

WFP News Video: WFP To Feed More Than 1/2 Million Myanmar Refugees Now in Bangladesh

Cox's Bazar and environs, Bangladesh

Shot: 27Sep-1Oct,2017

TRT: 3:04

Shotlist:

:00-:23

Aerials over Kutupalong Camp

Before the current influx of refugees from Myanmar, 30,000 people were living in Kutupalong Camp..there are now approximately 300,000. In a month since the recent surge in violence in Myanmar began on 25 August 2017, a total of more than half a million people (mostly women and children) have arrived in Bangladesh.

Shot: 28Sep.2017

:23-:55

GV's people struggling to cope with mud covered Kutupalong Camp

Frequent rains cover the overflowing settlements with mud making movement difficult and creating hygienic risks and diseases like diarrhea from inadequate latrines. WHO is warning of a growing risk of cholera. The Bangladesh government and international community are rapidly trying to expand the infrastructure of the camps.

Shot: 28Sep.2017

:55-1:12

Sha Parir Dip, Bangladesh

People arriving in Bangladesh from Myanmar

In recent days the influx of people coming across has slowed but on this day, it is estimated some 2000 people came across the border.

Shot: 28Sep.2017

1:12-1:20

Dil Mohammed, 22 years old arrived in Bangladesh the night before (26Sep2017). It took him 15 days because he became lost in the jungle. He is from Tula Toli, Myanmar where a massacre was reported. One of the few things these refugees manage to bring are empty WFP food bags used as luggage.

Shot: 27Sep.2017

1:20-1:32

SOT Dil Mohammed(Bangla dialect):

"They were burning us, they were burning our houses, so where could we live? Whenever they found any men, they just cut them and killed them. They cut many people in our area. We hid in the forest to get away from this. I gathered these few things and hid in the forest."

Shot: 27Sep.2017

1:32-1:38

Dil Mohammed and some of his family heading to a camp nearby to register for food.

Shot: 27Sep.2017

1:38-1:49

Exhausted newly arrived refugees at Kutupalong Camp

Shot: 28Sep.2017

1:49-1:59

Zoreena holds her 3 day old grandson born in the no-man's-land between Myanmar and Bangladesh. His mother had been walking for 11days when he was born and is in a nearby hospital due to complication from childbirth. Zoreena helped deliver the baby who has not yet been named.

Shot: 28Sep.2017

1:59-2:07

SOT Nur Bahar (Bangla dialect)

Nuir is holding 3-month-old baby, Shahed. After her brother and father were killed they fled from Myanmar by boat. She worked as a fisherwoman in Myanmar.

"We left the house before they started burning. We saw our neighbour's house on fire and fled. We couldn't bring anything from our house just had the clothes we were wearing. We couldn't take anything."

Shot: 28Sep.2017

2:07-2:19

WFP food distribution of rice and special fortified cereal for infants.

Shot: 28Sep.2017

2:19-2:52

Kutupalong Camp

SOT WFP Executive Director, David Beasley (English)

"They've come with only the shirts on their backs.. just trying to survive and this is not the ideal situation but at least they are safe and sound right now but we need support from the international community to step up immediately because when your trying to feed 500 thousand people that have come in just literally a month there's allot of work to be done and so we need the international community to stepup, help the government and the people of Bangladesh who have poured out their hearts who have opened up their land and trying to make a miserable situation as good as it can possibly be."

Shot 10Oct.2017

2:52-3:04

Refugees eating hot meals provided by WFP and Action Contro La Faim

Shot: 28Sep.2017

ENDS

WFP CHIEF: INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY MUST CONTINUE TO SUPPORT GROWING
HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN BANGLADESH

COX'S BAZAR – The Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), David Beasley, today reiterated WFP's commitment to supporting people fleeing violence in Myanmar as he met refugee families and saw WFP relief activities in the new settlements in the Cox's Bazar area.

"I have heard heart-breaking stories today, speaking to people who ran for their lives and saw loved ones killed before their eyes. These horrors must stop. Many of these people were receiving WFP food assistance in Myanmar. Now, they will receive WFP food assistance in Bangladesh, until they are able to return home safely," Beasley said.

Beasley, in his first visit to Bangladesh since his assuming office in April, saw a WFP food distribution in an area adjacent to Kutupalong refugee camp, where hundreds of thousands of people have settled in makeshift shelters over the past month. Beasley toured the 2,000-acre area that has been allocated by the government to accommodate the new arrivals. He also saw a WFP e-voucher shop, where registered refugees redeem monthly electronic food vouchers.

"WFP started distributing food as soon as the influx began, and has scaled up operations to reach almost half a million refugees in the past month with life-saving assistance," said Beasley. "We are grateful for the generous support of the donor community that has made this possible."

WFP has distributed rice to some 460,000 refugees, and has also been providing high-energy biscuits to more than 200,000 people as a one-off emergency measure when they arrive in the settlements and at border crossing points.

As the situation stabilizes, WFP plans to transition to more sophisticated programmes, especially with a view to supporting the nutritional needs of women and children and developing electronic voucher programmes that integrate with markets.

The food for new arrivals comes in addition to assistance that WFP provides through e-vouchers to 34,000 registered refugees living in official camps. Another 72,500 undocumented refugees living in makeshift camps, who arrived after the last outbreak of violence in October 2016, before the present influx, receive rice and nutrition support.

- WFP has now provided food to the majority of people who have arrived in Bangladesh since 25 August. More than 460,000 people have been enrolled to receive 25kg of rice per family every two weeks for the next six months, and they have received rice at least once already.

- WFP urgently needs at least US\$72.7 million to support the new arrivals as well as people who were already living in camps near the border and host communities. WFP has secured about US\$19 million to date, which will allow us to continue providing food and nutrition support until mid-November.

- 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.

- As the situation stabilizes and people's immediate food needs are met, WFP will explore ways to transition from general food distributions to more targeted programmes, for examples using e-vouchers.

- In Myanmar, WFP's aid activities in Rakhine have been severely disrupted. While there is no humanitarian access for UN agencies in northern Rakhine, WFP has resumed assistance to camps in central Rakhine State and hopes to reach 110,000 people.

- The main problem in Myanmar is access. We need access to all areas in Rakhine State including areas that have seen widespread violence so that the UN, local and international NGOs can support the Government in responding to the humanitarian needs

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Note to editors

For broll footage of WFP's operations and the Executive Director's visit, please contact:

Jonathan Dumont, WFP/Bangladesh, Mob.+39 340 2249 140, jonathan.dumont@wfp.org

Photos are available here. Please email silke.buhr@wfp.org for high resolution images.

Photos should be credited as follows: WFP/Saikat Mojumder

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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For more information please contact (email address: firstname.lastname@wfp.org):

Maherin Ahmed, WFP/Bangladesh, Mob. +880-1755-64-2160

Silke Buhr, WFP/Bangladesh. Mob. ++880-1755-64-2150

Frances Kennedy, WFP/Rome, Tel. +39 06 65133725, Mob. +39 346 7600806

Jane Howard, WFP/Rome, Tel. +39 06 65132321, Mob. +39 346 7600521

Bettina Luescher, WFP/Geneva, Tel. +41 22 917 8564, Mob. + 41-79-842-8057

Steve Taravella, WFP/New York, Tel. +1-646-556-6909, Mob. +1-202-770-5993

Francis Mwanza, WFP/London, Tel. +44 20 3857 7411, Mob. +44 7968008474