

Number of Cases (as of 10 June 2020)

74,865 cases, 1,012 deaths and 15,900 recoveries officially reported. (Population: 165 million)

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

Country Overview

After a 66-day closure, government and private offices reopened on 31 May. Public transport (buses, trains) were launched and domestic flights resumed. With COVID-19 cases rising, the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) started enforcing a pilot-based, zone lockdown system, designating small areas for specific interventions that include lockdowns. Government is using colour-codes (red, yellow and green) to show infection rates.

DGHS issued a guideline that it is illegal not to wear a mask in public. Further government appealed to faith leaders to disseminate coronavirus prevention messages via loudspeakers from their respective religious centres.

Lessons Learned, Best Practices and Innovations

- Use of bulk SMS messages to reach a large number of children and their families with hygiene messages.
- World Vision has sent bulk SMS texts to 143,346 people to date.



"Poor people in my community could not afford to buy masks. I started making them to sell at a very low price, and I gave masks free to the very needy."

--Akhi, 17, former child labourer assisted by World Vision.

Gaps and Challenges

In our COVID-19 response, World Vision is working with six partner organisations, enhancing their capacity on the use of advanced technologies, such as Last Mile Mobile Solution, which is used for the distribution of cash, hygiene kits, etc. Using these new tools is effective, but getting acquainted with them takes time and effort.

Advocacy

World Vision has launched a [global petition](#) calling on governments and institutions to increase funding to protect children from all forms of violence and abuse. This was after a new World Vision report titled [COVID-19 Aftershocks—A Perfect Storm](#), indicated that COVID-19 would put 85 million more children at risk. The national office has set a target of at least 30,000 online signatures by 30 June 2020.

COVID-19 is rising in the Rohingya refugee camps, with 35 confirmed cases and three deaths to date. However, refugees are [avoiding being tested](#) for fear they will be forced to remain in an isolation centre if positive, separated from family. Rumours and misinformation are circulating in the camps about how the virus is spread. Reaching the community with health information is challenging given the low literacy rate among adults. Audio internet-based materials is the most effective way to communicate, but Wifi services were cut off to the camps last year. [World Vision and other NGOs](#) continue to advocate that the ban on internet services be lifted to help save lives.



COVID-19 Emergency Response | Highlights



150,000
registered children



668,951
children reached



1.52 million
beneficiaries reached



USD 10 million
targeted budget

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



972,700
people reached with prevention hygiene information.



12,684
people received prevention materials (hand sanitizer, soap, masks).



51,740
handwashing supplies (soap, buckets) distributed.



2,235
community-level public handwashing stations established



651,623
comprehensive hygiene kits distributed.



1,302
faith leaders engaged in disseminating prevention information.

OBJECTIVE 2: Support health systems and workers



1,370
medical personnel provided with personal protective equipment in health facilities.



474,974
face masks distributed, including to health facilities, health workers and caregivers. (This period.)



613
health facilities assisted, including hospital, clinics.



462
disinfectant kits distributed to health facilities.

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



69,215
people (children, families) reached with prevention information.



USD 7.24 million
total value of cash/vouchers distributed.



140,740
individuals receiving cash disbursements/vouchers.



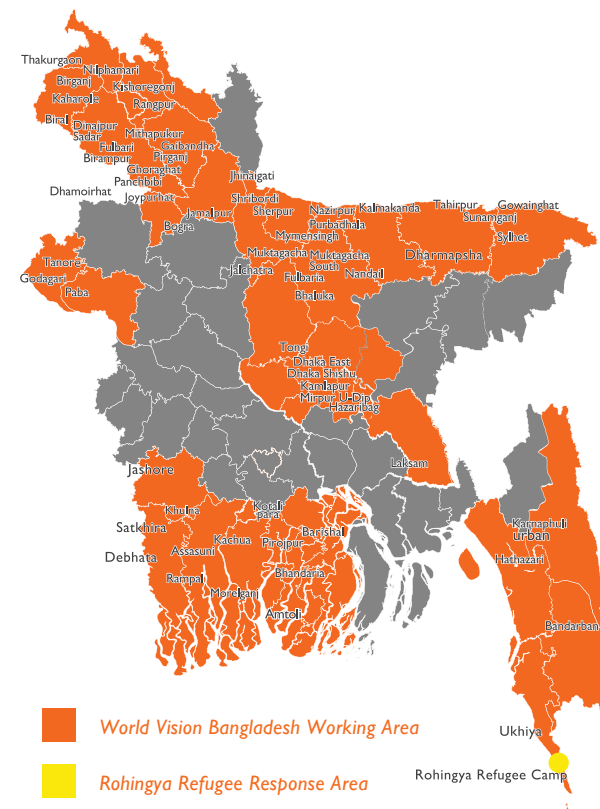
12,438
people supported with food security assistance.



119,381
children supported with child protection programming.



1,412
frontline actors trained on child protection programming. (This period)



Note: Cumulative totals to date unless otherwise noted.



Educational support materials help children to keep learning during lockdowns.



Rohingya mothers conduct hands-on health and hygiene sessions.



COVID-19 prevention information is reaching communities.

Area Programmes

"I dream that one day my school will re-open, and I will go to school with my best friend. I recall the days when we used to talk and laugh together under the banyan tree of our school. I miss my favorite bench in the fourth row of the classroom and my favorite math class a lot," says Mohanta, 11, a World Vision registered child.

For more than two months, schools in Bangladesh have been shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Most children living in vulnerable families have little or no access to online classes. A reported 38% of parents indicated that their children received no continuous educational support during lockdown, according to COVID-19: Bangladesh Multi-Sectoral Anticipatory Impact and Needs Analysis.

World Vision has supported 1,527 vulnerable children with education supplies so they can continue learning after being forced to leave school.

Rohingya Refugee Response/ Cox's Bazar Special Zone



COVID-19 lockdown measures reduced the number of World Vision field staff who could access the camps last month. To ensure that critical programmes continued, teams trained 56 Rohingya lead mothers who reached 1,391 fellow refugees through 276 health and hygiene sessions on COVID-19 prevention, nutrition, and GBV awareness, as well as monsoon and cyclone preparedness.



3,087 mothers and caregivers were also trained how to assess their children's nutritional status by measuring their middle upper arm circumference (MUAC). Mothers can bring their children to clinics if need be. The home self-testing reduces the need for nutrition teams to conduct regular door-to-door screening for malnutrition, which could potentially spread COVID-19.



79 staff were oriented in COVID-19 psychological first aid.

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



7,700 households and 1,115 USAID-supported health-service delivery points received sanitation kits (soap, detergent, buckets).



4,000 households and local businesses are benefiting from safe drinking water provided by 10 reverse-osmosis water plants built by World Vision. During the COVID-19 pandemic, water sales have increased in all reverse-osmosis plants. Communities can access a regular supply of safe water at this critical time when they are already struggling with the double impact of COVID-19 and Cyclone Amphan, which damaged many area water sources.



100 COVID-19 awareness billboards, which include messages on gender-based violence prevention, were set up across all four sub-districts in the programme area. Some 20,000 posters were also distributed in communities and health-service delivery points.

For more information, contact

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