

A Social Review on Rohingya Crisis

Long-term Action Plan is needed based on joint risk assessment: Participation of Locals is a Must in Rohingya Response

1. Introduction

The Cox's Bazar is hosting about 1 million Rohingya people forced to flee from Myanmar to survive from the atrocities of the Myanmar armies. COAST has conducted a Social Review to get practical knowledge on the situation of the host and Rohingya communities, to identify the sufferings and challenges of both communities, and to place some specific recommendations. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) provided technical and financial support for the review process as a part of its project on social cohesion and peaceful co-existence.

The social review was the first of its kind in the Rohingya response. To conduct the social review COAST formed four Social Cohesion Committees in four unions hosting refugee camps. These unions are Raza Palong, Palong Khali, Whykong, Hnila Unions of Ukhiy and Teknaf Upazila under the Cox's Bazar district. Each committee consists of five host community representatives with three male and two female members. The committee consists of male and female Union Parishad (UP) members, teachers, social workers, etc.

To conduct the social review, the Social Cohesion Committees visited both camps and host communities, they visited eight camps and four unions of Ukhiya and Teknaf Upazila. The committees organized focused group discussions, special motivational meetings with Majhees and imams. They also met with Camp In Charge (CICs) to brief the findings. The Social Cohesion Committees also arranged social Monitoring, they reviewed different activities and projects of government organizations, (Non-Government Organization (NGOs), International NGOs (INGOs), and UN agencies. They also organized meetings with UP bodies, civil societies, and local political leaders. After all the activities at the camps and host communities,

Social Cohesion Committees presented their findings and recommendations in district-level multi-stakeholders dialogues.

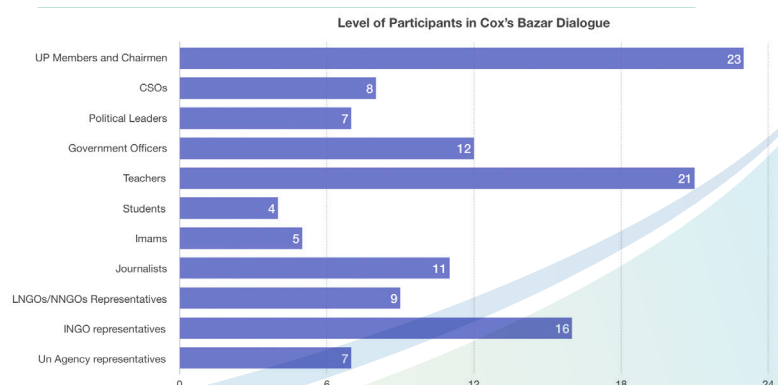
The dialogue titled "Together for Better Rohingya Response until Repatriation & Facilitating Development in Cox's Bazar" was organized on 19th December. The main objectives of that dialogues were to place the findings and recommendations of the Social Cohesion Committee meetings and discuss the issue in more detail. Participants of the dialogue were representatives from government offices, UN agencies, INGOs, national and local NGOs, Local political leaders, representatives from Local Elected Bodies/Union Parishad members and Chairmen, civil society and media leaders, religious leaders like Imams, teachers, and students etc. from the localities. The dialogue outline and presentation were developed both in English and Bangla one month before the event, and these were circulated to all prospective participants 30 days before the event through e-mail. These were also available for public on the website.

2. Methodologies of this Report

In this brief report, we have presented the key findings and recommendations of the Social Cohesion Committees, then a brief proceeding of the dialogue has also been added here. We have placed key statements from speakers. In the dialogue after keynote presentations, the floor was open and after 4/5 reflections from the floor, there were presentations from panel members. There were 7-panel members and a total of 27 speakers from the floor. Chief Guest of the event was the Director-General of the NGO Affairs Bureau of the Prime Minister Office, Government of Bangladesh. Apart from key government and UN agency officials, we invited two disaster management and refugee experts, woman rights

Level of Participation in the Dialogue

In total 123 participants took part in the dialogued held in Cox's Bazar on 19th December 2019. COAST tried to ensure the effective participation of all key stakeholders. Special focus was on the participation of the representatives of the Local Elected Bodies (LEB) like Union Parishad. 23 LEB representatives took part along with 4 UP Chairmen. Participation from CSOs, INGOs and NNGOs, teachers, political leaders were also there. The below chart places the types of participants at a glance.



specialist, peacebuilding and accountability expert, the key consultants of localization task force were also present. Assistant Commissioner responsible for NGO activities from the Deputy Commissioner (DC) office, high-level officials of UNHCR and IOM were there too as panel members. Rezaul Karim Chowdhury of COAST Trust and Abu Musrhed Chowdhury of Cox's Bazar CSO NGO Forum (CCNF) moderated the dialogue. After the event, there were press releases both in English and Bangla. Both print and online media from Cox's Bazar and Dhaka have extensively covered news of the event.

Media Coverage of the Dialogue

The coverage of the dialogue by the local and national media was encouraging. Total 7 national English daily including the Daily Star, The Daily Observer, New Nation, The Finance Today and United News of Bangladesh. Local media also gave attention to the event. Total 13 local newspapers of Cox's Bazar and 14 online newspapers published news on the event. Almost all the media highlighted the issues we wanted to raise from the official press release. The title of the press release was, 'Participation of the local CSOs and the Union Parishad is must in the Rohingya Responses: A Joint Risk Assessment is Necessary to Assess Host Communities' Risks: Integrated Development Plan with Priority in Education is Needed For Cox's Bazar'. National newspaper The Daily Star published the news with the headline of 'Locals not getting benefits of development projects in Cox's Bazar for Rohingya influx: Speakers'. The oldest English newspaper of the country The Daily Observer said, 'Holistic development plan seen vital for Rohingyas'. The Finance Today said, 'A Joint Risk Assessment is Necessary to Assess Host Communities' Risks: Integrated Development Plan with Priority in Education is Needed For Cox's Bazar.'

Bangla newspapers highlighted the participation of the UP in Rohingya response. They also emphasized on the joint risk assessment and development plan for Cox's Bazar. For example, the daily Cox's Bazar said, Joint Risk Assessment for Cox's Bazar is needed: Education should get priority in Development Plan.'



3. Key Findings with Recommendations of Social Cohesion Committees

A. Findings from Camp Visit

Finding 1:

Most of the Rohingya people, especially youths, spend their time sitting idle. As the idle brain is the devil's workshop, it might attract them to terrorism and drug trafficking. Especially female adolescents are at risk of trafficking and lure to unsocial activities.

Recommendations:

- There should be programs to involve youth with various activities, especially with higher-level education with Myanmar syllabus.
- To enable Rohingya youth to get income opportunities while they will back to Myanmar, special vocational/skill development training can be introduced.
- Youth can be employed within camps for different income-generating activities, like plumbing, electric mechanic, etc.
- A special awareness campaign for youth on life skills and anti-terrorism based on human rights and secular philosophy. They should also be engaged in popular cultural activities.

Finding 2:

Youths are vulnerable to be involved with misdeeds and crimes.

Recommendations:

- Awareness/education activities should be conducted for Rohingya youths, there should be network so that they will be self-organized and not to involve in criminal activities.

Finding 3:

Some Majhies are autocratic in behavior and trying to secure personal illegal interests.

Recommendations:

- Awareness / education activities should be conducted for Rohingya youths, there should be network so that they will be self-organized and not to involve in criminal activities.
- There should be Complain Response Mechanism (CRM) in the camp management.

- Imams and Moazzins should be brought in a network to promote human rights and secular culture and to prevent possible threats of terrorism.

Finding 4:

Girls are severely vulnerable to trafficking and violation.

Recommendations:

- Special awareness/orientation for Rohingya girls against trafficking.
- Network of self-protection within the camps, there should be a committee of opinion leaders from both camps and host communities should be there to stand against the women trafficking and violence against women.

Finding 5:

Some of Rohingya are not polite in communicating with host community people.

Recommendations:

- We can arrange regular dialogues between Rohingya and the host community.
- Joint Social Cohesion Committee can be formed and functional.

Finding 6:

Refugee families need support for self-resilience.

Recommendations:

- Family-based household income-generating activities should be introduced, these will be helpful to ensure resilience for the Rohingya camps. Even after the repatriation, these will help them. This “Self Reliance” is also needed to cope with the reduced level of aid in the future.

Finding 7:

Rising frustration because of the delay in repatriation.

Recommendations:

- Camp level sharing events, from where Rohingya community people will know about the government efforts regarding the repatriation.

B. Findings from the Host Community

Finding 1:

It has decreased attendance at education institutions, as many students are working with response agencies and NGOs.

Recommendations:

- Legally binding government action/guideline on recruitment in Rohingya response, e.g., the student should not be employed in refugee response.
- Change in timing of educational institutions, so that even students can continue their education while they will also be able to maintain the job.



Rohingya Imams Want to Play Greater Role

The Social Cohesion Committee of Whykong union Parishad (Teknaf) organized an FGD with the Rohingya Imams on 15.07.2019. Imams are Islamic religious leaders who mainly lead the Masjids, the main prayer center of Muslims. Imams play a vital role in societies where strong Islamic religious sentiments prevail. The FGD was organized in camp 21.

During the discussion, 12 Imams were present while 5 members of the Social Cohesion Committee of Whykong union Parishad of Teknaf Upazila were also there. The main issue of discussion was maintaining and improving the peaceful co-existence among Rohingya and Host community people. Imams expressed their gratitude towards the host community for their support. They said, ‘The humanity that the Host community people have seen for us is rare in the world.’

Imams also expressed their appreciation and gratefulness to the government of Bangladesh. As they mentioned, ‘the government of Bangladesh is making sincere efforts for sustainable repatriation to the Rohingya that’s why we thank the government of Bangladesh.’

We agreed to them that, to ensure peaceful coexistence, the responsibilities of the Rohingya people were higher than the Host community People. Since because of the Rohingya influx host community people have lost their cultivation land, green garden, the reservoir of fish farming, etc. Imams also express their commitment to being aware of any terrorist activities within the camps.

Finding 2:

Many teachers have moved to work with Rohingya Response for higher salaries.

Recommendations:

- There should be a ceiling in salaries, as salary level in response is extraordinarily high.
- Affected education institutions should be compensated, special support in getting part-time teacher/quality teachers.

- We should devise an innovative approach to support education institutions of Ukhiya and Cox's Bazar to protect losing young generation in the locality regarding education.

Finding 3:

Teachers and students are struggling to reach the school on time due to heavy traffic.

Recommendations:

- We should control the number of vehicle movements in the camp areas.
- A joint and coordinated vehicle pool of UN agencies and INGOs in Cox's Bazar can be an effective option.
- Response Management should stay near the camps/ working areas, near Ukhiya, which is time and cost-saving in both. Maybe Cox's Bazar is the only example in the world where response management is staying in two hours far from refugee camps. Ukhiya could be developed as a separate township. These will also be helpful to keep the touristic nature of Cox's Bazar intact.

Finding 4:

There is an extraordinary rise in the cost of transportation in Ukhiya and Cox's Bazar, causing suffering to normal people.

Recommendations:

- Response Management should stay near the camps/ working areas, near Ukhiya, which is time and cost-saving in both. Maybe Cox's Bazar is the only example in the world where response management is staying in two hours far from refugee camps. Ukhiya could be developed as a separate township. These will also be helpful to keep the touristic nature of Cox's Bazar intact.

Finding 5:

Child marriage - polygamy has increased. Local men are marrying Rohingya women in the camps.

Recommendations:

- Awareness campaigns both in camps and host communities.

Finding 6:

The water level has gone down. Locals are struggling in getting drinking water, it has increased the cost.

Recommendations:

- We need scientific analysis.
- Campaign and actions on using surface water.
- Stop support in camps and locality in deep tube well installation.
- To increase surface water use, all the ponds in Ukhiya and Teknaf should be re-excavated and there should be community awareness to increase the preservation of surface water.

- There should be an immediate introduction to the Naf river water treatment plant to supply drinking water to camps.

Finding 7:

Rohingya influx has increased drug trafficking.

Recommendations:

- Strong Anti-drug campaign especially among youths both in locals and camps.
- We should enhance the presence of law and order authorities, especially there should be enhanced night time vigilance.
- Strong actions against the locals and refugees involved in drug trafficking.

Finding 8:

Rohingya influx has reduced both the wages and the employment opportunities of the local workers.

Recommendations:

- We should create employment opportunities for the poor family members of locals. Cash for work could be introduced especially to protect the environment.
- Family-based Income-Generating Activities for the poor host community families.
- There should be transparency on 25% of the total fund of the Rohingya response has gone to host communities.
- Give priority to the locals in recruitment.
- Involve local businessmen and contractors for procurements.
- Involve more farmers in supplying foods and others, there should be special projects to boost the production of local agricultural products in Ukhiya and Cox's bazar district, considering the 1.1 million refugee population as a market. These will also help to reduce the price level of agricultural products at the local level.

Finding 9:

House rent in Cox's Bazar has been increased, suffering for the fixed income people have been increased.

Recommendations:

- The ceiling in house rent in Cox's Bazar, this could be considered by DC (Deputy Commissioner) office.
- Total Refugee Response management could be considered to shift in Ukhiya. Ukhiya should be considered to develop as another one township, aid agencies could be given space to develop their infrastructure in Ukhiya. This is the only way to reduce the burden of Cox's Bazar town and also to keep intact its touristic nature, and also to reduce the cost of response management.

Finding 10:

Behavioral changes are evident among residents, especially among children, youth communities and mothers living in or around Rohingya camps areas.

Recommendations:

- Camps should be relocated from the vicinity of the host communities' houses.
- More dialogue and communication among both the community people.
- Some host community families are inside the camps, they should be compensated and relocated outside the camps.

Findings 11:

NGOs, INGOs, and UN agencies are selecting working areas, beneficiaries, preparing and implementing projects without almost any consultation and participation of the Union Parishads (UP) /local leaders.

Recommendations:

- Working areas/beneficiaries should be selected with the participation of UPs/CSOs and local leaders.
- Participation of UPs/CSOs and local leaders should be ensured in the preparation, implementation, and evaluation of projects.
- NGOs, INGOs and UN agencies should provide a regular update to the UPs about their project/program progresses.
- There should be a regular sharing/coordination meeting in the Upazila and Union levels, where UN agencies and NGOs should report on their activities.

Finding 12:

In some areas of Ukhiya-Teknaf, there is a problem with the mobile network, especially for the locals.

Recommendations:

- The government should reconsider to open the full network, through networks individual's movement and other activities could be tracked.

Finding 13:

Different negative news on the camps such as violence, drug seizures, are creating a negative attitude towards Rohingya.

Recommendations:

- The network of the local journalist, visit camp can be arranged for the journalist to see the actual situations.
- Journalists can be motivated to publish positive news that can ensure social cohesion until repatriation.

Finding 14:

Fishing has banned since 2017 after an influx in Naf River. Now fisherman has nothing to work and they are passing a very miserable life as they have no livelihood options. This is one of the serious impacts and finding in the host community fisherman community.

Recommendations:

- Government can allow fishing in the Naf river again.
- Fisherman can get allowance if fishing is banned in the Naf river.

Finding 15:

Suspension of Birth registration in Cox's Bazar district. Biometric registration of 1 million Rohingya refugees has been completed. But local Cox's Bazar people have no option for birth registration. Local people are facing serious problems to admit their son in school.

Recommendations:

- The government should resume birth registration in Cox's Bazar district again.
- NGOs or the UN should work with the government to ensure this.

Host Communities demand increase level of accountability and transparency

Arranging Social Monitoring of ongoing different development projects in the host communities was a part of the activities of the Social Cohesion Committee. On 19 September 2019, the Social Cohesion Committee of Whykong union Parishad (Teknaf) organized an FGD with some beneficiaries of different projects being implemented by the government, NGOs, INGOs, and UN agencies.

During the FGDs 20 beneficiaries of different projects took part. Social Cohesion Promotion committee tried to know about the impact of the development efforts and to know the situation of the host community people.

From the FGD we learned that, host community people are getting life skill development training, agriculture and cultivation training, widow and elderly allowance, educational and sports equipment, sanitation, and hygiene equipment and training, etc. We find those activities important and effective for the host community. Host community people also recommended increased transparency and accountability of the projects. They also recommend engaging local people with the planning of those projects.



Key Discussion of the Dialogue

The dialogue has had happened as a part of a project supported by UNHCR (United Nation's High Commissioner for Refugees), objectives of the project is to promote peaceful co-existence with human dignity of Rohingya, especially protecting social harmony and, keeping pace of the long term investment in Cox's Bazar for its social and economic development, to promote common understanding especially with local key stakeholders (e.g., with Union Parishad leaders and local journalists), high-level government policymakers, international agencies, and non-government organizations, to promote alternatives and proposals on the issues as mentioned above to the policymakers based on feedback from local social cohesion committee leaders.

Rezaul Karim Chowdhury of COAST Trust and Abu Musrhed Chowdhury of Cox's Bazar CSO NGO Forum (CCNF) moderated the discussion. Mr. KM Abdus Salam, Director General of the NGO Affairs Bureau was present as the Chief Guest of that event. Among others Barrister Manzoor Hasan of Center for Peace and Justice, BRAC University, Ms. Shireen Haque of Naripokkha, Disaster Management and Refugee Expert Mr. Abdul Latif Khan, and Nayeem Gowhar Wahra, Mr. Manuel Manoise Periera Cox's Bazar chief of IOM, Ms. Hinako Talki, Senior Operations Manager of UNHCR, Camp In-charge Mr. Abu Zafar Oabidullah and Assistant Commissioner of District Commissioner Office Ms. Jinnat Shahid Pinky were present.

Speakers opined that, we must conduct a joint risk assessment with the participation of all stakeholders. An effective and holistic development plan should be taken based on that risk assessment. Education should be given top priority in the development plan and the participation of local CSOs and local Union Parishads (UP) at all levels should be ensured.



MR. REZAUL KARIM CHOWDHURY
Executive Director COAST Trust,
and Co-Chair, CCNF

The history of Cox's Bazar in education is ancient and rich, so education should get priority for both host and refugee community, we cannot have a lost generation in Cox's Bazar because of employment in Rohingya response. We have to uphold that history education of Cox's Bazar. He also said that now the name of Cox's Bazar is known all most every corner of the world, so it can brand the economy and tourism of Cox's Bazar. We can create the branding of 'Made in Cox's Bazar', also by using the tourism potential, locally produced goods, small and cottage industries of Cox's Bazar. The Prime Minister of Bangladesh has initiated different megaprojects including power plants, modern railway, the international airport in Cox's Bazar. There should not be any threats and obstacles in those megaprojects of the Prime Minister, we must make every effort to keep Cox's Bazar free from terrorism.



MR. ABU MORSHED CHOWDHURY
Co-Chair, CCNF. President, Cox's Bazar Chamber of
Commerce and Executive Director PHALS

Many students, even eighth-grade students, are joining the job. Many teachers are joining different institutions for higher pay. If this situation continues, a generation without education in Cox's Bazar will emerge. Education is fundamental for the future of Cox's Bazar. Hosting 1.1 million refugees might be considered as market opportunities for Cox's Bazar, we can attract foreign direct investment in branding the Cox's Bazar in popularizing its good fame/branding of Cox's Bazar. We need technical institutes to train people who can serve in incoming megaprojects, we should have University especially on hospitality management. There should be a planned effort to develop micro-entrepreneurs whole over the districts. 1.1 million refugees need agriculture products, that could be produced by farmers of Ukhiya and Cox's Bazar districts. Agricultural lands of the districts so fertile. Donors

community, UN agencies, and INGOs should look upon this and prepare multiyear planning. Now it is not only humanitarian response, but it must also be added with development nexus. We have no armed insurgency in Cox's Bazar, this unique environment has to be utilized with a localization approach to the Rohingya response and also to develop economic development of the district.



Mr. NOOR AHMAD ANWARI

Chairman, Whaykong UP

Local youth, even married men, are marrying Rohingya girls, which is very alarming. We must bring those who are doing these things to justice under the law. Rohingya men and women are out of camp and working on low wages. As a result, local workers have become unemployed. We have been hearing about the allocation of 25% of the fund for the host communities. But this is yet to be visible. There is a gap between the Rohingya and the locals, to minimize this gap dialogue is needed with the local government and local people.



Mr. GOFUR UDDIN CHOWDHURY

Chairman, Palangkhali UP

We know that the arrival of the Rohingya has had the biggest impact on education. Ukhiya-Teknaf's educational institute has around 40% teacher shortage. In the crisis of teachers and students, many educational institutions have been in position to be closed and many are at risk of closure. NGO's should recruit some volunteer teachers for the affected schools.



Mr. FERDOUS AHMED ZAMIRI

Chairman, Teknaf Upazilla

The local people gave shelters to the Rohingya in response to the Prime Minister's call. One does not easily leave their country and their homes and move to another country; we know the plight of Rohingya. But they have different cultures and different attitudes, sometimes alarming to the local community. There are a lot of unusual situations in our locality which is a threats to our society, to our youths and our children. They should go to their home in Myanmar. For humanity, why it is only Ukhiya, Teknaf and Cox's Bazar district will suffer.



Ms. MORZINA AKHTER

Member, Hnila UP

The development organizations working at the camp invite us to various meetings and discussions, but they don't involve us in implementing any project. Some people are getting things or services, but the right people don't always get it. Some get over one time and some get nothing. Many people have lost salt fields, gardens, paddy lands because of the Rohingya influx, and the social environment, including mountains, rivers, has been severely damaged. There is little attention from both donors and NGOs regarding the recovery of the environment and ecosystem of our locality, we want to know a very tangible plan. NGOs should campaign against drugs with School and college students.



Ms. KHURSHIDA AKHTER

Member, Rajapalong UP

We are still showing humanity to the Rohingyas because Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has a humanitarian view. As a woman, I feel sorry about observing the insecurity of women and children both in the host community and refugee community, especially in the camps it is worse. We need social efforts, campaigns, and networking effort especially the presence of law and order agencies in the camps. Every day many cars are going to the camps, the number of such cars should be reduced and we must take special care during driving cars near schools/ madrasa and colleges.



Ms. RITA BALA DEY

Senior Teacher, Kutupalang High School

If an eighth-grade student gets a job with a salary of Tk 10000, why would he want to enroll in ninth grade? Huge traffic and increased transport costs have reduced attendance at the school. In the past, every 5 minutes there were few cars, now thousands of cars. There is no speed breaker in front of the school, which has resulted in the accidents of students and teachers. In the last two years there hardly any effort to enhance the road in Cox's Bazar and Ukhiya, especially in camp vicinity, one needs two to three hours to pass the camp area. Guardians feel fear sending their small children in the schools mostly because of traffic jams. Most of the time we see only one person in one car.



MR. NOOR MOHAMMAD SHIKDAR
Editor, Voice of Ukhiya

Agencies and NGOs organized a lot of meetings with good foods with a lot of good thoughts. But during the project implementation and review, they hardly take any opinions from us. A lot of promises they gave but little of implementation. They must be accountable to a local level too. We need a long-term development plan on how to reconcile damages and how to facilitate local development, no more lofty words, no more small work here and there.



MR. SARWAR ALAM SHAHEEN
President, Ukhiya Press Club

Many NGOs don't have contact with journalists, nor do we have contact with many NGOs. There is a need to organize a meeting of journalists with NGOs to cover these communication gaps. Work needs to be done in the development of local infrastructure. Construction of buildings, benches and sports materials can be distributed at the school colleges.



MR. GOAHAR NAIM WAHRA
Disaster Forum

Among many problems, the state of education here is very sad. Given the fact that many students are employed, we need to search to see if it can provide alternatives for education. We can think of evening education as a conditional job for students. We have to consider whether the school-college timing can be changed. Roads are being widened, this work needs to be completed quickly to reduce public suffering. The locals should get birth registration services as soon as possible.



MR. ABDUR RAHMAN HASHEMI
Social Worker, and Member, Social Cohesion Committee, Hnila UP

Locals are also suffering because of limited mobile network in the camps and surrounding areas. The Rohingyas should be monitored by keeping the mobile network running. The Rohingyas are also subjected to the registration of mobile SIMs so that we can track them. Refugees could be given mobile with their bio matric registration card.



MS. SAMIRA AKHTER
Student at Ukhiya College

Many students leave college to join jobs. For a lack of attendance, there is no proper class. Travel costs have been become higher because of the pressure of passengers, it is now difficult to go to college regularly. The cost of living has gone up, in which case, many of us can't continue our studies. Behavioral changes are occurring among residents, especially children, youth communities and mothers living in or around Rohingya camps.



MR. MOSTAFA KAMAL CHOWDHURY MUSA
Head Teacher, Alhaj Ali Achia High School, Teknaf

Agencies and NGOs organized a lot of meetings with good foods with a lot of good thoughts. But during the project implementation and review, they hardly take any opinions from us. A lot of promises they gave but little of implementation. They must be accountable to a local level too. We need a long-term development plan on how to reconcile damages and how to facilitate local development, no more lofty words, no more small work here and there.



MR. ABDUL LATIF KHAN
Refugee and Disaster Management Expert

Not all Rohingya are bad, we have to identify who is bad. Without identifying the risks or problems separately, we should identify the risks of Cox's Bazar jointly and we should implement the program accordingly. The relief worker's residence and the offices of all agencies should be near the camp areas. Camps are in Ukhiya, but all aid workers and their offices in Cox's Bazar, which has two hours' distance, every day they are spending around 4 hours in traveling. These are costly arrangements, in most cases of refugee management whole over the world, aid workers live next to the camps, which is the only exception in Cox's Bazar.

We should identify the risks of Cox's Bazar jointly and we should implement the program accordingly.



Ms SHIRIN HAQUE
Nari Pokkho

In both Rohingya camps and local areas, women and girls are at risk of being trafficked and victims of violence. These should be especially considered in the working plan. Even Rohingyas are torturing Rohingya women inside the camp. To get justice for the Rohingya, we need to assist the Gambia in the trial against Myanmar.



Mr. Mir SHAHIDUL ISLAM ROMAN
Panel Chairman, Rajapalong UP

Locals have fuel problems, where LPG gas can be supplied. Solar panels can be a better option. Day by day, the water level of Ukhiya and Teknaf is going down. Many NGOs are installing tube-well/Deep tube-well in the host community, but the quality level is not satisfactory. Before installing tube-well, consultation with Union Parishad bodies should be done.



Mr. MANUEL MONIZ PEREIRA
*Deputy Chief of Mission
IOM, Cox's Bazar*

The protection of the Rohingya community should be a collective priority but we also need to progressively improve the quality of services provided to them. Furthermore to mitigate the impact of the influx, we also need to provide support to the most vulnerable people of the host communities and this will contribute to ensuring social cohesion until repatriation happens. The sustainable development of Ukhiya-Teknaf requires a lot of investment in infrastructure development. In 2019, more than \$600 million have been received through the Joint Response Plan for the humanitarian response and at least another \$400 million have been allocated by development partners to the development of the host community and invested in infrastructures. We should also not forget education and investment in future generations, the students of Cox Bazar need to be provided quality education. Developing the skills and competences of the students in the host communities will contribute to better opportunities for securing better jobs in future. There is no strong development without education. Finally accountability to the affected people should also be a priority issue in the Rohingya response all affected population needs to be part of this process.

Before taking any projects or plans, it could be great if NGOs-INGOs could consult also with the DC office, to avoid duplication or overlapping.



Ms. JINNAT SHAHID PINKI
*Assistant Commissioner Cox's Bazar Deputy
Commissioner's Office*

We are facing some problems due to the Rohingya influx, the Bangladesh government has already identified those problems and challenges. We are trying to address those challenges according to the decision and guidelines of the government. The District Commissioner (DC) office is aware of the challenges in education sector. We have already asked the list of teachers who left the educational institution for higher salaries in NGOs. After that, we will take the proper steps to get them back. The District Administration Office has asked the UNO office to provide a report for the assessment of the need to mitigate the problems. From the DC office is trying its best to ensure coordination among the activities of the NGOs, INGOs and UN agencies. To ensure proper distribution of the project activities, to reach affected people effectively we also requesting all stakeholders for better coordination. I would like to invite all to continue their activities with full of responsibility and not to disturb each other to make the activities more effective. Before taking any projects or plans, it could be great if NGOs-INGOs could consult also with the DC office, especially to get information about the actual need and to avoid duplication or overlapping.



Ms. HINAKO TALKIE
Senior Operations Manager, UNHCR

We have achieved a lot in the past two years working relentlessly. UNHCR is implementing about 80 programs in the local areas to develop the livelihoods and to improve the infrastructure of different institutions. UNHCR is working with the Government's Social Services Directorate to improve the livelihoods of 6,000 vulnerable women. 'Cox's Bazar District Development Plan' would contribute to the development of the area by reducing inequality. Skill development is mandatory for the localization of aid, so the UNHCR will work in 2020 with 10 local NGOs and 20 international NGOs in a participatory manner. Considering localization, we give domestic and locally produced quality product priority during the purchase of any product.



Mr. Abu Jafar Obaidullah
Camp in-Charge

All the departments of the Bangladesh Government are working heart and soul to face the Rohingya crisis. The people of Ukhiya and Teknaf are not only the host communities, but the whole of Bangladesh is also with you. Already 95% of Rohingya have been registered. Once the registration process is complete, it will be possible to track them. We should ensure transparency in the functioning of NGOs. Most of the local demands have been brought into the Cox's Bazar development plan. The government has set up an establishment for the Rohingya in Bhasanchar, spending billions to reduce the population pressure in the camps. Soon another 100,000 Rohingyas will be relocated there. I would like to request the NGOAB not to approve any project if there is no allocation for the host communities.

Ensuring transparency in NGOs activities is also much needed. We should give graduated poor people priority during the recruitment process so that they become happy.



Mr. KM Abdus Salam
Director General, NGO affairs Bureau

We should work together until the Rohingya repatriation. Our honorable Prime Minister also wants a peaceful solution to the Rohingya problem. We should consider that a portion of the funds are earmarked for the local area and it is also important to ensure transparency in the activities of the NGOs. NGO Bureau is trying to ensure coordination in implementing programs for Rohingyas and local communities. Ensuring transparency in NGOs activities is also much needed. We are considering the allocation for the host communities during the approval of the new project. But most of the time, donors want to work differently for the host community, some donors want to work only for the Rohingya. Sometimes, we have to consider this situation, too. We should introduce the proper vehicle management system in the Rohingya response, it will ensure reduce the excessive use of vehicles. We should give graduated poor people priority during the recruitment process so that they become happy.



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