

## ONE YEAR ON: THE ROHINGYA CRISIS IN BANGLADESH

# FACING UP TO THE MONSOON AND AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE

**Hakimpara camp:** Outside the simple bamboo-and-plastic shelter that 60 year-old Dulu, her husband Salamat and their family call home, there is nothing more than a narrow ledge, less than a metre wide. After that, the ground drops away precipitously into a gully some 50 metres below where shelters belonging to other families have been erected.

Like many of the camps accommodating Rohingya refugees, Hakimpara (population 30,480) sprawls across a series of

sandy ridges from which most of the vegetation has been stripped. In the current monsoon season, shelters like Dulu's — perched on crumbling soil — are highly vulnerable to landslide.

Not that Dulu seems concerned at the prospect — despite the thin crack that opened in the shelter's floor during heavy rains in June. While thousands of refugees living in locations deemed to be susceptible to flood and landslip have been relocated to safer ground, Dulu insists that she and her family — including two young grand-children — are staying put.

"We won't go, we will stay here," says Dulu firmly. "If we are going to die (in Bangladesh), we will die in this place," she adds.

