

Number of Cases (as of 08 July 2020)

172,134 cases, 2,197 deaths and 80,838 recoveries officially reported. (Population: 165 million)

Source: Directorate General of Health Services, Bangladesh

Country Overview

The government of Bangladesh (GoB) extended the nation-wide restriction on public activities and movements until 3 August 2020. World Vision staff continue to work from home due to lockdown measures, relying on limited staff and volunteers who can access the field to implement interventions.

The lockdown measures have caused the loss of daily income for millions of Bangladeshis and triggered food insecurity. [A recent report](#) by World Vision Bangladesh indicates that 95 percent of household incomes in its operational zones have been disrupted. A government report reveals that 13 percent of the population are unemployed due to the pandemic.

GoB introduced a COVID-19 testing fee (minimum USD2.36) due to the large numbers of non-infected people coming to test centres. It also approved the production and import of [Rapid Dot Blot](#), a rapid antibody testing kit.

Gaps and Challenges

Bangladesh is prone to annual floods that affect the most vulnerable populations across the country. This year, more than 7 million [people](#) are exposed to the risk of monsoon flooding in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis, according to the [Needs Assessment Working Group](#).



“With the money I received from World Vision, I paid my rent and bought food for my children so that they don’t go to bed hungry. I also bought soap so we can maintain proper hygiene during this pandemic.”

— Laboni, 26, a single mother

Lessons Learned, Best Practices and Innovations

World Vision is prioritizing women-headed households and households with members with disabilities in its COVID-19 interventions. When distributing items, such as WASH and hygiene materials, special considerations are taken to ensure safe, easy access for persons with disabilities, pregnant and lactating mothers, and the elderly.

Advocacy

World Vision is urgently calling on Asian leaders to attend and respond to the deadly long-term impact COVID-19 on the region’s most vulnerable, especially children.

[Unmasking the Impact of COVID-19 on Asia’s Most Vulnerable Children](#), a World Vision early recovery assessment report released on 8 July, reveals that resulting economic, psychosocial and physical strain on families have negatively affected all aspects of child well-being including access to food, nutrition, healthcare, essential medicines, hygiene and sanitation facilities, as well as child protection and safety.

The report, based on data gathered across nine countries including [Bangladesh](#), highlighted that the livelihoods of more than 60 percent of parents or caregivers have been fully or severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Daily workers, who are the largest segment surveyed (and the largest segment of many Asian economies), are the hardest hit. About 85 percent of urban parents/caregivers reported recent loss of jobs or income reduction.

The impact of COVID-19 is threatening to reverse decades of progress in the fight against poverty and income inequalities, potentially stalling Asian economic growth at zero percent in 2020 and putting millions of children in Asia-Pacific at increased risk. Half of the world’s most vulnerable children live in Asia Pacific.

COVID-19 Emergency Response | Highlights



2.05 million
beneficiaries reached



774,830
children reached



150,000
registered children



USD 10 million
targeted budget

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



1,270,376
comprehensive hygiene kits distributed.



1,237,108
people reached with prevention hygiene information.



85,373
people received prevention materials (hand sanitizer, soap, masks).



61,329
handwashing supplies (soap, buckets) distributed.



2,235
community-level public handwashing stations established.



1,407
faith leaders engaged in disseminating prevention information.

OBJECTIVE 2: Support health systems and workers.



975,932
face masks distributed to health facilities, health workers, caregivers.



2,458
medical personnel provided with personal protective equipment in health facilities.



808
community health workers trained to provide community-based services.



756
health facilities assisted, including hospital, clinics.



552
disinfectant kits distributed to health facilities.

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



158,013
individuals receiving cash disbursements/vouchers.



USD 10,546,060
total amount of cash/vouchers distributed.



151,143
people (children, families) reached with prevention information.



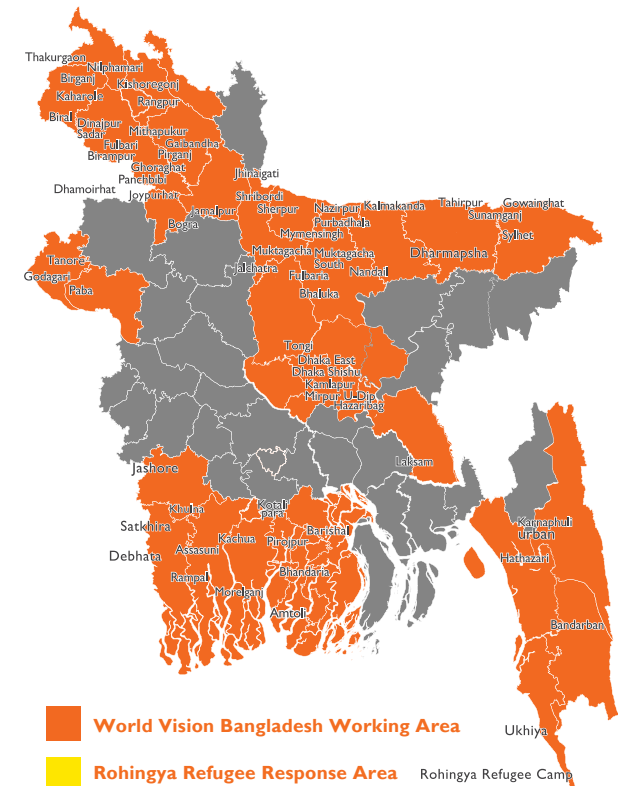
15,271
people supported with food security assistance.



123,879
children supported with child protection programming.



3,445
frontline actors trained on child protection programming.





Community health care provider wearing PPE provided by World Vision.



The incidence of COVID-19 cases among Rohingya refugees has remained low.



Gold Star Member entrepreneurs promote health and hygiene products.

Area Programmes



50% of people in World Vision operational areas have limited access to public/private health services, according to World Vision Bangladesh's recent report [COVID-19: Rapid Impact Assessment Bangladesh](#). To support health care workers and help slow the spread of COVID-19, World Vision delivered 3,202 personal protection equipment (PPE) items to 2,485 health service providers. In addition, 86,531 IEC/BCC materials were also provided to 478 health facilities.

“Due to the lack of PPE, we were afraid of getting infected and we struggled to support people who came to the clinic,” says Farzara Khatun, a community health care provider in Dinajpur. “Mothers and their children come here for pre- and post-natal care, vaccinations and child nutrition services. Since we received PPE from World Vision, we can provide services to them while maintaining proper hygiene practices ourselves. The awareness materials we received were also really helpful in promoting life-saving prevention messages to our patients.”

Rohingya Refugee Response/ Cox's Bazar Special Zone



56 COVID-19 cases and five deaths are confirmed in the Rohingya refugee camps to date, according to the World Health Organization. In contrast, more than 2,776 confirmed infections, including 60 deaths, have been reported among the 2.4 million Bangladeshis living in the neighbouring Cox's Bazar district. However, a new [ACAPS report](#) suggests that cases in the camps may be significantly under-reported because of the Rohingyas' fear of being tested coupled with distrust of officials and health providers. The report also outlines the short and long-term consequences of COVID-19 containment measures in the camps, including major interruptions to health services, including vaccinations, food and economic insecurity.



9,400 refugees are receiving cloth masks produced by Rohingya women participating in World Vision sewing courses.



3,670 host community residents are participating in indigenous chicken raising training to help increase household incomes.

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



100 Gold Star Members, local entrepreneurs supported by Nobo Jatra and a social marketing company partner, are ensuring that health and hygiene products are available in their communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. They sell feminine hygiene products, oral saline solution, diapers and nutrition powder, and counsel customers on how to use the products effectively.



1,077 village savings and lending associations resumed operations. These resilient, resourceful groups provide members with much needed access to finances during the COVID-19 crisis, enabling them to meet household expenses and revive their livelihoods.



9,463 households received digital multi-purpose cash transfers to help them cope with the double impact of COVID-19 and Cyclone Amphan. Additionally, 3,407 pregnant and lactating women received cash transfers to help them provide nutritious, balanced diets for their families whose incomes are reduced due to COVID-19.

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