This year, World Health Day was commemorated online around the world and in Bangladesh. The day highlighted the role of frontline healthcare workers of the COVID-19 response.

UNFPA along with other UN Agencies highlighted the important role of midwives.
UNICEF & UNFPA celebrate midwives & nurses on World Health Day
UNFPA continues to support Director General Health Services in the Integrated Coordination Centre for COVID-19 and in other coordination efforts at different levels.
UNFPA is strengthening Infection Prevention & Control (IPC) and Case Management at 29 Hospitals across Bangladesh
Mentors visit Health Facilities across Bangladesh and provide training on continuing Search Results. Web results Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights services with COVID-19 precautionary measures in place.
UNFPA advocates on the need for isolated delivery rooms to ensure mothers can deliver safely in health facilities.
Prof. Dr. Rowshan Ara Begum speaks with UNFPA and highlights the role of midwives

My respect goes to every doctor, nurse, and midwife.
Video on Preventive Measures against COVID-19 for pregnant and lactating mothers.
An internal pathway has been established in all the Women Friendly Spaces (WFS) at Cox's Bazar for COVID-19 response.

19 Midwives have been trained in all the 19 WFS, and all other 166 staff, including the cleaner and gate-keepers, have been trained on COVID-19 infection prevention and control.

In all the WFS, a handwashing corner has been fixed at the entrance. Thermoflashes are also provided. PPE (masks, gloves, gowns and goggles, heavy duty gloves, gum boot etc.) have been distributed to the staff to ensure implementation of the COVID-19 response internal pathway.
Virtual training for 12 Women Police Officers responsible for the Police Women Help Desk on Standard Operating Procedures and how to implement it in the COVID-19 context was conducted in one district.

4 online training sessions on Women Friendly Spaces (WFS) and COVID-19 and its impact on women and girls was conducted for local-level partner staff in Jamalpur, Gaibandha and Kurigram.

350 women and girls (previously reported cases) who were at the risk of Gender Based Violence, reached out to ASTHA project caseworkers through mobile phone. Over 200 cases were referred to police, NNPC (local level Violence Against Women Committee) and health sector.
As a result of UNFPA's continuous capacity building for the Bangladesh Police, the Bogura District Police initiated the idea to engage the public in an innovative and meaningful way during the COVID-19 lockdown.

In April, an essay competition was opened for all, with one of the topics being "Domestic Violence and its Causes, Consequences and Prevention".

The deadline for submissions is 15 May 2020 and UNFPA has been requested to be in the panel to assess the essay competition entries.
IEC Material on Gender Based Violence & Protection Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse developed in English & Bangla and distributed as part of Risk Communication & Community Engagement response to COVID-19

Stay Home
Stay Alert

Keep your eyes and ears open. Women and adolescents have no escape from abuses during lockdown.

Call 999 or 109
Report any case of violence occurring around you

Protect yourself from any form of sexual exploitation and abuse during COVID-19

Remember that support and assistance are free.

No one should ever ask for money, favours, or sex in exchange for assistance.

Call 999 or 109
You have the right to report anyone who attempts to exploit or abuse you.
ARE YOU NOT FEELING GOOD ABOUT YOURSELF OR YOUR BODY DURING #COVID19?

ALAPON HELPLINE:

09612-600-600

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN 10-24 YEARS, PARENTS & CAREGIVERS
(NORMAL CALL RATES APPLY)

DO YOU NEED ANY INFORMATION ON YOUR PERIOD DURING THE #COVID19 LOCKDOWN?

ALAPON HELPLINE:

09612-600-600

FOR YOUNG PEOPLE BETWEEN 10-24 YEARS, PARENTS & CAREGIVERS
(NORMAL Calls RATES APPLY)
Advocacy messages on the role of Young People during COVID-19 developed & disseminated through social media.
UNFPA Press Release: Impact of COVID-19 on Women's Health

Coronavirus: UNFPA predicts calamitous impact on women's health as pandemic continues

File Photo: A church volunteer has her temperature checked as a precautionary measure during the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), as food was distributed to those in need as an approved essential service at One1Seven evangelical Anglican church in Sydney, Australia, April 17, 2020. Reuters

Read:
UNFPA: Bangladesh midwives continue saving lives as country responds to pandemic

In pandemic-affected Madaripur, midwife Selina Akter delivered a baby girl. Image courtesy of Selina Akter
UNFPA Bangladesh Annual Report 2019 published electronically

Click image to view interactive booklet
Bangladesh