

KEY ACTIVITIES

Site Management and Site Development

UNHCR and its partners, work closely with government counterparts as well as refugee volunteers, representatives and communities, to conduct site management and site development activities, in 16 camps in Cox's Bazar district. This includes coordination of humanitarian activities across the sectors to ensure equitable access to services, emergency preparedness and response, functional complaints, and feedback mechanism for service delivery.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

UNHCR and other humanitarian organizations continued to focus on disaster preparedness and response after extensive flooding and devastating fires marked 2021. The Government of Bangladesh ensures that building materials used in the camps reflect the temporariness of the Rohingya's stay in Bangladesh by defining the materials for construction. Shelters are made from bamboo and tarpaulin which are highly flammable and easily damaged by strong winds and heavy rains. Additionally, the impact of fires is particularly severe due to the densely populated camps and the limited space between shelters to act as natural fire breaks. The dry season between December and March increases the occurrence of fires. UNHCR response strategy is built on enhancing refugee volunteers' capacities through trainings and equipment to enable them to respond efficiently, protecting themselves and their communities. Three-wheeler vehicles equipped with water pumps/tanks are used to respond more efficiently to fire incidents.



Distribution of LPG helps Rohingya refugees access healthy cooking practices and helps environmental restoration. © UNHCR/Amos Halder

First Onsite Response Team (FORT)

FORT was introduced to support the response when large scale emergencies strike. UNHCR's multifunctional team brings diverse expertise in emergency response, including public health, mental health, legal protection, community-based protection, child protection, water, sanitation, and hygiene. When FORT is deployed, the team works to support partners, refugee volunteers, and government counterparts as part of the broader, and more comprehensive emergency response.

NFIs and LPG distribution

UNHCR and its partners continue to provide regular non-food items (such as bath and laundry soap, Female Hygiene Kits, and tote bags) as well as Liquid Petroleum Gas refills to all households in the 16 camps in its area of coverage, reaching an average of 92,000 households.

Complaints, Feedback and Response Mechanism

The mechanism provides a platform for individual refugees and households to raise any issues related to service provision, including shelter, site management, and water and sanitation facilities. Refugees can access this mechanism by visiting the physical complaints, feedback, and response desks or speaking with mobile site management volunteers. Cases are recorded and referred to the humanitarian agencies responsible for responding to a particular issue or the Camp-in-Charge office. Every complaint receives a response, informing the refugee of the solution or the limitations.

Community Led Projects

Refugee communities are identifying and leading projects ranging from small-scale construction and repair of pathways, to fixing bridges and stairs to facilities safe movement in the camps. The projects provide refugees the opportunity to support their families and community and create a sense of ownership of the community over the camps infrastructure.

Capacity Share Initiative

The Government and UNHCR, in collaboration with the sectors and partners continue to rollout an initiative developed to share information and knowledge of all aspects of the humanitarian response between Government officials and the humanitarian community. Trainings range from protection, shelter, nutrition, WASH, mental health and psychosocial support to information management, and energy and environment. In the fourth quarter, an additional workshop was held on Diversified Alternative Shelter Materials.

Relocation

UNHCR supports the Government in facilitating relocation within the Cox's Bazar camps. It can take place for various reasons, including to move refugees from the transit centre to the camps, to reunite families, to mitigate protection concerns, or to provide safer accommodation for specific protection cases, UNHCR and its partners ensure that each relocation is organized and conducted in line with protection standards.

Bhasan Char

Working closely with Bangladeshi authorities, UNHCR and its partners conduct site management activities in support of the Government led response on the island. This includes coordination of humanitarian activities across the sectors, emergency response and preparedness, distribution of non-food items, ensuring a functional complaints and feedback mechanism, and working closely with the refugee communities. In 2022, UNHCR has trained over 1000 refugee Emergency Preparedness and Response volunteers to respond to emergencies and support site management activities.

KEY FIGURES COX'S BAZAR CAMPS*

- 

1,581

Rohingya refugees supporting site management and response
- 

1,587

Refugee volunteers trained on water
- 

16

Camps managed by site management
- 

34

Firefighting three wheelers modified and equipped for fire response
- 

3,271

Fire extinguishers in the camps
- 

1,211

Fire stands (bucket water/sand) available for fire response
- 

9

Rafting boats available in the camps
- 

9

Trainings conducted on camp coordination and camp management
- 

16

Fire drills conducted
- 

90

Community risk assessments conducted
- 

91,534

Refugee households received LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) assistance
- 

214,509

Female hygiene kits distributed
- 

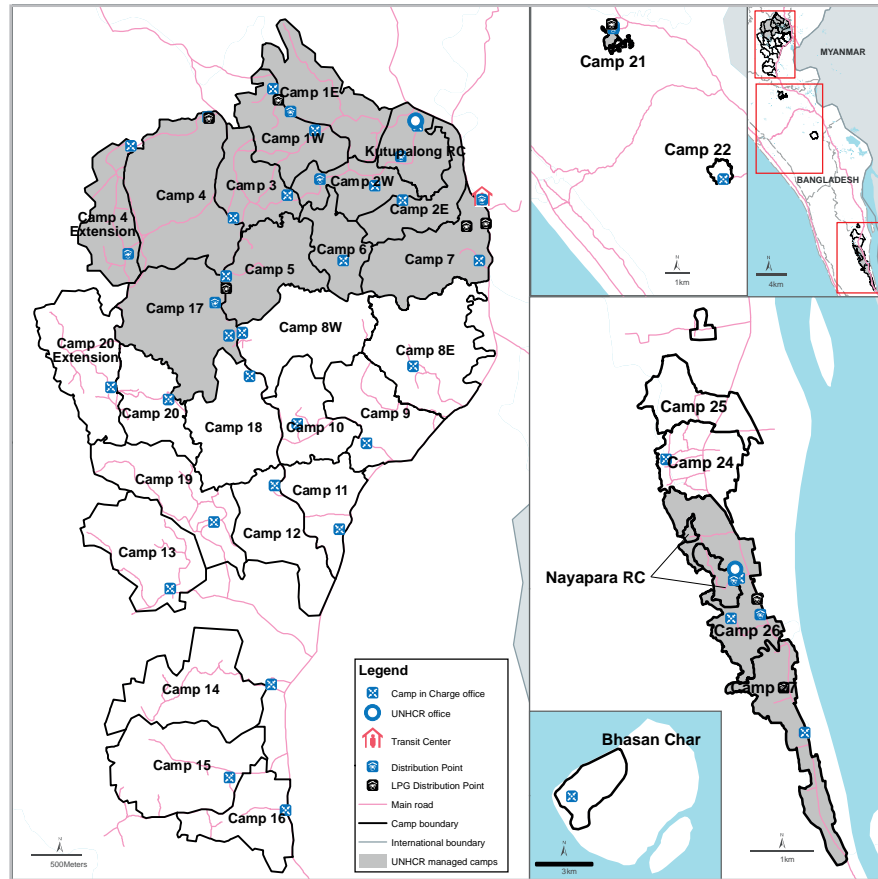
511

Refugee households received core relief items after incidents/ disasters
- 


89,936

Refugees households received jute


AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY




KEY FIGURES BHASAN CHAR*

- 

1,128

Refugee volunteers trained on disaster
- 

12

Information session organized on community engagement, camp operation and communication with communities
- 

29

Cyclone preparedness drills conducted



Community volunteers play a key role to protect their community with information on emergencies and are the first responders when a disaster hits. © UNHCR/Saikat Mojumder

*This information reflects data collected between January to December 2022