

World Food Programme News Video: WFP Helping Refugees Stranded Near Border With Myanmar in Bangladesh

Anjuman Para Border Area near Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

Shot: 18-20 Oct,2017

TRT: 2:22

Shotlist:

:00-:29

Since Sunday 15 Oct, around 15,000 refugees from Myanmar have been stranded in rice paddies at the Bangladeshi border with Myanmar.

Anjuman Para Border Area

Shot: 18Oct.2017

:29-:48

SOT Alama Khaton, mother of 3 ((Bangla dialect):

“It took us 6 days to walk here. They tortured many of us, burned our houses, we weren't allowed to collect our rice, and they took our cows, goats and fields, they didn't give out rice and the men and boys weren't allowed to go anywhere.”

Anjuman Para Border Area

Shot: 18Oct.2017

:48-1:28

Various shots of WFP High Energy Biscuits and rice being transported by boat and distributed to the stranded Rohingya refugees.

WFP is providing high energy biscuits to all new arrivals and rice as part of a hot food ration.

Access to this area is difficult and WFP has been using boats to ferry food to the large numbers of women, children and families, some haven't eaten for days.

Anjuman Para Border Area

Shot: 18Oct.2017

1:28-1:52

SOT Michael Dunford, WFP Emergency Coordinator(English)

“WFP has already fed 580,000 refugees. Just yesterday we fed an additional 10,000 as they came across the border, but we are still scaling up, we still need to reach up to a million people. We've received strong support from our donors but we need an additional US\$54 million to get us through until the end of February if we are able to reach our targets.”

Cox's Bazaar

Shot: 20Oct.2017

1:52-2:22

Various shots of people eating high energy biscuits and rice.

Anjuman Para Border Area

Shot: 18Oct.2017

ENDS

Background Information

- WFP has now distributed food to more than 580,000 people in Cox's Bazar since 25 August, including ongoing distributions of rice, lentils and oil, as well as fortified biscuits and hot meals.
- WFP is especially concerned about the health of women and children arriving hungry and malnourished after days on the move, and is providing nutritional support. WFP has distributed Super Cereal Plus to nearly 63,000 pregnant women and mothers of young children.
- WFP urgently needs US\$77 million to support the new arrivals as well as people who were already living in camps near the border and host communities. We plan to support one million people in Cox's Bazar for six months.
- We have only about 30 percent of what we need. With generous contributions from the USA, Australia, Denmark, Canada, UK, Norway, Italy, ECHO and CERF, we can keep providing food until the end of November. But WFP still needs US\$54 million to maintain operations until February.
- About 240,000 people have received micronutrient-fortified biscuits as an emergency measure. This is a one-off package of several days' worth of fortified cookies, which are often provided in situations where no cooking facilities are available.
- As the situation stabilizes and people's immediate food needs are met, WFP will refine its assistance according to people's specific needs and introduce e-vouchers.
- The food for new arrivals comes in addition to assistance that WFP provides to 34,000 registered refugees living in 'official' camps, through e-vouchers. WFP will continue to support refugees who came before the present influx with e-vouchers. Long-term food assistance and self-reliance for all will need to be addressed. Another 72,500 undocumented refugees living in makeshift camps, who arrived after the last outbreak of violence in October 2016, receive rice and nutrition support.
- WFP is supporting the logistics needs of the humanitarian community. The top need to date is related to storage – NGO partners and sister agencies need somewhere to store aid as it flows into Cox's Bazar for distribution. The government has made land available (a football pitch near the local college in Ukhiya) where WFP will set up a logistics hub with 10-15 large storage tents to be shared by all partners for items such as food, buckets, sanitation kits and medical supplies.

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WFP is the world's largest humanitarian agency fighting hunger worldwide, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience. Each year, WFP assists some 80 million people in around 80 countries.

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