



BULLETIN

NUTRITION SECTOR COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

QUARTER 02

JUNE, 2023

ISSUE: 02

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SECTOR HIGHLIGHTS

- Mass MUAC screening and deworming campaign has been successfully conducted in April reaching 85,850 children (93% of target)
- A workshop on the Nutrition Sector Strategic Plan was held on 8 May to have a common understanding among stakeholders on the objectives of the Strategic Plan for 2023-25 and discuss priority areas.
- CARE with the support of UNICEF organized a CMAM TOT in June 2023 for over 20 participants who gained the basics of CMAM as well as training facilitation skills.
- A two-day training was held on Complaints Feedback Mechanism (CFM) for 20 nutrition officers and site supervisors. The training was facilitated by Concern Worldwide and supported by UNICEF.
- Mass MUAC screening and vitamin A supplementations campaign was successfully completed in mid-July reaching 143,600 children (94% of the target).

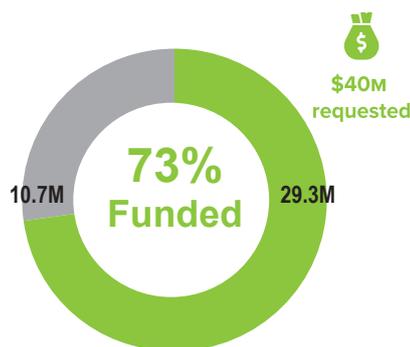
NUTRITION PROGRAMME UPDATE

	TARGET		PROGRESS	
	2023	2023 (Jan-Jun)	2023	2023 (Jan-Jun)
SAM	11,500	4,907 (43% of target) Cure rate 87.38%		
MAM	U5- 46,000 PLW- 3,000	U5- 16,678 (36% of target) Cure rate 96.55% PLW- 1,678 (56% of target)		
IYCF	85,000	25,999 (31% of target)		
BSFP	U5- 152,000 PLW- 38,500	U5- 134,350* (88% of target) PLW- 42,670 (111% of target)		
IFA	PLW- 32,000 Adolescent- 76,000	PLW- 17,780 (56% of target) Adolescent- 91,855 (122% of target)		
VAS R1	152,000	143,600 (94% of target)		
Deworming	92,000	88,764 (96.5% of target)		

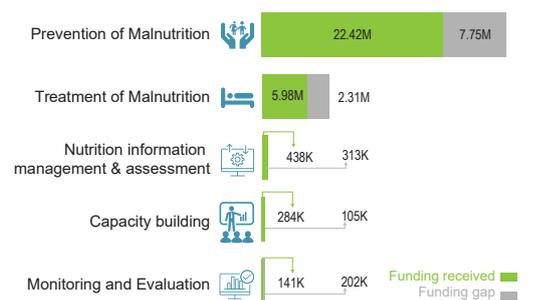
*This figure includes 74,705 beneficiaries of NSEP

FUNDING UPDATE 2023

Overall Funding Status



Funding Status by Activity



Note: Prevention and treatment of malnutrition is the most critical priority needs where **USD 10.1M are still needed**.

2023 JRP PIN and Target

465K People in need

314K Refugee
 151K Host Community

Children 0-59m
 Adolescent girls 10-19 yrs
 Pregnant & lactating women

169,285
 79,242

101,819
 55,243

42,710
 16,137

388K People targeted

282K Refugee
 106K Host Community

152,356
 55,470

91,637
 38,670

38,439
 11,296

MASS MUAC SCREENING, DEWORMING AND VITAMIN A CAMPAIGN

UNICEF with the support of Nutrition Sector Partners and UN agencies (UNHCR and WFP) conducted a MASS MUAC Screening and deworming campaign in April 2023 and a vitamin A Supplementation (VAS) campaign in June 2023 targeting children of 24-59 months and 6-59 months respectively in the Rohingya refugee/FDMN camps. Each of the campaign was coupled with mass MUAC screening for acute malnutrition, screening for disabilities, and IYCF messaging for pregnant women and caregivers of children aged 0-23 months.

Both campaigns were carried out by obtaining approvals from the National Nutrition Services (NNS), Civil Surgeon Office, and RRRCC office in Cox's Bazar. The meticulous actions taken at the preparatory stages, updating the database, a micro plan development, advocacy with different stakeholders including orientation meetings, played a key role in the smooth implementation and successful completion.

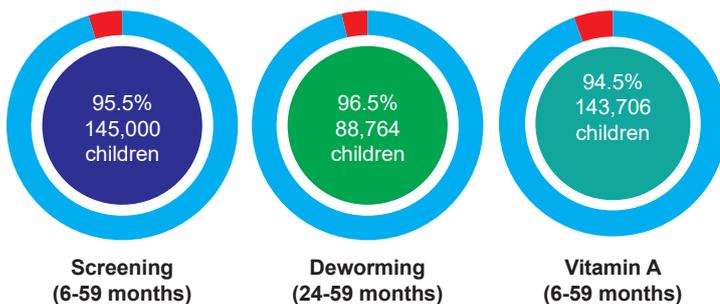
Nutrition Sector partners deployed more than 830 Rohingya community nutrition outreach volunteers to undertake activities during Monitoring was supported by Government officials, UNICEF, UNHCR, WFP and partner staff.

Deworming and Vitamin A supplementation campaign results: deworming a total of 88,764 children (401 disabilities) aged 24-59 months received deworming tablets, representing a coverage of



Photo: NS/2023

Figure 1: Mass MUAC Screening, Deworming and Vitamin A Campaign Coverage



96.5% against the target 92,000 whereas by the vitamin A supplementation, a total of 143,706 children (441 disabilities) aged 6-59 months received vitamin A capsules, representing 94.5% of the target 152,000. About 400 children with disabilities were identified in the campaigns and the sector is ensuring adequate support is provided to all.

Mass MUAC screening: Over 145,000 children of 6-59 months screened for acute malnutrition. 855 were admitted into OTP (186 SAM) and TSFP (669 MAM) during deworming campaign and 1,212 were admitted into OTP (231 SAM) and TSFP (981 MAM) during vitamin A campaign. Furthermore, almost 56,000 pregnant mothers and caregivers of children aged 0-23 months received age appropriate IYCF messaging during both campaigns.

TRAINING ON CRM SYSTEM AND OPERATIONALIZATION OF AAP FOR SECTOR PARTNERS

In collaboration with and support from UNICEF and Nutrition sector, Concern Worldwide (Concern) organized a two days training from 21-22 June 2023 at Cox's Bazar titled "CRM System and Operationalization of AAP for Nutrition sector partners". A total of 20 participants including staff from SHED, SARPV, ESDO, and GK participated in the training session. The training aimed at-



Photo: Concern/2023



Photo: Concern/2023

- Articulating accountability obligations & Improving understanding & practical implications of accountability
- Mainstreaming AAP into projects roles and conducting organizational AAP assessments and action planning
- Strengthening feedback mechanisms and reporting platforms and establishing reporting mechanisms among nutrition sector partners.

The training enhanced participants' knowledge and skills in implementing AAP effectively and utilizing the CRM system for accountability in humanitarian actions. The diverse range of training sessions and interactive methodologies ensured active engagement, effective learning, and knowledge sharing among the participants.

The key training outcomes were-

- Gained a comprehensive understanding of Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP).
- Gained a comprehensive understanding of Complaint, Feedback, and Response Mechanisms effectively.
- Learned about the intersection between AAP and Humanitarian Data Responsibility, gaining insights on how to responsibly collect, analyze, and report data in a comprehensive manner.

The event really contributed to harmonizing the process, tools, and techniques to increase efficiency in accountability.

CMAM TOT IN JUNE 2023, COX' BAZAR, BANGLADESH



Photo: NS/2023



Photo: NS/2023

A four-day CMAM ToT took place from June 11th to June 14th, 2023, in Cox's Bazar. The training was organized and facilitated by the Nutrition Technical Team of CARE Bangladesh, with guidance and support from the Nutrition Sector and UNICEF. A total of 18 participants (13 males and five females) from nine different organizations took part in the ToT.

The expected outcome of this training was to enhance the participants' skills and knowledge in developing training materials such as training packages, schedules, outlines, PowerPoint presentations, and evaluation methods, as well as effectively facilitating training programs based on the "Facilitator's Guideline for CMAM training" developed by the CARE Nutrition Team.

To ensure effective implementation of Community Based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM) program, the staff employed in this program receive regular / refresher training. To support the capacity- building process of Sector partners, this CMAM Training of Trainers (ToT) package was developed.

During the training, participants developed four training packages using the "Facilitator's Guideline for CMAM training" and presented them to the larger group. Feedback and suggestions were provided by other group members to ensure that these training packages are appropriate and applicable to Cox's Bazar context. Participants who successfully completed the CMAM ToT received certificates.

The main objective of this CMAM ToT was to create a group of skilled facilitators who will organize and lead training sessions for their staff and volunteers of CMAM services in the Cox's Bazar camp settlement.

CAPACITY BUILDING OF NUTRITION PARTNERS



Photo: UNHCR/2023

Infant and young child feeding (IYCF) training:

A comprehensive training on Infant and young child feeding (IYCF), Community management of at-risk mothers and Infants (CMAMI), and MHPSS was organized by SARPV from 6th to 8th June. A total number of 18 nutrition staff comprising of OTP nurses, IYCF counsellors, and site supervisors attended the training. The UNHCR nutrition team provided technical support in terms of reviewing the training materials, training sessions and facilitation.



Photo: UNHCR/2023

ToT on PSEA, CFRM, disability and gender:

SARPV and RI supported by UNHCR organized one day ToT on PSEA, CFRM, disability and gender for 34 nutrition staff. The objective of the training was to ensure that the staff was aware about protection and gender mainstreaming in nutrition programming. The trained staff will roll out training to the nutrition staff and community nutrition volunteers working in the camps.

Health and Nutrition partner handover:

As of end June 2023, GK took over camp 3 nutrition centers from relief international as part of the UNHCR health and nutrition integration and in line with the GOB localization strategy. RI held a lesson learnt workshop on 1st June 2023 with the participation of 42 UNHCR, WFP and Nutrition Sector partners and RRRC representative with the objective of sharing their experience in the one-year implementation and highlighting the best practices, achievements and challenges to be addressed by the incoming partner.



Photo: UNHCR/2023

THE CHILD'S CONDITION HAS IMPROVED DURING CMAMI

Md Roman is now three months of age. His family lives in Jadimura refugee camp-27. Although his mother was aware of childcare but sometimes, she did not maintain it properly because the camp settings is very congested, light and air cannot passed properly and there's scarcity of water.

While screening at household level, the CNVs found the child and referred to him to integrated nutrition facility of Eco Social Development Organization (ESDO) funded by UNICEF and WFP. The child was sick with fever, cough, and oral thrush. The frequency of breast feeding was not frequent because the mother was experiencing breast pain. The anthropometric measurement was MUAC 10 cm, weight 2.8 kg, WFL:>-1SD, WFA:<-1SD and length 45.4cm and found no edema.

The mother was counselled about management of breast condition, proper attachment, positioning, breast milk frequency, maternal diet related counselling on a weekly basis. She also learned about thrush management and remedy. The IYCF counsellor went to this household for home visits twice and counselled the whole family to take care of the child and the mother while our CNV visited every day.

After two weeks the child thrush started getting well, his weight and length was increasing. After two months of regular home visit and regular visit on nutrition center weekly, the child is now well and healthy. His physical condition has improved since earlier. He is becoming aware of his surroundings and trying to communicate with caregivers. His cognitive development is increasing. The whole family is happy and paying attention to the child and maintaining the hygiene condition of their home.



NUR KAYAS IS NOT MALNOURISHED ANYMORE



Nur Kayes was born into an extremely poor family of camp 9 in Ukhia, Cox's Bazar. She got a twin sister named Noor Safa. Her mother took services from the blanket supplementary feeding program of Camp 9 site 1 Integrated Nutrition Facility of SHED from her early pregnancy till the 6th month of lactation.

Nur was admitted to the outpatient therapeutic Program (OTP) on 30th March 2023 at the age of six months with MUAC of 11.2 cm and >-1SD based on Z-score with no medical complications and good appetite. The child had a history of diarrhea for three days and a cough for 6 days which might be related to the deterioration of her health condition. However, she attended all the visits and received systematic treatments. Her mother was counseled on malnutrition, hygiene, and care practices.

All the services from the nutrition facility helped her to overcome severe acute malnutrition within only 42 days and then she was discharged as cured from OTP treatment on 25th May on the 56th day of her admission. As per the protocol she was being provided with RUTF from the nutrition facility and regular home visits were conducted with the help of a community nutrition volunteer. Now, she is enrolled in Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme. Her family expressed their gratitude towards SHED for all the support provided in the nutrition program.

SAVING LIVES: A CASE STUDY OF RE-LACTATION AND HOLISTIC CARE FOR A PREMATURE BABY AND MOTHER IN A REFUGEE CAMP

Noor Kolima, a young refugee mother, sought emergency nutrition assistance for her premature one-month-old baby, Aklima, at the UNICEF-supported Balukhali Stabilization Center operated by ACF in March 2023. Aklima had a birth weight of 1.9 kg and was born through a complicated delivery in FH hospital. The weight on admission was 2.1 kg, length 46 cm, and had a weight for length Z score below -2 standard deviations, indicating severe undernutrition.

Experiencing poor nutrition and battling mental health issues, including depression and post-traumatic stress disorder following her divorce, Noor Kolima initially faced challenges in breastfeeding her child. Only seven days after giving birth, she started using breast milk substitutes (BMS). As a refugee, Noor Kolima had limited resources to seek help, but she was approached by a counselor from the ESDO INF at Camp 12. Upon evaluation, she was found significantly underweight for her age.

Given Aklima's age (less than six months) and Noor Kolima's health issues, including suspected TB, the doctor in charge at BMS SC discussed the possibility of relactation with Noor Kolima and presented treatment options. Although initially hesitant, Noor Kolima eventually agreed to resume exclusive breastfeeding (EBF) for her child with proper support and treatment. Through the implementation of the "Supplementary Suckling Technique (SST)" and administering diluted F100 formula every two hours, Aklima began gaining weight again after 17 days of intervention, relying solely on breast milk.

The medical team provided consistent encouragement and psychological support to Noor Kolim emphasizing the importance of breastfeeding, proper caregiving and hygiene practices, and age-appropriate structured play therapy. Additionally, she received extra nutritious food from the center as daily meal.

After 19 days of care and support at the stabilization center, Aklima was discharged, showing significant progress in her health. During her stay, Aklima gained 600 grams through the relactation process and demonstrated overall improvement in her health. Upon discharge, Noor Kolima was referred to the BRAC center for further investigation and follow-up of her suspected



TB case. The INC was informed to continue to follow up with her on her treatment and support her in practicing exclusive breastfeeding up to six months of age.

This case highlights the importance of providing education and support to mothers, especially those facing challenges such as poor nutrition and mental health issues, to encourage optimal breastfeeding practices and enhance the health outcomes of their children. By combining medical and psychosocial interventions, alongside proper nutrition and support, positive health outcomes can be achieved even in challenging circumstances, as witnessed in the journey of Noor Kolima and Aklima.

Abbreviation

BSFP	Blanket Supplementary Feeding Program
CRM	Complaints Response Mechanism
IFA	Iron and Folic Acid
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
JRP	Joint Response Plan
MAM	Moderate Acute Malnutrition
NS	Nutrition Sector
NSEP	Nutrition Sensitive E-Voucher Programme
PLW	Pregnant and Lactating Women
PSEA	Prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SC	Stabilization Center
TWG	Technical Working Group
U5	Children Under 5 years
VAS	Vitamin A Supplementation

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About Nutrition Sector

The Nutrition Sector was established in 2016 during the Rohingya refugee influx in Cox's Bazar, with the goal to provide coordinated nutrition interventions. To ensure effective delivery of nutrition services, the Sector collaborates with 13 partners, including the Government of Bangladesh. This collaboration allows the Sector to operate at the forefront of nutritional interventions. The Sector has a Strategic Advisory Group that advocates for strategic priorities and supports contingency plans. Currently, the Sector comprises three technical working groups, namely, the Infant and Young Child in Emergency Working Group, the Community Management of Acute Malnutrition Working Group, the Assessment and Information Management Working Group. These working groups guarantee compliance with national and international standards. This quarterly bulletin for the Nutrition Sector in Cox's Bazar in 2023 showcases the sector's achievements, updates, and emergency responses etc. The bulletin highlights the sector's success in strengthening humanitarian nutrition coordination, which has led to a predictable and accountable response. In addition, it captures the high-level brainstorming workshop that was held to enhance the sector's capabilities to address potential nutrition issues. Additionally, the bulletin features survey findings and success stories that illustrate the sector's outstanding work. The sector's commitment to cutting-edge humanitarian responses is evident in this bulletin, which doubles as a testament to its unwavering dedication. Consequently, the Sector has been able to provide effective nutritional interventions to those in need.