

**“The bulletin on the activities of the “Improving Social Cohesion Project”. The project is being implemented by COAST Foundation 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”**

## Road accidents; Public awareness is the key of solution

The most discussed and touching event of the present time is the road accident. Thousands of people are lost every day in this accident. Thousands of dreams are becoming dusty. Road accidents are the



**Social awareness raising campaign on road accident initiated through local clubs at Kutupalong Bazar. Photo: Md. Moniruzzaman-M&EO**

main threat to our safety nowadays. The arrival of nearly 10 lac Rohingya in 2017 and the deployment of various NGO workers in Ukhiya and Teknaf have increased the pressure on the local population. One of them is the increase in traffic and the pressure of extra passengers, as a result of which road accidents are constantly happening. To sensitize and increase awareness of local community people, campaign on road accident initiated through local clubs. To raise awareness and resist social diseases, the youths of local clubs was working continuously through organizing rally, human chain, leaflet distribution, micing etc.

On November 24, 2022, COAST Foundation, one of Cox's Bazar's NGOs, organized a meeting to increase the awareness of passengers, pedestrians, transport workers and drivers to prevent road accidents in Ukhiya's Kutupalong Bazaar under the project of increasing social connectivity. In the campaign about 300 people were present.

In meeting Mr. FAM Saiful Islam, OC of Shahpuri Highway Police Station said, “It is important for us to be more aware to prevent road accidents.



**Public awareness is the key of solution and we will work for people’s safety said by Saiful Islam (OC). Photo: Md. Moniruzzaman-M&EO**

Everyone including passengers, transport workers, drivers must obey traffic laws and stop speeding on the roads."

Mr. Helal Uddin, UP member of Rajapalong Union Ward No-9, said, "Since the arrival of Rohingya in 2017, there has been a significant

## Invited guest shared experience & memory; The refugee situation during the Liberation War in 1971

In present about 3 core and 25 lac refugees took shelter in many countries of the world. In 1971, about one core people took shelter in neighbor country India in the war of liberation from Bangladesh. In 1971, Jafor Alam took shelter in India from Bangladesh as refugees. He is city dweller of Cox’s Bazar. In a private interview, he expressed different situation of war, his refugee status hardships he faced during staying as refugees.



**Mr. Jafor Alam, at the time of giving his personal interview to Radio Saikat**

When he first hear that the war was started in the country then he realized that his family had to seek refuge in another country for the safety of your life. Finally he decided to leave home and take shelter as refuge in India.

He recommended/express solidarity with refugees around the world, to provide them with humanitarian aid, call on the world’s leaders for repatriation process, and request people of host countries to be compassionate towards them who have taken shelter as refugees in their country.

increase in traffic in this area, especially in Kutupalong. As a result, the accident rate has also increased. Everyone should be aware to prevent accidents" Besides, he called for more vigorous role of road transport leaders and highway police in controlling traffic management in Kutupalong.

## Advocacy meeting regarding social cohesion, peace building and conflict resolution; Commitment to prevent drug trade and terrorist activities

To encourage the commitment and strategy of concerned authorities to implement the recommendations through positive discussions

and to present specific views and recommendations of the committee on overcoming obstacles and improving relationship advocacy meeting was conducted on 14 November 2022 with Whykong Union Parishad in Teknaf Upazila. The participants were the Social Service Officer, Academic Supervisor from Teknaf Upazila, Officers in Charge (OC), Whykong Highway Police Fari, the chairman of Whykong union Parishad and others civil society representatives. COAST ISCP is implementing five



**At the time of giving his speech regarding social cohesion, peaceful coexistence and conflict resolution. Photo: Ahammad Ullah-FC**

major projects and want to work very quickly. The project started computer skills development training on Graphics Design for youth community (total 40 youths). We believe that everyone will work for the protection and development of human rights.

**Mr. Nur Ahamed Anowari** (Chairman of Whykong UP) expressed hope that the effective role of the Union Parishad will be strengthened to present the correct information about the peaceful coexistence and Rohingya situation on behalf of the public representatives and prevent the youth from criminal activities. In addition he also said that if COAST will work for the host community people by income generating activities (IGA) then the anger of HC will subside to Rohingya community.

**Mr. Abdul Kaium Chowdhury** (Officers in Charge- OC, Whykong Highway Police Fari, Teknaf) said that they (village polices) should work with us to prevent theft, robbery, robbery, extortion, drug trade,



**Commitment to prevent drug trade and terrorist activities to promote SC by the Abdul Kaium Chowdhury (OC). Photo: Ahammad Ullah-FC**

terrorist activities. Police should assist with correct information. Strict action will be taken against those who become criminals themselves while catching the criminals themselves or trying to communicate secretly with the terrorists.

**Football match among local youths community; It will increase interaction and friendly relationships between two communities' youths**

On 19th November 2022, we have organized sport competitions between Rohingya and Host community youth at living inside the camp at Kutupalong Nowkar Mart, ward-9, Rajapalong in Ukhiya. The participants were the Prottasha Foundation (local youth club), Kutupalong football player and Lombasheia football players. The guest were Ratan Kanti Dey (general secretary- Ukhiya Press club), Noor Mohammad Sidder, and Members of social cohesion committee. The purpose of the arrangement of these friendship matches is to encourage youths in improving social cohesion. To strength up sustainable relationship among youths at Host Community.

After the prize giving time Ratan Kanti Dey said, "This is the very good initiatives of COAST of arranging the games with our youths' clubs. Youth power is essential for sustainable development of a society. The aim of arranging this match to build



**Friendly match between two community youth to increase positive relation. Photo: Sahazahan-FC**

up positive relationship among our youths and our youth should engage themselves to any development activities of society and to improve social cohesion among Host & Rohingya Community.

**Activities; target Vs achievement status. Nov'22**

S L	Name of Activity	Target	Achieved
01	Dialogue between SCPC and Union Parishad	01	01
02	Conduct interactive sessions on social cohesion and Human Rights	06	06
03	Peace-building meeting with host community	03	03
04	Social awareness-raising campaign with local club	01	01
05	Advocacy meeting with UP and Upz regarding social cohesion, , peace-building and conflict resolution	01	01

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