



# Shelter and CCCM Sector, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

JULY 2025



## BI-ANNUAL REPORT 2025



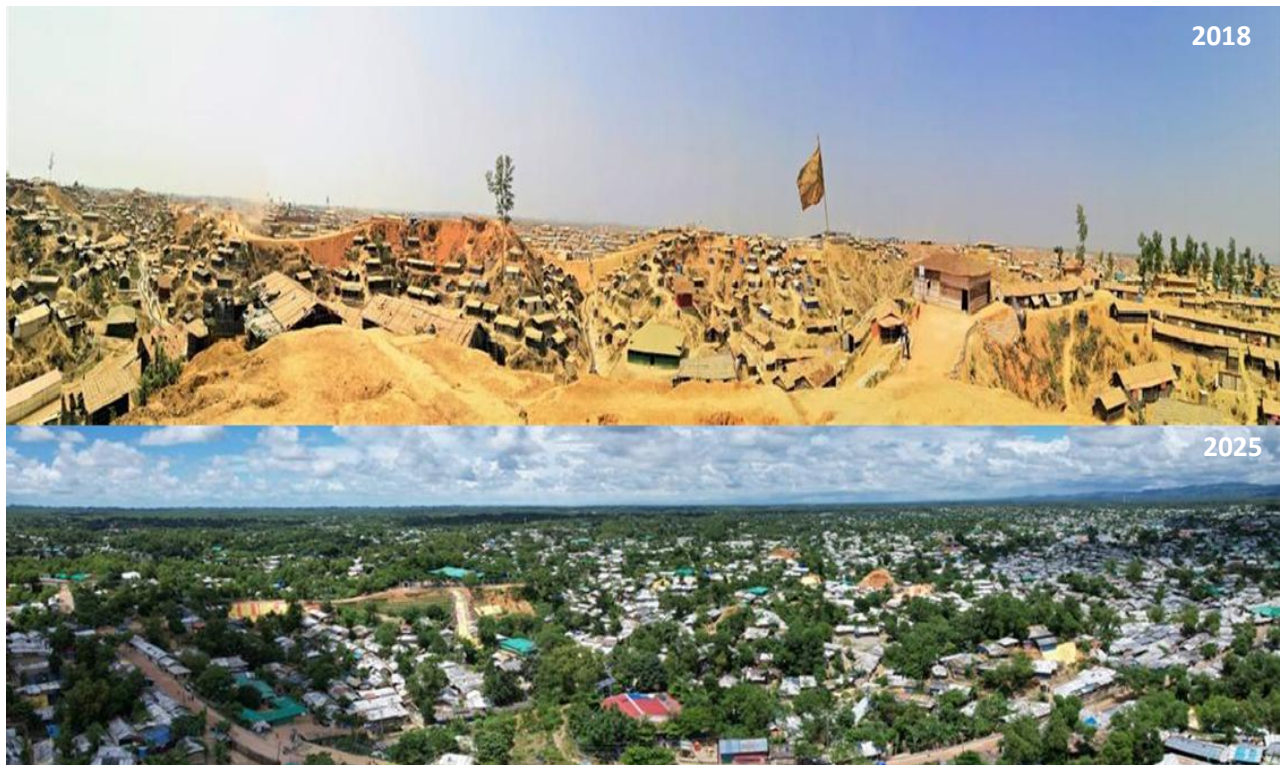


## Forward:

*The Shelter-CCCM (SCCCM) Sector, formed in 2023 by merging the Site Management and Site Development (SMSD) and Shelter and Non-Food Items sectors, is co-led by IOM and UNHCR, in consultation with the Government of Bangladesh. In 2025, this has allowed more cohesive planning and integrated SCCCMM assistance, enhancing coordination among partners and the government. Priorities include integrating emergency preparedness, climate change adaptation, and improved camp planning. Community inclusion, knowledge sharing, nature-based site development, and timely emergency shelter and NFI support are key focuses, benefiting both Rohingya refugees and host communities.*

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*Photo: Before and After in Rohingya Camps*



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## Acronyms and Glossary:

**AAP** – Accountability to Affected People  
**CCCM** – Camp Coordination and Camp Management  
**CIC** – Camp In-Charge  
**CP&E** – Community Participation and Empowerment  
**CLP**- Community Led Project  
**DRM** – Disaster Risk Management  
**FAO** – Food and Agriculture Organization  
**GIS** – Geographic Information System  
**HC** – Host Community  
**HH** – Household  
**HLP** – Housing, Land, and Property  
**HRP** – Humanitarian Response Plan  
**IOM** – International Organization for Migration  
**ISCG** – Inter-Sector Coordination Group  
**ISP** – Integrated Settlement Planning  
**JRP**- Joint Response Plan  
**LPG** – Liquefied Petroleum Gas  
**MoDMR** – Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief  
**NA** – New Arrivals  
**NFI** – Non-Food Item  
**NGO** – Non-Governmental Organization  
**PDM** – Post Distribution Monitoring  
**PIN** – People in need  
**PSEA** – Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse  
**RRRC** – Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner  
**SAG** - Strategic Advisory Group  
**SCCCM** – Shelter, Camp Coordination and Camp Management  
**SD** – Site Development  
**SMS** – Site Management Support  
**SNA** – Shelter Needs Assessment  
**SOP** – Standard Operating Procedure  
**TSS** - Temporary Safer Shelter  
**UNHCR** – United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
**USD** – United States Dollar  
**WASH** – Water, Sanitation and Hygiene





## SCCCM SECTOR Background:

The Shelter-CCCM (SCCCM) Sector, formed in 2023 by merging the Site Management and Site Development (SMSD) and Shelter and Non-Food Items sectors, is co-led by IOM and UNHCR, in consultation with the Government of Bangladesh. In 2025, this has allowed more cohesive planning and integrated SCCCМ assistance, enhancing coordination among partners and the government. Priorities include integrating emergency preparedness, climate change adaptation, and improved camp planning. Community inclusion, knowledge sharing, nature-based site development, and timely emergency shelter and NFI support are key focuses, benefiting both Rohingya refugees and host communities. To ensure effective delivery of SCCCМ services, the Sector has collaborated with 29 partners, including the Government of Bangladesh, in 2025. This collaboration allows the Sector to operate at the forefront of SCCCМ interventions. The Sector has a Strategic Advisory Group that advocates strategic priorities and supports contingency plans. Currently, the Sector comprises four thematic task forces, namely, the Shelter Task Force, the NFI Task Force, the Site Management Task Force, and the Site Development Task Force. These Task Forces guarantee compliance with the national and international standards.



*Photo: From a Rohingya Camp @ISCG*



## Introduction:

The Shelter and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (S-CCCM) Sector provides life-saving shelter, NFI, site management, and site development assistance to Rohingya refugees and host communities in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. This bi-annual report (January-June 2025) documents our work under the Joint Response Plan (JRP 2025) framework – including its strategic priorities (P1) and USD 53 million funding requirements – while highlighting key achievements across three core areas: Shelter-NFI distributions and upgrades, Camp Coordination and Management (CCCM) activities through Site Management Support teams, and critical Site Development infrastructure projects. Progress during this period is contextualized through incident reports and quantitative figures demonstrating operational impact.

Significant capacity-building initiatives are featured, including the National Workshop on Integrated Settlement Planning (ISP), the TSS Workshop with RRRC, Landslide Risk Mitigation Planning sessions, World Environment Day engagements, and CCCM Training programs. The report also details our coordinated monsoon preparedness and response efforts, complemented by field testimonies illustrating frontline impact in CCCM, Shelter, and Site Development work.

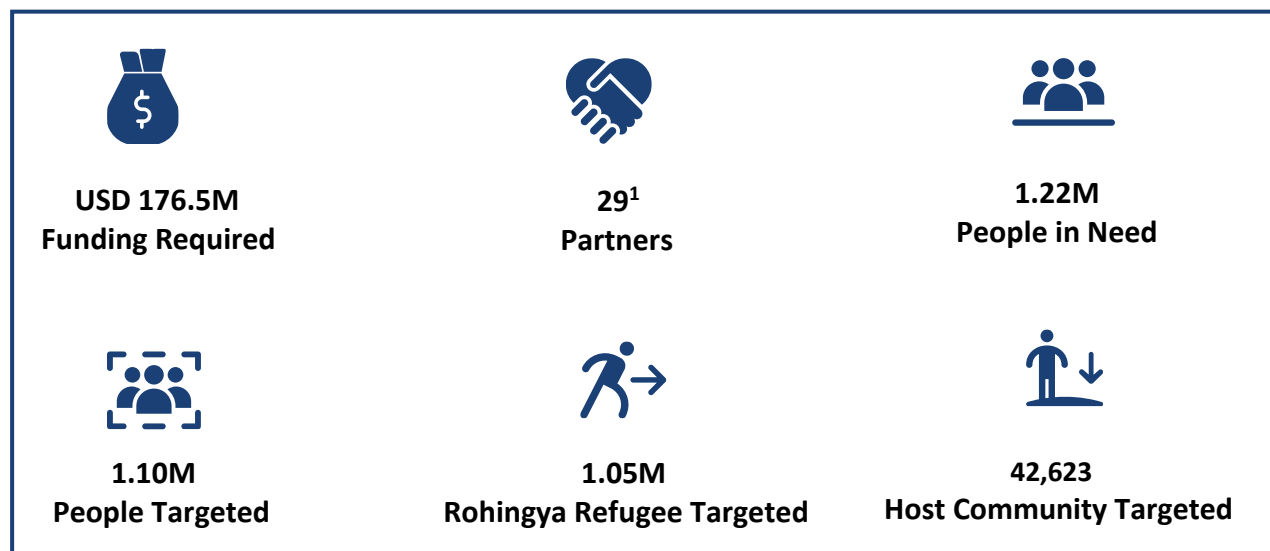
Persistent challenges – including severe funding gaps, environmental pressures from LPG shortages, site congestion, and disaster risks – are thoroughly examined to inform urgent advocacy priorities. This comprehensive overview aims to transparently showcase both successes and critical unmet needs during the reporting period.



*Photo: From a Rohingya Camp @SCCCM*

## JRP 2025 Overview for SCCCM Sector:

### Key Figures



### Objectives of JRP 2025-2026

**OBJECTIVE 1:** Ensure timely and equitable delivery of Shelter, NFI, Camp Coordination and Camp Management services to Rohingya Refugees/FDMNs and host community (living in close proximity to the camps) to reduce exposure to physical and protection related risks including ensuring access to safe energy solutions to Refugee/FDMN households.

**OBJECTIVE 2:** Ensure critical emergency preparedness and response to households affected by disasters and other sudden onset events through the provision of emergency shelter, NFI, LPG, site development and site management support while also protecting and rehabilitating ecosystems.

**OBJECTIVE 3:** Enhance inclusive engagement and accountability through support to participatory coordination and feedback mechanisms among stakeholders.

Appealed Budget	176.5M (100%)
Funding needed - 1st Priority	53.0M
Funding (received+ committed)- 1st Priority	17.1M
Confirmed Budget as of June 2025 for (P1+P2+P3+R/S)	56.1M (32%)

<sup>1</sup> SD-17 partners, NFI-10 partners, Shelter-14 partners, SM-08 partners.





## Progress (2025)

- Temporary Safer Shelter (TSS): Among four TSS types proposed to the Government, Option 1 (Lime Stabilized Soil shelter) is now in the rollout phase. This design features:
  - Flooring: Sand and cement
  - Lower/Upper Walling: Lime-stabilized soil plaster on bamboo mat
  - Roofing: Corrugated Galvanized Iron (CGI) with CGI ridge and PU insulation.
  - More than **700** New Lime-stabilized Soil (LSS) Shelters have been constructed to serve as a firebreak in the camps
- Agencies – in consultation with ISCG-SCCCM Sector and RRRC – may construct shelters combining elements from all four proposed options (e.g., sand/cement, MS pipe, terracotta tiles, lime-stabilized soil plaster). Pilot implementation is ongoing, prioritizing firebreaks and landslide-prone areas.
- The Multi-Sectoral Settlement Planning (MSSP) Task Force is currently awaiting final approval from the Government/RRRC
- Advocacy for additional land is ongoing to help reduce congestion and accommodate the anticipated 150,000 to 200,000 new arrivals.



*Photo: Shelter constructed for new arrivals and/or relocation @SCCCM*

- IOM and partners are deploying these "LSS Shelters" in Camps 8E, 8W, 09, and 13. Training and Workshops conducted:
  - TSS Workshop for the RRRC office took place in February 2025
  - Integrated Settlement Planning (ISP) in Feb 2025
  - Landslide Risk Prevention in April 2025
  - CCCM/CSI Training in May 2025
- SD Catalogue 3.0 update is ongoing to standardize site development activities.
- To harmonize all shelter types currently practiced at the field level into a single platform, as part of the Sector's initiative to develop a comprehensive Shelter Catalogue.



- Funding gap analysis has been done as elaborated in the table below.

Funding as of 10 June 2025		P1 prioritization			Current received and committed funding for P2-3-R/S that can potentially cover P1 Gap			
JRP Ask	Funded overall	P1 funding required	P1 funding received + committed	P1 funding gap	Total P2+P3+R/ S funding	P2 funding	P3 funding	R/S funding
176.5M	56.1M	53.0M	17.1M (32.2%)	35.9M	39.0M	24.7M	3.9M	10.4M

## Mid Year Funding Analysis for 2025-

Priority 1-Sub-activities	Estimated requirement (USD)	Funding received + commitments (USD) as of 10 Jun 2026	% funded	Prioritization in April 2025
CFRM/ Feedback and Information Desks	2.0M	593K	30%	1st
Community Awareness	2.1M	774K	37%	1st, 2nd
Drainage cleaning and de-stilling -DRM	1.4M	432K	31%	1st
Drainage construction, repair, maintenance and cleaning -DRM	2.6M	828K	32%	1st
DRM Drills and Simulations	1.5M	100K	32%	1st
DRM Training	2.2M	146K	44%	1st
Early Warning System and community awareness creation	1.8M	90K	38%	1st
Emergency (Cyclone , Monsoon, Fire) prepositioning (Emergency Shelter and Emergency NFI)	1.5M	593K	31%	1st, 2nd
Emergency NFI, distribution, including EVHHs	1.1M	450K	31%	1st, 2nd
Emergency shelter construction, including piloting of alternative techniques, including EVHHs	880K	371K	36%	1st
Emergency Shelter materials distribution, support ,including EVHHs	982K	702K	37%	1st, 2nd
Emergency shelter reinforcement, including EVHHs	7.1M	442K	30%	1st
Fire Safety	868K	355K	35%	1st
Management of volunteers and first responders	922K	335K	32%	1st
Rapid Damage Verification (RDV)	870K	342K	36%	1st
Relocation	869K	902K	31%	1st
Slope Stabilization	3.4M	335K	50%	1st
Tie Down Kits (TDK) with technical support	821K	728K	31%	1st, 2nd
LPG refills distribution including emergency distribution (EVHH)	21.8M	564K	27%	1st
	54.6M	9.1M	32%	

### KEY TO NOTE

- LPG - The funding gap for LPG refill distribution activities under P1, including emergency supplies, is USD 20.2 million. The sector has received USD 5.8 million under P1 and an additional USD 4.2 million under P2, which is intended for trainings, energy-efficient cookware, EVHHs, and post-distribution monitoring. In light of the upcoming phase-out of LPG distribution: IOM's LPG support will end on 31 July 2025 and UNHCR's LPG support is going to phase out by 30 September 2025. Currently, a flash appeal to fund LPG is under development.
- DRM – Disaster Risk Management (DRM) activities under P1 comprise 17 activities with a total requirement of USD 26.7 million, of which USD 10.7 million has been funded so far. Among these, 5 activities focus on



emergency interventions related to cyclones, monsoons, and fires, with a dedicated requirement of USD 15.9 million under P1 and USD 5.8 million under P2, of which, only DRM activities under P1 are funded up to USD 3.6 million, leaving a gap of USD 16 million.

## Thematic Update:

### Shelter-NFI Major Achievements:



**95,656**

Household provided  
with shelter kits



**40,188**

Shelter construction  
and repair  
support provided



**581,865**

Sets of NFI kits provided



**492,780**

LPG refills distributed



**68,326**

Energy efficient  
cooking set/pressure  
cookers distributed



**11,868**

Stove with/without  
gas cylinder distributed



**9,905**

Individuals provided  
with shelter  
construction training



**739**

Community engagement and safe  
shelter construction training sessions  
held



**16,144**

Shelter-related  
assessments done



Photo: CBS constructed in Camp 4E



Photo: Rapid Damage Verification



**Minimum NFI Package has been harmonized including WASH kits. New package includes-**

ITEM Name	QUANTITIES	Remark
Blanket	1 pc (for 1-2 individuals) 2 pcs for 3-4 individuals 3 pcs for 5-6 individuals 4pcs for 7-8 individuals 5 pcs for 9 and above individuals	NFIs
Sleeping/ Floor Mat	1 Per Individual	
Mosquito Net	1 pc for 1-3 individuals 2 pcs for 4-6 individuals 3 pcs for 7 and above individuals	
Solar Light	1 Per Family/HH	
Kitchen Set	1 Per Family/HH	
Cylinder	1 Per Family/HH	LPG
Stove	1 Per Family/HH	
Igniter	1 Per Family/HH	
Regulator	1 Per Family/HH	
Jerrycan	1 Pc irrespective of family sizes	WASH Kits
16L bucket	1 Pc irrespective of family sizes	
1.5L mug	1 Pc irrespective of family sizes	
2L bodna	1 Pc irrespective of family sizes	
Sandle	6 Pcs irrespective of family sizes	
Laundry soap 6 nos.	6 Pcs irrespective of family sizes	
Bathing soap 6 nos.	6 Pcs irrespective of family sizes	
Detergent powder	1 Pc irrespective of family sizes	
Antiseptic liquid	1 Pc irrespective of family sizes	
Nail cutter	1 Pc irrespective of family sizes	
Cotton gamcha 2pc	2 Pc irrespective of family sizes	
LT brush	1 Pc irrespective of family sizes	
Sanitary pads 10pc	10 Pcs irrespective of family sizes	
Panty 4 pc	4 Pcs irrespective of family sizes	
White (carrying) kit bag	1 Per Family/HH	Carrying Bag



## Site Management Support/ Camp Management and Camp Coordination

AAP Capacity Sharing/Training Community Participation and Empowerment	1,199	# Visitors visited the information hub
	30	# of trainings conducted from SM volunteers and DMU on disaster management and SM technical issues
	265	# of Campaigns on disaster preparedness, SD intervention, LPG use, new arrival, information dissemination
	168	# of committees on AGD and other thematic groups,
Disaster Risk Management	8	# of fire drills conducted
	633	# fire extinguishers pre-positioned
	2,394	# of fire stands established/maintained
	10,750	# of Rohingya volunteers/CFW mobilised
	8,706	# Awareness sessions on monsoon preparedness, landslide, cyclone, fire, LPG use
Service Coordination and Site Management Support	2,694	# of volunteers engaged
	352	# Coordination Meeting with stakeholders conducted
	133	# of organizations participated in camp level meetings
	58	# Camp-level Regular SMSD service monitoring completed

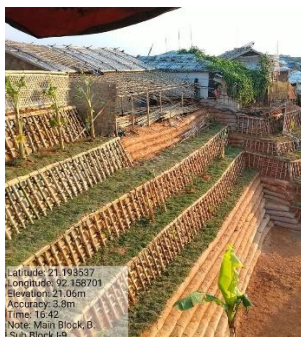


*Photo: Cyclone Preparedness Drill for the Disaster Management Unit (DMU) Volunteers*





## Site Development- Major Achievements



**131,902 sqm**

Slope protection  
intervention  
completed



**305,101 m**

*Drainage Cleaning and  
maintenance done*



**8,377 m**

*Drainage constructed  
and repaired*



**19,204 sqm**

Pathways/roads  
construction and  
repair



**3,360 sqm**

Stairways constructed  
and repaired



**1,164 sqm**

Water crossing  
constructed and  
repaired



**41,525 sqm**

Fencing provided for  
plantation and safety  
purposes



**92 sessions**

Community awareness  
on disaster risk  
management  
conducted



## Incident Report- 2025

**Participated  
Agencies**



**5 Agencies**

**Covered Camps**



**33 Camps**

**Reported Incidents**



**1,634 nos.**

**Affected  
Households**



**14,283**

**Affected  
Individuals**



**70,049**

**Displaced  
Individuals**



**7,738**

**Number of Damaged  
Shelters**



**Partially:  
8,835**



**Fully: 162**

**Number of Casualties  
and Injuries**



**Dead:20**



**Injured: 138**

**Number of Damaged Facilities**



**Health  
02**



**Water  
Points 17**



**Latrine  
251**

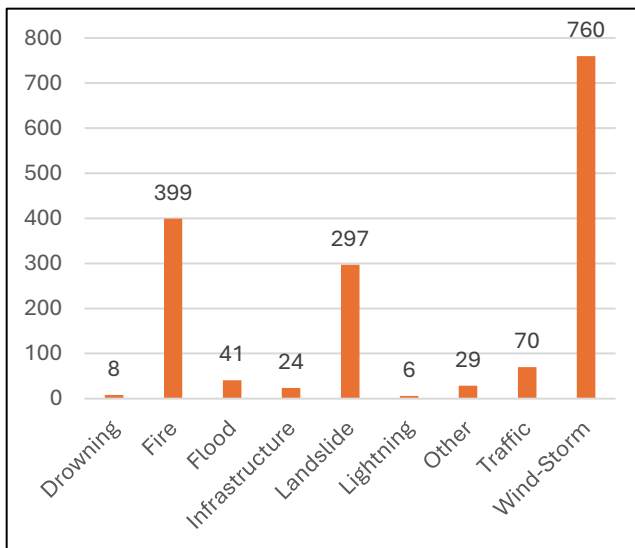


**Learning  
Center 54**



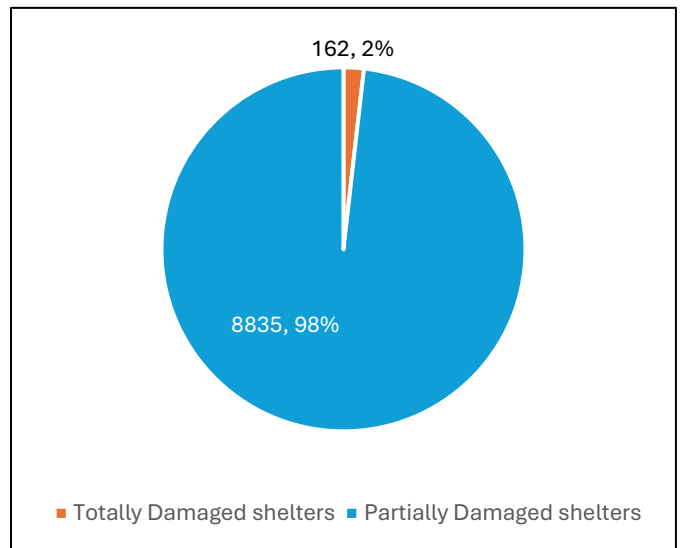
**S/NFI  
Distribution  
point 03**

### Number and Type of Incidents



*Graph: Type of Incidents*

### Damaged Shelters Categories



*Graph: Shelter Damage from Jan-June'25*





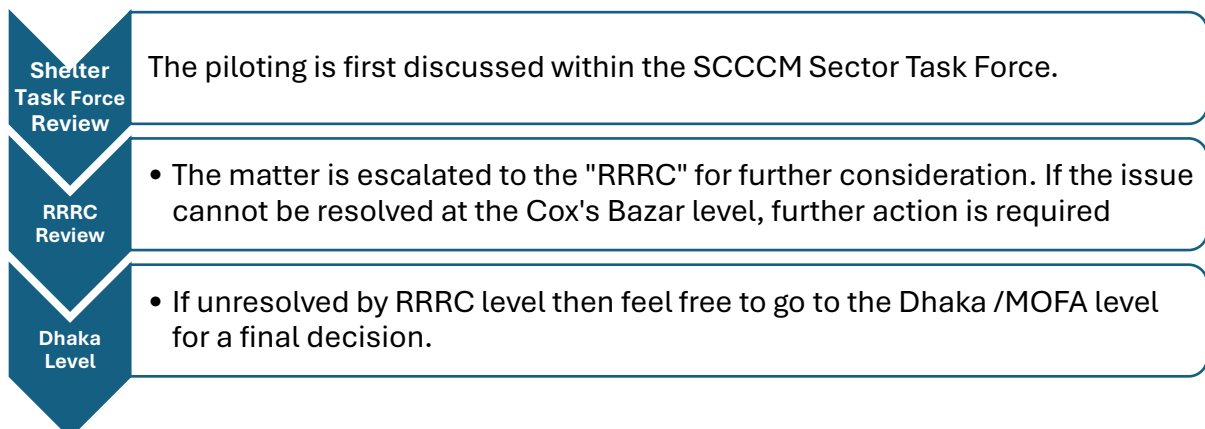
## EVENTS: TSS Workshop with RRRC (9th Feb)

On 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025, a daylong workshop was held at the office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner on Temporary Safer Shelter options developed by the Shelter taskforce and endorsed by the Inter-sector Coordination Group. Among the 4 proposed options, one was finally approved- Lime Stabilized Soil constructed shelter, while the weather and fire-resistant materials had also been approved for planning new shelter models.



LSS Shelter at innovation valley in Camp 20 @IOM

Any new type of materials/Shelter/SP the process must be as bellow-



As per the committee's preference, a certain percentage of shelters in the camp must be lime-stabilized to uphold their decision and ensure compliance. To integrate these shelter models into site planning, site planners should identify appropriate locations. In the slope areas and flood prone areas, stilt shelters might be more suitable. In some cases, no alternative options may be available, making their placement essential. For flat ground, other shelter models can be considered based on suitability and planning requirements.



## National Workshop on Integrated Settlement Planning (ISP) (23rd TO 27th Feb)

The Integrated Settlement Planning Workshop, held from 23rd to 27th February 2025, brought together key stakeholders, including government officials, UN agencies (UNHCR, IOM), and sector partners, to enhance collaboration and capacity for refugee camp planning. Organized by the SCCCM Sector and ISCG, the workshop aimed to strengthen government leadership and foster cross-sectoral coordination in Cox's Bazar's Rohingya refugee response.

### Key outcomes included:

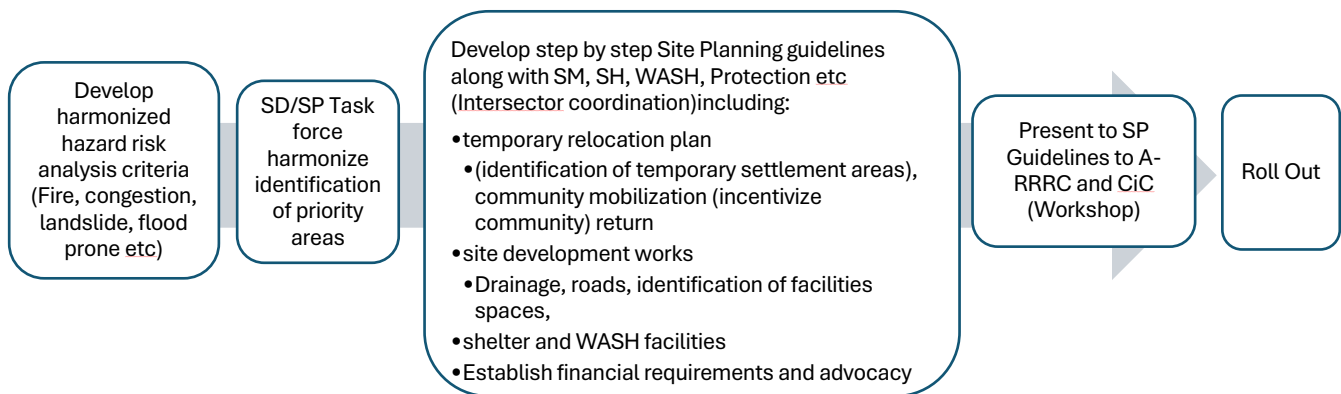
- Camp In-Charges and officials gained tools for participatory settlement planning, with high satisfaction rates (4.26/5) reported as per the post survey.
- Improved alignment between IOM and UNHCR on planning standards and mutual understanding of approaches.
- Calls for government-led planning, hazard mitigation, and rehabilitation of natural drainage systems were emphasized.
- Participants highlighted the value of field visits, group work (rated 4.63/5 as per the post survey), and global insights from Geneva experts. Next steps include follow-up trainings (e.g., GIS), regular knowledge-sharing platforms, and forming an ISCG Taskforce to implement recommendations.
- The workshop underscored the need for innovative solutions amid space constraints, with a focus on equitable infrastructure and shelter safety.
- An action plan was drawn for developing the site planning guideline for Rohingya Camps below:



Photo: ISP Workshop DAY 2



Photo: ISP Workshop Field Visit







## Landslide Risk Prevention and Mitigation Planning Workshop

On 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025, a workshop on landslide risk prevention and mitigation was organized by the SCCCM sector and the RRRC office in Cox's Bazar where almost 105 participants took part in the group activities on landslide risk mitigation, prevention and relocation strategies. The UN Resident Coordinator and RRRC were present during the inauguration session among other distinguished guests. Participants including govt officials from the RRRC office, APBN, UN staff, NGO, INGO participated in the group activities. To examine the proposed strategies for effectively preventing and mitigating landslide risk in the Rohingya camps. Importantly, it will provide a platform to share practices, lessons learned and discuss solutions to address underlying issues that affect the effective delivery of landslide risk mitigation, emergency preparedness, and response measures.



Photo: Group activity during the workshop @UNHCR



Photo: Invited Guests at the workshop @SCCCM

## Celebration of World Environment Day

Led by the Energy and Environment Network (EEN) and in collaboration of the RRRC office, World Environment Day 2025 was celebrated across the camps from 16-18 June. Tree plantation, awareness against plastic pollution, art competition for children, camp cleaning campaign, community dialogue, awareness sessions, street drama etc. were organized by SCCCM actors in different camps.







*Photo: Observation of World Environment Day in Different Camps*

## CCCM Training by Capacity Sharing Initiative (CSI)

The Joint Capacity Sharing Initiative, under the S-CCCM Sector, technically co-led by both IOM and UNHCR, is a multi-sectoral and multi-disciplinary training, capacity sharing and skills transfer platform that prepares and reinforces the Government of Bangladesh's (GoB) national site management staff and other relevant stakeholder. The Capacity Sharing Initiative arranged a 3 days CCCM Foundation training from 12-14 May 2025.







Photo: CCCM Foundation Training Participants by CSI Team

### Highlight: Monsoon Response

As of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025, Heavy monsoon rains caused 297 landslides and 41 flooding incidents across Cox's Bazar's Rohingya camps, damaging 4,174 shelters and displacing 4,942 people<sup>2</sup>. Despite proactive measures, a significant funding gap is undermining vital relief efforts. The lead agencies i.e. UNHCR and IOM, in coordination with Bangladesh authorities and partners under the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG), has launched an emergency response. Over 3,000 community disaster management volunteers and hundreds of additional community responders and cash for workers have been deployed across the camps to support emergency relocations, rescue operations, and initial damage assessments.

Site management agencies conducted cyclone preparedness drills, community mobilization for relocation from the landslide risk prone areas, consultation and awareness sessions with the thematic community groups. Site Development and DRR actors focused on drainage cleaning and desilting, covering or stabilising risky slopes to prevent landslides and protect both lives and critical infrastructure, removing fallen trees and debris from shelters and accessways.

The shelter response included providing Emergency Shelter Repair Support to affected households within the shortest possible timeframe, ensuring quick restoration of safety and dignity, mobilizing the community with timely awareness messages on preparedness, safety measures, and available support mechanisms, supporting vulnerable families with temporary and emergency relocation, minimizing

<sup>2</sup> [S-CCCM daily incident Report](#)





exposure to life-threatening risks during intense weather events.



*Photo: Monsoon Response by Shelter, Site Management and Site Development-DRR actors*





## Sheltering Hope, Building Resilience: SCCCM in Action

### CCCM

#### *From Pain to Purpose: Sokina's Journey Towards Strengthening Camp Resilience*

Sokina's (35) life in Myanmar was upended in 2017. Fleeing military violence with her children, she endured a traumatic journey to Bangladesh, separated from her husband and everything she knew. Settling in the overcrowded Camp 26 in Teknaf, she faced profound uncertainty—a single mother of three, haunted by loss and struggling to survive. But in 2018, Sokina found a lifeline: ActionAid Bangladesh's Site Management Support (SMS) program. She stepped forward as a volunteer, determined to rebuild purpose from pain.

Trained in disaster response, first aid, and firefighting, Sokina transformed into a pillar of resilience for her community. Daily, she walks through the camp's narrow pathways, conducting home visits to share life-saving knowledge: reducing fire risks, promoting safe hygiene, and connecting vulnerable families to essential services. Her courage defied tradition—becoming one of Camp 26's first female fire responders. She now leads fire drills, teaching neighbors to use extinguishers and pumps, evacuate safely, and stay calm in emergencies. Her leadership has not only reduced panic during crises but also reshaped perceptions of women's roles in the community.



*Photo: Sokina in her role as a fire fighter @ACTED*

Through her work, Sokina ignites change far beyond safety. Her advocacy for clean water and health referrals has curbed disease outbreaks. Her visibility as a confident female volunteer in male-dominated spaces inspires other women to step into community leadership. "This role gave me strength," she reflects. "I lost my past, but I gained a future through helping others."

Sokina's journey—from displaced mother to trusted first responder—proves the power of refugee-led solutions. For seven years, her dedication has fortified Camp 26 against disasters and despair. Yet her heart remains anchored in hope: "I work every day to make camp life better, but I yearn for the moment I can return home to Myanmar."

Her story underscores the SMS program's impact and the urgent need for sustained support: continued stipends for volunteers, advanced training in first aid and psychosocial care, and pathways for skilled women like Sokina to transition into paid humanitarian roles.



## Shelter:

### *From Shelter to Home Is Where the Art Is: Aiub's Artistic Vision for a Safer Home*

The 2021 fire that tore through Camp 9 in Cox's Bazar laid bare a deadly truth: tightly packed bamboo-and-tarpaulin shelters, with no firebreaks, became death traps. For Mohammad Aiub—a 31-year-old Rohingya mason who fled Myanmar's violence in 2017—this vulnerability haunted daily life. "We slept fearing rain, wind, or a single spark," he recalls. Years without shelter upgrades left families defenseless.



*Aiub's shelter before @HEKS*



*Aiub's LSS Shelter in its original form @HEKS*



*LSS Shelter with Aiub's artistic touch @HEKS*

HEKS/EPER and IOM responded with Lime Stabilized Soil (LSS) shelters—fire-resistant structures designed to *prevent* disaster. Strategically placed to create life-saving firebreak zones, they swapped tarpaulins for lime-stabilized earth walls and fireproof jute-wrapped bamboo. Aiub, whose masonry skills lay dormant since displacement, seized the chance to rebuild through a cash-for-work program. "Finally, I could use my hands to protect my family," he says. The result: a sturdy, weatherproof home needing minimal upkeep for 3–5 years, a revelation compared to annual repairs of the past.

Firebreak zones now curb fire spread, while non-flammable materials shield against accidents. Respiratory illnesses from mold and dust have dropped; waterlogging no longer breeds disease. But for Aiub, the shelter became more than safety. Using lime putty and brick dust, he etched intricate brick patterns onto the walls—no real bricks, just memory and skill. "This isn't just a shelter; it's *my home*," he insists. Neighbours, inspired by his artistry, began reimagining their own spaces.

Families initially resisted smaller sizes, and skilled labor was scarce. HEKS/EPER overcame this through community dialogue and recruiting masons from other camps. Yet gaps remain darkened interiors due to privacy-driven window reductions, and no lighting after dusk. "Solar lamps would turn safety into dignity," Aiub notes. His story underscores a broader truth: safer shelters save lives, but they must also nurture hope. "I rebuilt my pride here," Aiub reflects. Scaling solutions like LSS across high-risk camps, integrating refugee craftsmanship, and powering homes with solar energy aren't luxuries—they're the foundation of survival. In Camp 9, Aiub's art-covered walls stand as a testament to resilience, one brushstroke at a time.



## Site Development:

### *Turning the Tide: How Watershed Healing United Refugees and Hosts in Cox's Bazar*

When 700,000 Rohingya refugees poured into Cox's Bazar in 2017, the hills paid the price. Forests vanished for shelters and firewood, terraced slopes bled soil, and monsoon rains turned camps into death traps. "Every storm brought landslides and sewage floods," recalls Mohammad Hossain, a Rohingya leader. For host communities like farmers Shabuddin and Mohiuddin, choked streams meant barren fields and poisoned water. The environmental crisis threatened everyone.

IOM responded with nature-based watershed healing at Kutupalong-Balukhali Extension—home to 984,591 refugees. Their approach centered on community power:

IOM anchored its watershed recovery in community voices, beginning with workshops that let Rohingya refugees and host communities prioritize interventions—from unclogging toxic drains to fortifying landslide-prone slopes. Nature itself became the blueprint: deep-rooted vetiver grasses were planted to bind eroding hillsides, while constructed wetlands filtered polluted greywater before it choked streams. Crucially, cash-for-work programs engaged women, the elderly, and persons with disabilities from both communities, transforming labor into a bridge of solidarity. Where tensions once framed land as "theirs versus ours," shared stewardship forged a new narrative: **"our shared safety."**



*Photo: Camp 20 Extension Integrated Watershed Project Before (left) and after (right) @IOM*

The transformation is palpable. Where fetid drains once bred mosquitoes, clean waterways now flow. Hills once crumbling under rain now stand fortified with vegetation. Mohammad Hossain confirms: "The stench is gone. Our children breathe easier." For host brothers Shabuddin and Mohiuddin, restored drainage meant reviving dead farmland: "We donated 700 feet of land willingly after seeing results—this is how we rebuild together."

Beyond environmental gains, the project reshaped social dynamics. Women gained economic voice through cash-for-work, reducing vulnerability. Joint maintenance committees now bridge refugee-host divides. "We share the same rains, the same soil," notes an IOM engineer. "Protecting them requires protecting each other."





*Photo: Camp 14 Watershed Project Before(left) and after(right) @IOM*

Challenges remain—monitoring restored ecosystems needs long-term funding, and scaling requires tailored guidelines for Cox’s Bazar’s fragile geology. Yet this watershed approach proves that environmental healing can be the deepest form of crisis response: one that doesn’t just save lives but weaves fractured communities into resilient tapestries. As monsoon clouds gather, the replanted hills whisper a promise: broken land can mend, and so can people.

### Challenges of SCCM Sector:

- ❖ **Extreme Camp Congestion and Space Constraints:** Growing populations exert immense pressure on sites, compounded by Housing, Land, and Property (HLP) issues and no available land for expansion. Critical overcrowding is evident, with 23 camps providing less than 30 sqm per person and 8 camps falling below the extreme threshold of 15 sqm per person.
- ❖ **Significant Gaps in Shelter and NFI Assistance:** Critical shortfalls persist, with 39,394 households lacking planned shelter assistance and 30,000 refugees without essential Non-Food Item (NFI) support, severely impacting basic living conditions and dignity.
- ❖ **New Arrivals:** The ongoing influx of new arrivals places acute pressure on already limited shelter options and resources, hindering the ability to meet their immediate basic needs upon arrival.
- ❖ **Funding Constraints Impacting Site Safety & Maintenance:** Limited funding has directly caused delays in crucial slope protection works and drainage maintenance, increasing vulnerability to disasters like landslides and flooding. Emergency response capabilities are further hampered by the complex terrain and access difficulties within the camps.



❖ **Precarious Cooking Fuel Situation &**

**Environmental Risk:** Despite progress, 23% of households remain dependent on firewood, creating significant protection and environmental hazards. Due to a severe funding shortfall, 50% of the camp population will lose access to LPG by the end of August. Without urgent support, refugee families will be left with no choice but to return to collecting firewood—triggering deforestation, landslides, health crises, protection risks for women and girls, and a surge in malnutrition.



*Photo: Comparison of camps in 2018 (pre-LPG) vs camps in 2025 (post-LPG and with reforestation) @IOM*

- ❖ **Protracted Displacement without Durable Solutions:** The absence of a political pathway and durable solution for refugees fundamentally constrains the response, impeding the necessary transition from purely humanitarian assistance towards more sustainable, nexus-based approaches.

## SCCCM Advocacy Points and Recommendation:

- **Decongest Camps Urgently:** Release land to address extreme overcrowding (8 camps <15m<sup>2</sup>/person) and improve settlements including new arrival shelter and CCCM assistance.
- **Enhanced Disaster Risk management :** Fund slope stabilization, drainage, and firebreaks in all site works.
- **Scale up Temporary Safer Shelters:** Fast-track fire/weather-resistant shelters and relocate refugees from high-risk areas.
- **LPG Response:** Urgent fund mobilisations of full-coverage LPG distribution to prevent deforestation, landslides, GBV risks, and food insecurity.
- **Integrate NFI-Shelter Design:** Standardize shelters with safe cooking spaces and storage to reduce hazards.

## Annexes

- [SCCCM Sector Website](#)
- [SCCCM Sector Area of Responsible \(AoR\) Map](#)
- [Camp Focal Information and Contact List](#)
- [Daily Incident report Dashboard](#)
- [Guidelines for the Management of Vacant Shelters-2025](#)
- [Shelter-NFI Harmonized PDM Guideline and Questionnaire-2025](#)



## COORDINATED BY

**SHELTER & CCCM  
SECTOR**  
Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh



**ISCG**  
INTER SECTOR  
COORDINATION  
GROUP  
**Rohingya  
Refugee  
Response**  
Bangladesh

## Lead Agencies

 **IOM**  
UN MIGRATION

 **UNHCR**  
The UN Refugee Agency

## SCCCM Partners

 **ACTED**  
Agence d'Aide à la Coopération Technique Et au Développement  
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Children**



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The UN Refugee Agency








## Cross Cutting Themes

 **Accountability to Affected People (AAP)**

 **Age and Disability**

 **Emergency Preparedness and Response**

 **Energy and Environment**

 **Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)**



**YOUTH**  
WORKING GROUP  
Cox's Bazar



**GiHA WG**  
GENDER IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION  
WORKING GROUP COX'S BAZAR

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