



# UNFPA BANGLADESH SITUATION REPORT

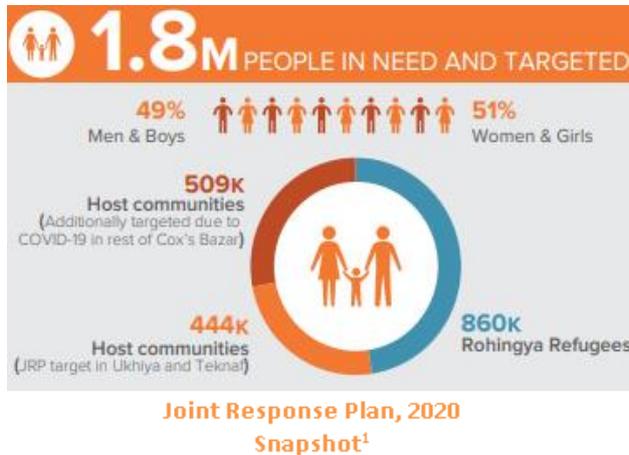
**UNFPA BANGLADESH EXTERNAL SITREP**  
**ROHINGYA HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PROGRAMME**  
**COX'S BAZAR**  
**January - February - March 2021**



After the fire accident that ripped through the Rohingya refugee camps in March 2021, a ray of light and hope encapsulates the desire to rebuild together - UNFPA has been an active immediate responder in the incident through provision of GBV, SRHR and adolescents' services. UNFPA Bangladesh/ Gaia Paradiso

## SITREP: January-March, 2021

### SITUATION OVERVIEW



UNFPA is the lead agency of sexual and reproductive health and rights [SRHR] and gender-based violence [GBV] providing services to Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar. About 855,000 Rohingya refugees currently reside in 34 formally established camps within Cox's Bazar District. Living conditions in the camps are highly congested resulting in security and protection issues as well as accessibility to basic services including SRHR care.

**COVID 19 update according to WHO [as of 31 March, 2021]:** Total confirmed cases Host: 6,014 and died 73 Rohingya: 421 and died 10.

#### Fire incidents in Camp areas

On 22 March 2021 a massive fire broke out across camps 9, 8W and 8E in Kutapalong Balukhali Extensions (KBE), leaving more than 45,000 displaced in the camps and 2 UNFPA-supported facilities destroyed.

### RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

#### SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS [SRHR]

##### Programme

- During the first quarter of 2021, a total of **26,006 Family Planning visits**, **19,616 Antenatal Care [ANC] visits**, **1,927 Facility Based Deliveries [FBD]** attended by Skilled Births Attends [SBA] and **4,831 Postnatal Care [PNC] visits** were seen across the UNFPA supported health facilities;
- **Community mobilization and engagement activities** were implemented to raise community awareness to improve buy-in and to increase their uptake of SRHR services at facilities including Family Planning services. During the fire in the camps, CHWs reached **3,022 women of reproductive age [WRA]** and **adolescents with information and awareness on SRHR**;
- A total of **40 Reproductive Health Awareness Groups [RHAG] meetings** were held for women, men, adolescent boys and girls and community gatekeepers such as Majhis and Islamic Foundation Officials including Imams, reaching out to 829 [Female 368: Male 461] community members with key messages and information;
- **Courtyard, Male Group and Mother Assembly meetings** were also organized, reaching out to 3,216 [Female 2,047: Male 1,169] community members.

<sup>1</sup> Joint Response Plan (JRP), 2020 Inter Agency Coordination Group, Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh



Mobile Medical Teams [MMT]: A midwife attending a pregnant woman following the fire affected camp 8E in March 2021 ©UNFPA Bangladesh

**Fire response 22 March 2021 on:** To ensure continuation of SRH services to those affected by the fire, UNFPA established and deployed **four Mobile Medical Teams on the ground**, providing primary health care services such as Family Planning, Antenatal Care [ANC] and Postnatal Care [PNC] as well as **referrals to health facilities** in Camp 9 and the nearby Balukhali host community, reaching 202 women of reproductive age [WRA] including 87 pregnant women and 105 Family Planning clients from the affected camps between 23 and 31 March 2021. At least **56 clients referred from the fire affected camps received SRHR**

**services at the UNFPA supported facilities – Camp 11 Primary Health Care [PHC] and Camp 6 Health Post facilities;**

- Two [2] **UNFPA International Midwifery Mentors** undertook 31 midwifery mentoring visits to UNFPA supported health facilities and to Cox’s Bazar Sadar district hospital, reaching out to **97 midwives and 5 midwifery supervisors** on the topics of *Maternal Sepsis, Management on antenatal hypertension, pre-eclampsia and severe pre-eclampsia, and Postpartum hemorrhage and manual removal of placenta;*
- One [1] **virtual midwife supervisors’ session on Antepartum Hemorrhage [APH] was also held with a total of 12 Midwife Supervisors covering 23 health facilities attending.** A total of nine [9] trainings, including two [2] on SRHR and COVID-19 were conducted reaching 454 [Female 263: Male 191] frontline health workers, Emergency Referral Hub staff, Paramedics, Community Health Workers and facility managers from SRH Working Group partners.

**Coordination:**

- The **UNFPA-led Sexual and Reproductive Health [SRH] Working Group** coordinated programme delivery including emergency response and led SRHR information management and advocacy. **Family Planning factsheet and advocacy messages** were developed together with the ISCG and the Health Sector to aid the engagement of Government and other key stakeholders to support the **delivery of rights based Family Planning services in Cox’s Bazar.** A total of 3 training sessions were conducted, reaching 284 [Female 128: Male 156] participants including Midwives, Medical Team Leaders, Medical Doctors, Reporting Officers, SRH Focal Persons and CHW Supervisors from SRH Working Group Partners.
- UNFPA also procured and distributed **Reproductive Health Kits, Mama Kits and other SRHR commodities and supplies to Government of Bangladesh facilities as well as SRH Working Group Partners, as well as PPEs (99,400 Surgical Mask; 3,935 Goggles; 41,237 N95 Mask) and 1,885 Mama Kits** were distributed.

**GENDER BASED VIOLENCE IN EMERGENCIES [GBViE] - PREVENTION AND RESPONSE**

- A total of 27 WFS were operational with comprehensive GBV case management services, psychosocial support and emergency referrals. Moreover, in 24 WFS midwives provided integrated SRHR services and clinical management of rape for survivors and 3 midwives are being mentored by other midwives to start operation from 2nd quarter;



Opening of a new WFS in Haldiapalong host community in January 2021 ©UNFPA Bangladesh

- 10 Women-Led Community centers (WLCC) were operational and engaged 110 graduated women and girls from previous batches of training produced through WLCC to produce sanitary napkins and masks in all centers. 59,523 pieces of sanitary napkins and 2,000 pieces of masks were produced in three months;

- Haldiapalong Women Friendly Space in Host Community was inaugurated on Jan 26th, 2021 under World Bank GBV project. 3 new WFS were opened in West Kutupalong in camp 7; Noyapara Host in Whykhong, Teknaf; West Palongkhali host in Ukhiya Upazilla;

- A team of the Local Government Engineering department (LGED) visited 6 new sites of WFS for an assessment on 10-11 February and the report has been shared by the LGED team with the World Bank. All sites have been approved by the team to start the construction and operation of WFS under the World Bank. Another visit was made on 29th March for the assessment of 4 sites;

- International Women’s Day 2021 was observed in all sites of WFS and WLCC by the implementing partners. Dialogues, discussion and awareness, recreational activities, games were organized at camp level with communities. IPs took part in a Floating Women Market organized by partners in camps where the handicrafts and materials produced by women and girls were displayed. UNFPA arranged a roundtable discussion on “Women in Leadership: Achieving an Equal Future in a COVID-19 World. Celebrating Women Leaders on the Frontline of the COVID-19 Response and Beyond...”. Govt. UN agencies, INGO-NGOs were present in the discussion. Total participants were 25 (19F+6M). The participants brought the issues of creating a better workplace for women and the sociocultural factors impacting women leadership;

- COVID-19 awareness sessions were ongoing alongside GBV prevention messages. Inside WFS, small groups participated in awareness information sessions and psychosocial support (PSS) activities, following all safety measures, for both staff and beneficiaries, and ensured adequate physical distancing.



Mobile tent services to ensure provision of psychological first aid to the Rohingya refugees affected and displaced by the fire ©UNFPA Bangladesh

**Fire response 22 March 2021 on:** UNFPA’s GBViE unit operationalized mobile(tent) services in camp 9 after fire to ensure provision of **Psychological First Aid (PFA)** to the Rohingya refugees affected and displaced by the fire. The MHPSS team provided **Critical Incident Stress Debriefing sessions** to IP staff and volunteers of camps 8E, 9, 10, 1W, Leda Old and Jamtoli.

**Coordination**

- Sub Sector partners have continued providing Individual PSS, Case Management and Referral Services, in all the 34 camps and 11 host

community locations. During the reporting period, **GBV Sub Sector partners, with psychosocial counseling and support, reached 1,498 males and 20,200 females in the camps and 566 males and 3346 females in Host Communities;**

- For the **capacity building of Sub Sector partners**, GBVSS facilitated training; the Information Management Orientation for the 2021 JRP reporting to 35 partner IMOs; training on PSS, Self-Care and coping skills in stressful situations for one partner's 19 GBV Response Team; two batch of training on GBV core concepts and GBV Case management for 40 new GBV Case Managers and Supervisors of 6 partners; and GBVIMS training to 30 participants from 11 partners. 18 GBV Peru Focal Points attended a refresher training on GBV Guidelines and Emergency Response, Case Management and referral during the PWG PERU Team Leader workshop;
- GBVSS finalized and submitted the JRP 2020 Annual Report to ISCG with key indicators. The GBVIMS coordinator presented quarterly GBVIMS Data in the PWG, CPSS and WASH meetings and the 2020 GBVIMS Annual report was finalized;
- As part of the International Women's Day event, GBVSS supported GiHA and partners' organizing events in the communities while observing the COVID-19 policy and GBVSS partners organized events online and on-site.
- **Fire response 22 March 2021 on:** the GBVSS coordinator conducted an assessment of the affected areas and the affected sites including where UNFPA's Women Friendly Space (camp 9) and Women Led Community center (camp 8E) were destroyed in the fire. Psychological First Aid (PFA) has been initiated by the GBV partners to the Rohingya refugees affected, and displaced by the fire, as well as to front line staff whose facilities were destroyed. The **Protection Emergency Response Units (PERU)**, in which the GBV Camp Focal Persons are embedded, have been activated to aid the response, by providing **critical GBV messaging to the displaced families and referrals to alternative women friendly spaces**. In coordination with partners and other sectors, GBVSS facilitated the distribution of **dignity kits/MHM kits**. **As of 31st March, 7,170 Dignity Kits/MHM kits were distributed.**

## ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTH



Menstrual Health management kits, flash cards and radios distributed to adolescent girls and young women ©UNFPA Bangladesh

- **Life Enhancement Skills Training:** A total of 12 Mukti Case workers, 38 female Youth mentors, 10 Adolescent Girl Officers, and 3 GBV staff of Dan Church Aid received the training;
- **Girl Shine Life Skills Education Programme** imparted to a total of 612 adolescent girls, 544 from Rohingya camps and 68 from host communities, on ASRHR, GVB, gender, staying healthy, good touch and bad touch, COVID-awareness, among others;
- **Girl Shine Caregiver support programme** attended by a total of 235

parents and caregivers, 195 mothers and female caregivers and 40 fathers and male caregivers, in both host communities and the camps.

- A total of 3,353 **Menstrual Health Management (MHM)** kits, 4,932 Flash Cards, and 125 radios have been distributed to adolescent girls and young women. Among the MHM kits, 1,462 have been distributed as part of the emergency response caused by the fire incident in the camps in March 2021;

- A total of 1,939 adolescent girls and young women, 244 mothers and 118 fathers received information regarding **Alapon helpline Service**, a toll-free helpline number able to provide remote psychosocial support services to adolescents and caregivers from the Rohingya refugee camps;
- **Twenty-eight antisexual harassment committee** has been formed in 23 schools and 5 madrasas and a meeting has been organized with each of the committee. A total of 816 participants, 473 male and 343 female, attended the meetings. Participants include teachers, students, parents, and school management committee members.

**Coordination**

- UNFPA organized regular and ad-hoc **Youth Working Group (YWG)** meetings and identified the goals of YWG for 2021 and started working to achieve the goals. The goals include mapping of cross-sectoral youth activities, creating a repository of youth enrollment, promoting social cohesion via social innovation, creating a youth advisory group and field level youth working group focal points; Together with the Food Security Sector (FSS), Livelihood Working Group, and other key actors, the **YWG has developed a Skills Development technical working group**. FSS and YWG will lead this working group to implement the skills development framework.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- **Australian High commission to Bangladesh**, 1st February 2021 & 3rd March 2021  
Publications of 1st February 2021, visit to Hope Field Hospital Health Facility, providing comprehensive emergency obstetric and newborn care, as well as comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services in the Cox’s Bazar district. Publications on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) . Publications on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 visiting the WFS & WLCC on [Facebook](#), [Twitter 1](#) and [Twitter 2](#) .
- **Korea international cooperation agency**, 17<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
Publications to the A&Y Girl Shine Programme in Cox’s Bazar, on social media can be found on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) .
- **Sweden**, 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021  
Facebook [post](#), Twitter [post](#), words of appreciation from [Swedish Minister of International Development and Humanitarian Affairs](#) and [Ambassador of Sweden to Bangladesh](#) following the visit.

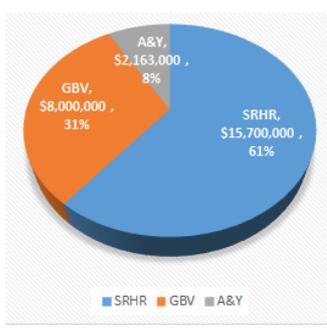
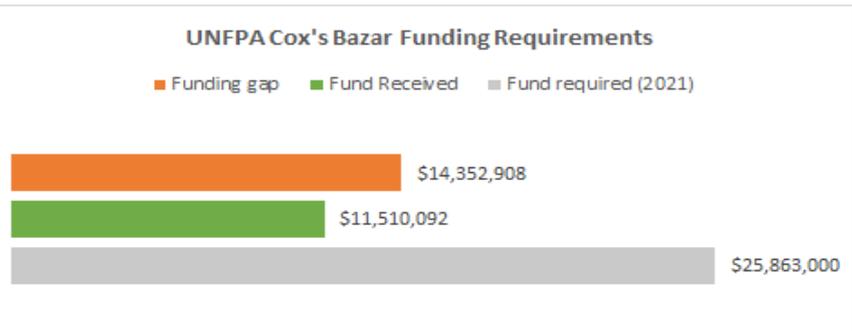
**Radio podcasts**

- BBC Media Action Soiyi Hota** - correct information through short audio programmes  
[Episode 45](#) - Importance of childbirth at the health facilities  
[Episode 46](#): Health check-ups during pregnancies  
[Episode 49](#): Danger signs during pregnancy

**Articles on UNFPA Bangladesh website:**

- World Radio Day, 13th February 2021 - [Sending positive signals amidst the pandemic](#);
- Women’s Day, 8th March 2021 - [Resilient Women, Resilient Minds](#).

**FUNDING REQUIREMENTS - 2021**



Australian High Commission, Canada, CERF, DFID-UK, Friends of UNFPA, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Sweden, World Bank

## KEY CONTACTS

UNFPA Bangladesh Core Response Team	Asia Pacific Regional Office, Bangkok
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dr. Asa Torkelsson, Representative, <a href="mailto:torkelsson@unfpa.org">torkelsson@unfpa.org</a></li> <li>▪ Eiko Narita (PhD), Deputy Representative, <a href="mailto:narita@unfpa.org">narita@unfpa.org</a></li> <li>▪ Ms. Roselidah Raphael, Head of Sub-Office, <a href="mailto:raphael@unfpa.org">rraphael@unfpa.org</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dr. Tomoko Kurokawa, Regional Humanitarian Advisor, <a href="mailto:kurokawa@unfpa.org">kurokawa@unfpa.org</a></li> <li>▪ Mr. Klaus Beck, Programme Advisor <a href="mailto:beck@unfpa.org">beck@unfpa.org</a></li> <li>▪ Ms. Isabella Thafvelin, Humanitarian Officer, <a href="mailto:thafvelin@unfpa.org">thafvelin@unfpa.org</a></li> </ul>