres for women, men, boys and girls as well as for child protection and recreational play need to be included in site planning, with sufficient space to ensure minimum standards.

# **Child Protection Sub-Sector (CPSS)**

#### **Sub-Sector Achievements in January**

- A four-day interagency training of trainers on alternative care services included 35 case workers from 10 agencies including the Department of Social Services.
- CPSS is setting up a situation-monitoring-and-alert system to track developments and identify geographic trends. The alert system will incorporate reports from a range of actors. 5 camps have been selected as a starting point.
- CPSS actors are rolling-out a CP information management system (CPIMS +) to harmonize case management and service data. In January, a CPIMS+ training was conducted for 22 participants from 9 agencies.

#### **Sub-Sector Gaps/Constraints in January**

- Adolescent girls' access to services remains a big challenge, as parents often restrict their movements due to security concerns. Community engagement and focus group discussions with adolescents and parents continue to address these issues.
- Reports suggest an increase in chickenpox among children; CPSS is working with Health Sector to train refugee volunteers on prevention and referral.
- CPSS actors have raised concerns about local authorities' requests for detailed staff information.

#### **Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector (GBVSS)**

#### **Sub-Sector Achievements in January**

- GBVSS updated referral pathways to GBV response services, including for healthcare, case management, psychosocial support, mental health, safe shelter and legal support services. Referral pathways are now established in 31 camps and 2 host community sites.
- GBVSS implemented structured skills and empowerment programs in January for 1,118 women and 1,226 girls. GBV awareness-raising activities have reached 22,285 individuals (90% female).
- GBV prevention activities reached 1,314 men and 1,005 boys. 5,426 individuals received psychosocial support.
- World Vision joined the common GBV information management system (GBVIMS).
- 4,529 dignity kits were distributed, benefitting 3604 women and 925 girls.

#### **Sub-Sector Gaps/Constraints in January**

- Only 59% of the case management service coverage target has been achieved; an additional 86 facilities are required to reach full coverage service entry points.
- Additional efforts are required to ensure the minimum service quality standards in the areas of specialized GBV case management, including quality services for child survivors of GBV.



Sector Coordinators:

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#### **Achievements in January**

- 179,922 children (ages 4-14) participated in the ASER-Plus assessment in 2,499 learning facilities to identify their literacy and numeracy levels, which will facilitate grouping them into appropriate levels of the Learning Competency Framework and Approach (LCFA).
- Intermediary teaching and learning materials aligned with the LCFA were distributed to most of the learning facilities in January, including lesson plans for Levels I and II (English, Mathematics, Life Skills, and Burmese) as well as supplementary reading material in Burmese and English for each classroom.
- Field staff were trained on peer-coaching methods for use of the LCFA intermediary materials.
- A sector-wide training on child-participatory data collection methods was conducted to enhance data collection methods by partners and expand both focus group discussions as well as key information interviews.
- The Youth Working Group was reactivated to develop an advocacy note and improve linkages with other sectors.
- The Standard Working Group was reactivated to develop implementation standards for sector partners.

## **Gaps/Constraints in January**

- The abovementioned ASER-Plus assessment was not able to collect baseline data on children out of school.
- Logistical delays slowed down arrival of intermediary materials to all learning facilities in the makeshift camps.
- Only an estimated 1,091 learning facilities have WASH facilities that are accessible to children.



Food Security (FSS)

**Sector Coordinator:** 

Stella Agnes Atiti

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#### **Achievements in January**

- FSS provided food to 145,122 refugee households (653,049 individuals) and e-vouchers to 43,000 refugee households (193,500 individuals). E-vouchers can be exchanged for 18 different food commodities in 18 shop outlets, which allows refugees more choice, dignity and dietary diversity—while also strengthening local markets.
- To help diet diversification, 24,029 households (108,131 individuals) received complementary vouchers as a topup to the general food distribution; these vouchers provide access to 13 different items in 6 shop outlets.
- 15,000 refugees/day were provided with cooked meals. This programme targets new arrivals and persons with special needs (e.g. pregnant and lactating mothers, malnourished children, people who are physically challenged, the elderly and chronically ill persons).
- 2,511 refugees participated in cash-for-work activities, which also helps them diversify their diets and meet other needs. These activities also aid infrastructural development such as roads, drainage and slope stabilization.
- 622 new beneficiaries participated in skills training and received cash incentives for their participation.
- Cash for food was provided to 289 beneficiaries with special nutrition needs.
- 1,575 refugee households and 912 host community households received home gardening support.
- 2,719 host community households received livelihoods support (e.g. skills strengthening with cash incentives).

## **Gaps/Constraints in January**

 Operational context remains a challenge especially for self-reliance interventions. Spacing, water scarcity and soil quality constraints home gardening.



Health

**Sector Coordinator:** 

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#### Achievements in January

- 166 health facilities are active Early Warning, Alert and Response System (EWARS) reporting sites 78% coverage.
- 9,972 Varicella cases were reported in 2019, with a clear increase from weeks one to four. Monitoring and response actions are ongoing.
- The Sector established an inter-agency task team to rationalize services, with the Civil Surgeon's endorsement.
   A workshop was held to identify 22 priority camps for decongestion and to develop a matrix for recommending health facility closures and/or relocations.
- The Sector trained 45 participants from 21 partner agencies on its minimum service package, including how to complete a self-assessment survey.
- The Sector is piloting a hospital rotation plan to ensure coverage of 24/7 emergency obstetric surgical care.

#### **Gaps/Constraints in January**

- Duplication of health services is a challenge for the Sector which requires a systematic rationalization process.
- The following critical gaps continue to exist in health service provision: surgical capacity, 24/7 health service provision, psychiatric and psychological specialists, and treatment for non-communicable diseases (NCD).

Sector Coordinator: Ingo Neu ineu@unicef.org

#### Achievements in January (see also data for host communities on page 2)

- 347,719 children under 5 years old were screened for acute malnutrition; 10,540 children aged 6-59 months were newly admitted to blanket supplementary food programme (Cumulative: 198,997);
- Pregnant and lactating women (PLW): 439 moderately acute malnourished PLW were newly admitted to outpatient treatment and 7,426 PLW received counselling on Infant and Young Child Feeding.
- A sector workshop allocated catchment areas for each nutrition facility, eliminating duplication. Sector
  coordination meetings will be set up in each camp as well as feedback mechanisms to strengthen
  accountability.

## **Gaps/Constraints in January**

 The facility network needs restructuring to improve effectiveness as well as the referral of and follow-up on discharged cases. Space constraints present a great challenge to such a restructuring.

Shelter and Non-Food Items

Sector Coordinator: Co-Coordinator:

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#### **Achievements in January**

- Transitional shelter assistance (TSA) programming began for the first set of households, which provided training, footings and treated or mature bamboo as well as flexible materials.
- Bamboo treatment piloting increased: 2 sector partners reached a joint capacity of 20,800 bamboo/month.
- More than 10,000 sets of winter clothing and 10,843 blankets were distributed. In addition, the Government of India provided 200,000 sweaters and 250,000 blankets.

#### **Gaps/Constraints in January**

- Planned and completed Phase 3 Shelter Interventions cover only 19.4% of refugee households—a serious gap
  considering that most bamboo in the camps predates the 2018 monsoon season and now needs replacing.
  Delays in finalizing comprehensive site plans limit progress on mid-term shelter (MTS). Most of the camps will
  not benefit from such site plans in 2019, hence the Sector is resorting to planning for Transitional Shelter
  Assistance.
- The overarching challenge remains the lack of sufficient, suitable land to decongest camps and construct shelters which meet Sphere standards, are capable of withstanding expected weather hazards (e.g. heavy winds and rains) and are adequate to meet refugees' protection needs—especially for women and children.
- Shelter upgrades are still hampered by funding delays, project approvals for NGOs, and supply chain issues. Bamboo treatment plants are piloted, but there is urgent need for further facilities.



#### **Site Management Site Development Sector (SMSD)**

Sector Coordinator: SI

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#### Achievements in January

- A training of trainers in site management was conducted for over 20 government and humanitarian workers.
- SMSD identified its top priorities for 2019, in consultation with all partners: community representation and accountability, capacity-building, emergency preparedness, risk mitigation and access.
- SMSD worked very closely with LGED and the RRRC to prioritize infrastructure construction projects to be funded by the Asian Development Bank, including roads, slope stabilization and storm water drainages.
- SMSD built or repaired over 12 km of drainage and 4 km of roads.

## **Gaps/Constraints in January**

Congestion and overcrowding of camps continues to expose families to a range of heightened risks.

# Gender in Humanitarian Action Working Group (GiHA) Coordinator: Flora Macula flora.macula@unwomen.org

- A Governance Task Force developed guidelines on gender equality for a harmonized camp governance model, aimed towards ultimately electing refugee representatives in all camps. GiHA has approved ToRs for a Woman in Leadership Empowerment Task Force to:
  - align inter-sector efforts to ensure that future women leaders will have leadership and representation skills;
  - help the local community build a safe environment conducive to strengthening the capacity of women;
  - link GiHA, CwC and ISCG efforts to streamline all women's empowerment activities; and
  - integrate discussions on emerging challenges into camp election events/activities.
- In parallel, GiHA will undertake community dialogues, especially with the community leaders and with men/boys, to foster a supportive environment for women leaders.

Sector Coordinators: Bob Bongomin Jr (bbongomin@unicef.org) & Asif Arafat (washsecco-cxb@bd-actionagainsthunger.org)

#### **Achievements in January:**

- Latrines were operated and maintained for 760,896 people in camps and 53,220 people in host communities.
- 5,626 latrines were desludged during the reporting period (cumulative total: 103,854), and such maintenance is ongoing for 644 additional latrines. In all, the Sector maintains 48,779 functional latrines.
- A WASH consultant conducted 3 workshops, on Integrating Gender, GBV & Inclusion Perspectives with sector coordinators as well as technical working groups on Sanitation-Hygiene and Water.
- Along with the Department of Public Health Engineering, the Sector visited 5 of 8 water reservoirs in Teknaf to improve the water supply and prepare for Teknaf's water challenges in the dry season.

## **Gaps/Constraints in January:**

- Sector partners continue to face challenges in securing necessary shipment and customs clearances for specialized equipment for water and fecal sludge testing, solar power equipment and accessories.
- The new road plans, as well as construction of institutional spaces like CiC offices or security watch towers, have often affected planned water pipeline designs.



## **Communications with Communities Working Group (CwC)**

Coordinator:

Md. Mahbubur Rahman (cxb.cwcwg@gmail.com)

#### Sector Achievements

- Communication for Development (C4D) volunteers conducted 146717 instances of interpersonal communication (IPC) with beneficiaries, reaching 265,794 people through 40,000 household visits. 377 community leaders were engaged through 11 advocacy meetings. 30 C4D staff were trained on sensitizing communities to varicella risks while 785 volunteers were trained by C4D staff.
- Training on CwC, IPC, research for effective community engagement and listener groups was provided to 88 humanitarian workers from 15 organizations.
- CwC Working Group published the 9th issue of the CXB Press Snapshot and issues 17-18 of the What Matters (the community feedback summary); What Matters issues covered livelihoods, safety & security concerns for host communities, as well as ration cards and water-related issues for refugees.
- CwC Working Group also produced fire safety flashcards, audio instructions on gardening, and 5 Listen Again podcasts on child diseases in winter, diarrhoea, chickenpox, supporting adolescent girls during menstruation and the common cold. These were used as part of listener group discussions.



#### **Logistics Sector**

Sector Coordinator: Andriy Nechay (andriy.nechay@wfp.org)

#### Achievements in January

- The Sector conducted its Year-End Annual User Survey 2018; results indicated overall satisfaction.
- The Sector held a two-day Basic Humanitarian Logistics Course at Madhu Chara Logistics and Engineering Hub
  for assistants and officer-level staff (26 participants from 21 different NNGOs, INGOs and UN Agencies).
- Logistics Capacity Assessments were updated for local landside transportation, fuel and manual labour.
- The Sector initiated a preparedness platform to enhance sector capacity to share timely information on roads access and improve data visualization, in preparation for the next monsoon season.

#### Gaps/Constraints in January

- Traffic in the camps remains a challenge. Discussions on mitigation measures has been ongoing with RRRC, consensus on actions to be implemented is yet to be achieved.
- The truck verification process held at the DC office continues to add on extra costs and delivery time as result
  of full truck inspections in Cox's Bazar. The Sector is working with the NGO Platform and ISCG to advocate for
  simplified requirements.



#### **Emergency Telecommunications (ETS)**

Sector Coordinator: Min Sun (bangladesh.ets@wfp.org)

#### Achievements in January

- VHF repeaters were upgraded at two sites. UNDSS's radio room now has clear communications with all camps.
- UNDSS radio room was refurbished and base station radios were reprogrammed.
- The Modhur Chara humanitarian hub's internet service now has access control for the wireless network.
- Radio Naf has installed a new transmitter and a 90-foot tower to increase their broadcast coverage.

#### **Gaps/Constraints in January**

- NGOs continue to lack access to VHF radios.
- Response rates to the ETS connectivity needs assessment have been low.