



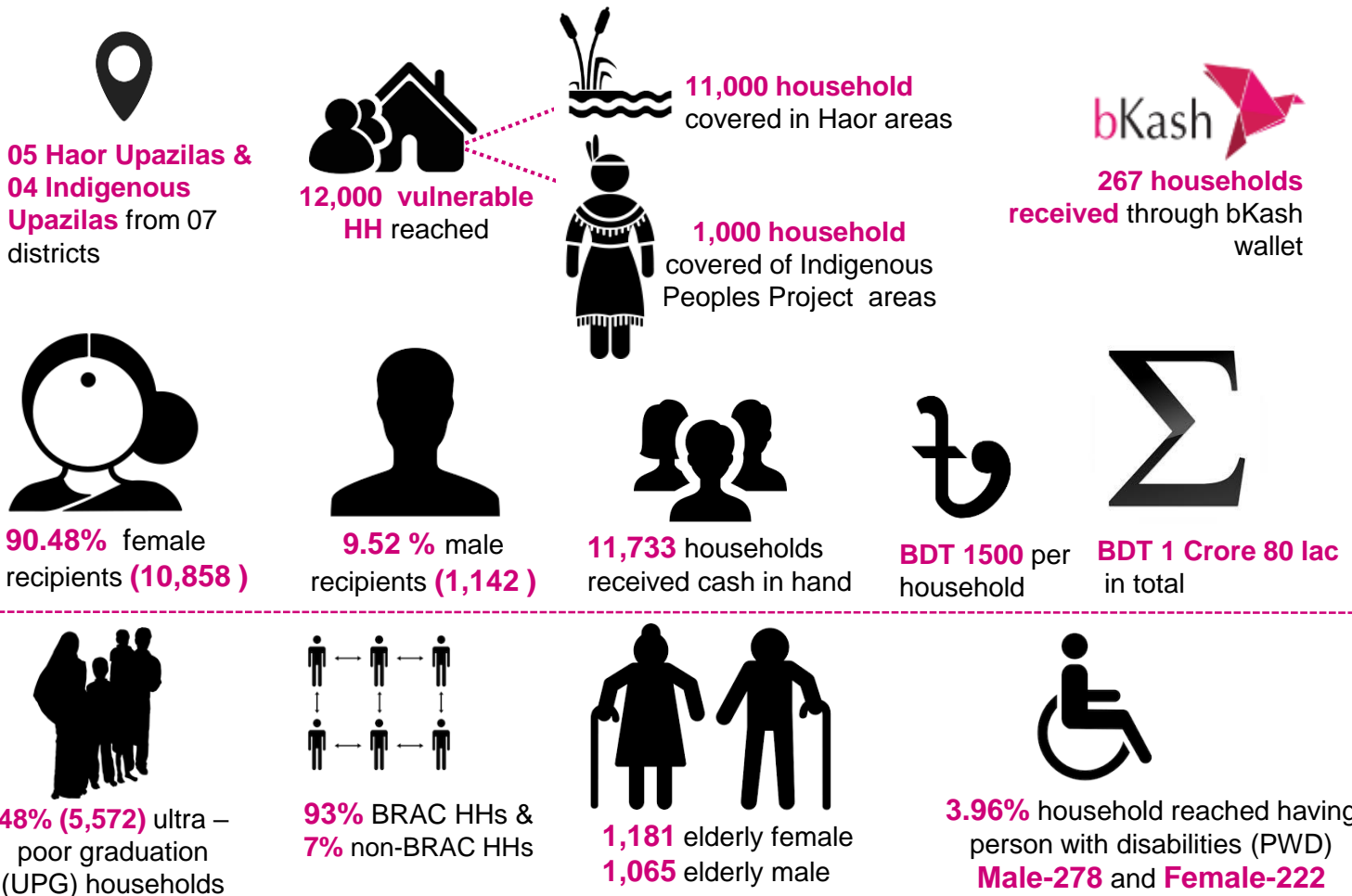
INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (IDP)

Response to COVID-19 : 2nd round emergency food security support as cash

Understanding the intense need of vulnerable households, BRAC has undertaken action plan for 2nd round food security support as cash. Along with other few programmes, the Integrated Development Programme (IDP) distributed the cash amount of BDT 1,500 each to 12,000 households living in hard to areas (Haor) and indigenous communities (north) during 15-17 April, 2020. IDP also digitally transferred the cash to a few households using bKash.

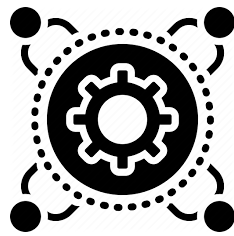
Selection criteria

Following the BRAC criteria, households (HH) that have elderly members, persons with disabilities, headed by women, with pregnant or lactating women, haven't received any support from any other sources, households currently don't have any income or livelihood opportunities at all and out of government social safety net support and BRAC enlisted ultra-poor groups, are given priority.



Worked closely with local administration, Peoples Representatives, Mayor, Union Parishad, Upazila DMC

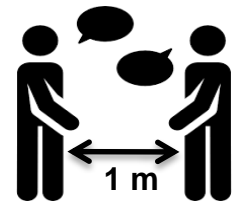
Distribution assistance received from UNO, police stations, Peoples Representatives, Other BRAC programmes



Coordination

Kept close communication with respective BRAC District Coordinator (BDC)

Shared list of food security recipients with DC, UNO, Upazila DMC and BDC to avoid duplication



Frontline staff
Visits door to door



65% of the cash recipients are day labor



12% recipients are Housewife



10% recipients are seasonal labor



4% among the recipients are house maid



4% receivers are Rickshaw /Van puller, Auto CNG drivers



4% recipients Cobblers, Barber, Ghat workers

Occupations Covered

Experiences

Challenges appeared while distribution:

- ❑ Delay in cash disbursement due to heavy rain and thunderstorm
- ❑ Visit door to door and distribute cash in a constraint time
- ❑ At Haor, managing crowds of neighbors is tough while distributing cash
- ❑ 80% of recipients do not have personal mobile set/SIM rather they share other's mobile number. Hence, BRAC humanitarian programme's criteria is tough to meet with vulnerable HHs.
- ❑ Collecting cash from banks due to lock down and carrying them from other BRAC offices is risky.
- ❑ Local landowners are prohibiting BRAC staffs movement, and staffs from other programme in same branch office are non cooperative to the staffs working in emergency response
- ❑ Staff found hesitant to move for distribution in lockdown areas where infected patients discovered.
- ❑ Composing cash recipients' database is getting lengthy in the lock down areas due to electricity shut down, unavailability of office equipment i.e. scanner, photocopier

Lesson learnt:

- ❑ People are in dire need of food at Haor and IP (north). This emergency response found life saving for them.
- ❑ Staying at home while Boro harvesting period affect people's economic opportunities. Thus, such cash distributions worked effectively.
- ❑ All vulnerable participants should have a personal bKash wallet which will lessen the chance of risk in hand carry cash.
- ❑ IDP operated haor upazillas are receiving all supports but other haor upazillas should also be taken in consideration for such supports.



“ Putting their life in risk BRAC bhai and apa came our house to assist us during such a disaster . They are our lighthouse . We request to BRAC please continue this support to us for little longer so that we can cope up with the changing nature of the pandemic situation. ”

BaharJaan,
Member, Islampur VDO, Khaliajuri, Netrokona

For more please contact

Shyam Sundar Saha, Programme Head
BRAC Integrated Development Programme.
Mobile: 01709 647575 Email : shyam.saha@brac.net

Khaleda Akhter Laboni
Manager, Communication and Material Development
BRAC Integrated Development Programme.
Mobile: 01717 535669 Email : khaleda.akhter @brac.net