World Food Programme News Video:

New Data Shows Doubling of Life Threatening Malnutrition Among Rohingya Refugee Children in Bangladesh

Location: Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh
TRT: 2:21
Shot 3-5 Nov 2017

:00-:23
Shot: 3 Nov 2017
Kutupalong area, Cox’s Bazar
GV ’s, people walking barefoot in dirty water.

Without clean water, toilets and health facilities, the malnutrition issue cannot be resolved. Food alone is not enough to solve the malnutrition problem. 2 out of 3 families interviewed tell WFP they’ve had problems with diarrhea.

An estimated 609,000 people are reported to have crossed the border from Myanmar into Bangladesh since 25 August, according to the Inter Sector Coordination Group.

:23-:32
Shot: 3 Nov. 2017
Kutupalong area, Cox’s Bazar
Newly arrived refugees receive basic health and food support and are registered by UNHCR and are then reallocated to a camp.

WFP has distributed fortified biscuits to about 280,000 people and continues to provide for new arrivals from Myanmar.

:32-01:06
SOT Michael Dunford, WFP Emergency Coordinator (English)
Shot: 4 Nov. 2017
Cox’s Bazar
“We knew already, before they left Myanmar, that the nutritional status of the population was poor, unfortunately this further deteriorated and continues to deteriorate. We’re seeing the impacts of poor water and sanitation, high incidents of illnesses are forcing this malnutrition rate to levels that we really do not want to see, we’re going to have to invest very heavily both as WFP and as the collective of humanitarian responders to try and overcome this very concerning situation.”

01:06-01:30
Shot: 5 Nov. 2017
Kutupalong area, Cox’s Bazar
Baby being tested for malnutrition, MUAC (middle upper arm circumference)
If children are found to be moderately malnourished, mothers are given a supply of Super Cereal Plus to take home and feed to their babies. Super Cereal Plus is a highly fortified blend of maize and soy flour, and includes dairy protein that's especially important for babies.

01:30-01:44
Shot: 3 Nov. 2017
Kutupalong area, Cox’s Bazar
SOT Marium Khatun, 25 years old (Rohingya dialect)
“my baby is sick, we are both sick, cough and high fever, my baby can’t breathe properly with this cough.”

01:44-01:55
Shot: 5 Nov. 2017
Kutupalong area, Cox’s Bazar
Preparing WFP food rations, women receiving WFP specialized nutritious food.

WFP is providing nutritional support to women and young children, many of whom were already malnourished before arriving in Bangladesh. They receive Super Cereal Plus and oil.

01:55-02:21
Shot: 5 Nov. 2017
Kutupalong area, Cox’s Bazar
Women waiting at WFP food distribution

WFP has reached more than 680,000 people with rice, lentils and oil.

END

BACKGROUND

- A new survey shows that the malnutrition rates in Kutupalong are alarming. The preliminary findings indicate one in four Rohingya children are suffering from malnutrition.

- It shows a 7.5 per cent prevalence of life-threatening severe acute malnutrition – a rate double that seen among Rohingya child refugees in May 2017.

- The Kutupalong nutrition assessment, (October 22-28), surveyed 405 households including families who arrived there both before and after violence escalated in northern Rakhine on August 25.

- WFP will be working with the Food Security Sector to conduct a household assessment in November, which will also look at nutrition indicators.
• Maungdaw district in Myanmar, where many of the refugees have come from, was among the most vulnerable and chronically food-insecure areas in Myanmar even before the current outbreak of violence, with high rates of malnutrition.

• The Government of Bangladesh, international partners and local communities in Cox’s Bazar have responded robustly to the needs of hundreds of thousands of people arriving from Myanmar. WFP has reached more than 680,000 people with rice, lentils and oil.

• WFP is providing nutritional support to women and young children, many of whom were already malnourished before arriving in Bangladesh. They receive Super Cereal Plus, a kind of nutritious porridge.

• Food alone is not enough to solve the malnutrition problem. 2 out of 3 families interviewed tell WFP they’ve had problems with diarrhea. Without clean water, toilets and health facilities, the malnutrition issue cannot be resolved.

• WFP urgently needs US$77 million to support one million people in the Cox’s Bazar region of Bangladesh, including the new arrivals and people who were already living in camps near the border and host communities.

• WFP wants to ensure food security and a decent living for both local communities and new arrivals, so it is important to create opportunities from which both can benefit.

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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