

HARMONY

October 2021

The bulletin on the activities of the “Improving Social Cohesion Project”. The project is being implemented by the COAST Trust in collaboration with UNHCR to improve ‘Social Cohesion’ among Rohingya and Host communities at Rajapalong, Whykong, Hnila unions and 5 Rohingya camps in Ukhiya and Teknaf of Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh

ISC Project’s Social Cohesion Project implementation Inclusion of all community is very important to ensure social cohesion



UP member Helal Uddin visiting Hindu temple with ISCP team at kutupalong.
Photo Credit-Julfikar Hossan..

In 2017 when the Rohingya influx happened, first the Rohingya Hindus took shelter in the Kutupalong Lokanath temple, which caused more damage to the Lokanath temple. Kutupalong Camp 1 Hindu camp is home to an estimated 500 Hindus. Hindu Rohingyas go to Kutupalong Lokanath Temple to celebrate their religious festivals. The temple in the camp is not suitable hold much people for pray as it is almost dilapidated, so the Hindu Rohingyas in the camp go to the local Lokanath temple to celebrate their religious festivals and sometimes it got over crowded. Because of this most of the local Hindu react negatively to Rohingya Hindu. So, to avoid any kind of occurrence or unexpected situation because of over crowd it is need to improvise and renovate temple and its compound. After the implementation of the project, it is aimed to get some result like, social cohesion will be improved in both the communities and a peaceful co-existence will remain until repatriation, religious leaders will motivate common people on social cohesion, Both the community people will perform prayers together smoothly and social bondage and brotherhood bondage will be strengthened.



“It is not an easy task to get rid of drugs in this locality. But still, we have opportunity to reduce the expansion drugs. For that we need a joint respond plan. We have act jointly against drug at our own locality”

On 27th of September COAST and youth club Domdomia Jubo Kallyan Samity in collaboration with UNHCR organized a seminar on drug prevention at Domdomia Jubo Kallyan Samity. **Taslima Jahan** female leader and the member of Domdomia Jubo Kallyan Samity said in the seminar “Ukhiya and Teknaf is one of the vulnerable places because of drugs. Drug especially YABA is the common one here in Ukhiya and Teknaf. It is not an easy task to get rid of drugs in this locality. But still, we have opportunity to reduce the expansion drugs. For that we need a joint respond plan. We have act jointly against drug at our own locality”.

Dialogue at Rohingya camps

“We should think of time befitting solutions and need collective approach to minimize conflict issues addressed by both Rohingya and host community people” – Md. Ruhul Kuddos, Assistant CiC, Camp 1East.



Assistant CiC Ruhul Kuddos is speaking in the dialogue at camp 1East. Photo Credit- Julfikar.

“We should think of time befitting solutions and need collective approach to minimize conflict issues addressed by both Rohingya and host community people” said Md. Ruhul Kuddos, Assistant CiC in a dialogue arranged at camp 1East. On 29th of September COAST in collaboration with UNHCR arranged a dialogue between Rohingya and host community people. Earlier the dialogue, social cohesion committee including UP member, Teacher, Imam, Youth from host community and social cohesion group from Rohingya sit together to address challenges and gaps in improving social cohesion. Both communities discuss and narrate provable solution against addressed gaps. All the challenges, gaps and proposed solution are presented to Assistant CiC for better suggestions to mitigate those risks. Abdul Kalam, a farmer lives inside the camp 1East with Rohingya bemoaned about his sufferings arises after Rohingya influx. He said, “Few days ago my child got sick at mid night and as a father I tried to get my hospitalized but I failed. Security force stopped me to go outside the camp though I am a Bangladeshi national. So, what is our fault? What we did? Why we are suffering? This should be solved urgently”. To answer his questions CiC replied “This is mournful to hear. But want to assure you that I will sit and talk with camp security force about this issue. This problem should be solved immediately”. Moreover, the meetings consisted updates on the ‘Improving Social Cohesion’ project, its progress and challenges, A power point presented on an overview of the progress.

Activity target and achievement September, 2021

Activity Name	Target	Achievement
Awareness raising campaign with youth clubs	1	1
Interactive session on social cohesion and human rights at camps	8	8
Dialogue between Rohingya and host community	1	1

Interactive session at Rohingya camps

About 160 people of Rohingya community got aware on COVID 19, social cohesion and human rights

In the month of September, 2021 COAST organizes 08 sessions at camp 1w, 1E and 22. By maintaining social distance and COVID 19 precautions these sessions arranged with the participation of Imam, youth, women leader, CBP, COM and Community leader. About 160 participants got sensitized and aware about the importance of social cohesion and social peace until repatriations.

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