



Drainage and Hygiene Empowering Change: Innovative Program for Cleaner Refugee Camps

About Drainage Maintenance and Hygiene

In this letter we are writing to draw your attention to a critical issue concerning the improvement of the environment, hygiene, negligence in terms of cleanliness and tidiness, and lack of funds for maintenance in Cox's Bazar refugee camps.

Background:

In recent wash sessions and meetings, it has become evident that the maintenance of drainage systems in the refugee camps has been severely affected due to budget cuts and a lack of partner resources. To combat this issue, it is crucial to devise innovative approaches that raise awareness among refugees and actively involve them in the cleaning and maintenance efforts. Recognizing the importance of children's education and their potential to influence their families positively, MSP have explored a solution in collaboration with an organization well-versed in social mobilization.



Objectives/Proposal:

Working in support of the WASH task force with involvement of Protection and SCCC sectors including MSP, explore additional opportunities, with a coordinated cross-sectoral approach, including engaging communities, families and children in the cleaning and maintenance activities within the camps. Specifically, incorporating hygiene and cleanliness education into children's curriculum, we can empower these young individuals to become change agents, fostering a culture of cleanliness not only within the camps but also in their communities when they eventually return home.

Key Components could be:

1. **Curriculum Integration:** Collaborate with local education authorities, NGOs, and the Ministry of Education to develop an age-appropriate curriculum that includes lessons on hygiene, cleanliness, and environmental responsibility. These lessons should be integrated into the existing education system within the refugee camps.
2. **Training of Teachers and Staff:** Conduct specialized training sessions for teachers and camp staff to equip them with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively deliver the hygiene and cleanliness curriculum. This training will ensure that educators are well-prepared to engage and motivate students.
 - **Student Engagement:** Organize interactive activities, such as group clean-up drives, hygiene awareness campaigns, and competitions, to actively involve students in the cleaning and maintenance efforts. These initiatives will serve to instill a sense of ownership and responsibility among the younger population.
3. **Parent and Community Involvement:** Establish regular communication channels to engage parents and the broader refugee community in supporting the program. Conduct workshops, seminars, and community events to raise awareness, promote behavior change, and encourage community-led initiatives for cleanliness and hygiene.
4. **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Implement a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to assess the program's effectiveness, measure the impact on hygiene and cleanliness practices, and identify areas for improvement. Regular progress reports should be shared with all relevant stakeholders to ensure transparency and accountability.

Conclusion:

In conclusion, addressing the issues of environment, hygiene, cleanliness, and maintenance in Cox's Bazar refugee camps requires a multi-faceted approach that actively involves refugees themselves. By focusing on children's education and their potential to drive change, we can further foster a sustainable and healthy environment both within the camps and in their future communities. Social mobilizing Concept notes from experienced INGOs and NGOs are available and ready for presentations to the interested audience.

Dear Reader, your support and collaboration in implementing such a program will contribute significantly to the overall well-being and the environmental development of the whole macro area.