

NGO Forum improved my quality of life

During the Army mediated violence in Myanmar against the Rohingya community in 2017, Rahima Khatun, who is 43 years old, along with her 3 daughters crossed the NAF River and fled to Bangladesh. During this escape, the Myanmar Army shot at her right leg eventually she lost her right leg. Once she entered Bangladesh, she started living at Camp 7 and had regular access to safe drinking water, food, medicine, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and other products which are daily necessities from different humanitarian aid organizations.

However, as she had lost her right leg it was a daily struggle for her to use the community latrine moreover the community latrines were quite far from her shelter. During the day her daughters would help her to get to the community latrines but at night it was unthinkable.

As a part of providing different WASH services, the project started to provide PWD Latrine support to Persons with Disability (PWD) and started listing down the number of PWDs. To find out & develop the list of PWDs, the project organized different meetings with the community & conducted Focus Group Discussions (FGD) where Rahima Begum participated and discussed her existing struggle regarding using the community Latrine. Rahima Begum informed that it is a challenge using the community latrine and at night she cannot go to the community latrine at all and has to use a plastic pot for defecation and then throws the faecal waste in the open place surrounding her shelter.

After the FGD, the Sanitation team talked with Rahima Begum and finalized the space which is suitable for her and installed a disable friendly latrine which is attached to the shelter in May 2021 and Rahima Begum started to use the PWD latrine which is very comfortable for her to use without needing help of others. Life has become easier and very comfortable for Rahima Begum.

As a part of regular follow up of the sanitation activities, Mr Rajib Hossain visited Rahima Begum's shelter. During the visit, Rahima Begum smilingly said "I am eternally grateful to **NGO Forum as it improved my quality of life**".

