

Myanmar Refugee Crisis

November 2017



As of 26 November, 624,000 people have fled to Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh following violence in Myanmar. In total 836,487 refugees are now in Bangladesh (including pre-25 August influx) [ISCG, 26 Nov]. They are in need services like shelter, food, clothes, water, sanitation, health and protection.

Nearly 340,000 children have taken shelter in Cox's Bazar and they constitute around 55% of the refugees. Among them about 240,000 need nutritional support. Over 60,000 children need treatment for severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and moderate acute malnutrition (MAM). Moreover, 120,000 pregnant and lactating women and 204,000 adolescents need nutrition support. [ISCG, 26 Nov]



"Well over half a million people need immediate support and protection. We are working hard to serve over 150,000 people today, using generous funding from around the world. But I am worried about what happens in 6 months, when current funding is used up. The refugees will still have huge needs"

Zia Choudhury CARE Bangladesh Country Director

Photo: Kathleen Prior

CARE's Response

CARE has directly reached over 160,000 people through distribution of food, non-food item (NFI), and health and nutrition support services. Additionally, nearly 200,000 children have been reached indirectly by CARE through the community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) activity where CARE is the technical partner.


CARE's fundraising target is 10 million USD for the first 12 months of the response.


CARE:


- is providing primary and sexual and reproductive health services (SRHS) including Gender Based Violence (GBV) through two in-camp health centers. Two more health centers are in the pipeline.
- is providing water and sanitation related services.
- has distributed shelter kits to around 5,000 households (HH). The kit contains tarpaulin, floor mat, rope and kitchen utensils.
- has distributed Family Hygiene and Dignity Kits to 1250 HHs. Each kit contains essential items like soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush, nail clipper, torch/flashlight, sanitary pad.
- has completed distribution of food items (rice, potato, pulse, oil, onion, sugar, salt) to over 20,000 HHs.
- has provided cooked food to over 3500 people.
- has distributed non-food items e.g. rice bowls and umbrellas during the early state of the crisis.



OVERVIEW

 Most families do not have enough food to eat 3 times a day; there are already signs of malnutrition, especially among children.

 In the camps toilet facilities are not adequate, particularly for women and girls. Many refugees could not wash themselves for days.

 Only half of the CARE's preliminary appeal is so far funded.