Rekindling Hopes: CARE's Response to Refugee Crisis

#Reflections from the refugee camp#
Prabodh Devkota- Assistant Country Director, Care Bangladesh
6/2/2018
“We feel safe here. We can sleep well. We have shelter. At least there is some level of peace of mind”. We are grateful to CARE and others”.

This was largely shared by women and adolescent girls.
"Our shelters are made of tarpaulin/plastic, there are no windows and we use firewood to cook our foods.

In some houses there are almost 10+ family members and smoke makes life difficult. I wish one fine day we will have improved stoves to cook our foods".
Improved stoves will make life easier in this setting!

This issue came up very strongly.
“We are 100+ CARE volunteers from the host and the refugee communities, we work together!

We help communities understand and address issues around WASH, GBV, Shelter, Nutrition and Health.

Issues of adolescent girls are unique, some of them say, 'We have mobility restrictions as we don't have proper clothes to wear in public following on our religion'. Among others, menstrual hygiene management is still a challenge.”
“I am from the host community. We have a rich culture to welcome guests. When I saw tired and hopeless men, women and children first, I provided a space for them to take some rest under the tree in front of my house. Later, I offered this land to build an information center.

I feel good that I am helping!”
"I am one of the volunteers from the refugee community. I am glad to be part of the CARE team and support people who are in need.

By the way, see my hand writing!" ☺
Hope is Growing Green!

“CARE team is also helping us grow some vegetables. This keeps us busy, something to eat and most importantly to cultivate hope.”

Hope is Growing Green!
“We feel good when we see vegetables growing every day!

We hope we will get more support in the areas of livelihoods and income generating activities”
CARE staffs’ efforts to provide solar lights in the camp, as there is no electricity available. These lights are installed with the generous contribution from CARE Bangladesh staff, families and well-wishers.
We are conscious in establishing WASH facilities (including toilets and bathroom) with especial focus to address the needs of women and girls.
Site management offices / Information centers create safe space for refugees girls, women and men to discuss their issues and share with CARE teams for the support and coordination.

There are also complaints boxes; CARE team aims to further strengthen this process to ensure quality interventions in every aspects.
We are CARE teams on the ground and many others in the field. Along with our Valued Partners we are working hard to meet CARE' s commitments and global standards!
“Monsoon is coming closer. I am worried- what happens when big monsoon hits our shelters!”
Indeed, the looming monsoon season is likely to add new crisis. Men, women and children in the camp are worried and we too are. CARE is trying its best to help refugees cope up with the crisis, CARE team needs more support to deal with monsoon.
We are trying to re-build lives and re-generate dreams amidst many challenges.

We thank you for every single support from within Bangladesh and across the world!