



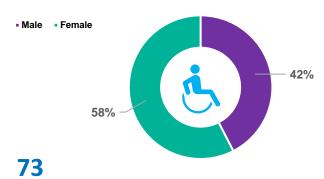




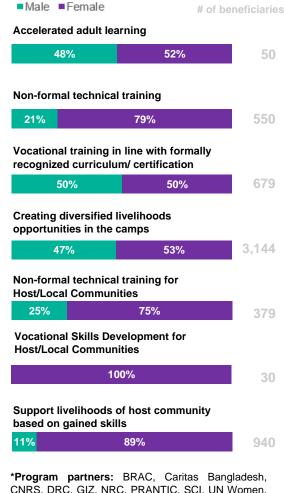
3,600 Female Reached

#### Reached beneficiaries by Location and Gender





Person with Disability reached



CNRS, DRC, GIZ, NRC, PRANTIC, SCI, UN Women, UNFPA, UNHCR

**Implementing partners:** ACF, Shushilan, BRAC, CNRS, Caritas Bangladesh, ESDO, PRANTIC, NRC, Mukti CXB, UCEP Bangladesh, JNUS-SKUS, RWWS, NGOF

### Livelihoods and Skills Development Sector (LSDS): Key Highlights and Achievements (October-December 2024)

Enhancing NGO Capacity for JRP 2025: On October 5, LSDS conducted a specialized workshop on proposal writing and reporting, in collaboration with United Purpose and the ISCG. The session was attended by 40 participants from various national and international NGOs. The primary objective was to strengthen the technical capacity of partners in developing competitive project proposals, thereby ensuring a higher quality standard of submissions for the Joint Response Plan (JRP) 2025. The workshop covered essential components of proposal development, reporting best practices, alignment with sectoral priorities, and reinforcing collective readiness for the 2025 planning cycle.



# **Livelihoods and Skills Development Sector**

Quarterly Factsheet | October to December 2024



• Strategic Vision and External Engagement: On October 7, the Sector Coordinator presented a comprehensive mid-term visioning strategy for LSDS, delineating priorities for the next two years. The strategy emphasized launching innovative activities, adopting cost-effective solutions, and accelerating efforts toward self-reliance for both refugee and host communities. On the same day, a mission from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) engaged with LSDS partners to gain insights on ongoing livelihoods interventions. This interaction highlighted the sector's focus on fostering external collaboration and creating an enabling environment for investments and innovation to support sustainable livelihoods and resilience-building.



- **Promoting Disability-Inclusive Practices:** On October 9, LSDS organized a training session for 30 representatives from partner organizations on the Washington Group Questionnaire (WGQ). The training focused on foundational concepts of disability, barriers and enablers for persons with disabilities, and the effective use of the WGQ short set of tools to collect and analyze disability data. From October 20–21, LSDS collaborated with Humanity & Inclusion, the Center for Disability in Development, and ISCG to conduct an indepth workshop on Disability-Inclusive Humanitarian Action. Thirty LSDS partner staff members participated, gaining critical insights into inclusive programming, accessibility, and participation of persons with disabilities in sector activities.
- **PSEA Mainstreaming for LSDS partners:** On October 19, LSDS partnered with the PSEA Network to deliver a training session aimed at empowering 30 partner staff and Camp Focal Points to identify, prevent, and address sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) within their operations.
- Strengthening Information Management for JRP 2025: On 24 October, the LSDS Information Management (IM) Focal convened a meeting with Camp Focal Points to provide critical updates on the JRP process. The session facilitated the exchange of field-level insights, identification of operational challenges, and alignment of activities with sector priorities, ensuring a well-coordinated approach to planning and implementation.
- Workshops to Prepare for JRP 2025: On November 2, LSDS hosted a workshop for partners to guide them in designing innovative and impactful projects for submission to JRP 2025. The workshop emphasized innovation, inclusivity, and alignment with sector objectives. As part of this process, on November 9, LSDS, in collaboration with the PSEA Network, conducted a workshop to integrate PSEA best practices into sector programming. The session also facilitated the development of a PSEA tipsheet to guide partners in addressing sexual exploitation and abuse effectively.
- Capacity Development for Local NGOs: As part of the "Developing Capacity of Bangladeshi NGOs for Humanitarian Response" initiative, BRAC conducted targeted training on 11 November for 27 Bangladeshi NGOs. The Sector Coordinator actively participated, sharing expertise and emphasizing the importance of harmonizing LSDS activities with local efforts to maximize impact and sustainability.



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Quarterly Factsheet | October to December 2024



• Advancing Cash and Voucher Programming: From November 24–28, LSDS collaborated with the CALP Network and ISCG to deliver a Core Cash and Voucher Assistance Skills training in Cox's Bazar. 18 participants from partner organizations were trained on globally recognized best practices for cash programming. This was one of the first CALP-certified trainings held in Bangladesh, marking a significant milestone in building capacity for cash-based interventions. It is anticipated that once advocacy efforts for cash programming are successful, participants will have the capacity to implement effectively.



- Peer Review for JRP 2025: The sector successfully completed the Peer Review Team process for JRP 2025, reviewing 34 project proposals and recommending 24 for inclusion. The process ensured a thorough evaluation, prioritizing impactful and sustainable interventions.
- Transforming Adult Learning Programs: On December 9, UNESCO, supported by UNHCR and other UN partners, organized a learning-sharing and validation workshop to unveil comprehensive literacy and numeracy materials designed for Accelerated Adult Learning and life skills training. A notable highlight was the introduction of the Interactive Adult Learning E-Book, a digital resource aimed at enhancing adult education and digital skills. The initiative underscores the sector's commitment to self-reliance and resilience-building through education. Distinguished participants, including high-level representatives from UNHCR, UNESCO, and LSDS partners, stressed on the importance of collaboration in achieving shared goals.
- Annual Coordination Meeting and Partner Selection: On December 1, LSDS convened its final coordination
  meeting of the year, where the selection of partners for JRP 2025 was formally announced. This event
  reinforced collective accountability and transparency in sector coordination.
- Green Skills Guidance: In collaboration with the Energy and Environment Network, LSDS developed a live
  document providing guidance on green skills development. This resource will be continually updated to
  include innovative initiatives from sector partners, promoting environmentally sustainable practices in
  humanitarian programming.
- Showcasing Refugee projects: On December 6–7, LSDS, alongside IOM, UNHCR, WFP, and implementing partners Prottyashi, NGO Forum and Cordaid, participated in the Dhaka Flow Exhibition at Shahabuddin Park in Dhaka. The event showcased products crafted by Rohingya refugees, demonstrating the transformative impact of skills development initiatives on mental health, resilience, and self-reliance. The exhibition attracted interest from donors, students, and the general public, highlighting the importance of livelihoods programs in promoting dignity and empowerment.



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Quarterly Factsheet | October to December 2024



• **Development of some key documents:** LSDS has developed the Facility Mapping Dashboard available here covering host and camp communities, and an Activity Matrix Guidance Note for JRP 2025. The sector also published its first LSDS Factsheet for July- September 2024, to be updated on a quarterly basis.

### **Upcoming Sector activities:**

- Earlier the plan to evaluate the effectiveness of Vocational Training, non-formal technical training, and volunteer engagement initiatives in enhancing the livelihoods, skills, and overall well-being of refugee beneficiaries including persons with disabilities, the Sector planned to conduct an Impact Assessment from November December 2024. Now the plan is to have the assessment undertaken from February-March 2025. The changes were due to to the JRP planning process for the Sector, which took time.
- The Sector will conduct the LSDS SAG election in January 2025, as the tenure of two years of the prevalent SAG will expire at the end of December 2024. Two International NGOs and three National NGOs will be selected through a voting process participated by the LSDS partners.

#### **Useful links:**

- Livelihood and Skills development Sector page
- LSDS 5W Summary Dashboard
- LSDS Activity Matrix Guidance JRP 2025
- LSDS JRP workshop\_budget and targets 30 October 2024
- Gender with Age Marker (GAM)\_LSDS
- JRP 2025\_Age and Disability
- LSDS\_JRP Age & Disability Technical Working Group (ADTWG)\_HI
- Ukhia HI Service Map September 2024
- Teknaf\_HI\_Service\_map\_September\_2024
- JRP 2025 Accountability to Affected Populations
- PSEA Mainstreaming JRP 25 Oct 2024
- LSDS\_Activity\_groups\_wise Mapping 2024
- LSDS\_Non\_formal\_Technical Training Mapping 2024
- LSDS\_Vocational\_training\_Mapping 2024
- Presentation on Dhaka Flow for LSD Sector
- DRC Presentation on Plastic Recycling and Garments waste Recycling
- LSDS AAB presentation on Women Market
- LSDS Factsheet [ July September]
- LSDS\_Presentation\_on Digital Skills for Rohingya Refugees\_ 30 Oct\_ Save the Children
- Catalogue of handicrafts products
- Guidance-Note-on-Green-Skills\_LSDS-EEN.pdf

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