

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE LOCALIZATION TASK FORCE
[AS ENDORSED BY THE TASK FORCE ON 16 MAY 2019]

These terms of reference (ToRs), adopted by the Localization Task Force on 16 May 2019, are designed to guide discussions within the humanitarian community on how to adapt global localization principles to their collective efforts in Cox's Bazar, with emphasis on demonstrable short-term progress.

Background

These ToRs are drafted against a backdrop of extensive discussions and consultations on what localization means from different stakeholders' perspectives. In addition to global best practices, the task force should build on previous discussions in Bangladesh, in particular:

- The 2018 recommendations and roadmap from the Grand Bargain Workstream Demonstrator Country Field Mission;
- Outcomes and recommendations of CCFN consultations with UN/NGOs/GoB; and
- Previous CXB-level discussions that were facilitated by the ISCG Senior Coordinator.

The task force will build on this foundation to develop the necessary shared understanding of how localization can improve humanitarian outcomes for both Rohingya and Bangladeshi communities in Cox's Bazar.

Objective

The objective of the task force is to improve humanitarian outcomes in Cox's Bazar by recommending a practical localization strategy. This strategy should be in the form of a "localization road map" that adapts global localization principles to the particular context of Cox's Bazar by:

- indicating the roles that each constituency must play in order to reap the benefits of localization in humanitarian operations in Cox's Bazar;
- identifying immediate steps that can be taken in the short term (i.e. 0-3 months);
- articulating a strategic approach to achieving longer-term steps (i.e. 6 months – 3 years); and
- acknowledging the specific obstacles, if any, to more substantial progress on localization.

The anticipated timeline for submitting the initial draft of the road map is three months from the date that these ToRs are finalized.

Methodology

1. Task force meetings will include two representatives each for each of the following four constituencies: local and national NGOs, international NGOs, UN agencies and donors. Due consideration should be paid to ensuring that the voices of women stakeholders are included in the task force.
 - a. It is understood that organizations represented on the task force will play a leading role in facilitating implementation of the roadmap.
 - b. While the abovementioned four groups will be represented at each meeting, the individual representatives may vary between Cox's Bazar and Dhaka discussions. However, each constituency will strive to ensure continuity in their participation in the task force.
 - c. Each representative will be bound by prior decisions of the task force, regardless of whether (s)he physically attended the prior meeting when it was taken.
 - d. The task force will select one of its members to "chair" meetings. The chair's role is to facilitate practical discussions that lead to decision points on the agenda items.

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- e. Meetings will be “facilitated”, in terms of secretariat support, by the RCO in Dhaka and the ISCG in Cox’s Bazar.
 - f. The pace of meetings will reflect the anticipated timeline for submitting the road map.
2. The task force will first meet in Dhaka to:
 - a. Finalize these ToRs and set the parameters of the work to be undertaken in Cox’s Bazar;
 - b. Define the necessary preparations for follow-up discussions in Cox’s Bazar, including potential modalities for including input from additional stakeholders (e.g., representatives from the Government, host communities and refugees).
3. The task force will then meet in Cox’s Bazar to:
 - a. Specify *immediate* concrete steps to localize the response in the areas defined by the meeting(s) in Dhaka;
 - b. Detail *longer-term* steps to localization; and
 - c. Identify points where Dhaka-level support and/or guidance are needed.
4. The pace and sequence of meetings should reflect the anticipated timeline for the objective defined above.
5. The task force may also continue to meet in Dhaka to resolve any policy-level or strategic issues, as needed.