

Photo: Tonal Samad



FACTS:

- **People supported in 2022:** DCA has reached **more than 26,828 people** in Cox's Bazar.
- **Employees: 131 programme and support staff** based in Cox's Bazar in addition to 5 international staff and **168 volunteers**.
- DCA currently operates with a country head office in **Cox's Bazar** and a representational office in **Dhaka**.
- **Annual turnover in 2021:** EUR 3.516.000
- **Registration:** DCA is registered in Bangladesh and has implemented development and humanitarian programmes through local partners since 1971.
- **Partnerships:** DCA currently partners with five local organisations in Cox's Bazar: UTSA, FIVDB, NGO Forum for Public Health, Friendship, and BNKS.

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT:

- In 2017, more than 700,000 Rohingya fled from Myanmar to Bangladesh. Today, the total number of people in need of humanitarian response is more than 1.46 million, including 918,841 Rohingya refugees and 541,021 Bangladeshi host community people.
- Women, girls, and boys make up more than 75% of the refugee population and are particularly vulnerable to risks of abuse, exploitation, and gender-based violence.
- In 2019, DCA pivoted its focus to the Rohingya refugee response and programmes in Cox's Bazar and to enhance partnerships that focus on vulnerable groups, particularly programming for women and girls on gender-based violence and education.

OVERVIEW OF THE ROHINGYA REFUGEE CRISIS



In Cox's Bazar, more than **1.36 million people** (*Rohingya refugee: 884,041; Host community: 472,002*) are in urgent need of humanitarian assistance as shelter, food, security, health and education services in camps and host communities are under severe pressure.



To date, several attempts to facilitate voluntary repatriation of the Rohingya refugees have failed. As a result, **tensions between the host and refugee communities** increased. Since repatriation of Rohingya refugees may take further time, both Rohingya and host communities **require humanitarian, development and peacebuilding interventions**.



55% of the refugee population in need are children and some 83 percent of youth and adolescents do not have access to any education and learning opportunities. Young women and girls face disproportionately high needs.



The settlements in Cox's Bazar are **high-risk areas for climate change and natural disasters**, especially during the monsoon season and due to cyclone and drought risks.



51% of the total refugee population are **women and girls**. Many of them have been and still are exposed to **sexual and gender-based violence (GBV)**. The number of incidents continue to increase due to stigma and fear remains a major concern. According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, GBV remains the most pervasive human rights violation to which Bangladeshi women are exposed.

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HOW AND WHERE WE WORK:

The overall goal of DCA's ongoing operations in Bangladesh is to **save lives** and to **build more resilient communities** through a **holistic, triple nexus, and survivor-centred approach**. Specifically, DCA implements a holistic response focusing on **GBV, education, disaster risk reduction, and cash and livelihoods support** in the Rohingya camps and the host communities in the Chittagong Division.

WHAT WE DO:

Sexual and Gender Based Violence: DCA is operating a **sexual and gender-based violence programme in 19 camps and 4 host communities** with focus on prevention and response interventions with the support of UNICEF and UNFPA. Under the GBV response, DCA is operating eight **Women and Girl Safe Spaces** and three **Men's Spaces** while also providing **case management and psychosocial support services and referrals for survivors of or at-risk persons of GBV**.

Education in Emergencies: DCA is a leading actor in providing **non-formal education sessions in female friendly spaces** through a home-based approach. DCA operates 11 Women and Girls Safe Spaces in the camps and host communities and has 100 % female staff. DCA is a leader in the **development of quality teaching** and learning materials and filling critical gaps of structured learning resources for adolescents and youth.

Climate-responsive disaster risk reduction and livelihood resilience: DCA works to ensure that host communities and refugees are **resilient to climate change threats and natural disasters** by increasing their **self-reliance**. DCA works to capacitate and engage local Disaster Management Committees, camp management, DRR committees, religious and community leaders, including women, to disseminate evacuation, prevention and response plans in both refugee and host community. DCA also supports people in need of shelter and protection from various natural hazards by constructing drainage systems, solar streetlights, and bathing cubicles, renovating pathways, and distributing non-food items via a cash-for-work modality.



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