

Rohingya refugees fled violence including widespread Gender-Based Violence (GBV) against both females and males, which inflicted lasting trauma on the population. In Bangladesh, the challenging living conditions in the camps exposes them to GBV risks, scarce livelihood opportunities, sexual exploitation, trafficking, child marriages and forced marriages.

KEY ACTIVITIES

Facilities in the Camps

Ensuring access to support services for GBV survivors, as well as safe spaces and facilities for community engagement is important for the prevention of, and response to GBV in the camps. 51 service points across 19 camps provide GBV case management, psychosocial services and referrals for individuals who need support. Women and Girl's Safe Spaces provide a sanctuary for female refugees in a safe, confidential, and comfortable environment, and Community Engagement Centres engage men and boys on GBV prevention and response. A safe house is available for GBV survivors and their family members at risk until a solution is found for their situation. The Community Based Safe Shelter initiative provides immediate safety for survivors with other refugees who voluntarily host them in their shelters.

SASA! Together

The SASA! Together community mobilization approach seeks to instigate proactive roles among participants in preventing violence against women ; it is implemented by both UNHCR (15 camps) and UNFPA. Over 800 refugee community activists, leaders, and health actors, including 400 women, completed the first phase of training by the end of 2021. In 2022, the 826 SASA! Together community activists and leaders are engaged in GBV prevention activities during the second phase of this project.

Girl Shine

Crisis-affected adolescent girls are at increased risk of gender-based violence (GBV), including sexual violence, exploitation, and child marriage. According to the information management systems of the GBV and child protection sub-sectors, Rohingya adolescent girls are not an exception to these global trends and face risks of sex and age-related exploitation and violence. The evidence-based Girl Shine curriculum is designed to give young Rohingya girls the skills, knowledge, social networks, and self-confidence to help protect themselves from GBV as they navigate through adolescence and beyond. Girl Shine was launched in September 2021 in ten camps. In the third quarter of 2022, over 650 adolescent girls participated in the Girl Shine programme from 16 camps.

Male Role Model (MRM)

Involving men and boys is an important part of the prevention and response to GBV. UNHCR's Male Role Model project in eight camps carefully identifies and works with men and youth who already avoid violence in their own lives, demonstrate positive relationships and hold gender equitable beliefs. The project influences them to become increasingly capable and influential role models within their communities. Role Models undergo continuous training and mentoring.



Refugee girl attending GBV prevention activity to increase support to adolescent girls. ©UNHCR/Saikat Mojumdar

Bhasan Char

An initial needs assessment on the island found that intimate partner violence is a serious issue. A GBV referral mechanism has been set up, including the case management support. Health staff and government law enforcement agencies have participated in trainings. Refugee men and boys have been engaged and trained as volunteer Male Role Models to conduct prevention activities in the communities. UNHCR and partners opened a Women and Girl's Safe Space. Women, girls, and gender diverse individuals still need more safe entry points to report GBV cases.

KEY FIGURES COX'S BAZAR CAMPS



1,113

Community volunteers for GBV response and prevention



51

GBV service points



61

GBV case workers and supervisors



734

Participants in the Girl Shine project



889

SASA! Together community activists and leaders



45

Male Role Models for GBV prevention



123,576

Female dignity kits distributed in acute emergencies



50

Community groups for GBV prevention and response



2,858

Service providers trained on GBV response and prevention



1,036

Refugees benefiting from psychosocial services



161,832

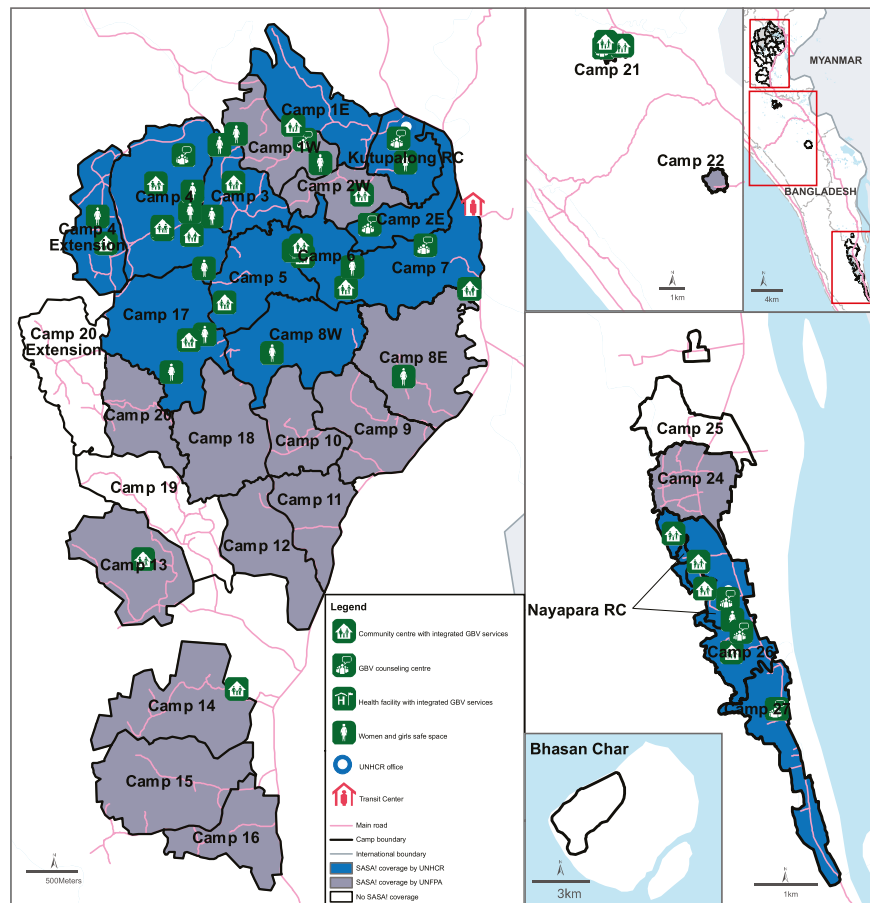
Refugees reached by community-led messaging



3,736

Women and girls participating in skills and empowerment programmes

GBV response service points & SASA! Together prevention programme presence



KEY FIGURES BHASAN CHAR



9

Community volunteers for GBV response and prevention



37

Refugee volunteers trained on GBV



3

GBV service points



4,202

Refugees reached by community-led messaging on protection risks