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Elderly Persons in Humanitarian Emergencies in Bangladesh

Qualitative Experiment on Dreams and Reality

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Overview

Since August 2017, renewed violence in Myanmar's Rakhine state has forced more than half a million to flee their homes – the largest mass movement of people seen in the region for decades and some of them are vulnerable elderly.

Young Power in Social Action (YPSA) is implementing a project “Integrated humanitarian response to the needs of older people in Rohingya Refugee camps in four areas Health, Water & Sanitation (WASH), Protection, and Capacity building & empowerment.

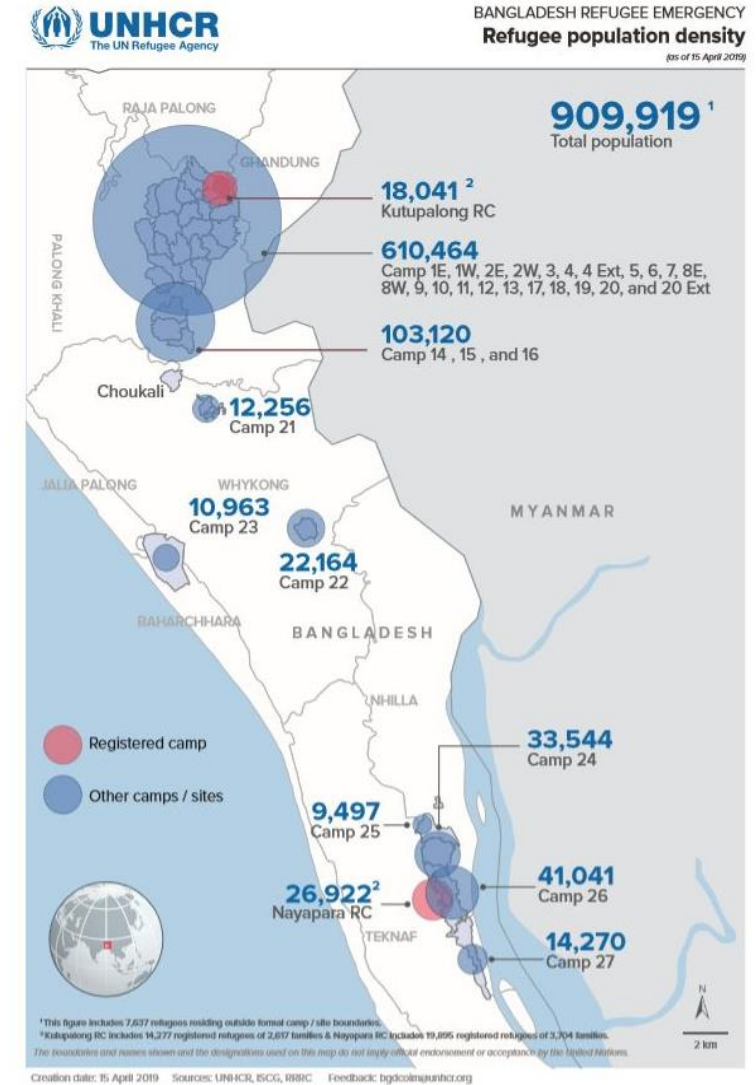
YPSA is providing the services through Age Friendly Space (AFS) with the support of the HelpAge International.

Overview

This project has covered the 5114 elderly people (2550 males, 2564 females).

The total elderly people (60+ years) in Rohingya Refugee camps are 30,064 where 15,937 males and 14,127 females and also this age category covers 2% total Rohingya Refugee among 32 Camps in Cox's Bazar District including Ukhiya and Teknaf Upazilas (UNHCR, 15 April, 2019).

Bangladesh has approximately 12.0 million 60+ years population and it will increase to 44.5 million by 2050.



Map: Rohingya influx area

YPSA Activities for the Elderly

- ❖ YPSA has established two Age-friendly Spaces in order to promote and ensure the human rights of elderly Rohingya people.
- ❖ Elderly people gets various support in everyday life so that they are happy and feel safe here.

YPSA Activities

Health

- Primary health service with medicine
- Home base care service for disable people
- Psychological counseling & family counseling
- Referral service for secondary, tertiary service & psychosocial counseling
- Diabetics test facilities
- Hemoglobin Test facility
- Nebulizing Facility
- Disabled Patient Carrying Service
- Eye Camp
- Health Camp

Water & Sanitation (WASH)

- Awareness session
- Hygiene Kits demonstration and distribution
- Age Friendly Toilet & Washing point demonstration
- Pure Drinking Water Facility
- Advocacy with service providers to setup Age Friendly Toilet

YPSA Activities

Protection

- Case Management
- Age Friendly Kits Distribution
- Winter Clothes distribution
- Recreational Activities
- Linkage with Service Providers for Registration
- Linkage with Service Providers for Food items
- Linkage with Service Providers for WASH
- Linkage with Service Providers for Health

Capacity Building & Empowerment

- Basic Training
- Training on Diabetics Awareness
- International Women's Day Observation
- International Older Day Observation
- Awareness on Diphtheria and Chickenpox
- Different Committee formation & Meeting
- Building network

YPSA's Contemporary Performance with Elderly People in Rohingya Refugee Camps

S.N	Performance of YPSA	Service recipients
01	Data base of Older People	5114 (Male: 2550, Female: 2564)
02	Primary Health Service Provided to Older People	5948
03	Referrer to specialized service	98
04	Home base care Service	321
05	Psychosocial Counselling, Refer & Family member refer	3364
06	EYE Camp: 01	Patient-299, Operation -44, Glass-72
07	Day Observation	03, International Women's Day 2018 & 2019 & International Elderly Day- 2018
08	WASH awareness to Older People	911
09	Refer to Humanitarians services	5948
10	Age Friendly Kits (Hand Stick, Prayer mat, Torch Light, Medicine box, Umbrella, Sandal, Urine pot, Commode chair) Distribution	5590
11	Winter Cloth Distribution	3100
12	AFS Management Committee Established	02 (30 Members)
13	WASH Committee Established	02 (30 Members)
14	Protection Group Established	16 (240 Members)
15	OP Representative	36
16	Diabetic Awareness Session	01 (250 Participants)
17	Photi Pater Ashar	01 (300 Participants)
18	Kabi Ganer Ashor	01 (250 Participants)
19	DRR Training to OP	16 (350Participants)
20	Complain Response of OP	260
21	Torture Victim Identified & Treatment	200

Photographs



Ex. Cabinet Secretary Distribute Age Friendly Kits to Disable OP



Health care services to Elderly People by registered doctor



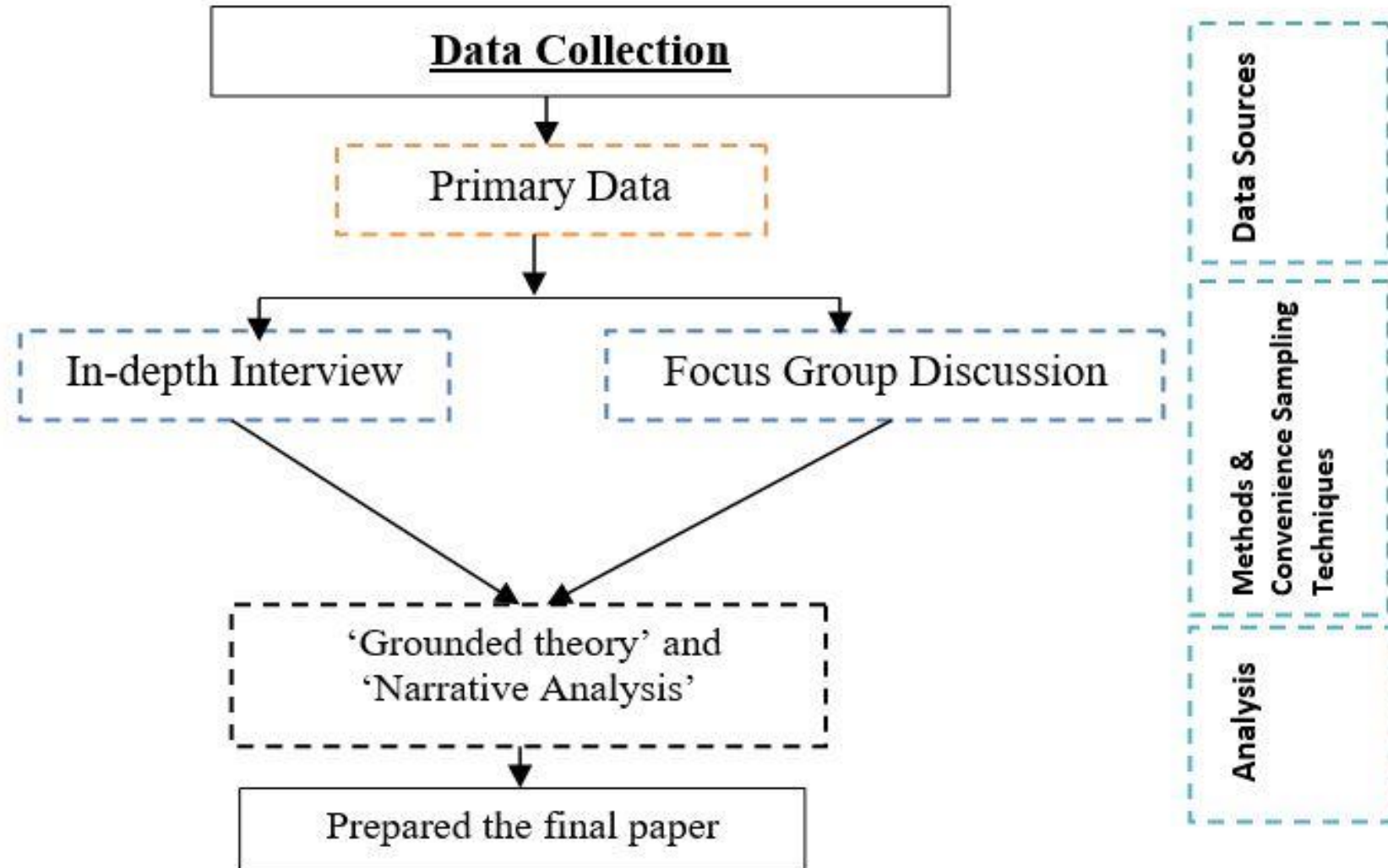
Recreation facility for Elderly People



Aim

The aim of the study is to explore the dreams and reality of Rohingya elderly people who have access to humanitarian emergency services in Bangladesh

Methodology



Sampling Distribution

Name of Camp		Respondents	Characteristics
In-depth Interviews	Camp - 11	JB	Gender - Female; Age - 70; Husband – Deceased; Children – 04 Sons & 02 Daughters
		AT	Gender - Male; Age - 61; Wife – alive; Children – 01 Son & 07 Daughters
	Camp -13	GA	Gender - Female; Age - 71; Husband – deceased; Children – 03 Daughters
		SH	Gender - Male; Age - 65; Wife – alive; Children – 02 Sons & 04 Daughters
FGDs	Camp - 11	Male Group	Total Participants - 08
		Female Group	Total Participants - 08
	Camp -13	Male Group	Total Participants - 08
		Female Group	Total Participants - 08

Results:

- ❑ The age-friendly spaces helped them a lot to get-together and share their feeling and pains.
- ❑ They get necessary help and support through the age-friendly spaces.
- ❑ Counselling, primary healthcare services and basic medicines are provided by the age-friendly spaces.
- ❑ Recreation facilities are also available to improve their mental health and wellbeing.
- ❑ Age-friendly spaces are more likely to be gender and age-friendly.
- ❑ Elderly people want to stay here more than their own house because of comfort and better services.
- ❑ However, spaces are too crowded for them as many people want to stay here longer.
- ❑ Their expectations were higher than what YPSA can only provide for them now.
- ❑ They were told to stay here temporarily and now they are missing their homeland, friend and relatives.
- ❑ They hope that situation will get better one day so that they can return to Myanmar soon.



Thank You