

21th (January) Edition, Publish Date 01/ 03/ 2020, Ensuring Resilience and Protective Environment for Rohingya Adolescents Project, Ukhiya Relief Operation Centre, Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar

COAST Trust is implementing "Ensuring Resilience and Protective Environment for Rohingya Adolescents (girls and boys) fled from Myanmar in Cox's Bazar District" from 1, September 2018 to 31, March 2020. In addition to this, this project is now expanded with the services to the host community.

International Mother Language Day Celebration in Host and Rohingya Communities

International Mother Language Day (21st February) has been celebrated in host and guest communities with full of respect. This year, highlighting the theme "Languages without borders" COAST MPCs observe this day with paying radiant



International Mother Language Day rally organized by Ratnapalong MPC. Photo: Saiful Islam, MPCs, Ratnapalong.

tribute to the martyrs of the language and emphasizing on preservation and protection of linguistic and cultural diversity. On this occasion 616 adolescents and community people participated. As a part of the program, adolescents with the help of COAST team, arrange event of traditional songs and discussion on the history of international mother language day. Members of the union appreciated and requested us to pick this days.

Graduation Ceremony Held in Camps

The graduation ceremony of Rohingya adolescents was held at COAST- MPCs in camp 8E, 12, 14, 20 Ext. and 22. This event was for the graduates who participated in tailoring and dress

making training for 6 months in Multi-purpose Centers. In the program, total 401 adolescents are rewarded with



Mr. Kazi Faruque Ahmed, CiC of Camp- 14, distributed materials at the graduation ceremony. Photo: Shafiu Karim, OW, Camp- 14.

startup materials on the basis of 70% attendance in life skill based education session and vocational training period. The CiC, Assistant CiC, Site Management Staff, Majhis and other community and religious leaders were present in this programme. They looked around MPC and expressed their

contentment with the work of COAST Trust. They wished this kind of training will help adolescents to be self-sufficient in future.

Entertainment- Good Way of Awareness

Sports and cultural activities are effective for every ages of people. It contributes a lot for physical and mental growth.



Sports competition organized by the Teknaf MPC. Photo: Azizul Haque, MPCAS, Teknaf Sadar.

Triggering this view, COAST-Child Protection project has been directing these issues since the beginning of the project. Following this continuous process, COAST Child Protection project organized Sports

& Cultural program in three Multi-purpose centers at host communities (Ratnapalong union, Jaliapalong union & Teknaf sadar union). Here around 200 adolescents (boys & girls) participated. Among them, 54 adolescents won different prizes by participating in Musical chair, holding hanging biscuits by mouth, throwing ball in the basket, Minibar Football, Patriotic songs, Islamic songs etc. In the field local authority appreciate COAST for the innovative ideas and requested to conduct monthly so that refreshment lead adolescents for removing prejudices.

Centers are Filled with Adolescents' Laughter

In the period when the adolescents came from Myanmar to Bangladesh, their mental condition was not well. Some of



Rohingya adolescents enjoying psychosocial session at MPC. Photo: Gias Uddin, OW, Camp - 22.

them saw parents' murder before their eyes, some lost their loved ones. They went to trauma, some suffered depression and some lost mental balance.

To recover the adolescents' mental condition in normal stage, COAST MPC team

takes structured psychosocial session and conduct

individual counseling if needed. Now the supported adolescents can speak openly, play with different game materials and amusing costumes. To forget their misery and sufferings adolescents come to MPC and from the morning to the afternoon, the center files with the activities of children's divine laughter.

Monira The Name of a Poverty Changer

Monira Akter, one of the warriors, lives in the Tetultala, Jaliapalong union with the nine family members- her father Nurul Kabir, mother and seven brothers and sisters. At an early age she loses the right of education and engaged in household works only. All of a sudden that talented girl noticed the COAST operated Multi-purpose center in Jaliapalong. And with the supervision of the center she enrolled and completed her six months training on Tailoring & Dress Making. In addition he learnt the common part of the MPC- Life Skills Based Education, psychosocial sessions which enhance her leadership quality and ability to fight against hunger. Now, she withdrew her name from the list of below poverty line and starts earning 3000 taka per month by stretching clothes. Her income supports her family and helps to dream to be in an economically sound family. In the end she conquered a dream to engage her younger mates into school so that family could dig to see the ultimate sun of success. Jaliapalong Union appreciate COAST and wish increase the working area so that all adolescents get the service.



Monira Akter is working on his machine sitting at home. Photo: Iqbal Mosharraf Hossain, MPCAS, Jaliapalong Union.

Rohingya Adolescents Group in Action to Stop Child Marriage

Stopping child marriage is one of the important issues of child protection. The UN, governments of different countries, national and international organizations have been working tirelessly to prevent child marriage all over the world. In the meantime, with the support of UNICEF, COAST Trust Child Protection Project is actively



Adolescent group is talking to a parent to prevent the marriage of a teenager. Photo: Alya Akter, OW, Camp- 14.

involved in preventing the forced marriage of Rohingya adolescents who are fled from Myanmar.

The level of child marriage in the camps is gradually decreasing as a result of the activities for long since. At the same time, a group of Rohingya adolescents who are listed in this project of COAST Trust is playing an active role in preventing child marriages. They are taking initiatives and using various strategies to prevent child marriage. Especially at camp 14, this adolescents group knows a fact of an under aged girl's marriage arrangement. After knowing the news, the group starts working on it. They go to the parents of the girl and make a convincing meeting. They discuss about the demerits of child marriage. Then they informed it to the powerful community leaders and able to convince them to take steps for stopping the arrangement of child marriage. By the way this adolescents group gets succeed in stopping some early marriages in their communities. And so many adolescents are now getting relief from this heinous action like child marriage. COAST Trust team at Camp- 14 is trying to create more active groups like this. Thus, with the concerted efforts of all, the goal of diminishing child marriage in the camps is expected to be met. Majhi of the block praises and hoping that one day this courage will remove from the society if the awareness continues.

Promoting Vegetable Gardening by Seeds Distribution

Vegetable gardens have been established through seeds distributed among local and Rohingya adolescents in the initiative of the COAST Trust Child Protection Project. With the help of family, adolescents build this vegetable garden



Adolescent's homestead gardening at Teknaf. Photo: Azizul Haque, MPCAS, Teknaf Sadar Union.

in their homestead. This vegetable garden plays an important role in fill-up the food-needs of the family as well as provide nutrition to the

adolescents. Management comity of the center put comments to do this distribution in wider way so that every adolescents can engage and use time for betterment also can avoid bad habits and waste time. For implementation this COAST CP faced land crisis as no one allowed to give land but after seing the vegetable they feel interest and now willing to help us by sharing lands.

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