

# CHILD PROTECTION IN EMERGENCIES

## Professional Development Programme

**“THANK YOU SO MUCH TO THE CHILD PROTECTION IN EMERGENCIES PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN IN A DIFFERENT EMERGENCY SETTING AND IMPROVE MY SKILLS AS A CHILD PROTECTION PRACTITIONER.”**

As part of the Child Protection in Emergencies Professional Development Programme (CPiE PDP), three of our participants completed job placement Rohingya Crisis Response in Bangladesh. For participants on the CPiE PDP job placements are an opportunity to apply their learning from the programme to new contexts and reflect and grow as practitioners. Job placements have the additional double benefit of strengthening the work of ‘hosting’ and ‘sending’ organisations, as participants bring fresh insights and new skills to both.

900,000 Rohingyas currently live in Bangladesh as a result of violence in Rakhine State and the speed and scale of the influx has resulted in a critical humanitarian emergency. Mahima Sukheja, Swe Swe Myint, and Duyen Nguyen all spent several weeks in Bangladesh, working on various projects and with different organisations on the ground.



Through the CPiE PDP job placement Duyen visited the UNICEF Bangladesh Country Office.

During her job placement, Duyen was able to witness first-hand how clusters work in humanitarian settings and gain a better understanding of challenges that may be encountered in the coordination of humanitarian efforts in particular within the Child Protection Sub-Cluster at national and regional level.

Duyen was also able to visit Child Friendly Spaces and Adolescent Clubs in Cox’s Bazaar. She found that CFS were a successful intervention in increasing the participation and safety of children.

Duyen noted that the strong partnerships between local NGOs and UNICEF had led to the quick establishment of high quality child friendly spaces during the emergency.

***“The identification of relevant, strong, committed partners is a key for successes in every project, including CPiE programming...strong cooperation between different sectors is needed to ensure child protection concerns properly addressed”***

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During Swe Swe's placement with Save the Children in Cox Bazaar she was tasked with designing a psychosocial support training, developing tools to support CFS animators, and linking with other sectors to ensure that child friendly spaces have access to safe water and sanitation.

Swe Swe, building on knowledge and skills gained through the CPiE PDP, facilitated a 5 days training package covering psychosocial support, basic child protection, child development, and life skills for project officers, psychosocial counsellors, and 28 young girls in the Kalatoti Camp. Although security concerns reduced the training to 3 days, Swe Swe was able to complete the final two days outside of the camp to ensure her training was delivered in full.

Swe Swe sees the job placement as one of the highlights of the program as she was able to demonstrate her learning in a different emergency setting, with difficult language barriers, and different cultural aspects to consider.

***"Qualified staff are an essential part of emergency response... and I am going to support my team though the knowledge and skills I've gained on the CPiE PDP"***

Mahima completed her job placement within the CPiE PDP with Christian Aid in Cox's Bazar. Through her placement Mahima worked to analyse the pre-existing efforts to mainstream child protection into the organization's programming and suggest further integration opportunities as the response developed. For Mahima it was the first time to lead independently the entire process of conceptualization, planning, and development of assessment tools as well as conducting the assessment, and holding consultations with community, government, and Christian Aid.

Mahima also had the opportunity to train staff on the newly developed Child Safeguarding policy.



***"From emergency planning, to training, to M&E... graduates can play a vital role in responses in the region"***