

DAILY UPDATE

Cox's Bazar

- Cox's Bazar's District administration is tracking down foreign returnees, and announced penalties for those not following home quarantine rules. On 20 March, the authority fined two foreign returnees who did not abide by the rules.
- Public announcements are being made in some municipal areas in Cox's Bazar to raise awareness cleanliness and on staying home to prevent panic and misinformation.
- Tourist police have demonstrated hand sanitisation process in the intersection of the hotel zone in Cox's Bazar.
- Cox's Bazar sea beach has been restricted to the tourists. Law enforcement teams are constantly patrolling the area.
- All livestock huts in Cox's Bazar will remain closed until further instructions, in the public interest to prevent coronavirus infection.

Host communities and camps

- A total of 653 hand wash stations were installed since 17 March. Among these, 500 were installed in the household level, 20 in front of HCMP branch offices, 83 in camp areas, and 50 in the community level.
- 6 community volunteers attended a training and awareness session on COVID-19, conducted by BRAC's community health workers in Whykong, Teknaf. Another training session was held through a video conference led by BRAC's ultra-poor graduation team from BRAC headquarters, 10 members from Cox's Bazar in attendance.

HCMP

- HCMP COVID-19 Preparedness Task Force emphasised that leave from the office is a right of employees, and requested all team and sector leads to monitor the mobility of employees moving in or out of Cox's Bazar. Employees are asked to inform their line managers to ensure follow-up measures when going or returning from leave. The area director will circulate the emergency leave process for this crisis period.
- To ensure safety, team leads meeting on DFAT is suggested to be postponed or held through video conference. Senior management team will also explore options for creating more delegation to coordinate all meetings properly.
- HCMP will receive 50,000 leaflets in Bengali from BRAC headquarters to translate into the Rohingya language, in consultation with the Education and Health sector and with approval from government authorities, and distributed among members of the Rohingya communities.
- HCMP task force will arrange a video conference with two area coordination committees on COVID-19. HR will ask the HCMP COVID-19 Task Force members to share their talking points. 2-3 members of the task force, along with the area director will join the meeting.
- A ToT training session was conducted by the health sector of HCMP for the second consecutive day for health service providers, including medical officers, midwives, paramedics and lab technicians. 40 personnel were trained in 4 batches on the first day. 43 personnel were trained in 10 batches today. To ensure safety, the number of participants was kept below 10.

PROFILE ONGROUND

HCMP STAFF: 2,361

VOLUNTEERS: 4,211

PEOPLE IN NEED: 1.3 M

* 29 February 2020

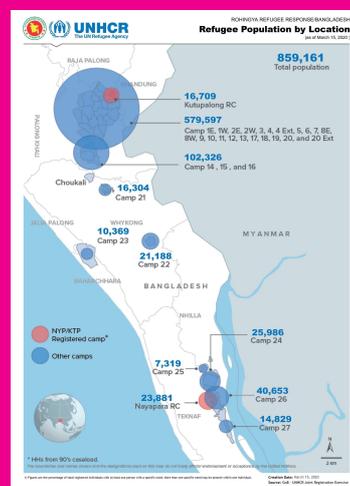
KEY FIGURES (CAMPS)

Total Population: 859,161

60+ Age: 31,509

**Serious Medical Condition
0.3% Female 0.2% Male**

* UNHCR/ 15 March 2020



Shastho Batayon: 16263

IEDCR Hotline

01944333222

01937000011

01937110011

01927711784-5

01550064901-05

For more details

<https://www.iedcr.gov.bd>
<http://www.brac.net/covid19>

BACKGROUND

The World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 as pandemic. IEDCR reported 24 confirmed COVID-19 cases and 2 deaths in Bangladesh as of 21 March. Along with the other parts of the country, Cox's Bazar is also at a great risk as it is hosts world's largest refugee camps. Cox's Bazar, in southeastern Bangladesh, hosts one of the world's biggest refugee camps, and faces the potential risk of a COVID-19 outbreak. There is a need for immediate targeted actions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the Rohingya camps, and its surrounding areas where hundreds of humanitarian workers are involved in the response and management of the Rohingya crisis. The crisis is a multidimensional humanitarian problem. The spread of COVID-19 in the camps may create unforeseeable consequences, and without proper precautionary measures, the situation may quickly go out of control.

OVERALL SUMMARY

Various steps have been taken and guidelines were provided by the 'COVID-19 Preparedness Task Force' to ensure the health and well-being of the employees as well as the refugees. The task force requested the employees to maintain the directions provided by BRAC and GoB. Types of the meetings should be improvised according to the security guidelines provided by the proper authority so that the required physical distance can be maintained. Skype calls or split meetings can be tried to avoid gatherings. The Area Director will circulate an email describing the emergency leave process to deal with the crisis period after consulting the head office.

Let's spread awareness, not fear.