This month, we simultaneously marked the 75th anniversary of the United Nations and the commencement of the 75th, but first-ever virtual UN General Assembly.

As the United Nations faces its most serious challenge since its founding in the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the coincidence of these two occasions provided us a crucial opportunity to highlight the importance of multilateralism and international cooperation.
Bangladesh elected as an executive member of 3 UN bodies

This month, Bangladesh was also elected as a member of the Executive Boards of three UN agencies: UNDP, UNFPA, and UNOPS.

Congratulations Bangladesh! We look forward to continued engagement to uphold rights of women and girls.
On September 4th, UNFPA collaborated with Gaan Bangla, a popular music channel in Bangladesh, for an event called "Music for Youth Action".

The purpose of the event was to promote youth activism during COVID-19 and to celebrate the power of music as a uniting and inspiring force during times of difficulty.

Many of the most famous singers in Bangladesh performed and delivered inspirational remarks at the event.
High-level visit to Cox's Bazaar
High-level visit to Cox's Bazaar

On 24 September, a high-level delegation from The World Bank, European Union and the High Commission of Canada to Bangladesh visited UNFPA's initiatives in Cox's Bazar. This was one of the first physical high-level visits from Dhaka to Cox's Bazar during the pandemic. Together, we are stronger!
UNFPA distributed **25,000 dignity kits in Cox's Bazaar** to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the Rohingya refugee camps and to ensure that needs of women and girls of reproductive age continue to be met despite the ongoing crisis.

We thank our donors **Australia, Canada, Norway, the UK and New Zealand** for making this essential intervention possible.
Midwives save lives in the aftermath of Cyclone Amphan

At UNFPA, we believe in safe birth at all times.

That's why we have deployed 20 midwives to four districts affected by Cyclone Amphan.

These brave women will ensure that mothers continue to have access to safe deliveries even in times of crisis.

More info:
Launch of a project to reduce maternal mortality in Bangladesh by preventing postpartum hemorrhage

On 28 September, UNFPA participated in the launch of a project to reduce maternal mortality in Bangladesh by tackling postpartum hemorrhage.

The intervention is funded by the South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund of the People's Republic of China and will provide the governments of Bangladesh and China an amazing opportunity to learn from each other's experience and expertise in protecting lives of pregnant mothers.

More info:
COVID-19 also presents an unprecedented risk to both the physical and mental health of health workers around the world.

To ensure that health workers in Bangladesh have the skills to cope with the stress caused by COVID-19, UNFPA also held three online trainings on mental health for healthcare providers from 15 hospitals around the country this month.
Training on COVID-19 testing

Beating COVID-19 requires investments in building the capacity of healthcare workers.

That's why this month, UNFPA organized trainings on COVID-19 testing for local Lab Consultants.

They are now being deployed to 23 laboratories around Bangladesh to ensure quality testing.
On September 27, UNFPA organized trainings in Rajshahi and Mymensingh divisions to strengthen the public and private sectors' services for sexually transmitted infections.

The trainings were conducted in person and UNFPA staff joined the visits to the divisions with DGHS, Department for International Development and Light House.
This month, UNFPA also took part in organizing two 4-day trainings and two half-day orientations for clinicians in Dhaka and Chattogram, to ensure they know how to effectively manage COVID-19 patients and uphold the standards of high-quality health facilities.
UNFPA projects that Child Marriage and Gender-Based Violence will increase during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To mitigate this risk in Bangladesh, the “Strengthening Parliament’s Capacity in Population and Development Issues (SPCPD)” Project, supported by UNFPA, organized the 15th “Eliminating Child Marriage and Preventing Gender Based Violence Sub-committee (ECMSC)” meeting on September 17 at the Parliament of Bangladesh.
Health workers cannot save lives, unless they lead save lives on duty.

During COVID-19, this principle is more true than ever.

That's why on World Patient Safety Day we encouraged everyone to speak up for health worker safety!
This month, we also marked World Contraception Day.

The supply of contraceptive methods has decreased globally as a result of COVID-19.

UNFPA continues to work hard to ensure that no woman has unmet need for family planning and that different forms of contraception remain accessible in Bangladesh during this difficult time.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

52% of women in Bangladesh use modern methods of contraception.

Source: BDHS 2017-18
UNFPA's popular cartoon series 'Shahana' is now being aired on RTV every Monday & Tuesday at 5.30 pm from 21 September - 20 October.

The show allows young people to obtain crucial information about their life choices and reproductive health in their own homes in an entertaining and informative way.

Do not forget to tune in!
COVID-19 cannot be overcome by the United Nations and its member states alone.

Everyone should have a say in what the world will look like after this crisis.

That's why UN is currently conducting a massive global survey on how people around the world want the recovery process from this pandemic to be executed. Have your say in the conversation here.