

A section of the Kutupalong-Balukhali camp is visibly different from most other parts of the camps. The hill is dotted with shacks in close proximity as usual, but which have sturdy leakproof roofs and extra tarpaulin sheets covering the walls to protect from the monsoon rains.

At the foot of the hill hosting around 200 families is a community latrine with enclosed separate toilet facilities for men and women, unlike elsewhere in the camps where a sheet of plastic is all that shields the user. Inside the shacks however, is the same mud floor and scant belongings ubiquitous in the camps, with one major difference—residents of this camp have already received gas stoves to cook with.

The name of this idyllic (as much as is possible in a refugee camp) part of the camp is “Hope Village” and was created under a partnership between the Turkish and Bangladeshi governments. While the refugees housed there may not be much better off than others elsewhere in the camps, it may seem so to other refugees.



# THE COORDINATION CONUNDRUM

*A multitude of aid agencies and humanitarian organisations are working to provide aid and essential services in the Rohingya refugee camps in Cox's Bazar, including the megacamp which is the largest refugee camp in the world.*

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With a multitude of actors providing aid—often in the form of one-time donations—the lack of uniformity in what facilities and services each Rohingya refugee gets, is a given.

But this does not necessarily sit well with the receiving population. For example, Fatema Khatun who lives in Balukhali with her family of five expressed her dissatisfaction that they're not getting as much as the other refugees are. “Others are getting clothing and gas stoves. We don't get anything.” Fatema kept repeating the latter

“Hope Village”, sponsored under a partnership with the Turkish government, is visibly different from other sections of the camp.

PHOTO: KAZI TAHSIN AGAZ APURBO

statement, joined sometimes by her elderly mother-in-law squatting on the floor.

Fatema cooks for her family on a mud stove but the refugees are no longer allowed to gather firewood in the nearby forest for cooking fuel. Largescale distribution of liquid petroleum gas (LPG) stoves and cylinders to Rohingya refugees and local villagers started in mid-

August in order to combat widespread deforestation in Cox's Bazar.

The latest needs and population monitoring report (July 2018) by IOM notes that refugees commonly request cooking fuel above all, followed by lighting, a stove, and clothing. Some refugees have received solar light bulbs, others like Fatema's family have



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