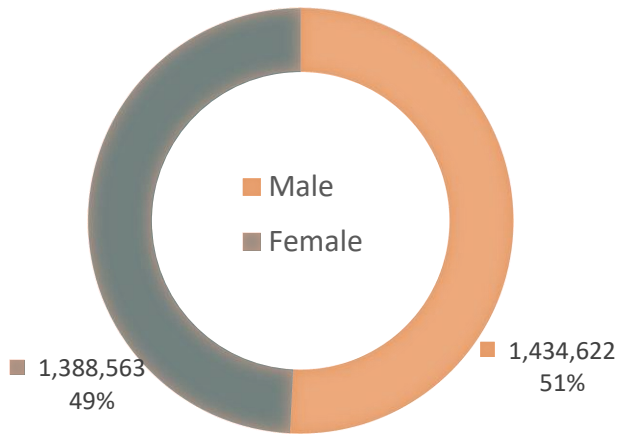


Jan. 2025 Development Factsheet Cox's Bazar

District Profile, Indicators, Priorities and Challenges

DISTRICT POPULATION 2,823,268
587,114 households, 18% female-headed



Urban: 42.4%
Rural: 57.6%

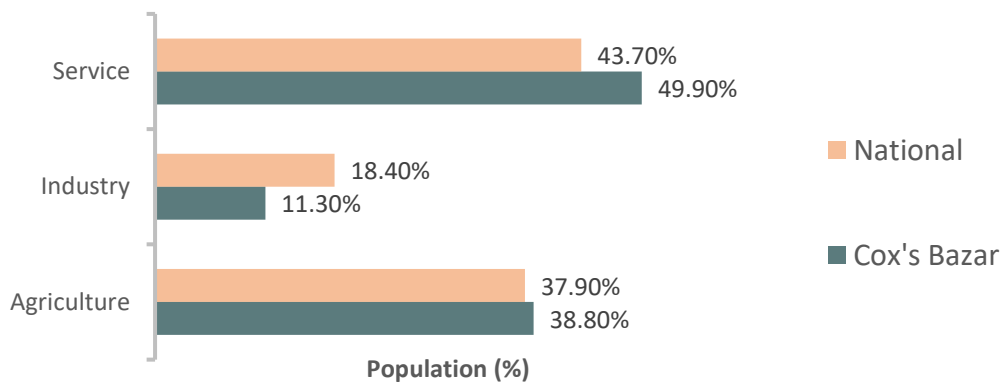


Children: 34.4%
Adults: 59.3%
Elderly: 3.4%

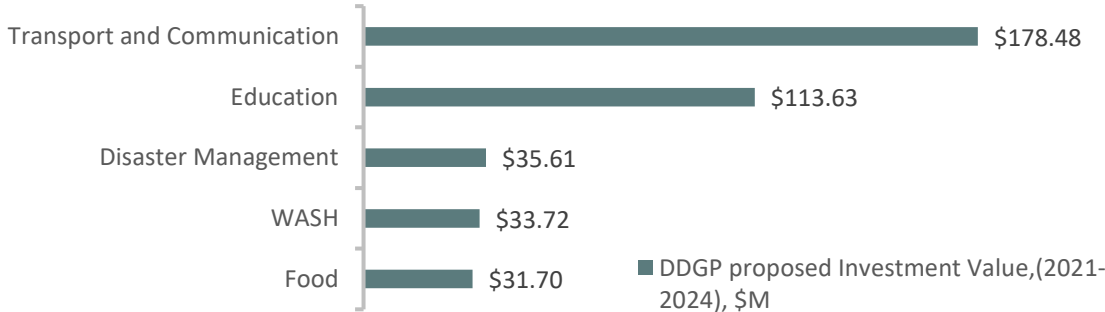


Hosted Rohingya Population: 970,294

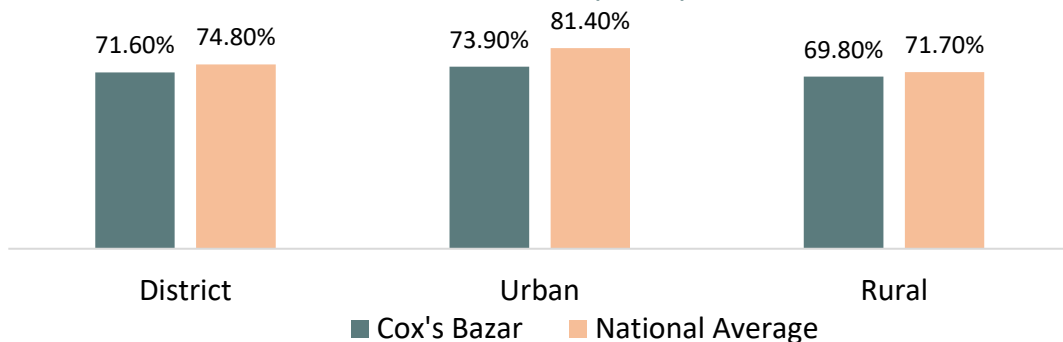
PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION



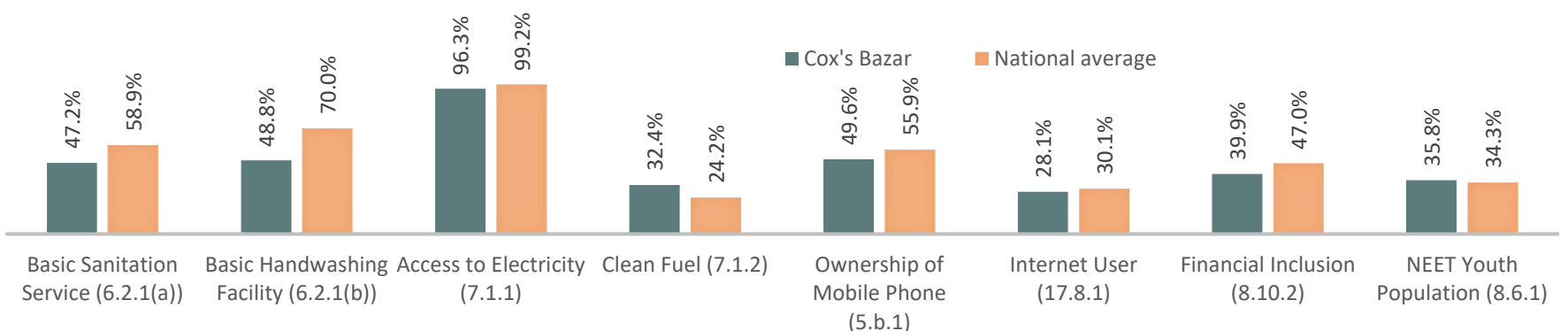
SECTORAL PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED BY GOB



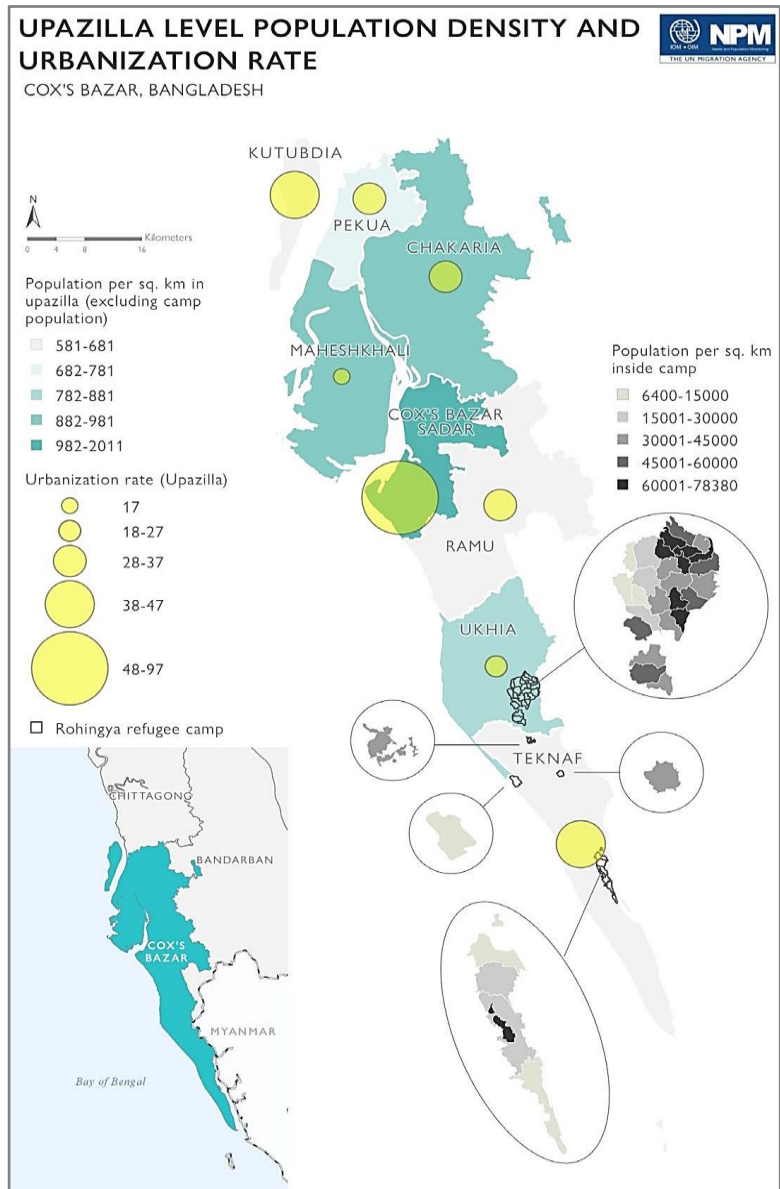
LITERACY RATE (7+ AGE)



SELECTED SDG INDICATORS, COX'S BAZAR



COX'S BAZAR DISTRICT PROFILE	
Area (Sq. Km)	2491.81
Upazilas	9
Population Total	2,823,268
Population (Urban)	1,231,639
Population (Rural)	1,591,629
Households	587,114
Population Growth Rate (Annual)	1.86%
Population Density (Person per Sq. Km)	1,133
Sex Ratio	104%
Total Employed Population	804,779
Literacy Rate %	71.58%
Number of PWD	40,279

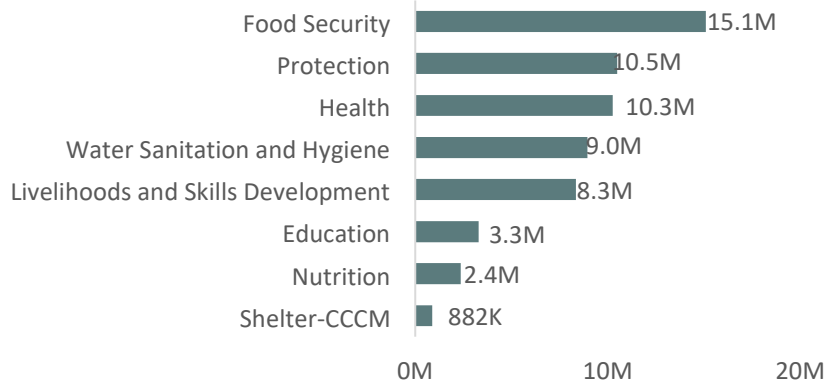


Financial support for Cox's Bazar

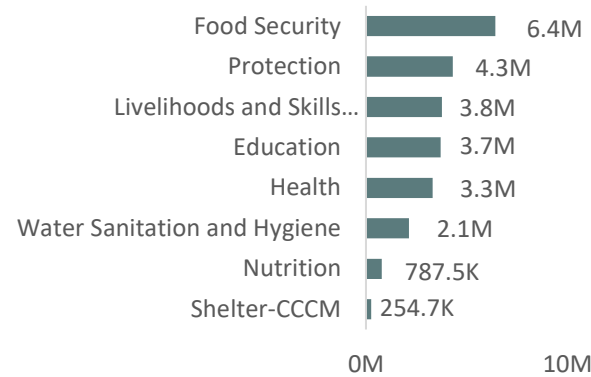
Joint Response Plan:

2023: \$60M funded for impacted Bangladeshi host community, reaching over **321,000** people.

2024: \$42M funded for impacted Bangladeshi host community (as of June 2024)



Sector-wise Host Community funding, JRP 2023



Sector-wise Host Community funding, JRP June, 2024

International Financial Institutions

World Bank:

IDA 18 Regional Sub-Window for Refugees and Host Communities (2018-25): **\$590M** total for Rohingya and Host Community

Asian Development Bank:

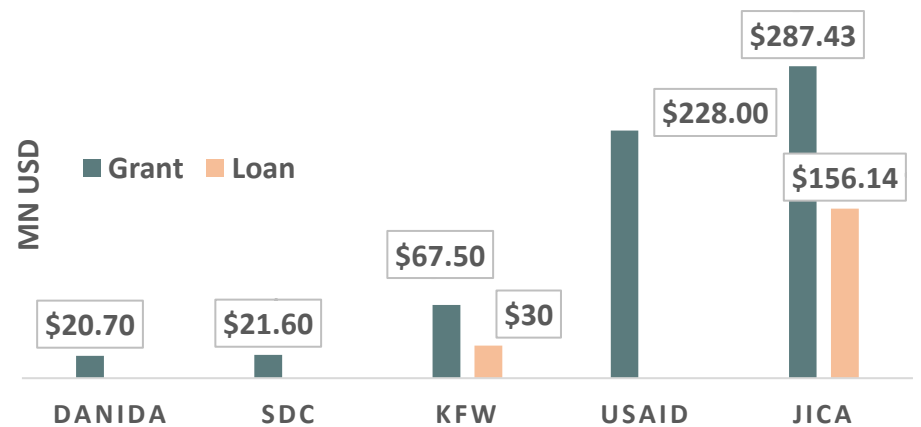
Emergency Assistance Project

(2018-24): **\$172M** total for Rohingya and Host Community

Contribution of Rohingya Response to Local Economy

- 2021 data indicates 12,425 Bangladeshi staff employed by the Rohingya Refugee Response, with **monthly disbursement of \$8.4 million in gross salaries** for Bangladeshi staff (ISCG, 2021).
- 8,922 host community volunteers currently engaged in the response. (ISCG, Nov 2024)
- Host community workers in areas of high exposure to the camps are 66% more likely to have a second job (World Bank, 2019).
- Aggregate increase in economic activity near camps, as proxied by changes in nighttime light intensity, as well as improved access to health services and higher likelihood of NGO employment (World Bank, 2024).
- **\$20.9 million worth of local procurement on a monthly basis** by the Rohingya Response, including food, NFIs, shelter materials, transport and other services (ISCG, 2021).

Development Partners' Funding in Cox's Bazar since 2017



Partner Response in Host Communities

- ISCG, UNDP and UNO Offices have jointly conducted a 'Host Community Activity Mapping' exercise, to build a picture of 'who' is working 'where' and doing 'what' for the timeline of 2018- 2024, to better target people in need of assistance and identify gaps.
- The mapping exercise covered **130 partners'** activities across all upazilas of Cox's Bazar, indicating an estimated overall funding of **at least USD 1bn** since 2018 for **731 completed and ongoing projects** implemented by NGOs UN agencies and Red Cross/Red Crescent outside of the Rohingya Camps

Upcoming Support for Cox's Bazar

International Financial Institutions*

World Bank:

IDA 20 Window for Host Communities & Refugees (2024-28): **\$407.5M** loan for host community (out of total \$700M)

Asian Development Bank:

Integrated Services and Livelihoods for Displaced Rohingya People and Host Communities Improvement Project (2025-2027) - TBC: **\$60M** loan for host community (out of total \$120M), with possibility of additional financing.

* Figures also include some funding for Bhasan Char and Noakhali district.

Joint Response Plan:

2025: \$85.1M appealed for impacted Bangladeshi host community, targeting over **392,000** people.

NGOs and UN Agencies in Cox's Bazar

ACLAB, AAB, AGAPE, ANANDO, Arannayk Foundation, ASD, ASK, AWARD, BASTOB, BDRCS, BGS, BITA, BJMKS, BNPS, BRAC, BTS, CARE, CDD, CNRS, CWW, Coast Trust, CODEC, DAM, DSK, ESDO, FAO, FIVDB, Food For Hungry, GK, GNB, GUK, HEKSEPER, HMBD FOUNDATION, Hope Foundation, HYSAWA, IFRC, ILO, IOM, Ipas, IRW, ISDE, IUCN, JCF, JNUS, MedGlobal, Mukti Cox's Bazar, Muslim Hands, NGO Forum, NRC, NSS, OPCA, Oxfam, PARC, PHALS, Plan, Practical Action, RISDA, POPI, PHD, PROTTYASHI, Pulse BD, RDRS, RIC, RIMES, RTMI, RWWWS, SCI, SHED, Shimantik, SKUS, SONNE Int., Songshoptaque, Solider Suisse, Shushilan, TDH, UNDP, UNESCO, UNHCR, United Purpose, UN Women, WFP, WV, YPSA.

Key Development Indicators, Cox's Bazar:



Education:

- Primary net enrolment: 79% (national average: 98%).
- Dropout rates: Boys 39.6%, Girls 22.8% (highest nationally).
- Teacher-student ratio: 50:1 (10.8% schools meet national standard).
- Upper secondary completion rate of 17.3% compared to the national average of 29.4% (BBS MICS, 2019)



Telecommunication:

- Internet usage at 37%, in line with the national average
- Mobile phone usage at 67% and mobile banking at 34%
- Lower usage for females across indicators.



Shelter:

- Use of basic shelter materials higher than national average
- Flooring with soil/sand/mud: 55% (48% nationally).
- Walls with soil/mud: 26% (7% nationally).
- Roofing with wood/bamboo/straw: 15% (1% nationally).



Poverty:

- Poverty rate was at 32.7% in 2017 prior to the large Rohingya influx (BBS).
- 2016 World Bank data also indicates particularly high extreme poverty headcount ratios in Maheshkali (21.3%), Ukhiya (20.1%) and Teknaf (19.7%).
- Data is limited on the changes to the poverty rate since 2017, likely impacted by both challenges related to labor market pressures and stresses on land and natural resources; as well as potentials related to camp markets, increased humanitarian assistance.



Disaster Risk:

- Key economic livelihoods susceptible to storms and flooding, including agriculture, fishing, shrimp farming, and salt.
- 41 of 71 unions in Cox's Bazar (58%) are prone to landslides.
- 67 of 71 unions in Cox's Bazar (94%) are prone to flash flooding.

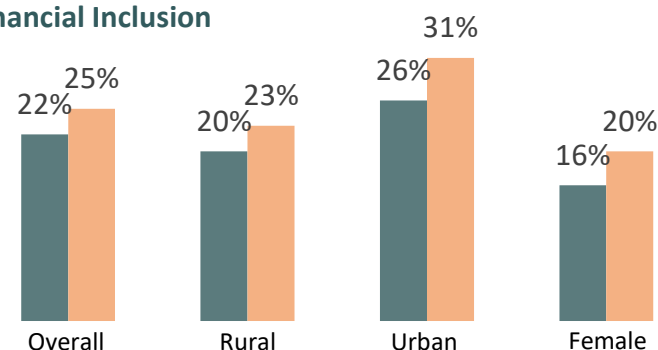


Health:

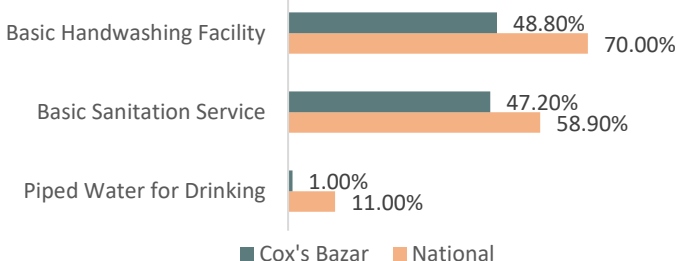
- Institutional delivery rate at 29% and skilled attendant delivery at 34%, compared to 53% and 59% nationally (BBS MICS, 2019).
- Postnatal health checks for newborns at 39% and for mothers at 37%, compared to 67% and 65% nationally (BBS MICS, 2019).



Financial Inclusion



WASH



Food Security:

- 28% of the district's population is prone to food insecurity.
- Among host communities in Ukhiya and Teknaf, 30% are highly and 38% are moderately vulnerable, with food the highest self-reported need at 82% (WFP, 2024).



Salt Industry:

- Engages around 30,000 salt farmers, contributing 95% of salt production nationally.



Unemployment:

- Unemployment as a share of the labor force stood at 31% in 2021 (World Bank, 2022).

Upazila Profiles

Upazila	Population	Urbanization	Literacy Rate	HH Poverty Ratio	HH Ex. Poverty Ratio	Key/specific challenges	Investment priorities (DDGP)		
							P1	P2	P3
Cox's Bazar Sadar	417,354	96.90%	77.59%	26.10%	12.20%	1. Unplanned growth due to rapid urbanization 2. Safety and security issues increased 3. Natural hazard and disaster risk near coastline	Transport & Communication	WASH	Education
Ramu	344,541	31.40%	72.06%	34.30%	17.80%	1. Loss of income due to increased competition in informal labour 2. Increased open defecation rate as well as health risk, access to healthcare. 3. Poor quality education and inadequate teaching facilities	Education	Transport & Communication	WASH
Ukhiya	263,143	26.20%	69.95%	37.80%	20.10%	1. Low access to sanitation, disease prevalence, and inadequate healthcare 2. Insufficient infrastructures and poor living conditions 3. Deforestation and large-scale environmental damage	Education	Transport & Communication	Land
Teknaf	333,840	38.70%	64.35%	38.10%	19.70%	1. Water Scarcity, lack of land 2. Food insecurity and dependency on food imports 3. Limited access to WASH facilities 4. Teacher retention and access to quality education 5. Very limited service provision	Disaster Management	Social Safety Net	Food
Chakaria	571,274	30.50%	76.38%	28.40%	13.20%	1. Low access to electricity 2. Very high mortality rate in children under 5 (51.2%) 3. Limited WASH and healthcare 4. River Erosion and environmental pollution	Transport & Communication	Disaster Management	Food
Pekua	214,349	33.90%	70.62%	30.90%	14.30%	1. Low access to electricity 2. Very low access to safe sanitation and prevalence of open defecation 3. Reliance on daily waged labor.	Transport & Communication	Education	WASH
Eidgaon	149,565	31.40%	76.09%			Data not available			
Moheshkhali	385,500	16.90%	63.85%	40.20%	21.30%	1. Lack of sustainable livelihoods due to vulnerability to extreme weather events 2. Very low sanitation access and high prevalence of open defecation 3. Lack of adequate infrastructure, education and electricity coverage 4. High rate of child marriage, negative coping mechanisms	Transport & Communication	WASH	Social Safety Net
Kutubdia	143,619	40.50%	70.37%	31%	13.70%	1. Large scale disaster risk, seabed erosion, sea level rise. 2. High rate of child marriage, negative coping mechanisms 3. Bad weather and sea conditions restrict access to/from the island 4. Absence of essential health services	Transport & Communication	Disaster Management	Social Safety Net

Key Economic Sectors, Cox's Bazar

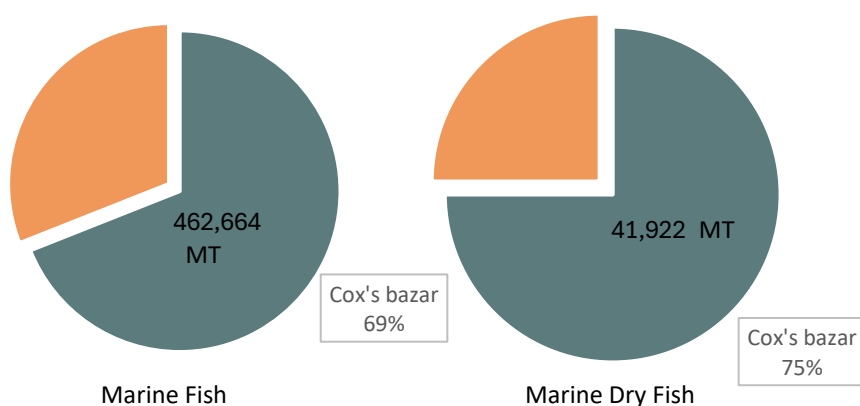
Agriculture

- 37.90% of the working population in the district is engaged in the sector, with a total of 237,500 farmer households.
- The total cultivable land in Cox's Bazar is 69,398 ha, down from 89,398 ha in 2017.
- Around 29,000 ha are prone to periodic flooding.
- Limited access to cultivable land reduces food security.
- Coastal areas of the district are facing salinity problems, particularly acute in Kutubdia, Moheshkhali and Sadar. In Kutubdia, Teknaf and parts of Ukhia, groundwater levels are depleted.

Key priorities:



PRODUCTION IN 2020 AS A PROPORTION OF NATIONAL PRODUCTION



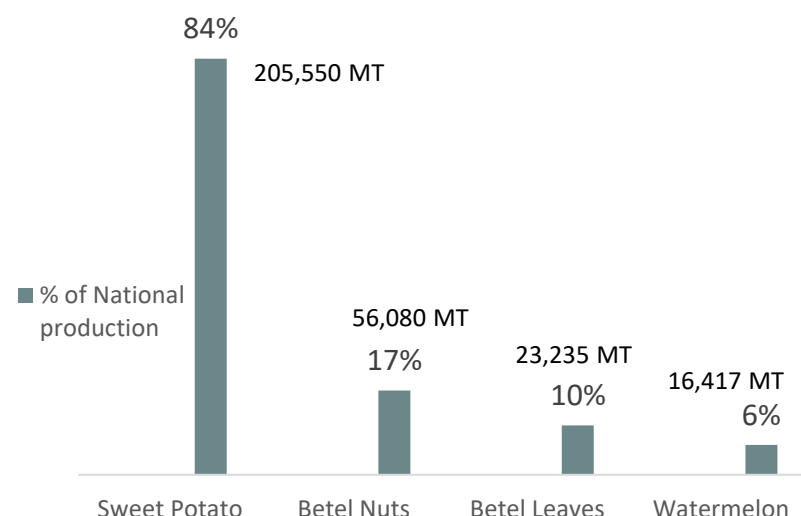
Tourism

- Over 4 million tourists visit Cox's Bazar per year (60% of domestic tourism).
- More than 1,000 hotels and 1,000 restaurants in Cox's Bazar.
- Tourism directly employs 70,000-100,000 people in Cox's Bazar. However, most skilled workers are from outside the district.
- Key attractions include: 120km beach; natural, cultural, historical and religious sites; St. Martin's Island.

Key priorities



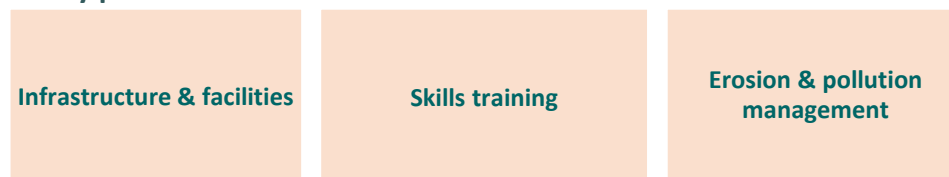
KEY CROPS BY PROPORTION OF NATIONAL PRODUCTION



Fisheries

- Fishing is one of the major sources of livelihoods in Cox's Bazar, with 48,393 Registered fishermen.
- Annual production is 487,800 MT with a surplus of 427,800 MT after local consumption.
- Cox's Bazar contributes 69% of national catch for sea fish, and 75% of production of marine dried fish.
- There is a major landing station in Cox's Bazar Sadar and minor stations in the rest of the district.

Key priorities



Major Ongoing Development Projects in Cox's Bazar

Project Name	Funding/Donor
Chattogram-Cox's Bazar Highway Upgrade	GoB
Chattogram-Cox's Bazar Rail Link	GoB
Sustainable Housing Pilot Project (various locations)	GoB
Ashrayan Project – housing scheme, Kuruskul, CxB Sadar	GoB
Naf Tourism Park, Teknaf	GoB
Matarbari Deep Sea Port, Moheshkhali	Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
Fisheries Landing Station, CxB Sadar	Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
Sabrang Tourism Park, Teknaf	Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA)
Kutubdia Power Plant (Integrated Power Development Project)	China National Machinery Import & Export Corporation (CMC)
Cox's Bazar Water Supply and Sanitation Project, CxB Sadar	Asian Development Bank (ADB) and GoB
Cox's Bazar - Teknaf Economic Zone	GoB and China