



## WFP Myanmar and Bangladesh Situation Report, Cyclone Mocha

26 May 2023

### In Numbers

**3.4 million people** are living in Cyclone Mocha's highest impact zone (Myanmar),<sup>1</sup> of which 1.6 million are targeted for the cyclone response

**780,000 people** in Bangladesh, including refugees in all 33 Rohingya refugee camps, plus Bangladeshi communities, were affected<sup>2</sup>

### Highlights

In Myanmar, WFP has reached 115,900 people in the first ten days of its cyclone response across Rakhine State with emergency food and cash.

In Bangladesh, WFP reached over 14,100 Rohingya refugees with hot meals and biscuits from 13 to 20 May.

WFP is providing common services to other United Nations (UN) agencies by transporting relief cargo and providing warehousing support.

### Situation Update

- **Cyclone Mocha hit an already vulnerable area**, with substantial numbers of displaced and crisis-affected people reliant on humanitarian assistance. In Myanmar, **3.4 million people** were living in the highest impact zone.<sup>3</sup> In Bangladesh, the cyclone severely affected **780,000 people**, including 536,000 Rohingya refugees and 243,000 Bangladeshis.
- In Myanmar, an estimated 8,500 mt of rice and USD 1.5 million in cash-based transfers (CBT) will be required to assist 800,000 existing and newly cyclone-affected beneficiaries during the first month of the cyclone response. Out of these 800,000 planned beneficiaries, 360,000 were existing beneficiaries in Rakhine before the cyclone and 440,000 are newly targeted people affected by the cyclone.
- The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is coordinating the transfer of humanitarian relief items from Bangladesh to Myanmar. WFP stands ready to provide logistics support to this initiative, subject to approval from the authorities in Bangladesh and Myanmar, as well as the availability of funding.

### WFP Response

#### Myanmar

- In the first ten days of its cyclone response, **WFP has reached over 115,900 people in need across Rakhine State** with more than 2,000 mt of mixed food commodities, 111 mt of High-Energy Biscuits,

and more than USD 206,500 in cash-based transfers. This comprised:

- 55,200 new beneficiaries who were affected by the cyclone;
- 60,700 cyclone-affected people who were already part of WFP's regular relief operations before the cyclone.
- **WFP continues to dispatch rice from Yangon to Sittwe (central Rakhine State) for distribution.** Some 7,000 mt of rice are expected to arrive in the coming days. Mobile storage units are also en route from Yangon to Sittwe to serve as temporary warehouses and mobile offices.
- **WFP will deliver 2,950 mt of food commodities** from its warehouse in Sittwe to Buthidaung (northern Rakhine State) via waterway.
- **WFP is providing logistics support to the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** on the transport of essential relief cargo, including those donated by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Operations (ECHO) and the UK Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office (FCDO).

#### Bangladesh

- **WFP supported over 14,100 people affected by the cyclone in Bangladesh** from 13 to 20 May. This comprised:
  - 8,509 Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar who received over 79,000 fortified biscuits and 11,531 hot meals

- 5,589 refugees in Bhasan Char who received 16,767 fortified biscuits on 14 May
- **WFP provided forecast-based financing to 28,000 Bangladeshis** ahead of the cyclone's landfall on 14 May, enabling families to protect their assets ahead against forecasted storm surge flooding.
- **WFP has resumed normal operations** in Bhasan Char and Cox's Bazar.

## Resourcing

This calamity is striking amid severe funding shortages.

- In Myanmar, WFP urgently needs US\$60 million to ensure uninterrupted life-saving assistance to 2.1 million internally displaced persons and other

vulnerable groups in 2023, including 800,000 cyclone-affected people.

- In Bangladesh, the cyclone has exacerbated the refugees' precarious situation in the camps. WFP has already been forced to reduce its life-saving e-vouchers for refugees from US\$12 to US\$10 per person per month in March due to funding constraints; in June, the rations will be cut even further to US\$8 per month.<sup>4</sup> WFP urgently requires US\$56 million to restore the full ration until the end of 2023. In addition, it is seeking US\$4.1 million through the UN's joint flash appeal to assist Bangladeshis who have lost their livelihoods, replenish and augment prepositioned food stocks, and better prepare for future natural hazards in the camps and local communities.



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## Supporting the most vulnerable during the worst of times

*"I am so happy to receive rice, and the biscuits bring me additional delight. Even before the cyclone, we were not able to give snacks to our children daily. However, with the biscuits we received from WFP, our kids can now enjoy snacks two or three times a day. This brings me great happiness, and I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the donors."* Ma Nyo expresses her gratitude for the assistance her family received.

In Myanmar's Rakhine State, internally displaced people – already living in dire conditions due to conflict and protracted displacement – are among the hardest hit by the devastating impacts of Cyclone Mocha.

Ma Nyo and her family are part of a Rohingya community living in a crowded camp in Sittwe township. The storm and flash floods destroyed houses and food stocks in Ma Nyo's camp, leaving many families in dire need of assistance.

1. Total number of people living in >120km/h wind speed zones.

2. Rohingya Refugee Response and the Humanitarian Country Task Team, Cyclone Mocha Flash Appeal Bangladesh May to December 2023

3. Above, n 1

4. Ration cuts refer to the transfer value for general food assistance programme.

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