WASH Sector
Cox's Bazar

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Household Monsoon Season Follow-up Assessment (October 2019)

All Camps, Ukhiya & Teknaf Upazilas, Cox's Bazar District, Bangladesh

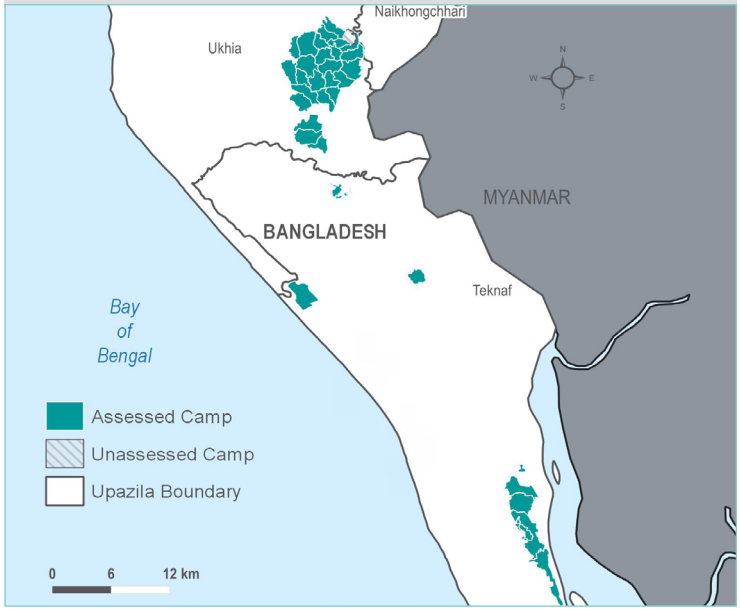
Background and Methodology

Since August 2017, an estimated 723,000 Rohingya refugees have arrived in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar District from Myanmar, bringing the total number residing in Bangladesh to approximately 912,000.[1] The unplanned and spontaneous nature of the post-August Rohingya refugee camps have combined with high population densities and challenging environmental conditions to produce a crisis with especially acute water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) needs.

In April 2018, REACH undertook a WASH household baseline assessment in support of the Cox's Bazar WASH Sector, followed by a second assessment between August and October 2018, and a third assessment between April and May 2019. In the monsoon season between September and October 2019, REACH undertook this follow-up assessment, taking the form of a household survey covering 33 Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG)-recognised camps, with Kutupalong RC the only exception due to ongoing security concerns. This assessment aims to identify WASH conditions and needs of Rohingya refugees residing in the camps at the beginning of the third year of the humanitarian response. This survey included a range of questions for each individual residing in each surveyed household, aimed at understanding what characterizes households with high levels of WASH needs. In addition, photos of all types of WASH facilities, water containers, waste disposal locations, and soap were included in the Kobo form, which enumerators showed to respondents when asking questions about their households' WASH practices. Surveyed households were identified using random sampling methodology based on OpenStreetMap shelter footprints, with findings generalisable with a 95% confidence level and a 5% margin of error overall. 50% of enumerators were female (12 out of 24), with all enumerators interviewing refugees of the same gender only. **This factsheet presents an analysis of data collected across all 33 camps, where a total of 421 households were surveyed.**

Enumerator training took place prior to the start of data collection. Support for questionnaire translation from English to Rohingya language and enumerator language training was provided by Translators Without Borders.

As part of this assessment, this all-camp summary factsheet has been produced displaying key findings from the survey, and the clean dataset is accessible here. All REACH products, including those related to the first two assessments, are available on the REACH Resource Centre. In addition, all datasets are available on Humanitarian Data Exchange, while all factsheets and maps are available on HumanitarianResponse. To provide feedback on REACH products, please contact: bangladesh@reach-initiative.org.

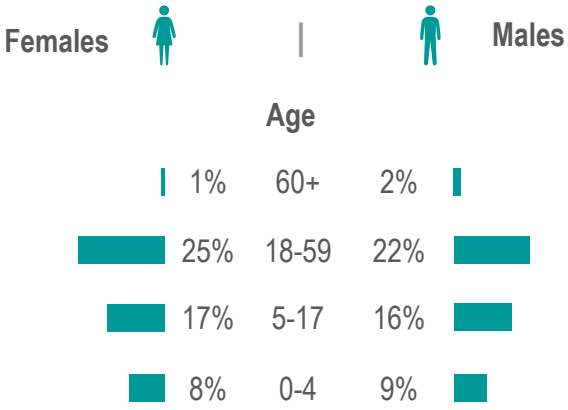


Demographics

Population in camps (individuals)[1]	905,754
Population in camps (families)[1]	208,867
Average age of respondent	36.5
Average household size	5

46% of respondents were female

Composition of surveyed households

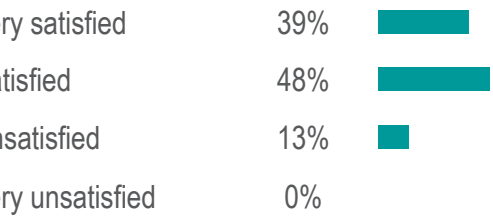


17% of heads of household were female

59% of households contained at least one child under 5 years old

8% of households contained at least one person with a disability[3]

% of households reporting different levels of satisfaction overall with WASH



[1] The number of refugees residing in camps are derived from the Inter-Sector Coordination Group Rohingya Refugee Crisis Situation Report (August 2019). See: https://bit.ly/33zVw8F
[2] The number of refugees residing in camps are derived from the UNHCR Family Counting Dataset (July 2019), with a 'household' considered a 'family' as defined in the dataset
[3] The Kobo tool used for this assessment included a loop with disability questions asked by proxy for each individual within the household based on the Washington Group Short Set questions. See: https://bit.ly/363Fvd7

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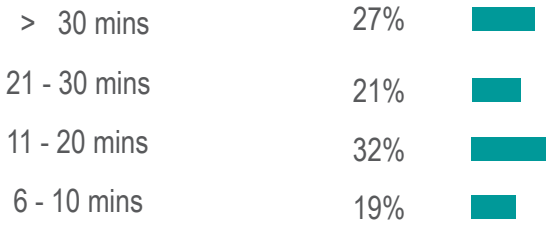
Water

Water access

% of households reporting accessing primary sources for drinking water and different sources for non-drinking water[4]

Primary water sources	Drinking water	Non-drinking water
✓ **Improved water sources**	**100%**	**21%**
Tubewells/boreholes/handpump	71%	17%
Tapstand/piped water	27%	3%
Protected dugwell	1%	0%
Protected spring	0%	0%
Water tank	1%	0%
Rainwater collection	0%	1%
Bottled water	0%	0%
x **Unimproved water sources**	**0%**	**2%**
Unprotected dugwell	0%	0%
Unprotected spring	0%	0%
Surface water	0%	2%

% of households reporting water collection duration times (combined travel and waiting time)



73% of households reported a total water collection time (combined travel and waiting) of less than 30 minutes[5]

48% of households reporting facing problems accessing or collecting water[6]

% of households reporting facing different problems accessing or collecting water[7,8]

1. Source is too far — **31%**
2. Long wait times at water source — **28%**
3. Path is too steep — **20%**

Water collection and storage

Average amount of water collected by households[9]

	Drinking water	Non-drinking water	All domestic water
Average litres collected per person, per day, per household	14L	15L	29L

79% of households reported collecting at least 15 litres of water for all domestic uses per person, per day[10]

98% of households reported collecting at least 3 litres of drinking water per person, per day[10]

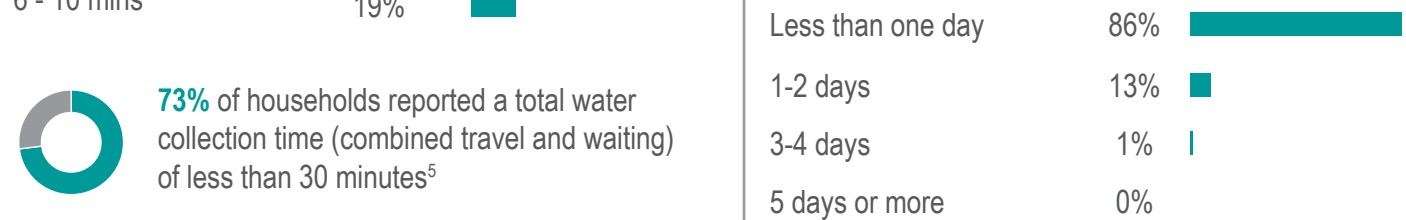
% of households possessing different types of water containers[7]

1. Aluminium pitcher — **97%**
2. Bucket — **83%**
3. Plastic jerrycan — **14%**

100% of households reported normally cleaning their containers after using them

83% of households possessed at least one container that was covered with a lid/plate[11]

% of households reporting water storage durations within the household



[4] Cox's Bazar WASH Sector considers 'improved' water sources as listed. 23% of households reported using a different water source for purposes such as cooking and cleaning, as listed
[5] SDG JMP standard for combined travel time to/waiting time at water source: 30 minutes or less. See: https://bit.ly/2ONrjQg
[6] A household is considered to be facing problems if at least one individual within the household was reported as facing problems
[7] Respondents could select multiple options
[8] Only households reporting facing any problems were asked this question. Data for the % of all surveyed households are shown. Three most common types of problems are shown.
[9] Respondents were asked to present all water containers used to collect water the day prior to the survey, then identified which containers were used for drinking water, non-drinking water, or both. Containers were measured to determine approximate volume
[10] SPHERE minimum standard for all domestic water: 15 litres/person/day and SPHERE minimum standard for drinking water: 3 litres/person/day See: https://bit.ly/2MJwFvk
[11] Enumerators observed whether containers were covered/uncovered

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Water treatment

12% of households reported using aquatabs in the seven days prior to data collection

% of households reporting reasons for not using aquatabs[12,13,14]

1	Water is already chlorinated/clean	61%
2	Aquatab supply ran out	23%
3	Never received them	16%

Sanitation

Defecation and latrines

% of individuals reported as defecating in different spaces, by age and gender[15]

Places of defecation	0-4		5-17		18-59		60+	
Communal/ public latrines	34%	41%	89%	87%	88%	90%	86%	82%
Single household latrine (self-made)	1%	1%	3%	4%	2%	2%	0%	0%
Single household latrine (non-self made)	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Shared household latrine (self-made)	1%	0%	3%	2%	3%	2%	7%	5%
Shared household latrine (non-self made)	2%	1%	5%	5%	7%	6%	7%	13%
Potty	8%	8%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Plastic bag	2%	2%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Bucket	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Cloth	4%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Open defecation	48%	44%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Other	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%

% of households reporting females and males facing problems accessing or using latrines[16]

Female **44%** | **41%** Male

% of households reporting females and males facing different types of problems accessing or using latrines[12,16,17]

Females		Males	
30%	Too many people using latrines	1 Too many people using latrines	27%
15%	No gender separation	2 Latrine is overflowing	12%
12%	Path is unsafe	3 Not clean	12%

% of individuals reported as feeling unsafe accessing or using latrines, by age and gender

Females		Males
7%	60+	23%
22%	18-59	16%
15%	5-17	16%

17% of respondents reported presence of soap the last time they were at the latrine

Bathing

% of individuals reported as bathing in different spaces, by age and gender[15]

Bathing spaces	0-4		5-17		18-59		60+	
Communal/ public facility	12%	13%	26%	19%	32%	23%	13%	18%
Tubewell platform	21%	25%	19%	57%	1%	49%	0%	45%
Makeshift space inside the shelter	62%	56%	52%	20%	64%	25%	87%	25%
Surface water	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%	5%
No designated facility	2%	4%	1%	2%	0%	1%	0%	7%
Other	3%	2%	2%	1%	3%	1%	0%	0%

[12] Respondents could select multiple options
[13] Three most common reasons for not using aquatabs or PUR sachets are shown
[14] Data for the % of households that do not use aquatabs or PUR sachets are shown
[15] All respondents were asked where each individual within the household goes to defecate and bathe
[16] All individuals reported as using any type of latrine were asked (by proxy) if they face problems in accessing or using them. Data for the % of households reporting at least one female member as well as one male member facing problems are shown
[17] Top three most common problems faced by females and males are shown

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% of households reporting females and males facing problems accessing or using bathing facilities[18]

Females 10% | 12% Males

12% of households reported the presence of too many people at bathing facilities[19]

% of individuals reported as feeling unsafe accessing or using bathing facilities, by age and gender[20]

Females		Males
0%	60+	9%
2%	18-59	4%
1%	5-17	2%

Community consultation - sanitation facilities

% of households reporting:

Having been asked for input on the design and construction of facilities		That their input was taken into account in the design and construction of facilities[21]
11%	Latrines	10%
10%	Bathing facilities	9%

Laundry

% of households reporting normally using different laundry facilities

Inside the shelter	48%
Tubewells	26%
Communal bathing facility	25%

Environmental sanitation

23% of households reported stagnant water gathering around the household following heavy rain

% of households reporting finding solid waste nearby the household (30 meters or less)

Always	10%
Often	5%
Sometimes	39%
Never	45%

% of households reporting different spaces used by households for disposing of domestic waste[23]

1	Undesignated open area	33%
2	Shared bin	21%
3	Household pit	13%

11% of households reported burning their waste[24]

34% of households reported separating domestic waste when disposing of it (i.e. plastics, organics, glass, ash)[25]

% of households reporting finding faeces nearby the household (30 meters or less)

Always	3%
Often	2%
Sometimes	33%
Never	62%

[18] All individuals reported as bathing at communal/public facilities or tubewells were asked (by proxy) if they face problems in accessing or using them. Data for the % of households reporting at least one female member as well as one male member facing problems are shown

[19] This was the most commonly reported problem reported by households, with no major differences between gender or age of respondent

[20] All individuals reported as bathing at communal/public facilities or tubewells were asked (by proxy) if they face problems in accessing or using them. Data for the % of individuals from each age group/gender are shown

[21] Only households reporting having been asked for input on the design or construction of facilities were asked this question. Data for the % of all surveyed households are shown

[23] Top three most common locations for disposing of domestic waste are shown

[24] Only households reporting using households bins, households pits, undesignated open areas, or burying rubbish were asked this question. Data for the % of all surveyed households are shown

[25] Only households reporting disposing of waste in household bins, household pits, shared bins, or designated open areas were asked this question. Data for the % of all surveyed households are shown

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% of households with children under five reporting employing different methods for disposing of children's faeces[26,27]

✓ Safe methods	
Collected and disposed in latrine	68%
Children always use sanitation facilities	8%
X Unsafe methods	
Collected and disposed inside the shelter	1%
Collected and disposed in an open area	24%
Disposed with other garbage	14%
Bury it	18%
Nothing is done with it (open defecation)	1%

Hygiene

Handwashing and soap

% of households reporting possession of soap for handwashing

Yes (enumerator did see soap): **88%** Yes (enumerator did not see soap): **3%** No: **9%**

100% of households that did not possess soap reported this was due to the household running out[28]

88% of respondents reported washing their hands with soap the day prior to the survey

74% of respondents were able to identify at least three critical handwashing times[29]

% of respondents reporting washing their hands with soap at different times in the day prior to the survey[27]

Before eating:	**75%**	Before cooking/ meal preparation:	**46%**
After defecation:	**82%**	Before breastfeeding:	**8%**
Before feeding children:	**19%**	After handling child faeces:	**18%**
When hands felt dirty:	**27%**	Before prayer:	**29%**
When hands looked dirty:	**33%**		

Menstrual hygiene management[30]

% of women reporting different methods of accessing menstrual hygiene materials

Provided in a distribution	88%
Purchased in the market	12%
Prefer not to say	0%

35% of women reported facing problems with accessing menstrual hygiene materials

25% of women reported that not enough menstrual hygiene materials are provided in distributions[31]

% of women reporting use of versus preference for different menstrual hygiene materials[27,32]

Being used			Preferred	
73%	Reusable period underwear	1	Reusable period underwear	**47%**
49%	Reusable pad	2	None	**38%**
35%	Piece of cloth	3	Reusable pad	**29%**

% of women reporting washing, drying and changing menstrual hygiene materials in different spaces

Spaces	Washing[34]	Drying[34]	Changing
Inside the household	39%	73%	45%
In the latrine	1%	0%	1%
In the bathing facility	60%	27%	54%

[26] Data for the % of households with children under 5 are shown. For Global WASH Cluster standardssafe disposal standards, see: https://bit.ly/2Zt56rR
[27] Respondents could select multiple options
[28] This was the most common reason for households not possessing soap. Data for the % of households that did not possess soap are shown
[29] Global WASH Cluster standard: six critical times when people should wash their hands are: (1) before eating, (2) before cooking, (3) after defecation, (4) before breastfeeding, (5) before feeding children, and (6) after handling a child's stool/hanging a child's nappy/cleaning a child's bottom. See: https://bit.ly/2Zt56rR
[30] All female respondents were interviewed by female enumerators. Only female respondents of menstrual age who provided consent participated in the menstrual hygiene section of the survey (142 out of the 192 surveyed females). As a result, all data in this section is representative at a 95% confidence level and an 8% margin of error.
[31] This was the most commonly reported problem with accessing materials. Data for the % of all females who participated in the menstrual hygiene section of the survey are shown
[32] The top three most common types of materials that are being used and preferred are shown
[34] Only females reporting using reusable pads, reusable period underwear, or cloth were asked where they wash and dry these materials. Data for the % of females using these types of materials are shown

% of women reporting different levels of satisfaction with access to menstrual hygiene materials

Very satisfied	44%
Satisfied	52%
Unsatisfied	4%
Very unsatisfied	0%

Hygiene training and demonstrations

39% of households reporting member(s) having participated in at least one hygiene training or demonstration within two weeks prior to the survey

% of households reporting different hygiene activities that households members[35,36]

Have participated in already			Would like to participate in	
30%	Handwashing with soap (how and when)	1	Handwashing with soap (how and when)	54%
22%	Food hygiene	2	Food hygiene	50%
21%	Child handwashing	3	Cleaning latrines	38%

[35] Respondents could select multiple options

[36] Three most common types of hygiene activities that households have participated in or would like to participate in are shown. Data for the % of all surveyed households are shown