

JOINT PROTECTION MONITORING REPORT

682

Focus Group Discussion (persons reached)

248

Home Visits

710

Key Informant Interviews (persons reached)

59%

Men

41%

Women

7%

People with disabilities

	Female	Male
Children (0-17)	1%	1%
Adult (18-59)	31%	45%
Elderly (60+)	9%	13%

The Joint Protection Monitoring framework is implemented by the Protection Sector since January 2022 to promote the systematic and regular collection, triangulation, and analysis of protection incidents and risks for the Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar camps. The Joint Protection Monitoring reports serve to inform protection programming and advocacy through a common and standardized evidence-based information collection. This report provides a better understanding of the protection situation in the camps through joint monitoring of the protection incidents and analysis of risks, threats, and vulnerabilities periodically. Six partners (UNHCR, IOM, IRC, DRC, OXFAM and HI) conduct protection monitoring as a core protection programme covering 33 camps and a total of 1,005,520* refugees. This report also reflects the contributions of Child Protection and GBV Sub-Sectors as well as of the Anti-Trafficking Working Group, Gender-Diverse Population Working Group and the Housing, Land and Property Technical Advisor.

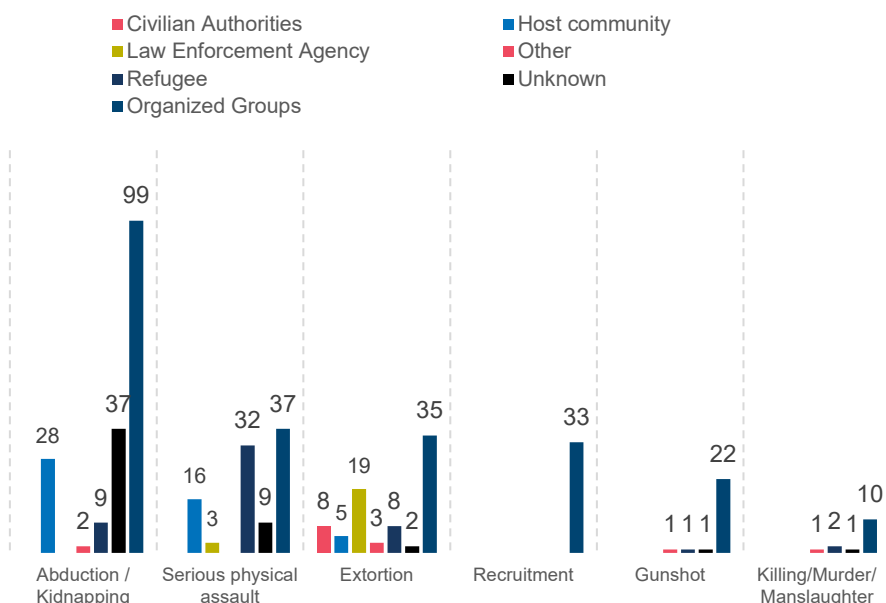
Executive summary: The so-called 'truce' on 8 November between members of the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA), the Rohingya Solidarity Organization (RSO), the Arakan Rohingya Army (ARA), and the Rohingya Islamic Mahaz (RIM) resulted in the sharp reduction of killings and use of firearms inside the camps: during November and December there were no killing incidents attributed to ARSA or RSO. However, reports of large-scale gatherings and meetings arranged by organized groups asking Rohingya refugees to go back to Myanmar and fight for their homeland continues to compromise the civilian and humanitarian character of the camps and widespread fear among the communities. Abduction cases by organized groups, particularly RSO, increased during the reporting period as did HLP disputes (+12%).

SAFETY AND SECURITY

A total of 424 serious security incidents¹ directly affecting 611 Rohingya refugees were recorded across all 33 camps in Ukhiya and Teknaf during the last quarter of 2024. These included abduction/kidnapping (157), serious physical assault (97), extortion (80), gunshots/suspected use of firearms (25), recruitment² (33), as well as killing/ murder/ manslaughter (14).

There was a 3% decrease in the overall reported protection incidents in comparison to quarter 3, and a 40% decrease in the number of refugees directly impacted by these incidents. This decline is attributed to the so-called 'truce' among ARSA, RSO, ARA, and the Islamic Mahad on 8 November, with the organized groups agreeing to work together within the camps in Bangladesh as part of the government-facilitated Mission Harmony. This resulted in a 58% drop in the number of gunshots

Alleged perpetrator per category by incident



¹ For this report, the serious incidents collected are only related to the following categories: abduction/kidnapping, extortion, killing/murder/manslaughter, serious physical assault, gunshot/suspected use of firearms and recruitment. This last category was included for this report and will be monitored in the following Joint Protection Monitoring Reports.

² Cases of recruitment are linked to abduction cases or cases where ransom could not be paid. For child recruitment cases refer to page 3.

*Last Updates, December 31, 2024 - UNHCR Data portal link available [here](#)

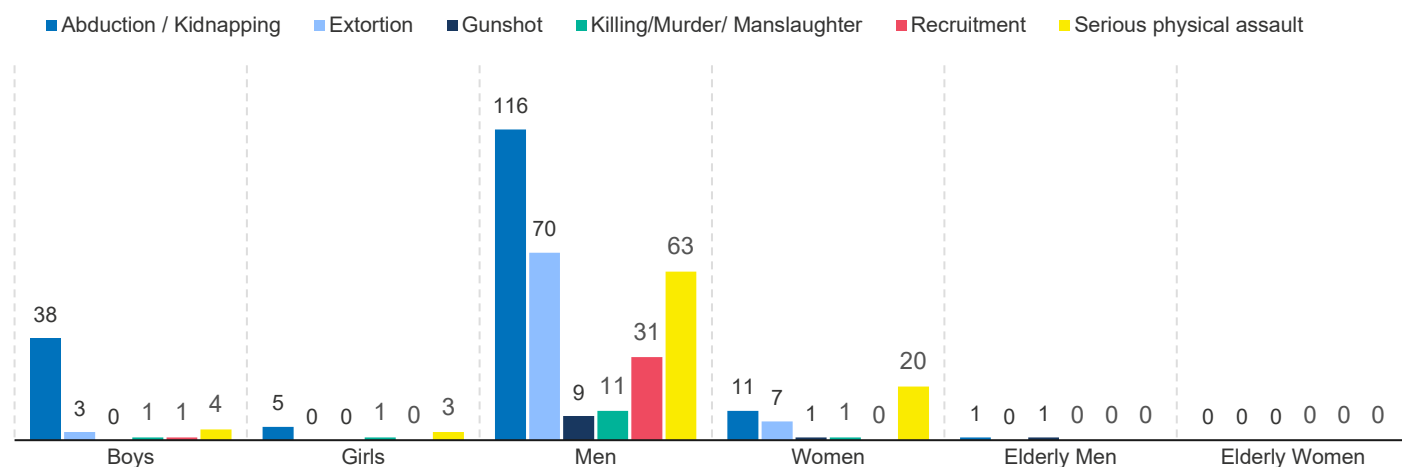
and/suspected use of firearms. Killings also decreased by 26% in comparison to the previous quarter. Out of the 14 killing incidents that occurred, 10 were reported in October before the 'truce' and were attributed to the alleged power struggle between ARSA and RSO. Organized groups were responsible for 56% of the overall number of incidents followed by refugees (12%) and host communities (11%) mainly involved in situations of abductions and physical assaults.

Abduction incidents -including kidnappings- rose by 11% and remain the main protection concern for refugees. Most of these incidents were recorded in Ukhiya camps, and the majority of refugees were released after paying a ransom. Some of the victims of abduction have reportedly endured severe physical abuse, death threats, and torture - in one case, a refugee was reportedly abducted and tortured until his family paid BDT 70,000 for his release. However, in some cases when ransom was paid, refugees continued to face ongoing harassment. More than 60% of these cases have been reportedly perpetrated by organized groups. A 25-year-old male refugee was abducted and reportedly forcibly sent by RSO members to Myanmar a week later, along with others, to fight the Arakan Army. Another 27-year-old male refugee was forced to go to Myanmar due to a BDT 40,000 debt he was unable to repay. While in the camps, he approached a member of RSO for advice and was assured his debt would be paid off if he went to Myanmar. The refugee was reportedly on the "Red Island". In November, a 40-year-old daily wage labourer was summoned by RSO members to join them, upon refusing, he was beaten up and forced to sign a consent form. Photos of him holding a gun were taken, with threats to show the photos to the Armed Police Battalion (APBn) if he did not comply. In some of the cases of abduction, organized groups, targeted individuals based on perceived affiliations with rival groups like ARSA or to increase their own ranks within the camps.

The number of serious physical assault incidents remained the same as in quarter 3, and reports of extortion rose by 11%. Extortion perpetrators primarily targeted refugee shopkeepers, NGO volunteers, and individuals perceived to have financial means or support from relatives abroad. In Camp 25, a criminal group severely abused a man after his family could not meet extortion demands, leaving them fearing further violence.

In November and December, at least six large-scale gatherings were reported, promoted by organized groups urging refugees to return to Myanmar and fight for their homeland. These meetings allegedly took place in several camps, including in madrasas, where male refugees, particularly students and teachers, were pressured to attend and coerced to stay after prayer time. On 23 November, a gathering under the banner of "Youth Movement for Arakan" was reported both in Camps 1E and 1W. Speeches highlighted the importance of unity among the Rohingya community and the preparation for a return to Rakhine State. Thousands of refugees attended another gathering in Camp 1W on 25 December, where organized group members announced plans to mobilize individuals from each camp and create lists of volunteers to be moved to Myanmar. Refugees reported little trust in the individuals organizing the gatherings, and expressed doubts that recruitment serves the interests of the Rohingya people given the current socio-political situation and the interest of the main parties to the conflict in Myanmar.

Demographic of serious protection incidents*



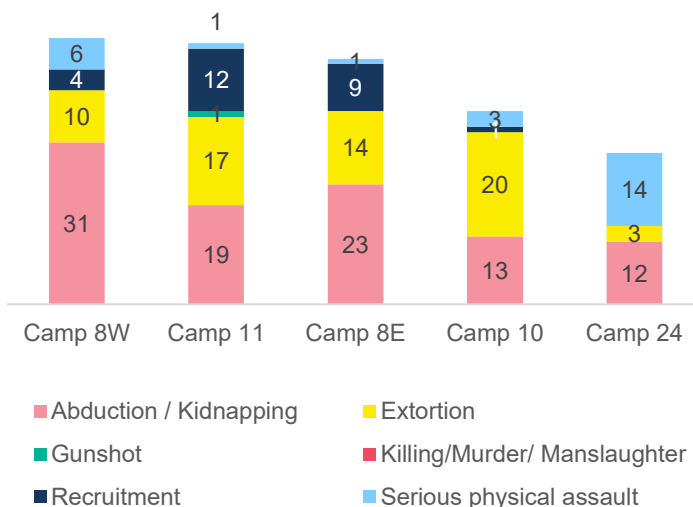
*There were 14 cases related to gunshots or suspected use of firearms, 7 cases of physical assault, 4 reported incidents of abduction and 1 case of recruitment involved persons for which gender and age couldn't be identified.

The security situation in Ukhiya camps was impacted by conflict among the organized groups, particularly in October. In Teknaf camps ARSA was reportedly attempting to establish presence in Camp 21. Teknaf camps continued to face security issues, in particular conflict between the Safi group and the Alam group for dominance in activities like abduction

and drug trafficking. Confrontations among criminal groups, particularly the Safi, Alam, and Robel groups, generated tension in Nayapara RC and Camp 26. Members of these gangs, equipped with firearms, were seen in various blocks.

Despite assurances from the APBn to the contrary, refugees continued to report being coerced to take part in night patrolling and night-guarding across various camps. Refugees, including children were requested to inform on the community, criminal activities, APBn tactics, and security issues. This practice continued to be made possible by the Majhis influence and their extortion practices, as well as organized groups and criminal elements. Instances of bribery to avoid night patrol duties were reported in quarter 4, with vulnerable groups such as young boys and persons with disabilities being forced to patrol if they could not afford to pay. Night patrolling exacerbate insecurity and vulnerability among refugees, with incidents of violence against patrollers often going unaddressed. Nighttime continues to be high-risk for violent incidents, particularly for women and girls.

Top 5 camps by incidents reported



Men continued to be disproportionately impacted by security incidents accounting for 71% of the victims followed by boys (12%). Women and girls were impacted by incidents of abductions, extortion and serious physical assaults. The reported case of an adolescent girl and a woman (mother and daughter) who were found dead in a toilet allegedly killed after a sexual assault has triggered fear; several women reported feeling less secure and preferred staying inside shelters to avoid security threats. Insufficient lighting near WASH facilities, pathways, and shelters continues to exacerbate insecurity, especially for women, children, and other vulnerable groups during nighttime hours.

During the last quarter of 2024, 96 cases of human trafficking of refugees within Bangladesh were recorded. The profile of victims, type of trafficking and modus operandi of traffickers remained largely the same as in quarter 3. Most human trafficking victims were male (57%), trafficked under the promise of paid labour and who ended up in forced labour. In addition, 14 children were identified as victims of trafficking. Refugees' homes/shelters were reported to be the main place for initial engagement with the traffickers, and trafficked victims remained in Cox's Bazar (57%) or were reportedly taken to Chittagong (28%).

More details in the quarterly Dashboard produced by the Anti-Trafficking Working Group (AT WG), available [here](#).

96
Refugees Identified

55
Men

27
Women

12
Boys

2
Girls

CHILD PROTECTION

Up to 31 December 2024, a total of 1,302 children affected by serious child rights violations perpetrated by armed groups have been documented through the Child Rights Monitoring Mechanism (CRMM)³. Of these, 749 children were affected in incidents that have been independently verified. The incidents comprise reports of 454 children abducted, 92 children recruited and used, 23 children killed, 18 children injured, and two children subjected to sexual violence by armed groups since the CRMM became operational. 713 children are estimated to have been affected in four verified incidents of denial of humanitarian access, where hostilities prevented children from access to services such as Learning Centres. CRMM data suggests that while open hostilities and violent skirmishes are reported to have decreased in December, the abduction and recruitment of children have continued. Widespread anxiety and a fear of reporting among civilians

³ The Child Rights Monitoring Mechanism (CRMM) is an undertaking of the United Nations in Bangladesh and led by UNICEF. It aims to prevent occurrences and trigger an immediate response to Child Rights Violations (CRV) in situations of violence. The CRMM is a specialized framework established to monitor, document, The Child Rights Monitoring Mechanism (CRMM) is an undertaking of the United Nations in Bangladesh and led by UNICEF. It aims to prevent occurrences and trigger an immediate response to Child Rights Violations (CRV) in situations of violence. The CRMM is a specialized framework established to monitor, document,

remains a challenge to data collection, highlighting the need to situate the CRMM within broader prevention and response efforts at the sector, sub-sector, and agency levels.

During child protection consultations, participants (62%) reported security incidents within their blocks over the past three months, including child abduction, forced labour, and harassment. Girls emphasized specific vulnerabilities, such as harassment near water collection points and the threat of forced marriage by armed groups. Activities by armed groups, including nighttime gunfights, were highlighted as a major concern, causing widespread fear among children and their families. Additionally, poor lighting and unsafe road pathways were identified as significant contributors to safety concerns, particularly after dark. Throughout quarter 4, children in Cox's Bazar continued to face significant protection challenges, including child labour, child marriage, neglect, and psychological distress. Data from 452 structured Key Informant Interviews conducted under the Child Protection Situation Monitoring (CPSM)⁴ across 44 locations highlighted the pressing need for the child protection targeted interventions.

Child labour was reported as a widespread issue, with 61% of informants reporting that children engaged in work often disrupt their education and access to recreational activities. Boys were disproportionately affected compared to girls and were primarily involved in physically demanding tasks such as market work, day labour, or carrying heavy loads. Girls, by contrast, were more frequently engaged in domestic work. Child-headed households (35%) and families with specific needs (45%) were particularly affected, underscoring the role of economic pressures as a driving factor. Child marriage persisted as a major concern, with 26% of respondents acknowledging its prevalence. CPIMS+⁵ data indicated that 5% of reported cases involved child marriage, with girls being far more affected than boys. Poverty, entrenched cultural norms, and social insecurity were identified as key drivers, with consequences such as early pregnancy, school dropouts, and health complications compounding the vulnerabilities of affected children.

Neglect emerged as one of the most frequently reported issues, with 62% of respondents identifying it in their communities. During quarter 4, the CPIMS+ revealed that neglect constituted 31% of all reported cases, affecting boys and girls almost equally. Contributing factors included large family sizes, caregiver unemployment, and limited awareness among caregivers. Children with disabilities were reported to be particularly vulnerable, often left without adequate care or opportunities for social engagement.

Psychological distress among children was an escalating concern, with 54% of respondents reporting its prevalence. CPIMS+ data showed that 12% of reported cases involved psychological distress, with girls slightly more affected than boys. Family conflict, separation, and uncertainty about the future were identified as significant stressors.



GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Women and girls continued to be extremely vulnerable to gender based violence (GBV) within the camps and host communities. During the last Quarter of 2024, physical assault (49%) remained the highest reported incident followed by psychological & emotional abuse (25%) and denial of resources (19%). These types of GBV incidents are essentially perpetrated in the context of intimate partner violence (IPV) and are characterized by women and girls suffering in silence with few survivors reporting the cases, seeking assistance, and asking for medical care after events take place due to insecurity, cultural barriers, stigma, fear, and threat of retaliation.

Sexual violence accounted for around 11% of the reported incidents in quarter 4, rape accounted for 6% and sexual assault for 5%. The same trend was reported in the previous quarter. Sexual violence cases were the most underreported form of GBV due to fear of retaliation, threats from perpetrators, and stigma. Some GBV survivors were reported to be opting for traditional medicine instead of Clinical Management of Rape (CMR). The GBV camp focal points reported that the most vulnerable groups continued to be adolescents' girls, widows, single women, adolescent boys, elderly and people with disabilities. During the reporting period, overall reported GBV incidents increased by 3% compared to quarter 3. This increase can be attributed to the mass awareness that took place during the 16 days of Activism raising awareness on the importance of reporting GBV incidents.

Like in the previous quarters, GBV incidences continue to be reported to have taken place predominantly at the

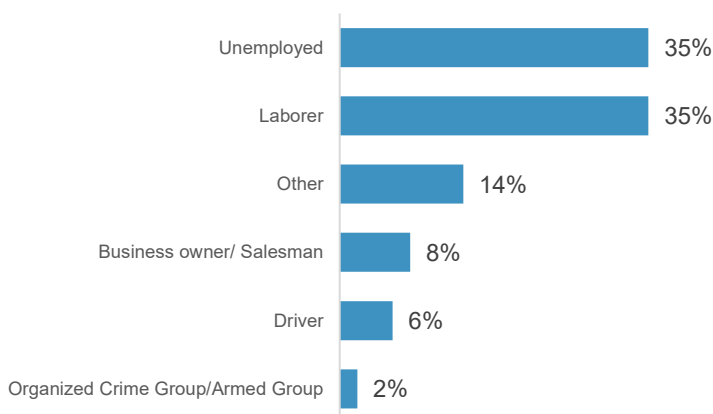
⁴ Data has been gathered from the Child Protection Situation Monitoring (CPSM) initiative. It includes inputs from 676 key Informant Interviews (KII) comprising community leaders, teachers, Majhi's, child protection workers, and volunteers, alongside 392 Adolescents who participated in 44 Focus Group Discussions (FGD). Additionally, the Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS+) records child protection cases managed by CPSS partners in the camps and child recruitment risk assessment and analysis.

⁵ CPIMS+ (Child Protection Information Management System Plus) is a tool for managing child protection case data, ensuring secure, efficient, and coordinated support for vulnerable children in humanitarian settings.

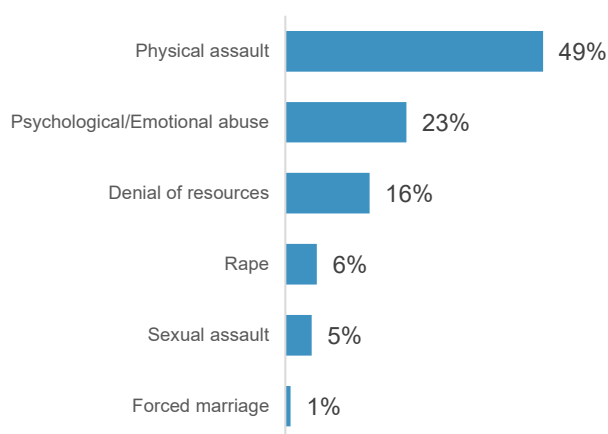
survivor's residence given that perpetrators are primarily husbands and male members of the family. An additional factor contributing to a higher number of cases reported at residences is families not often leaving their homes due to the current security situation and unemployed men spending more time at home. Other locations where incidents of GBV were recorded were streets/paths, water collection points, bathing facilities, distribution points, public toilets, bush/forest, and recreational facilities.

The main categories of perpetrators of GBV remained unchanged for this reporting period: unemployed men and labourers. These profiles explain the potential link between unemployment and GBV, in particular in situation of IPV.

Alleged Perpetrator Occupation



Top types of GBV reported



Limited livelihood opportunities for men during quarter 4 compounded by security concerns further contributes to loss of status and unfulfilled expectations over traditional roles for men and continues to worsen rates of GBV and IPV. This explains - to a great extent- why the highest rates for perpetrators "occupation" correspond to unemployed men.

Limited income-generating and recreational activities in the camp lead to frustration and general discontent amongst refugee men who feel the economic burden of their families. Tension among family members affects relationships; anxiety due to unemployment and an uncertain life continued to be reported as a catalyst for GBV.

**For a full comprehensive report with more in-depth GBV risk monitoring, please refer to the [GBVSS Rohingya Response webpage](#) and the corresponding quarterly in depth GBV report.*

SOCIAL COHESION AND PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE

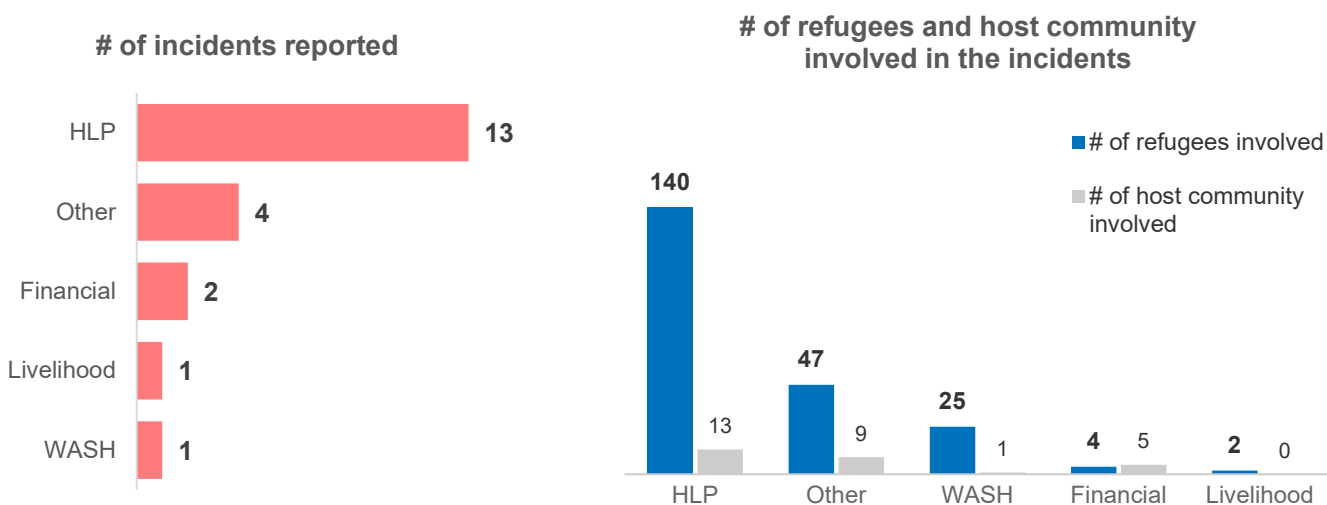
During quarter 4, a decrease of 25% in social cohesion related incidents was reported, with 21 incidents involving 246 individuals. 89% of these incidents related to tensions among the refugees and the rest to incidents between refugees and host communities.

Newly arrived refugees continued to seek accommodation with their relatives or on available land. This further added to housing, land and property (HLP) issues arising in the aftermath of the August uprising. The highest number of incidents were therefore, related to HLP issues, amounting to 12 out of the 21 recorded incidents. The recorded issues of eviction threats, theft, housing disputes, and denial of access to shared resources eroded the social fabric of these communities. Reported tensions between refugees and host community members rose, further impacting the ability to work together and support one another and contributing to resentment. During quarter 4, fear of eviction, financial pressures due to rent payments, and the insecurity caused by theft and property disputes contributed to a fragmented and distrustful environment in some of the camps.

Rental disputes were particularly traumatic for families, especially those with no income or single-headed households. In Camps 1W, 1E, 21 and 25, some refugees had to pay arbitrary rent to host community members, often in the form of rice, oil, or money. In some areas, host community members also imposed arbitrary rent increase particularly for families hosting new arrivals. In some cases, host community members demanded significant amounts of money in exchange for allowing necessary repairs. Several refugees reported threats of eviction if they did not cooperate with demands from host community members. Some refugees also experienced harassment from the host community by threatening to remove them from their homes or deny them access to basic services such as water supplies and toilets. These

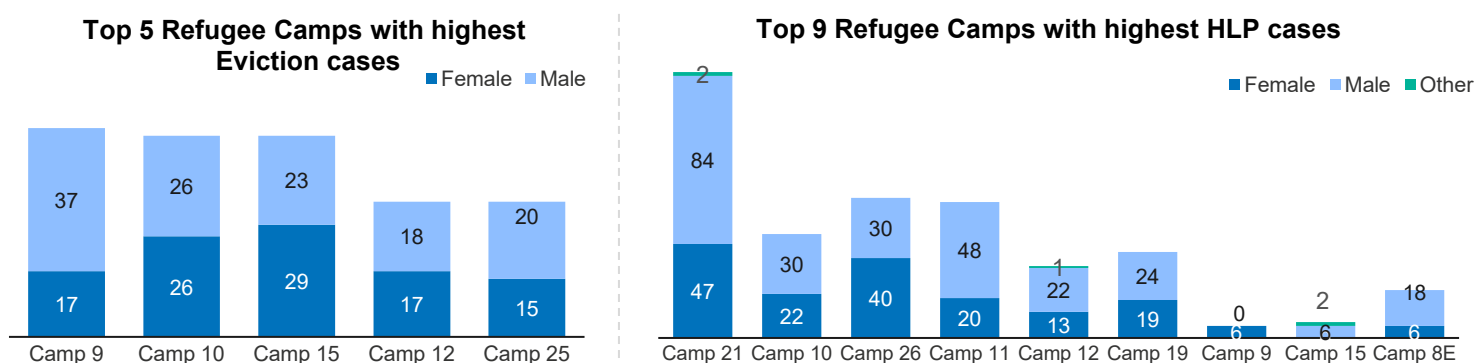
incidents constitute a pattern of exploitative practices by host community where refugees are subjected to arbitrary demands for payment in exchange for shelter or basic services.

Further, a total of 4 disputes were recorded including disagreements regarding the division of income from joint business projects, conflicts linked to borrowed money, quarrels related to loan repayments, and disputes over the sale of counterfeit gold and online gambling. Reports of disputes during this quarter suggested the involvement of criminal elements from the host community that attracted adolescents with promises of profitable job opportunities within the host community. Affiliated criminal groups with the host community also appeared to have been involved in incidents of abduction and kidnapping for ransom which further compromised the relationship between host communities and refugees. To resolve disputes, individuals from the host community in Camp 25, for example, reportedly engaged as self-proclaimed mediators with the Rohingya community. Allegedly, these individuals threatened refugees who sought assistance from external parties, leading to heightened fear for their safety and reluctance to report incidents to camp authorities, protection services, or legal representatives. An additional two financial incidents attributed to debt issues caused social tensions and led to negative attitudes towards the Rohingya refugees. Isolated incidents due to the lack of resources in the refugee and host communities and access to livelihood opportunities were also reported, as well as access to communal WASH facilities. WASH remains a critical issue, with limited resources causing frustration and competition between refugees and host communities.



In total, 1,610 HLP cases were registered in quarter 4. Of these cases, 43% were filed by women, reflecting an increasing awareness and motivation among women to assert their rights in relation to housing, land, and property. This suggests not only a rise in HLP issues affecting women but also a greater empowerment and recognition of their legal entitlements in these matters. Cases reported during this period encompassed a variety of disputes: relocation accounted for 32% of the total cases, while rental disputes represented 10% of the cases, underscoring tensions surrounding affordability, rental increases, and tenant-landlord conflicts. Disputes over access to shared facilities made up 13% of the cases, pointing to ongoing issues with equitable access to communal resources, such as water, sanitation, and other essential services.

Eviction cases in Camps 9, 10, 12, 15 and 25, with individuals reporting pressure to vacate land due to land disputes, comprised 4% of the total caseload. Additionally, forced property occupation was reported in Rajapalong, where financially powerful individuals were said to have taken advantage of others' economic vulnerability, leaving people with little legal recourse.



 **ACCESS TO JUSTICE**

Between October and December, 6,997 (58% are women and girls) refugees benefited from the legal services provided by legal partners. Among these, 4,454 refugees were provided with legal counselling; 132 were assisted with filing legal complaints in police stations and courts, and to obtain camp exit permits from CiCs; 102 refugees were released from detention; and 67 refugees were represented in legal proceedings. Additionally, as part of the alternative dispute resolution mechanisms, legal partners provided mediation support to 1,121 cases (involving 2,242 refugees), 74% of them being successfully resolved.

During the reporting period, 8,503 refugees were reached through legal awareness sessions, where lawyers informed refugees and responded to legal inquiries, including legal procedures and available legal services in camp. Abduction, threat, physical assault, detention, family disputes were the main legal issues on which refugees sought legal services from partners in quarter 4. Arbitrary resolution of legal issues by Majhis and organized group members was one of the main concerns raised by refugees. Several challenges relating to delays in the response to and in the investigation of cases by law enforcement agencies were reported, issues of non-registration of missing cases continued to be a barrier as the police's national online General Diary (GD) registration system doesn't accept refugees' identity documents. Furthermore, arbitrary resolution of legal issues by Majhis and organized group members was one of the main concerns raised by refugees.

Following the so-called 'truce' on 8 November, multiple reports of vigilante justice by parties to the truce agreement were reported. For examples, in some camps, ARSA appeared to have formed a specialized committee to address criminal activities aiming specifically at reducing incidents such as solar light theft, gunfire, abductions, and theft of mobile phones. In Camp 19, an ARSA member was reportedly instructed to strictly monitor the camp security and discipline. Organized groups in Camp 19 were reportedly responsible for enforcing order and punishing those involved in theft, and other disruptive activities. As part of this enforcement, two ARSA members were publicly punished for their alleged involvement in stealing solar lights. Similarly, two more members were punished in front of the community for stealing a mobile phone from a family. Cases requiring mediation encountered growing challenges. Organized groups were reported to have been mediating disputes, including financial settlements, which discouraged victims from seeking justice through the CiCs or legal partners. Victims of crime who engage with the CiC for mediation continue to fear retaliation.

Advocacy workshops and meetings with law enforcement authorities and the judiciary were conducted to address challenges related to access to justice for refugees. In December, a workshop with the Judicial and Administration Training Institution (JATI) involving 48 judges nationwide to discuss refugees' access to justice took place. A workshop with 93 investigation officers from district police and 58 pro bono lawyers from the District Legal Aid Office in Cox's Bazar was also conducted to facilitate legal aid for Rohingya refugees. A high-level stakeholders' dialogue with government officials from RRRC, judiciary, law enforcement and representatives from UN and NGOs was conducted to enhance coordination among justice sector actors and establish dedicated investigation units and special courts, increase female law enforcement personnel and strengthen victim and witness protection mechanisms.

 **ACCESS TO SERVICES**

During quarter 4, there was a sharp decrease of 63% in the number of refugees reported to have faced challenges in accessing services with a total of 417 affected individuals. This improved situation in comparison to quarter 3, is due to the high number of barriers reported during the restrictions, curfews, and imposed internet blackouts in mid-July and August, when the response in the camps was severely impacted.

Further, while new arrivals continued to be unable to register during the reporting period because of government policy, a headcount exercise was approved by the Interim Government for the purpose of access to assistance. Between 2 and 31 October, following an intensive campaign of communication with the communities and a door-to-door exercise to count the new arrivals, 1,046 tokens were distributed to families, representing 64,718 individuals. These families were able to access food assistance, health and nutrition services, and essential non-food items, as well as protection services without fear of being found out by elements of organized groups or Mahjis and reported to the authorities. Access to education, shelter and other services was however not approved as part of the emergency response to new arrivals. On November 7, approximately 52 Rohingya individuals were arrested at an army checkpoint. Most of those detained had recently arrived in the camps. They stated that they had received headcount tokens from UNHCR but had not yet received any humanitarian aid. Some of the new arrivals reported that Head Majhis and block Majhis demanded money for allowing them to stay in the camp and threatened those who could not pay with forcing them to leave or be handed over to the police. There were also reports of some Majhis selling empty shelters to new arrivals. Heightened

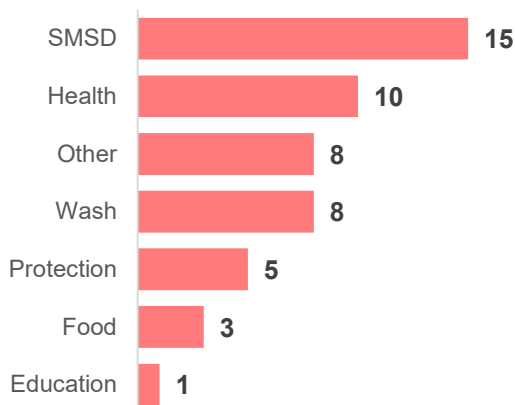
security issues in some camps disrupted the headcount exercise leading many newly arrived families without tokens thus food and other assistance. As the use of biometrics was not allowed as part of this headcount exercise, advocacy continued in quarter 4 leading to the approval of biometrics verification for new arrivals on 31 December 2024.

In addition, access to services was most affected in the Site Management and Site Development (SMSD) sector, where refugees experienced most challenges when accessing services, with some being forced to sell their shelters to newly arriving families and individuals. High demand for shelter assistance was reported during quarter 4 as families had been left exposed to damaged shelters caused by rain, collapsed walls, soil erosion, and structural failures due to challenges in the supply chain for bamboo. Vulnerable groups, including separated families, GBV survivors, and victims of vandalism, as well as newly arrived refugees, faced heightened shelter needs.

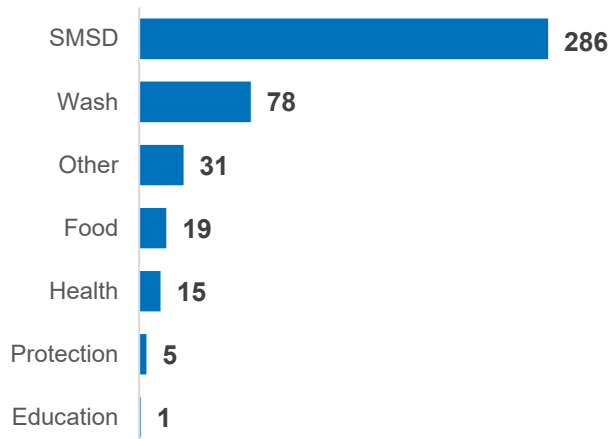
Challenges in receiving health services due to delayed referrals were also reported with 10 recorded incidents. Hepatitis C and kidney problems, for example, require permission to get assistance outside the camps in specialized facilities. Refugees were reported to have been forced to sell their ration food to pay for health assistance in Cox's Bazar or some nearer location for medical treatment. Additionally, residents of Camp 16 rely on food assistance from Camp 15, and those in Camp 25 depend on Camp 24.

There were several logistical issues that affect the timely and efficient delivery of services in the camp during quarter 4. For instance, food distribution was often irregular in some camps due to excessive number of newcomers. The distribution points were overcrowded in some of the camps, leading to confusion and some individuals being overlooked. In some areas poor roads or lack of transportation make it hard for refugees to reach, and as a result, those with mobility issues, are unable to access. As service points are also often located far from certain areas, individuals with mobility challenges that need to travel long distances continue to be disproportionately impacted in their access to critical services like healthcare or hygiene kits. Non-functional solar lighting systems and poorly maintained road infrastructure impeded service delivery in some camps. People living in blocks with fewer lights complained of fear at night and restrictions in accessing WASH facilities.

Denial of Services
(# of Incidents by sector)



Denial of Services
(# of refugees affected by sector)



RECOMMENDATIONS

- Ensure continuous monitoring by police and law enforcement in and around the refugee camps to determine if fighters and members of organized groups are present, prevent them from entering the camps and curtail the flow of arms, of any kind, including improvised weapons.
- Guarantee effective presence of law enforcement authorities in the refugee camps with clear instructions to deter infiltration, enforce law and order in a protection-sensitive manner, and prevent refugees from engaging in activities incompatible with the civilian and humanitarian character of the camps and contrary to national criminal law.



- Coordinate effective law enforcement operations, including weapon searches, in the camps and prohibiting illegal arms in the camps as well as illegal activities carried out by members of the organized groups, including coercion, recruitment and abduction/kidnapping.
- Strengthen investigation and prosecution of perpetrators of crimes in the camps -particularly for serious protection incidents- to reduce impunity and threats to refugees, deter criminal activities in the camps and ensure protection and assistance for refugee victims and witnesses as well as reinforced mechanisms to prevent and address instances of police misconduct while promoting a supportive environment for law and order
- Enhance advocacy for the full registration of new arrivals as well as their full access to individual documentation and all services, including shelter.
- Enhance activities to promote peace and security in the camps as well as peaceful coexistence as part of the Peace and Security Campaign through communication with the communities, community engagement, response to the specific needs of victims of violence and strategies to engage security actors to create a safe and secure environment for refugees in the camps.
- Address extortion practices by Majhis and block leaders while working with “community champions” on developing risk mitigation mechanisms as part of community-based protection. Also provide training to Majhis and other community leaders on their roles and responsibilities, emphasizing integrity, impartiality, community mediation skills/capacity and adherence to human rights.
- Provide sufficient educational support for adolescent boys and youth to reduce the risk of drug addiction and involvement in other illegal activities. This could include expanding access to quality schooling, vocational or skill development training, recreational activities including Sports for Protection, meaningful community engagement opportunities, and mentorship programs.
- Strengthen and enhance gender-based violence prevention strategies amongst women and men in the community, particularly about the challenges faced by widowed women, women-headed households, youth and adolescent girls and boys to promote gender equality. Provide safe spaces, meaningful engagement opportunities, women and girls targeted sports for protection activities, support groups, and counselling services. Encourage women’s participation in training, meetings, their accessing service facilities, as well as support for women empowerment and leadership.
- Continue advocacy efforts with government officials to ensure dignified survivor centred GBV service provision for women and girls which are respectful of confidentiality, due processes and gender-sensitive involvement.
- Advocate for more livelihood and skill development opportunities to prevent and address harmful coping mechanisms such as child marriage, child labour, engagement in illegal activities and other protection risks, and to empower communities in particular the young people.

END