

# Manobotar Barta

## Monthly bulletin of COAST Foundation- Tearfund Supported project, January 2022

The COAST-Tearfund-supported project has been working since August 25, 2017, for the Rohingya people who were forcibly displaced from Myanmar and the local population affected by the influx. The project will be implemented to help the Rohingya community affected by the recent fire and the local people of Ward No. 1 of Palongkhali Union living in the camp. Notable activities include installation of street solar lights, drain cleaning in Rohingya camps and collecting solid waste and dumping, conducting sessions on safety and COVID19 awareness and distribution of hygiene kits, distribution of winter clothes, etc.

### COAST's commendable initiative in ensuring safe movement at night



*Solar light installed to ensure security, Photo: Abu Musa*

On 22 March 2021, most of the shelters in Rohingya Camp 8 East and West and Camp 9 were gutted by fire and extensive damage. The houses of the locals living inside the camp were burnt down and reduced to rubble. The recent fire destroyed the street solar lights in the camp, making it difficult for Rohingya and Host to move at night. Their homes are at high and low slopes and pose a security threat. The elderly and sick people, pregnant women, adolescents, children and people with disabilities and children in particular spend the night at the highest risk. To secure the nighttime movement of these vulnerable people, COAST Foundation, with the financial support of Tearfund take initiatives for implementing the street solar lights. A total of 19 street solar lights were installed in palongkhali and Razapalong Union of Ukhiya Upazila from the project. On the other hand, at Rohingya camps: 15 in the 8E & 15 in the 8W, a total of 30 street lights were installed. Before selecting the places like various wash points, stairs, slopes, dark paths, etc. are given priority in consultation with the community. Talking to the beneficiaries of both the communities, they said that now it is not difficult to move around at night and return home after completing the emergency work late at night. They further said that it has been facilitated to take the sick people to the hospital at night. They thanks to Coast Foundation for this initiative.

### Stand by them and keep it safe and reduce suffering

Every year in the month of January in all the districts of the country there is a period of cold. Elderly and sick people and children from distressed, helpless and vulnerable families are affected by various diseases due to cold. The local population of Ukhiya's Palangkhali



Union has suffered the most since the arrival of the Rohingya. Their crop lands have to be handed over to the Rohingya for habitation, thus cutting off their sources of income. Recently, a total of 140 families belonging to the local community living inside the camp were burnt down. All their furniture, clothing, and winter clothing in the dwelling were reduced to ashes. To alleviate their suffering, the Coast Foundation decided to distribute winter clothing by maintaining all the criteria of the project through a survey to verify the needs of these communities. Extreme caution and transparency are exercised in the selection of beneficiaries. Data were collected from a total of 160 families and after screening, 140 families were selected for blankets. Priority is given to families with disabilities and children, women-headed families, orphans, widows and persons at risk. They tell us that they have benefited a lot by getting a good quality blanket. And they says to take care of the next use.

### Distribution of winter clothes among the Rohingya community affected by the fire



*Blanket Distribution at Camp, PC-Imrul*

At the initiative of COAST Foundation, winter clothes were distributed among the affected people of camp 8 East and West. A total of 1000 families were brought under the distribution in the 2 camps. Distribution activities are carried out through multiple distribution points to ensure social distance keeping in view the COVID19 situation subject to the approval of the respective camp authorities of each

camp. Coming to inspect the distribution activities, the CIC of Camp 8E and said that the initiative taken by the COAST Foundation to alleviate the winter suffering of the Rohingyas is commendable. He appreciated distributing a good quality blanket to each family. He also lauded the organization for its efficient implementation of various measures in the Rohingya crisis since 2017. The camp in charge spoke to the beneficiaries and noticed their positive attitude. Beneficiary Md. Abdul Jalil, age 65 but he is person with disability, lives in Block A-59, Camp 8 West. Due to the displacement of other family members to Bhasanchar, no one lives with him except his wife. When he came to get the blanket, he said in a tearful voice that we have been suffering so much in the cold for so long. We spend our days with great difficulty as all the clothes are burnt in the fire. "I am just happy to be able to get a blanket, but it would be great if I could get one more blanket," he said.

### The concluding meeting of the project held at UNO hall room



### Government officials are speaking at the closing

At the initiative of COAST Foundation, with the financial support of Tearfund, a project closing meeting was held on 30th January 2022 at the Ukhia Upazila Hall room. The meeting was attended by project partners, local people's representatives and socially conscious individuals. Ukhia Upazila Women Vice Chairman Mr. Kamrunnesa Baby was present as the chief guest in the meeting. Upazila Deputy Assistant Engineer Md. Al Amin Biswas presided over the meeting. The project was undertaken for 6 months on 22/03/2021 to rehabilitate the Rohingya people and locals affected by the catastrophic fire in the Balukhali area of Palangkhali Union of Ukhia. Speaking as the chief guest, Upazila Mahila Vice Chairman Mr. Kamrunnesa Baby said that there is a need to increase the cooperation and involvement of the local people in the project along with the Rohingyas. In the next project, he requested to increase the area of work by involving all the unions of Ukhia Upazila. She commended the COAST Foundation for its women-friendly work environment and sought the cooperation of all concerned to continue this trend in the future. Upazila Agriculture Officer Prosenjit Talukder said, "The local development organization

COAST Foundation has been working to improve the living standards of the people in the coastal areas. He urged for long-term implementation of the project and said that it would be easier to achieve the desired goal if long-term projects were adopted in the future. He suggested setting up a waste management plant locally. He insisted on turning waste into wealth." At the end of the meeting, the views of all present were taken into consideration and the plans will be based on the views received on the projects that the Coast Foundation will implement later.

### Rohingya volunteers are not paid for their work.



CiC has Distributed Need based materials, PC- Musa

Volunteers were recruited to clean the drains and surrounding garbage in various blocks of the 8E Rohingya camp through the COAST-Tearfund supported the project. According to the FD7 of the project, no money can be paid for the work with Rohingyas. As a result, the matter was complicated in the first stage, but later it was resolved by talking to the concerned camp management. 27 volunteers were recruited in the place of 9 volunteers and one of them was a visually impaired person. They work for a total of twenty days in December and January to clean the different drains of the block and the garbage around the block. Materials are provided to them as required every month from the project. Volunteers are consulted before the delivery of materials and their families are provided with materials that are less than they need. During the discussion, they said that they are in dire need of Thami, lungi, mats, blankets and mosquito nets, and to provide 2 lungi, 2 Thami, 2 blankets, 1 mosquito net and 2 mats for each volunteer from the project based on need in return for two months of waste collection. The materials will meet the needs of their families, and they appreciate the COAST Foundation's initiative.

### Implementation of Major activity in this Month

SN	Activity	Target	Achieved
1	Blanket Distribution	1140 HHS	1140 HHS
2	Street solar Light	49 nos	49 nos
3	Project closing meeting	1	1

If any quarries or opinion please contact with

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