

# PRESS RELEASE

## Welthungerhilfe on the desperate situation of the Rohingya: We need urgent help

**Bonn, 25.10.2017.** Welthungerhilfe is warning of a huge humanitarian catastrophe in Bangladesh and calling for rapid assistance for the Rohingya who have fled. According to the United Nations, around 1.2 million refugees will need to be provided with the very basic necessities in the coming months - the refugee camp formed in the Cox's Bazar region is already becoming one of the world's largest. Around 340 million euros were promised at the international donor conference in Geneva. The crucial issue, however, is how much of the promised funds will actually be paid out.

"The challenges for the host country Bangladesh are enormous. The country is one of the most densely populated regions on earth. Climate change is also causing hunger among the native population. The Rohingya lost everything when they fled and need food, water and shelter, as well as medical care. Our employees are reporting unimaginable human suffering. The aid supplies are not nearly sufficient and the hygiene situation is disastrous. 170 families are having to share six toilets. Every day new emergency shelters are erected on the hillsides," reports Till Wahnbaeck, Welthungerhilfe CEO. He has just returned from Myanmar.

Working with its long-standing local partner organisation Anando, Welthungerhilfe is supplying food to 3,200 families in Cox's Bazar district. An expert from the Welthungerhilfe Emergency Response Team is supporting this partner to organise the increase in aid.

We are asking for donations:

**Donation account Deutsche Welthungerhilfe e.V.**

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Further information at: <https://www.welthungerhilfe.de/en/press/rohingya-bangladesh>

Eyewitness report: The suffering of the Rohingya

<http://www.welthungerhilfe.de/blog/no-respite-in-sight-rohingyas-struggle-to-survive/>

**Since its establishment in 1962 Welthungerhilfe has worked in South Asia and has been active in Bangladesh for over 15 years. Since then, around 1,500 local projects have been carried out in South Asia, with a focus on sustainable rural development, adaptation to climate change and food security.**

*Welthungerhilfe is one of the largest private aid organisations in Germany; politically independent and non-denominational. It is fighting for "Zero Hunger by 2030". Since its establishment, more than 8,500 overseas projects in 70 countries have been supported with 3.27 billion euros. Welthungerhilfe works on the principle of help for self-help: from fast disaster relief to reconstruction and long-term development cooperation projects with national and international partner organisations.*

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