WASH OBJECTIVES

1. Adequate, acceptable, safe and dignified life-saving water supply and sanitation services
2. Refugees have access to information for promoting hygiene in their communities
3. WASH assistance is sustainable, cost-effective and incorporating environmental protection

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- 347,606 refugees in 14 camps reached with UNHCR supported WASH activities
- 150,000 and 140,000 people reached with a large centralized and multiple small-capacity fecal sludge treatment plant respectively
- 17 solar power based chlorinated large water networks completed with others under construction in Kutupalong. 02 large and 36 small water treatment plants are operational in Teknaf area

PROGRESS

UNHCR and partners developed WASH facilities while dealing with a very challenging topography and the initial acute emergency needs of the response. Improvements made over the past two years included upgraded latrines with larger volume pits to last longer; a large-capacity fecal waste treatment plant (in partnership with Oxfam) to serve 150,000 people; and a move towards supplying surface water supply through a chlorinated water networks to support both refugees and the host community. 55 networks are now completed with others under construction. UNHCR is continuing to closely monitor groundwater resources to ensure their sustainable use. Water purification tablets and containers for collection and storage of water were distributed to refugees. In the water scarcity areas, in Teknaf, where surface water is the only option, currently 36 small water treatment plants are running from surface water sources. Several numbers of temporary dam reconstruction are ongoing to secure water for next dry season.

Along with regular WASH intervention in response to COVID-19, hygiene promotion activities are being prioritized. For instance, 1898 hand washing devices are installed in different public places like distribution centers and HP volunteers are disseminating COVID massages during distribution of soap at distribution points. Apart from this, installation of WASH facilities -- latrines, bathing cubicles, water network, black and grey water network - in six isolation and treatment centers are nearly operational.

Hygiene promotion activities remain in critical need and are being boosted to avert public health incidents. WASH staff are developing new modalities to deliver unified public health messages with health teams working in the settlements. This combined programme aims to prevent dengue fever and AWD outbreaks.

WASH is working closely with UNHCR protection unit to define and deliver hygiene kits, including menstrual hygiene kits; these continue to be distributed to girls and women across the camp.

CHALLENGES

- Need for long-term planning for WASH interventions, requiring commitments for multi-year funding, greater involvement of development actors, and agreement of authorities.
- Sanitation management challenges for Kutupalong settlement due to large population size, congestion, topography and unavailability of land.
- Lack of easily reachable groundwater in Teknaf area and brackish quality of water in river requires alternative approaches, including introduction of catchment reservoirs.

WAY FORWARD

To address acute water needs in Teknaf, an upgrade of surface and groundwater resources serving both refugees and host communities is planned with the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC) and the Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE).

A site was identified and permission granted to construct a large new water reservoir at Domdorma in Camp 27.

The lack of sanitation treatment and desludging capacity poses a significant public health risk in all camps. A committee of RRRC, UN agencies (including UNHCR), DPHE and others has been formed to identify appropriate land for fecal sludge management, with a number of sites now having been identified and proposed to the local government. One plant planned near Camp 2E will be built in the next couple of months by MSF with UNHCRs assistance and support. Other few potential sites have been identified in southern part of mega camp and also in Teknaf area.
WASH facilities were assessed in UNHCR WASH managed camps. WASH infrastructures have been maintained, including 160 tube wells and 520 latrines. WASH fields staff and volunteers trained in WASH emergency response in 2018.

WASH hygiene kits distributed since January 2020: 151
Female hygiene kits distributed since January 2020: 115,732

WASH field staff and volunteers trained in WASH emergency response in 2018: 677

76%* Households with access to soap

3,435 WASH facilities have been maintained, including 1,161 tube wells and 1,839 latrines.

Worldwide, 89% waste bins and waste pits installed.

73% Functional

90% Functional

89% Functional

10% Non-functional

11% Non-functional

5,237 Water Points (tube well)

7,813 Bathing Facilities

16,214 Communal Latrine Facilities

**Cumulative achievement since December 2018**

### PROGRESS AGAINST 2020 TARGETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target</th>
<th>Achieved</th>
<th>Progress</th>
<th>Gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of water taps constructed (wells)</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of shared latrines facilities constructed</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>1,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of persons per communal latrine</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># of communal bathing facilities constructed</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2,348</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### ACHIEVEMENT (MAR & APR)

**234** WASH facilities constructed, including **99** latrines and **135** taps.

**3,435** WASH facilities have been maintained, including **1,161** tube wells and **1,839** latrines.

**89** waste bins and waste pits installed.

**100%** of households with at least 1% protected water storage capacity.

**100%** of households with access to soap.

**89% 89% 88% 90% 90% 84% 72% 76% 89% 88%**

### FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT

$308.7 M Overall financial requirement

$38.9 M WASH financial requirement

$269.7 M Other financial requirement

### KEY FIGURES

- 372,261 Refugees received UNHCR WASH support
- 39,583 WASH infrastructures were assessed in UNHCR WASH managed camps

### THANK YOU

UNHCR’s humanitarian response in Bangladesh is made possible thanks to the generous support of major donors who have contributed unrestricted funding to UNHCR’s global operations, and to donors who have generously contributed directly to UNHCR Bangladesh operations. In 2020, continued generous support has been received from the governments of: Australia, Canada, Denmark, the European Union, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, the Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

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