



ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

BRAC initiated to help the most vulnerable population of Cox's Bazar and provided cash grants of BDT 1,500 (USD 18) to each of 9,088 low-income families of the host community. Additionally, 117 persons with disabilities (PWDs) received the cash support in July 2020. This cash support aimed to help the families recover the economic damages they went through during the district-wide lockdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The General Food Assistance (GFA) team provided food packages containing 60kg rice and 5kg high energy biscuits to 17,985 households of the host community. This food assistance covered a total of 82,731 people in the month of July 2020.

The health and nutrition sector continued conducting the training programme on preventive measures of COVID-19 and trained 51 more health workers and volunteers in July 2020. These trained workers will spread life-saving messages to raise awareness among the Rohingya and host communities living in Cox's Bazar.



Cash grants being provided to the low-income families of Jalia Palong. UNHCR, BRAC and government officials were present at the event



Community health workers and volunteers discussing their role on community awareness in the training on COVID-19 held at Kutupalong High School, Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar



*PWD: people with disabilities

COVID-19: HCMP's response

Cox's Bazar is experiencing a compounded crisis as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, as the southeastern part of Bangladesh hosts nearly a million persecuted Rohingya population of Myanmar, along with thousands of humanitarian workers who are situated here in response.

The total number of detected cases stands at 3,361. A total of 71 people are from the Rohingya camps and the rest are from the host community.

Health

HCMP continued operating its primary healthcare centres and health posts, and consulting patients in the camps with necessary precautions. The community health workers and volunteers visited households both from the host communities and from the Rohingya camps to disseminate preventive messages on COVID-19, reaching 336,558 people. The health and nutrition sector also trained 51 health workers and volunteers on COVID-19 preparedness in July.

Protection

A total of 119,651 people were reached by all of the protection initiatives to raise awareness on prevention of COVID-19.

Host community

A total of 9,088 families and 117 persons with disabilities received BDT 1,500 (USD 18) each in July 2020. The agriculture sector engaged people from the host community in alternative livelihood and self-reliance activities. They provided refresher training on poultry rearing to 780 people in July. The sector also provided cash support to 81 families in Ukhiya and Teknaf to make poultry cages with BDT 2,000 (USD 20).

Communication and awareness

Communication has been the key component to raise awareness during this crisis. The ReInet volunteers held interpersonal sessions on COVID-19 preparedness. A total of 373,299 households from both communities have been reached with life-saving messages through the integrated efforts of all HCMP sectors.

Infrastructure, food and knowledge support

The shelter team completed construction of 211 transitional shelters and distributed materials to 62,666 families to improve the housing quality of people from the Rohingya community. The WASH team installed more sanitary facilities, including hundreds of tippy taps and hand washing stations (easily accessible to the persons with physical disabilities). The team also kept the shared sanitary facilities clean and disinfected them regularly.



Challenges

The lockdown and vehicle restriction was eased this month. Yet, heavy rainfall disrupted many services. Maintenance of hygiene and proper social distance still remains a big challenge in the Rohingya camps given the living conditions and shared water and sanitation facilities.

Click here to learn more: response.brac.net



CASH SUPPORT IN COX'S BAZAR


9,088

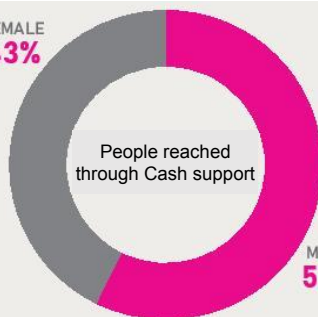
Families reached with cash support


13,632,000

BDT distributed


117

Persons with disabilities received cash support

FEMALE
43%


EDUCATION

927

UPGP

1,800

Ukhiya

2,815

Teknaf

3,546

Families received cash support

*July 2020

Against all odds



'Talking about dowry, child marriage and polygamy is always a challenging job in the Rohingya community. The community has been deprived of proper education and healthy social practices.' Mohammad Rozimul Haque (22), a role model for male engagement project explains his experience during his work in the social campaign against sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and social malpractices. Rozimul has been working in the Camp 4-Extension since March 2019 and is proud of his achievements so far.

'I directly intervened to stop two child marriages from taking place, referred many SGBV related cases to case management service providers', said Rozimul while listing his endeavours. However, as he said, it was not easy. Rozimul goes on, 'Most people of my community follow orthodox religious practices'.

Rozimul further said, 'People here tend to blindly follow the words of religious practitioners. Women's empowerment and equal rights are not topics they are used to.

That is why I arrange sessions with the religious leaders and ask them to talk about SGBV issues in reference to the Holy Qur'an and hadith - so people can easily relate to this'.

He adds: 'Our community people live on relief goods. Many ask why I do volunteer work. I remind them that women's empowerment is a vital issue. We are all hoping to return to our homes in Myanmar. If we can bring our girls and women alongside the men and allow them to take part in education and income generating work, this will develop our whole society'.

Rozimul, as a Rohingya youth, witnessed a lot of injustice and violence against women in his society. He wants to be a changemaker. Special training on prevention of SGBV from BRAC helped him materialise his dream. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, he received another training on 'Equitable Gender Role during COVID-19' from BRAC's protection team. This enabled him to enhance his services even in such a globally a critical time. In the training he was instructed to make people aware of the precautions to take in order to prevent COVID-19, as well as motivate men to take part in doing household chores.

'I make men understand the benefits of being a man. I get them with acquainted with what gender roles are and this helps them to be more responsible for the family, and pushed them into simultaneously building a violence-free domestic culture. They also raise awareness on healthy family relationships among the other members', Explains Rozimul.

SECTOR-WISE SNAPSHOT: Host communities

468 households received vegetable seeds in July

54 households received training on poultry rearing

49,098 hygiene sessions conducted for households

12 households received cash support for poultry rearing

1,563 people were provided mental health services in July

6,465 trained beneficiaries received cash incentive for homestead vegetable gardening

9,114 tele-counselling services provided in July

Our support to host communities consists of targeted, multi-sectoral assistance to vulnerable households, including:

- **Learning centres** are offering non-formal education programmes. We are also developing the capacity of mainstream schools through engagement with teachers, students and community leaders.
- **Child-friendly spaces** are implementing our **Humanitarian Play Lab** model.
- **WASH interventions** are supporting over 80,000 households, through construction and maintenance of **deep tube wells, piped water supply networks** and **latrines, hygiene sessions** conducted with men, women, boys and girls in schools, tea stalls, and formation of **village WASH committees**.
- **Diagnosis and treatment of communicable diseases**, including TB and malaria.
- **Disaster risk reduction**, including quick evacuation schemes, retrofitting, renovating and repairing cyclone shelters.
- **Agriculture and environment rehabilitation** including planting trees to mitigate deforestation and improving agricultural practices and home gardening, along with vocational skill enhancement through distribution of agricultural inputs.
- **Ultra-poor graduation programme** is providing assets through interest-free loans and grants, combined with coaching, mentoring and enterprise development training to create pathways out of poverty.
- **Alternative learning programmes** providing apprenticeship-based training and life skills to out-of-school youth.
- **Customised microfinance products**, including loans for women and small enterprises.
- **Cash-based interventions** are supporting low income families with cash support every month.

SECTOR-WISE SNAPSHOT: Camps



Water, sanitation and hygiene

118 latrines constructed

213 bathing cubicles built

2 hand-washing stations built

We support almost 700,000 people through integrated WASH interventions in camps. This includes construction and maintenance of deep tube wells, piped water supply networks, latrines and handwashing stations and hygiene promotion. BRAC was the first to form WASH committees to establish ownership of facilities, and continues to pioneer in sustainability through community maintenance team development, WASH corridor and hybrid-powered water pumps.



Shelter and non-food items

651 metres of drainage construction and maintenance

231 shelter repair and maintenance

4,732 shelters material distributed

We support 167,000 people with secure shelters in camps, continual site improvements such as bridges and roads, and distribution of non-food items. Our work also includes transitional shelter options and the first large scale bamboo treatment plant in Cox's Bazar.



Education

N/A no children and adolescents registered in learning centres in July due to COVID-19

N/A learning centres operation is suspended in July due to COVID-19

N/A no management committees meeting done due COVID-19

We are the largest provider of educational opportunities in the response, with over 60,000 children (53% girls) enrolled in almost 840 BRAC facilities. With support from UNICEF, BRAC is developing learning competency framework and approach (LCFA) materials, focused on early grade learning, basic literacy, numeracy, life-saving information, psychosocial support and life skills. We trained 765 Burmese language instructors (from camps) and 840 teachers from host communities to provide quality learning in safe, dignified environments. 21 multipurpose centres and eight adolescent centres are being used to deliver pre-vocational courses, life skills training, and literacy and numeracy skills.



Agriculture and environment

94,235 households received vegetable seeds

HCMP's agriculture and environment sector works to restore the living environment and promote sustainable agricultural practices across camps and host communities. This includes the planting and distribution of agricultural input packages, and training on seeds and tools.



Protection

211 radio listener groups created

118 legal counselling sessions conducted

15 successful legal mediation in camps

HCMP is supporting 50,000 vulnerable Rohingya women, girls, men and boys through psychotherapeutic activities, skills development, legal aid, awareness training, dignity kit distribution, referral services and leadership training, livelihood and community-based protection in camps. Services are offered through 15 women-friendly spaces, 10 community centres, eight information points, a skills development centre and a community outreach network.



Child protection

N/A no child-friendly spaces functioning due to COVID-19 emergency

102,669 tele-counselling sessions provided

We support over 100,000 children through child-friendly spaces (CFS) implementing BRAC's Humanitarian Play Lab model. We also reach adolescent boys and girls through 900 pocket-based interventions.



Communication for Development

20 advocacy meetings organised with community leaders

5,248 interpersonal communication sessions conducted in households

We bring information to 100,000 households in 34 camps through 800 Rohingya volunteers (84% women). In emergencies, we intensify our efforts to reach 500,000 people. Messages are reinforced through 3,000 community and religious leaders and 3,000 adolescent boys and girls, and 1,440 community action plans ensure access to services for all.



Health and communicable diseases

21,341 outpatient consultation in primary healthcare centres and health posts

2,179 malaria tests conducted

12 birth deliveries attended at PHC

BRAC is the largest primary healthcare provider in the camps, providing essential and life-saving health and nutrition services, including prevention and treatment of communicable diseases. We provided more than 1 million basic health services in the community via our health network of 24/7 primary healthcare centres, health posts, community health outlets and community health workers. Social mobilisation and awareness raising programmes regarding malaria are being run in the camps.



Livelihoods and food security

24,488

metric tonnes of food
assistance-in-kind
distributed

551,527

households reached
through e-voucher
outlets

We provide technical and life skill trainings that enhance confidence, and increase capacities and opportunities. Trainings on homestead gardening were completed, with vegetable seeds, tools, manure and stationeries distributed among the participants during the training period. With support from WFP, BRAC provides general food assistance (GFA) to the Rohingya population through a combination of in-kind and E-voucher modalities of food assistance.



Nutrition

37,791

supplementary food
delivered to pregnant and
lactating women via the
blanket supplementary
feeding programme

9,625

children, pregnant and
lactating women reached
with supplementary food in
the targeted supplementary
feeding programme

We provide knowledge and nutrition supplements for women and children in the camps through a community-based approach.

Members of the community are engaged in awareness sessions to improve their understanding about the importance of nutrition, their nutrition sources and how to preserve nutrition during cooking processes. They are then provided with supplements as needed.

**Our nutrition projects have been postponed from February 2020. New projects will start after the current health emergency is resolved. Data provided is for up until January.*



Site management

8,324

community awareness
meetings held

4

total camp in-charge
coordination meetings
conducted

15

protection cases
referred

We support more than 165,000 people in seven camps with site management support focusing on eight key areas -

support to government officials in charge of camps; community governance and participation mechanisms; protection mainstreaming; care and maintenance; information management; emergency preparedness and response; relocations; and capacity building.



Ayesha Abed Foundation

319

trainees enrolled from
camps

437

trainees enrolled from
host communities

177

trainees enrolled in main
production centre

We provide training to women from the Rohingya camps and host communities on artisanal skills through sub-centres and a production centre in Cox's Bazar. The trainees receive a monthly stipend. After graduation they get the opportunity to join AAF on a longer-term basis to support themselves and their families.

PROFILE ON THE GROUND

2,378

staff providing critical services in camps and host communities

5,482

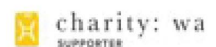
volunteers from both host and Rohingya communities

37%

of BRAC HCMP staff are women

*Update 31 July 2020

THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS



PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

Sajedul Hasan
sajedul.hasan@brac.net
 +88 02 9881265 Ext 3530

AREA DIRECTOR

Hasina Akhter
hasina.akhter@brac.net
 +88 017-13036185

COMMUNICATION

Quazi Mustafizur Rahman
quazi.rahman@brac.net
 +88 017-38937985