

# Country card Bangladesh

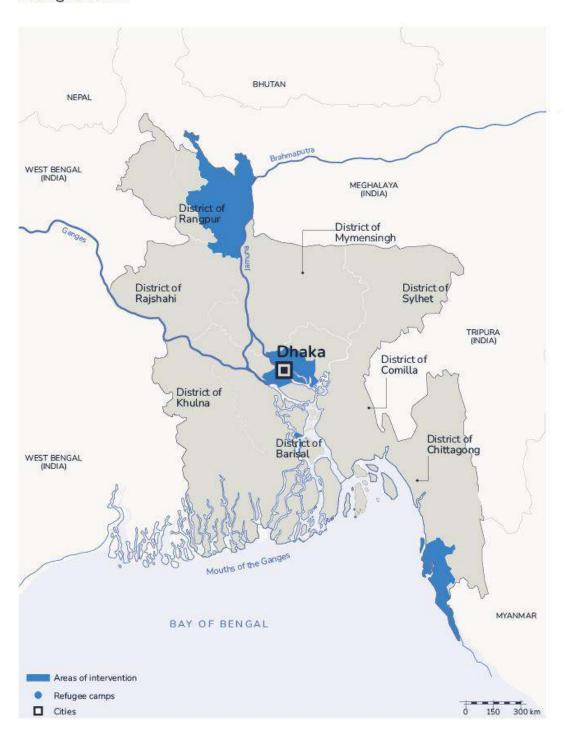




# HI Team and intervention areas

HI Bangladesh program has 294 staff members.

### Bangladesh





# General data of the country

#### a. General data

Country <sup>1</sup>	Bangladesh	India	France
Population	171 186 372	1.393.409.03	67.499.3 43
IHDI	0,503	0.65	0.90
Maternal mortality	123 <sup>2</sup>	143	4
Gender-related Development Index	0,898	0.820	0.987
Population within UNHCR mandate	2079567	245.935	580.898
INFORM RISK Index	5.5	5.2	2.3
Fragile State Index	85,2	75.3	30.9
GINI Index	32.4	35.7	32.4
Population covered by at least one social protection benefit (%)	22,5	24.4	100

 $<sup>^{1}\,\</sup>underline{\text{https://hinside.hi.org/intranet/jcms/pl1}}\,\,2540344/fr/2020-update-country-indicators-2ndary-data-/-donnees-secondaires-\underline{mises-a-jour}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> According to Bangladesh demographic and Health Suvery 2022



# b. Humanitarian law instruments ratified by the country

Humanitarian Law instruments	Status
Mine Ban Treaty	Ratified 06/09/2000
Convention on Cluster Munitions	Non-Signatory
UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Ratified 30/11/2007 Optional Protocol Accessed 12/05/2008
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)	Ratified 6/12/1994
Convention on the Rights of the Child (CDC)	Ratified 03/08/1990
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Ratified 1990

#### c. Geopolitical analysis

#### 1 Social/cultural/demographic context

Bangladesh ("The Land of Bengal"), officially the People's Republic of Bangladesh, shares land borders with India and Myanmar (Burma). Most of the country is dominated by the fertile Ganges-Brahmaputra delta; the north-western and central parts of the country are formed by the Madhupur and Barind plateaus. Bangladesh is predominantly a rich, fertile plain. Most of the country is less than 12m above sea level, and it is estimated that about 10% of the land would be submerged by a 1m rise in sea level. 17% of the country is covered by forests and 12% by hill systems. Bangladesh is the eighth most populous country in the world, with 98% of the population being Bengali.

#### 2 Political context

The Constitution of Bangladesh establishes a unitary, Westminster-style parliamentary republic with universal suffrage. The Prime Minister is supported by a parliamentary majority (usually the leader of the largest party). Parliamentary elections are held every five years. Bangladeshi politics is dominated by two political parties. The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), led by Ziaur Rahman's widow, Khaleda Zia, and the Bangladesh Awami League, led by Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's daughter, Sheikh Hasina. Since independence in 1971, there have been regular military coups, the most recent in 2014. The last general election in December 2018 was not



free and fair, marred by violence and vote rigging; it resulted in a landslide victory for Sheikh Hasina's Awami League (AL), but opposition leaders boycotted the vote and then rejected the results. The Awami League is now in power for a third consecutive term.

#### 3 Economic context

As of 2021, Bangladesh is estimated to have a PPP (purchasing power parity) adjusted GDP per capita of \$5,733 and is classified as a lower middle-income country². Bangladesh met the UN criteria to graduate from the category of Least Developed Countries in February 2021. Macroeconomic policies in recent years have been successful in keeping inflation stable, debt-to-GDP low, and external buffers adequate³. Bangladesh experienced GDP growth rates of 7.32% and 7.88% in 2018 and 2019. Due to the impact of COVID19, the country's GDP growth rate was only 3.45% in 2020 but increased to 6.94% in 2021⁴. The main drivers of the country's GDP growth include its exports of ready-made garments, remittances and the domestic agricultural sector.

Bangladesh is a great producer of gas and coal and exports a lot of jute, tea, leather goods, textile, fish and sea food. The pharmaceutical industry meets 97% of domestic demand, and exports to different countries. Shipbuilding has grown rapidly, with exports to Europe.



#### Summary of HI presence in the country

HI launched its programme in Bangladesh in 1997 to promote the long-term rights and social inclusion of people with disabilities. Bangladesh, Nepal and India have developed Community Approaches to Handicap in Development (CAHD) in partnership with the Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) and the Christoffel Blinden Mission (CBM).

In response to the influx of hundreds of thousands of Rohingyas fleeing neighbouring Myanmar since August 2017, HI is providing assistance to people living in extreme precarity. Our teams deliver rehabilitation care, mental health & psychosocial support, protection and inclusive SRH support to thousands of people. HI has also set up a logistics platform with humanitarian aid storage facilities and a fleet of lorries that transport humanitarian aid for HI and other organisations.

HI encourages the inclusion of the most vulnerable by supporting their access to services, such as rehabilitation and inclusive employment, and their participation in society.

The organisation also improves access to education for all children, including children with disabilities, developmental delays and psychological disorders in camps for Rohingya refugees. Our teams train teachers to include children with disabilities in the classroom, organise rehabilitation sessions for children with disabilities to facilitate their access to school and raises community awareness of their right to education.

HI also takes action to ensure that people with disabilities have access to a source of income, giving them financial independence and improving their acceptance by their communities.

#### Areas of intervention:

- Physical rehabilitation, prosthetics and orthotics
- Fighting discrimination against people with disabilities
- Including people with disabilities in work
- Including children with disabilities in school

# Overview on ongoing projects

Sectors of services where HI conducts projects and focus on beneficiaries and operational partnerships

Project title and main sector(s) of intervention	Main activities	Beneficiar ies	Partner(s)	Location	Project start/end dates	Donors
Inclusive specialized services for vulnerable persons including persons with disabilities in Cox's Bazar Rohingya camps and host communities (Phase 2)	- Rehabilitation (including capacity development on emergency, preventive and post-operative rehabilitation, hearing and vision care, inclusive sexual reproductive health, protection (including awareness session) and mental health and psychosocial support in camps, in hospitals and in host communities.  - Inclusive Humanitarian Action  - Training and awareness sessions on inclusive DRR	84,137 individual s	Centre for Disability in Development (CDD)	Cox's Bazar District	01/09/2023 - 31/08/2024	Populatio
Integrated and comprehensive support to persons with disabilities and other	- Rehabilitation in camp (including 2 hospitals), host communities and Bashan char.	37,765 individual s	Centre for Disability in Development (CDD)	Cox's Bazar District and	15/072022 - 14/06/2025	German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO)

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vulnerable people while strengthening the capacities of humanitarian actors through inclusive humanitarian action and coordination	<ul> <li>Individuals' protection assistance and awareness sessions on protection and MHPSS in camps and host community.</li> <li>Stimulation therapy for children under age 5 who suffer of malnutrition in camps.</li> <li>Inclusive Humanitarian Action—including capacity development of humanitarian organizations' staff on inclusive humanitarian actions.</li> </ul>			Bhasan Char		
Strengthening Protection, Health and Resilience of Refugees in Cox's Bazar district, Bangladesh	- Multi sectoral response in camp and host community providing direct services including functional rehabilitation, hearing and vision care, Protection, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, Inclusive sports and recreational services at two levels: static point and home based.  - Awareness sessions on protection and inclusion by	24,161 individual s	Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), Danish Refugee Council (DRC), Internation al Rescue Committee (IRC)	Cox's Bazar District	1/06/2022 - 31/05/2024	DG-ECHO

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	volunteers from the community.  - Individuals' protection assistance through referral to relevant service providers.  - Inclusive Humanitarian Action					
Inclusive Emergency Assistance to Crisis-Affected Populations in Cox's Bazar district, Bangladesh	- Multi sectoral response in camp providing direct services including functional rehabilitation; hearing, speech and vision care, Protection; Mental Health and Psychosocial Support; and inclusive sports and recreational services at two levels: static point and home based.  - Individuals' protection assistance through referral to relevant service providers - Inclusive Humanitarian Action- including capacity development and organisational assessment	6276 individual s	Centre for Disability in Development (CDD)	Cox's Bazar District and Bhasan Char	01/01/2023 - 31/12/2023	UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR)

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	of humanitarian organizations on disability and inclusion.					
Logistics support and capacity building for humanitarian actors helping vulnerable populations in Cox's Bazar district and Barishal District in Bangladesh.		20 Humanitari an organisati ons1071 individual s	Association of Voluntary Actions for Society (AVAS)	Bazar District	1/062023 - 31/05/2024	The Crisis and Support Centre (CDCS)
Access to Education for Children with Disabilities in Rohingya Refugee Camps and Host Communities	<ul> <li>Capacity development of education sector on inclusive education.</li> <li>Multi sector support to children with disabilities and their caregivers such as functional rehabilitation and inclusive sports</li> <li>Provision of assistive devices in 30 camps across Ukhiya and Teknaf.</li> </ul>	2775 individual s	UNICEF Implementin g Partners (8 organisatio ns)	District and	09/2023- 02/2025	UNICEF
Education for Rohingya Refugees and Host	- Individualized functional rehabilitation, recreational, and education support to	730 individual s	Save the Children, Young Power in Social	Cox's Bazar District	01/03/2022 - 28/02/2025	Education Cannot Wait (ECW)

Communities in Bangladesh	identified children with disabilities in camps and		Action (YPSA)			
	host community.  - Capacity development of education sector and partners on inclusive pedagogy, gender and inclusion, and safeguarding.					
Socio-economic Empowerment of Extreme Poor and Poor People Living in Flood-prone District of Bangladesh	- Rehabilitation and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support - Economic inclusion - Protection - Inclusive DRR including early warning systems and response.	750 individual s	None	Kurigram District	01/04/2022 - 30/03/2026	and
Improved quality of life for women/girls and persons with disabilities in Kurigram District, Bangladesh through poverty graduation and mainstreaming.	- Rehabilitation and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Economic inclusion	975 individual s	1 Local Organizatio n & 2 Organizatio ns of Person with Disability.	Kurigram District	01/01/2023 - 31/12/2027	MAE Lux AC6



















