



ROHINGYA CULTURE, TRADITIONS TAKE CENTRE STAGE IN BANGKOK EXHIBITION

In February, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) held the Rohingya Cultural Memory Centre (RCMC) exhibition in Bangkok, Thailand, showcasing the richness of the Rohingya culture and traditions during an eight-day event. With the theme Arar Rosom, Arar Elom (Our Culture, Our Wisdom), the exhibition presented unique stories and artifacts handcrafted by Rohingya refugees at the RCMC in Cox’s Bazar, where IOM seeks to promote healing, ensure the continuity of their cultural heritage for future generations, and create a powerful tool for self-advocacy. This exhibition is not just about showcasing beautiful artifacts from the Rohingya community, it’s also about preserving a culture under threat and keeping hope alive for those displaced. The items on display are a powerful form of expression for the Rohingya community to share their stories, heritage and lived experiences, promoting their psychosocial well-being and positive identity.

In the Rohingya refugee camp context, the impact on mental health represents a significant challenge, which led IOM to come up with creative and innovative solutions, such as the RCMC. All the activities of the centre, including masterclasses, raising awareness through story-telling sessions, women’s and children’s activities, and musical performances are initiatives to foster a sense of pride, resilience, and healing among the Rohingya refugee population. IOM has been on the ground in Cox’s Bazar since 2013, providing vital humanitarian assistance to Rohingya refugees, including mental health support, using innovative approaches that combine fostering psychosocial well-being, safeguarding and preserving cultural identity.



976,507

Rohingya population in Bangladesh



203,035

Rohingya families in Cox’s Bazar and Bhasan Char



1.55 million

People in need

DONOR VISITS

A three-member delegation from the Australian High Commission in Bangladesh visited IOM-run camps using innovations in alternative shelters and site development material.

In a two-day visit, a delegation from Global Affairs Canada (GAC) and the Canadian High Commission in Bangladesh visited IOM’s solid waste management site, a shelter distribution point and development interventions in host community. They also met with the partners of SAFE+2 – a project that ensures alternative cooking fuel for the refugees and environmental restoration.

In a sperate visit, delegation from Canadian High Commission in Bangladesh visited IOM’s interventions in host community.

Another delegation of GAC visited IOM Site Management Site Development, Protection and Social Cohesion activities under the project supported by GAC.

A three-member delegation from the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Bangladesh visited IOM’s watershed management project in Rohingya camps and host community areas, supported by the Netherlands.



PROGRAMME UPDATE

SITE MANAGEMENT AND SITE DEVELOPMENT, AND COMMUNICATION WITH COMMUNITIES



10,551 complaints/feedback received; 5,654 referred; 5,253 replied; 1,316 considered resolved

4,796 m² of slope stabilized

3,480 women representatives attended 574 awareness sessions

1,718 m of access ways constructed/repaired

SHELTER AND NON-FOOD ITEMS



3,031 families received Shelter Upgrade and Maintenance (SUM) assistance

77,717 LPG refills provided

2,052 beneficiaries received SUM training

25,300 poles of Borak bamboo treated

HEALTH



1,12,731 primary medical consultations in IOM-supported facilities

1,50,600 door-to-door visits conducted by community health workers

10,961 individuals received MHPSS focused and community-based activities

1,141 children received vaccination

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE



259,504 people are receiving continued life-saving WASH support

6,956 kgs of compost produced from the solid waste generated in camps

530,384 soaps distributed to the beneficiaries

16 latrines, **7** bathing shed constructed, **4** water-supply tap stands constructed

PROTECTION



39,818 individuals participated in community awareness and outreach sessions

987 extremely vulnerable individuals (EVIs) supported in accessing services

2,537 individuals received psychological support

252 individuals supported with case management for victims of trafficking, child protection and general protection

SOCIAL COHESION



293 host community beneficiaries received livestock for income generation

248 Rohingya beneficiaries received vocational skills training

120 Rohingya beneficiaries received technical skills training and business development skills training

25 Rohingya beneficiaries received in-kind support

NEEDS AND POPULATION MONITORING



4 incident reports and datasets were produced and shared with partners to convey key information on the impact and damages caused by weather-related and man-made incidents across the camps

Under 2nd phase of shelter addressing, '**Data collection and verification for shelter Addressing for all 17 IOM AoR camps by identifying and verifying 4918 missing shelters**' was completed

14 different thematic maps e.g., IOM activity map, migration health assessment facility map, shelters at emergency fire break maps, border crossing points map, weekly incident report maps were produced.

Funding for IOM response is provided by

