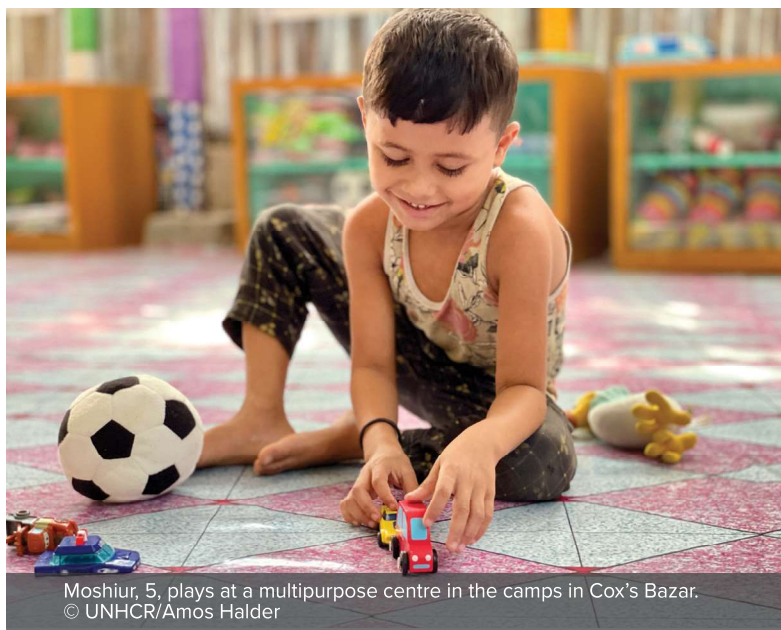


KEY ACTIVITIES

Community-based Child Protection Mechanisms

UNHCR and partners work closely with refugee communities to ensure safety and access to specific services for children including the creation of child protection networks. These consist of committees, child and adolescent clubs, and parent groups. Protection networks also play an important role by identifying safe spaces for children, providing peer support, tracing missing children, and by raising awareness for the prevention of child marriage. Additionally, community-led initiatives contribute to a safer environment for children by sharing information on referral services and providing prompt responses during emergencies, such as fires and flooding.



Moshiur, 5, plays at a multipurpose centre in the camps in Cox's Bazar.
© UNHCR/Amos Halder

Safe Spaces for Children

Multipurpose centres for children and adolescents in 21 camps provide safe spaces for children to play, relax, express themselves, and learn skills to deal with the challenges they face. The centres offer integrated case management and referral services. Adolescent clubs are supported with a package of activities, including a gender-specific life skills curriculum.

Training and Capacity Development

Members of community-based structures, volunteers, and communities participate in training and awareness-raising sessions on a wide range of topics including basic child protection and referral pathways, prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, prevention of child marriage, child labour and trafficking, working with children with disabilities, emergency preparedness, risks of family separation and psychosocial support. Jointly with UNICEF and the Department of Social Services under the Ministry of Social Welfare, UNHCR worked on the contextualization of the Child Protection Minimum Standards related to mental health and psychosocial distress, the socio-ecological approach to child protection programming, and child protection training for service providers. UNHCR funded the translation of the 2019 edition of the Child Protection Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Action (CPMS) in Bengali and Burmese to support child protection standards' mainstreaming in humanitarian programmes.

Case Management and Psychosocial Support

Caseworkers have been trained on UNHCR's Best Interest Determination procedure, which informs recommendations and decision making for children at risk. A 'Best Interest Determination' panel based on global guidelines has been established to cover all 33 camps to determine the best interests of the child. Most child protection cases reported include children experiencing neglect, psychological distress, physical and sexual violence, which in some cases is linked to trafficking, child marriage and child labour. Psychosocial support from UNHCR trained refugee volunteers and partner organizations is provided coupled with positive parenting sessions to tackle neglect and psychosocial distress resulting from family conflicts. UNHCR provides psychosocial support and referral to mental health services.


Bhasan Char

UNHCR, UNICEF and partners support child protection activities on the island, including case management and support for family reunification, recreation, and other care. Positive parenting sessions take place, as well as specific programmes for adolescents. Capacity building and outreach activities for volunteers and communities, including children are integrated to prevent and mitigate the risks they face. UNHCR is also working with other sectors to mainstream child protection.


KEY FIGURES OF COX'S BAZAR

69
 Multipurpose centres for children and adolescents operational

769
 Refugee volunteers engaged in child protection

23
 Refugee children in alternative care

467
 Individuals from service providers and authorities trained on protection, including gender

74
 Adolescents clubs established


3,141
 Refugee participated in capacity development trainings

462
 Refugee caregivers who receive mental health and psychosocial support and positive parenting advice

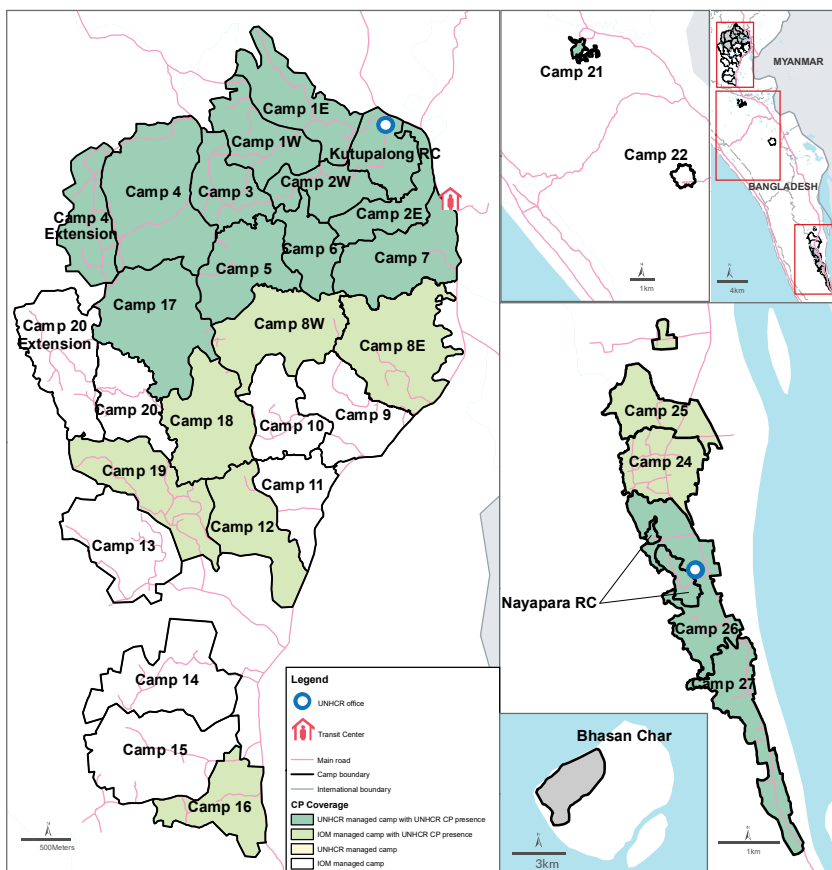
1,242
 Unaccompanied and separated refugee children at heightened risk for whom Best Interest Procedure initiated

668
 Identified refugee children received specialised age and gender sensitive child protection services through individual case management


5,605
 Girls and boys, including adolescents, benefiting from psychosocial services

1,484
 Children participating in community-based child protection programmes

PARTNER PRESENCE MAP




KEY FIGURES OF BHASHAN CHAR

197
 Individuals from service providers and authorities trained on protection, including gender

2,154
 Refugees participated in capacity development trainings

89
 Refugee caregivers who receive mental health and psychosocial support and positive parenting advice

500
 Refugee children benefitted from mental health and psychosocial support

200
 Identified refugees children at risk received specialised age and gender sensitive child protection services through individual case management

200
 Unaccompanied and separated refugee children at heightened risk for whom Best Interest Procedure initiated