

Country Overview

International flights resumed on 16 June following the relaxation of the lockdown. However, restriction still remain in other sectors such as education. Every year thousands of people in Bangladesh travel to Saudi Arabia to perform the hajj, an annual Islamic pilgrimage. However, the pilgrimage will take place next month in the host country with a limited number of people residing in the country.

The Government has allocated BDT 100 billion (1.18 billion USD) in the 2020-2021 budget for emergency healthcare requirements for COVID-19. A 2% tax has been imposed on all essential goods, a first in the history of Bangladesh.

Government continues to equip COVID-19 centres to effectively treat patients.

Lessons Learned, Best Practices and Innovations

World Vision Bangladesh recently conducted a COVID-19: Rapid Impact Assessment Bangladesh in 53 of its Area Programmes to ascertain the impact of COVID-19 among most vulnerable populations.

The report indicates that 95% of the household's livelihood activities affected, 94.7% of households have no or inadequate food stock and 34% of households have no access to the safe and clean drinking water. A further 34.7% of parents/caregivers applied physical punishment to their children as a form of discipline.

The report has been widely circulated in both local and national media in the country. The recent WVB cash distribution programs, was also highly covered in 15 renowned national daily newspapers.



"In the midst of the coronavirus crisis, we are on the ground delivering critical life-saving services, like food assistance and nutrition, and maintaining water networks,"

--says Atul Mrong, 43, Operations Director, Rohingya Refugee Response, World Vision Bangladesh.

Advocacy

WVB is working with its various key stakeholders such as child forum leaders to create awareness among the most vulnerable community of the country using online based social media platforms like Facebook and Zoom. So far child forum leaders have engaged both national and international experts on various topics related to child protection issues amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Countries such as Eswatini, India and Ghana have so far participated in the discussions with a viewership of over 21,000.

World Vision International global petition

World Vision Bangladesh remains the lead contributor of signatures with about 19,862 out of 30,000 as of 23 June 2020. The global petition is a call on governments and institutions to increase funding to protect children from all forms of violence and abuse, especially girls and boys at greater risk due to the impact of COVID-19.

Number of Cases (as of 24 June 2020)

122,660 cases, 1,582 deaths and 49,666 recoveries officially reported. (Population: 165 million)

Source: Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Bangladesh



COVID-19 Emergency Response | Highlights



150,000
registered children



675,802
children reached



1.66 million
beneficiaries reached



USD 10 million
targeted budget

OBJECTIVE 1: Promote preventative measures to stop or slow COVID-19 spread



1,087,772
people reached with prevention hygiene information.



12,777
people received prevention materials (hand sanitizer, soap, masks).



54,408
handwashing supplies (soap, buckets) distributed.



2,235
community-level public handwashing stations established



658,868
comprehensive hygiene kits distributed.



1,317
faith leaders engaged in disseminating prevention information.

OBJECTIVE 2: Support health systems and workers



808
community health workers trained to provide community-based services



1,459
medical personnel provided with personal protective equipment in health facilities.



481,856
face masks distributed, including to health facilities, health workers and caregivers. (This period.)



636
health facilities assisted, including hospital, clinics.



462
disinfectant kits distributed to health facilities.

OBJECTIVE 3: Provide children and families with multi-sector support



69,644
people (children, families) reached with prevention information.



USD 9.18 million
total value of cash/vouchers distributed.



146,661
individuals receiving cash disbursements/vouchers.



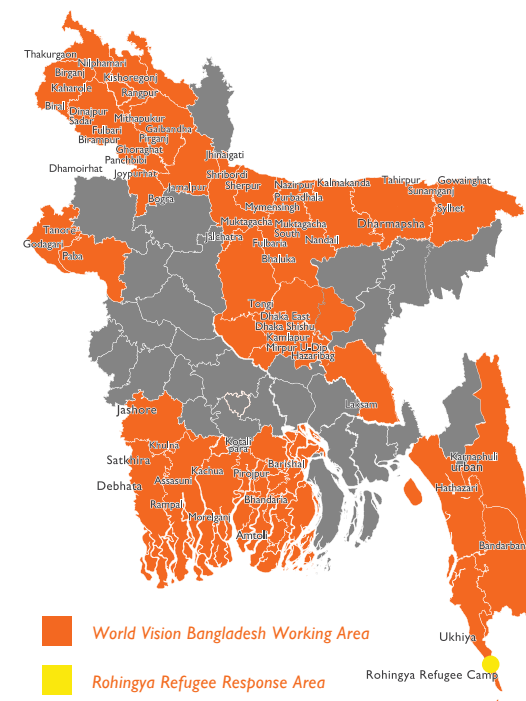
12,438
people supported with food security assistance.



119,381
children supported with child protection programming.



1,683
frontline actors trained on child protection programming. (This period)



Note: Cumulative totals to date unless otherwise noted.



Cash support helps vulnerable families to restore livelihood.



Hands-on training on homestead gardening with summer vegetables seeds provided.



Affected households (HHs) receive sanitation kits.

Area Programmes

"Small investment can bring bigger result. With the cash we received from World Vision we started banana selling business in the market by following social distancing rules. Though the profit was very little in the beginning but it started to increase. Now, our daily income is 300-400 BDT (3.54-4.72 USD). So, our children don't go to bed in empty stomach." says Arzina, 36, mother of a registered child Labib, 6. In a recent assessment report, World Vision Bangladesh [COVID-19: Rapid Impact Assessment Bangladesh](#) says 89.6% of the household's income reduced and 38.5% children and 58.9% adult take maximum two meals.

To tackle the immediate and secondary impacts of the COVID 19 pandemic on the most vulnerable people like Arzina, World Vision has supported 146,661 people with cash support to immediately meet the hunger and nutritional need as well as to restore the sustainable livelihood opportunities.

Rohingya Refugee Response/ Cox's Bazar Special Zone

4,790 Bangladeshi host community members (including 900 women) are participating in cash-for-work programmes in Ukhiya. Read about [Farida Begum](#), a "lead mother" who uses her wages to improve her family's future and teaches other women about child nutrition.

1,159 host community members and 650 Rohingya refugee women received training on homestead gardening along with a supply of summer vegetables seeds.

We bid a fond farewell to Rachel Wolff, Rohingya Refugee Response Sr. Director, who has provided exemplary leadership for the past two years. We wish Rachel every success in her new role as country director for CARE in Nepal. Galileo Omondi, our current Finance Director, will serve as interim response director for the next several months.

Nobo Jatra—New Beginning USAID's Development Food Security Activity

2,221 poor and extreme poor women received digital multi-purpose cash grants of \$36. These grants are intended to support families with emergency needs given the loss of incomes due to COVID-19 and cyclone Amphan. 9,674 sanitation kits have also been distributed to households, prioritizing women and youth headed households.

2,300 pregnant women are continuing to receive health and hygiene messages on audio bangles. Bangles have been an effective way of making sure that families continue to receive health tips without having to leave their homes.

44,600 pregnant and lactating women and Ultra Poor Graduation participants are receiving twice weekly voice message on COVID-19 and GBV. A survey found that 91% of participants found the voice messages helpful and accurate.

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