

# ROHINGYA HOBOR: BAZAR BHANGER AR DHOR BARER (MARKET DESTRUCTIONS & GROWING INSECURITIES)

## Trends Report - Edition 3

Data collection: November 2021 to February 2022

*Rohingyar Hobor (Rohingya news) is a regular trends report produced by IOM Needs and Population Monitoring (NPM), IOM's Protection Unit (Research and Consultations team) and ACAPS. Its objective is to better explain the Rohingya's wellbeing in the camps and their perception and recounting of recent events that affect their lives. These reports draw upon qualitative and quantitative data collected from 20 different sub-blocks across Kutupalong Balukhali Expansion as part of a longitudinal research exploring welfare through Rohingya's access to assistance, economic conditions and relationships within the response.*

### INTRODUCTION

During the reporting period, the community discussed the continued deterioration of living conditions in the camps, including increased movement restrictions, the destruction of markets and an increase in fire incidents that has resulted in serious injuries and displacement. A high number of scabies cases within the reporting period is another sign of cramped living conditions in the camps. There is frustration among camp residents about how their welfare is not improving. Instead, it continues to very strongly depend on the life-sustaining assistance and services that humanitarian responders provide. Refugees also feel that their issues remain unresolved even when they raise them frequently. The continued perception of deteriorating camp conditions has also affected the Rohingya's mental health and ability to create and maintain safe social environments. Many refugees continue to ask for justice, repatriation and the chance to return to Myanmar with living conditions that would ensure their safety, dignity and rights. They also continuously feel unsafe because of increasing insecurity and movement restrictions for the Rohingya in the camps. The death of a prominent Rohingya leader, human rights activist and advocate for repatriation on 29 September 2021 not only signalled increased insecurities in the camps but also shattered many people's hopes for repatriation. According to perception of the surveyed population, more attacks with fatalities inside the camps have increased movement restrictions within, between and out of camps. Government restrictions that have led to the disruption of educational activities and the lack of provision of formal education were part of discussions across all surveyed areas. For the community, education opportunities are essential for their children's future and reduce their exposure to protection risks, such as child marriage, child abductions and road traffic accidents.

### Key messages

#### Assistance

- Access to food assistance has improved, but higher prices in e-voucher stores imply that less food can be purchased.
- The need for shelter materials remains high, but the feeling of safety within shelters has improved.
- Access to WASH facilities has improved, but menstrual hygiene kit supplies are still lacking.

#### Economy

- The lack of access to self-sustaining income-generating activities and cash continue.
- Market demolitions, movement restrictions and lacking opportunities for volunteering worsen the lack of access to regular income through work.
- Food prices have risen following national market trends.
- Households continue to incur costs for services that are not or insufficiently provided through assistance.

#### Relationships

- Although tensions and criminal attacks continue to increase as perceived by the respondents participating in the study, they also felt that relationships between the Rohingya and host communities show some signs of improvement.
- Relationships with humanitarians have improved as the lifting of COVID-19 mitigation and containment measures has increased humanitarian presence again.

## METHODOLOGY

The information in this report reflects the overall indicative findings of mixed methods, including quantitative and qualitative primary data collection in the Rohingya community, and secondary data review. No data collection took place in the host community. 23 Rohingya enumerators, including 14 men and nine women, collected quantitative data, while 24 Rohingya social researchers (14 men and ten women) held qualitative consultations. Female enumerators and researchers conducted the surveys and consultations with women, while male researchers interviewed men. As this report follows a longitudinal study, the researchers interviewed the same households as in the previous rounds, with very few newly added households.

The collection of quantitative and qualitative data was conducted during different periods because of operational challenges. The collection of qualitative data took place between 24 November and 30 December 2021, while the collection of quantitative data happened between 19 January and 22 February 2022. Both methods involved conducting interviews from 20 purposively sampled sub-blocks from 17 camps: 1E, 1W, 3, 6, 7, 8E, 8W, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19. The selection of sub-blocks and camps ensured diversity through different population densities, physical access, facilities, host community presence and social characteristics (such as place of origin).

The survey ensured equal gender representation. It targeted one female and one male member of each household that participated in the assessment in the previous round, with 250 female and 230 male respondents surveyed overall. In total, 480 individuals from 250 households participated in the survey.

In each of the selected sub-blocks, the team conducted a focus group discussion (FGD) at the community level with the Shomaz committee, along with two open-ended semi-structured household interviews and 12 quantitative household interviews. The researchers recorded all qualitative consultations with the informed consent of participants. Six Rohingya translators translated these consultations from Rohingya to English. The analysis used English translations.

### Limitations

This assessment did not follow a random sampling approach. It does not aim to provide a statistically representative view of the whole Rohingya population living in the camps. Participants were selected from a diverse group of households in each community, including extremely vulnerable households, households with highly educated members, households that contain community leaders, households with shop owners, households from different places of origin in Rakhine state and households with a variety of sizes. There is no guarantee of geographical representation in this assessment. No data was collected in Teknaf because all Rohingya researchers and enumerators lived in Kutupalong Balukhali Extension and movement restrictions prevented them from travelling to Teknaf to conduct consultations.

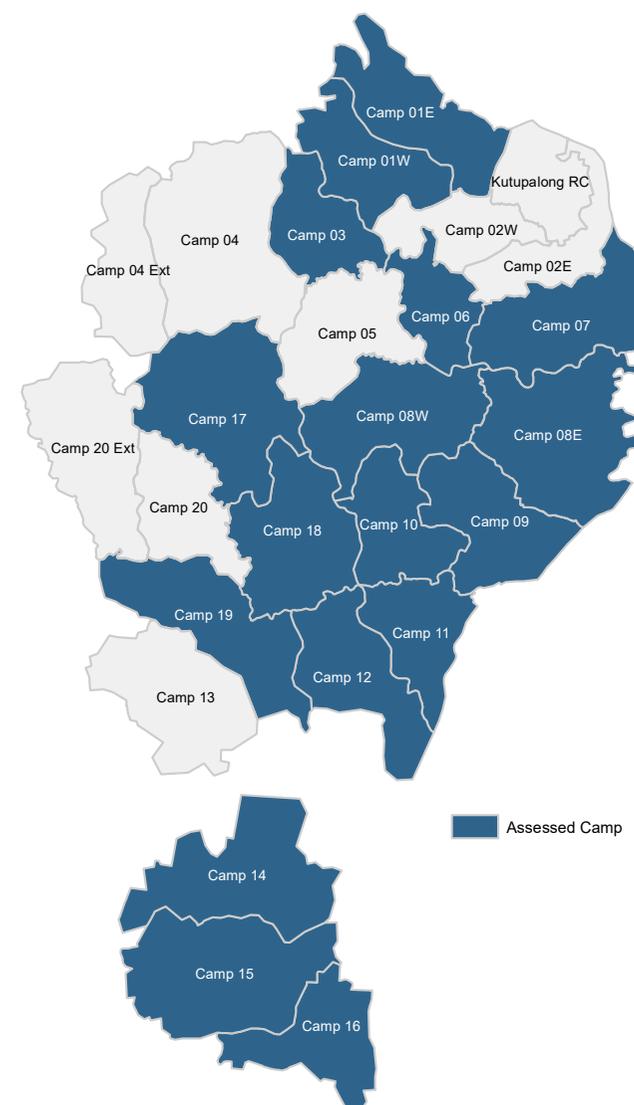
The teams faced challenges revisiting all the households interviewed in previous rounds as some had moved or were not available for interviews. As a result, new households had to be interviewed.

Where Site Management and Site Development (SMSD) daily incidents data is referred to, it is important to highlight that, due to the way this data is collected, it may not fully capture all incidents that occurred.

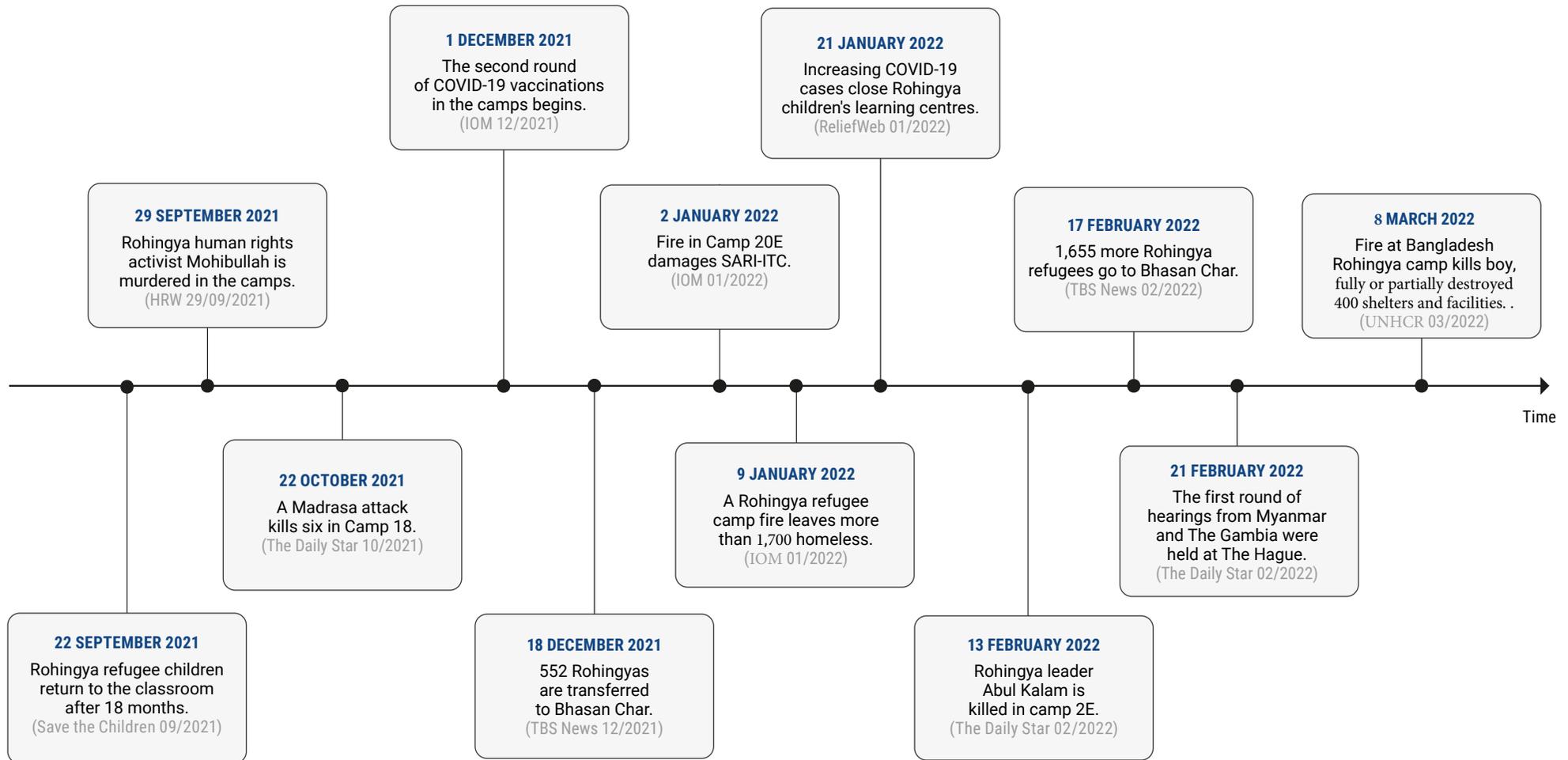
This report follows:

- Rohingya Horobor: Myanmar coup and Balukhali fires, edition 1 January to March 2021
- Rohingya Horobor: Faani Uda (rising waters), edition 2 April to July 2021

### Map: Camps where the data collection was conducted



## CONTEXT UPDATE AND NEWS



## Market demolitions

The continuous demolition of markets has directly resulted in the deterioration of living conditions for Rohingya refugees in the camps. Bangladeshi authorities destroyed more than 3,000 shops in the camps in the last months of 2021, allegedly to make space for more shelters (The Guardian 05/01/2022). Market demolitions also affected the host community living outside the camps as its members owned some of the destroyed shops.

The community reported the following impacts of market demolitions:

- Higher food prices and costs for accessing markets driven by longer distances have increased the cost of living.
- The closure and demolition of shops have decreased ease of access and increased distances to markets. Physical factors (such as stairs and steep hills) and market density determine the ease of access to markets. 35% of respondents reported that they could not access the markets easily. The two camps with the most markets demolished (1E and 1W) according to the Site Management and Site Development Sector - Market Demolition Update were also the two camps where the highest proportion of participants reported a lack of easy access to the markets compared to other camps. In both camps, the majority of the participants (60%) were not able to access markets and shops easily. Overall, 4% of the survey participants had to walk for more than 60 minutes to access the closest market, 9% had to walk for 30–60 minutes, 42% had to walk for 15–30 minutes, and 44% had to walk for less than 15 minutes. The data also showed that the percentage of survey respondents who reported having to walk longer distances to access markets was higher for the camps with the highest demolition rate compared to the camps with fewer markets destroyed. This finding confirms that market demolitions limited the Rohingya's access to the markets and created additional challenges for them.

*“The people were cheerful before because the bazaars were nearby, so they could buy things whenever they needed to. In the last few days, the authorities destroyed the bazaars, and the community got very distressed and upset because they must travel a long way to bazaars outside the camps... There is a barbed-wire fence around the camps that people need to cross to reach the bazaars outside the camps; it is very far from us. If we return from the bazaar late, the police also ask many unnecessary questions, and sometimes people are not even allowed to re-enter the camps.”*

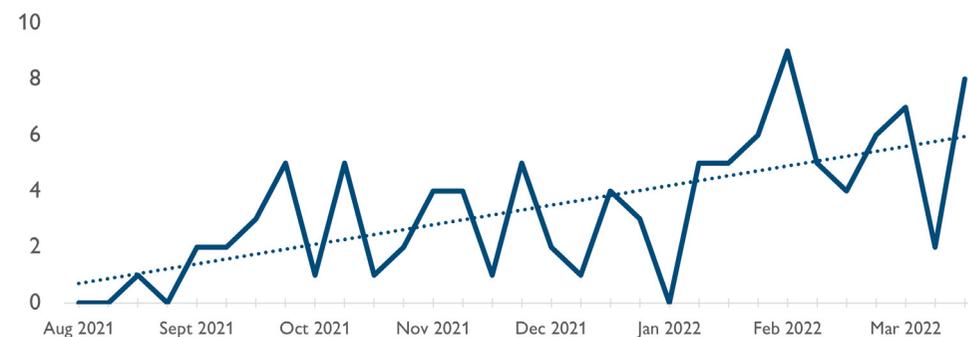
– FGD with a Shomaz committee in Camp 1E, December 2021

## Fire incidents

The Site Management Daily Incidents Reporting Mechanism of IOM's Needs and Population Monitoring indicate an increasing trend in the occurrence of fire events in the camps since September 2021. On 2 January 2022, a fire broke out and caused significant damage at the IOM-run Severe Acute Respiratory Infection Isolation and Treatment Centre in Camp 20 E (IOM 08/03/2022). On 9 January 2022, in camp 16, 371 shelters were lost or damaged in addition to 7 host community houses, affecting 1,730 individuals (IOM 11/01/2022). On 18 January, a fire in Camp 5 injured 43 people and destroyed or damaged 27 shelters (UNHCR 18/01/2022). On 8 March, another fire incident in Camp 5 killed one child and destroyed 400 shelters, leading to an estimated 2,000 people becoming homeless (UNHCR 09/03/2022). Overall, the trend in the number of fires is increasing in the reporting period.

One-third of survey respondents reported that their family members were unable to sleep peacefully in the last four months; the majority of them mentioned fear of fire as the main reason. Other reasons included armed groups, the police and criminals.

**Figure 1. Estimated number of fire incidents between August 2021 and March 2022 (based on SMSD daily reporting data)**



## Increased insecurity and distress

People describe feeling insecure in the camps and they attribute this to increasing tensions and criminal attacks. Within the reporting period, 64% of surveyed men observed tensions involving at least one Rohingya community member since September 2021. These tensions occurred both within the Rohingya community and between the Rohingya and host communities. 39% of male respondents witnessed tensions involving physical or verbal violence, and 27% reported that a family member felt unsafe or was threatened at least once since September.

On 29 September, a prominent Rohingya refugee leader was murdered in the camps highlighting the concerns about tensions and increasing feelings of insecurity. (The Daily Star 16/03/2022). The leader advocated refugees' rights and repatriation in international forums (HRV 29/09/2021). Interviewees reported feeling distressed and scared by the murder. Despite their increasing desire for repatriation to Myanmar, people might also likely feel less hopeful after his murder. The Bangladesh Government imposed more movement restrictions in an attempt to arrest those responsible for the murder. These restrictions made access to services and assistance difficult and limited Rohingyas' economic security; it prevented the Rohingya from travelling between camps to engage in cash-for-work and volunteering opportunities. On 22 October 2021, a group of armed men attacked a madrasa (an educational institution that offers Islamic subjects), killing six teachers and students (The Daily Star 23/10/2021). On 13 February 2022, another criminal group killed another Rohingya leader (The Daily Star 13/02/2022). These two incidents added to the feeling of insecurity among the camp population. Night watch duty has been introduced to address insecurity. This requires households to assign men to stand guard on rotation. The system creates problems for some households when their men are ill, when rotation requires them to provide sentry very frequently or when the man on duty needs to engage in income-generating activities the next day. Families that are more financially capable can pay to skip their turn. The limited exposure of women in public spaces is a likely reason behind the significantly lower ratio of women than men observing tensions, violence and a feeling of insecurity in the community.

*"Before, we could move more openly, so people could move out of camp and earn money. Three months since Mohibullah's murder, movement restrictions have appeared. We also do not get peace as we must do night patrols every night. We must stay awake. When we can't do night patrols ourselves because of sickness, we have no money to hire a labourer for the night patrols. Even so, we must hire a labourer to do it for us. And the Government has said that being absent is not an option, even for just one night. This system is the number one problem. That's why we are getting more difficulties."*

– FGD with male participants, Camp 6

*"The blocks conduct [community] night patrols to prevent arson attacks. Some people have to patrol three or four times per month, but some people are not doing the patrols at all. People are saying that we are poor, so we have to patrol two to three times a month, and other people are rich. That's why they do not have to patrol."*

–Interview with a male shopkeeper, Camp 1E

## Relocation to Bhasan Char

Many see relocation to Bhasan Char as undesirable. 19% of respondents raised the concern about being relocated to somewhere else, more prominently by men (33%) than women (6%). Relocation concerns were mainly related to Bhasan Char. As of February 2022, at least 20,160 refugees lived on the island (UNHCR 02/2022). Most interviewees expressed their worries about being next to be relocated to the island. Since shelters on the island are more permanent, and access to the island is only via a long boat ride, there is a belief that the Rohingya living in Bhasan Char will be the last ones to be able to return to Myanmar in case of repatriation. As reported, access to hospitals is also very challenging in case of a health emergency on the Island. Based on anecdotes, relocation to Bhasan Char is a potential punishment for persisting conflicts between the host community and the Rohingya. Some Rohingyas also believe that security and fire incidents are intentional to discourage the Rohingya from staying in their current camps and make them move to Bhasan Char.

## Educational needs

Education remains interrupted, of insufficient quality and not affordable for all. As part of the lifting of some COVID-19 mitigation measures, schools across Bangladesh and in the camps reopened in September 2021 (Save the Children 22/09/2021). In December 2021, the Bangladesh Government ordered the closure of all unauthorised private learning centres and madrasas in Rohingya refugee camps (The Daily Star 20/12/2021). An increase in COVID-19 cases across the country again closed schools across Bangladesh and temporary learning centres for refugee children in Cox's Bazar from 21 January 2022 onwards (WFP 27/02/2022). One-third of interviewees raised concerns about the continued disruption of educational activities and the quality of education provided. In temporary learning centres, activities do not follow a curriculum and centre around recreational activities, resulting in concerns about the lack of adequate formal education, especially for older children.

The majority (64%) of survey respondents have been paying for their child's education since September 2021. Families often sold rations and engaged in other negative coping mechanisms so that their children could receive some form of education by private arrangement. Among those who paid for education, a very large majority (88%) sent their children to private education centres. Women reported this situation more often than men, which might show that women are slightly more aware or more frequently taking care of their children's education than men. Families who received formal education and completed eighth grade or higher were more likely to send their children to private learning centres than less educated households. Boys were also more likely to be sent to private learning centres than girls.

## ECONOMY

### Income

**Access to regular income through work is lacking.** According to survey participants, economic conditions in the camps have been deteriorating in the period from November 2021 to February 2022. Half of the interview respondents said they had no income. A large majority of the survey respondents (77%) have had no access to regular income since September 2021. Owners and workers of demolished small shops and informal food stands reported drastic drops in wellbeing because of the sudden loss of their income and assets. Demolitions that occurred without warning damaged or destroyed assets in the stores, such as food stocks. Store owners and market vendors commonly purchased their products on credit, so the destruction of assets and sudden loss of income likely resulted in large debts that they could not repay unless they rapidly reopened their stores or found another source of income. Most of the respondents (70%) reported that they could not work outside their camps. 70% of male respondents pointed to the movement restrictions mainly introduced following the murder of the Rohingya leader as their main reason for not being able to work outside their camps. On the other hand, only 32% of female respondents found these restrictions challenging, as the police stopped them at checkpoints less often than men. Women are also less likely to move between the camps for work than men, so they might be observing fewer movement restrictions. The majority of respondents (59%) noted that their household had less income in the period from November 2021 to February 2022 compared to before, and 26% of them reported “much less” income. Only 6% of respondents mentioned earning more since September 2021 than before. 11% of households with a regular income reported volunteering for humanitarian organisations as their main income-generating activity, followed by work as daily labour (9%). The scaling down of activities because of COVID-19 and a decrease in funding are likely to have reduced livelihood opportunities through volunteering. 71% of respondents faced financial issues as a concern or difficulty, likely resulting in large parts from the reduced availability of income-generating activities. Only 3% of respondents have been able to save money since September.

*“Our children are currently studying in the moktob,<sup>1</sup> but we cannot pay the fees of the mollah.<sup>2</sup> Another thing we talk about is the school, which the NGO provides. It is closed because of COVID-19, so our children cannot attend school.”*

*– FGD with a Shomaz committee (male participants), Camp 12*

### Repatriation

**Hope for repatriation remains high.** As in the previous round, the majority of Rohingya participants continued to express their desire for repatriation and to return to Myanmar with living conditions that would ensure their safety, dignity and rights. As living conditions worsen in the camps, people are discussing the topic more and more often, and they are still asking for justice. It appears unlikely, however, that these statements of wishing for repatriation have been informed about knowledge of the current situation in Myanmar.

*“I have only one wish, and that is repatriation. We want to go back to our homeland according to the government agreement. We want to go back to Myanmar with our citizenship right.”*

*– FGD with a Shomaz committee (male participants), Camp 1W*

### Emergence of skin disease

**One-third of interviewees reported a negative change in health issues.** While respondents most frequently mentioned acute respiratory infections and diarrhoeal diseases in the last reporting round, interviews most frequently mentioned the occurrence of skin disease in November 2021. In March 2022, people reported the highest number of scabies cases in three years, and the skin irritations that respondents reported at the end of 2021 were also likely scabies.<sup>3</sup> In 2021, one-third of households in the camps still experienced cramped living conditions and a lack of access to sufficient water to wash bedding and clothes. This situation likely caused the occurrence of skin diseases in the camps (JMSNA 2021).

<sup>1</sup> ‘Moktob’ refers to elementary religious school.

<sup>2</sup> ‘Mollah’ refers to the head of a mosque.

<sup>3</sup> Scabies is a contagious skin infestation.

## Food prices

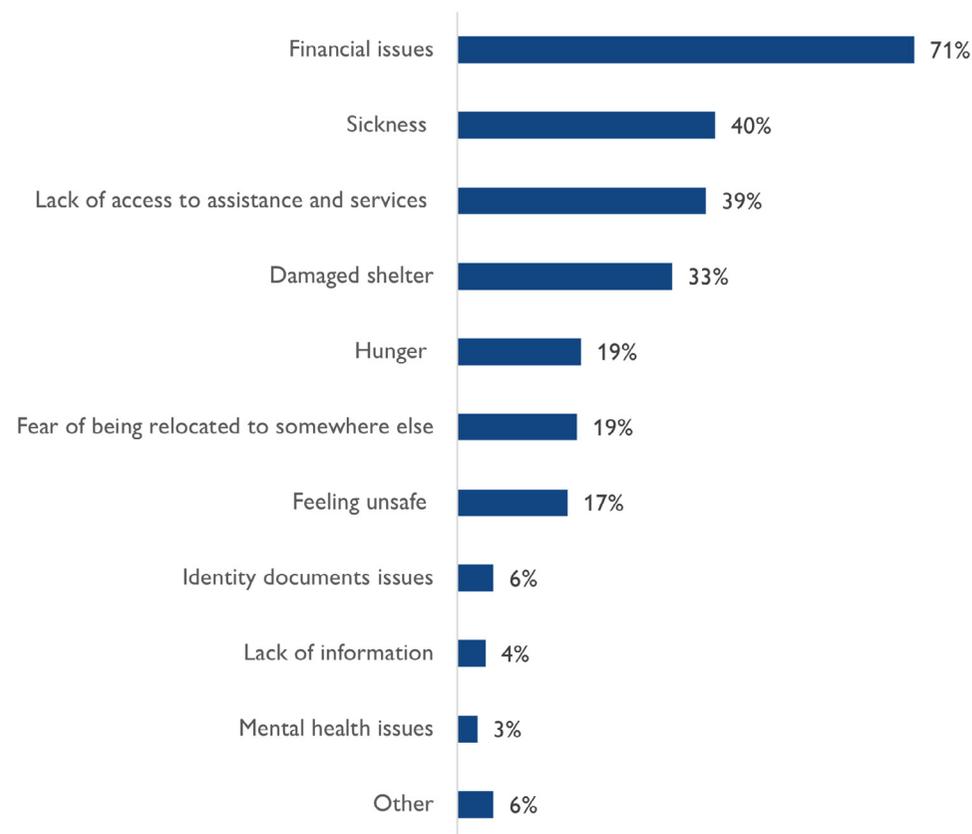
Food prices rose throughout the reporting period. The price of essential commodities, such as rice, lentils and cooking oil, increased from August–November 2021, similar to markets in the host community. The prices of winter vegetables decreased with fresh harvest entering the markets (FAO/ WFP 31/12/2021). The majority of survey respondents (76%) noted that market prices have increased since September. 70% reported the limited supply of goods as the main reason for this increase. The price of cooking oil and red lentils further increased in 2022 (WFP 25/03/2022). Food price increases add to the lack of variety of food provided through assistance. Many continue to be unable to afford food items such as meat, fresh fruit and fish. Others sell oil, sugar and lentils to buy products for a more varied diet.

## Expenditures

Households continue to incur costs for services that are not or insufficiently provided through assistance. A very large majority of the respondents (90%) reported paying for their medical care at least once since September 2021, when they visited a private health clinic or needed medicine unavailable in the clinics. 64% reported paying to get their children some form of education by private arrangement. One-third of the survey participants spent their own money repairing or improving their shelter, as material and shelter assistance were in short supply despite high shelter needs. The need to pay for these services and items while having reduced livelihood opportunities is leading to more households adopting negative coping mechanisms.

When proposed the hypothetical question, “If you received BDT 5,000, what would you spend it on?” people’s answers were similar to their current main expenditures. The highest proportion of respondents (82%) reported that they would go to a healthcare facility. This result supports the findings that a lot of households incur excess spending on health items and services. As figure 2 shows, another major concern was falling ill (40%). Among non-health-related categories, only ‘financial issues’ had a higher percentage than medical reasons. Becoming ill or suffering from chronic diseases likely often leads to negative coping mechanisms, as specific care or medicine is not freely available. The majority (62%) would also spend the BDT 5,000 on food and 47% on education. There are slight differences between men and women, as 30% of women mentioned they would use the BDT 5,000 to repay loans, while only 23% of men would do so. Only 9% of women would spend the money on creating livelihood opportunities, but 25% of men would.

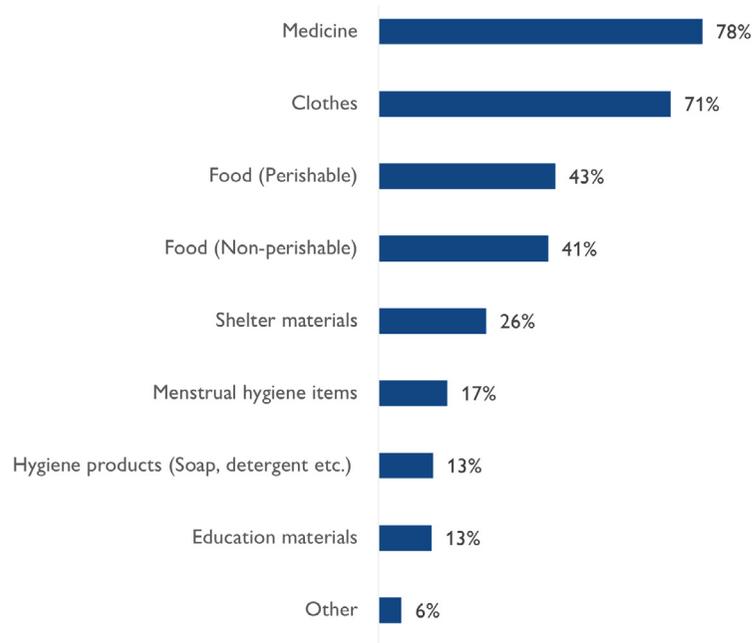
Figure 2. Major concerns or difficulties reported<sup>4</sup>



<sup>4</sup> Percentages add up to a number higher than 100% as the question allowed multiple answers.

Half of the respondents noted that they could easily find the products they were looking for in the markets, but the majority could not afford the goods. 41% could only find the products they were looking for sometimes. 72% and 53% reported medicine and clothes, respectively, as the most difficult goods to find. Specifically, at the time of the assessment, both survey and interview participants reported warm clothes for winter as a priority need; more women (29%) than men (2%) mentioned the need. The majority of respondents (60%) could not afford the products they needed. As seen on figure 3, medicine (78%) and clothes (71%) were the most difficult products to afford, followed by perishable (43%) and non-perishable food (41%).

**Figure 3. Items that people need but cannot afford<sup>5</sup>**



### Negative coping mechanisms

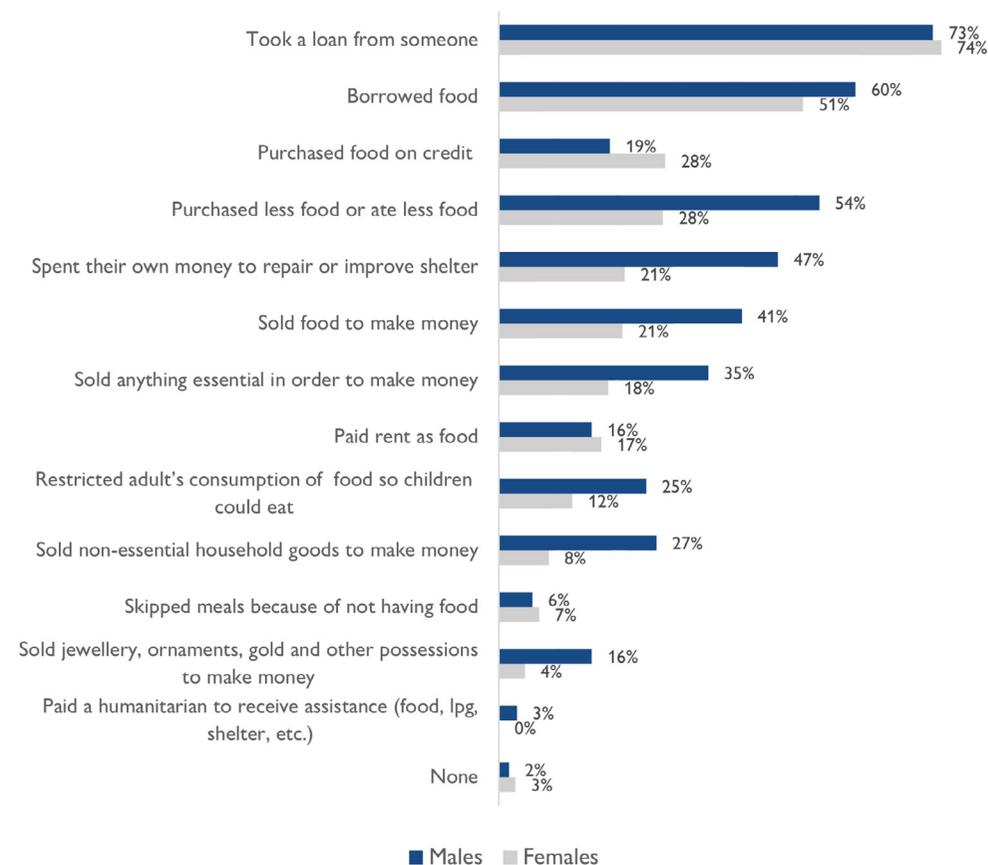
The majority of respondents (74%) needed loans to cover their expenditures. Three-quarters mentioned that they needed to take out a loan at least once since September 2021. Among those who took out a loan, a very large majority (90%) used it to pay for healthcare. Paying for food was the second main reason for a loan (55%). Most respondents (63%) had not paid back their loans, and among them, 47% did not think they would be able to pay them back soon. Only 6% reported needing to pay interest for the loan they took. 76% reported family as the first support mechanism to ask for a loan in case of an emergency, followed by neighbours (64%) and friends (33%).

<sup>5</sup> Percentages add up to a number higher than 100% as the question allowed multiple answers.

<sup>6</sup> Percentages add up to a number higher than 100% as multiple answers were allowed in this question. Percentages indicate the ratio of women and men selecting that category among all women and men, respectively.

Half of the households adopted negative food-related coping mechanisms. Based on overall results, most respondents (55%) said their households needed to borrow food, 40% purchased and ate less food. Women and men adopted negative coping mechanisms differently. Men adopted more negative coping mechanisms than women. Figure 4 shows the percentage of women and men adopting various mechanisms.

**Figure 4. Negative coping mechanisms, by gender<sup>6</sup>**



Furthermore, for all types of negative coping mechanisms, the majority of respondents who mentioned adopting the mechanisms since September 2021 did not have access to regular income. Of those who did not have access to regular income, 80% took out a loan, 83% borrowed food, and 85% purchased and ate less food.

## ACCESS TO SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE

Access to food assistance improved, but higher prices in e-voucher stores meant less food could be purchased. Almost all respondents (99%) reported having access to food through assistance since September 2021, higher than only 65% in the previous reporting period. That said, various interview respondents reported higher prices for food items in e-voucher shops than market prices, and many were unable to purchase enough food. They also continued to be unable to afford meat, fresh fruit, fish and other food items. Others sold oil, sugar and lentils to buy products for a more varied diet. Most male survey participants (52%) reported purchasing and eating less food since September 2021 than before, as did 27% of female participants. 23% of respondents purchased food on credit, and 6% skipped meals because of a lack of food. When the interviewees asked about their main concerns, 24% of women and 14% of men mentioned hunger as a major concern. Food access was the third main need reported by respondents (34% of men and 33% of women). The findings are shown in figure 5.

Needs for shelter materials remained high, but the feeling of safety within shelters improved. More than half of the interviewees mentioned shelter needs, while 46% had shelter materials and upgrades as a priority need. 37% of respondents reported shelter damage from rainstorms, flooding, landslides or fire resulting from the last monsoon season. The majority of respondents (62%) whose shelter was damaged since September 2021 listed shelter materials as one of their priority needs. Surveyed participants also highlighted the need for stronger shelters for the upcoming monsoon season. 34% of respondents listed shelter damage as one of their major concerns. 74% of female respondents reported feeling safe inside their shelter, while 23% felt very safe, pointing to an overall improvement in terms of privacy, functioning lighting in the shelter and other related factors.

NFI needs were seasonal. Almost all interviewees continued to mention a lack of NFIs, and 24% mentioned it as a priority need. NFIs included seasonal ones such as blankets for winter (mentioned by 86% of respondents) and mosquito nets (84%). People also needed solar fans and fire extinguishers for the upcoming summer period. 45% of women reported electricity, solar lamps and batteries as priority needs, higher than only 30% of men, which might be linked to the longer hours women spent inside the shelter.

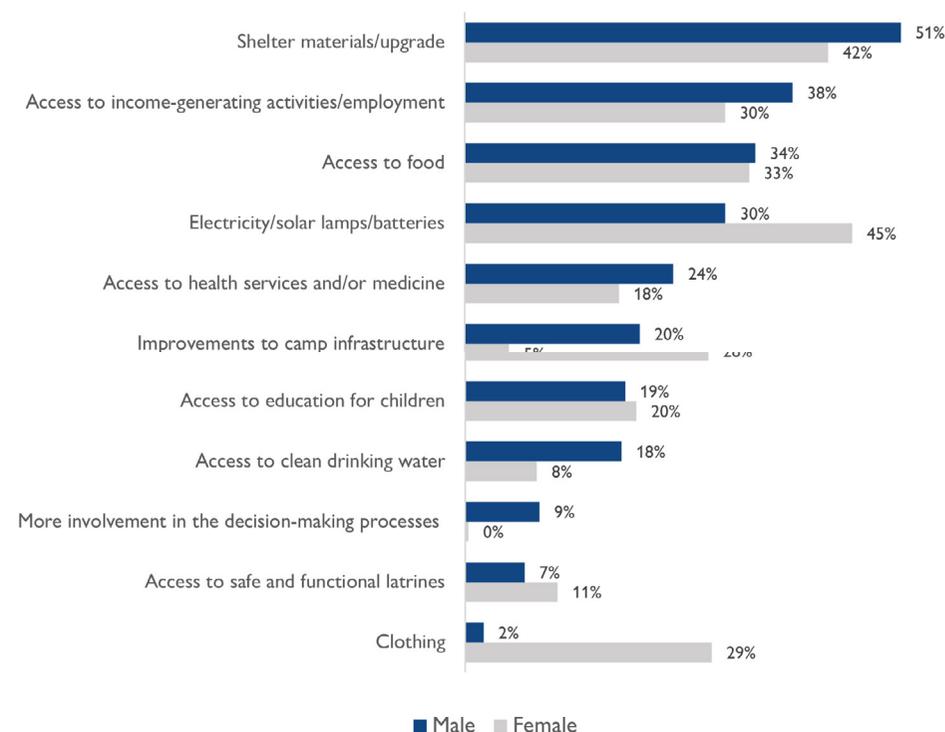
Access to WASH facilities improved, but the lack of menstrual hygiene kit supplies and the need to improve cramped living conditions to improve the hygiene situation remained. The most improved services since September 2021 were water points (33%) and public toilets or latrines (21%). Almost all male respondents (93%) reported having access to public latrines, higher than just 70% of female respondents. This result can be linked to the fact that public latrines are likely to be seen as unsafe and undignified for women and girls to use. A high proportion of respondents (82%) reported having access to hygiene assistance, but only 24% of female respondents said they had received menstrual hygiene kits.

With the occurrence of thousands of scabies cases, the overall hygiene situation will also have to be improved. Living spaces will have to be disinfected, and practices that will limit the risk of reinfection will have to be implemented (MSF 25/03/2022).

About half of the respondents had complaints about assistance. Since September 2021, 43% of respondents have complained about assistance to organisations. Among this percentage, 42% complained about site development, followed by site management (29%), shelter and NFIs (26%) and WASH (20%). Most of the respondents (57%) used the info hub or information and feedback centre to report those issues. Humanitarian workers (mentioned by 40% of respondents), CiCs (27%) and majhis (23%) also received complaints and feedback. Among those who had previously complained about the issues regarding assistance, 63% reported that their problems remained unsolved.

Figure 5 shows the varied ways women and men reported about priority needs, especially regarding shelter materials and upgrade, improvements to camp infrastructure, access to clean drinking water and clothing.

Figure 5. Major needs, by gender<sup>7</sup>



<sup>7</sup> Percentages add up to a number higher than 100% as the question allowed multiple answers. Percentages for women and men indicate the ratio of women and men selecting that category among all women and men, respectively.

## RELATIONSHIPS

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Based on the findings of the quantitative survey, there has been a perception among the Rohingya of some improvement in their relationship with the host community, although this perception could not be contrasted with the host community's recent perceptions of the relationship. The quantitative survey and qualitative consultations provided different findings on relationships with the host community. One-third of survey respondents reported that their relationship with the host community members had improved since September 2021, while 39% reported no change. Only 10% mentioned worsened relationships. On the other hand, compared to the quantitative survey, a higher number of qualitative interviews indicated that relationships had worsened. Conflict situations with the host community rose when Rohingyas could not or did not want to pay or give a share of their rations to the host community as a kind of rent payment for staying on their land. The host community presence in the camps decreased after the demolition of markets and the introduction of restrictions on the entry of Bangladeshi tomtom and compressed natural gas vehicle drivers.

There were also signs of perceived improvement in relationships within the community especially with neighbours and community leaders despite increasing tensions in the camps overall. The majority of respondents have had better relationships with their neighbours (75%) and with their community leaders (71%) since September 2021, with both percentages higher than in the previous reporting period. Compared to the findings in the previous round of trends analysis (edition 2), relationships within the community were improving. The percentage of people who would go to majhis if they witnessed a crime or experienced a threat or conflict remained consistently high at 96%, followed by the CiC (54%). These numbers are likely a reflection of the limited options that people perceive they have for reporting issues, as there are likely more results for the complaints made to the CiC than the ones made through NGOs.

**Relationships with humanitarians improved.** A majority of survey participants (65%) thought that humanitarians were behaving better since September 2021 compared to before. 5% of the respondents stated that they had witnessed humanitarian workers misbehaving or abusing and harassing community members. Women, in general, expressed more positive reactions than men regarding how humanitarians behaved. This outcome is likely because men interacted with humanitarians more regularly than women and often collected assistance on behalf of their families. The presence of humanitarians in the camps has likely increased with the relaxation of COVID-19 movement restrictions, and the community has perceived the increased presence positively.

Interviewees also mentioned improved communication with humanitarians.

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