Since 25 August 2017, over 870,000 refugees from Myanmar have fled to Bangladesh. Around 912,485 refugees are now living in Cox’s Bazar (ICSG Report, May, 2019), including those who arrived before the exodus. Women, children and infants make up over 52% of the refugee population. They all are in constant need of food, shelter, medical help, protection and safe places to sleep.

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. Monsoon and cyclone season brings additional risks for refugees including flooding, land sliding and spread of water-borne diseases. Therefore, the current needs for the refugees are to strengthen and repair existing shelters while replacing the risky ones. In extreme weather conditions it is essential to provide sufficient dignity kits to women and girls.

CARE’s Response: CARE is directly reaching nearly 150,000 (without double counting) people through health services, WASH, shelter, protection & GBV and site management programming. This includes both refugee and host communities in the close vicinity of the camps. Also, as part of a consortium, CARE is providing technical support to the community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) project. The host community projects are reaching 1,710,155 locals in total by improving their disaster risk resilience capacities, WASH situation, strengthening health system by ensuring primary health care and overall living conditions.

For 2019-20, CARE has a funding gap of 7 million USD to maximize the impact of shelter, site management, WASH, SRH and protection programs within the Rohingya community. 1.2 million USD is required to prepare for and respond to monsoon needs immediately.

SITE MANAGEMENT: CARE is leading site management activities in camp-13, Thaingkhalo and camp-16, Potibunia. CARE works with the government and other service-providers to ensure safety and improved roads, drainage systems, proper infrastructure and various other services for 63,000+ Rohingya refugees in both camps.

PROTECTION & GENDER BASED VIOLENCE: 12 women and girls’ safe spaces (WGSS) and 2 information booths have been established to offer a space for socializing and counselling for refugee women. Till date, 120,830+ women, adolescents girls and men have been reached; 4,381 infant kits distributed to lactating and expecting mothers & 22,015 dignity kits given to women and adolescent girls.

SHELTER: 193 households (HHs) shifted to midterm shelters and 207 HHs relocated from high risk areas while 4,507 refugee HHs received transitional shelter assistance. Regular distribution of shelter kits with bamboo, tarpaulins, floor mats, rope and toolkits continues to 21,000+ people.

WASH: 147,000+ people supported with 153 deep tube wells, 848 latrines, 2,094 hand washing facilities and 789 women-only batching cubicles. Family Hygiene & Dignity Kits distributed to over 15,000 HHs. Regular hygiene sessions on-going.

HEALTH: 4 health centers offer primary and reproductive health services, free medicine, referrals to other hospitals, and ambulance services. So far, nearly 154,000+ services has been provided. CARE also provides Long-Acting Reversible Contraception (LARC) to the Rohingya refugees.

NUTRITION: Through 34 nutrition centers, children under five with malnutrition are receiving treatment and services. Till now, CARE trained 500+ staff who work for the respective nutrition centers.

“The Rohingya refugee crisis should not end up as one of those forgotten ones in the world today. The refugees in the camps continue to live in extreme fragile and vulnerable conditions, needing continued assistance. We ought to ensure that they have access to their basic needs and live a life of dignity.”

Ram Das, Assistant Country Director, Humanitarian Response, CARE Bangladesh

Photo: Minhash U Ahmed/CARE Bangladesh

OVERVIEW
Over 304,000 persons have been registered through the Government-UNHCR registration exercise

4,507 refugee HHs received transitional shelter assistance in April

CARE currently has a funding gap of 1.2 million USD for administering various operations keeping monsoon impacts in consideration

www.carebangladesh.org www.care-international.org