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UPDATE: Jamila and Halima from Project Compassion are confirmed safe after massive fires left 45,000 homeless in Rohingya refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

25 March 2021

Caritas Australia has confirmed with our local partner, Caritas Bangladesh that Jamila and Halima from Project Compassion 2021 are safe after the massive fires in the Rohingya refugee camp in Cox's Bazar which left 45,000 people homeless on March 22.

Neither Jamila nor Halima were affected by the recent fires, and all of the Caritas Bangladesh operation sites in the camps are safe.

However, Jamila, Halima and other Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar will be affected by the long-term impacts of the fires, as the fires destroyed health centres and other key infrastructure. This means that Caritas Bangladesh, other aid organisations and the government of Bangladesh will face increased challenges in housing and supporting the Rohingya community in the camps.

There are concerns about an outbreak of COVID-19 as organisations struggle to house 45,000 people in already overcrowded camps.

Caritas Australia is also concerned about preparing for Bangladesh's monsoon season, when cyclones and heavy rains between June and October often lead to extreme flooding and damage in the camps where most people live in inadequate shelters with little protection against floodwaters.

Caritas Australia is supporting church and NGO partners on the ground. To make a difference to people like Jamila and Halima, Caritas Australia is accepting donations to help support vulnerable communities in Asia through the Asia Emergency Appeal.

Visit [caritas.org.au](https://www.caritas.org.au) or call 1800 024 413 toll free to provide much needed support.

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