

ACT Alliance

Appeal Code: BGD251

Empowering Refugees Through Resilience and Recovery

Appeal

actalliance

SECRETARIAT: 150, route de Ferney, P.O. Box 2100, 1211 Geneva 2, Switzerland
TEL.: +4122 791 6434 – FAX: +4122 791 6506 – www.actalliance.org

Table of contents

Each heading links to the corresponding section

Appeal Summary Sheet

Reporting Schedule

Context Analysis

Response Strategy

Forum response strategy over the Appeal period

Capacity to respond

Appeal response plan in the first three months

Primary participants

Monitoring and evaluation

Risk management

Safety and security plans

Budget

Quality and Accountability

Code of Conduct

Safeguarding

Conflict Sensitivity / Do No Harm

Complaint Mechanism and Feedback

Communication and Visibility

Appeal Summary Sheet														
Appeal Code and Title	BGD251 Empowering Refugees Through Resilience and Recovery													
Budget (USD)	Total Requesting Members' Budget: USD 1,917,029 SMC (2%): USD 38,341 Total Budget: USD 1,955,370													
Revision Schedule	TBD													
Location	Bangladesh, Chattogram, Cox's Bazar district													
Response Period	Start Date 15 December 2025 End Date 14 December 2027 No. of months 24 Months													
Requesting Forum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The ACT Forum officially endorses the submission of this Appeal (tick box to confirm) List all organisations' names													
Requesting members (add rows if needed)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Requesting Member</th> <th>Budget (USD)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cordaid</td> <td>511,092</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CCDB</td> <td>466,221</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Heks/Eper</td> <td>490,223</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RDRS Bangladesh</td> <td>487,833</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Requesting Member	Budget (USD)	Cordaid	511,092	CCDB	466,221	Heks/Eper	490,223	RDRS Bangladesh	487,833		
Requesting Member	Budget (USD)													
Cordaid	511,092													
CCDB	466,221													
Heks/Eper	490,223													
RDRS Bangladesh	487,833													
Appeal Coordinator	<table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Name</td> <td>Muhammad Imran</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Email</td> <td>muhammad.imran@cordaid.org</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other means of contact (whatsapp, Skype ID)</td> <td>+8801717001501</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Name	Muhammad Imran	Email	muhammad.imran@cordaid.org	Other means of contact (whatsapp, Skype ID)	+8801717001501						
Name	Muhammad Imran													
Email	muhammad.imran@cordaid.org													
Other means of contact (whatsapp, Skype ID)	+8801717001501													
Implementing partners (add rows if needed)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Requesting Member</th> <th>Implementing Partners</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cordaid</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>CCDB</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>HEKS/EPER</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>RDRS</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Requesting Member	Implementing Partners	Cordaid		CCDB		HEKS/EPER		RDRS			
Requesting Member	Implementing Partners													
Cordaid														
CCDB														
HEKS/EPER														
RDRS														
Response Strategy Summary (add rows if needed)	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Requesting Member</th> <th>Number of Target Participants per sector</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cordaid</td> <td>Life-saving Food Security 700 HH Livelihood 350 HH Health 950 HH Crosscutting: Advocacy, Protection and GBV 2,000 HH</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CCDB</td> <td>Livelihood and DRR 2,188 WASH 2,440</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HEKS/EPER</td> <td>Shelter Repair & Maintenance 7,000 HHs WASH Services 2,211 HHs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RDRS</td> <td>Food Security & Nutrition: 719 HH Livelihood: 5,550 HH WASH: 5,200 HH</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Requesting Member	Number of Target Participants per sector	Cordaid	Life-saving Food Security 700 HH Livelihood 350 HH Health 950 HH Crosscutting: Advocacy, Protection and GBV 2,000 HH	CCDB	Livelihood and DRR 2,188 WASH 2,440	HEKS/EPER	Shelter Repair & Maintenance 7,000 HHs WASH Services 2,211 HHs	RDRS	Food Security & Nutrition: 719 HH Livelihood: 5,550 HH WASH: 5,200 HH		
Requesting Member	Number of Target Participants per sector													
Cordaid	Life-saving Food Security 700 HH Livelihood 350 HH Health 950 HH Crosscutting: Advocacy, Protection and GBV 2,000 HH													
CCDB	Livelihood and DRR 2,188 WASH 2,440													
HEKS/EPER	Shelter Repair & Maintenance 7,000 HHs WASH Services 2,211 HHs													
RDRS	Food Security & Nutrition: 719 HH Livelihood: 5,550 HH WASH: 5,200 HH													

	Total: 11,469 HH																																															
Outcome(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustained Access to Life-Saving Services for both FDMNs and Host Communities Strengthened Food Security, Livelihoods and Pathways to Self-Reliance Strengthened Social Cohesion and Community Resilience 																																															
Objectives	<p>Objective 1: Improve life-saving food and nutrition security for vulnerable households.</p> <p>Objective 2: Expand safe livelihood and skills opportunities that reduce long-term aid dependency.</p> <p>Objective 3: Strengthen life-saving primary health access through early screening, triage, telemedicine, and timely referrals.</p> <p>Objective 4: Enhance safe and dignified living conditions through essential shelter, WASH, and protection measures, recognized in the JRP as life-saving priorities alongside food and nutrition.</p>																																															
Target Participants	<div> <div>Profile</div> <div> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Refugees <input type="checkbox"/> IDPs <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> host population <input type="checkbox"/> Returnees <input type="checkbox"/> Non-displaced affected population </div> </div> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Partner</th><th>Female</th><th>Male</th><th>Total</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Cordaid</td><td>1,200</td><td>800</td><td>2,000</td></tr> <tr> <td>CCDB</td><td>2,222</td><td>2,406</td><td>4,628</td></tr> <tr> <td>HEKS/EPER</td><td>21,647</td><td>22,566</td><td>44,213</td></tr> <tr> <td>RDRS</td><td>5,589</td><td>5,880</td><td>11,469</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Sex and Age Disaggregated Data:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>0-5</th><th>6-12</th><th>13-17</th><th>18-49</th><th>50-59</th><th>60-69</th><th>70-79</th><th>80+</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Male</td><td>650</td><td>900</td><td>750</td><td>27,000</td><td>1,292</td><td>210</td><td>110</td><td>60</td></tr> <tr> <td>Female</td><td>620</td><td>880</td><td>730</td><td>28,000</td><td>729</td><td>240</td><td>210</td><td>131</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Partner	Female	Male	Total	Cordaid	1,200	800	2,000	CCDB	2,222	2,406	4,628	HEKS/EPER	21,647	22,566	44,213	RDRS	5,589	5,880	11,469		0-5	6-12	13-17	18-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80+	Male	650	900	750	27,000	1,292	210	110	60	Female	620	880	730	28,000	729	240	210	131
Partner	Female	Male	Total																																													
Cordaid	1,200	800	2,000																																													
CCDB	2,222	2,406	4,628																																													
HEKS/EPER	21,647	22,566	44,213																																													
RDRS	5,589	5,880	11,469																																													
	0-5	6-12	13-17	18-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80+																																								
Male	650	900	750	27,000	1,292	210	110	60																																								
Female	620	880	730	28,000	729	240	210	131																																								

Reporting Schedule

Quarterly Situational report	15 March 2026
Interim Report	30 th December 2026
Final Narrative Report (60 days after the completion of the appeal)	15 February 2028
Final Financial Report (60 days after the completion of the appeal)	15 February 2028
Final Audit Report – (90 days after the completion of the appeal)	15 March 2028

Please kindly send your contributions to this ACT bank account:

US dollar

Account Number - 240-432629.60A
IBAN No: CH46 0024 0240 4326 2960A

Account Name: ACT Alliance

UBS AG
8, rue du Rhône
P.O. Box 2600
1211 Geneva 4, SWITZERLAND
Swift address: UBSWCHZH80

Please note that as part of the revised ACT Humanitarian Mechanism, pledges/contributions are **encouraged** to be made through the consolidated budget of the requesting members, and allocations will be made based on agreed criteria of the forum or task group. For any possible earmarking, budget targets per member can be found in the [Appeal Summary Sheet](#), and detailed budgets per member are available upon request from the ACT Secretariat. Updates on funding levels are available through this link [00 Appeals reports](#), which provides a monthly update for an overview of existing pledges/contributions and associated earmarking for the appeal.

Please send an email to Humanitarian Finance (humanitarianfinance@actalliance.org) of pledges and contributions, **including funds sent directly to the requesting members**. Please also inform us of any pledges or contributions if there are any contract agreements and requirements, especially from back donors. In line with Grand Bargain commitments to reduce the earmarking of humanitarian funding, if you have an earmarking request in relation to your pledge, a member of the Secretariat's Humanitarian team will contact you to discuss this request. We thank you in advance for your kind cooperation.

For further information, please contact.

Asia and the Pacific

Regional Representative, Alwynn Javier (alwynn.javier@actalliance.org)
Humanitarian Programme Coordinator, Muhammad Waqas (waqas@actalliance.org)

Visit the ACT website: <https://actalliance.org/>

Niall O'Rourke

Head of Humanitarian Affairs
ACT Alliance Secretariat, Geneva

Context Analysis

The Rohingya situation in Cox's Bazar remains one of the most protracted and severely underfunded humanitarian crises in the world. Since the mass violence and expulsion from Rakhine State in 2017, over 745,000 displaced Rohingya—now termed Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMNs) by the Government of Bangladesh—have settled in 33 extremely congested camps across Ukhiya and Teknaf. According to camp management and RRRC, around 150,000 people arrived in 2025, and on daily basis more people are fleeing Myanmar to Cox's Bazar. With population growth and periodic new arrivals, the camps now host an estimated 1.14 million people, more than half of whom are women and children, and over 500,000 are stateless minors who have never lived outside camp boundaries. Without formal refugee status, Rohingya households cannot legally work, move freely, or rebuild their lives, making them almost entirely dependent on humanitarian assistance.

Over time, the crisis has shifted from an acute emergency to a compounded humanitarian-development breakdown, where shrinking aid coincides with rising life-saving needs. Since 2023, deep funding cuts—particularly to WFP—have reduced food rations by nearly 30%, leaving many families surviving on barely 1,200 calories a day. This has directly contributed to worsening nutrition indicators, with Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) consistently fluctuating between 8.6–12.7%, approaching emergency thresholds. Birth rates remain extremely high, with 30,000–35,000 new births every year, placing intense pressure on maternal, newborn, and child health services already weakened by funding gaps. Preventable illnesses such as respiratory infections, diarrhoea, skin diseases, and unmanaged chronic conditions continue to rise, particularly among children, elderly persons, and persons with disabilities. At the same time, shelters and basic infrastructure are deteriorating faster than they can be maintained. While shelter is not the central driver of mortality, unsafe and damaged shelters multiply health risks, accelerate disease spread, and weaken protection outcomes. In 2026, 57.2% of households reported receiving no shelter repair due to material shortages; 55.5% reported leaking roofs, 47.4% wall damage, 30% bamboo infestation, and 16% rainwater intrusion. Critically, 88.6% of households reported at least one safety-threatening structural issue. Fire-protective walls exist in only 29% of shelters, leaving thousands exposed during peak dry season. These shelter and site conditions, while not the core life-saving need, directly exacerbate health, nutrition, and protection vulnerabilities.

The JRP 2025–2026 and ISNA/J-MSNA assessments consistently identify the highest unmet needs in food security, health, nutrition, WASH, protection, and shelter/site management, warning that without sustained life-saving interventions, the crisis risks crossing irreversible thresholds. In particular, food insecurity, acute malnutrition, lack of income opportunities, overcrowding, and constrained access to health services continue to drive life-threatening conditions—especially among children under five, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women, elderly persons, and persons with disabilities.

Amid chronic underfunding, rising tensions with host communities, and deteriorating camp conditions, maintaining and strengthening life-saving food, nutrition, and health support, complemented by targeted shelter, WASH, and protection improvements, remains essential to prevent further deterioration and support communities toward restored dignity and self-reliance.

Response Strategy

Forum response strategy over the Appeal period

The ACT Bangladesh Forum will implement a coordinated, multi-sectoral response that aligns with the Appeal Results Framework and adheres to ACT Alliance humanitarian quality standards, including CHS and Sphere. Guided by the overarching goal of helping crisis-affected Rohingya (FDMNs) and host communities move from aid toward ability, based on the years of experience in working with the FDMNs, and building on the existing presence, the Forum will deliver life-saving support while strengthening the foundations of dignity, resilience, and self-reliance over the 2.5-year Appeal period.

The response is organized around four specific objectives, each contributing to improved survival and strengthened coping capacity. Under **Objective 1, the Forum will improve life-saving food and nutrition security for vulnerable households through homestead and vertical gardening, nutrition education, and malnutrition screening**. Cordaid will lead integrated food and nutrition interventions in both camps and host communities; RDRS Bangladesh will support food security and nutrition initiatives; CCDB will complement with community food production and nutrition awareness. Together, these actions aim to mitigate the impact of food ration cuts and reduce malnutrition risks for women, children, and persons with specific needs.

Under **Objective 2, the Forum will expand safe livelihood and skills opportunities that reduce long-term dependency on humanitarian aid**. This includes SME support, micro-enterprise development, apprenticeships, and skills training for women and youth. Cordaid will integrate livelihoods with nutrition and WASH initiatives; RDRS Bangladesh will provide skills development, green jobs (to reduce environmental degradation), and dignified work modalities; CCDB will promote climate-adaptive livelihood diversification and disaster-risk reduction efforts; and HEKS/EPER will connect cash-for-work with regular shelter repair and maintenance for extremely vulnerable households. Together, these interventions strengthen household ability to meet basic needs while reducing reliance on external aid.

Under **Objective 3, the Forum will strengthen life-saving community health access through early screening, triage, telemedicine, and timely referrals**. Cordaid will lead community-level health activities including MUAC, blood pressure, glucose screening, SpO₂ checks, MHPSS support, and triage linked to referral pathways. These interventions ensure that preventable and treatable conditions, common in overcrowded camps, are identified early and managed before becoming fatal.

Under **Objective 4, the Forum will enhance safe, dignified living conditions through targeted shelter, WASH, and protection measures**. HEKS/EPER will continue essential shelter repair and maintenance in the camps; RDRS Bangladesh will support WASH and hygiene activities; CCDB will strengthen WASH, MHM, protection,; and Cordaid will contribute through hygiene promotion, waste-to-value initiatives, and GBV risk mitigation. Together, these interventions create safer environments that enable better nutrition, health, and livelihood outcomes.

To ensure maximum impact, the Forum will maintain strong coordination and complementarity across members. Joint planning, harmonizing PMEL tools, and routine coordination meetings will align activities geographically and thematically, preventing duplication while strengthening service coverage. This coordination will remain fully aligned with the office of The Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner (RRRC), Camp-in-Charges (CiCs), Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) sector working groups, and government policies.

The response is **fully gender-responsive and inclusive**, informed by gender analysis and the mainstreaming of **GBV risk mitigation, safeguarding, disability inclusion, and protection across all objectives**. Women, adolescent girls, elderly caregivers, and persons with disabilities will be prioritized in targeting and have safe, meaningful opportunities for participation. Programme sites, delivery modalities, and feedback mechanisms will be designed to uphold dignity, safety, and equitable access for all affected groups.

Gender Mainstreaming: The Rohingya crisis has disproportionately affected women, girls, and other vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities and elderly women. In Rohingya community gender discrimination is a prevalent issue. Women's rights are severely affected by various forms of violence. Women and girls face heightened risks of sexual exploitation, harassment, gender-based violence and trafficking, especially in overcrowded and insecure camp settings. Social stigma and limited reporting mechanisms deter survivors from seeking help, perpetuating cycles of abuse. Mental health challenges are more pronounced among women and girls due to trauma, restricted mobility, and caregiving burdens. Women's economic participation is constrained by cultural norms, safety concerns, and lack of skills training tailored to their needs. Dependency on humanitarian aid exacerbates their vulnerability and limits self-reliance. Existing gender norms restrict women's mobility, decision-making power, and access to education, impacting their ability to participate in community initiatives or leadership roles.

According to the situation report of GBV Sub Sector, in July to September 2024, physical assault remained the most common type of gender-based violence (GBV) reported, accounting for 51.5% of incidents recorded under the GBVIMS. Psychological/emotional abuse is 21.3% and denial of resources- 15.5%, sexual violence accounted for approximately 10.9% of reported incidents, an increase from 10.4% in Q2 2024. This category includes 6% for rape and 4.9% for sexual assault. While this increase may reflect improved reporting, field GBV actors confirm that this type of GBV is severely under-reported, including incidents of marital rape and extra-marital violence. Focus group discussions highlight significant barriers for women and girls in accessing services, driven by worsening security in camps, including fears of abduction, theft, and sexual violence from organized armed groups. Over 64% of surveyed camps reported that women and girls felt unsafe, particularly at night. Additionally, 50% of GBV Camp Focal Points across 33 camps noted an increase in GBV incidents, while reports of kidnappings by host community members were also mentioned.^[1]

To contribute in GBV prevention, the project offers several opportunities to address these challenges and promote gender equity through empowering women and girls through leadership roles in community groups promotes agency and builds confidence. Involving youth groups in GBV prevention activities so that the youth can challenge harmful norms of the society. Sensitize community people on preventing gender-based violence at household level. Provide referral support for people with specific needs and gender-diverse people. Strengthening the existing community-based protection mechanism. Providing gender-sensitive vocational training, cash-for-work programs, and life skills can enhance economic independence for women and other vulnerable groups. The project aims to create safe spaces and programs for adolescent girls to learn, advocate, and socialize can reduce risks and build resilience.

To ensure the gender inclusion, the project will track the participation disaggregated by gender, age, and disability, feedback will be collected from women and girls to refine project activities and address emerging challenges. Proper monitoring outcomes related to women's empowerment, safety, and economic independence will be ensured.

Deliverables of Report: Interim reports will be submitted by yearly, First Interim report will submit on 31st December'2026, Second Interim Report will submit on 31st December 2027 and a completion report will be submitted at the end of the year.

Capacity to respond

The ACT Bangladesh Forum brings together four requesting members with long-standing humanitarian experience in Cox's Bazar and other crisis-affected areas of Bangladesh: Cordaid, RDRS Bangladesh, HEKS/EPER, and CCDB. Collectively, the Forum has more than four decades of operational presence in the country and has been actively engaged in the Rohingya response since 2017. Each member has contributed to the Forum Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan, which identifies shared resources, rapid deployment capability, and established partnerships with local actors, government authorities, and sector coordination groups under the ISCG and RRRC structures.

Cordaid has extensive experience in livelihood, food and nutrition security, health, WASH, gender-based violence, including integrated service delivery in Ukhiya and Teknaf in both camps (Ukhiya and Teknaf - camp 7, 8E, 9, 10, 13, 15, 18, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27) and host community (Teknaf). It currently supports refugee through homestead gardening, enterprise and entrepreneurship development, GBV prevention, and WASH system strengthening. Cordaid has previously implemented multi-donor humanitarian responses in Bangladesh, including ECHO, UN, and Dutch-funded programmes, and maintains strong relationships with camp-level networks and health coordination bodies.

RDRS Bangladesh, a national humanitarian and development organization established in 1972, initially focused on relief and rehabilitation for war-affected populations following Bangladesh's liberation. Over time, it evolved into a multifaceted development organization with a mission to alleviate poverty and empower marginalized communities. Currently, RDRS operates in 31 districts, directly engaging 2.3 million participants across a population of 80 million. Since February 2019, RDRS, in partnership with the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) and Australian Lutheran World Service (ALWS), has been implementing the LWF-RDRS Emergency Programs (LREP) to address the humanitarian needs of Rohingya refugees and host communities in Cox's Bazar. focuses on fostering social cohesion and inclusion with gender- and age-sensitive approaches, providing humanitarian support such as food, non-food items, WASH, and protection services. It also promotes resilience-building initiatives, including livelihood development, income generation activities (IGA), life skills training, and reforestation. The program emphasizes localization by building youth capacity and creating market linkages to improve living standards. In 2024 RDRS Bangladesh has been started working with the partnership with Act CoS for building resilience and protection for the FDMNs and local communities to improve their living standards in Cox's Bazar. From 2021 to 2025, RERP supported 174,616 individuals in four Rohingya camps (11, 12, 18, 2E) and host communities in Ukhiya, Ramu, Cox's Bazar Sadar, and Moheshkhali.

HEKS/EPER has over seven years of continuous humanitarian presence in Cox's Bazar enabling strong community engagement and rapid, context-specific interventions. As a key actor and IOM pipeline partner and UNHCR pool partner in shelter, site improvement, NFI, and WASH, it serves as the designated shelter focal agency in Camps 14, 15, and 16, while its WASH portfolio supports 69 healthcare facilities and 42 schools across three upazilas. As a member of the Shelter-CCCM sector Strategic Advisory Group (SAG), HEKS/EPER contributes to sectoral strategy and harmonized operational decisions for Rohingya Response. The organization brings extensive experience across camps and host communities, with a solid track record in shelter support, environmental rehabilitation, Site improvements, NFI, WASH facility management, and community infrastructure projects that ensure emergency lifesaving and reduce disaster risks

CCDB has longstanding expertise in climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction, community-based WASH systems, and local peacebuilding. CCDB has worked in Cox's Bazar and other disaster-affected regions for over fifty years and supported host communities through DRR, water resource protection, and environmental livelihood practices. CCDB contributes strong capacity for resilience and climate-focused humanitarian programming, including work with faith-based networks and interreligious platforms.

As a Forum, the four members coordinate assessments, harmonize approaches, share MEAL and protection tools, and collaborate with local partners, state and non-state actors to ensure contextualized and inclusive programme delivery. The Forum maintains established surge mechanisms, staff trained in humanitarian standards, and pre-positioned relationships that enable efficient mobilization in new shocks, including potential new refugee arrivals or escalating needs. Together, these capacities position the ACT Bangladesh Forum to deliver a cohesive and impactful response, ensuring coverage across key sectors and reducing duplication while upholding the Core Humanitarian Standard and Sphere protection principles.

Appeal response plan in the first three months

During the initial three months of the Appeal, the ACT Bangladesh Forum will focus on foundational and enabling actions required to ensure that programme delivery is compliant, well-coordinated, and responsive to the evolving needs of Rohingya refugees and host communities. Given recent funding reductions, shifting camp dynamics, and emerging tensions, this start-up phase is critical to ensure that subsequent interventions are both evidence-based and aligned with the priorities of coordination bodies and government authorities.

The Forum members, Cordaid, RDRS Bangladesh, HEKS/EPER, and CCDB, will

1. Jointly undertake rapid needs assessments, integrating gender and protection considerations and reflecting the impact of ration cuts, service reductions, and changes in negative coping mechanisms for the targeted groups, new influx and sector hit hardest by the fund shortage. These assessments will include sector-specific data on food security, Shelter and WASH access, health and nutrition, livelihoods, and host-community tensions. Findings will directly inform targeting and prioritization within the Results Framework.
2. Initiate community engagement and accountability processes, including dialogue with Rohingya community representatives, women's groups, religious and youth leaders, and host community institutions. This engagement will ensure that response delivery mechanisms, especially around WASH, homestead gardening, cash-for-work, and protection, are accessible, safe, and culturally appropriate.
3. Coordinate with the Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG), RRRC and CiC offices, and relevant government line ministries, participating in relevant sectors and cross cutting working groups/network (Food Security & Livelihoods, WASH, Health/Nutrition, Shelter, and Protection, PSEA, Energy and Environment). This coordination will reduce duplication and support complementarity with UN agencies and NGOs involved in the response.
4. Pursue required clearances from the NGO Affairs Bureau (NGOAB) for project approval and fund utilization. This process will include submission of programme documentation, budget compliance, and safeguarding commitments, ensuring adherence to national regulations and ACT Alliance humanitarian quality standards.

Response plan after first three months

Following the completion of joint needs assessments, community consultations, coordination with ISCG sectors, and NGOAB approval, the programme will transition into a self-reliance and resilience phase focused on strengthening the capacities of FDMN (Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals) households and vulnerable host communities to meet a greater share of their own food and income needs.

During this phase, the Forum will prioritize practical, hands-on learning and livelihood models that are viable within the constraints of camp life and limited land availability. The focus will include teaching households how to grow food in congested areas, using sack gardens, raised beds, vertical structures, recycled containers, and nutrient-efficient cropping methods. Families will also be trained in seed preservation, seedling nursery management, soil nutrition improvement, and basic pest and disease control using safe techniques. Nutrition sessions will help participants understand how to maximize dietary value from the limited crops they can grow, supporting healthier diets despite ration reductions. In addition to food production, the programme will introduce enterprise development and entrepreneurship training, tailored for women and youth, including basic bookkeeping, pricing, market linkage skills, and cooperative or group-based selling models where appropriate. Where feasible, small waste-to-value initiatives (compost, natural dyes, upcycling, fuel briquettes, cleaning products) will be piloted to demonstrate circular micro-economy opportunities.

This next phase is not intended to replace humanitarian support, but to gradually shift households from dependency to agency, increasing confidence, skills, and dignity while generating evidence that closed-loop, self-reliant systems can function in protracted displacement settings.

Cordaid:

Cordaid, aligning with the objectives will prioritise food and nutrition security, health, livelihood-enterprise development, protection, GBV and WASH sector. The table below shows the tentative reach and coverage (households) proposed under each of the interventions:

Priority	Locations	Host		Camp		PwD	Total
		Female	Male	Female	Male		
Life-saving food and nutrition security	Ukya, Teknaf	100	100	350	150	35	700
Livelihood and Skills development	Ukya, Teknaf	100	50	100	100	10	350
Health services	Ukya, Teknaf	150	100	450	250	50	950
Total		300	300	500	900	95	2,000

Under the first priority, Cordaid will strengthen life-saving food and nutrition security by supporting homestead and vertical gardening models, enabling vulnerable households, especially women, children, and persons with specific needs, to grow nutrient-rich foods despite extreme space limitations. This will be complemented by nutrition education, safe food preparation practices, and community-based malnutrition screening, including MUAC for children and

pregnant/lactating women. These actions directly address the severe ration cuts and rising undernutrition in the camps.

For the second priority, Cordaid will expand safe livelihood and skills opportunities that help households reduce long-term aid dependency. Interventions will include SME support, women- and youth-focused apprenticeships, and micro-enterprise development, including waste-to-value and composting models linked to gardening. These pathways build practical skills, generate small but meaningful income streams, and reduce reliance on negative coping mechanisms—particularly for female-headed households and young adults at risk of exploitation.

Under the third priority, Cordaid will improve life-saving access to community health services through early screening and referral. This includes blood pressure and blood glucose checks, MUAC screening, oxygen saturation measurement, and basic triage, allowing early detection of acute conditions before they become life-threatening. Cordaid will also provide telemedicine services, linking households to authorised health facilities, and MHPSS support to help adults and adolescents manage prolonged stress, trauma, and depression common in overcrowded camps.

Across all interventions, Cordaid will integrate cross-cutting WASH, GBV, and protection measures to ensure safe and dignified access for all 2,000 project participants. WASH actions will include hygiene promotion, behavioural change for safe water use, waste-to-compost systems that feed into gardening, and support for menstrual hygiene management. Protection and GBV risk mitigation will be embedded through women's groups, adolescent engagement, safety messaging, and accessible complaints and feedback mechanisms. These cross-cutting elements ensure that each activity not only addresses urgent needs but does so in a way that reduces risks, enhances dignity, and contributes to safer living conditions for Rohingya refugees and host communities alike.

HEKS/EPER:

Shelter:

HEKS/EPER, as the shelter focal agency in Camps 14, 15, and 16, aims to strengthen the safety, durability, and disaster preparedness of households through the Shelter Upgrade and Maintenance (SUM- phase 3) programme. The Shelter Upgrade and Maintenance (SUM-phase 3) programme is a mandatory, SCCC sector-endorsed priority 1 intervention under lifesaving shelter response in Camps 14, 15, and 16, aimed at replacing damaged structural materials, supplementing existing shelters, and incrementally creating durable and decent shelters covering sectoral regular shelter repair and maintenance support. Under this programme, IOM will provide all materials as in-kind through the common pipeline partnership, while HEKS/EPER manages all implementation, operational, and cash-for-work including technical supervision and volunteer support costs. This support specifically targets households whose shelters received repair or maintenance over a year ago or more. The SUM approach comprises four key components: (i) training for targeted beneficiaries with IEC materials, (ii) technical assistance during construction, (iii) provision of shelter materials, and (iv) porter and construction support for households with special needs, including extremely vulnerable individuals, persons with disabilities, female-headed households, child-headed households, elderly persons, and LGBTIQ individuals.

Material assistance is provided through a two-phase approach:

- **In-kind materials:** Households receive essential materials such as bamboo, rope, and tarpaulin to implement internal partition walls, reinforce connections, replace damaged

main bamboo posts, and address rainwater entry through the roof. Technical verification ensures proper bracing, ties, and connection to the main bamboo frame, as well as the construction of fire-protecting and partition walls.

- **Voucher support:** Eligible households can select additional materials from a predefined list according to their preferences and specific needs, ensuring that the total value of chosen materials aligns with the intended voucher value. This approach ensures flexibility, household ownership, and relevance, complementing the structural strengthening achieved through in-kind support.
- Training and technical assistance equip household members, including women and youth, with safe construction techniques, disaster risk reduction (DRR) practices, and the skills to reuse materials efficiently.
- **Apart from HEKS/EPER direct technical team,** Rohingya and host community volunteers will support assessments, training, and guidance, enhancing local capacity, language and fostering community participation. Adaptations such as accessible shelters, internal partitions, and safe cooking space reduce protection risks, including GBV. By integrating these soft components like owner driven approach, capacity building trainings, community engagement, the programme promotes community resilience, long-term self-reliance, and sustainability, enabling households to maintain shelters independently, respond to future crises, and potentially utilize their construction skills for livelihood opportunities.

WASH: The influx of Rohingya refugees has placed huge pressure on host communities, intensifying vulnerabilities in water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH). In the first three months, immediate interventions will consist on conducting an assessment for the vulnerable people, ensure safe water access as needed, rehabilitate sanitation facilities, promote hygiene awareness, and distribution menstrual hygiene kits and sensitized the community ownership through inclusive WASH committee formation. By the third month, this planning will be revised and republished to reflect the transition from relief to recovery, with a focus on capacity strengthening, sustainable water and sanitation systems, and community-led hygiene education. Response priorities will include consolidating emergency gains, reducing open defecation, expanding safe water coverage, and embedding resilience through local participation. These efforts are fully aligned with the National Emergency Response Plan and the Rohingya Joint Response Plan and following the government policies and procedures. They ensure coherence with national strategies, foster long-term recovery pathways, and empower communities to sustain improved WASH practices.

Priority	Locations	Target	Host		Camp		PwD	Total
			Female	Male	Male	Female		
SCCCM Sector- (Shelter Repair & Maintenance)	Camp 14, 15 & 16	7000 HHs	-	-	17471	16129	2386	33600
WASH Services	Ukhiya (Raja Palong , Palong Khali)	2211 HHs	5518	5095	-	-	754	10613

Total		9211 HHs						
-------	--	-------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

RDRS Bangladesh:

RDRs Bangladesh has been implementing different sectoral interventions from 2019 both in camps and host communities in Cox's Bazar

Food & Nutrition

- Conduct school-based nutrition education and deworming campaigns
- Comprehensive training on climate-smart homestead gardening training covering various techniques and organic farming methods, composting, and pest control for the Host community and provide input support (seeds, fertilizer, sacks, bamboo, etc.)-Camp
- Comprehensive training on climate-smart homestead gardening training covering various techniques and organic farming methods, composting, and pest control for the Host community and provide input support (seeds, fertilizer, sacks, bamboo, etc.)-Host

Livelihood

- Accelerated Adult Learning (AAL) Training for Functional Literacy
- Follow-up for utilization of the skills and provide daily volunteering allowance based on activities. Conduct awareness sessions and household-level follow-ups at camp.
- Three (3) Camp Focal (For camps 11, 12, and 18) for managing the camp-level activities, supervising the Rohingya volunteers, and coordinating with the sector focal, CMO, and other relevant stakeholders at the camp level. Conduct camp level assessment, observe protection situation, and organize training, awareness sessions, and different types of events.
- Facilitate non-formal technical training (Weaving, knitting, tailoring, handicraft, Goat rearing, Fish net Making, SME, Dry fish production, High value crop production, etc) for women and youth of the host community and provide cash grant support to the host community
- Follow-up on utilization of the skills and provide daily volunteering allowance based on activities. Conduct awareness sessions, monthly meetings with the IGA group, sensitization meetings with community influential and field level stakeholders as well as household level follow-up at the host community. (4 CM)
- CFRM system functional and community awareness on this mechanism at camp.
- CFRM system functioning and community awareness on this mechanism
- HH-level sensitization and awareness session with the youth's family members of the Rohingya community focused on protection, drug abuse, social cohesion, and DRR issues
- HH-level sensitization and awareness session with the youth's family members of the host community focused on protection, drug abuse, social cohesion, and DRR issues.

WASH

- Organizing awareness sessions with teachers and religious leaders to strengthen understanding and promotion of hygiene practices (Camp)
- HH-level sensitization and awareness session with the youth's family members of the Rohingya community focused on Wash, Protection, social cohesion, and DRR issues
- Drainage line cleaning and putting mosquito larva spray in the camp. (Rohingya Camp).

- HH-level sensitization and awareness session with the youth's family members of the Rohingya community focused on Wash, Protection, social cohesion, and DRR issues
- Organizing awareness sessions with teachers and religious leaders to strengthen understanding and promotion of hygiene practices (Host)
- Community-led hygiene promotion and behavioral change activities (installation of hygiene corner and Adolescent club formation,) in coordination with local authorities.

CCDB

WASH (Resilient Toilets & Safe Drinking Water Systems)

Ramu is highly exposed to cyclones, tidal surges, saltwater intrusion and recurrent flooding, which severely undermine safe sanitation and drinking water availability. Climate-resilient toilets raised above flood levels and designed with durable materials will help to reduce public health risks during disasters. Similarly, safe water systems such as rainwater harvesters, Reverse osmosis plant (RO), ultra violet based as well as latest technology-based water purification system and other context-appropriate safe drinking water sources and participatory water governance systems will ensure reliable access to potable water despite seasonal scarcity and saline contamination. Strengthening WASH infrastructure not only increases household resilience to climate variability but also will reduce waterborne diseases that often point after extreme weather events. These interventions directly will contribute to risk reduction and climate adaptation in a hazard-prone coastal region like Ramu.

Climate Adaptive Livelihoods (Cattle, Poultry, Micro-business, Homestead Gardening, Women-led Employment Skills)

Communities in Ramu face climate-induced livelihood instability due to erratic rainfall, salinity intrusion, declining natural resources and disaster-induced income vulnerabilities. Promoting climate adaptive livelihood options; such as cattle rearing, poultry, small grocery businesses, homestead gardening and women led micro-enterprises including sewing and mini garments will enhance household economic resilience. These diversified and low risk income streams will help families absorb climate shocks, reduce dependency on climate sensitive sectors and will be strengthened long term adaptive capacity. Supporting women and vulnerable households with skills training, start-up capital and market linkages will ensure inclusive resilience-building aligned with global DRR-CC priorities.

Plantation (Homestead & Community-Based Plantation)

Environmental degradation and deforestation in Ramu have increases vulnerability to cyclones, landslides, riverbank erosion and heat stress. Homestead plantations and community-based initiatives along roadsides, embankments and public spaces will strengthen natural barriers against disasters while also improving micro climatic conditions. Multi-purpose climate-resilient tree species will contribute to soil stabilization, protect from strong winds, restoration of biodiversity and enhanced carbon sequestration. Alongside, although nature-based solutions are globally recognized as cost-effective DRR and climate adaptation measures, which will support both community safety and environmental resilience in a fragile coastal ecosystem.

Capacity Building on DRR & Climate Change

Local communities and institutions in Ramu often lack the knowledge, skills and preparedness measures needed to respond effectively to increasing climate hazards. Capacity building including

community-based disaster preparedness training, early warning dissemination skills, climate change awareness, contingency planning and leadership strengthening through the project initiatives will empower vulnerable households to anticipate, absorb and recover from climatic shocks. Together with strengthening local governance structures including Ward Disaster Management Committees will ensure to coordinate risk reduction and also enhances community led adaptation practices in a sustainable manner. These interventions will align with international DRR frameworks (Sendai Framework) and national climate policies which will make Ramu's risk-prone communities more resilient and better prepared for future climate threats.

Priority	Locations	Host		PwD	Total
		Female	Male		
Livelihood including DRR & CC	Ramu	1051	1137	32	2188
WASH	Ramu	1171	1269	35	2440
Total		2222	2406	67	4628

The approach aligns with national direction that emphasizes temporary protection and non-integration, while complementing JRP objectives on resilience, nutrition, and environmentally responsible programming. The ACT Forum will continue to coordinate with RRRC, CiCs, and ISCG groups to ensure that the work remains policy-compliant and does not create barriers to eventual repatriation.

Primary participants

The identification of participants under this Appeal is based on updated needs analysis, JRP, ISNA, community engagement, and coordination with RRRC, CiCs, and ISCG sectors. As the Rohingya (FDMN) situation remains a protracted displacement crisis, prioritization focuses on households whose food security, nutritional intake, WASH access, and shelter conditions have deteriorated due to reduced humanitarian assistance and increasing pressure on shared resources.

Geographic Prioritization

Target camps and host-community unions are selected where the following conditions are present:

- Significant food and nutrition gaps linked to ration cuts and insufficient dietary diversity
- Limited or unsafe access to WASH services, including damaged latrines, insufficient bathing spaces for women and girls, and water shortages
- Shelter deterioration or high exposure to temporary materials, weather hazards, requiring emergency safety upgrades, or regular structure reinforcement
- High population density, where space constraints require sack/vertical gardening and waste-to-value approaches
- Host community resource pressure leading to deforestation, water stress, and increased tension between FDMNs and local residents
- This ensures that the response builds both self-reliance and protection of dignity where vulnerabilities are most concentrated.

Household and Participant Selection

Participant selection will be conducted through transparent and protection-sensitive processes, with clear communication in Rohingya Burmese and Bangla. Priority will be given to households meeting one or more of the following criteria:

Priority Group	Rationale
Female-headed households	Higher caregiving burden, limited income options
Households with children under 5, pregnant or lactating women	Elevated nutrition and health needs
Persons with disabilities, ethnic, marginalized and elderly caregivers	Reduced mobility, higher health and WASH vulnerability
Households with inadequate WASH access (damaged latrines, unsafe bathing areas, poor drainage)	Higher exposure to disease and protection risks
Households living in structurally unsafe or damaged shelters, or inadequate protection from environmental hazards, including all age groups	Households face higher safety risks, limited capacity to repair shelters, and increased vulnerability during monsoon and cyclones, making them in need of prioritized support.
Youth at risk of negative coping	Eligible for livelihood/skills and enterprise development
Host community households affected by resource competition	Supports social cohesion and conflict mitigation
Returned migrants and fishing community in the host community	Helps to cope with the increased competition due to inflation and competitive labour market, and fishing ban in the Naf river.

FDMN households that show willingness to engage in skills training, nutrition-sensitive gardening, seed preservation, WASH improvement, and micro-enterprise development will be prioritized to reinforce the shift from aid dependency to self-reliance and dignified coping capacity.

Accountability and Safeguarding

Community feedback and complaint mechanisms (CFMs) will operate in all target locations, allowing participants to report concerns safely and confidentially. Selection processes will be monitored to ensure non-discrimination, gender equity, and inclusion of persons with disabilities.

Monitoring and evaluation

The ACT Bangladesh Forum will implement a joint Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) approach to ensure that response activities are delivered on time, reach the intended participants, and remain fully aligned with humanitarian quality standards, including the Core Humanitarian Standard (CHS) and Sphere.

A shared MEAL framework will be developed and agreed during the first three months of the Appeal, with common indicators across food security and self-reliance, WASH, shelter/site safety, social cohesion, and protection outcomes. Each requesting member- Cordaid, RDRS Bangladesh, HEKS/EPER, and CCDB will collect and report data using harmonised tools, disaggregated by sex, age, and disability to ensure inclusive and equitable programme reach.

The Forum will conduct regular field monitoring visits, observe implementation quality, and verify that activities adhere to Sphere minimum standards, particularly in relation to safe WASH access, shelter conditions, protection, and dignity. Monitoring will include key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and direct observation of gardening, seed preservation, WASH upgrades, and micro-enterprise training activities to ensure that self-reliance objectives are being met.

To uphold CHS Commitments 4 and 5, community feedback and complaints mechanisms (CFMs) will be maintained in all project locations, enabling FDMN and host community participants to raise issues confidentially and influence programme adaptation. Sensitive complaints, including SEA/GBV-related reports, will follow established survivor-centred procedures in line with ACT Alliance safeguarding policies.

Progress reviews will be conducted quarterly, with a formal Appeal revision at Month 3, ensuring that activities remain relevant to evolving needs and coordination guidance from RRRC, CiCs, and ISCG sectors. The Forum will produce consolidated MEAL reports, share learning across members, and disseminate key findings to ACT Secretariat and sector partners.

Risk Management

The table below shows the risks and mitigation measures:

Risk Category	Description of Risk / Potential Effect on Response	Mitigation / Maximisation Measures
Policy & Regulatory Risk	Changes in government regulations could restrict livelihood activities, movement of staff, or use of materials in camps, slowing or limiting self-reliance interventions.	Maintain continuous coordination with RRRC, CiC, NGOAB, ISCG sectors; ensure programme design remains fully policy-compliant; prepare alternative delivery options (e.g., small-group demos, remote technical guidance).
Social Tension / Conflict Risk	Reduced aid and resource pressure may heighten tensions between FDMNs and host communities, impacting staff safety and activity acceptance.	Apply conflict-sensitive programming; prioritise joint benefit activities for FDMNs and hosts; establish community feedback mechanisms; support environmental restoration and shared resource management.
Climate & Environmental Hazards	Cyclones, flooding, or landslides could damage gardening structures, WASH points, and shelters, reversing gains.	Promote climate-adaptive gardening (sack/vertical gardens, raised beds); coordinate with DRR/CCCM actors for risk mapping; reinforce shelter drainage, site safety, and early warning messaging.
Market & Cost Volatility	Inflation and price increases may reduce affordability of agricultural inputs and reduce programme impact.	Promote seed preservation, composting, low-input production; support group purchasing / cooperative models; track market changes and adjust input packages accordingly.
Safeguarding / Protection Risk	Women and girls participating in training or livelihood activities may face GBV, exploitation or movement risks in overcrowded settings.	Ensure gender and protection risk analysis; maintain safe, accessible spaces; implement SEA/GBV reporting protocols; apply CHS and Sphere protection standards and safe referrals.

Operational / Coordination Risk	Delays in NGOAB approval, supply chain disruptions, or staff turnover may slow programme rollout.	Begin procurement and recruitment planning early; use Forum shared surge capacity; maintain strong rapport with NGOAB; adopt phased implementation schedules.
Positive Opportunity: Uptake of Self-Reliance Models	Higher-than-expected community interest in gardening and micro-enterprise may create demand beyond planned targets.	Expand training-of-trainers, demonstration plots, and peer learning groups to scale efficiently.
Positive Opportunity: Policy Influence & Donor Interest	Strong evidence of self-reliance models may attract additional funding or influence JRP/national planning.	Document results rigorously; share learning through ISCG, JRP, and donor platforms; develop policy briefs.
Positive Opportunity: Strengthened Social Cohesion	Joint benefit activities may reduce tensions and improve FDMN–host relations.	Expand shared resource projects, environmental rehabilitation, water/forest protection, and joint livelihood initiatives.

Safety and Security plans

The ACT Bangladesh Forum has conducted a preliminary security risk assessment for the proposed intervention areas in Cox’s Bazar, acknowledging that the operational environment presents moderate security complexity. Risks relate to possible tension between FDMNs and host communities, movement restrictions, natural hazards, and protection and safeguarding concerns, particularly for women, girls, and field staff delivering services in camp settings. Frontline staff and volunteers may face challenges including political issues, community disputes linked to resource limitations, harassment, intimidation, heat exposure, and weather-related dangers such as flooding and landslides. In line with Duty of Care, Forum members will ensure that staff and implementing partners receive safety briefings, conflict sensitivity guidance, safeguarding training (including PSEA), and clear reporting and escalation protocols.

The programme acknowledges Do No Harm obligations and will take measures to prevent the intervention from inadvertently increasing tension or placing participants at risk. Activities such as homestead/sack gardening, seed distribution, WASH upgrades, and enterprise support could generate perceived inequity if not well communicated and balanced across FDMN and host communities. To reduce this risk, targeting criteria will be transparent, joint benefit models will be prioritised, and community feedback/complaints mechanisms (CFMs) will be maintained in both refugee and host settings. Gender and protection risk analysis will inform site selection to ensure safe access, privacy, and dignity, especially for women, adolescent girls, and persons with disabilities.

Some Security Risk Management (SRM) support may be required, particularly in security training, communication equipment (GPS-enabled mobile devices/radios), safe meeting spaces, and contingency planning for extreme weather events. The Forum will also consider support from ACT Security for guidance on context updates, remote management options if conditions restrict

access, and staff wellness/psychosocial support when needed. The Forum will continue to update its security risk assessment during the Month 3 Appeal revision, with adjustments made in coordination with RRRC, CiCs, ISCG, and ACT Secretariat to ensure that the programme remains safe, conflict-sensitive, and protective of all staff, partners, and participants.

Budget

Screenshot of the appeal budget summary

actalliance		Appeal Total	Cordaid	CCDB	HEKS/EPER	RDRS
			USD	USD	USD	USD
Direct Costs		1,657,459	429,347	391,179	406,571	430,361
1	Project Staff Salaries	312,484	91,917	74,251	76,102	70,214
2	Project Activities	1,179,164	281,962	285,378	281,921	329,903
2.1	Advocacy	816	816	-	-	-
2.2	Education	-	-	-	-	-
2.3	Food and Nutrition	79,643	34,856	-	-	44,787
2.4	Health	38,815	38,815	-	-	-
2.5	Livelihood	502,699	153,464	115,506	-	233,728
2.6	Multipurpose Cash	-	-	-	-	-
2.7	Protection and Psychosocial	54,010	54,010	-	-	-
2.8	Shelter and Settlement	201,303	-	-	201,303	-
2.9	WASH	301,878	-	169,872	80,618	51,389
3	Quality and Accountability	52,618	30,693	13,306	5,554	3,265
4	Logistics	94,479	20,571	15,673	38,644	19,591
5	Assets and Equipment	18,514	4,204	2,571	4,351	7,388
Indirect Costs		259,570	71,724	65,900	74,040	47,906
Staff Salaries		196,344	60,704	48,390	58,488	28,761
Office Operations		63,226	11,020	17,510	15,551	19,145
Total Budget		1,917,029	501,071	457,079	480,611	478,268
ACT Secretariat management cost SMC @		38,341	10,021	9,142	9,612	9,565
Total Budget + SMC		1,955,370	511,092	466,221	490,223	487,833

Quality and Accountability

Please be mindful of [ACT Alliance mandatory policies](#) including the [ACT Alliance Code of Good Practice](#) which outlines the commitment of all ACT Alliance members of continuous improvement while striving to achieve best practice principles.

As ACT Alliance secretariat is CHS certified, ACT appeals will be implemented with adherence to CHS commitments.

Code of Conduct

All ACT Bangladesh Forum members, Cordaid, RDRS Bangladesh, HEKS/EPER and CCDB, each organizations have their own code of conduct which will be followed. We will ensure that the ACT Alliance Code of Conduct (CoC), or each organisation's internal CoC where applicable, is fully applied throughout the project. All staff, volunteers, and implementing partners engaged in this

response will be required to sign the Code of Conduct prior to undertaking any project responsibilities, with records maintained by each organisation's HR or safeguarding focal point.

The Forum will take measures to integrate the CoC into day-to-day project implementation. These include:

- mandatory induction and refresher training on CoC and Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEA);
- inclusion of CoC clauses in partner and vendor agreements; field monitoring checklists that include CoC and safeguarding compliance indicators;
- and supervision protocols that ensure staff interactions with FDMNs and host communities are conducted in ways that uphold dignity, non-discrimination and Do No Harm. Practical examples include ensuring safe and respectful behaviour during home and shelter visits, privacy during WASH and gardening training sessions, and appropriate conduct during community consultations.

Clear protocols are in place for reporting and managing CoC violations, including SEA/GBV concerns. Each member will follow its established confidential reporting and survivor-centred response procedures, while signalling that violations may result in disciplinary action, termination of contracts, and/or referral to legal authorities as appropriate. The Forum will also enable inter-agency referral pathways, ensuring access to medical, psychosocial, legal or protection services for affected individuals.

To promote transparency and accountability, the CoC will be communicated to affected communities, including FDMNs and host households, through community meetings, complaint and feedback mechanisms (CFMs), posters or visual materials in Bangla and Rohingya languages, and information sharing through women's groups, community volunteers, and camp committees. Communities will be informed that they have the right to report misconduct safely and confidentially without fear of retaliation.

Safeguarding

The ACT Bangladesh Forum remains fully committed to the ACT Alliance Safeguarding Policy Framework (2024), and we take this responsibility seriously across all stages of the project. Our core commitment is to ensure that every person we serve, work with, or employ is protected from any form of abuse, exploitation, harassment, neglect, or misuse of power. Each member organisation brings its own safeguarding, child protection, PSEA, and Code of Conduct policies—which together reinforce a shared standard that never falls below ACT requirements.

Integration of Safeguarding Commitments

To make safeguarding a practical, everyday part of the project rather than just a policy on paper, we use a set of concrete measures:

- All staff, partners, and volunteers receive compulsory induction and refreshers on safeguarding and PSEA so that expectations are clear before they engage with communities.
- Recruitment follows strict checks to ensure that individuals in sensitive roles, especially those working closely with children and vulnerable groups meet safeguarding standards.

- Every contract with partners and suppliers includes safeguarding obligations, making compliance a non-negotiable part of collaboration.
- Project activities and site arrangements are planned with risk reduction in mind for instance, choosing training spaces that are open, well-lit, and accessible to women, adolescents, and people with disabilities.
- Community members have accessible, confidential ways to raise concerns, including child-friendly reporting channels that reflect ACT guidance.

Protocols and Plans for Safeguarding Incidents

If any safeguarding concern arises, the Forum follows a clear, structured protocol:

- The immediate focus is on the survivor's safety, dignity, and informed choice, ensuring they can access health, psychosocial, and protection services.
- Information is handled carefully, shared only with those who need to know in order to protect the survivor and maintain confidentiality.
- Cases refer to appropriate service providers working closely with GBV and Protection sector actors in Cox's Bazar.
- Allegations trigger internal procedures that may result in disciplinary action, including termination and, where required, referral to legal authorities.
- All reporting obligations to ACT Alliance are followed, and documentation is handled according to agreed procedures.

Community Communication

To ensure communities know their rights and how to report concerns, safeguarding messages will be shared through:

- Group discussions with women, youth, and community leaders
- Visual materials in Bangla and Rohingya languages
- Engagement with faith-based leaders and volunteers
- Practical explanations of what misconduct looks like and how to report safely

Conflict sensitivity / do no harm

From the outset, the project has been designed with a strong Conflict Sensitivity and Do No Harm lens, recognizing that assistance in Cox's Bazar where host and Rohingya communities live under significant pressure can unintentionally influence local dynamics. Our aim is to ensure that support reaches those who need it most while avoiding actions that might create tension, fuel inequality, or undermine local structures.

Before finalizing the project strategy, we reviewed the key factors that shape interactions in the area. This included socio-political conditions, shifting security realities in FDMN-dense camps, the challenges of remote and hazard-prone locations, and the cultural and language differences between groups. We also considered economic pressures in the host community, the limitations of public services like healthcare, and the possibility of aid being seen as unequal or favouring one group over another. This analysis helped us identify where unintended harm could occur and plan to prevent it.

Enforcing the Principle Throughout Implementation of the project

To ensure that the project remains conflict-sensitive in practice, we will:

- Engage both host and Rohingya communities in consultations so project activities do not overlook or disadvantage either group.
- Monitor local dynamics continuously, including tensions, rumours, or grievances that might emerge around aid distribution or participation in activities.
- Coordinate closely with local authorities and sector partners to ensure our approaches complement rather than duplicate or complicate other efforts.
- Adapt implementation plans if community feedback or contextual shifts indicate that certain activities could escalate tensions or create dependency.
- Ensure transparent communication so communities understand what support is being provided, to whom, and why—reducing misunderstandings that often fuel conflict.
- Prioritise approaches that build skills, strengthen resilience, and support community capacities so that assistance contributes positively rather than creating long-term dependency.
- Integrate environmental considerations, especially given the region’s vulnerability to storms and flooding to prevent harm linked to unsafe site selection or resource use.

By combining constant context monitoring with meaningful engagement from both communities, the project aims to deliver support in a way that strengthens social cohesion rather than unintentionally undermining it.

Complaints mechanism and feedback

The ACT Bangladesh Forum is committed to ensuring that FDMNs (Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals) and host community members have appropriate, safe, and accessible ways to raise concerns about the project, the behaviour of staff or partners, and the quality of assistance received. The Forum will establish a Complaints and Feedback Mechanism (CFM) consistent with CHS Commitment 5 (complaints are welcomed and addressed) and in line with ACT’s Safeguarding and Code of Conduct requirements.

The CFM will operate in all targeted implementation locations and will be designed through community consultations so that affected populations can help determine which channels are safe, trusted, and accessible. Mechanisms will include a combination of:

- In-person feedback through help desks and designated focal points during training, WASH activities, and community meetings
- Confidential channels such as locked complaint boxes at safe, neutral locations
- Phone/WhatsApp hotline numbers managed by trained safeguarding/accountability staff
- Referral through trained community volunteers, women’s groups, and youth leaders for those with mobility or literacy limitations

Child- and disability-sensitive reporting options to ensure inclusion of all groups: Information about the mechanism will be communicated through posters, verbal announcements, and visual materials in Bangla and Rohingya languages, and through engagement with community and religious leaders. Each Forum member will maintain records while respecting confidentiality and ensure survivor-centred handling of complaints related to Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, or Harassment (SEAH).

Complaints will be logged, classified, and addressed within clear timelines:

- Minor complaints (service quality, inclusion concerns, timing issues) will be acknowledged within 5 working days and resolved as soon as possible.
- Serious misconduct and safeguarding complaints will be managed under confidential safeguarding procedures, with immediate referral to the organisation's Safeguarding/PSEA Focal Point for follow-up and support services.
- To ensure trust and accountability, the Forum will provide timely feedback to complainants in ways that do not put them at risk. Communities will also receive periodic updates on how feedback contributed to programme changes, thereby reinforcing a culture of participation and transparency.

The Forum will review CFM data in quarterly reflection meetings to adapt programming, reduce risks, and ensure the response remains contextually appropriate, respectful, and aligned with the rights and dignity of affected communities.

Communication and visibility

The ACT Bangladesh Forum and requesting members will ensure that all communication and visibility measures for this Appeal fully comply with the ACT Branding Policy and Guidelines, including the appropriate and consistent use of the ACT Alliance visual identity across printed, digital, and field-level materials. All external communication, such as situation updates, assessment summaries, reports, community information materials, signboards, social media posts, and media content, will clearly acknowledge the support of ACT Alliance and its donors, either through the use of the ACT logo displayed according to prescribed sizing and placement rules. Co-branding with member organisation logos will follow ACT guidance so that it is clear that the response is a collective ACT Alliance effort, rather than a set of separate agency interventions. These requirements will be supplemented by each organisation's own visibility and communication policies, provided that ACT identity remains visible and prioritized.

In camp and host-community settings, communication with affected populations will use accessible and inclusive formats, including notice boards, posters, leaflets, audio announcements, and meetings with community leadership. Materials will be translated or adapted into Bangla and Rohingya language, with visual formats used to accommodate low literacy. All visibility and messaging will follow Do No Harm principles, avoiding language or imagery that could stigmatize individuals or communities, particularly women, children, and survivors of violence. Public and media communication will follow a coordinated Forum protocol to ensure accuracy, ethical use of images and personal data, and protection of individuals' dignity and privacy.

Donor visibility will be ensured through narrative and financial reporting, digital communications, and where appropriate, visibility at events, trainings, and field visits. Where security sensitivities or government restrictions require discretion, visibility approaches will be adapted in line with ACT guidance for risk-sensitive branding, ensuring that branding does not create exposure or unintended harm for community members, staff, or partners. Through these measures, communication and visibility will strengthen accountability, reinforce trust with communities, and ensure transparent recognition of ACT Alliance and donor contributions throughout the response.