



# IMPACT REPORT

## 2018



Dhaka  
Ahsania  
Mission **UK**

# INTRODUCTION

Our founder Raymond Kennedy returned from Bangladesh in 1972 having worked with several key charities there including Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM). DAM was seen as a vehicle for bringing commitment, hope and development. He set up Dhaka Ahsania Mission UK (DAM UK) to partner with DAM to bring UK resources together with local and community knowhow. Together we create and fund projects that materially improve the opportunities for children and adults living in the poorest communities in Bangladesh.

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

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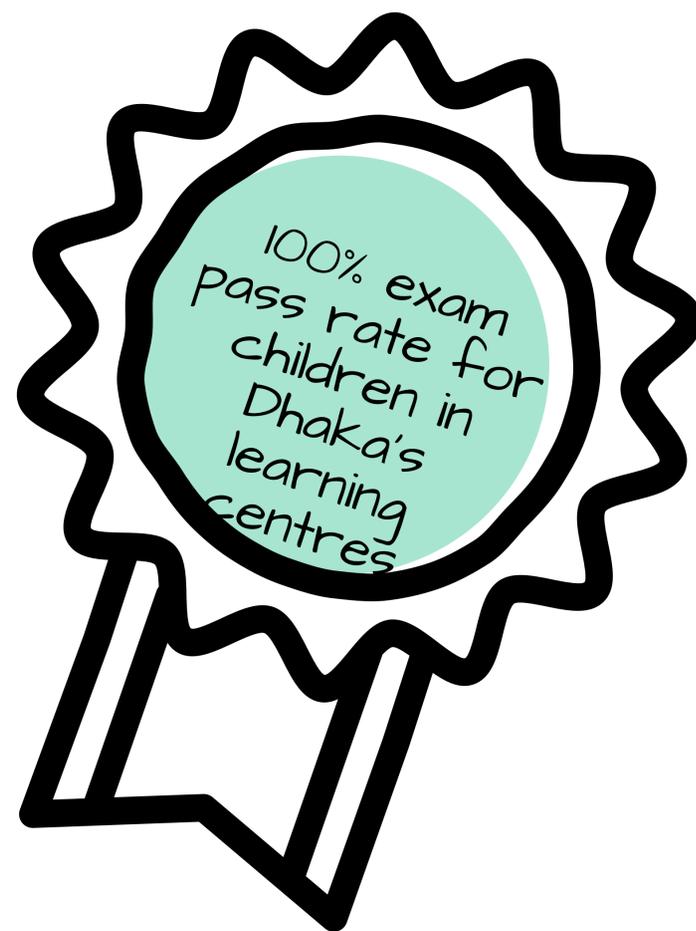
"Thank you to all the individuals, charities and organisations that have supported us and Dhaka Ahsania Mission in making such an impact over this last year. People's commitment to finding resources for the excellent work of DAM in Bangladesh is astonishing. It is heartening to work so warmly with such a large band of people with shared values and the spirit to push forward development in education, water and sanitation, health, women and agriculture and, where necessary, immediate humanitarian relief.

A strong and diverse Council of Management and committed staff enable us to continue our efficient and effective partnership with DAM in delivering the range of well-designed programmes and projects in both urban and rural Bangladesh. This report gives you a flavour of the work undertaken and its impact. This North-South partnership thrives on sharing and developing best practice and quality, always mindful of the importance of transparency, efficiency, safety and the safeguarding of the most vulnerable. We believe that it is this and the clarity of our shared wider vision of what is needed that attracts you as donors to supporting DAM's work. We look forward to the coming year with your continued support."

Dave Sternberg  
Chairman, Dhaka Ahsania Mission UK

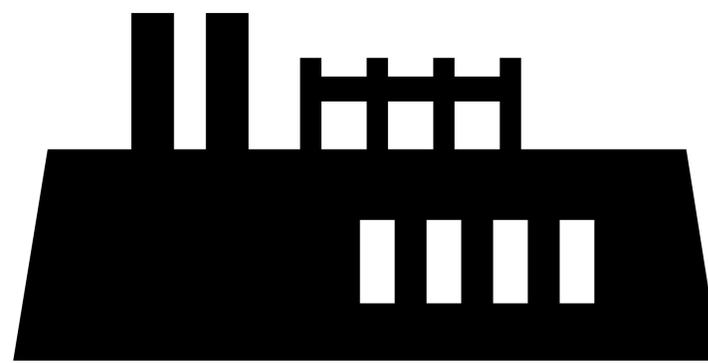
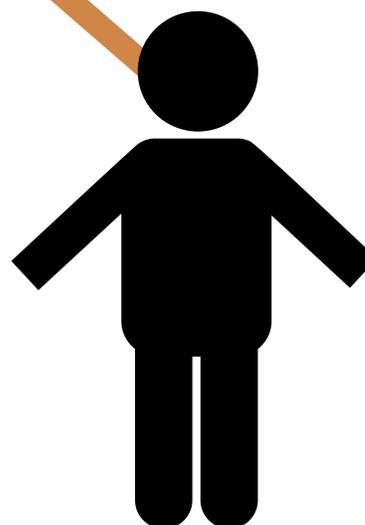
# OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

32% increase in access to sanitary latrines in target area, Satkhira District



11% increase in household income for participating women farmers

1,200 street & working children accessing drop-in centre services



1,780 Rohingya refugee households received fuel efficient stoves and other essential items

# STREET AND WORKING CHILDREN

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To date, over five years, more than 1,200 street and working children and 8,411 family and community members have been supported through two Drop-In Centres (DICs). The initial operation of the centres was funded by Comic Relief until July 2018.

The two centres sustain safe environments where children living and working on the streets can thrive, dream for the future, flourish free from fear, protected from violence and abuse, with access to schooling, livelihood and health facilities, and safe space to sleep and rest.

Intense and regular work with parents, especially mothers and siblings, helps children to avoid hazardous work and situations, giving real, practical alternatives. Employers' attitudes are changing with raised awareness of hazards and safety, their duties and "best practice", thus creating better, non-hazardous local opportunities for the children.

50% of children reported an improvement in their working conditions

80% of children moved into less hazardous forms of work

75% of children reported improved health

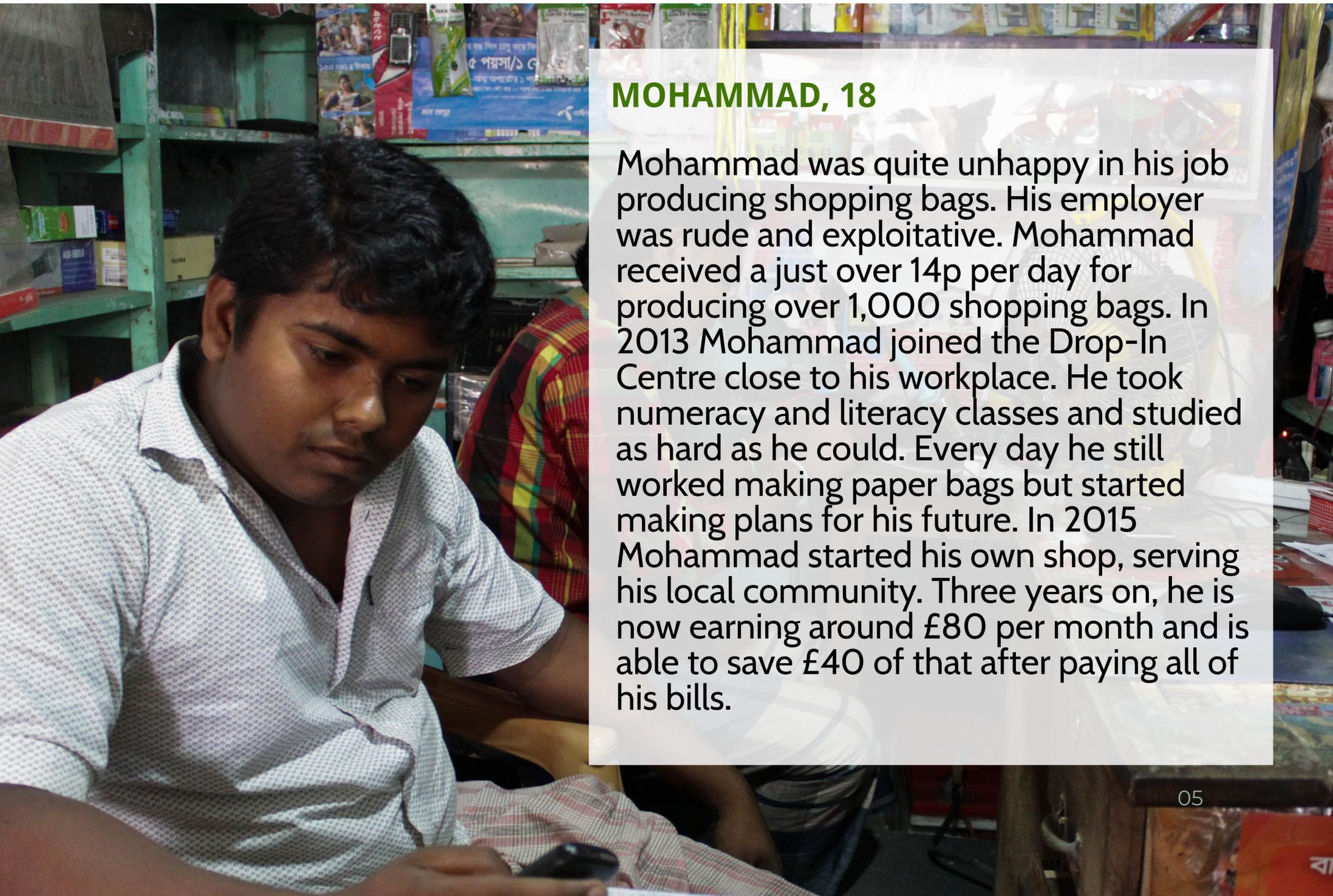
343 families took part in conflict resolution

Children participated in decision making in the DICs and neighbourhoods 712 times

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“I was exploited and treated with no respect. I now have the skills to stand on my own two feet”

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### **MOHAMMAD, 18**

Mohammad was quite unhappy in his job producing shopping bags. His employer was rude and exploitative. Mohammad received a just over 14p per day for producing over 1,000 shopping bags. In 2013 Mohammad joined the Drop-In Centre close to his workplace. He took numeracy and literacy classes and studied as hard as he could. Every day he still worked making paper bags but started making plans for his future. In 2015 Mohammad started his own shop, serving his local community. Three years on, he is now earning around £80 per month and is able to save £40 of that after paying all of his bills.

# NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

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Ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education for all is one of the Global Goals, yet in Bangladesh 6.7 million children are currently out of school and 13% of children are involved in child labour (UNICEF).

Working in the slums of Dhaka, our non-formal education projects provide alternative approaches that enable hard-to-reach children to receive education and life skills training, for instance about reproductive health and rights.

**22**

volunteers  
overseeing  
centre  
activities

**100%**

PASS RATE IN  
NATIONAL  
EXAMS

**179**

CHILDREN  
ISSUED A BIRTH  
CERTIFICATE

**2**

OPERATIONAL  
CENTRES

**89%**

of graduate junior  
secondary learners  
mainstreamed into  
formal schools for the  
next stage of their  
education

**340**

CHILDREN  
ENROLLED

**88%**

OF PARENTS  
ATTENDED  
SCHOOL  
DIALOGUE  
SESSIONS

# AGRICULTURE

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## Women In Agriculture, Jamalpur

Small-holder farming is the mainstay for rural livelihoods in Bangladesh, providing for both household nutrition and income. Yet small-holder farmers, particularly women farmers, receive little support, training and advice. The project has taken a 'train the trainers' model, providing local lead farmers with the skills and knowledge to provide 'drop-down' training to the project's 1,000 women farmer beneficiaries.

This model has been successfully implemented as evidenced by the reported increase in knowledge of the Local Service Providers, small businesses or individuals dedicated to providing advice and inputs to the agricultural sector, delivered the majority of project activities (disseminating information or advice and providing demonstrations) within these farmers' groups. The increase in yield, household income and access to land for female farmers are all very encouraging signs of impact after the project's first year of implementation.

**83% of  
Local Service  
Providers now  
connected to local  
services**

**11%  
increase in  
household  
income**

**Reached 1,000  
farmers and  
4,500 wider  
beneficiaries**

**82% of  
beneficiaries now  
accessing  
microfinance**

**Rice yield increase from  
22kg/decimal to 27.5kg/decimal**

# WATER AND SANITATION

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in South Western Bangladesh

Global Goal 6 of the United Nations calls for the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.

We work in rural areas of south western Bangladesh where hygiene practices are among the worst. With only half the population having access to sanitary latrines and 9% without access to any latrine, defecation in open areas is common. Naturally occurring arsenic and rising sea levels limit the availability of fresh drinking water.

In order to address these challenges, communities have been supported through the provision of water points and sanitary latrines, combined with health and hygiene education.

**4,041  
HOUSEHOLDS**

**17,660  
BENEFICIARIES**

**86% increase in  
beneficiaries using  
soap for  
handwashing**

**Increase from ....**

**37% - 49% of households  
with a sanitary latrine**

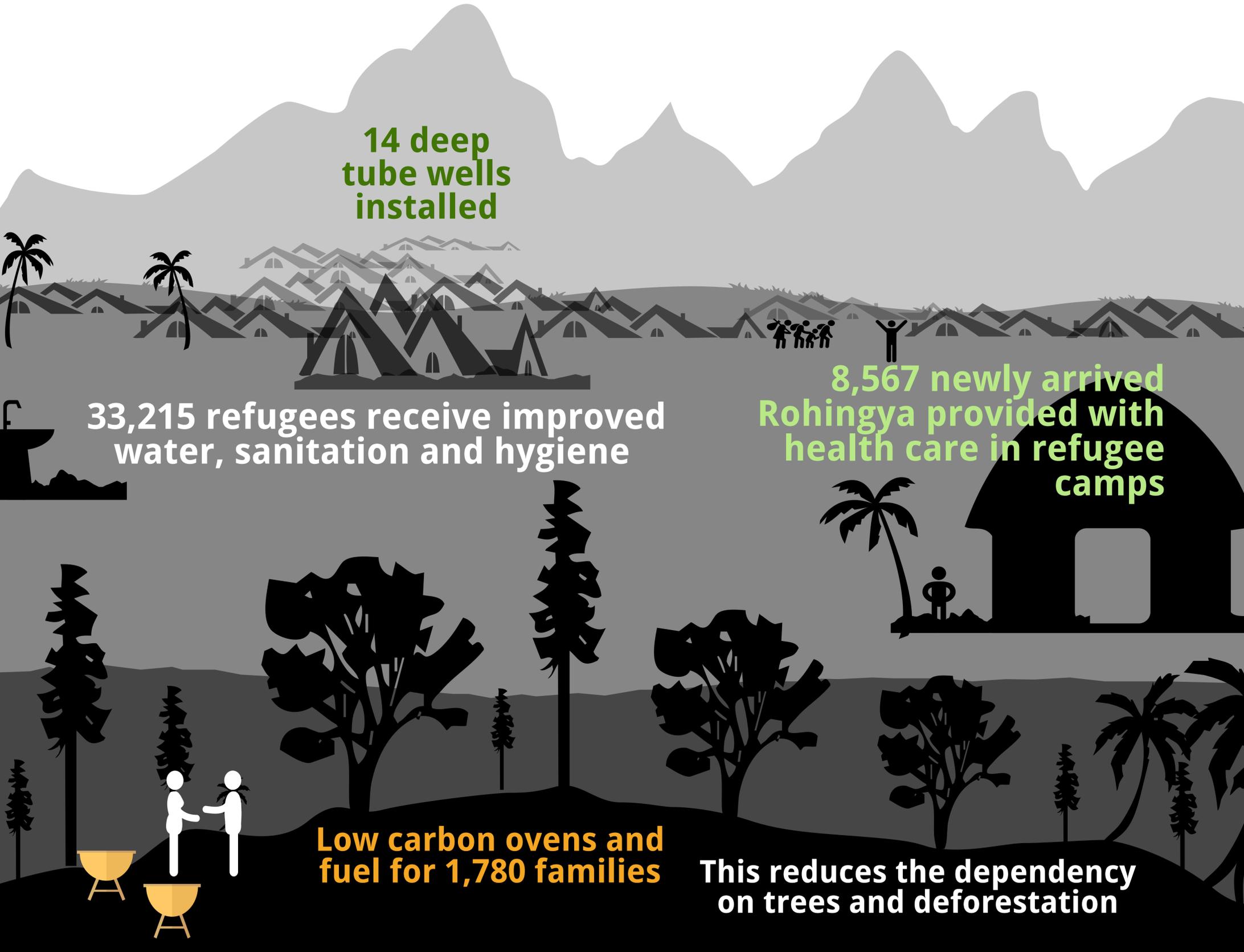
**39% - 97% of households  
using improved water  
source for drinking**

# HUMANITARIAN RELIEF

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In August 2017, Bangladesh's Eastern region of Cox's Bazaar saw a dramatic influx of Rohingya families fleeing neighbouring Myanmar. One year on, one million Rohingya refugees remain traumatised and reliant upon humanitarian aid.

Working with Human Appeal, The Lady Fatemah Trust and other donors, DAM UK supported Dhaka Ahsania Mission in Bangladesh to deliver a range of key humanitarian aid in 2017-18.



14 deep tube wells installed

33,215 refugees receive improved water, sanitation and hygiene

8,567 newly arrived Rohingya provided with health care in refugee camps

Low carbon ovens and fuel for 1,780 families

This reduces the dependency on trees and deforestation



# FINANCE

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## 2017 FINANCIAL YEAR

£490,123

└ income in 2017

£272,649

└ expenditure in 2017

Awaiting government of Bangladesh approval, some funds were carried over and spent in 2018

### IN EVERY £1 SPENT

84p funds on the ground work on projects in Bangladesh

2p goes on the legal governance requirements in the UK

14p goes to managing the development and delivery of the projects



**"Before changing the practice of others, one should change ones' own practice first"**

### **NASRIN IS WALKING THE TALK**

**Nasrin is a front line worker with a water and sanitation project. Her work involves counselling community members for the installation of improved latrines. But early on in her work, she was challenged by a community member as to whether her own home possessed a sanitary latrine. Nasrin could not lie and admitted that her latrine at home was not improved at all.**

**The next day, Nasrin took leave from work, borrowing money from her neighbours to enable the reconstruction of her own toilet to commence. She now continues her campaign with zeal and she has been vocal in encouraging those in her community to follow her lead and install, correctly use and maintain their latrines. Her lesson, she says, is that before changing the practice of others, one should change one's own practice first.**

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A huge thank  
you to all of our  
donors, friends  
and supporters

For more information on our work  
please visit our website  
[www.damuk.org](http://www.damuk.org)

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