

Country Overview

Lock-down measures will likely continue until 30 May, with restrictions on public transport and flights being lifted after Eid (23 May). The government has issued guidelines on reopening businesses, schools and transport. Some shopping malls and markets are already open on a limited scale. Currently, the streets of Dhaka, the country's epicentre of COVID-19 cases, are packed with vehicles, commuters and pedestrians.

Advocacy

Up to 85 million more children worldwide could experience physical, sexual and emotional violence in the next three months, as COVID-19 isolation measures force them to stay home, according to [Aftershocks—A Perfect Storm](#), a World Vision report released today. Millions more children are at increased long-term risk of child marriage and child labour over the coming year. World Vision is calling on world leaders to urgently revise national policies and funding to prioritise ending violence against children and avoid these potentially devastating effects.

Bangladesh's recent [national impact and needs assessment](#), compiled by multiple stakeholders including World Vision, reports that child beatings by parents or guardians have increased by 42 percent. It also revealed a 40 percent increase of calls to a national child helpline. Fifty percent of those interviewed for the report said girls' safety and security is an issue during lockdowns.



Regional Field Director Anjoli Costa talks about the affect of COVID-19 on rural communities in this video.

Gaps and Challenges

Mobile money transfers are an effective way of getting cash quickly and safely to those in need, especially remote rural beneficiaries. However, thousands of app accounts must be set up and confirmed, which is time-consuming.

Suppliers are struggling to deliver goods on time due to market shortages and lock-down restrictions, causing the delayed distribution of urgently needed materials, such as hygiene kits.

Lessons Learned, Best Practices and Innovations

Snake charmers need COVID-19 protection, too. Concerned for these low-income workers, a pioneering group of university students, led by Mohammad Mosharof Hossain, 19, took action. They distributed soap and masks supplied by World Vision to 150 families living in Jhinaigati, an area about 170 km north of Dhaka. "They are low cast and neglected in our society," says Mohammad. "Nobody comes to support them, so we took the lead." Bangladesh reportedly has more than 500,000 snake charmers, mostly from the itinerant Bedey ethnic group, who roam the country or live on river boats.

Number of Cases (as of 14 May 2020)

New postive cases identified 1,041, death 14 and test conducted 7,392 last 24 hours in Bangladesh. Total cases 18,863 death 283 and recovered 3,427 as of today. Current trend is increasing cases.

Source: Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research, Bangladesh



COVID-19 Emergency Response | Highlights



150,000
registered children



661,214
children reached



1.4 million
beneficiaries reached



USD 10 million
targeted budget

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



891,008
people reached with prevention hygiene information.



3,940
people received prevention materials (hand sanitizer, soap, masks).



39,986
handwashing supplies (soap, detergent) distributed.



82,168
comprehensive hygiene kits distributed.



1,282
faith leaders engaged in disseminating prevention information.

OBJECTIVE 2: Support health systems and workers



778
community health workers trained, supported to provide services.



348
medical personnel in health facilities provided personal protective equipment.



56,890
face masks distributed to health facilities, health workers, caregivers. (This period)



2,801
gloves distributed.

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



58,444
people (children, families) reached with prevention information.



USD4.1 million
total value of cash/vouchers distributed.



116,921
individuals receiving cash disbursements/vouchers.



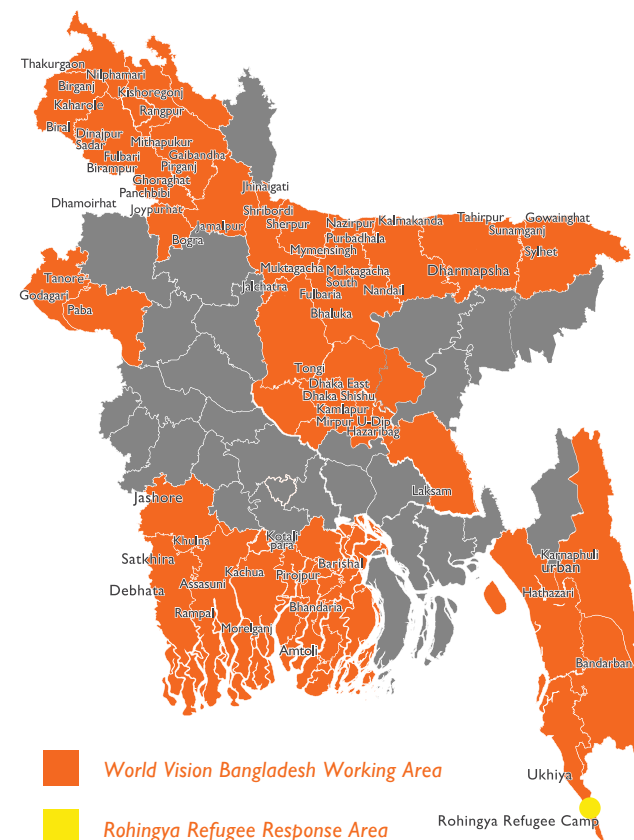
12,438
people supported with food security assistance.



119,048
children supported with child protection programming.



547
frontline actors trained on child protection programming. (This period)





Area Programmes

“When my parents and elder sister beat me, I feel like an animal in the zoo,” says Joyita, 7.

As a child facing violence during COVID-19 lockdowns, Joyita is not alone. She is among the 100 Bangladeshi children and adolescents (including 40 registered children) recently surveyed by World Vision as part of a psychosocial needs assessment. A reported 40 percent report that they are subject to corporal punishment at home as domestic stress escalates during COVID-19 lockdowns, and many families face unemployment.

The report includes recommendations from children about how they would like to be treated. As part of its COVID-19 response plan, World Vision is providing psychosocial support to children and counsels parents on positive parenting skills.

To support vulnerable families, World Vision will provide USD782,350 in cash grants to 18,684 beneficiaries.

Rohingya Refugee Response/ Cox’s Bazar Special Zone

The first COVID-19 case in the Rohingya refugee camp was officially reported on 14 May.

Extensive preparations have been made by the Government of Bangladesh, UN agencies and NGOs in the district of Cox’s Bazar, which includes the Rohingya camp. Established procedures are in place to respond to suspected and confirmed cases of CoVID-19. Health staff and other workers, including World Vision teams, have been oriented on infection prevention and control, including the appropriate use of personal protective equipment.

World Vision is helping Rohingya families protect themselves against the virus. An additional 3,750 handwashing stations were recently installed and soap distributed to 17,700 more families. We are conducting hygiene promotion trainings daily with parents and camp leaders.

In partnership with the World Food Programme and USAID, we regularly provide food rations or fresh food vouchers to 96,000 households monthly.

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



To support families’ food security, World Vision will provide multi-purpose cash transfers to 12,869 households whose regular incomes have been disrupted by COVID-19 lockdowns. With support from village development committees, staff and facilitators recently completed household verifications for the vouchers.



Disaster management committees and youth volunteers are ramping up COVID-19 awareness announcements to dispel misinformation, including messages on gender-based violence prevention.



10,000 sanitation kits are set to be distributed, with sites finalized, households verified and lists shared with local government administration to reduce overlaps. The distribution process will follow governmental guidelines on social distancing to ensure the safety of communities and staff.

For more information, contact

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