

UNFPA Fire Response in Cox's Bazar

Situation Report #4



UNFPA is the sexual and reproductive health agency that ensures that women and girls live in **safety and dignity**. Both in the Rohingya refugee camps and in the host community, UNFPA envisions a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe, and every young person’s potential is fulfilled.

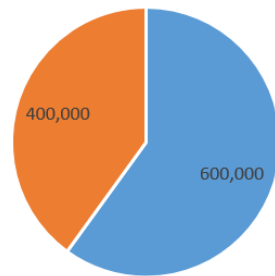
Context

- A massive fire broke out in the Kutupalong mega camp on 22nd March, 2021 affecting camps 8W, 8E and 9.
- A **UNFPA-supported Women-led Community Center (WLCC)** in Camp 8E was fully destroyed by the fire; all concerned staff are safe. A **UNFPA-supported Women Friendly Space (WFS)** in Camp 9 was fully destroyed by the fire; all staff and volunteers are safe. One of the primary health facilities where UNFPA is partnering with IOM to provide midwifery and related services was also fully destroyed by the fire.

Needs

UNFPA has determined that a total of **USD 1 million** is needed to rebuild the WFS in camp 9 and WLCC in camp 8E, replace **damaged furniture, sewing machines, generators, and provide educational and recreational materials to affected young people**. The funds will also cover the cost of deploying midwives and ambulances, and supply community health workers in the affected camps with necessary SRHR commodities and materials.

Total Funding Requirement 1 Million USD



■ funds received ■ funding gap

Voices from Cox’s Bazar

Sexual and Reproductive health and rights



Ms. Formina and her husband took part in an **awareness-raising session** on sexual and reproductive health and rights, including the best timing for having children, along with the spacing of them. Satisfied and much more informed and knowledgeable after the session, they agreed on discussing their future family plans and willing to reach out to a nearby health facility to make the appropriate decisions.

On the night of the fire accident though, right when they were discussing their future, they were caught unprepared by the deadly blaze that burned down their house completely. Saddened and frightened, they postponed **that important talk**.

SRHR updates:

Some days after, a friendly and cordial **community health worker (CHW)** approached them and invited Ms. Formina to get acquainted with the **emergency medical mobile team**, UNFPA service set-up after the fire. *“It was for me a wide mind-opening experience, as I could ask the midwives there all my questions around family planning”* she stated.

The **skilled midwives** provided information to Ms. Formina regarding Family Planning and different methods provided. She then made an **informed decision** to take oral contraceptive pills for her daily use.



- Since the fire outbreak, a total of **456 women** received Family Planning counseling and 217 women received short-acting family planning methods by the midwifery outreach team deployed by UNFPA.
- At least **57 clients** referred from the fire-affected camps received Family Planning services at the UNFPA supported facilities - namely Camp 4 Field Hospital and Camp 6 Health Post.

Gender-based violence in emergencies



UNFPA discussing with community activists on emerging GBV risks in Camp 8E

- In coordination with camp based Protection Emergency Response Unit (PERU), UNFPA's GBViE social mobilization team with its implementing partner GUK conducted **fire prevention and fire extinction awareness** discussion with **180** (90 women & 90 men) local activists and 240 male community leaders;
- The team also conducted a total of **112 sessions** on COVID-19 prevention and precautionary measures integrated with **information dissemination on emerging GBV concerns and existing services in the fire** affected camps of 8E and 9 reaching **562 participants** (331 women & 231 men);
- The team conducted five **GBV prevention and mitigation awareness raising sessions** with 26 selected male communities' leaders on emerging GBV concerns in camp 8E, 9 and 10 by disseminating tailored key messages;
- GBViE Social mobilization team comprising 6 GBViE social mobilizers (3 women and 3 men), 180 community activists (90 women & 90 men) disseminated information to vulnerable women and girls on essential services in the camps including using the **GBV Sub Sector revised emergency referral pathways**.

CONTACTS

Dr. Asa Torkelsson, UNFPA Country Representative, Dhaka Bangladesh torkelsson@unfpa.org
 Ms. Roselidah Raphael, Head of UNFPA sub-office Cox's Bazar raphael@unfpa.org
 Ms. Gaia Paradiso, Communications Specialist, UNFPA Cox's Bazar paradiso@unfpa.org