



BULLETIN

NUTRITION SECTOR COX'S BAZAR, BANGLADESH

DECEMBER 2025

ISSUE 12

CONTENT #PAGE

Programme and funding update	1
Sector highlights (Oct-Dec)	1
Vitamin A campaign	2
GNC Blended Training	3
CCPM Validation Workshop	4
Partners success stories	4-5

HIGHLIGHTS

•Service Rationalization: Due to funding constraints, the Nutrition Sector reduced the number of Integrated Nutrition Facilities (INFs) from 45 to 41. From January 2026, nutrition services will be delivered through 41 INFs, supported by Concern Worldwide, UNICEF, and WFP.

•In line with UNRR's directive to integrate health and nutrition services, both the Health and Nutrition Sectors have jointly developed a strategy and operational plan to guide field-level implementation. Despite this integration, each sector will continue to uphold its own accountability framework with their respective appealing partners. After a series of in-depth discussions on existing challenges and the way forward, both sectors agreed to advance the action points outlined during the meeting to strengthen service integration at Primary Health Care Centers (PHCCs) and at the community/outreach level, effective 01 April 2025.

•Vitamin A & Mass MUAC Campaign (7-11 December): Conducted across 33 camps, screening over 160,900 children aged 6-59 months (49% girls) for malnutrition. Over 160,900 children received Vitamin A capsules, achieving 101 per cent of the target. Additionally, over 59,700 pregnant women and caregivers received tailored IYCF counselling, including 12,838 newly arrived children reached with Vitamin A supplementation.

•Strengthening Nutrition Sector Coordination Capacity: The Nutrition Sector in Cox's Bazar successfully completed a blended training on Nutrition Sector Coordination, with 20 of 22 participants from NGOs and UN agencies achieving certification—the highest completion rate globally. Supported by the Global Nutrition Cluster, the training combined online modules and in-person sessions, strengthening leadership, coordination, and response planning skills, and reinforcing a more coordinated and accountable nutrition response through localization and peer learning.

•2025 Cluster/Sector Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM): The Nutrition Sector in Cox's Bazar successfully completed the 2025 CCPM exercise, with the survey conducted from 16-30 November 2025. All 19 performance indicators (100 per cent) were rated "Good", reflecting strong and effective coordination. A CCPM validation workshop was held on 4 December 2025 to contextualize findings, validate results, and identify priority actions for continued improvement, based on the preliminary report shared by the Global Nutrition Cluster.

REFUGEE

2025 TARGET^(REVISED)

PROGRESS (JAN-DEC)



SAM

14,800

12,883 (87% of target)

Cure rate 92.28%



MAM

U5*-62,700
PBW-4,700

U5- 53,940 (86% of target)

Cure rate 99.26%

PBW- 4,368 (93% of target)



IYCF

131,000

111,419 (85% of target)



BSFP*

U2*-65,400
PBW-38,800

U2-65,396 (100% of target)

PBW-38,362 (99% of target)



NSEP

O2*- 97,100

O2-95,966 (99% of target)



IFA

PBW- 35,800
Adolescent- 104,100

PBW-41,584 (116% of target)

Adolescent-93,876 (90% of target)



GMP

178,400

170,364 (95% of target)



VAS

159,800

161,514 (R1-max) (101% of target)



Deworming

113,900

107,897 (95% of target)

HOST COMMUNITY

2025 TARGET

PROGRESS (JAN-DEC)



MAM

U5*-5,400
PBW-26,00

U5*- 7,112 (132% of target)

Cure rate 99.26%

PBW- 2,654 (102% of target)



IYCF

32,100

34,738 (108% of target)



IFA

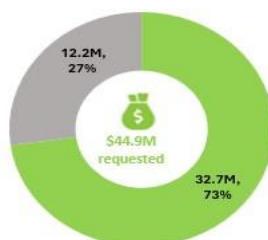
PBW- 14,500
Adolescent- 37,800

PBW- 16,468 (114% of target)

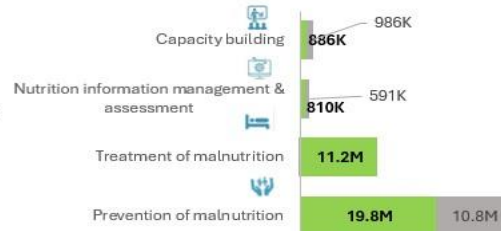
Adolescent- 22,213 (59% of target)

FUNDING UPDATE AS OF DECEMBER 2025

OVERALL FUNDING STATUS



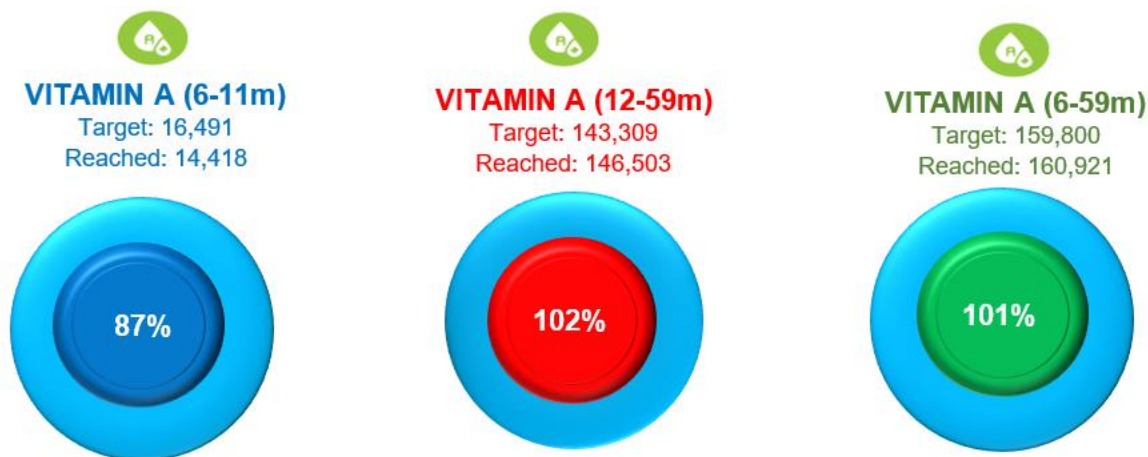
FUNDING STATUS BY ACTIVITY



Note: As of January 2026, USD 16.4M is secured (carry over) for 2026 (52% of total required USD 31.4M)

Vitamin A Supplementation & Mass MUAC Screening Campaign

The UNICEF, in collaboration with the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) and the Nutrition Sector (NS) partners conducted a vitamin campaign, targeting the children aged 6-59 months in 33 camps on 7-11 December 2025. The integrated campaign also included vitamin A supplementation (VAS), mass MUAC screening for the early detection of acute malnutrition among the children aged 6–59 months, and infant and young child feeding (IYCF) messaging for the pregnant women and caregivers of the children aged 0–23 months. A total of 160,921 children aged 6–59 months (49 per cent of whom were girls) received vitamin A capsules, achieving 101 per cent of the target (159,800 children). Over 160,900 children aged 6–59 months were screened for malnutrition using MUAC, covering 101 per cent of the target (159,800 children). During the campaign, a total of **1,750** children with acute malnutrition were newly admitted: (i) **369** children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were newly admitted to the Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP). Among them, 261 children were enrolled from either the Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme (BSFP) or the Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP), while 108 children (4.0 per cent of the total 2,786 identified with SAM) remained out of the programme coverage; (ii) **1,381** children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) were newly admitted to the Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP). Among these, 1,214 children were also enrolled from the BSFP, while 167 children (2.0 per cent of the total 8,716 identified with MAM) remained out of the programme coverage).



Additionally, 59,760 pregnant women and caregivers of young children received tailored IYCF counselling and messages.

The campaign also successfully reached the newly arrived refugee children. A total of 12,838 children (6,579 boys and 6,259 girls) were screened as new arrivals and received vitamin A capsules (Blue: 779, Red: 12,059), with 12,817 children confirmed through biometric registration.

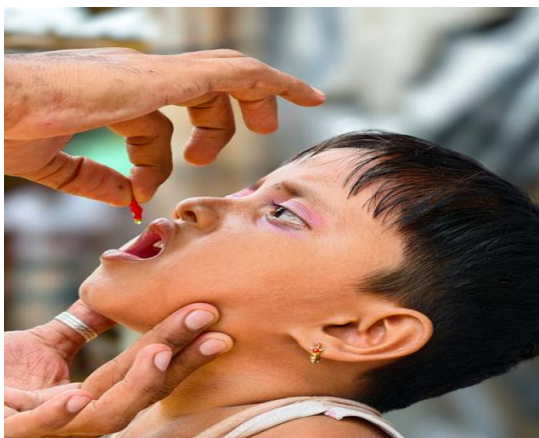


Photo 1: Camp 11, Cox's Bazar/SHED/December 2025



Photo 2: Camp 27, Cox's Bazar/Friendship/December 2025

Strengthening Coordination Capacity: Successful Completion of Blended Training on Nutrition Sector Coordination in Cox's Bazar

The Nutrition Sector in Cox's Bazar successfully completed a blended training on **Nutrition Cluster/Sector Coordination**, aimed at strengthening coordination capacity among the partners. Out of the 22 registered participants from the NGOs and UN agencies, 20 completed all requirements and received certification. This initiative, facilitated by the Nutrition Sector team, exemplified localisation by adapting global guidance to local realities through capacity transfer and peer learning. Cox's Bazar was recognised for achieving the highest completion rate globally for this training, building on its previous success in 2024 with the support of the Global Nutrition Cluster (GNC).

The training adopted a blended approach, combining self-paced online modules with interactive face-to-face sessions. Key topics included nutrition needs assessment, cluster leadership, humanitarian funding processes, advocacy, local participation, monitoring, and response planning. Practical exercises, such as group discussions, role plays, and quizzes, simulated real coordination challenges, fostering collaborative learning and strengthening professional networks. The participants appreciated the flexibility and effectiveness of the blended format, noting that it provided both conceptual clarity and practical tools for improved coordination.

Photo: GNC Blended training/Cox's Bazar/Nutrition Sector/ 2025



Beyond knowledge transfer, the training reinforced the foundation for a more coordinated and accountable nutrition response in Cox's Bazar. Enhanced skills in leadership and coordination would enable the participants to better support joint efforts to combat malnutrition. The success of this initiative was driven by early planning, management engagement in staff nomination and

scheduling, and consistent follow-up through reminders and support channels. These factors ensured high participation and timely completion, demonstrating the importance of structured planning and stakeholder involvement in capacity-building programmes.

2025 Cluster/Sector Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM) Validation Workshop

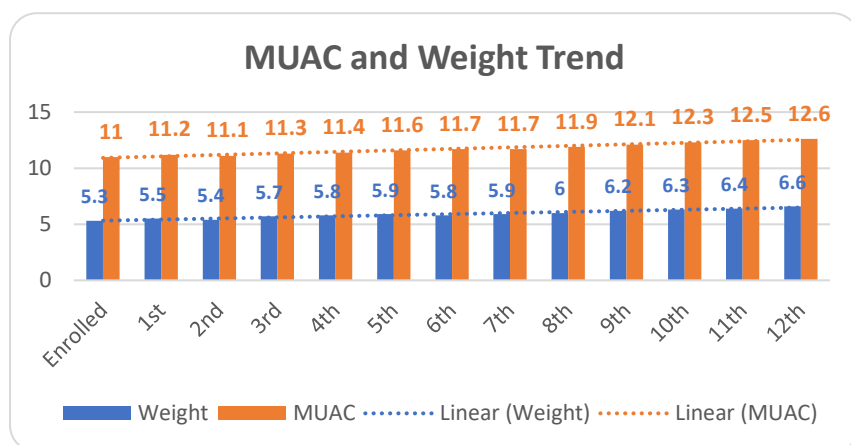
The NS completed the Cluster/Sector Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM) exercise in the 4th quarter of 2025, the primary goal of which was to ensure that the clusters and sectors operate efficiently, with effective coordination mechanisms that fulfil core functions, address the needs of members, and support service delivery to affected populations. It also served as a key tool for demonstrating accountability, highlighting the added value of coordination, and justifying its associated costs.

The CCPM survey was launched on 16 November 2025, and completed by 30 November 2025, assessing the performance of the Nutrition Sector in Cox's Bazar for the year. The preliminary report, compiled by the Global Nutrition Cluster, was shared with all the partners. Of the 19 indicators assessed, 19 (100 per cent) were rated as "Good". The NS arranged a CCPM report validation workshop on 4 December 2024 that focused on contextualisation and validation of the findings of the preliminary report and identifying actions for support and improvements.

A Holistic Approach to Recovery: Integrated OTP and IYCF Support for Nur Kiyas

Nur Kiyas, a six-month-old infant residing in the Camp-1W, Block-C, and the daughter of Foriza and Md. Yeasir, was admitted to the 1W Site-2 Integrated Nutrition Facility (INF) under the Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP) on 28 September 2025. She was identified with severe acute malnutrition (SAM) during a community screening by a community nutrition volunteer. At the time of admission, the child had a MUAC of 11.0 cm, weight of 5.3 kg, and WFH Z-score (WHZ) of <-3 SD, alongside a medical history of cough, cold, and fever. Following a successful appetite test, she began treatment with ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF), and Amoxicillin syrup was prescribed according to protocol. To ensure comprehensive clinical improvement, the mother was also advised to continue the medical treatment, previously initiated at the health post for the child's fever and cold-related symptoms.

Prioritising a holistic recovery, the child was referred to the IYCF corner for one-to-one caregiver counseling, where the counselor emphasised optimal complementary feeding, essential childcare, and hygiene practices to maintain proper health. Meanwhile, field volunteers conducted home visits to monitor RUTF consumption and protocol compliance. This integrated approach resulted in a



steady path towards recovery, leading to her successful discharge on 21 December 2025. Upon completion of the treatment, Nur Kiyas reached a weight of 6.6 kg, a MUAC of 12.6 cm, and a WHZ of <-1 SD, highlighting the vital impact of early identification, proper medical management, and community-based OTP services in successfully treating severe acute malnutrition.



Photo-1: Nur Kiyas during admission



Photo-2: Nur Kiyas during discharge

Abbreviation	Nutrition Sector Contacts	About Nutrition Sector (NS)
<p>BSFP Blanket Supplementary Feeding Programme</p> <p>CCPM Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring</p> <p>GMP Growth Monitoring and Promotion</p> <p>IFA Iron and Folic Acid</p> <p>INF Integrated Nutrition Facility</p> <p>IYCF Infant and Young Child Feeding</p> <p>MAM Moderate Acute Malnutrition</p> <p>MUAC Mid-Upper Arm Circumference</p> <p>NSEP Nutrition Sensitive E-Voucher Programme</p> <p>OTP Outpatient Therapeutic Programme</p> <p>O2 Children Over 2 Years</p> <p>PBW Pregnant and Breastfeeding Women</p> <p>RUTF Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Food</p> <p>SAM Severe Acute Malnutrition</p> <p>TSFP Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme</p> <p>U5 Children Under 5 Years</p> <p>VAS Vitamin A Supplementation</p> <p>WHZ Weight for Height Z-score</p>	<p>Sector Coordinator Owen Nkhoma onkhoma@unicef.org +8801847327232</p> <p>Nutrition Officer (Information Management, M&E) Md Lalan Miah mlmiah@unicef.org +880 17 4426 4933</p> <p>UNV Nutrition Officer Suparna Das Toma stoma@unicef.org +880 19 5225 1759</p>	<p>The Nutrition Sector was established in 2017 during the Rohingya refugee influx in Cox's Bazar, with the goal to provide coordinated nutrition interventions. To ensure effective delivery of nutrition services, the Sector collaborated with 10 partners, including the Government of Bangladesh in 2024. This collaboration allowed the Sector to operate at the forefront of nutritional interventions. The Sector has a Strategic Advisory Group that advocates strategic priorities and supports contingency plans. Currently, the Sector comprises three technical working groups, namely, the Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergency Working Group, the Community Management of Acute Malnutrition Working Group, and the Assessment, and Information Management Working Group. These working groups guarantee compliance with national and international standards.</p> <p>This quarterly bulletin of the Nutrition Sector in Cox's Bazar in 2025 showcases the Sector's achievements, updates, emergency responses, etc. The bulletin also highlights the Sector's success in strengthening humanitarian nutrition coordination, which has led to a predictable and accountable responses. In addition, it captures the high-level brainstorming workshop that was held to enhance the Sector's capabilities to address potential nutrition issues. Additionally, the bulletin features survey findings and success stories that illustrate the Sector's outstanding work. The commitment to cutting-edge humanitarian responses is evident in this bulletin, which serves as a testament to its unwavering dedication. Consequently, the Sector has been able to provide effective nutritional interventions to those in need.</p>