

HUMANITARIAN RESEARCH HUB

The rise of armed conflict, forced displacement, environmental disasters and other humanitarian crises is a direct result of natural hazards and major disease outbreaks. This has not only led to the increase of sufferings of hundreds of millions of lives but now more so than ever in history, more people are facing public health issues.

As of August 2017, more than 1.1 million Rohingya refugees in need of humanitarian assistance have migrated to Bangladesh. In order to improve their access to public health aid, multiple national and international organisations are tirelessly working across all camps in Cox's Bazar.

Sharing the same vision since 2018, BRAC JPGSPH continues to conduct research studies on Rohingya refugees across 3 of its Centres of Excellence in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh; in efforts to comprehend the gaps in public health service delivery and to identify challenges to improve well-being of the Rohingya community.

RESEARCH PROJECTS IN 2020

- **DESIGNING A STUDY ON MENSTRUAL REGULATION AND POST-ABORTION CARE AMONG ROHINGYA REFUGEES IN BANGLADESH**

PI: Professor Kaosar Afsana, BRAC JPGSPH.

Other researchers:

- Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH;
- Md. Tahmid Hasan, Senior Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH;
- Ayanti Barua, Research Assistant, BRAC JPGSPH

Timeline: July 2020 - March 2021

Implemented by: Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR)

Objective: To prepare the study design, protocol and data collection instruments for a study on menstrual regulation and post-abortion care among Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh; to provide much-needed evidence on Rohingya women's access to and use of menstrual regulation (MR) and post-abortion care services in refugee camps in Bangladesh to inform policies and programmes to improve their access to these services.

Methodology: Qualitative

Donor: Guttmacher Institute (USA)

Partners:

- Guttmacher Institute (USA)
- Association for the Prevention of Septic Abortion, Bangladesh (BAPSA)

Grant Amount: USD 31,000

- **BRIDGING COMMUNITIES IN COX'S BAZAR: MITIGATING RISKS AND PROMOTING GENDER, GOVERNANCE AND LOCALISATION OF HUMANITARIAN RESPONSES IN COVID-19 ERA**

PI: Professor Sabina Faiz Rashid, Dean and Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH

Co PI:

- Bachera Aktar, Assistant Director, CGSRHR, BRAC JPGSPH
- Manzoor Hasan OBE, Executive Director, Center for Peace and Justice, BRAC University

Coordinator:

- Habiba Nowrose, Research Associate, BRAC JPGSPH

Timeline: August 2020 - July 2023

Implemented by: Centre of Excellence for Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (CGSRHR)

Objective: The overall objective of the recipient in relation to the project is to provide critical evidence to influence policies and interventions that will promote tolerance and peace building, encourage civic engagement and facilitate psycho-social wellbeing; raise awareness and preparedness around COVID-19 pandemic in Rohingya camp and host communities by undertaking a rapid assessment of the COVID-19 context through a short baseline and end line survey; Help mitigate the safety and security risks of MVG and other vulnerable groups in the post COVID-19 period through: generation of in-depth evidence on the challenges around safety and security, social cohesion and psychological well-being faced by women, adolescents, youth and other MVGs in refugee and host communities; Enhance constructive civic engagement, social cohesion and gender sensitivity among and between the Rohingya refugees and host communities in Cox's Bazar; Widen dissemination of Research findings through meetings and dialogues with government representatives, volunteers, CBOs, local NGOs and UN agencies to share emerging findings and recommendations using online offline platforms.

Methodology: Qualitative and Quantitative

Donor: International Development Research Centre (IDRC)

Partner: Centre for Peace and Justice (CPJ)

Grant Amount: CAD 1,240,300