

# Myanmar Refugee Crisis

23 July 2018



Since 25 August 2017, around **706,000** refugees from Myanmar have fled to Bangladesh. Over **900,000** refugees are now living in Cox's Bazar (ISCG Report, 19 July 2018), including those who arrived before the exodus. Women, children and infants make up over 70 per cent of the refugees.

The scale of the influx of refugees arriving in Cox's Bazar is unprecedented and putting enormous pressure on the Bangladesh government, host communities and humanitarian agencies. The huge number of refugees need clean drinking water, food, medical help, protection and safe shelter. The monsoon season further exacerbated the situation where people are at risk of landslide, cyclone and floods and need immediate support as to stronger shelter and relocation to relatively safer places.

**CARE's Response:** CARE has directly reached nearly 250,000 people through the distribution of food, non-food items (NFI), health support, shelter, protection and water and sanitation services. Also, as part of a consortium, CARE is providing technical support to the community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) project.

**By Feb 2019, CARE aims to reach a total of 300,000+ people.**

**HEALTH:** 4 health centers offer primary and reproductive health services, free medicine, referrals to other hospitals, and ambulance services. So far, over 65,000 people have been served.

**PROTECTION & GENDER BASED VIOLENCE:** 5 women-friendly spaces and 2 information booths established offering refugee women a safe space to socialize and seek counselling. To date, over 29,000 women and adolescents girls have been reached.

**SHELTER:** Over 5,000 households (22,000+ people) received shelter materials like bamboo, tarpaulins, floor mats, rope and toolkits to rebuild and strengthen their shelters. Training was also given on building safer houses. 461 households (HHs) from high risk areas have been relocated to safer areas.

**NUTRITION:** Through 34 nutrition centers, children under five with malnutrition received treatment and services 927,993 times. As of now, CARE has trained 500+ partner staff who work in these nutrition centers.

**SITE COORDINATION:** At Potibunia camp, we are coordinating with the government and service-providers to ensure improved roads, drainage systems, proper infrastructure and various other services for 22,000+ inhabitants of the camp.

**WASH:** Over 50,000 people supported with the provision of 81 deep tube wells, 549 latrines, 466 handwashing facilities and 673 women-only batching cubicles to improve water and sanitation conditions. Family Hygiene & Dignity Kits distributed to 11,185 HHs. Hygiene sessions on-going.



## OVERVIEW



215,000 refugees are at the risk of losing their homes to landslides and floods during monsoon (ISCG report June 13)



42,000 refugees are in highest risk areas and prioritized for relocation (ISCG report June 13)



More than half of CARE's funding requirement of USD 15 million (till Feb '19) reached.



"The approach CARE takes to respond in any emergency is to focus particularly on women and girls. Whether they are menstruating, pregnant, breastfeeding, or simply older and more frail, they have specialized needs which require specialized solutions."

**Zia Choudhury** CARE Bangladesh Country Director

Photo: Kathleen Prior