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GBVSS Coordination updates

(Jul-Sep 2023)

Coordination at field level

- GBVSS member contact list has been updated with a total of 67 member agencies (8 UN agencies, 24 INGOs, 32 NNGOs and International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, 1 Government Ministry).
- **GBV Sub-Sector (GBVSS)** in coordination with GBV National Sub-Cluster and **UNFPA** organized a workshop on 29 August with 17 GBV organizations from the Cox's Bazar District with a view to develop the Cox's Bazar Host Community Referral Pathway to connect GBV survivors to appropriate, quality, multi-sectoral services in a timely, safe and confidential manner. The Terms of Reference of Upazilla level Referral Focal Point has been developed as part of the referral mechanism strengthening.
- **GBV Case Management Working Group** is reformed with the lead of **International Rescue Committee (IRC)** and co-lead by Mukti Cox's Bazar. IRC has led the process of finalizing the Terms of Reference (ToR) on GBV Case Management Working Group and shared it with the GBVSS partners which is available [here](#).
- In order to strengthen the overall coordination among actors on GBV prevention activities, a **GBV prevention Working Group** was initiated under the GBV Sub-Sector Coordination mechanism for which the ToR is developed [here](#).
- GBVSS provided technical support during training of Data Enumerators and field tests as well as mock sessions of J-MSNA 2023.



GBVSS in the Sectoral Camp Coordination Workshop on 26 Sept 2023.

Training events

- 29 (25 Female & 4 Male) participants from partner organizations of **Health and Gender Support Project (HGSP)** and GBVSS partners participated in a 5-days long training (17 -21 September 2023) on GBV Case management to build their skill and knowledge in managing GBV cases in safe, ethical and confidential manner.
- GBVSS facilitated the session on GBV part in ToT on Joint Multi Sector Needs Assessment (J-MSNA) 2023.

Resources

- GBVSS published the [GBVIMS Q2 2023 factsheet](#). Reporting organizations have experienced the reduction of humanitarian funds in June 2023 which had a considerable impact on the household dynamics.

Events

The GBV Sub Sector actively participated in **World Humanitarian Day 2023** observation at the camp level. The event with the theme 'No matter what' featured dialogue sessions and discussions with **Camp-In-Charges (CiCs), UNFPA, UNHCR**, and other agency representatives, experience sharing by humanitarian workers in the Rohingya response program, as well as insights from Rohingya community leaders/ representatives on World Humanitarian Day 2023. Conversations took place around the themes of humanitarian principles, PSEA, the role of humanitarian workers, and a focus on women's involvement in humanitarian response.



GBVSS representation on the observation of World Humanitarian Day 2023 at Camp level

The GBV Sub-Sector orchestrated a **comprehensive training for Camp in Charge (CiC) personnel**, delving into the realm of GBV guiding principles, power dynamics, survivor-centered approach, and the intricacies of referral mechanisms. The overarching aim of this initiative was to fortify their cognitive grasp and proficiency, thereby fortifying the nexus of knowledge and bolstering synergistic coordination between the GBV actors and government stakeholders. Throughout the second and third quarters, this endeavor successfully encompassed a total of 82 CiC staff (M:82, F:0), organized into four distinct cohorts.

The GBV Sub Sector hosted a two-day **Workshop on Clinical Supervision** participated by 30 (M:2, F:28) case workers and managers. This symposium emphasized upholding professional standards, enhancing service quality, nurturing skill development, and ensuring ethical accountability, all while adhering to a "Do No Harm" policy. It featured self-care exercises, 'Hot Seat' role-play sessions (in which a selected participant in the 'role' answers training-related technical questions from the rest of the group), and discussions on addressing secondary trauma where participants openly shared their motivations and commitment. The workshop's focus on self-care was well-received, and ongoing support will reinforce their well-being.



Hot Seat session during the Supervision Workshop

The GBVSS took an active role in the **Sectoral Camp Coordination Workshop** during 26 Sep 2023 that featured **Sectoral representatives, the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Coordinator (RRRC), and Camp-in-Charges (CiCs)**. The central theme of the workshop revolved around providing an in-depth overview of the Rohingya Refugee Response Coordination Structure. Furthermore, the workshop facilitated in-depth conversations on a range of thematic areas, including improving coordination between GBV Sub-Sector and Camp-in-Charges, enhancing services for beneficiaries, and devising more effective communication strategies with the local communities.

Background

In collaboration with partner PULSE Bangladesh Society, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) actively implements survivor-centered gender-based violence (GBV) mitigation, response, and prevention programs through 9 Women and Girls Safe Spaces in eight sites. This effort aligns with IOM's Institutional Framework for Addressing GBV in Crises, ensuring a comprehensive multisectoral approach that provides tailored services to survivors, including health, mental health, legal support, and emergency shelter. IOM also engages women and girls in psychosocial activities, offers specialized GBV services, and implements the Engaging Men Through Accountable Practice (EMAP) initiative to prevent GBV and promote positive behavioral change, alongside community-level training for volunteers and advocates in the camps and communities.

Key Achievements/Highlights (Jul-Sept 2023)

- 22,758 individuals were reached through community outreach and sensitization.
- 34,227 women and girls participated in a range of activities inside the WGSS.
- 1,097 individuals from the community received training.

Activity Highlights

- 16 training sessions on "GBV Core Concepts and Safe Referral" involving 214 individuals (35 men and 179 women) from Women Support groups, Community Protection Committees, and GBV Volunteer groups.
- Introduced MBR (**Ma Boinor Rosom - Mother's & Sister's Ways**) Edition 1 to 320 individuals (180

women and 140 adolescent girls) covering topics related to hygiene, puberty, and menstruation, along with Women's Leadership, Empowerment, Participation, Protection Key Messages, and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse



Figure 3: Training on GBV concepts with APBns



(PSEA).

- Refresher training for 23 staff on **EMAP** in collaboration with partner PULSE Bangladesh Society.
- **GBVIMS+ V2** training for 28 caseworkers and case managers to familiarize them with changes in the new system.
- "GBV Core Concepts and Safe Referral" training for 56 staff (19 men and 37 women) from IOM Site Management and implementing partners.
- Supported GBV Sub-Sector and inter-agency efforts, including training the Armed Police Battalion (APBn) on Refugee Protection and Community Outreach and Introduction to GBV core concepts for RRRCC staff.



Figure 4: Training on MBR with Women Support Group



Caritas Bangladesh

Emergency Response Program (EPR); Cox's Bazar – Q3 KEY HIGHLIGHTS

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Caritas Bangladesh (CB) has been serving Rohingya Refugees and the people of the host community for over three decades in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh's south-eastern corner. Caritas Bangladesh started humanitarian interventions on a larger scale soon after the massive influx in 2017. Under three (03) projects at camp 1E, 4Ext. 17, 19, and 20 Ext. Caritas Bangladesh have been contributing to the GBV prevention and response activities in the Rohingya communities.

Major Activities (July – Sept 2023)

- Awareness raising session on GBV prevention and Response with 9503 ind. (Male= 2189, Female= 5514, Boys=670, Girls=725, Elderly males=210, Elderly Females: 179, and PWD male=: 1, PWD Females=15) Rohingya Community people.
- Psycho-social support session arrange with 134 individuals (One to one= 45, Group session= 89)
- World Peace Day, World Suicide prevention, International Human Rights Day celebrated with the community.
- Vocational training provided to 15 women on tailoring and block printing and 10 men on solar light and gas stove repairing.
- Capacity building training conducted with 87 Rohingya volunteer.
- Community leader and imam discussion meeting on GBV prevention arrange with 20 leaders.

World Suicide Prevention Day 2023 Observation



Figure 6: Workshop on suicide prevention at camp 19. (Photography: Shaheen Jannat Chumky, CBFO, Caritas Bangladesh)

On September 10th, in observance of World Suicide Prevention Day, Caritas Bangladesh collaborated with community members, leaders, CIC staff, and various development stakeholders to organize a seminar. The event featured speeches from government officials, partner agencies, and other influential individuals highlighting the significance of mental health and efforts to prevent suicide.

Furthermore, they stressed the need to improve referral services through networking. Community leaders offered recommendations and feedback, and community members eagerly attended the two-phase "Suicide Prevention" workshop held on September 11th. The workshop, attended by individuals of varying ages within the community, addressed multiple topics, such as suicide prevention strategies, key facts, dispelling misconceptions, understanding risk and protective factors, identifying warning signs, and methods to prevent suicide attempts. Workshop participants expressed their gratitude for the valuable information and underscored the importance of raising awareness about suicide prevention within the community.



Figure 5: World suicide prevention day celebration with different stakeholder, e.g. CiC, project staff, camp focal etc. (Photography: Milka Tripura, SGBV Officer)



Nari Maitree

Q3 KEY HIGHLIGHTS

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Nari Maitree, a local partner of the International Rescue Committee (IRC), has played a pivotal role in the "Delivering Health, Nutrition, Livelihood, and Protection for Rohingya Refugees in Cox's Bazar" project since its launch in November 2021. As a women-led organization, Nari Maitree is proud to be part of this consortium project. They have been actively involved in addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention strategies and initiatives for the Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMN) in Camp 14, Cox's Bazar. Their efforts include implementing programs like Girl Shine, Engaging Men Accountable Practice (EMAP), Radio Listening, and Community Outreach, all of which collectively contribute to the well-being and protection of this vulnerable population. Nari Maitree's role as a local partner is instrumental in meeting the needs of the FDMN community, with a specific focus on GBV prevention, making a significant impact in Cox's Bazar.

Major Activities (Jul – Sep 2023)

Panel Discussion on International Women's Day on women's rights, with a focus on addressing unequal gender power relations as a root cause of gender-based violence. Distinguished participants and extensive media coverage made this event a significant success.

Capacity Building of Volunteers (Host and Rohingya) through a comprehensive training program, enhancing their abilities to address gender-based violence and promote community well-being in Cox's Bazar.

Orientation and Meetings with Community Leaders ensured informed community support for Nari Maitree's services, strengthening the link between the organization and the community in the fight against gender-based violence.

Facilitating Sessions on Girl Shine with Adolescent Girls, Male, and Female Caregivers



Figure 7: Session with Community Leaders



Figure 8: Community Sensitization through Popular Theatre on Child Marriage

Facilitating Sessions on Engaging Men Through Accountable Practice (EMAP) with Women and Men:

Promoted positive engagement and collaboration between genders through EMAP sessions, encouraging shared responsibility for gender equality and the prevention of gender-based violence.

Community Sensitization through Popular Theatre:

Effectively addressed violence against women with popular theatre, focusing on CHILD MARRIAGE. These dramatic performances sparked critical community discussions and initiated positive change in Camp 14.

World Vision Bangladesh Rohingya Crisis Response (BRCR)



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KEY ACHIEVEMENTS / HIGHLIGHTS (JANUARY – MARCH 2023)

Japan Platform (JPF-VI) Project:

1. Provided essential case management services and referral pathways in the refugee camp and host communities to support victims of GBV.
2. Conducted three (03) monthly case review meetings with project staff to ensure effective case management and response, involving Case Management Workers, Response Officers, Prevention Officers, Psychologists, MEAL Officer, Project Coordinator, and PM.
3. Engaged 40 females in skill development activities, including sewing, handicraft, and cooking, aimed at reducing stress and promoting healthy food preparation.
4. Distributed emergency non-food items, including Borka, Lungis and Jackets, to 450 individuals in need.
5. Conducted monthly meetings with project facilitators to coordinate and align efforts, ensuring effective project implementation.
6. Organized and delivered 420 GBV awareness sessions, reaching 1,428 individuals across the community spectrum, including women, men, adolescent girls, and adolescent boys in both the camp and host community.
7. Celebrated International Women's Day with 300 participants, involving females, males, adolescent girls, and boys in both the camp and host communities, showcasing the project's commitment to gender equality

8. Conducted a two-day refresher training program for 50 women community leaders in both the camp and host communities, empowering them with the knowledge and skills to make a difference.
9. Provided training to 80 girls on stress management, health hygiene, and staying safe from human trafficking, following the Girls Shine Approach, promoting their well-being and safety.
10. Concluded 60 sessions to raise awareness about the pivotal roles men and families can play in GBV prevention and the promotion of gender equality within married couples.
11. Delivered life skills sessions to 70 adolescent boys, including 30 in the camp and 40 in the host community, helping them understand the risks and challenges associated with GBV and child protection.

Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade-Australian Humanitarian Partnership (DFAT-AHP)

1. Conducted training to strengthen Community Watch Groups in camps 13 and 15, focusing on "Child Protection" and "Human Trafficking & Intimate Partner Violence" A total of 212 Community Watch Group Members participated (104 males and 108 females).
2. Identified CCLC women as GBV protection Focal Points, responsible for monitoring, supporting, and referring GBV cases, emphasizing a Survivor-centered approach.
3. Established a process for monitoring and follow-up on protection and GBV cases and their families in camp-15 and camp-19, involving 56 individuals.



Figure 9: Skill_development_training_Sewing&Handicraft_Camp19_Jan'23



Figure 2: Community-based_awareness_sessions_Camp19_Jan'23



Figure 3: Married_Couple_Session_camp 19&host_Feb'23

PROJECT: Prevention of and Response to sexual and Gender Based Violence against Rohingya refugee children and adolescents. Phase-06"

Education and development Foundation (Educo) has been implementing a Gender focus program funded by Barnfonden since Nov 2019 at camps 8E,10 & 17. Following this, Educo addressed their barriers and challenging and to change their traditional attitude against the adolescent girls and women, have been designed lot of initiatives likes awareness campaign, youth and community led activities, community engagement and social cohesion initiatives for peace building and versatile approaches for their social and cultural improvements.

KEY ACTIVITIES/ACHIEVEMNETS

- Organized 2 Sports Events in Rohingya Camp and host community for adolescents.
- Distributed 150 NFI/Dignity kits
- Conducted 90 sessions for engaging with adolescent boys and men to address GBV and masculinities.
- Celebrated International Youth Day at 3 camps of led by adolescent girls and women.
- Completed GWFS based activities -100 sessions on PSS, case management, referral services, life skill development and recreational activities.
- Conducted 68 Adolescent Club meeting on Gender & sexual violence, SRHR, negative consequence of early marriage.
- Conducted 3 Meetings Madrasah teachers/religious leaders to reduce the GBV.
- Completed 3 meetings with actors on CP, GBV and DRR risks.



Outdoor sport events for adolescent girls at camp-10

Haresa Bibi (14) an Adolescent Club Member, Camp-10 said that "Since 2017 till now, we have never enjoyed any outdoor program like this. It gave us so much joy, we wish Educo would give them more of this opportunity for us".

Jannat Ara (13), camp 10 added that "she was excited to participate some sports and she was one of the winners for the badminton and got the third prize. Besides studies he wants to participate in such sports"



Dignity kits support among the adolescent girls for menstrual hygiene.



Celebrated International youth Day- 2023 at camp-8E.

Above all, for adolescent girls have severe restrictions on their freedom of movement, networking, and friendships to cope with the current situation and have detached to invested with their minimum accessibility as health risk, traumatized. This initiative is a way to increase the physical and mental well-being of Rohingya youth who often suffer and continue to experience trauma from their suffering." Sports and cultural opportunities for children, adolescent and youth in humanitarian contexts and temporary settlements are limited, including barriers for girls to participate in outdoor sports. Therefore, we need to collaboratively invest more in the overall development of children, adolescents, and youth to remove all barriers.