

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 play an important role by identifying children at risk, providing peer support, tracing missing children, and raising awareness on child protection issues such as 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.

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 child protection and referral pathways and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, child marriage, child labour and trafficking. They also learn about how to work 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 Best Interests Procedures (BIP) that include Best Interest Assessment (BIA), Best Interest Determination (BID) and case management. The BIP informs recommendations and decision making for children at risk. A BID panel based on global guidelines has been established to cover all 33 camps. Most child protection cases reported include children experiencing neglect, psychological distress, physical and sexual violence, which in some cases are 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.



On World Refugee Day, children participated in a drawing competition at a multi-purpose centre. © UNHCR/Amos Halder



Rohingya girls share their dream jobs, © UNHCR/Amos Halder

Bhasan Char

UNHCR, and partners support child protection services on the island, including case management 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 COX'S BAZAR CAMPS



69

Multipurpose centres for children & adolescent



466

Refugee volunteers engaged in child protection



499

Unaccompanied, separated or lost children reunified with their caregivers



377

Individuals from service providers trained on protection, including gender



674

Refugees participated in capacity development trainings



3,917

Adolescents participating in life skills and pre-vocational training



2,205

Refugee caregivers trained on positive parenting



6,657

Children at heightened risk for whom a Best Interests Procedure was initiated



69

Child protection committees established



6,415

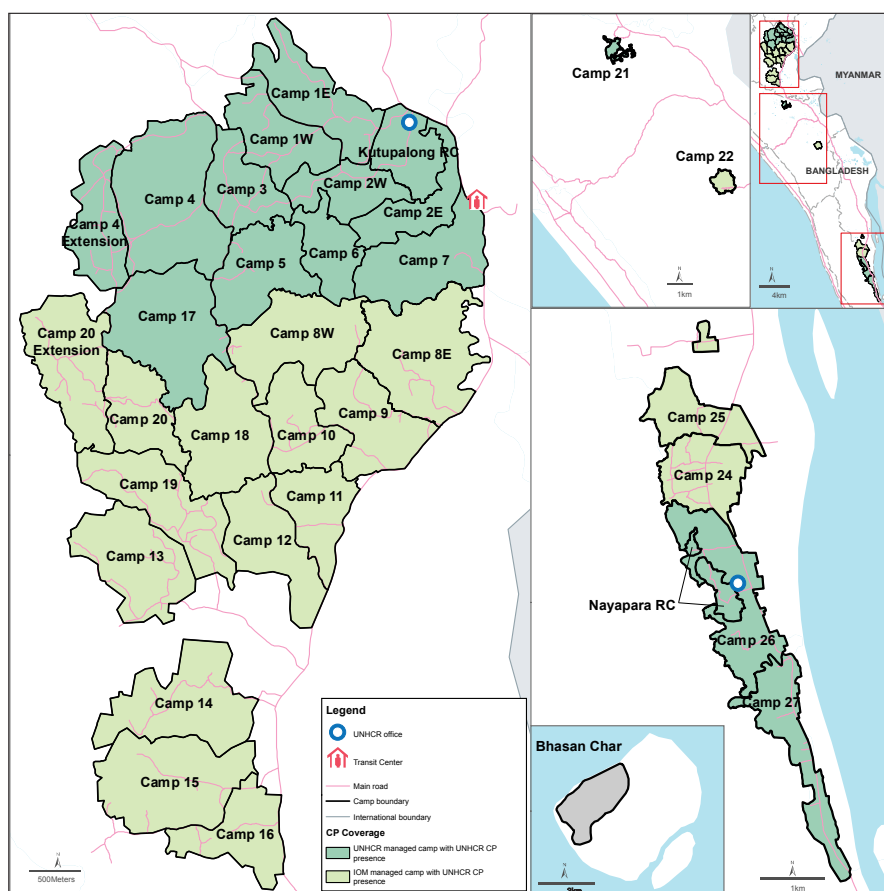
Girls and boys, benefiting from psychosocial services



17,322

Children and community members reached by prevention activities

PARTNER PRESENCE MAP



KEY FIGURES BHASHAN CHAR



54

Individuals from service providers trained on protection, including gender



292

Refugees participated in capacity development trainings



104

Refugee caregivers trained on positive parenting



3,704

Children and community members reached by prevention activities



255

Unaccompanied and separated children and other children at heightened risk for whom a Best Interests Procedure was initiated