



# GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV) PREVENTION

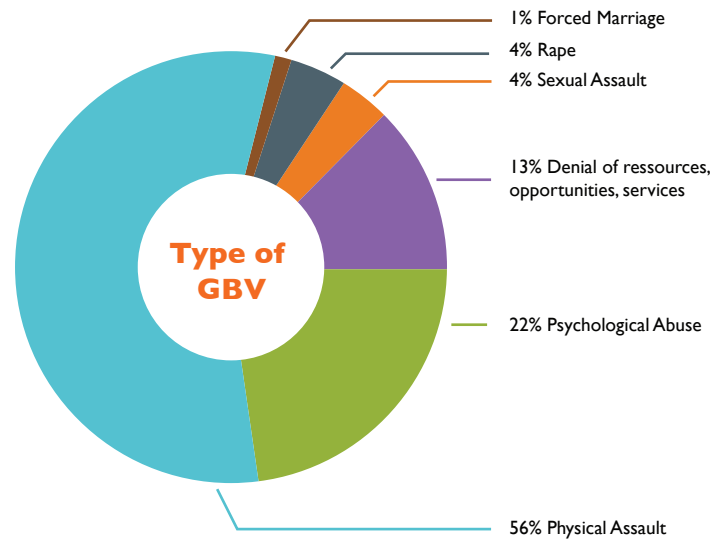
## REDUCING GBV PREVALENCE AND PROMOTING ACCESS TO RESPONSE SERVICES.

### BANGLADESH REFUGEE CRISIS RESPONSE

## PROGRAMMES

Rohingya women and girls were exposed to widespread and severe forms of sexual violence before and during their exodus from Myanmar. Today, in the camps, more than 33,000 families are headed by women<sup>2</sup> —most of whom are widows. Refugee women and girls face disproportionate risk of gender-based violence, including domestic violence, forced/child marriage, and exploitation and trafficking.<sup>3</sup>

World Vision is working to prevent and address GBV among Rohingya refugees in Camps 12, 13, 16 where we work. At our Women's Peace Centre, women and girls build trusted relationships, enhancing their social network and creating a sustainable psychosocial support network. They are also learning how to prevent and protect themselves against GBV and to access professional case management services when needed.



Nature and Scope of Reported GBV Cases (Oct.-Dec. 2018)<sup>1</sup>



**300**

women and girls participated in psychological support activities at World Vision's Women's Peace Centre in Camp 13.



**100%**

of the GBV cases reported to World Vision since February 2019 received case management services.



**640**

men and boys participated in GVB-prevention and awareness training.



**50**

women and girls participate daily in tailoring and handicraft production classes at the WSS.



**20**

community-led protection committees are raising GBV awareness.



**4,800**

women and girls received dignity kits containing feminine hygiene products.

## IMPACT

Women and girls know how to protect themselves and access available GBV response services.

## DONORS



<sup>1</sup>GBVIMS Quarterly report - 2018 - GBV SS\_CXB\_BD, p. 2.

<sup>2</sup>UNHCR Bangladesh Refugee Emergency Population Factsheet, 28 February 2019. <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/68229>

<sup>3</sup>2019 Joint Response Plan for the Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis, p. 29.





## A CORNER OF CALM IN THE CAMP

The Women's Peace Centre in Camp 13 is an oasis for the refugee women who gather here each week. Some come mainly for the sewing or embroidery classes. But most women are drawn here because it's a place to be free—a safe space to be themselves. Here women discuss their struggles to adjust to life in the camp's harsh conditions; how to raise their children with a sense of hope.

Talk often turns to marriage and too often to violence. Of the reported cases of gender-based violence in the camps, 71% of the incidence occurred in the survivor's home, and 74% of the total number of cases were committed by intimate partners. Domestic violence can be linked to the extreme emotional stress that refugee couples face, as well as financial strain and coping with living in cramped conditions.

"World Vision's safe space for women is a place where they can come and feel free to talk with others over a cup of tea," says Ruth Kimaathi, a Kenyan psychologist who leads World Vision's GBV-prevention programme. "We provide

counseling and information about how women experiencing gender-based violence can get help. We are trying to make this room as comfortable as possible so that women feel welcomed and safe."

At this centre, Ruth and her colleagues train women how to recognize GBV and how to access the professional help available in the camp should they need it. Many men and boys have also been trained on GBV prevention—becoming advocates for their wives, daughters, mothers and sisters.

Women who come to the centre say they appreciate the genuine care and concern they receive from World Vision staff members. "Like the Rohingya, I come from a minority group. I've worked with gender-based violence survivors in my own community," says Backey Tripura, manager of World Vision's GBV-prevention programme. "When I hear the stories of violence, torture and child abuse among the Rohingya, it reminds me of the suffering in my small community. I relate to them as a woman, a mother and a sister."