



World Food Programme

WFP in Cox's Bazar

Situation Report: Fires in the Rohingya refugee camps

23 March 2021



IN NUMBERS

- **Four** camps affected (camps 9, 10, 8E, 8W)
- **87,855** people likely affected (40,490 are reported to have been affected, and a further 47,365 are suspected to have been affected)*
- **6,000** cartons of high energy biscuits (HEB) distributed so far and a further 5,110 planned in the next hours

* Based on International Organization for Migration (IOM) tentative figures from 22 March 2021.

Context

- A massive fire broke out in the Kutupalong mega camp yesterday, 22 March 2021. The fire started in Camp 8W at around 15:00 and later spread through camps 8E, 9 and 10. It is not currently clear exactly how the fire started.
- According to IOM reports, the fire affected at least 66 percent of the populations of camps 9, 10, 8E and 8W. This includes 40,490 individuals (8,098 households) reported to have been affected. Exact figures are yet to be confirmed. Media have already reported several deaths, which are yet to be confirmed.
- People have sought refuge in nearby camps, at friends/families' shelters, learning centres, and United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) transit sites. Partners established child friendly spaces at central points to receive lost and unidentified children.
- Two WFP nutrition centres and one General Food Distribution point were burnt to the ground. WFP has closed two other nutrition sites and an e-voucher outlet until teams on the ground can assess the damage to the sites.

Table 1: Total number of reported and suspected households and individuals affected, based on IOM figures at 22 March 2021

Camp	Total camp population (HH)	No. of affected HH reported	No. of affected HH suspected	Total	Total camp population (individuals)	No. affected individuals reported	No. of affected individuals suspected	Total	Percent affected
9	7,221	6,578	410	6,988	36,105	32,890	2,050	34,940	97%
10	6,336	0	2,710	2,710	31,680	0	13,550	13,550	43%
8E	6,277	1,076	2,818	3,894	31,385	5,380	14,090	19,470	62%
8W	6,649	444	3,535	3,979	33,245	2,220	17,675	19,895	60%
Total	26,483	8,098	9,473	17,571	132,415	40,490	47,365	87,855	66%

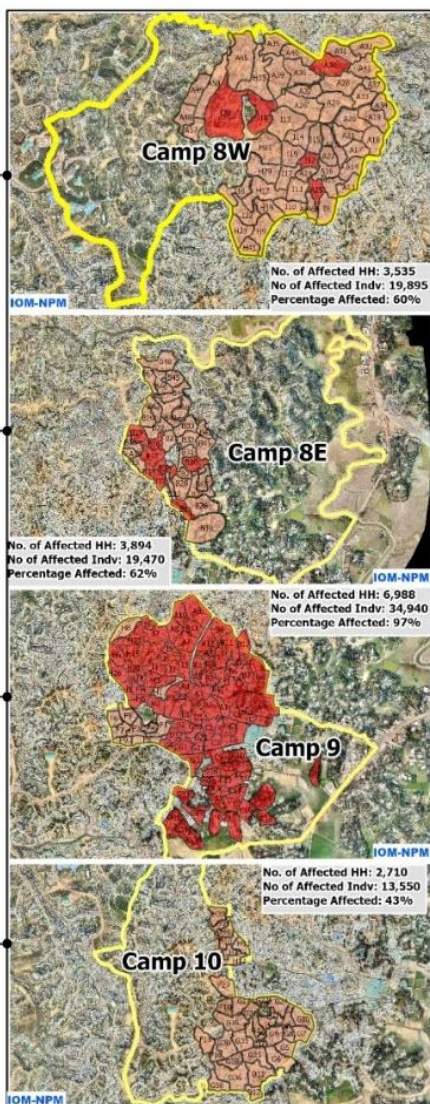
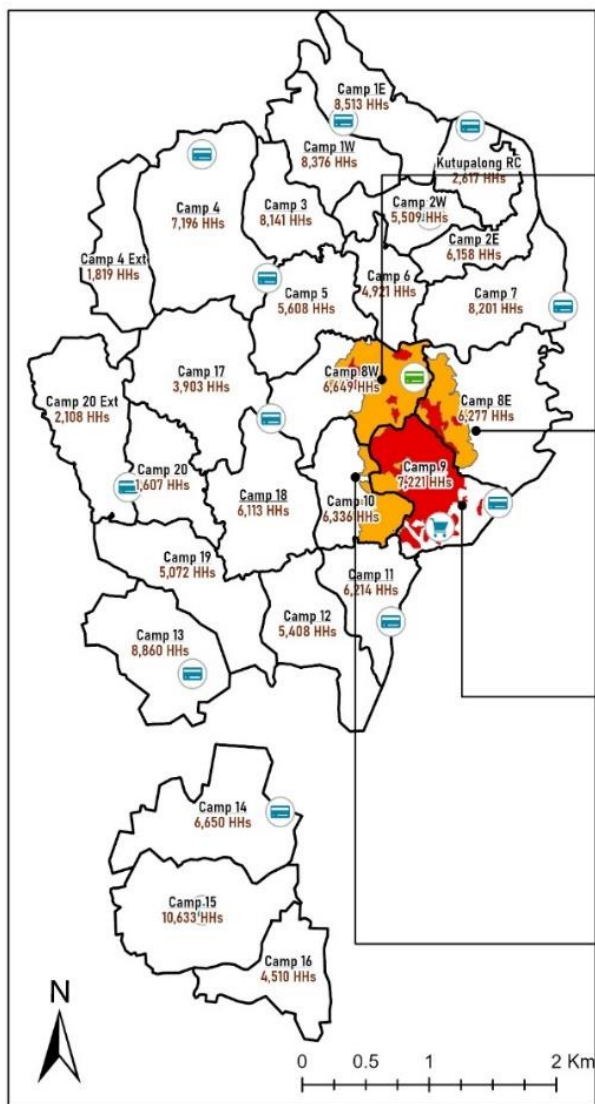
WFP Response

Immediate response:

- WFP's Engineering, field operations and General Food Assistance teams have been on the ground since the fire was first reported.
- WFP deployed light and heavy machinery, including water tanks, and Site Management and Engineering Project (SMEP) team volunteers to assist in containing the fire and to support the site management agencies.
- WFP distributed 6,000 cartons of high-energy biscuits (HEB) to evacuated families on the night of the fire.

Ongoing rapid response:

- WFP is providing rapid response support through Camp-in-Charge offices with the exception of Camp 9, where support is being provided at the Balukhali make-shift outlet.
- WFP will provide 62,000 hot lunches and 62,000 hot dinners to affected households on 23 March.
- WFP plans to initially distribute a total of 11,110 cartons of HEBs to households in affected and surrounding camps (camps 6, 7 2W, transit camp, 12, 11, 9, 8W, 22, 21, 16 and 13). Food assistance will be provided on a no regret basis.



Fire Spread in Camps as of 22 March 2021

IOM Reported Figures

Camp no	Reported	Suspected	Total
Camp 09	6,578	410	6,988
Camp 10	0	2,710	2,710
Camp 8E	1,076	2,818	3,894
Camp 8W	444	3,535	3,979
Total	8,098	9,473	17,571

17,571 households are estimated to be affected (88,000 individuals) due to the Fire incident. These are preliminary figures based on initial response as of 22 March 2021 late evening, with thanks to IOM for rapid data on affected populations.

- Reported Blocks
- Suspected Blocks
- WFP Operational Retail Outlet
- WFP Planned Retail Outlet
- WFP Operational GFD

Disclaimer:

* The boundaries and names and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



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