

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner
Cox's Bazar.
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Sub: Rohingya refugee camp operations: Essential Programmes in light of COVID-19

In light of COVID-19, camp operations will need to be adjusted to minimize risk of exposure to refugees and staff, and in order to slow the spread of COVID-19 within the camps as much as possible.

Essential

The operation is to move immediately to essential services and assistance only, as of 23 March, in line with Government instruction to date. The goal is to reduce staff footprint of the operation, and to minimize risk within the camp setting, while ensuring that some assistance and services are scaled up in light of the needed COVID-19 response.

All possible preventive measures must be taken in the camps at all ongoing services and facilities (handwashing and disinfection, minimizing groups/attendance as far as possible and distancing as far as possible). Distributions must follow the guidance in place.

Facilities, services and activities to be temporarily closed

- Educational facilities (in line with RRRC policy all types of educational institutions, i.e. learning centres, madrassas, moktaps and home-based learning facilities);
- Friendly Spaces (Child and Adolescent, Elderly – *but to remain available for individual service provision*);
- Multi-purpose centres (to include the women led community centres);
- Training facilities.

Note that the Multi-purpose centres and safe space structures should remain available for:

- COVID-19 related awareness sessions as needed and appropriate;
- Individual service provision (such as counselling/case management): *Individual case management should maintain physical distance properly and gathering is strongly prohibited. The number of case workers should be reduced to 50% of usual number.*

Facilities and services to remain open and staffed


All possible preventive measures to be taken (handwashing and disinfection, minimizing groups/attendance as far as possible and social distancing as far as possible):

- All health and nutrition facilities and services;
- Information hubs (for awareness and feedback), hygiene promotion, health awareness;
- Individual protection services: counselling/case management (including GBV): *Individual case management should maintain physical distance properly and gathering is strongly prohibited. The number of case workers should be reduced to 50% of usual number;*
- Reception of new arrivals, family tracing;
- Food distribution;
- LPG distribution;
- Hygiene promotion and hygiene kit distribution;

- Water and sanitation activities (safe water supply, desludging, disinfection, maintenance of hand-washing points, FSM, latrines, SWM);
- Construction as necessary of Health facilities and additional WASH infrastructures to support improved hygiene;
- Site management: The number of Site Management staff should be reduced to 50% of usual number;
- Logistics services (Maduchara/Balukali/Teknaf hubs)
- Preparation of Rohingya volunteers by Health, WASH and Site Management sectors for essential services during critical phase;
- Provision of high-energy biscuits to children (WFP): Door to door modality should be followed.

The following services are suspended for next 15 days:

- Site development works;
- Tie-down kit distribution; Temporary Shelter Assistance and emergency shelter distribution;
- Joint registration and verification process should be suspended for next 15 days.
- All types of shops, tea stalls, street food shops excluding kitchen market (vegetables, fish, meat etc.) will be closed until further notice.


 24/3/20
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