

Rohingya Humanitarian Response

Cox's Bazar

April-June 2023

Situation Overview

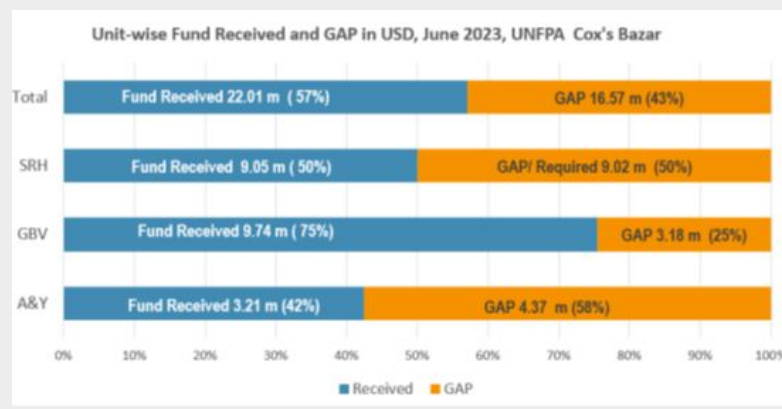
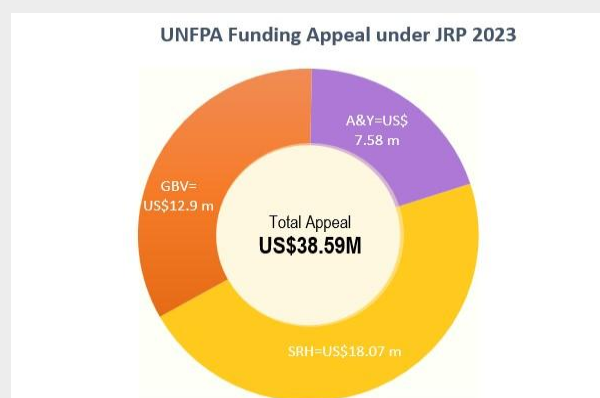
- The Rohingya crisis enters its sixth year while the reduction of funding and unstable security dynamics are raising concerns.
- A total of 961,729 Rohingya refugees are residing in 33 makeshift camps, including 30,282 on Bhasan Char Island. They continue to completely depend on humanitarian aid to survive.
- During this quarter, Cyclone Mocha hit the coastal areas on May 14. It impacted people's movement, shelter, and lives, and destroyed facilities, including UNFPA-supported facilities. UNFPA supported the response to the cyclone and post-cyclone impact by leading GBV coordination; supporting the distribution of dignity and MAMA kits; and by providing counseling and awareness sessions, midwifery services, and psychological first aid.
- The humanitarian community experienced funding shortages. As a consequence, WFP was compelled to cut the food ration from \$12 to \$8 per person, or 27 cents a day. This reduction has a significant impact on the lives of the Rohingya refugees.
- In the second quarter of 2023, UNFPA reached 251,464 individuals (males: 74,436, females: 177,028) who received sexual and reproductive health (SRH), gender-based violence (GBV), and adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH) information. A total of 53,356 women and girls, including 33,548 adolescents and 2,934 persons with disabilities, accessed Women's Friendly Spaces (WFSs). Life Skills Education programs were implemented in 88 locations in camps and 10 schools in host communities, reaching a total of 1,475 adolescent girls (camps: 996 / Host: 479) and 1,481 adolescent boys (camps: 1,061; host: 465)
- UNFPA continued actively participating in the integrated coordination streamlining, standardization, and rationalization efforts led by the Inter Sector Coordination Group.



UNFPA is the United Nations sexual and reproductive health agency. Our mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled.

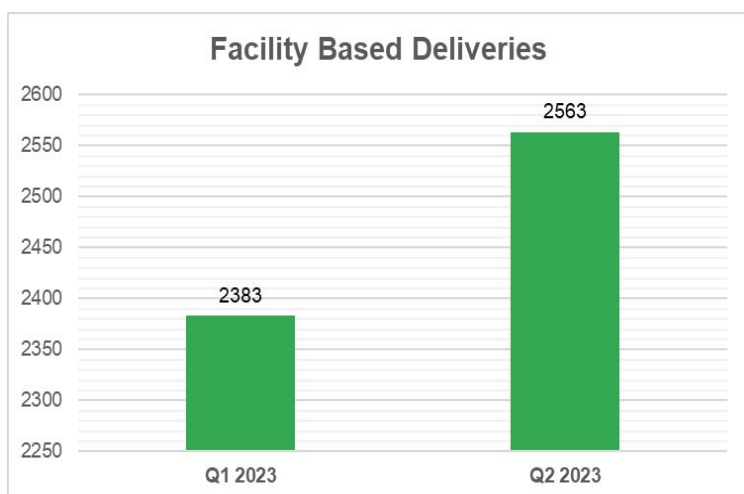
Humanitarian Needs

A total of 585,910 females are in need of protection services, including 464,066 Rohingya. Out of the total people in need, 352,971 are women of reproductive age (WRA) in need of SRH services, including 233,455 Rohingya refugees. In response to the needs, UNFPA continues to provide services to reach targeted people under the Joint Response Plan 2023. During the reporting period, UNFPA supported critical activities including Comprehensive and Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care services, midwifery mentorship, SRH community services, emergency referral services, SRH-GBV integration services, GBV case management at WFSs, GBV case management, gender equality focused life skills education, and livelihood skill development. As of June, UNFPA requires \$16.57 million for the remainder of 2023 to cover activities for SRH, GBV prevention and response, and adolescent & youth development.



Sexual and Reproductive Health

- A total of **77 UNFPA-supported health facilities** continue to provide SRH services, including three on Bhasan Char Island. Out of them, 40 facilities provided 24/7 Emergency SRH services including Obstetric Care and Newborn Care (EmONC).
- UNFPA deployed **more than 280 midwives** to various health facilities, including women-friendly and multipurpose spaces. At present, UNFPA extends support to **nearly 60% of the midwives** engaged in the comprehensive Cox's Bazar Humanitarian response, enabling the delivery of vital FP/SRH services.
- UNFPA-supported health facilities conducted a significant number of reproductive healthcare services, **including 20,195 antenatal care visits; 2,563 deliveries; 6,756 postnatal care visits; 33,795 family planning visits.**



- The **facility-based delivery** in the humanitarian response increased from **41% in 2019 to 82% in the second quarter of 2023.**
- A substantial number of individuals, totaling **251,464 (Males: 74,436, Females: 177,028)**, received SRH, gender-based violence (GBV), and adolescent sexual and reproductive health (ASRH) information through the UNFPA supported community health workers.
- UNFPA **procures family planning commodities worth USD 1 million** on an annual basis for distribution across all partner organizations, ensuring availability in 33 refugee camps and the surrounding host community.



A midwife conducting a Post Natal Care (PNC) checkup inside a health facility/UNFPA Bangladesh

- During the reporting period, the **Emergency Referral Transport Service (ERTS)** successfully supported the referral of **2,573 emergency cases**, which is a significant increase from the 2,110 cases recorded in the first quarter of 2023. Notably, the majority (96.8%) of these emergency cases were obstetric in nature.
- A total of **13,465 women and girls accessed SRH services through the Women Friendly Spaces (WFSs)** during the reporting period.
- The **number of women of reproductive age (WRA) with disabilities** who accessed sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services in health facilities and WFSs **increased to 147, compared to the 85 persons reached in the first quarter of 2023.**



Women and pregnant mothers inside a health facility receiving counselling on reproductive health services/UNFPA Bangladesh

Gender Based Violence in Emergency

- 39 confidential corners in Union Health and Family Welfare Centers and 5 One Stop Crisis Center and Cells provided survivor-centered comprehensive GBV case management services, information and emergency referrals in 8 upazilas in Cox's Bazar. A total of **2,078 women and girls, including 8 persons with disabilities**, accessed the GBV services from those health facilities.
- 54 Women Friendly Spaces (WFSs) (43 in Rohingya camps, 10 in host communities, and one in Bhasanchar) provided lifesaving GBV services including survivor-centered comprehensive case management, Mental Health and psycho-social services (MHPSS), integrated SRH services and emergency referrals along with multiple GBV prevention and mitigation interventions. Over **64,000 women and girls, including 2,934 persons with disabilities**, accessed the WFSs between April and June 2023.
- 10 Women Led Community Centers (WLCCs) (7 in Rohingya camps and 3 in host communities) equipped women and girls through skill development programs, life skill trainings, and awareness sessions while engaging men and boys in preventing and mitigating GBV. Over **22,000 women, girls, men and boys, including 218 persons with disabilities**, accessed the WLCCs between April and June 2023.
- 684 Dignity Kits were distributed among women and girls as per their needs.
- Over 142,000 community members were reached through GBV awareness session.
- In addition, over 9,000 community members were reached through the 'SASA! Together' initiative, a structured social mobilization module to promote positive gender norms.
- GBV case workers and community volunteers played a pivotal role in delivering GBV services including psychosocial first aid (PFA), emergency referrals, and essential resource mobilization at the community level immediately after cyclone Mocha.
- In May 2023, to mitigate the adversity of cyclone Mocha, over 4,500 households were reached through disaster preparedness messages prior to the incident while over 1,200 individuals were provided with PFA, and over 300 individuals with referral services. 261 Dignity Kits and other non food items (NFI) were distributed to meet the basic needs of the women and girls swiftly after the incident.



A session on GBV awareness at one of the UNFPA supported Women Friendly Spaces (WFS)/Shanti Khana/UNFPA Bangladesh



83% of respondents reported satisfaction with the quality of services received at designated facility points during the client satisfaction survey.



OVER 17000

women and girls participated in life skill and life enhancement sessions in the 54 WFS and 321 women participated in livelihood activities in the 10 WLCC.



OVER 55000

individuals participated in structure Group PSS sessions in the 54 WFS and 10 WLCC.



OVER 16000

adolescent girls participated in GEMS, a contextualized life-skill education module, in 40 WFSs.



OVER 70000

individuals participated in GBV awareness sessions in the 54 WFS and 10 WLCC.



OVER 12600

individuals received referral services from the 54 WFS and 10 WLCC



Gender Based Violence Sub Sector

- The GBV Sub Sector (GBVSS), with the support of the 67 partner agencies and 33 GBV Camp Focal Points (CFPs) updated and verified the referral pathways on a monthly basis. The up-to-date interactive referral ways enabled survivors to receive real time services.
- The [GBVIMS \(GBV information management system\) Q2 2023 Fact Sheet](#) was produced which shows that physical assault remains the highest reported incident and is interlinked with the incidences of denial of resources, emotional abuse, and forced marriage (including child marriage). Most of the reported incidents are correlated with polygamy and dowry and are increasingly common in the camps..
- Humanitarian actors face a major challenge with consecutive fire incidents. In response to the fire accidents at Camps 21 and 24 in April 2023, GBVSS quickly activated 33 GBV Camp Focal Points as part of Protection in Emergency Response Unit (PERU) teams. As part of the emergency support, affected persons were provided with psychological first aid and Dignity Kits.



During a training, participants having practical session on filling out the intake form of an individual survivor case

During cyclone Mocha's landfall, Camps 11, 18, and 26 were severely affected. Three Women-Led Community Centers and nine Women Friendly Spaces suffered minor damage. In collaboration with GBVSS partners, the Dignity Kits Task Team distributed 491 Dignity Kits. 1,202 refugees, including 186 people with disabilities, received basic psychological first aid and awareness training.

Adolescents and Youth

- 7 Adolescent & Youth Centers in camps continue to operate to as safe spaces for adolescents and youth to engage in a variety of education, skills development & networking opportunities.
- UNFPA contributes to the coordination of interventions targeting adolescents and youth through its co-chairmanship of the Youth Working Group (YWG).
- Life Skills Education (LSE) programs are implemented in 88 locations in camps and 10 schools in host communities, reaching a total of 1,475 adolescent girls (Camps: 996 / Host: 479) and 1,481 adolescent boys (Camps: 1,016 / Host: 465) with critical information on GBV, SRHR, menstrual health, and various essential life skills such as social and emotional abilities, communication, trust, safety, and conflict resolution.
- Complementing the LSE programs, caregiver sessions were conducted aimed at providing information on and developing skills to raise adolescents in a gender equitable, safe and enabling environment. A total of 1,142 female caregivers (Camps: 677 / Host: 465) and 548 male caregivers (Camps: 316 / Host: 232) were reached in this quarter.



UNFPA Distributed MHM Kits to the adolescent girls across the host and Rohingya community /UNFPA Bangladesh

Communication and Advocacy

- UNFPA's response to the fire incident in the Rohingya camps was published on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). A video on the response was posted on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#).
- The **International Day of Midwives 2023** was commemorated in Cox's Bazar, highlighting the vital function of midwives and advocating for increased investment in this life-saving profession. **Coverage included:** Social media: [Facebook 1](#), [Facebook 2](#), [Facebook 3](#), [Facebook 4](#), [Featuring a midwife, Tithi Dakua](#); [Twitter 1](#), [Twitter 2](#), [Twitter 3](#); [Instagram 1](#), [Instagram 2](#), [Instagram 3](#), [Instagram 4](#) Media: [Dhaka Tribune](#), [The Daily Star](#), [The Business Standard](#) Online news portals: [Cox's Bazar News- CBN](#), [Facebook The Territorial News.com-TTN](#), [Facebook, Voice of Palong](#) (a community radio), [Facebook](#) post, and [News](#).
- UNFPA celebrated the **International Menstrual Hygiene Day 2023** in Cox's Bazar, [story](#) (28 May 2023).
- UNFPA also commemorated **World Refugee Day** on social media: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) (20 June 2023).



UNFPA Bangladesh hosted the delegation of US under secretary MS Uzra Zaya, Swedish Ambassador to Bangladesh Ms H.E Alex Berg von Linde and UNFPA's Regional Humanitarian Advisor in Cox's Bazar Refugee camps/UNFPA Bangladesh

- A [story](#) of a Midwife and her critical role as a service provider during cyclone Mocha was published on [UNFPA Global Website](#), [UNFPA Asia Pacific website](#) and in UNFPA [Bangladesh website](#) (20 June 2023).
- UNFPA published a [story](#) about a GBV case workers' commitment to cyclone preparedness and community outreach in Cox's Bazar (20 May 2023).

UNFPA wishes to thank the following Donors for their ongoing support



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