



The monthly bulletin on the activities of the Peaceful coexistence project, implementing by the COAST Trust in Ukhiya and Teknaf, Cox'sBazar in collaboration with UNHCR, September 19

## Expectations and recommendations of local people on NGO activities reflected through dialogue: Union Level Visit of Social Cohesion Committee



MD. Mofidul Alam, Member, Social Cohesion Committee, Presenting the union level monitoring finding and their entire activity  
Photo Credit: Ahammad Ullah

The Social Cohesion Committee of 'Improving Peaceful Coexistence Project' conducted 4 social monitoring visits at Union level. On 18 & 28 September the committee visited Rajapalong & Palongkhali in Ukhiya and on 19 & 25 September the committee visited Whykong & Hnila union at Teknaf. The Committee visited the respective unions and conducted the FGDs with various groups. Among the groups are: beneficiaries of different projects, representatives of NGOs, teachers, political leaders, imams, and other stake holders and representatives of civil societies. The committee has asked some questions for recommendations and assessing the local ongoing projects, improving ongoing project activities, adding new activities and recommendations for bringing new projects as per the requirements of the locals.

As reply to the question of cohesion committee on ongoing projects the beneficiaries said, the projects are working well for the development of the locals. But compared to our loses the activities of the projects are limited.

While they were asked how they were benefited by the projects of different organizations they said, the projects are contributing in the improvement of local peoples living standard & will be contributing. Poor family's

condition has been improved and got the concept of humanism, human dignity, human rights, refugee rights and peaceful co-existence. And the standard of co-curricular activities of educational institutions are getting better. The youths are getting scopes to develop their skills although the scopes are limited. These opportunities should be more available.

When they were asked to give some recommendations for ongoing projects in host communities, they said, the initiative is needed to manage job for locals in every project, to provide sports and education materials at schools, colleges and madrasas, to set up infrastructure of renovate the existing buildings, to alleviate poverty, creating the new entrepreneur.

When they were asked what kinds of new activities can be added in ongoing project activities or what type of project they expect in the future, they said for the infrastructural development of educational institutions under education project. Besides Rohingya people allowance can be given to local low-income job holders. Education materials and stipend can be given to unprivileged students. Training on various field for imams, teachers will make them able to earn some extra money for their livelihoods.

After conducting FGD programs with various groups the respective unions cohesion committees initiated for meetings gathering together all the groups at union parishad.

The cohesion committee members conducted the whole program. They discussed about the functions and responsibilities of cohesion committees. Through the PowerPoint presentations they shared the union level FGD findings, camp visit learnings and debriefing meeting experiences with camp in charges. And finally, the meetings ended up with the comments and recommendations from the participants. At every union level meeting there were nearing 40 peoples were present.

## Developing Creativity Among Students Through Sports and Cultural Competition



*A moment During Sports and Cultural Competition at Alhaz Ali Achiya High School, Teknaf. Photo Credit: Ahammad Ullah*

IPC Project of COAST Trust organized sports and cultural competition on 9th to 29<sup>th</sup> of September 2019 at 8 educational institutions in Ukhiya and Teknaf with a view to improve the standards of student's co-curricular activities. The games are: Football match, music chair game, run race and kabaddi. Separately run race and music chair game arranged for only females. The cultural events include Songs- modern, patriotic, regional, folk, religious songs and dance. Besides, multiple events arranged like essay writing competition, extempore speech, comedy and IPT.



*A moment During Kabaddi Competition at Alhaz Ali Achiya High School, Teknaf. Photo Credit: Ahammad Ullah*

For each of the events students were selected as first, second and third position. In school level class 6 to class 10 and in college level 1<sup>st</sup> year and second year students participated in the events. Teachers, students, managing committee members, upazila education officer, COAST Trust representatives, journalists and other curious audience were present in the programs. At every program at educational institutions there were 170 peoples were present in an average.

Principle, Rangikhali Darul Ulum Fazil (Degree) Madrasah says, "through facilitating various programs at educational institutions 'IPC Project' improving students' co-curricular activities and building confidence in them. We appreciate it and our cooperation will be with you in upcoming events as well."



*Mr. Nurul Absar, Upazila Education Officer, Teknaf, discussing at the cultural and sports events at Alhaz Ali Achiya High School, Teknaf. Photo Credit: Ahammad Ullah*

**Mr. Nurul Absar, Upazila education officer, Teknaf said** IPC project is a different type of project compared to other projects. The project is raising awareness besides students, local and Rohingya peoples. He requested COAST Trust to provide tiffin box for the school students of Teknaf upazila for carrying their lunch to school.

### Promoting sense of humanity in educational institutions and union level through interactive sessions: IPC Project

With a view to promote human rights and refugee rights and create awareness through learning, Improving Peaceful Coexistence Project of COAST Trust in collaboration with UNHCR organized twelve interactive sessions in six schools, four madrasah and one collage of Ukhiya and Teknaf in the month of August 2019. Names of the educational institutes are: Palongkhali High School, Rongikhali Dakhil Madrasa, Palongkhali High School, Kutupalong High School, Guljer Begum High School, Balukhali Kashemia High School, Hnila Moulvi Bazar Darul Ulum Madrasa, Noyapara Sirazul Ulum Madrasah, Rongikhali Darul Ulum Madrasah and Hnila High School.

Each session consists of fifty students of class eight, nine and ten separately. All the participants were facilitated with leaflets on the topics "Definition of Human Rights and Importance of Peaceful Coexistence" and "Definition of Refugee Rights, Bangladesh Government's Outlook

towards Forcibly Displaced Myanmar National and Our Responsibilities from Humanitarian Aspect”. Sessions started with the presence of teachers and students by the anchoring of Improving Peaceful Coexistence Project representatives. At the beginning of the session they presented overall description of the event, introduction to COAST and work plans of the project. Teachers were requested to present their opinion. From students, some of them were invited to read out both the leaflets respectively when anchor described those in detail.

At the ending of the sessions, anchor discussed on present situation of Rohingya people in our country. Before repatriation we should ensure their human rights. To run our society smoothly we should make an environment where human dignity will be secured for everybody. The sessions have created positive impact among teachers and students as they expressed their sympathetic outlook towards Rohingya people.

SL	Activities	Target	Achievement
01	Targeted educational institutions for session	11	11
02	Sessions conduct at educational institutions	33	33
03	Sports and Cultural Program at Edu. Institutions	8	8
04	Union Level Session	4	4
05	Cohesion Committees Camp Visit	2	2

**Peaceful Coexistence Project, Cox’s Bazar Management and Training Center**

**Phone: 0341-63186, Fax: 0341-63189**

**Mobile: 01713328827**

**Email: [jahangir.coast@gmail.com](mailto:jahangir.coast@gmail.com)**

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Website: [www.coastbd.net](http://www.coastbd.net)

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**Target and achievement table of the month  
September 2019**