

Overview

WFP supports Bangladeshi host communities through long-term interventions, including nutrition assistance at community clinics, school feeding, livelihoods programmes specifically targeting vulnerable women and disaster risk reduction (DRR) activities.

While WFP provides nutrition treatment services for malnourished women and children, school feeding and capacity strengthening support for local governments throughout the Cox's Bazar District, livelihoods and DRR activities have previously focused on the sub-districts immediately surrounding the Rohingya refugee camps. However, in 2021 WFP is expanding the livelihoods and DRR programmes to reach communities in the most disaster prone areas of Moheshkhali, Pekua and Kutubdia. WFP is also focusing on improving market linkages between the Rohingya refugee camps and host community small-scale farmers, petty traders, aggregators and retailers through setting up aggregation centers and providing business skills training for livelihoods programme participants.



2021 targets



400,000 people targeted across Cox's Bazar District



135,000 children will receive high energy biscuits at school



45,000 women will participate in livelihoods programme



30 cyclone shelters to be rehabilitated



38,000 people will be engaged in DRR activities



8,900 women & children will receive nutritional treatment every month

Programme updates

(as of March 2021)



WFP is scaling up its livelihoods programme to reach an additional 15,000 vulnerable women in Moheshkhali, Pekua and Kutubdia. Such support is essential as these sub-districts are particularly prone to disasters and have thus far been underserved by humanitarian actors.



13 aggregation centers are operational linking producers in the host communities with local markets and refugee camps. WFP plans to establish 30 aggregation centers in 2021.



WFP provided sanitation and hygiene kits to **children and schools** in preparation for their re-opening (initially expected end-March). As it is now clear that schools will remain closed due to the recent spike in COVID-19 cases, school hygiene kits are being stored at schools by respective school authorities while WFP will continue to provide hygiene kits to students through door-to-door distributions.



WFP is providing **nutrition treatment services** at 119 community clinics in Cox's Bazar.

WFP is supporting the **local government's reforestation effort** in Cox's Bazar in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). WFP plans to roll out **Forecast-based-Financing (FbF)** in April to help the people in disaster-prone area prepare for monsoon and rainy season.

Find more information on WFP programmes here: WFP Information Booklet ([here](#)), WFP External Situation Report (February 2021) ([here](#))

WFP thanks the support of its donors: Australia, Canada, Denmark, European Union, France, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America

Expanding WFP programmes in host communities - Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)

WFP supports host communities in building their resilience toward climate shocks and natural disasters such as monsoon and cyclones. This includes the rehabilitation of cyclone shelters, access improvement to key infrastructures and anticipatory actions such as forecast-based-financing as well as agricultural infrastructure and reforestation in collaboration with FAO. WFP works closely with the local government in all sub-districts of Cox's Bazar to support in strengthening their capacity in disaster management and support policies and operation procedures. In 2020, WFP rehabilitated 70 cyclone shelters, maintained 910 hectares of forest land under the joint WFP-IOM-FAO SAFE Plus project and engaged 7,160 host community members through Cash for Work (CfW). **In 2021, WFP will continue to expand its support beyond Ukhiya and Teknaf to Moheshkhali, Pekua and Kutubdia** and rehabilitate 30 cyclone shelters while continuing the cooperation with local government on capacity strengthening activities.

Cyclone Shelter Rehabilitation in the most vulnerable area in Cox's Bazar



WFP has been rehabilitating cyclone shelters in Ukhiya and Teknaf sub-districts since 2019. The shelters are located within schools. To identify shelters in the most vulnerable area, WFP conducts a detailed baseline assessment. Once the sites are identified, WFP engages host community members, providing an income for participants while at the same time allowing them to contribute to their community. Cyclone shelter rehabilitation work includes repairing electricity, compound walls, cracks, doors/windows, toilets, solar lights/generator, water supply, disabled friendly ramps, emergency equipment and messaging boards. WFP engaged and directly supported around 30,000 people in the rehabilitation work. Once the last mile works are completed (in September 2021), the 70 rehabilitated cyclone shelters and the improved access in Ukhiya and Teknaf should benefit around 56,000 people.

WFP is now expanding the same activities to other sub-districts.

Capacity strengthening support for all sub-districts in Cox's Bazar

WFP works with local government in all sub-districts in Cox's Bazar to identify areas prone to natural disasters and in need of DRR work. WFP updated the Training Curriculum on Community-based Cyclone Early Warning System, sub-district guideline (Standing Orders on Disasters) and Cyclone Shelter Management Policy which will be rolled-out across Cox's Bazar. WFP also plans to implement Forecast-based Financing (FbF)/ Anticipatory Actions and School Safety Programmes in 2021. Through the School Safety Programmes WFP will provide trainings to 100 schools that were previously rehabilitated by WFP.



"Before we rehabilitated cyclone shelter, my family and neighbours had to evacuate to the hilly area during the cyclone. It was a challenging environment for women and children. I'm proud that I participated in improving this situation."

Shekh Ahmed (41), DRR Cash for Work participant, Ukhiya