



## **III PROGRESS**

UNHCR and partners developed WASH facilities while dealing with a very challenging topography and the initial acute emergency needs of the response. Improvements made over 2018 included upgraded latrines with larger volume pits to last longer; a large-capacity fecal waste treatment plant (in partnership with Oxfam) to serve a 150,000 people; and a move towards supplying safer water supply through a chlorinated water networks to support both refugees and the host community. 14 networks are now completed with others under construction. UNHCR is continuing to closely monitor groundwater resources to ensure their sustainable use. Water purification tablets and containers for collection and storage of water were distributed to refugees.

UNHCR also trained 677 WASH field staff (including partner organisations) and refugee volunteers, and organised a rapid WASH assessment and repair works in 2018. Within the host community UNHCR repaired drainage systems and built latrines for schools, as well as a waste water treatment plant as part of its Quick Impact Projects.

Hygiene promotion activities remain in critical need and are being boosted to avert public health incidents. WASH staff are developing new modalities to deliver unified public health messages with health teams working in the settlements. This combined programme aime to prevent a dengue fever outbreak.

WASH is working closely with the protection unit to define and deliver hygiene kits, including menstrual hygiene kits; these continue to be distributed to girls and women across the camp.

## ① CHALLENGE

Need for long-term planning for WASH interventions, requiring commitments for multi-year funding, greater involvement of development actors, and agreement of authorities

Sanitation management challenges for Kutupalong settlement due to large population size, congestion, topography, and unavailability of land

Lack of easily reachable groundwater in Teknaf area and brackish quality of water in river requires alternative approaches, including introduction of catchment reservoirs

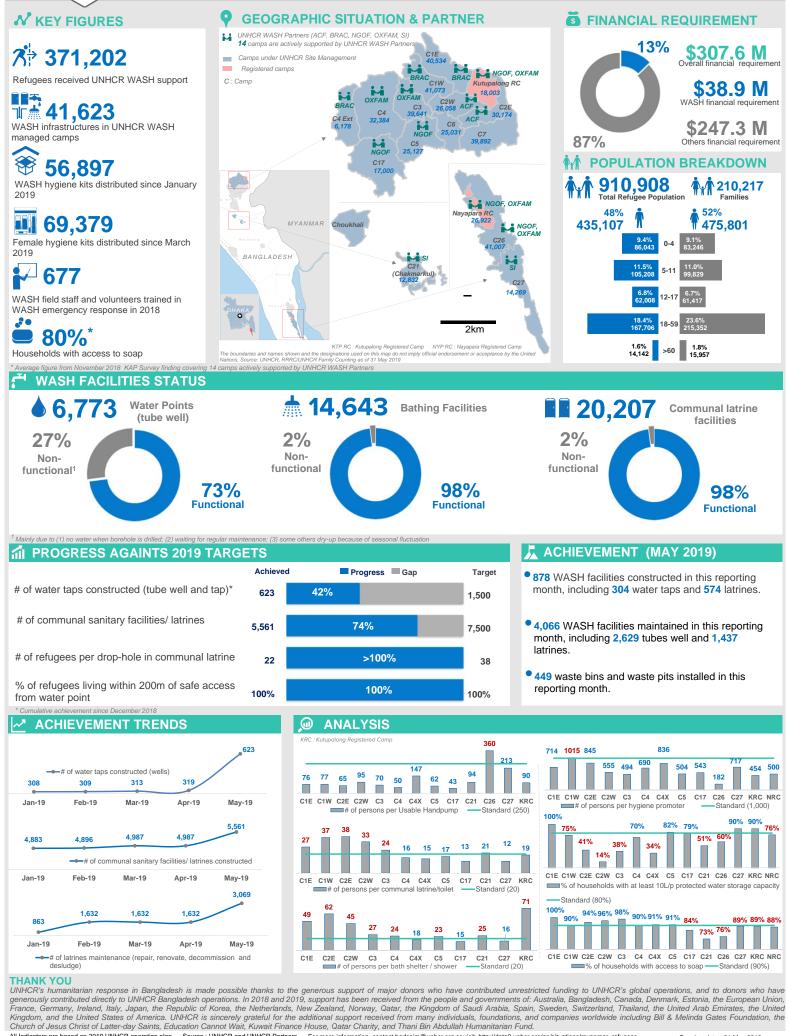
## → WAY FORWARD

To address acute water needs in Teknaf, an upgrade of surface and groundwater resources serving both refugees and host communities is planned with the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC) and the Department of Public Health and Engineering (DPHE).

A site was identified and permission granted to construct a large new water reservoir at Domdomia in Camp 27.

The lack of sanitation treatment and de-sludging capacity poses a significant public health risk in all camps. A committee of RRRC, UN agencies (including UNHCR), DPHE and others has been formed to identify appropriate land for faecal sludge management, with a number of sites now having been identified and proposed to the local government. One plant planned near Camp 2E will be built in the next couple of months by MSF with UNHCRs assistance and support.





All Indicators are based on 2019 UNHCR operation plan Source : UNHCR and UNHCR Partners For more information, contact bgdcoim@unhcr.org or visit: http://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/myanmar\_refugees