

GBV Prevention Working Group TERMS OF REFERENCE

I. BACKGROUND

In Bangladesh, the massive and swift influx of Rohingya refugees fleeing violence in Myanmar since 25 August 2017 has created one of the world's most severe scenarios of forced displacement. This population has suffered all kinds of violence, including gender-based violence (GBV) in its most egregious forms, amounting to alleged violations of human rights. As a result, the Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh live in a state of extreme vulnerability. A significant contributing factor is the number of GBV incidents that occurred before, during, and after their displacement to Bangladesh. Due to ongoing threats of GBV, an encampment policy, and a lack of livelihoods and essential services, refugees live in a dire humanitarian situation after reaching Cox's Bazaar. Host communities are also experiencing the effects of this displacement and have a crucial role in preventing and eradicating GBV from their communities.

II. PURPOSE

Gender-based violence (GBV) is happening in all refugee camps in Bangladesh, and several entry points are established to receive reports and conduct case management. However, it's known that GBV cases are highly underreported due to multiple factors such as fear, stigma, and discrimination. Therefore, it is strongly recommended that all strategies to address GBV must include and focus on prevention interventions to avoid harmful consequences.

Partners working within the Rohingya Response are supposed to mainstream GBV in all their activities, build a positive collaboration with non-GBV actors, and optimize mutual benefit, learning, and efficient use of human and financial resources.

This term of reference offers a brief guide to define the joint way forward for the GBV Prevention Working Group in a transparent and coordinated manner.

III. GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

1. Harmonize prevention activities and terminology among all members.
2. Rationalize activities by defining a geographical coverage and targeted population.
3. Build capacities using a common strategy (Pool of Trainers).
4. Conduct a needs assessment to target new training and coaching sessions.
5. Mainstream prevention among non-GBV actors and activities.
6. Construct common key messages for outreach activities.
7. Monitor tools and service audits to enhance the quality of prevention activities.
8. Develop common learning and awareness materials.
9. Increase an evidence-based approach to monitor the impact of ongoing prevention activities better.
10. Create a standard dashboard and quarterly factsheet to show the results of prevention activities.
11. Create a standard drive among focal points to share documents and concept notes for the partner's inspiration.

IV. TASKS

The GBV Prevention Working Group will develop a clear annual work plan to implement the above activities timely and ensure good coordination among members.

The work plan shall be reviewed and updated by the WG members periodically.

V. LEADERSHIP

The GBV Sub-Sector establishes this Working Group.

The WG is led by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The lead agency will provide a chairperson (and an alternate) who will coordinate the day-to-day interactions and provide technical advice and support to the members. The WG chairperson represents and advocates the interests of the WG internally and externally, not being limited to organizational tasks.

VI. MEMBERSHIP

All GBV sub-sector members are welcome to integrate the Prevention working group, even if they are not currently implementing structured or non-structured prevention activities within the refugee camps or host communities. Organizations should address a request to the WG lead agency to request their participation by indicating a focal point and an alternate.

Members of the working group shall commit to the common activities and attend all proposed meetings, offering timely and qualitative feedback and information when requested.

VII. COORDINATION WITH THE GBV SUB-SECTOR

The WG will keep the GBV sub-sector fully informed of relevant areas of work and will seek endorsement for significant decisions taken by the WG.

The WG is an established coordination platform placed under the coordination of the GBV sub-sector and the protection sector. The WG chairperson reports directly to the GBV sub-sector coordinator.

VIII. PROCEDURAL ASPECTS

The WG will convene a bi-monthly meeting every last Tuesday of each month from 10 am to 12 pm. Ad-hoc meetings can be scheduled and communicated by the chairperson if the working group must make important decisions to maintain the programmed objectives.

This ToR will be reviewed yearly after the first meeting of the WG in the new year.