



Number of Cases (as of 9 September 2020)

331,078 cases, 4,593 deaths and 230,804 recoveries officially reported. (Population: 165 million)

Source: Directorate General of Health Services, Bangladesh

Country Overview

Bangladesh has become 14th on the list of worst-affected countries in terms of the number of cases. Even so, the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) withdrew all restrictions on public movement. Public transports are allowed to carry passengers at full capacity withdrawing the previous directive of carrying half.

However, public awareness campaigns will be held to curb the spread of the virus. Authorities will act against those who violate hygiene rules. Primary Education Certificate and Junior School Certificate exam cancelled and educational institutions will remain close till 3 October 2020.

Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR) has completed genome sequencing of 263 COVID-19 samples at its laboratory which will help to the development of the vaccine. BCSIR also found out that the mutation rate of the virus in the country is faster than the global rate.

Lessons Learned, Best Practices and Innovations

World Vision has started providing cloth masks instead of surgical masks to beneficiaries customized for both adult and children as per WHO guideline. The initiative has been made so that beneficiaries can be protected from the virus using these durable and cost-saving masks.

We are providing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the front-liners like policemen, journalists, local and national level government officials so that they can ensure protection and service for the citizens of the country. As of 31 August, we have distributed PPE to a total 1,377 front liners.



Md. Golam Ehsanul Habib

“I want to be a teacher in the future. That’s why I need to study more.”

– says Arpan, age 8

while studying at home in the dim light of the kerosene lamp as electricity went out. He is one of the many children around the world who are missing school due to COVID-19.

Lessons Learned, Best Practices and Innovations

COVID-19 prevention messages are now disseminated through numbers of community-based surveillance groups of total 234 members (formed by WVB) within ten area programmes and one grant project area.

World Vision introduced ‘Telemedicine’ service in 15 geographical locations of the country on a pilot basis to bridge the gap of health professional and patients. Innovative distance health services like ‘Telemedicine’ provides distance clinical services even after usual clinic hours. World Vision engaged qualified doctors and shared health cards with their contact numbers among the beneficiaries to create easy access to get free health consultations.

Advocacy

Akhi, a girl rescued from hazardous child labor by World Vision is now a rescuer of the society. On the International Humanitarian Day, Akhi has been recognized as ‘[real life hero](#)’ by the UN. Akhi, the hidden hero, has risen from an ordinary person to make an extraordinary impact, empowered by the proven experience of World Vision.

The most popular English dailies of the country ‘The Daily Star’ is featuring all the eight hidden heroes on their most popular online portals positioning the issues of most vulnerable children as well as the work of World Vision responding to COVID-19.

State minister Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) and Director Advocacy, Communications and External Engagement met and discussed about a strong collaboration between MoWCA and World Vision to celebrate the upcoming National Child Rights Week 2020.

Alamgir, an active youth leader from Bangladesh facilitated in the first youth-led virtual camp ‘Summer Shoutout’ organized by World Vision and discussed the impacts of COVID-19 on children.



COVID-19 Emergency Response | Highlights



2.23 million
beneficiaries reached



782,212
children reached



150,000
registered children

Note: Cumulative totals to date unless otherwise noted.

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



1,388,628
people reached with prevention hygiene information.



1,393,628
comprehensive hygiene kits distributed.



96,169
people received prevention materials (hand sanitizer, soap, masks).



93,646
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.



1,146,775
face masks distributed, including to health facilities, health workers and caregivers.



3,122
medical personnel provided with personal protective equipment in health facilities.



1,085
health facilities assisted, including hospital, clinics.



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



552
disinfectant kits distributed to health facilities.

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



174,795
individuals receiving cash disbursements/ vouchers.



USD 16,338,552
total amount of cash/vouchers distributed.



151,821
people (children, families) reached with prevention information.



123,879
children supported with child protection programming.



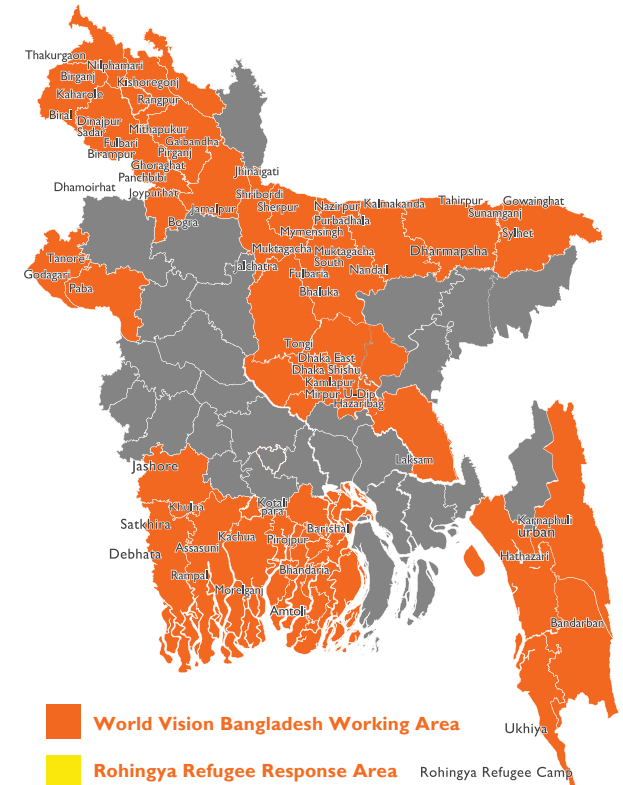
54,596
educational materials provided to support remote learning



15,576
people supported with food security assistance.



3,445
frontline actors trained on child protection programming.





Families are taking telemedicine service from the registered doctors.



Child protection issues are increasing due to COVID-19 restrictions.



A digital session for mothers and caregivers on health, nutrition and COVID-19.

Area Programmes

More than 50% of the people have limited access to public and private health services, according to World Vision's recent report, COVID-19: Rapid Impact Assessment Bangladesh. The report also says, 32% of the health workers convinced or somehow willing to extend their service while 24% regretted to provide health services.

So, the newly introduced telemedicine service by World Vision has become a way of relief for the vulnerable people like Sumaiya, 16, a registered child.

Sumaiya says, "I felt fever, severe headache, weakness and not to move anywhere. Suddenly, I saw blurred around me and I got fainted. As my mother was aware of World Vision's telemedicine service so she immediately called the doctor and described my situation". The doctor provided us with the prescription through mobile. I am now taking medicine regularly and feeling better than before.

A reported 178 people have received telemedicine service from the registered doctors of World Vision so far.

Rohingya Refugee Response/ Cox's Bazar Special Zone

World Vision and other NGOs are concerned about emerging protection-related concerns in the refugee camps exacerbated by restrictions on humanitarian operations due to COVID-19 precautions over the past few months.

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

Advocacy and collaboration for impact: World Vision in partnership with USAID and the Government of Bangladesh hosted a virtual workshop 'COVID-19 and cyclone Amphan: the double burden on coastal communities.' With over 200 participants, including the Minister for Planning, USAID Mission Director, UN agencies, Members of Parliament, INGOs and academia, the workshop highlighted the findings from World Vision's impact assessments on COVID-19 and cyclone Amphan. As an outcome of the dialogue, the Minister for Planning agreed to prioritize the urgent needs for coastal communities including repair of embankments, increased coverage of safety nets and continued collaboration for sustainable recovery efforts.

Adapting to a new normal: Since community gatherings have been scaled back due to health and safety concerns, social behavior changes for health, nutrition and COVID-19 have switched gears and sessions are now digital. Following consultations with local administrations and communities themselves, Nobo Jatra has transitioned to digital sessions where physical attendance is limited, hand washing and masks mandatory and sessions are facilitated over tablets, laptops or smartphones by facilitators and staff. Almost 3,000 sessions have taken place reaching over 23,000 participants.

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