

FAQ: Skill development initiative for Rohingya Refugees

Q: What is the Skills Development Framework for Rohingyas?

For skills training, the Govt. of Bangladesh endorsed a framework in August 2022 called the Government of Bangladesh United Nations Framework on Skills Development for Rohingya Refugee/FDMNs and Host Communities, popularly known as the Skills Development Framework.

Q: What is CBT/skill training for Rohingya refugees?

The Skills Development Framework identified some skilling areas related to the Myanmar market. Therefore, under the purview of the Skills Development Framework, organisations can provide competency-based training (CBT) training adapted from the Myanmar National Qualifications Framework (MNQF) or ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework (AQRF).

Q: Is there any Skills Needs Assessment in camps?

UNHCR conducted a Skills Needs Assessment in 2022 covering all the camps of Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char to identify potential trades or occupations and the level of skill needs of the youths aligned with the Rakhine State of Myanmar so that they can cope with their livelihoods upon return.

Q: What is the current Skill development initiative for Rohingya Refugees?

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), BRAC, Center for Natural Resource Studies (CNRS), and NGO Forum for Public Health, is implementing a skills development project as part of a joint Initiative by International Labour Organization (ILO), UNHCR and BRAC with financial support from Global Affairs Canada (GAC) in the refugee camps of Cox's Bazar and on Bhasan Char. In addition, two partner organisations of IOM Prottayashi and SHED, are also on the ground to implement the training. This skill development project has been implemented in 21 camps of Cox's Bazar by running 25 training centres. Refugee youth aged between 18-24 are the project's target group. The project will cover a total of 8,000 youth. At least 50% will be female, and 1% person with a disability.

Q: Why the formal training?

To make the skills globally recognisable or to facilitate Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), formal skills development is important as the Rohingya refugees are expected to return to their country of origin, where these formal skills training will be recognised to participate in the relevant industry sector as skilled labour.

Q: What type of training is it?

The training is Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET) adapted from the Myanmar National Qualification Framework (MNQF) or ASEAN Qualification Reference Framework (AQRF). Currently, LSDS is facilitating training delivery at Level I, which means 360 hours of formal vocational training.

Q: What is a Level-I Course?

Training duration would be 360 hours (80% Demo and 20% Theory), total sessions 72 days, Per day duration 5 hours (4 hours in class + 1 hour home learning), and an independent assessment after completing 360 hours.

Q: Is there a certification?

Yes, certification is a priority consideration. LSD Sector is planning to issue a certificate signed by the sector and/or ISCG.

Q: What are the available training courses?

Currently, LSDS will be limited to 10 occupations that have been identified by the Skills Needs Assessment conducted by UNHCR– Sewing Machine Operation, Community Health Worker, Concreter, Small Engine Mechanic, Caregiving, Solar (PV) System Installation and Maintenance, Electrician (Building), Plumbing, Agricultural Crops Production, and Bakery and Pastry Staff. In future,

the sector will review the list and liaise with the government to expand the occupation in line with the Skills Development Framework.

Q: How can a learner choose a course?

Considering the location and availability of training-providing organisations, anyone can choose a course that aligns with their prequalification, existing skills, interests, and goals.

Q: Who can join the training?

Anyone interested in formal vocational training with compatible age, primary education completion (proven or need to prove) or have reading and writing skills in English. However, they must pass a relevant Challenge/Placement Test before enrolling in the training.

Q: How can a person join the training?

Anyone with the required criteria can communicate with the nearest vocational training centre to join the training program in those particular camps.

Q: What is the duration of the training?

The total training duration is 360 hours, which takes place over 72 working days (5 hours a day).

Q: What is the language of the training materials?

All the training materials, including CBLM and assessment tools, are in English. However, the trainer can deliver the training in the local dialect.

Q: Who will be the trainer?

An organisation may hire a Bangladeshi employee with the necessary vocational experience, training, or degree indicated in the Course Accreditation Document (CAD). That means the trainer shall be certified by BTEB/NSDA. The trainer will conduct the training with assistance from a co-trainer or interpreter. It is recommended to have two training persons for each training course for a particular training centre to facilitate the training for 20 learners.

Q: Does the trainee receive any money during the training?

The trainee receives a training stipend to cover the cost of transportation and others. Each day, they receive 150 taka on a monthly basis based on their attendance.

Q: How can an LSDS partner implement Competency-Based Training (CBT) in camps?

After reviewing all ten Competency Standards (CS) received from LSDS, the partner can decide on Implementation. Submit a request to LSDS through the MS form circulated by the sector for Course Accreditation Document (CAD). If the requested partner qualifies for the physical and other resources requirements of CAD, they can request other training documents (CBLM, Session Plan, Delivery Plan, guidance on training portfolio, etc.). The final assessment, training delivery, and facility quality check might be performed by LSDS or any other entity assigned by LSDS.

Q: What contains a standard learning package?

- Competency Standard (CS)
- Course Accreditation Document (CAD)
- Session Plan
- Delivery Plan
- Competency-Based Learning Materials (CBLM)

Q: What are the training centre requirements?

Space requirement	Size in Sq. Feet	Quantity
Classroom and Workshop	700	1 per occupation
Office room	240	1 per facility
Storage	160	1 per facility
Toilet (male/female)	40	2 (1 female, 1 male)

Q: How many tools, equipment, consumables, and furniture are needed for one training?

Tools, equipment, consumable items, and furniture are needed as per Course Accreditation Document (CAD). An open demo field is also needed if it is a requirement of a particular occupation, like for Agricultural Crops Production, Concreter, etc.

Q: Who will do the independent assessment?

LSDS will piggyback the Independent Assessor Pool of UNHCR with individual assessors certified by the Bangladesh Technical Education Board (BTEB) and/or National Skills Development Authority (NSDA) of Bangladesh.

Q: What is the process of assessment?

Implementing partners will submit the request (on the prescribed template) to the LSDS for the independent assessment at least ten (10) days before the proposed assessment date. Upon receiving the request from a partner, LSDS will share a general guideline for an independent assessment to take the necessary preparation. Finally, one or two days before the proposed assessment, LSDS will share the assigned assessor information with the requested partner.

Q: What will be the next step after assessment?

Following the government's volunteer payment guidelines, the training-providing organisation will facilitate volunteer placement or self-employment opportunities for competent learners. The partner will ensure at least six months of volunteer placement or self-employment.