



Rapid Assessment on Water Storage

Camps 1E, 2E and 11, Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh

November 2022



Table of Contents

Acronyms	3
Background	4
Objective	4
Methodology.....	4
Total sample distribution.....	5
Data collection	5
Study Areas	5
Results.....	6
Conclusion:.....	8
Annex – Assessment Questionnaire	9

Acronyms

ACF: Action contre la Faim (Action Against Hunger)

FDMNS: Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals

WASH: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Background

Access to safe drinking water is crucial for the reduction of public health risks among communities. In Cox's Bazaar, all camps are under water network coverage. However, gaps remain in terms of equitable access to safe water in the pocket area of Camps 1E, 2E and 11, which are not under the coverage of the water network while hand pumps are installed in the confined aquifer. As per 2023-2025 Operational Plan - Sector Narrative document¹ 12% of Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMS) reported not having enough water to meet their domestic needs. In addition, quality standards are not being met at household level. As per October 2022 WASH sector data, 88% of the households in Camp 1E, 81% in Camp 2E, and 91% in Camp 11 have access to water with 0 E.Coli/ 100 ml sample². Ideally, chlorinated water should be used within 24 hours to ensure its safe use. However, Médecins Sans Frontières's January - March 2022 study on WASH services in Cox's Bazaar shows that 73% of the households stored water in containers for more than one day³, highlighting the lack of awareness on the safe use of chlorinated water among the community. Considering the existing concerns related to water safety, Action Against Hunger took the initiative of conducting a rapid assessment on water storage in its WASH areas of intervention – **Camps 1E, 2E and 11, Ukhiya, Cox's Bazaar** in November 2022.

Objective

- To assess the current status of water management at household level.
- To address secondary contaminations of drinking water at household level.

Methodology

A purposive sampling method was adopted for the data collection. ACF has taken the initiative to collect data from 6 households in 10 blocks from 3 camps where ACF is implementing WASH activities. The data collection was conducted through door-to-door visits. However, the sample size is compressed which limited the representation of the overall situation of all camps.

The following elements were considered to select this data collection method:

- Homogenous participants' origins, cultural and religious sensitivities.
- Participants' similar access to WASH services.

¹ 2023-2025 Operational Plan - Sector Narrative

² Overview and WASH Monitoring Per Camp October 3, 2022. WASH Sector, Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh.

³ ASSESSMENT OF WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE SERVICES AMONG THE POPULATIONS OF 19 CAMPS IN COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH, 2022. Médecins Sans Frontières, Bangladesh.

Rapid Assessment on Water Storage

Cox's Bazaar, Camps 1E, 2E and 11
November 2022

- The households located in the camp areas under Ukhiya upazilla have a better access to safe water compared to the Teknaf area⁴.

Total sample distribution

Camp	Block	Sample size
Camp 1E	E, F and G	18
Camp 2E	E	6
Camp 11	A,B,C, D,E and F	36
Total		60

Data collection

A semi-structured questionnaire was developed and administered through the Kobo online data collection platform. 8 ACF hygiene promotion staffs were involved in door-to-door data collection. The data has been analyzed through Microsoft excel.

Study Areas

The study covered 2 areas:

1. Water storage duration
2. Water collection frequency

⁴ Respecting the SPHERE standards

Results

Demographical information

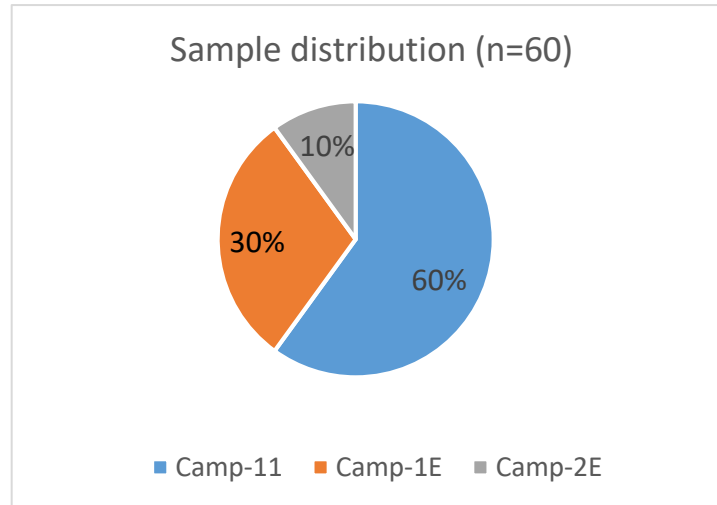


Figure 1. Demographical information

1. Water storage duration

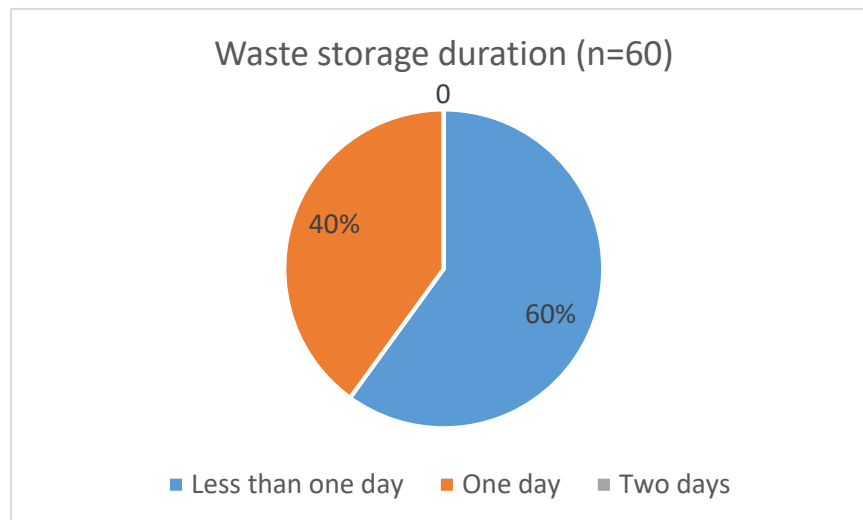


Figure 2. Water storage duration

Rapid Assessment on Water Storage

Cox's Bazaar, Camps 1E, 2E and 11

November 2022

Figure 2 shows that the majority (60%) of the participating households keep water in a water container for less than one day, compared to 70% in 2018⁵. The rest of the households (40%) keep the water for maximum one day. No household reported keeping for more than one day.

2. Frequency of the water collection

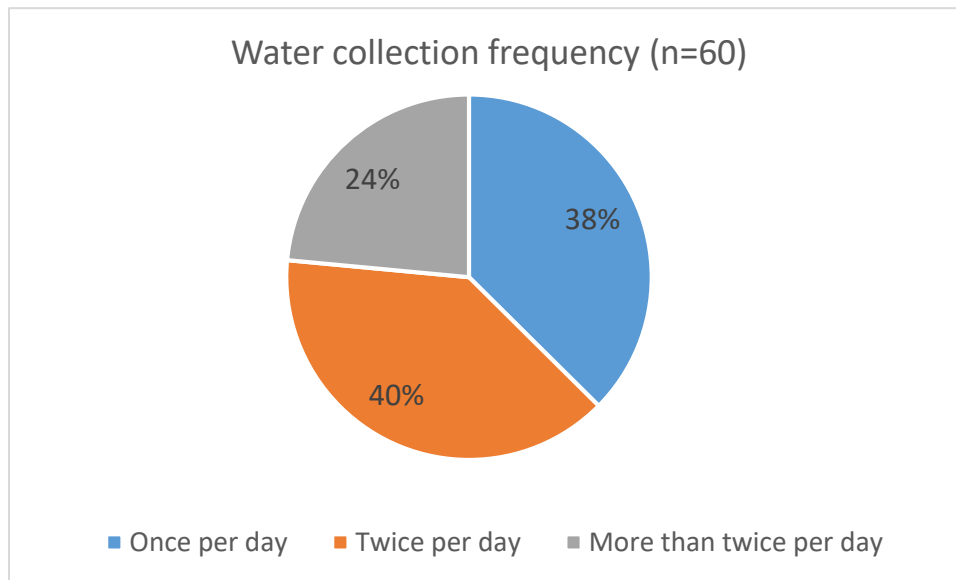


Figure 3. Frequency of the water collection

The majority (40%) of the households reported collecting water twice a day, and a significant number of households (38%) reported collecting water once a day. 24% reported collecting water more than twice a day based on needs. The reason for the current practices is because the households have access to drinking water through both water network and deep tube wells. If they failed to collect water from the network within the distribution time or finished the stored water, the households would collect it from nearby deep tube well within a short period of time. Some households comprising a large number of family members who would fail to collect the water needed daily from the network can also collect it from the deep tube well.

⁵ ASSESSMENT OF WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE SERVICES AMONG THE POPULATIONS OF 19 CAMPS IN COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH, 2022. Médecins Sans Frontières, Bangladesh.

Conclusion:

The results demonstrate that the practice of maintaining a water reserve or store at the household is still not alarming because most people collect water within a 24-hour period. However, more research could be done to yield more detailed findings.

People in the assessed camps collect the drinking water from deep tube wells, which are generally considered as safe sources, whereas sector encourages to use only chlorinated water for drinking purpose.

Making sure that the water network delivers in timely manner will assist to reduce the dependency on existing tube wells from where the beneficiaries collect the drinking water. In addition, awareness on the proper use of chlorinated water needs to continue, as well as the access to AquaTabs for the beneficiaries who use the tube well water for drinking purpose to minimize the potential risks of contamination.

Annex – Assessment Questionnaire

Water consumption and related information

Basic Information

- Date of Survey
- Name of Camp*
 - Camp-1E
 - Camp-2E
 - Camp-11
 - Name of Block and Sub-block
 - Name of the Respondent
 - Age of the Respondent*
 - Sex of the Respondent
 - MRC/ID No. of the Respondent

Q1. How many people live and slept in this house last night? - (do not count visitors)

Water Collection and Storage

Q1. What is your main source of drinking water? (Select only one answer)*

- Public tap / standpipe / water network
- Hand pumps / boreholes deep tube well
- Hand pumps / boreholes shallow tube well
- Other (specify)
- Don't know

Q-2. How many days do you keep drinking water in the jar/container/pitcher?

Rapid Assessment on Water Storage

Cox's Bazaar, Camps 1E, 2E and 11
November 2022

Q-2.1. If it is more than 24 hours/1day - why?

(খাবারের পানি যদি ২৪ঘন্টার বেশি/ একদিনের বেশি জমা রাখেন তার কারন কি?)

- 1. The quantity of water is not sufficient (পর্যাপ্ত পরিমান পানি পায়না তাই জমা রাখে)
- 2. Member of the household not available to support for water collection (বাসায় পানি আনার লোকের অভাব)
- 3. Long distance to the water collection point (পানি সংগ্রহের জায়গা অনেক দূরে)
- 4. Possession of a large water container and storage to avoid water scarcity (বড় ড্রাম আছে তাই জমা রাখে)
- 5. Not always possible to maintain the water distribution time (পানি দেওয়ার সময়টা সব সময় মেনে চলা যায়না)
- 6. Long queue at distribution (অনেক লম্বা লাইন থাকে)
- 7. Other (অন্যান্য)

Q-3. How many times in a day do you collect water?*

- Once a day (দিনে একবার)
- Twice a day (দিনে দুই বার)
- More than twice a day (দিনে দুইবারের বেশি)
- Every alternative day (এক দিন পর পর)
- Every two days (দুই দিন পর পর) / three times in a week (সাপ্তাহে তিনবার)
- Other

Q-3.1. If it is more than 24 hours/1day - why?

- 1. The quantity of water is not sufficient (পর্যাপ্ত পরিমান পানি পায়না তাই জমা রাখে)

Rapid Assessment on Water Storage

Cox's Bazaar, Camps 1E, 2E and 11

November 2022

- 2. Member of the household not available to support for water collection (বাসায় পানি আনার লোকের অভাব)
- 3. Long distance to the water collection point (পানি সংগ্রহের জায়গা অনেক দূরে)
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- 6. Long queue at distribution (অনেক লম্বা লাইন থাকে)
- 7. Other (অন্যান্য)