

Number of Cases (as of 22 July 2020)

213,254 cases, 2,751 deaths and 117,204 recoveries officially reported. (Population: 165 million)

Source: Directorate General of Health Services, Bangladesh

Country Overview

The Government of Bangladesh (GoB) will allow all public transport, except goods transporters, to run during the upcoming Muslim Eid-ul-Azha festival (31 July-2 August). Cattle markets will be allowed to operate in specifically designated areas. The demand for animals to sacrifice is predicted to be low as the COVID-19 pandemic has hit the economy hard. Farmers have already started selling their cattle at low prices to meat traders out of fear of incurring losses.

As of 23 July, COVID-19 negative certificates from government-authorized testing centres will be required by airline passengers leaving Bangladesh. Since the GoB introduced a COVID-19 testing fee (minimum USD2.36), the rate of testing has decreased significantly. The GoB approved the final or phase-3 human trial of a COVID-19 vaccine by a Chinese firm. The International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh has submitted a research protocol, seeking to conduct the study.

Gaps and Challenges

As of 18 July, a third of Bangladesh is under water after heavy rains caused continued flooding—predicted to be the worst in a decade. With the country already struggling to curb the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the flood is causing new challenges. More than 7 million people are at risk from monsoon flooding in the midst of the COVID-19 crisis, according to the [Needs Assessment Working Group](#).

Amid the pandemic World Vision opened all of its area programme and project offices in different parts of the country on a limited scale ensuring staff's safety and security.



“ I am happy that today we will be able to eat full plate of rice. ”

— Naznin, age 8

Lessons Learned, Best Practices and Innovations

Start Fund, UK Aid awarded [World Vision](#) a GBP100,000-grant to address the hygiene and livelihood needs of children and families affected by monsoon floods since 27 June and those further at risk of more flooding in Jamalpur district.

World Vision is making sure that community members, including children, have opportunities to share feedback and complaints about the assistance they receive during our COVID-19 emergency response. During the first 90 days of the response, 856 people provided feedback through different preferred community channels, such as mobile phone, help desks, face-to-face with staff/volunteers and feedback boxes. All the feedback is reviewed, recorded and responded to by World Vision staff within a timeline agreed upon with the community.

According to the post-distribution monitoring survey, 94 percent of the 2,618 respondents mentioned that they are fully satisfied with World Vision's service. Criteria included beneficiary selection, distribution process, product quality and quantity, and accessibility to distribution centres.

Advocacy

Members of World Vision's children and youth forums are using technology creatively during the COVID-19 crisis. They recently organized webinars during which they submitted petitions to government institutions asking that budget be allocated for children's welfare. Members of Parliament appreciated this initiative to avoid face-to-face meetings that can increase the risk of spreading COVID-19. They listened to the young advocates, concurred with them and pledged to work for children's welfare.

COVID-19 Emergency Response | Highlights



2.05 million
beneficiaries reached



775,405
children reached



150,000
registered children



USD 10 million
targeted budget

Note: Cumulative totals to date unless otherwise noted.

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



1,273,499
comprehensive hygiene kits distributed.



1,238,390
people reached with prevention hygiene information.



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



62,937
handwashing supplies (soap, buckets) distributed.



2,235
community-level public handwashing stations established.



1,455
faith leaders engaged in disseminating prevention information.

OBJECTIVE 2: Support health systems and workers.



976,182
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.



159,949
individuals receiving cash disbursements/vouchers.



USD 12,420,868
total amount of cash/vouchers distributed.



151,242
people (children, families) reached with prevention information.



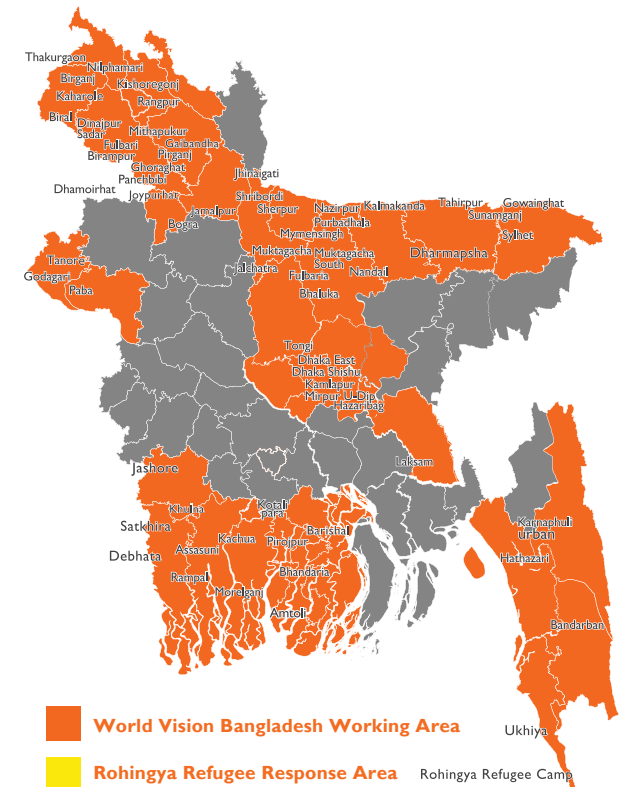
123,879
children supported with child protection programming.



15,271
people supported with food security assistance.



3,445
frontline actors trained on child protection programming.





Cash support helps COVID-19-affected families create livelihood opportunities.



A new CERF grant will support COVID-19 WASH interventions.



Trained village agents selling health and hygiene products.

Area Programmes



A reported 95 percent of household livelihoods activities in World Vision operational areas have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to World Vision's recent report, COVID-19: Rapid Impact Assessment Bangladesh. To support the most vulnerable families, World Vision provided 159,949 people with one-time cash assistance of USD12.4 million.

“Being a parent, we feel the worst when we cannot provide our children with adequate food at least three times a day,” says Jesmin Begum, 30, a mother of two living in Laksam district. When her husband became jobless due to the lockdown, the family went door-to-door asking for help, but failed. “When we received the cash support from World Vision, our lives got back to normal again,” says Jesmin. “We bought food for our children, and my husband bought tools to repair three-wheelers (small vehicles) with the money. Now we can afford our living costs as he is earning some money from the repair business.”

For more information, contact:

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Rohingya Refugee Response/ Cox's Bazar Special Zone



World Vision is one of five NGOs working on the Rohingya humanitarian crisis to share a USD3 million grant from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) to help address the most pressing health, water, sanitation and hygiene needs in the COVID-19 response. This significant, innovative contribution forms part of a USD25 million global allocation from CERF to support front-line NGO responses outlined in the Global Humanitarian Response Plan for COVID-19.



We are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Fredrick Christopher as Interim Response Director. Chris, as he is known, brings nearly four decades of experience gained across the Asia Pacific Region with World Vision, UN agencies and fellow NGOs. He will oversee our integrated relief and development operation that serves over 483,000 Rohingya refugees, as well as more than 80,000 Bangladeshi host community residents, with a team of 500 full-time staff and 1,500 facilitators and volunteers.

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



A COVID-19 impact assessment of Nobo Jatra's direct participants found that the top three needs for households are food consumption, livelihoods and healthcare.



To accelerate private sector engagement to revive livelihoods, Nobo Jatra has partnered with Advanced Chemical Industries (ACI) Limited—one of the largest pharmaceutical businesses in Bangladesh. ACI will provide health and hygiene messaging, and sell products to families through village agents, who will also be trained in business skills. By transitioning to new partnership models that are rooted in private sector and local engagement, Nobo Jatra is supporting communities to earn incomes and stay healthy.

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