



Terre des hommes
Helping children worldwide.

The Rohingya Crisis

Surviving in the refugee camps of Cox's Bazar



The largest refugee camp worldwide, Kutupalong, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh



Tdh programme to counter malnutrition



Tdh's child-friendly space

Context

Since 25th August 2017, targeted violence against the Rohingya minority in the Rakhine state of Myanmar has caused 730,000 people to flee their homes. They escaped over the border to Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh, where around 200,000 displaced Rohingya already lived. This refugee exodus has become one of the world's fastest growing migration crises. The tempo and the sheer size of this inflow has led to a critical humanitarian emergency.

Our projects

-  Mother and child health (in the first 1000 days)
-  Prevention and treatment of malnutrition
-  Access to potable water and basic hygiene and sanitation
-  Child protection and psychosocial support
-  Planning of emergency relief during the monsoon and cyclone season

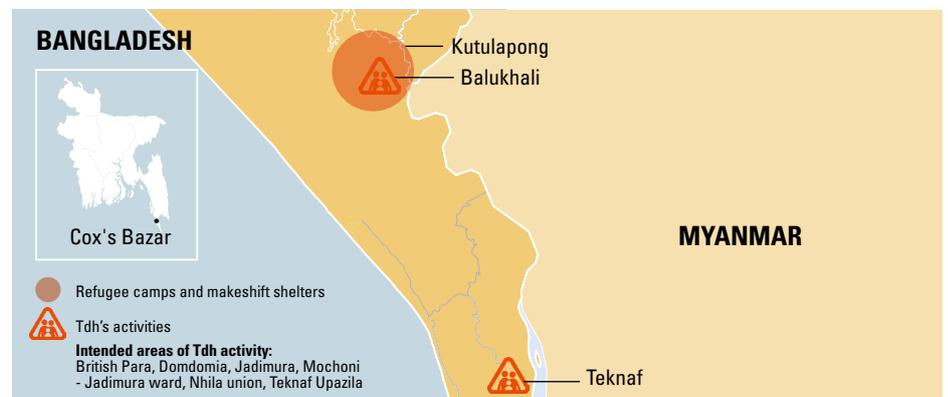
Tdh takes a community-oriented approach and supports both the Rohingya refugees and the Bangladeshi host communities, in order to ensure the use and suitability of the services supplied.

Many Rohingya refugees – especially women and children – reached the camp completely exhausted after a journey often lasting many days. These people face many challenges as access to resources and better life opportunities are limited. Children show signs of acute stress syndrome, triggered by traumatic experiences such as the destruction of their home, the death of loved ones as well as abuse. During the journey, many were separated from their parents, and have to work or look after younger siblings. They are exposed to the risks of neglect, abuse, forced marriage and psychosocial challenges.

Furthermore, Rohingya refugees living outside the camp can hardly satisfy their basic needs. The local infrastructure is inadequate even for the needs of the Bangladeshis themselves and services are therefore not meeting the needs of the newcomers in terms of quantity nor of quality. This leads to tension between the two groups. The life-saving humanitarian help must be continued, but it is necessary to improve its efficiency, quality and durability for both the Rohingya refugees and the host communities.

Our aim: saving lives and creating better living conditions

Tdh has been working in Bangladesh since 1974. Following the start of the massive influx in October 2017, Tdh made available its expertise in the provision of basic medical supply, nutrition and child protection programmes, as well as in ensuring minimal supplies of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) in this crisis context.



The strength of our operations lies in our multisectoral and holistic approach:

We respond to emergency needs and take lifesaving action. At the same time, through cooperation with local authorities, we contribute to the provision of better and enduring living conditions as well as to the extension of protective measures; all this with the goal of offering the Rohingya refugees and the host communities a better and more peaceful future.

The Rohingya crisis in numbers

- **905,000** Rohingya refugees live in the Region Cox's Bazar in southern Bangladesh.
- The living conditions of **330,000** Bangladeshis worsen continuously, and assistance is needed.
- **55%** of the refugees are children, and of those 162,900 are younger than five years.
- Child protection organisations estimate that **6100** children are unaccompanied or have been separated from their families.

Anticipated results: better protection through holistic, qualitative and adapted services

- Encourage healthy behaviour among Rohingya refugees affected by the crisis
- Improve nourishment of children under five
- Support the representation and inclusion of the Rohingya refugees by strengthening protection for both the Rohingya and Bangladeshi communities: Promotion of social cohesion
- Support endangered children and mothers through psychosocial care including group activities
- Improve the health of persons and protect the environment by the provision of continually operational WASH emergency services

« Since my husband died, I have felt helpless. What will happen to the children when I die? »

Kalabano (55) lives alone with her nephew (14) and her niece (8) and her life is difficult. The Majhee, a society leader, referred the two lonely children to Tdh. « The social worker helped us a lot. »

62,000

persons receive support in health and nutrition thanks to seven nutrition and two health centres

50,000

persons profit from improvements in water, hygiene and sanitation

15,000

children take part in psychosocial activities; of these 1300 are supported individually

Financial requirements

Aim: To cover the needs of: 89,000 Rohingya refugees in the Kutupalong camp, 6000 Bangladeshis in the surrounding area, 31,000 Rohingya and Bangladeshi children and their families in the region of Teknaf

Total budget: CHF 8 million

Deficit/Shortage: CHF 4 million

Partners

Swiss Solidarity, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Child Fund Korea, ECHO, IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, C&A Foundation, Secours Islamique Français, Mercy Corps, Tdh Germany and Tdh Netherlands

Terre des hommes is the leading Swiss organisation for children's aid. Through our health, protection and emergency relief programmes, we provide assistance to over three million children and their families in more than 45 countries each year.



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