ROHINGYA REFUGEE RESPONSE IN BANGLADESH Legal Protection Factsheet - as of 31 March 2022



KEY ACTIVITIES

Protection Monitoring in Camps

UNHCR staff conduct protection monitoring with the help of refugee volunteers across all 33 camps, to identify the protection needs of refugees, monitor security and protection incidents, and provide support by referring victims and survivors who require immediate response to relevant services. Additionally, the UNHCR toll-free protection hotline, available daily for refugees from 08:00 to 23:00, provides an alternative channel for refugees in camps who needed information, share complaints, raise their concerns, or seek support.

Access to Justice and Legal Support

UNHCR works with lawyers from partner organizations and trained paralegal refugee volunteers to identify and refer refugees in need of legal aid. Legal aid services provided through legal partners in all 33 camps include legal awareness, legal counselling, mediation, assistance to lodge complaints at police stations and courts, and representation in court. Additionally, UNHCR and legal partners engage with police, camp administration officials, and justice sector actors to advocate for appropriate and timely interventions by law enforcement agencies in cases of serious crimes and reinforce refugees' access to the national justice system. As part of its monitoring of arrests and detention cases, UNHCR works closely with its legal partners to ensure legal assistance is provided to refugees arrested or in detention.

Anti-Trafficking Working Group

With IOM, UNHCR co-chairs the Anti-Trafficking Working Group, leading a collective strategy for anti-trafficking interventions in the camps, in line with the national anti-trafficking strategy. The strategy is aimed at 1) Preventing human trafficking through awareness raising in the camps; 2) Protecting victims of human trafficking through

FOR ANY
INFORMATION
OR SUPPORT
CALL THE FREE
UNHCR
REFUGEE
HOTLINE

16670

UNHCR hotline postcards distributed to refugees in the camps.

protection services including legal assistance; and 3) Building the capacity of key stakeholders by mainstreaming anti-trafficking mechanisms, providing technical guidance, and training. Since January, the Working Group, made up of 15 international and national organizations, has developed a work plan for 2022 and organized nine trainings with government officials and humanitarian staff.

Training and Capacity Development

UNHCR provides government officials and humanitarian staff with capacity development training on a range of issues relating to the protection of refugees. In January, UNHCR organized a workshop on "Facilitating Access to Justice and Legal Aid by Rohingya Refugees" for 50 police officers from nine police stations in Cox's Bazar District. 67 lawyers from UNHCR's legal partners were trained on identifying and providing legal aid to victims of human trafficking.

Bhasan Char

As lead of the protection sector, UNHCR coordinates all protection activities on Bhasan Char. UNHCR provides legal aid services to refugees including legal awareness, legal counselling, mediation, assistance to lodge complaints at police stations and courts, and representation in court. Additionally, UNHCR and its partners engage with police, administration officials, and justice actors to advocate for appropriate and timely interventions by law enforcement agencies in cases of serious crimes and to reinforce refugees' access to the national justice system. As part of its monitoring of arrests and detention cases, UNHCR and partners work to ensure legal assistance is provided to refugees arrested or in detention, including those trafficked and rescued at sea or arrested for administrative violations.





KEY FIGURES COX'S BAZAR CAMPS

Camps covered by legal assistance sevices

6390

Refugees provided with legal assistance services

5,824

Refugees attended legal awareness sessions

2.222

Refugees supported with mediation as a dispute

in court

Refugees assisted to file cases at police station and

Cases successfully mediated

Government officials and legal partners staffs provided with training on protection

1.260

Refugees supported through protection case management mechanisms, including counselling, referrals and advocacy interventions



Refugees released from detention through interventions made by legal partners

4,001

Refugees received legal counselling from a lawyer

LEGAL PARTNERS' PRESENCE MAP



KEY FIGURES BHASAN CHAR

147

Refugees provided with legal assistance services

212

8

Refugees attended legal awareness sessions

18

Refugees supported with mediation as a dispute resolution

6 Cases successfully mediated

Refugees received legal counselling from a lawyer