

Assessment Concept Note

Rohingya Refugee Crisis

Bangladesh 2021 Multi-Sector Needs Assessments

Joint Multi-Sector Needs Assessments 2021

Mandating and implementing body	Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG) with endorsement from the Senior Coordinator. Sector information management focal points and sector coordinators will serve in an advisory role in setting assessment objectives, scope, coverage, and methodology, and in generating consensus on findings. Key technical decisions, which require final endorsement by the ISCG and the Senior Coordinator, will be discussed with them. Detailed considerations on assessment design and process will be discussed within a dedicated MSNA Technical Working Group (TWG).
Timeframe	January to December 2021
Standards and commitments	The process and design are aligned with Grand Bargain Commitments on the need for joint and impartial needs assessments , including the criteria for assessing quality and use of needs assessments.
General Objective	To inform evidence-based strategic planning of humanitarian response activities by the Strategic Executive Group (SEG), the ISCG Secretariat, sectors, and sector partners, through the provision of up-to-date, relevant, and comparable information on the multi-sectoral needs of refugee and host community populations in Cox's Bazar District, Bangladesh.
Specific Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a comprehensive evidence base of the diverse multi-sectoral needs among refugee populations and the host community to inform the 2022 Joint Response Plan; • Provide an analysis of how refugee population and host community needs have changed in 2021; • Provide the basis for a joint multi-stakeholder analysis process.
Targeted groups	Rohingya refugees and their host communities ¹
Sectors	Shelter/NFI; Site Management; Education; Health; Nutrition; Food security and livelihoods; Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH); Protection (including the Child Protection and Gender-based Violence Sub-Sectors) Cross-cutting working groups: Communication with Communities; Gender in Humanitarian Action
Analytical approach	Sectoral analysis; inter-sectoral analysis; by area (camps/unions); over time; by household vulnerability characteristics; for relevant indicators of perception, by gender of respondent
Data collection Techniques	Secondary data review, household level data collection, focus group discussions (FGDs, only if in-person data collection will be possible) and/or key informant interviews (KIIs)

¹ For the purpose of the assessment, refugee population is defined as including all registered refugees living in the 34 camps in Ukhiya and Teknaf Upazilas. Host community is defined as including all Bangladeshi households residing in the following 11 Unions in Ukhiya and Teknaf Upazilas: Haldia Palong, Ratna Palong, Raja Palong, Palong Khali, Jalia Palong, Whykong, Nhilla, Teknaf, Sabrang, Teknaf Paurashava, Baharchhara.

Outputs

- Concept note
- Anonymised and cleaned datasets (one each for refugee and host communities);
- Analysis tables (one each for refugee and host communities);
- Powerpoint and handout of main findings;
- Two factsheets (one each for refugee and host communities);
- Two assessment reports (one each for refugee and host communities).

1. Introduction

In successive waves over four decades, Rohingya refugees have been fleeing to Cox’s Bazar District, Bangladesh, from Rakhine State, Myanmar. Since August 2017, an estimated 730,000 Rohingya refugees have fled into Cox’s Bazar, increasing the total number of Rohingya refugees to more than 850,000.² With limited access to regular income and livelihood opportunities in camps, the Rohingya refugee population is highly reliant on humanitarian assistance.³ While the crisis is now in its fourth year, prospects of return of refugees to Myanmar continue to be uncertain.⁴ At the same time, structural factors, including a lack of formal education in camps, insufficient health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) provisions, and weak shelter infrastructure continue to challenge the response.⁵ The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated containment measures put in place in camps on 24 March 2020 further severely restricted humanitarian access and service delivery to the highly aid-dependent refugee communities throughout much of 2020. With only a limited number of essential services having been provided and severely disrupted access to self-reliance activities and cash among the highly aid-dependent refugees, pre-existing needs were exacerbated, in particular related to food security, health-seeking behaviour, education, and (child) protection. Moreover, households’ capacities to meet their needs and cope with service gaps, including recurring ones, such as monsoon-induced shelter damage, were considerably reduced. As a result, households increasingly turned towards more extreme coping strategies, with potential negative long-term impacts on household and individual well-being, in particular among the most at-risk populations.⁶ A renewed lockdown, implemented in April 2021, may have further aggravated the situation.

At the same time, the District of Cox’s Bazar is characterised by some of the poorest living conditions in the country.⁷ Needs among the host community in Ukhiya and Teknaf arise mainly from existing development challenges, but have been compounded by the refugee influx.⁸ With the refugee population being almost double the host community population in the two upazilas,⁹ the massive increase in population density following the influx, coupled with the pre-existing lack of livelihoods, and levels of poverty and vulnerability among the host community population, has led to tensions over labour competition, falling wages and price hikes of daily essentials. Perceived increases in crime,

² Compare https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/myanmar_refugees

³ World Food Programme (WFP), *Refugee influx emergency vulnerability assessment (REVA) – Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh (April 2020)* (Cox’s Bazar, 2020). Available [here](#) (accessed 4 April 2021).

⁴ International Crisis Group (ICG), *A Sustainable Policy for Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh*, Asia Report N°303, 27 December 2019 (Brussels, 2019). Available here (accessed 4 April 2021); John Bryant & Oliver Lough, *With Myanmar’s military back in full control, Rohingya refugees need long-term solutions* (February 2021). Available [here](#) (accessed 4 April 2021).

⁵ *Ibid.*; WFP, 2020; ICG, 2019.

⁶ Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG), *2020 COVID-19 Response Plan, Addendum to the Joint Response Plan 2020*, Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis, April – December 2020 (Cox’s Bazar, 2020a). Available [here](#) (accessed 4 April 2021); Government of The People’s Republic of Bangladesh, Office of the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner, *Restricted Programme in Light of Covid-19 (Letter No-749)* (Cox’s Bazar, 2020); ISCG, *Joint Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (J-MSNA): Bangladesh Rohingya Refugees – July – August 2020* (Cox’s Bazar, 2020b). Available [here](#) (accessed 4 April 2021).

⁷ ACAPS, *Cox’s Bazar: Upazila Profiles (September 2020)* (Cox’s Bazar, 2020). Available [here](#) (accessed 23 November 2020).

⁸ ISCG, *2020 Joint Response Plan, Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis, January – December 2020, Bangladesh* (Cox’s Bazar, 2019a). Available [here](#) (accessed 4 April 2021).

⁹ Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, *Population & Housing Census-2011, National Volume-2: Union Statistics* (Dhaka, 2011).

security concerns, and high pressures on the environment leading to deforestation and depleting water sources have further been reported as sources of tension.¹⁰ The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated containment measures severely disrupted livelihoods among the host community as well. This also led to an exacerbation of needs in particular related to food security, health-seeking behaviour, education, and (child) protection. As a result, host community households increasingly resorted to adopting coping mechanisms to meet basic needs, including some crisis-level ones.¹¹

Moreover, large camp areas are located in hilly, formerly forested areas that are highly vulnerable to landslides and flash-flooding during the monsoon season, while the host community along the Bay of Bengal coast is exposed to frequent and sometimes severe cyclone winds and tidal surges. Camps are further affected by fires that spread easily between the tightly constructed shelters, as occurred most recently during a large fire affecting close to 50,000 individuals.¹²

As such, there is a continued need for up-to-date information on the needs, priorities and preferences of all affected populations as a basis for the design and implementation of effective multi-sectoral programming. While needs assessments have been regularly undertaken by humanitarian partners, multi-sector assessment initiatives serve to reduce assessment fatigue and the burden on families. At the same time, being aligned with the humanitarian programme cycle and other in-depth sectoral assessments, they provide a strategic planning tool for evidence-based prioritization through the activity's multi-sectoral coverage, consistent methodology, common framework for joint analysis, and buy-in of findings. A multi-sector needs assessment (MSNA) is intended to support detailed sectoral assessments, with the multi-sectoral nature of the assessment allowing for a deeper analysis and understanding of key sectoral and inter-sectoral needs and drivers of need to support humanitarian planning.

Against this background, two ISCG-mandated Joint Multi-Sector Needs Assessments (J-MSNAs) – one across Rohingya refugee populations and one across host community populations – are proposed to support detailed humanitarian planning to meet multi-sectoral needs of affected populations and enhance the ability of operational partners to meet the strategic aims of donors and coordinating bodies. To date, a number of J-MSNAs have been implemented by the MSNA TWG, under ISCG leadership, to support the response, most recently the 2020 J-MSNAs conducted to inform the 2021 Joint Response Plan (JRP). Building on those past assessments, the 2021 J-MSNAs are aimed to continue to provide an accurate snapshot of the situation with the specific objectives to:

- (1) Provide a comprehensive evidence base of the diverse multi-sectoral needs among refugee populations and the host community to inform the 2022 Joint Response Plan;
- (2) Provide an analysis of how refugee population and host community needs have changed in 2021;
- (3) Provide the basis for a joint multi-stakeholder analysis process.

2. Research questions

In line with the above-defined specific objectives, the J-MSNAs will aim to answer the following research questions:

¹⁰ ACAPS, 2020.; ISCG, *Joint Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (J-MSNA): Host Communities – In-Depth | August – September 2019* (Cox's Bazar, 2019). Available [here](#) (accessed 4 April 2021).

¹¹ ISCG, *Joint Multi-Sector Needs Assessment (J-MSNA): Bangladesh Host Communities – July – August 2020* (Cox's Bazar, 2020c). Available [here](#) (accessed 4 April 2021).

¹² ISCG, *Joint Humanitarian Response to Fire Incident in Rohingya Refugee Camps* (Cox's Bazar, 2021). Available [here](#) (accessed 4 April 2021).

1. What are the **needs**¹³ and **service gaps** within refugee camps and the host community?
 - a. How **severe** are these needs within and across sectors?¹⁴
 - b. What are the **main drivers** of need?¹⁴
 - c. What is the **co-occurrence** of needs?¹⁴
2. How do sectoral and inter-sectoral¹⁵ needs **differ between geographic areas**?
3. What are the **characteristics of households** most in need?
4. What **coping strategies** are households adopting in order to meet their needs?
5. How have reported needs and service gaps **changed** for key indicators **since 2020**?
6. What are households' **preferences** and **priorities** for 2022?

The estimation of the number of people in need (PIN) is outside the scope of this assessment. However, an analysis of the overall proportions of households with unmet sectoral or multi-sectoral needs, including the severity of needs, given current levels of humanitarian assistance, will be provided for the refugee population. A similar analysis is outside the scope of this assessment for the host community. Instead, for the host community, a qualitative narrative aiming at providing an overall picture of key unmet needs across sectors will be provided.

3. Scope

Geographic scope and population of interest: The assessment will target:

- All registered Rohingya refugee households residing in the 34 camps in Ukhiya and Teknaf, including Kutupalong (KRC) and Nayapara Refugee Camps (NRC) and excluding any refugees that have been relocated elsewhere;
- All Bangladeshi households living in the following Unions of Ukhiya and Teknaf:
 - Haldia Palong;
 - Ratna Palong;
 - Raja Palong;
 - Palong Khali;
 - Jalia Palong;
 - Whykong;
 - Nhillia;
 - Teknaf;
 - Sabrang;
 - Teknaf Paurashava;
 - Baharchhara.

Sectoral coverage: The following sectors/topics will be covered:

- Shelter/NFI;
- Site Management;
- Education;
- Health;
- Nutrition;

¹³ Needs should capture the key dimensions of accessibility, availability, quality, use, and awareness.

¹⁴ For the refugee community only.

¹⁵ Inter-sectoral needs will be assessed for the refugee community only. The sectoral analysis will differ between refugee and host communities.

- Food security and livelihoods;
- WASH;
- Protection (including the Child Protection and Gender-based Violence Sub-Sectors);
- Communication with Communities;
- Gender.

The main output this assessment feeds into, the 2022 JRP, will be based on a combination of information sources, including the J-MSNA results, other needs assessments, sector activity reporting and in-depth response analyses. A close integration of the J-MSNA with relevant other sources will be ensured.

4. Methodology

Given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, there is the possibility of preventative measures being in place at the time of data collection that will not allow for in-person data collection. As in-person data collection is preferred over remote data collection, however, the methodology will still be designed with the aim of collecting data in-person but with a contingency plan for remote phone-based data collection in place.

Primary data collection will consist of both a quantitative and a qualitative component. The quantitative component will consist of two household surveys – one targeting refugee populations and one targeting the host community. The qualitative component will consist of FGDs, if in-person data collection is possible. Depending on the final topic to be addressed by the qualitative component and the available resources, FGDs may be complemented with KIIs. In case COVID-19-related restrictions will not allow for FGDs, phone-based KIIs will be conducted. Subject to confirmation during the early research design stage, the target groups for qualitative data collection may include purposively chosen refugee and host community members, and/or response staff.

The proposed quantitative methodology will attempt to provide camp-level representative results for the refugee community, and union-level representative results for the host community, if data collection can be done in-person. *In the case of a remote survey*, subject to confirmation of the final sampling frames available for remote data collection, camp-/union-level data collection will also be attempted. Due to the absence of complete sampling frames for remote data collection, however, results will only be representative of the populations included in the sampling frames in this case. They will be indicative of the wider refugee and host community populations.

Quantitative data collection is planned for July and August 2021. Households will be sampled using a stratified random sampling approach, with stratification at the camp-/union-level. Overall, roughly 3,197 household interviews with refugee households and roughly 1,041 interviews with host community households will be conducted, generating representative results at a 95% level of confidence and with a 10% margin of error at the camp level for refugees and at the union level for the host community. If the final sampling frames available for remote data collection will not allow to target these sample sizes remotely, as a minimum roughly 760 household interviews with refugee households and roughly 760 interviews with host community households will be conducted. Results will be representative at a 95% level of confidence and with a 5% margin of error at the upazila level of the populations included in the sampling frames in this case. They will remain indicative of the wider refugee and host community populations. In this case, a stratified probability-proportional-to-size (PPS) random sampling approach will be used, with stratification at the upazila-level and sample sizes being proportional to camp- or union-level population sizes.

FGDs and/or KIIs will complement quantitative data collection. Qualitative data collection is planned for September 2021. Participants will be sampled purposively. Subject to confirmation during the early research design stage, participants may include members from households that were part of the quantitative survey, as well as response staff, such as teachers, health care workers, etc. The topic to be addressed by the qualitative component and its final scope will be decided based on information needs arising from the preliminary quantitative analysis.

Secondary data review

Building on a secondary data review conducted within the context of the 2020 J-MSNAs, an information gap analysis will be conducted. This will also serve as a basis for the identification of other data sources to triangulate J-MSNA primary data collection results with. However, as the secondary data review was conducted in 2020, sectors will be requested to provide any additional key information from the main sectoral assessments conducted since late 2020 that can be used for contextualization of J-MSNA findings and be referred to within J-MSNA outputs.

Joint design

The assessment will be designed in close consultation with all sectors, working groups and thematic experts active in the response. The MSNA TWG, coordinated by the ISCG and composed of representatives from International Organization of Migration's Needs and Population Monitoring (IOM NPM), World Food Programme Vulnerability Analysis and Mapping (WFP VAM), UNHCR, ACAPS and REACH, will take the lead on assessment design and tool development, while all stakeholders will have the opportunity to influence assessment design and tool development during dedicated meetings with the MSNA TWG.

At the beginning of the J-MSNA design process, ISCG-led meetings with sector information management focal points will be organized to review the assessment objectives, scope, coverage, and methodology. Moreover, bilateral meetings to discuss household survey tools and sectoral analysis will be organized with each sector. Quantitative data analysis plans will be shared with sectors prior to data analysis. Results will be analysed jointly during presentation(s) to reach a shared understanding of the results and sector endorsement of findings.

To ensure that the J-MSNAs will complement rather than contradict or duplicate other assessments conducted in advance of JRP 2022 planning, the following harmonisation measures are proposed:

- **Mirror similar concepts:** Measure the same indicators in the same way to allow for comparability across studies. This includes using the same questions, response categories and translations.
- **Reduce redundancy:** While some overlap between assessments will be required to enable multi-sectoral analysis and the development of specific composite indicators, duplication of questions should be reduced to minimize resources spent on data collection and analysis. In order to support triangulation of assessments, other key data sources will be referred to within the MSNA outputs.

To account for the possibility of remote data collection, specific considerations will be made during tool design:

- **Questionnaire length:** Given the poor connectivity and the lack of personal interaction during phone interviews, tools will have to be limited in length to avoid losing respondents' attention. Questions will be prioritised and the tools shortened in the case of remote data collection. Prioritisation will occur during sector consultations.
- **Physical verification/assessment:** No questions requiring physical verification or assessment by the enumerator will be included in the case of remote data collection.

- **Sensitive topics:** As privacy cannot be ensured during phone interviews, in order to avoid creating risks to respondents, sensitive questions will have to be rephrased for remote data collection. Suitability of each question for both in-person and remote data collection, and alternative phrasings, will be discussed during sector consultations.

Sampling strategy

Quantitative component

Households will be the unit of measurement for this assessment. Households will be defined as a group of people living together, generally eating from one pot (sharing food).¹⁶ The interviews will be conducted with a consenting adult representative of the household. Enumerator teams will be composed of 50% male and 50% female enumerators. Each enumerator will only interview respondents of his/her gender, such that a balance of male and female respondents will be reached.

In the case of remote data collection, the samples will be stratified by the gender of the head of household, aiming to achieve at least a representation of female-headed households equal to that in the sampling frames. Nevertheless, in the case of remote data collection, it can be expected that the majority of respondents will be male, as phone ownership is biased towards men. Enumerator teams will still be composed of 50% male and 50% female enumerators. While female respondents will still only be interviewed by female enumerators, this means that male respondents will be interviewed by both male and female enumerators. If a female respondent answers the call of a male enumerator, the enumerator will not carry out the interview but arrange a time for a female enumerator to call back.

Camp sample:

Households will be sampled using randomly generated GPS points over a dataset of UNOSAT/REACH shelter footprints. A stratified random sampling approach will be employed, with stratification at the camp level. Results will be generalizable at a 95% confidence level and with a 10% margin of error at the camp level. They will be generalizable at a 95% confidence level and with a 2% margin of error at the response level. This will require roughly 3,197 household interviews to be conducted.

In the case of remote (phone-based) data collection, the sample will be drawn from the UNHCR refugee registration database. Subject to confirmation of the final sampling frame available for remote data collection, the same sample size as for in-person data collection will be targeted. Results will be generalizable at a 95% confidence level and with a 10% margin of error of the population included in the sampling frame at the camp level. They will be generalizable at a 95% confidence level and with a 2% margin of error of the population included in the sampling frame at the response level. They will be indicative of the wider refugee population. Due to limitations in the sampling frame, KRC and NRC will likely be sampled together in the case of remote data collection (roughly 94 household interviews spread across both camps, slightly reducing the final overall sample size to 3,105 household interviews) and results for the two camps be presented together.

In case the final sampling frame for remote data collection does not allow for this sample size, a stratified PPS random sampling approach will be used, with stratification at the upazila level and sample sizes at the camp level being proportional to camp population sizes. In this case, results that will at least be generalizable of the population included in the sampling frame at a 95% confidence level and with 5% margin of error at the upazila level will be

¹⁶ In line with the definition of a household used in the [Bangladesh 2011 Census](#) – “a group of persons, related or unrelated, living together and taking food from the same kitchen”

aimed for. They will be generalizable at a 95% confidence level and with a 4% margin of error at the response level. This will require a minimum of 764 household interviews to be conducted.

Sample sizes are detailed below:

Upazila	Camp	Households ¹⁷	Camp level, 95/10	Upazila level, 95/5
Ukhiya	Camp 1E	8,485	95	21
	Camp 1W	8,372	95	21
	Camp 2E	6,109	95	15
	Camp 2W	5,484	94	14
	Camp 3	8,052	95	20
	Camp 4	7,062	95	18
	Camp 4 Extension	1,728	91	4
	Camp 5	5,540	94	14
	Camp 6	4,878	94	12
	Camp 7	8,295	95	21
	Camp 8E	6,250	95	16
	Camp 8W	6,613	95	16
	Camp 9	7,200	95	18
	Camp 10	6,320	95	16
	Camp 11	6,177	95	15
	Camp 12	5,343	94	13
	Camp 13	8,815	95	22
	Camp 17	3,860	94	10
	Camp 18	6,104	95	15
	Camp 19	4,921	94	12
	Camp 20	1,575	91	4
	Camp 20 Extension	1,925	92	5
	Kutupalong RC	3,140	93	8
	Camp 14	6,605	95	16
Camp 15	10,550	95	26	
Camp 16	4,486	94	11	
Total		153,889	2,450	383
Teknaf	Camp 21	3,893	94	43
	Camp 22	4,290	94	47
	Nayapara RC	4,435	94	49
	Camp 23	2,396	92	26
	Camp 24	5,815	94	64
	Camp 25	1,582	91	17
	Camp 26	8,985	95	99

¹⁷ UNHCR, as of 31 December 2020. Sample size calculations will be updated using the latest figures at the start of data collection.

Upazila	Camp	Households ¹⁷	Camp level, 95/10	Upazila level, 95/5
	Camp 27	3,255	93	36
Total		34,651	747	380
Total		188,540	3,197	764

A buffer estimated based on past data collection experiences will be included into all sample size calculations to account for:

- Non-eligible households (4%), such as Bangladeshi households living within camp boundaries and vice versa, as well as households that may be under COVID-19-related quarantine/show COVID-19 symptoms;
- Non-response, such as households not being at home (in-person data collection, 30%), or households not reachable over their registered phone numbers (remote data collection, 66%);
- Non-consenting households, including households not consenting to or not finishing the survey, or households without an appropriate respondent, including all households without a consenting individual aged 18 and above (6%);
- Data cleaning or errors in forms (10%).

A separate sample will be drawn to pilot the tool.

Host community sample:

Households will be sampled using randomly generated GPS points over a dataset of Open Street Map (OSM) shelter footprints. A stratified random sampling approach will be employed, with stratification at the union level. Results will be generalizable at a 95% confidence level and with a 10% margin of error at the union level. They will be generalizable at a 95% confidence level and with a 3% margin of error at the response level. This will require roughly 1,041 household interviews to be conducted.

In the case of remote data collection, the sample will be drawn from a sampling frame constructed of a UNHCR household database, covering host community households within 6 km from UNHCR camps, and UNHCR, WFP and IOM beneficiary databases, covering the remaining target area. The sample will be drawn at the ward level, with the sample for each ward only being drawn from one of the databases included in the sampling frame, as the databases may not be mutually exclusive. Further, as ward-level population sizes are unknown, the proportion of the ward-level sample drawn for each union will be proportional to the ward-level population included in the sampling frame for each union. Subject to confirmation of the final sampling frame available for remote data collection, the same sample size as for in-person data collection will be targeted. Results will be generalizable at a 95% confidence level and with a 10% margin of error of the population included in the sampling frame at the union level. They will be generalizable at a 95% confidence level and with a 3% margin of error of the population included in the sampling frame at the response level. They will be indicative of the wider host community population. Due to limitations in the sampling frame, Teknaf Sadar and Teknaf Paurashava will be sampled together in the case of remote data collection (roughly 95 household interviews spread across both camps, slightly reducing the final overall sample size to 947 household interviews and the margin of error at the response level to 4%) and results for the two unions be presented together.

In case the final sampling frame for remote data collection does not allow for this sample size, also in this case, a stratified PPS random sampling approach will be used, with stratification at the upazila level and sample sizes at the union level being proportionate to union-level population sizes, and sample sizes at the ward level being proportionate to the share of the ward-level population included in the sampling frame for each union. Results that

will at least be generalizable to the population included in the sampling frame at a 95% confidence level and with 5% margin of error at the upazila level will be aimed for. They will be generalizable to the population included in the sampling frame at a 95% confidence level and with a 4% margin of error at the response level. This will require a minimum of 760 household interviews to be conducted.

In the case of remote data collection, results will be indicative only of the wider host community. Biases towards populations in the vicinity of the camps and/or beneficiary populations will need to be considered in the interpretation of the results. However, through including non-beneficiary host community populations from the UNHCR database as well as host community populations outside the 6 km radius from camps, a reduction of those biases is attempted.

Sample sizes are detailed below:

Upazila	Union	Households (2011 Census)	Union level, 95/10	Upazila level, 95/5
Ukhiya	Raja Palong	10,596	95	106
	Haldia Palong	9,006	95	90
	Jalia Palong	8,511	95	85
	Ratna Palong	4,238	94	42
	Palong Khali	5,589	94	56
Total		37,940	473	379
Teknaf	Nhilla	8,271	95	70
	Sabrang	9,970	95	84
	Whykong	8,867	95	75
	Bharchhara	4,832	94	41
	Teknaf	8,467	95	71
	Teknaf Paurashava	4,752	94	40
Total		45,159	568	381
Total		83,099	1,041	760

A buffer estimated based on past data collection experiences will be included into all sample size calculations to account for:

- Non-eligible households (5%), such as mixed refugee-host community households registered as refugee households, as well as households that may be under COVID-19-related quarantine/show COVID-19 symptoms;
- Non-response, such as households not being at home (in-person data collection, 30%), or households not reachable over their registered phone numbers (remote data collection, 39%);
- Non-consenting households, including households not consenting to or not finishing the survey, or households without an appropriate respondent, including all households without a consenting individual aged 18 and above (9%);
- Data cleaning or errors in forms (10%).

A separate sample will be drawn to pilot the tool.

Qualitative component

For the qualitative component, 20 FGDs each will be conducted with refugee and host community members. The final topic to be addressed by the qualitative component will be decided based on information needs arising from the preliminary quantitative analysis. Tentatively, but eventually depending on the final topic to be addressed, participants may include purposively selected household members from households that were part of the household survey, e.g. selected based on the responses the household gave to specific questions in the household survey. This will require consent from participants of the household survey to be contacted for a follow-up survey and means of contacting them, e.g. through the collection of their phone numbers and/or names during the household survey. A geographical spread of FGDs across camps/unions, and the inclusion of different population groups will be attempted.

Complementing the FGDs with KIIs with response staff may be considered. Depending on the final topic to be covered by the qualitative component and available resources, key informants (KIs) may include – among others – health facility staff, education facility staff, nutrition facility staff, humanitarian workers, volunteers, distribution facility staff, or staff from child-/women-/elderly-friendly spaces.

In the case of remote data collection, FGDs will be replaced by phone-based KIIs. In this case, household members from households that were part of the household survey – if others than the head of household could be reached over the phone and are willing to participate – as well as response staff – depending on the topic to be covered – could be considered as key informants. However, given difficulties doing in-depth interviews over the phone, the approach will have to be carefully considered and it is likely that questionnaires will have to be shortened and simplified.

Primary data collection

Quantitative data collection for both refugee and host communities is planned for July and August 2021. Prior to data collection, the ISCG will seek the necessary permissions from the respective management bodies for the areas to be surveyed.

Quantitative component

Data collection is planned for a minimum period of one month, using at least 12 teams of 12 enumerators each. Data will be collected by UNHCR and IOM NPM enumerators. In order to facilitate the data cleaning process, UNHCR and IOM NPM team leaders will provide feedback on a daily basis to the REACH field team. Field transportation (if needed for in-person data collection) will be organized by REACH and IOM NPM.

Interviews in camps will be conducted in Rohingya. REACH will ensure translation of both refugee and host community tools prior to the training.

In the case of remote data collection, as phone numbers will be retrieved from the UNHCR refugee registration database, UNHCR enumerators will carry out data collection in camps. Data collection in the host community will be carried out by IOM NPM enumerators. UNHCR will provide tablets/phones and credit to all its enumerators prior to the start of the training. IOM NPM will provide tablets/phones and credit to their enumerators. REACH will be responsible for ensuring that the questionnaires are uploaded to the phones/tablets.

Prior to data collection, a three-day training will be held for enumerators, outlining the objectives and methodology of the assessment, data collection protocols, ethics and code of conduct, including Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP), referral mechanisms and Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), clarification of

tools/agreement on standards for recording responses, and multiple rounds of practice with tools. The training will be led by REACH, while in-country technical partners and working groups will be encouraged to lead training sessions on sector-specific sections of the questionnaires as well as a session on referral pathways and psychological first aid in order to uphold the “do no harm” principle during data collection. Separate trainings will be held for enumerators conducting data collection in camps and in the host community. REACH will organize the training venues.

Tools and data collection protocols will then be piloted with a sample of refugee and host community households during a 2-day piloting exercise to identify and rectify problems before the full roll-out of data collection. This includes problems related to phrasing/understanding of the questions by both the enumerators and the respondents, displaying/sequencing of questions on the screen or missing response options.

In the case of remote data collection, both training and piloting will take place remotely. The training will be organized online in this case, e.g. using Google Meet or Microsoft Teams.

Qualitative component

Qualitative data collection is planned for 10 days using IOM NPM teams trained in qualitative research for the FGDs (or alternative phone-based KIIs). Additional KIIs may have to be conducted by other MSNA TWG staff, if resources allow. FGDs and KIIs will be recorded after consent from participants has been sought.

Prior to data collection, a training will be held for facilitators outlining the objectives and methodology of the assessment, data collection protocols, clarification of tools, and multiple rounds of practice with tools. The training will be led by IOM NPM and ACAPS. Separate trainings will be held for facilitators conducting data collection in camps and in the host community. IOM NPM will organize the training venues. *In the case of remote data collection*, an online training, led by IOM NPM and ACAPS, will be organized, e.g. using Google Hangouts or Microsoft Teams.

FGDs, or phone-based KIIs in the case of remote data collection, will be conducted by IOM NPM. Additional KIIs may have to be conducted by other MSNA TWG member staff, if resources allow.

Data collection in camps will be conducted by Rohingya facilitators. IOM NPM will ensure translation of camp and host community tools for the FGDs/phone-based KIIs prior to the training. Alternatively, enumerators will be trained to input translated answers straight into the English form as the interview is ongoing. Other MSNA TWG members will support on translation of any additional KII tools, if relevant.

Data processing and analysis

Data processing and analysis for the quantitative component will be led by REACH, with support from other MSNA TWG members. Data processing and analysis for the qualitative component will be led by ACAPS, with support from other MSNA TWG members.

Quantitative component

A progress tracking system will be implemented to track progress during data collection. At the end of each day, the number of completed interviews as well as the number of not eligible, non-consenting or not reached households will be recorded. The sum of completed interviews will be compared against the targeted number of interviews to track overall progress.

Data checking and cleaning will be conducted on a daily basis according to a set of pre-established Standard Operating Procedures (SoPs) in line with defined minimum standards.¹⁸ Data cleaning will include location checks, outlier checks, analysis of “other” responses, identification and removal or replacement of incomplete or inaccurate records, and recoding and standardising of entries.

Upon completion of data collection, the data will be analysed using R and as outlined in a predefined data analysis plan that ensures the necessary linkages between the questionnaire, the indicators to be measured and the overall research questions to be answered. The relevant descriptive statistics will be produced and key associations within the data tested.

Qualitative component

At the end of each day of data collection, enumerator debriefings will be conducted and data collection teams will review and complete their notes.

The translation of FGD recordings (and notes, if not directly inputted in English) (or if done remotely, phone-based KII notes) will be facilitated by IOM NPM. If additional KIIs were conducted, other MSNA TWG members will support translation.

Data analysis will be led by ACAPS, with support from other MSNA TWG members. Following translation, a Data Saturation Grid will be developed. The development of a codebook and further analysis using an analysis software, such as NVivo, can be considered. A bullet point key findings summary, including quotes from the interviews, will be produced by the end of October, in time for incorporation into the final reports.

Assessment features, assumptions and limitations

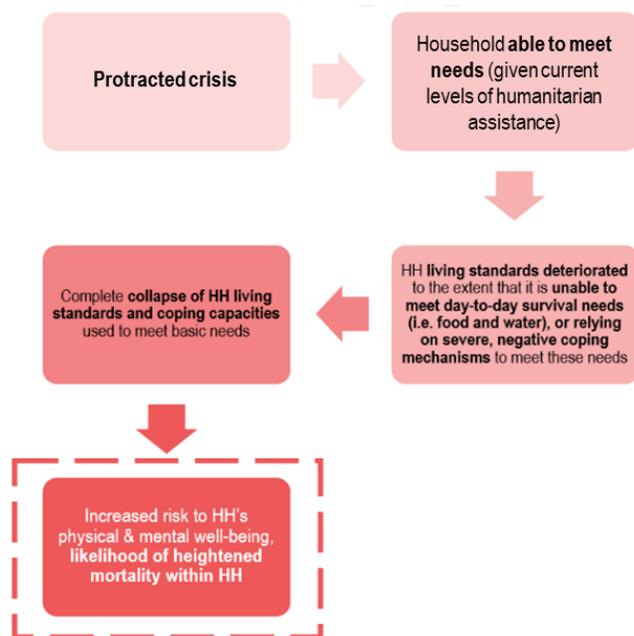
- The assessment does not target refugees residing outside the official camps, neither unregistered refugee households.
- The J-MSNAs are designed to provide an analysis from a multi-sectoral perspective. They will not provide a detailed understanding of all sectors and thematic concerns. As such, in-depth sectoral assessments and triangulation with other sources is required to complement and deepen the analysis. In order to support this triangulation, other key data sources will be referred to within the J-MSNA outputs.
- The unit of measurement of the household survey is the household. As such, only limited information can be collected relating to conditions and experiences of specific members of the household. The resulting household data is therefore likely to conceal intra-household differences. Subject to confirmation during the early research design stage, the qualitative component may be used to provide some insights into intra-household differences. Moreover, other relevant assessments will be referred to within J-MSNA outputs, in order to support triangulation and a more in-depth understanding.
- *In the case of remote data collection*, different perspectives of men and women will likely only be possible to capture to a limited degree, as most respondents can be expected to be male. Samples will be stratified by the gender of the head of household in this case, in order to still ensure an adequate representation of female respondents. However, triangulation with other data sources will also be required for a fuller understanding of the different needs and preferences of male and female individuals.
- *In the case of remote data collection*, questionnaire length will have to be limited, also limiting the scope of the analysis. In order to facilitate the shortening of questionnaires, if needed, indicators to be collected will be prioritized during sector consultations.

¹⁸ Compare [IMPACT Data Cleaning Minimum Standards checklist](#).

- The analysis assumes that COVID-19-related restrictions will not be tightened during the analysis process, and that there will at least be a continuation of the current levels of support. Any contextual changes that lead to a significant reduction in access to services and/or livelihoods among refugee or host communities as well as any other events significantly impacting the situation or a significant prolongation of any restrictions well beyond the time of data collection will affect the relevance of the findings.
- Similarly, the J-MSNAs provide information and insights into levels of need at the time when the assessment is being conducted. As such, inter-seasonal differences will not be captured by the J-MSNAs. Results will have to be interpreted in light of the period of data collection, and be triangulated with other data sources for a more in-depth understanding of such differences.
- Especially *in the case of remote data collection*, as privacy will be limited, topics considered to be sensitive are likely to be underreported during the household survey. This includes information related to safety and security concerns, income sources in camps, and prohibited activities. Questions may further need to be rephrased, so that they can be asked over the phone.
- *In the case of remote data collection*, households without functioning phones or in areas without phone coverage cannot be interviewed. This may introduce a bias into the sample and the results. In order to reduce bias related to reachability, a household that cannot be reached at the first try will be called back once after at least a few hours before counting the household as not reachable. However, a possible bias towards better connected households (as well as slightly better educated households) will need to be considered in the interpretation of the results. Moreover, due to the absence of complete sampling frames, results will be representative only of the populations included in the sampling frames and indicative of the wider refugee and host community populations.

5. Analysis framework

The multi-sectoral analysis framework is inspired by the draft Joint Inter-Sectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF), developed by the global Joint Intersectoral Analysis Group (JIAG) with the aim to facilitate a comprehensive understanding of the needs of affected populations. It considers the severity and drivers of sectoral needs, as well as the severity and drivers of multi-sectoral needs. The framework is based on an understanding of a progressive deterioration of a household's situation, as shown below.



In order to get at those differences in the severity of met or unmet needs a household may face, in addition to the sectoral indicator results, a few more concepts will be measured:

- **Living Standard Gaps (LSGs):** signifying that a household has unmet needs in a given sector (i.e. LSG with severity > 2), given current levels of humanitarian assistance;
- **Capacity Gaps (CGs):** signifying that a household is using negative coping strategies to meet its needs;
- **Severity:** signifying the “intensity” of needs, using a scale that ranges from 1 (minimal/none) to 4 or 4+ (extreme needs or a potentially life-threatening situation);
- **Magnitude:** overall proportion of households with multi-sectoral needs, given the current levels of humanitarian assistance and based on an aggregation of sectoral results.

In sum, the analysis will provide indicator-level sectoral results, aggregated sectoral, and multi-sectoral results:¹⁹

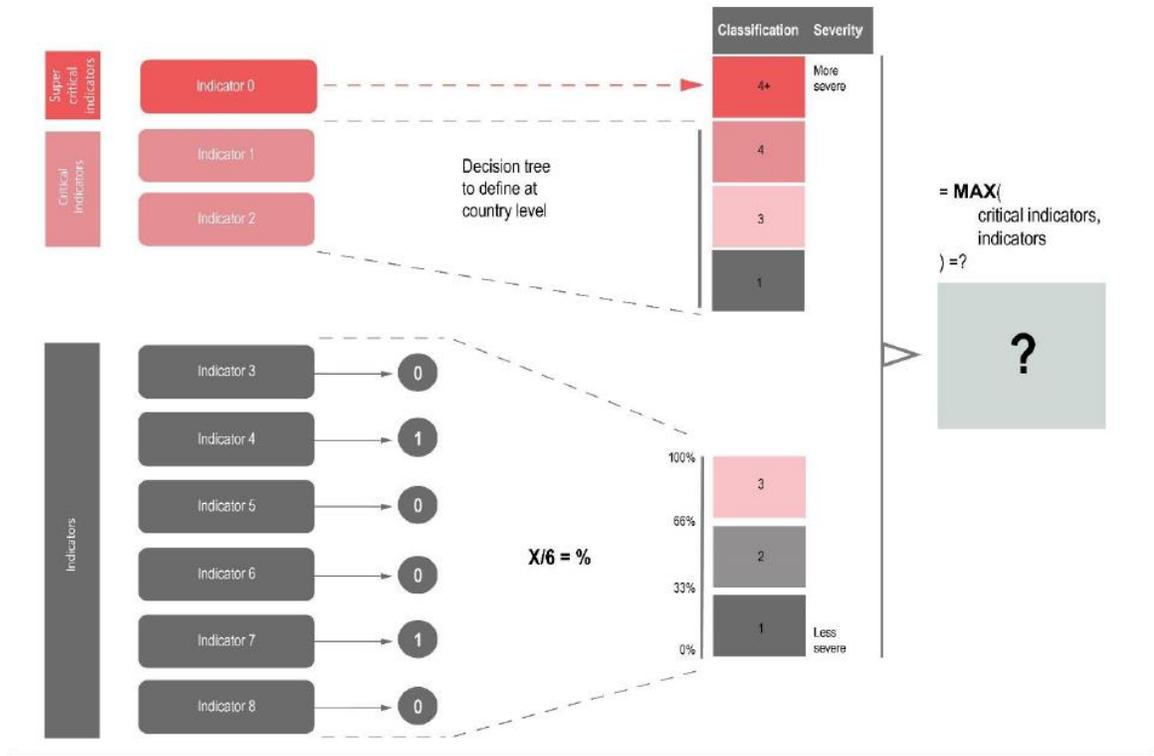
- **Sectoral indicator-level results:** Basic analysis of each sectoral indicator;
- **Aggregated sectoral results:**
 - Households with unmet needs in a given sector, i.e. an aggregation of sectoral indicators of need, by area, broken down by severity, and including an identification of the main drivers of need (i.e. an analysis of the indicators behind the overall score);
 - Households without unmet needs in a given sector but using negative coping strategies to meet their needs, where relevant;
 - Households with pre-existing vulnerabilities that have unmet needs;
- **Multi-sectoral needs index (MSNI):** overall magnitude and severity of humanitarian needs across sectors, by area, broken down by severity and including an identification of the main drivers of need (i.e. an analysis of the sectoral scores behind the final multi-sectoral score).

¹⁹ For the host community, only sectoral indicator-level results will be provided. Wherever possible, qualitative links between sectoral outcomes will be drawn to still provide a holistic picture of needs. No PIN estimations will be provided.

Sectoral analysis

The LSG analysis or overall proportion of households with unmet needs in a given sector will be produced by aggregating indicators of need for each sector into a final sectoral score. The proposed methodology builds on approaches used to measure similar concepts, such as multi-dimensional poverty. It uses a consensus-based expert-driven approach, i.e. each step of the analysis outlined in the following will be defined in consultation with sectors. These consultations will take place at the questionnaire design stage. The definition of all key analytical parameters (indicators, thresholds, aggregation methodology) will have to be finalized and signed off by sectors prior to the start of data collection, as for a methodologically sound analysis, they cannot be adjusted anymore afterwards. Structured guidance will be provided during the sector consultations to support the identification of indicators, thresholds and aggregation methodologies. The following steps are proposed to arrive at the final sectoral scores for each household:

- (a) Identify indicators and corresponding questionnaire questions/responses that measure needs (LSGs) for each sector, capturing the following key dimensions: accessibility, availability, quality, use, and awareness.
 - a. Set thresholds, i.e. identify the specific response options that signify that a household has unmet needs in relation to a specific indicator.
- (b) Among the indicators of need, for each sector, identify “critical” indicators that on their own can indicate a gap/unmet need in the sector overall. These may also include “super critical”, signifying immediately life-threatening humanitarian needs outcomes, which would immediately result in a household severity level of need of 4+.
- (c) Once the data is collected, calculate the sectoral severity score for each household by aggregating super critical, critical and non-critical indicators:
 - a. “Super critical” indicators lead to a severity of need of 4+;
 - b. “Critical” indicators – using a sector-defined decision tree, a final severity score for the critical indicators is identified on a discontinued scale of 1 to 4 (1, 3, 4);
 - c. Non-critical indicators – the scores of all non-critical indicators are summed up and converted into a percentage of the possible total to identify a final severity score for non-critical indicators;
 - d. The final overall severity score for the household is obtained as the highest score generated by either the super critical, critical or non-critical indicators, as shown below.



- (d) Identify households that do not have unmet needs but are using negative coping strategies to meet their needs.
 - a. Identify indicators of coping and set thresholds, indicating which response options signify negative coping strategies and which ones do not.
 - b. Identify any household without unmet needs (i.e. a final LSG of severity 1 or 2), but with a capacity gap, i.e. using negative coping strategies to meet its needs.
- (e) Identify households with different vulnerability characteristics that have unmet needs.

Multi-sectoral analysis

The MSNI is a measure of a household’s overall severity of humanitarian needs (expressed on a scale from 1 to 4+), based on the highest severity of the sectoral LSGs identified for each household, as shown below.

	Sectoral LSG Severity Score						Final MSNI
	Food Sec	Health	WASH	Protection	Education	Etc.	
HH 1	4	4	4	4	3	3	4
HH 2	2	2	4	2	1	1	4
HH 3	3	3	3	4+	2	1	4+
Etc.	2	3	1	1	2	1	3

The **key limitation** with this approach is that regardless of whether a household has very severe unmet needs in just one sector (e.g. WASH for HH2 above) or co-occurring severe unmet needs across multiple sectors (e.g. food security, health, WASH, protection for HH1 above), their final MSNI score will be the same (4 for both HH1 and HH2 above).

While this makes sense from a “big picture” response planning perspective, additional analysis will be done to understand such differences in magnitude of severity between households, including:

- A breakdown of MSNI scores by severity and area;
- The identification of the main drivers of need, and the most common needs profiles.

6. Outputs

Proposed outputs include:

- Concept note
- Anonymised and cleaned datasets;
- Initial findings to inform JRP 2022 discussions:
 - Analysis tables of key basic and composite indicators;
 - Analysis tables of inter-sectoral analysis;
 - Powerpoint from the main presentation of preliminary findings, validated during the presentation, adapted and shared with the primary JRP 2022 audience;
- Factsheets;
- Assessment reports;
- Lessons learned;
- Sectoral presentations on main findings to sectors and other relevant forums.

7. Governance

The assessment will be coordinated by the ISCG in collaboration with all sectors involved in the JRP 2022 discussions. Therefore, assessment rationale, research timeframe, objectives, scope, sectoral coverage, methodology, operational partners and questionnaire design will be discussed and agreed at the ISCG.

The ISCG-led MSNA TWG will be in charge of assessment design, implementation, and analysis, in close consultation with sector and technical experts. The MSNA TWG meetings are open to all members who can provide relevant technical expertise and commit to regular and active participation. Sector information management focal points and sector coordinators will review and validate the overall assessment approach, tools and findings.

8. Roles and responsibilities

ISCG

- Coordination of the MSNA TWG
- Overall coordination of assessment design, secondary data review, data analysis and dissemination
- Publication of outputs
- Liaison with stakeholders, including sector coordinators and government authorities

Sector information management focal points and sector coordinators

- Review and validation of the assessment approach, and tools

- Contribution to the interpretation and validation of the findings

MSNA TWG

- Assessment design, including support to sector consultations, secondary data review/information gap analysis, methodology and tool design
- Support to alignment of MSNA tools and analyses to other assessments
- Preparation and implementation of data collection, including enumerator training and piloting, as well as quantitative and qualitative primary data collection
- Data analysis and development of outputs

9. Tentative timeline

The tentative timeline, given current assessment parameters and the planning framework as outlined above, is:

Step	Deadlines
Concept Note	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared with sectors by 11/05 • <u>Published</u> by 31/06
Sector consultations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted by 10/06
Final translated data collection tools, data analysis plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared with sectors for review by 24/06
Enumerator training, tool testing/piloting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted by 08/07
Primary data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted by 26/08 • Anonymized datasets <u>published</u> by 31/10
Preliminary analysis tables	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared with sectors by 15/09
Joint analysis to arrive at Sector/IMAWG-endorsed main findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted by 13/10 • Final analysis tables, presentations and handouts <u>published</u> by 31/10
Factsheets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared with sectors by 24/10 • <u>Published</u> by 31/10
Preliminary report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared with sectors by 30/11
Final report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared with sectors and <u>published</u> by 31/12
Feedback to communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • December

10. Data management and sharing protocols

- **Raw data:** To be stored on the secure UNHCR server, only accessible to one individual from UNHCR and one individual from REACH. The exact raw data management arrangements will need to be decided upon once the data collection methodology and related roles and responsibilities have been defined. The data will be deleted from the Kobo server as soon as data collection is complete. The data will not be shared.
- **Anonymised dataset:** Any sharing or distribution of this data will require express prior written approval by the ISCG.
- **Anonymised and cleaned dataset:** Anonymised and cleaned datasets will be made available to MSNA TWG members and sector focal persons for the purpose of the analysis. Once the process and preliminary findings have been cleared by the ISCG, the datasets will be published on HDX.

11. Assumptions and risks

- To be able to feed into the planned JRP 2022 discussions, the assessment needs to be implemented in line with all set deadlines, with very limited room for delays. In case of unexpected extended delays, the MSNA TWG will review the methodology.
- To date, timeliness of the release of findings has been a concern in the Rohingya refugee response, with analysis shared months after collection. This is a combination of limited analysis resources and extensive review processes. This process assumes that results can be shared in a timely manner to feed into the JRP 2022 planning. To facilitate this, a review of the required review and sign off moments will be integrated in the assessment design.
- Significant changes in the situation, for instance as a result of a category 2 or category 3 incident, significant relocation events or a significant tightening of COVID-19-related restrictions will affect the usefulness and feasibility of the planned assessment. In case of such an event, the MSNA TWG, in cooperation with sectors and in consultation with funding partners, will decide on the appropriate way forward.
- This assessment will abide by several ethical best practices for household-level research. Informed consent will be sought from each respondent before commencing the survey. Interviews will only be conducted with adults (18 years old). Participant data will be kept confidential. The assessment adapts a “do no harm” approach to data collection by working with sector partners to ensure questions and methodology do not pose a risk of re-traumatization or distress to respondents. Any questions deemed as too sensitive to be asked either in-person or over the phone will not be asked. Enumerator trainings will include sessions on principles related to respondent safeguarding and how to behave with and refer respondents if survivors of violence, including gender-based violence, violence against children or urgent child protection risks, or PSEA, disclose incidents over the course of the research. In the case of in-person data collection, both respondent and enumerator safeguarding against risks associated with COVID-19 will be ensured.

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