Strengthening patient triage as part of COVID-19 response with support from Australia
The Australian Government and UNFPA are supporting the Government of Bangladesh in strengthening the provision of life-saving services for women and girls.

Through the partnership, UNFPA will install two tents at the Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital and OGSB Hospital to triage and screen patients, including pregnant women, for COVID-19 to mitigate risks of infection.

Additionally, a total of 4,172 dignity kits catering to women and girls of reproductive age, and the third-gender community in Bangladesh, will be distributed.
UNFPA with the support of partners has set up the 'Alapon' helpline to help adolescents and youth during the difficult time of COVID-19.

The psychosocial counsellors also conduct weekly live sessions on Facebook through a Konnect and a2i.

09612-600-600

More info:
Supporting marginalized communities, UNFPA and DFID supported midwives from Santal.

Minoti, Nipa & Silvia are our new midwife graduates from LAMB Academic Site at BRAC University. They studied through a UNFPA & DFID - UK Department for International Development scholarship for marginalized groups and will now serve their Santal community in Gaibandha.

We leave no one behind!
For World Refugee Day on 20 June 2020, Global Health Film Classics held an online screening of Shanthi Khana, a moving documentary about a Rohingya refugee's life in refugee camp in Cox's Bazaar.

Both former UN General-Secretary Ban Ki-moon and UNFPA Executive Director Dr. Natalia Kanem delivered remarks during the screening.

More info:
"Refugee women & girls bear the brunt of an emergency situation. UNFPA is committed to ensuring that Rohingya women have safe deliveries supported by midwives & access to gender based violence response."

- Roselidah Raphael, Head of Sub-Office, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh
UNFPA with support from donors has procured 5,000 hygiene kits and 25,571 dignity kits, which are being distributed to the Rohingya people in Cox's Bazar.

The theme for the report this year was "Against my will: Defying the practices that harm women and girls and undermine equality", and focused on harmful practices against women and girls, including child marriage and gender-biased sex selection.

The SWOP report was launched during a virtual press conference in Bangladesh, with the Secretary of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs as the Chief Guest.
Launch of State of World Population Report 2020

DOWNLOAD THE STATE OF WORLD POPULATION REPORT 2020:
UNFPA conducted a high-level webinar consultation with law and policymakers, prominent experts, international community, researchers and civil society members to bring about solutions to the burgeoning incidents of gender based violence and child marriage in Bangladesh during COVID-19.
UNFPA Bangladesh conducted its first-ever virtual training on the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) for health care professionals to ensure that women and girls continue to receive life-saving sexual and reproductive health services during the COVID-19 crisis.

40 midwives, nurses, and doctors attended the training that was meant to increase their capacity to provide life-saving sexual and reproductive health services in emergency contexts, such as preventing maternal and newborn deaths, preventing sexual violence, and reducing HIV transmission.
World Bank is providing Bangladesh with a grant of **14.8 million** USD as part of the World Bank Pandemic Emergency Financing Facility (PEF).

The government of Bangladesh has selected UNFPA and WFP to implement this fund, of which UNFPA is receiving **8,458,840.36** USD. The project has to be completed by **April 2021**. It is a short and intense project- supporting the government to meet immediate needs of the pandemic. We are working very closely with the government to implement the COVID-19 response activities, along with sister UN agencies.
UNFPA and Hope Foundation opened two medical centers meant specifically for women and children with COVID19 at the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox’s Bazaar.

The project was carried out through the Word Bank funding. Each of the centers has 50 beds and provide a great variety of maternal health services such as perinatal care, emergency obstetric care, caesarian sections and COVID-19 related treatment. The staff in the centers consists of trained gynecologists, anaesthetists, nurses and midwives.
The Community Support Teams initiative, aims to halt the spread of COVID-19 in Bangladesh through grass-root level interventions across the country. UNFPA and FAO are providing technical support for the execution of these interventions.

The main focus of the planned interventions is to ensure isolation of confirmed and probable cases in households, reduce contact of virus fighters with other community members and to promote the importance of wearing masks.
Masks made by volunteers at UNFPA Women Friendly Spaces in Cox's Bazar donated to health facility
The COVID-19 pandemic has had a profound impact on the delivery of sexual and reproductive health services in Bangladesh, including those related to maternal and child health. Multiple challenges to achieving the goal of zero preventable maternal deaths have emerged as a result of the pandemic.

Addressing these issues, The Population Expert Group held its sixth meeting on Sunday 28 June 2020. The Population Expert Group is a think-tank that helps the General Economic Division (GED) to promote the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) agenda and to generate evidence-based information on critical population dynamics and its linkages to development.
UNFPA is proud to be one of the 9 teams selected to be part of the UNFPA/WFP Innovation Boot Camp!

Our colleagues participated in this one-week online camp to explore innovative ways to ensure that women & girls living in slum areas have access to sexual & reproductive health services.
Bangladesh