



# **STATELESS ROHINGYAS : ASSIMILATION IN HOST COUNTRY BANGLADESH**

**KEY RESEARCHERS:**

**1. Ugyen Samdrup Lhamo**

**Majoring in Politics Philosophy Economics**

**2. Nhung Tuyet Bui**

**Majoring in Economics**

**RESEARCH ADVISORS:**

**1. Professor Meherun Ahmend**

**Associate Professor in Economics**

**2. Professor Riaz Khan**

**Associate Professor in PPE**

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

This research contributed in making us more aware of the refugee issues, and also in applying the skills we learned by working in the field. Many people's contributions helped us in achieving the success of this research work.

Foremost, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to our adviser Professor Meherun Ahmed and Professor Riaz Khan for their continuous support while doing this research, for their patience, motivation, enthusiasm, and immense knowledge.

We would also like to extend our gratitude to the Asian University for Women as well for giving us the opportunity and the financial support to work on this project. We would like to thank the AUW IRB for their comments regarding the ethical guidelines ensuring that the research conducted follows the standards of an ethical research work.

Without the help of our research assistants this research would not have been possible, so we would like to thank all of our research assistants for their active voluntary work and their cooperation while doing the research. We would also like to thank our friend Maria for helping us in translating the video to English.

Lastly we would like to thank all the participants of the research for their cooperation while conducting the research. We are immensely indebted to them for their hospitality and their stories which made this research possible, and made our summer a memorable one with the profound experience that we gained over the course of the research work.

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## PART ONE: RESEARCH OVERVIEW

### I. TITLE :

Stateless Rohingyas : Assimilation in Host Country - Bangladesh

### II. ADVISORS OF PROJECT

1.Meherun Ahmed

2. Riaz Khan

### III. PROJECT OVERVIEW

A refugee is a person who due to fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion, membership of a particular group is unwilling to get protection of that country, or is someone not having nationality, who is outside of the country and is unwilling to return due to these fears<sup>1</sup>. Increasing minority issues and war conflicts have led to the refugee crisis, while several countries lend a hand to these refugees; many turn them down associating them as financial burdens to the country. One of these cases is of the Rohingyas, according to Human Watch they have been migrating to different countries since 18<sup>th</sup> century and since 1991, Bangladesh has been the main country where Rohingya refugee of the Rakhine state of Burma have fled to<sup>2</sup>. The persecution of Rohingya is influenced by various factors like politics and religious motives; we are not going to look in to these aspect of this refugee crisis since a lot of focus has been given in this area (Without intending to dismiss these important academic researches). But there seems to be a lack of focus on the other roles of the refugees in economics and the possible positive contributions they can make to that community.

For this summer project our main objective is to focus on the factors affecting the employment access of the refugee in the host community; Cox's Bazar, Teknaf, Bandarban and Chittagong. Cox's Bazar is a town, a fishing port district headquarters in Bangladesh. Many

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<sup>1</sup> Sergio Carciotto, Cristiano d'Orsi, "Access to socio-economic rights to refugees," *Scalabrini institute for human mobility in Africa*, ( 2017)

<sup>2</sup> "Equal only in name," Human rights and Peace studies, *Mahidol university*, (2014)

refugees fled during conflicts in 1811 poured into Cox's Bazar and integrated in that community<sup>3</sup>. Integration of the refugees has been a problem because of the poor socio-economic conditions of the host communities in Cox's Bazar which is one of the poorest districts in Bangladesh<sup>4</sup>. In the UNDP 2009 Human Development Report "Overcoming barriers: Human mobility and development", integration is a critical element from a human development perspective as they have positive effects both on individual movers' community and the host communities<sup>5</sup>. In this context we use integration in a broad concept, focusing on all the activities that seek to incorporate refugees in the host communities.

Our research was motivated by Alexander Betts, Professor of Forced Migration and International Affairs whose main focus is on the international politics of asylum, migration and humanitarianism<sup>6</sup>. He explains about the concept of the refugee economics which has the potential to provide sustainable solutions for the benefits of the refugee, the host communities and the donors and even in the sector of private entrepreneurship interested us<sup>7</sup>.

We used mixed methodology to gather primary data from the refugees who have integrated in the society (registered and unregistered). Then we proceeded to research on the integrated Rohingyas of the Cox's Bazar community to see the development in their settlement and also to understand the factors influencing their settlement (how they have contributed to the community they are a part of).

#### **IV. OBJECTIVES OF RESEARCH**

This project focuses on: The Rohingya refugees in three districts and one sub-division of the district; Bandarban, Chittagong, Cox's Bazar; Teknaf, and aims to find out the factors influencing the refugee's access to employment in their host communities. The research

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<sup>3</sup> "Historical Background of the Rohingya Refugees," *Human Rights Watch*, Accessed June 2017

<sup>4</sup> Nielsen Steen Nicola, et al., "The Contribution of Food Assistance to Durable Solutions in Protracted Refugee Situations; its impact and role in Bangladesh," *A Mixed Method Impact Evaluation, UNHCR*, (2012)

<sup>5</sup> Teresa Juzwiak, et al., "Migration and Refugee Integration in Global Cities: The Role of Cities and Business," *Hague Process on Refugees and Migration*, (2014)

<sup>6</sup> Alexander Betts, et al., "Refugee economics: Rethinking popular assumptions," *University of Oxford, Refugee Studies Centre*, (2014)

<sup>7</sup> Ibid

examined eight sub-sections of the survey which was designed to focus both on the quantitative and qualitative aspect.

SESSION 1: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Age, Gender
- General questions to learn about the refugee's background

SESSION 2 : EDUCATION AND PROFESSION

- Education level before and after coming to Bangladesh
- Education's role in influencing their job access

SESSION 3: BENGALI AND ENGLISH SKILL

- Bengali and English language proficiency
- Other languages used importance
- Language's role in influencing their job access

SESSION 4: JOB AND WORKPLACE

- Occupation before and after coming to Bangladesh
- Details about the job
- To learn about the refugee's employment background

SESSION 5: FINANCIAL CONDITION

- Their current income

SESSION 6 : SOCIAL AID

- Social aid's role in helping the refugee

**V. GOALS FOR FIELD WORK:**

- To take Rohingya refugees as a representative example to learn about the economic impact of the refugee on a local areas.
- To see changes in refugee's living standards, financial conditions when settling in the host country.
- To learn about factors influencing job access, living standards of refugees in the host country.

- To understand how support and aid from NGO, organizations and government influence refugee's settlement and financial conditions in the host country.
- To provide different perspective on the impacts that a refugee has in a community.

## **VI. LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

- Applied skills learned at AUW (public speaking, teamwork, doing research, basic knowledge about economics and politics, data analysis, documentary making) while doing the project.
- Learned about different research methods and how to conduct field work.
- Gained insight on refugee's life by communicating with different groups of people in the community.
- Identified and explored the challenges of refugee impact (migration impact in general) on local area in terms of economics.
- The data and findings can be used by other researchers interested in the Rohingyas and refugees.

## **VII. APPROACH AND METHODOLOGIES**

The Project was conducted using a qualitative and quantitative questionnaire which was designed in three weeks and revised by the advisors. The survey questionnaire was used to interview 167 Rohingya refugees, with the help of the 10 research assistants. We interviewed few Rohingya students from our university to learn more about Rohingyas, and while interviewing we also selected the research assistants among them based on the criteria of language proficiency, and enthusiasm. The research assistants were allocated to four different areas Cox's Bazar, Teknaf and Chittagong, Bandarban where they conducted the survey.

Our research took place in six phases: Phase 1: Working on our preliminary phase of the project while we were at AUW; Phase 2 : Working with research assistants to prepare for doing interview and survey process ; Phase 3 : Carrying out our research through surveys and interviews conducted at Cox's Bazar, Teknaf and Bandarban, Chittagong; Phase 4: Analyzing



the collected data ; Phase 5: Writing a report and making a documentary based on the collected information from the surveys and interviews.

### 1. Phase 1 (Preparatory Phase)

In this phase, we did a literature review on our topic by collecting information from published reports like UNHCR, journals, articles, videos; and got suggestions and advice from our advisors. We prepared a thorough questionnaire focusing on various aspects of the refugee's life which took over three weeks to be prepared and was revised several times, by us and our advisors.

### 2. Phase 2 (Working with research assistants).

We recruited 10 voluntary Rohingya students proficient in Bengali and English as research assistants for our project, an informed consent was signed by each research assistant claiming the rights to keep their identity anonymous. These research assistants helped in conducting the survey since the survey was in English, and we assumed that the refugees would not know English. The research assistants were selected from over 20 students who were interviewed. We held several meetings to familiarize the research assistants about the summer project and the field work. The research assistants also attended a workshop on research ethics which was designed by us in accordance to the IRB research ethics guidelines.

### 3. Phase 3 ( Doing survey and interview at Cox's Bazar, Bandarban, Teknaf, Chittagong)

We explored the different perspectives about the factors influencing the employment access of Rohingya refugees while making the questionnaire. We searched for possible participants in the community by two methods: accessing local areas at Cox's Bazar, Teknaf, Chittagong and Bandarban; based on relations of the research assistants with our targeted group in their community in Bangladesh. The 10 research assistants were divided into four groups each assigned to specific districts and sub-division in Bangladesh; Cox's Bazar, Bandarban, Teknaf and Chittagong to conduct the surveys.

We could not go to Bandarban (due to visa issues and time constraint) to regulate the survey collection, but we went to Cox's Bazar and Teknaf to conduct the interview and make videos for the documentary, and to regulate the data collection.

While making the documentary we interviewed the refugees and they shared their insights about the employment access and their personal accounts of their life as a refugee. The refugees belonged to different working sectors; farmer, maid, tailor, teacher, shopkeeper, CNG driver, and we also interviewed an NGO officer who shared his insights about the refugee crisis and role of NGO in this crisis.

#### Refugees and their families:

In this section we examined the difference in the social status and the financial situation between their present life in host country and life in their home; living standards, accessing to job, family income. We surveyed and interviewed some family members. We asked them these following questions about: Their language and their arrival time in Bangladesh, their job status, education and skills before they fled to Bangladesh, how they applied their work experience/ skills/education from their home country in the new environment to make a livelihood? How long does it take for them to find a job and adapt to a new job? Which factors influences the refugee's access to employment? What job is popular among the refugees? Is there differences in salary within refugee group (based on their different on education/ work experience) and between refugee and local citizen? How do refugees reach out to these aid/ support? How much aid/ support is offered to each family? What is the average expenditure of the family in a month? How these supports influence their settlement? Are there any refugee's heritage work experience / jobs obtained by local citizens through exchange culture process?

#### 4. Phase 4( Data analysis and documentary making process)

We gathered all the data collected by the research assistants, and then started the data input in the MS-excel file. We met with our advisor to discuss about how to proceed with the data analysis. The data was revised again to cross check the information collected. We assessed and compared our collected data with the published reports to find out similarities and explore new findings. The primary collected data and research done on different comparative literature

review report helped in the analysis to create a detailed report about our findings and draw the conclusion for our research.

For the documentary we had taken different video shots, including interviews with 8 refugees and 1 NGO officer. We decide which clips to use since we wanted to make a concise, eye-catching and meaningful video which could easily catch the attention of the people on the social media. So we edited the clips, merge them together, and added the subtitles. To add the english subtitles we again requested help from the research assistants, few volunteered to help in translating the video.

We did a presentation at AUW during the summer project showcase, to share our findings and provide different views on the refugee issues in term of factors affecting their access to employment in the host community.

#### 5. Phase 5 ( Writing report about findings )

Base on collected data and data analysis, we wrote a report about findings as well challenges and limitation faced during our project. We then submitted the research report to the AUW library where it can be used by the university and the students for future reference.

#### 6. Phase 6 ( Informing conclusion of research for research assistants and participants)

Interested research assistants and participants interested in learning about the conclusion about the research work will be contacted.

## PART TWO: DATA ANALYSIS

### I. GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF SAMPLE SIZE

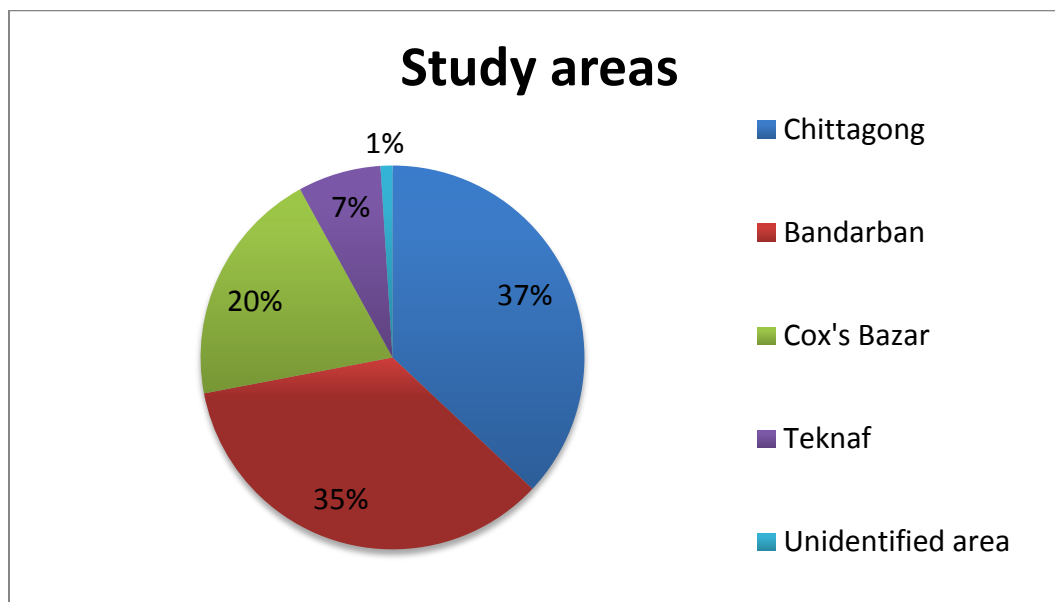
#### 1. Sample size:

For this research we surveyed 167 participants from the Rohingya group. Most are refugees who have migrated to Bangladesh from Myanmar, but we also have few second generations who are born in Bangladesh.

#### 2. Study areas:

The total collected survey was 167 from three different districts and one sub-division in Bangladesh including Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Teknaf (Sub-division) and Bandarban where most of Rohingya refugees reside. Among 167 participants of this research, 37% of them are from Chittagong.

*Note: Unidentified area ( For their safety , some participants prefer not to mention their location)*



3. General characteristics of sample

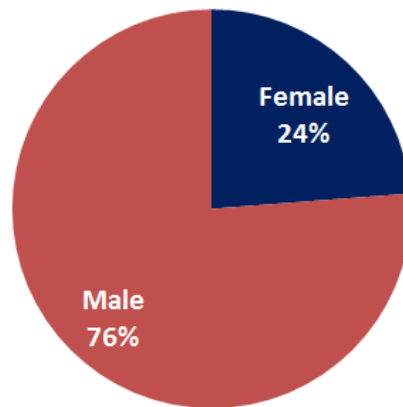
A. Religion distribution:

All of participants in our research stated that they are Muslim.

B. Gender distribution:

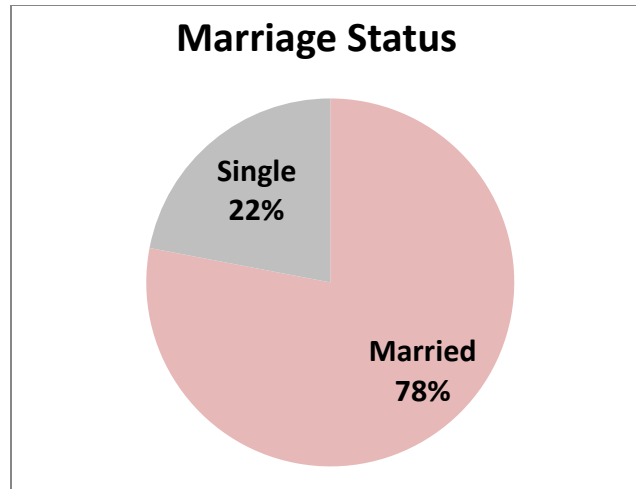
All of the participants were Muslims and more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  participants in this research were male. Though we recruited participants randomly, there is more participation from men than women. Since even among this community male are more active in the public sphere, there is also a high percentage of male participants dominating the workforce. One of the reasons might be because high percentage of the refugees are employed in labor intensive works.

**Gender Distribution**

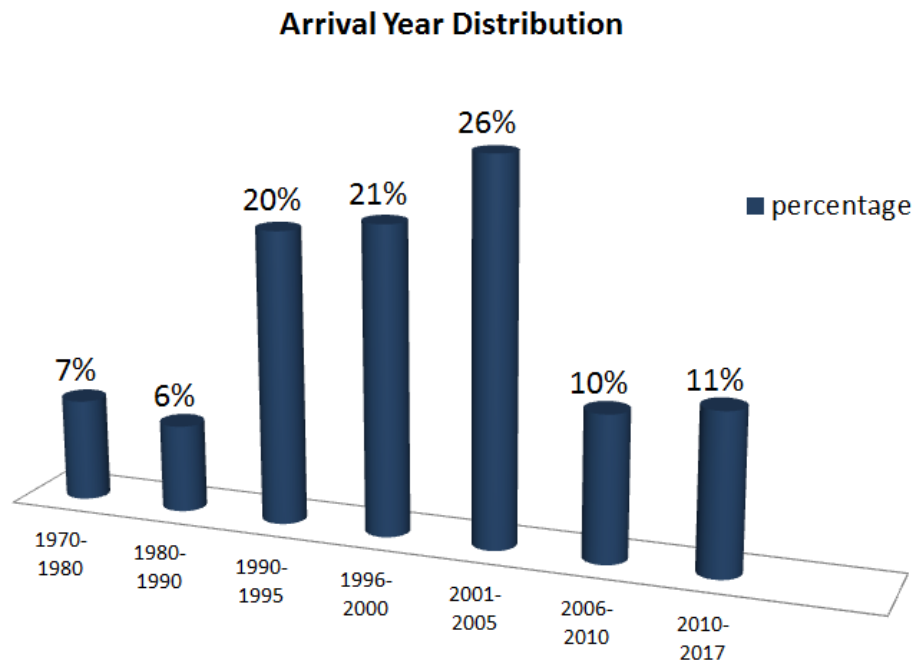


C. Marriage Distribution:

According to the data collected, most of participants are married



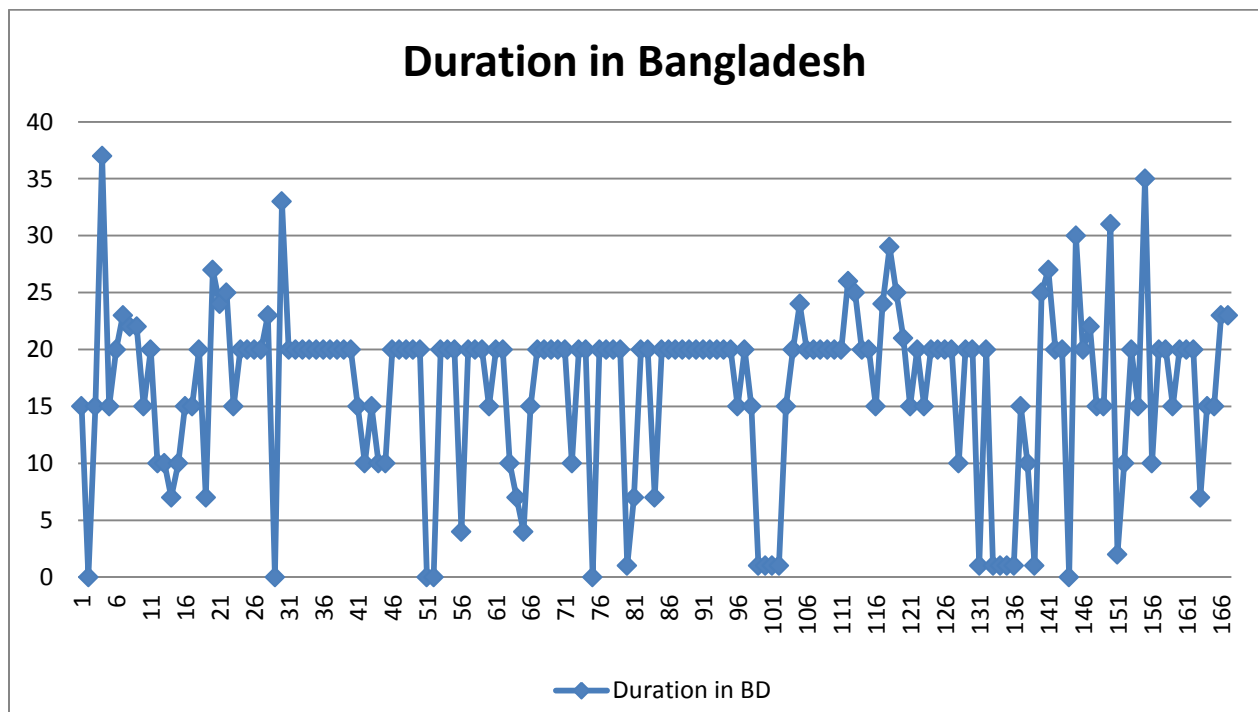
#### D. Year Of Their Migration To Bangladesh



Although the movement of Rohingya has become a major talk of the refugee crisis in South Asia since 2017, but according to the details collected from the participants the migration of the Rohingya is not a recent phenomenon. From the data collected about their arrival year to Bangladesh from their home country - Myanmar, the earliest migration of the participants started between the years 1970-1980. Among all the periods from 1970-2017, 2001-2005 period has highest number of arrivals.

In the report by UNHCR, it was reported that in 1974 around “200000 Rohingya fled to Bangladesh in 1978”, and after the failed elections and military crackdown in the Northern Rakhine state 250000 Rohingyas fled to Bangladesh in 1991-1992<sup>8</sup>. So the rise of the political instability, denial of citizenship, Buddhist fundamentalism and military crackdown in the North Rakhine state are the main possible reasons for the refugees seeking shelter in Bangladesh at that time, and even possibly in the recent years as well.

#### E. Duration Of Participants At The Host Country ( Bangladesh)

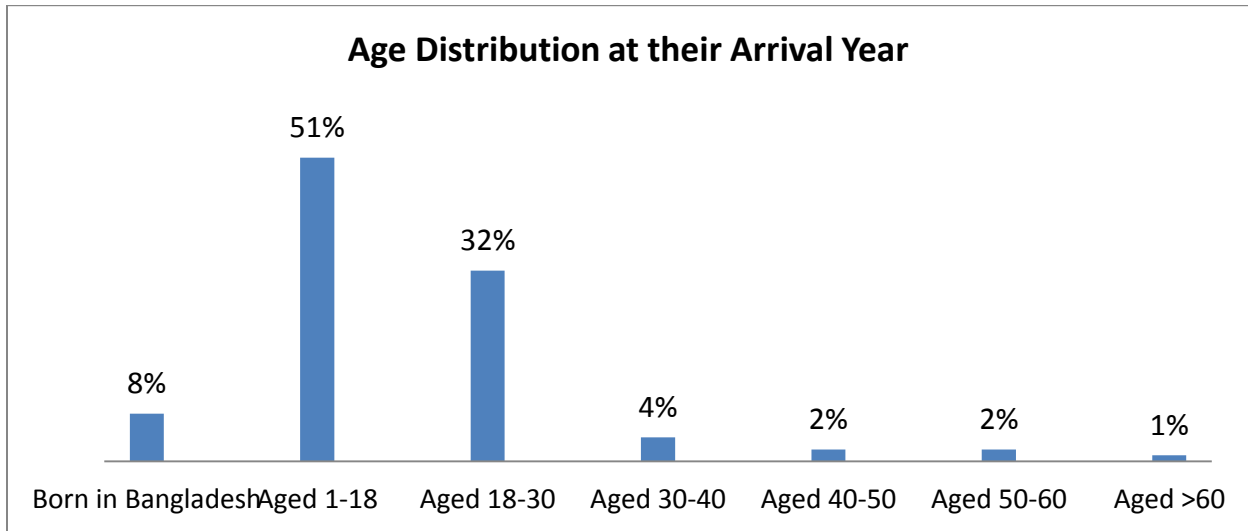


Average duration in Bangladesh: 16.7 ( years)

There are variations of the duration that participants have lived in Bangladesh. The duration for living in Bangladesh varies from 1-37 years. The one who has the longest duration in Bangladesh has lived in the host country for 37years. There are few newcomers among the participants who have just arrived and lived in the host country for less than a year.

<sup>8</sup> Esther Kiragu, et al., "States of denial: A review of UNHCR's response to the protracted situation of stateless Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh," *Policy Development and Evaluation Service*, UNHCR (2011).

#### F. Age Distribution At Year Of Their Migration

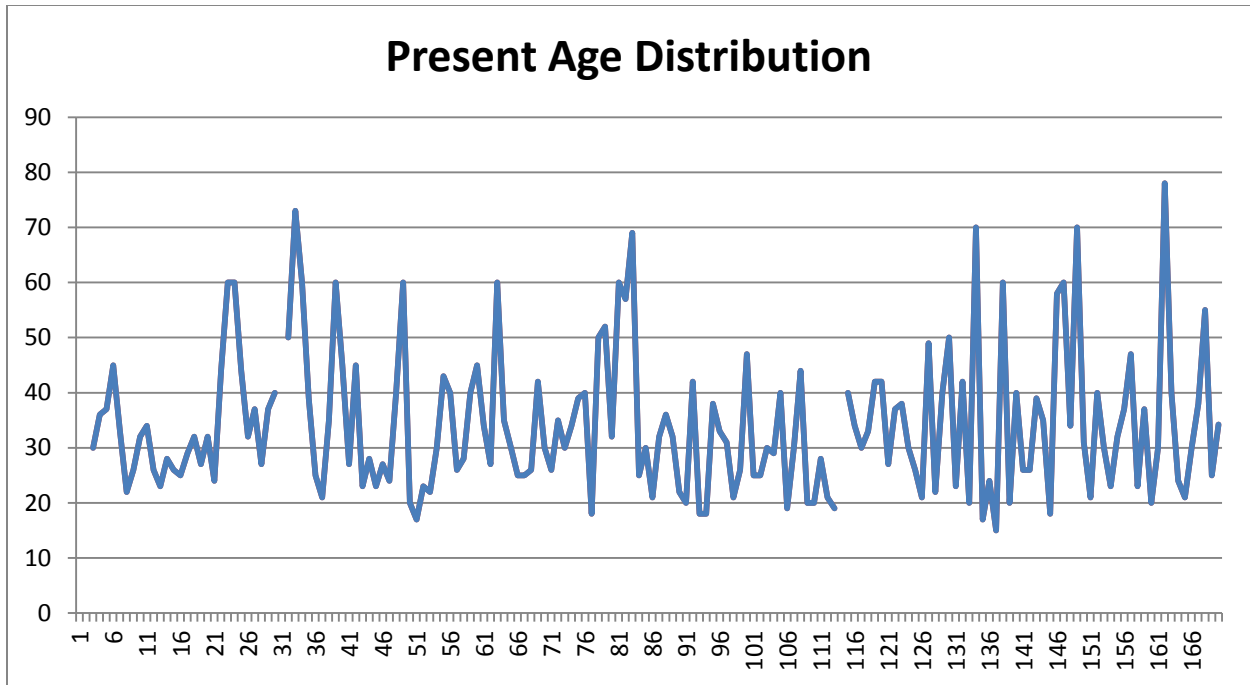


In order to analyze participants' age at their arrival year, we categorize them into 7 groups based on their age at their arrival year in Bangladesh. The highest percentage was the participants who were aged between 1-18 years old when they first arrived in Bangladesh, followed by the participants aged between 18-30 years old with the second highest percentage. Only 1% of the participants were aged above than 60 years old when they first arrived in Bangladesh. According to data, 8% of the participants were born in Bangladesh however, they are still considered as Rohingya refugees.

#### G. Age Distribution At Current Year

89% of the participants are 30-60 years old. The age between 18-39 years old is a prime age, and one that is of great benefit for the labor markets.





Average Age: 34.12 years

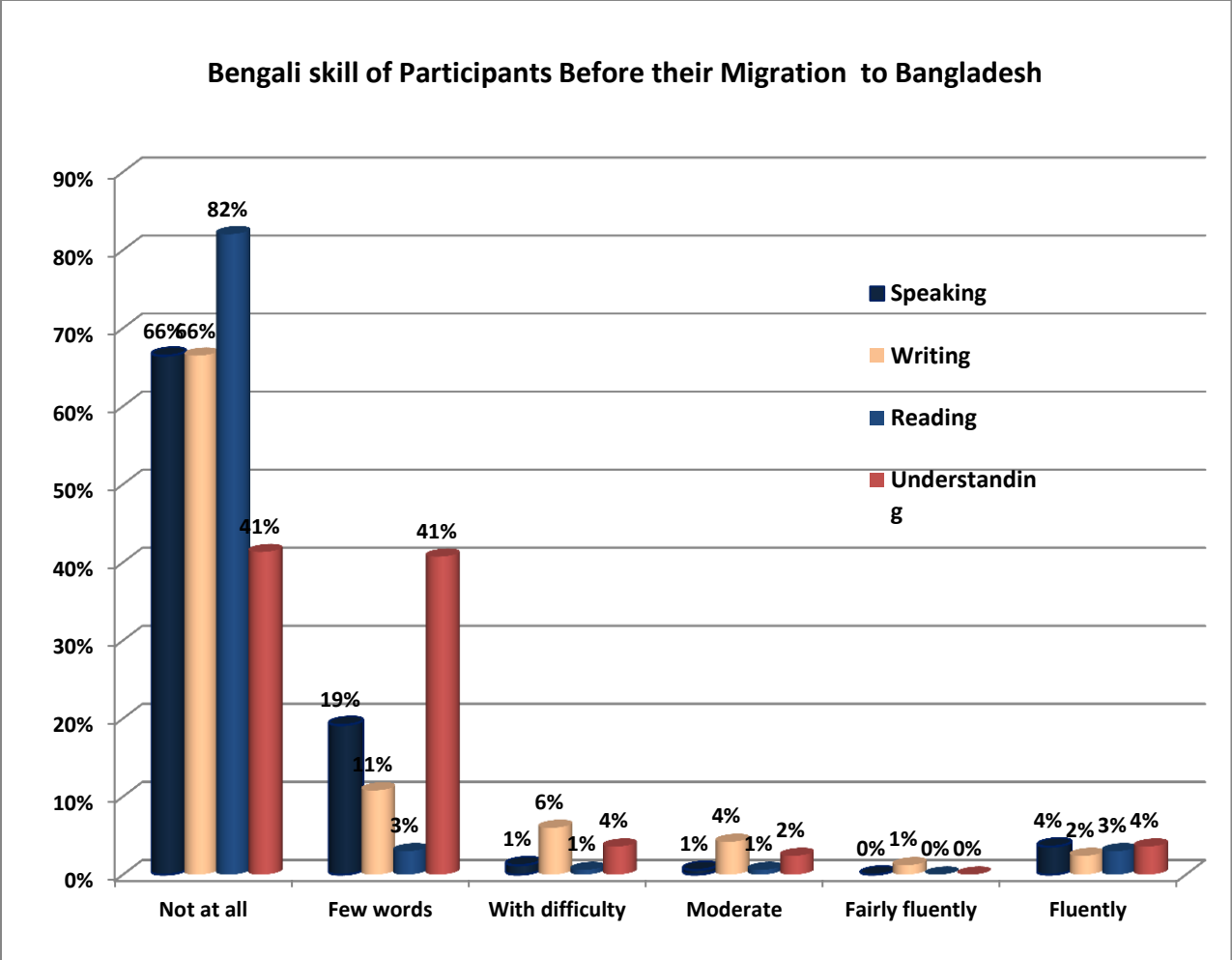
30-60 years old : 89 %

## II. ANALYSIS SKILLS AND EDUCATION BACKGROUND OF REFUGEES

### 1. Bengali skills of participants

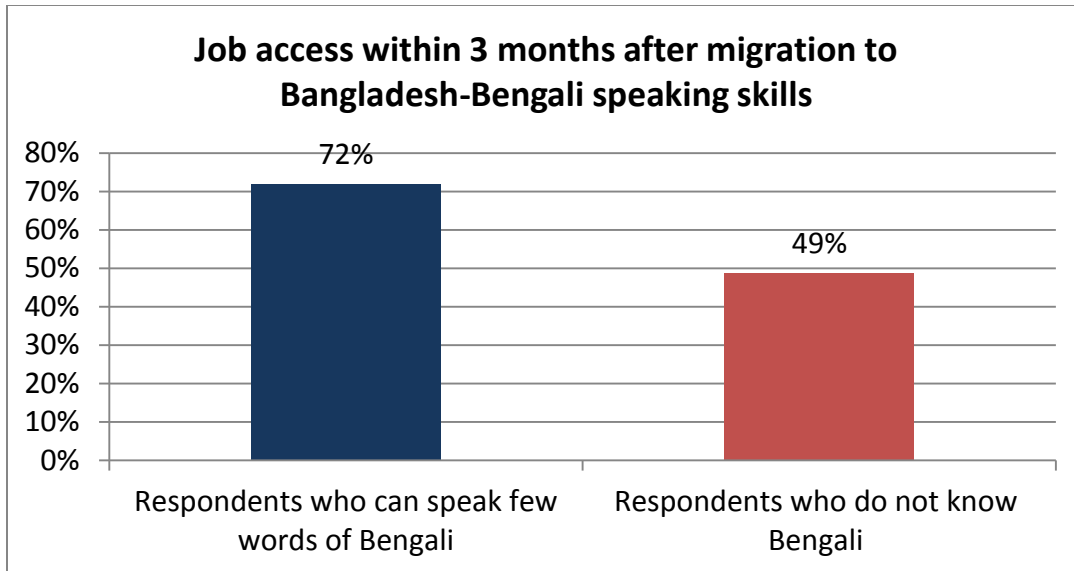
#### A. Bengali skills before migration to Bangladesh

We surveyed their Bengali proficiency under four categories writing, reading, understanding and spoken Bengali. Before coming to Bangladesh most of the participants didn't know Bengali at all, and only about 4% were proficient in Bengali



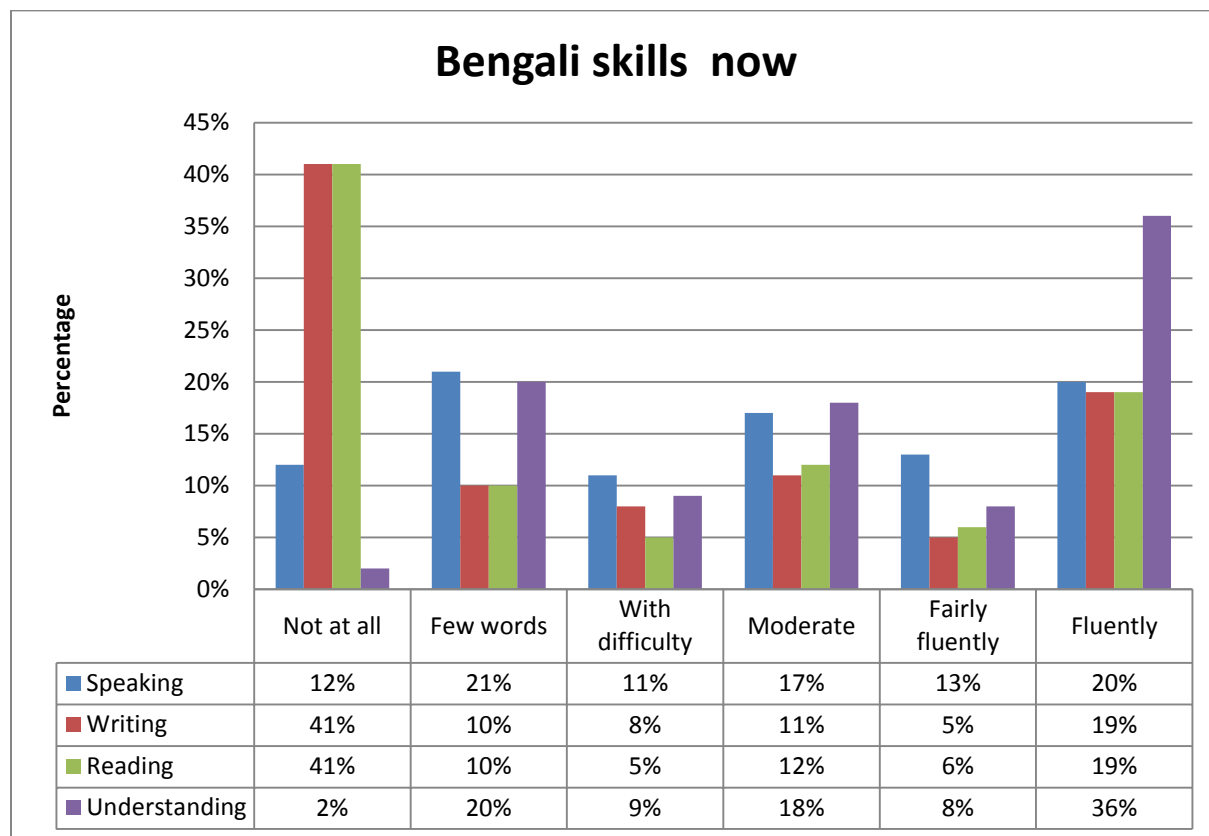
### B. Bengali Skills And Job Access In Bangladesh

In order to see if there is a difference in the job access opportunity between group of refugees who can speak Bengali at their arrival time and group of refugees who did not know to speak Bengali at their arrival time, we analyzed the data and found that: 72% of the participants from the group of refugees who can speak Bengali at their arrival can find their first job in Bangladesh within 3 months. There is a drop in the percentage by 23%, 49% of the participants from the group of refugees who cannot speak Bengali at their arrival time, can find their first job in Bangladesh within 3 months. Bengali language is an important factor in assessing job at the host country Bangladesh.



### C. Bengali Skills At Present Time

By analyzing the data about Bengali improvement of the participants, we found out that there is an increase in the level of the Bengali language skills after coming to Bangladesh, and the number of level of the Rohingya not knowing Bengali has dropped drastically. The number of Rohingya not understanding dropped from 41% to 2% after coming to Bangladesh and the number of Rohingya speaking Bengali increased from 4% to 20% after coming to Bangladesh. In all the categories checking the Bengali skills, we can see an increase in the level of the Bengali language of the Rohingyas after coming to Bangladesh .



## 2. English skills of participants

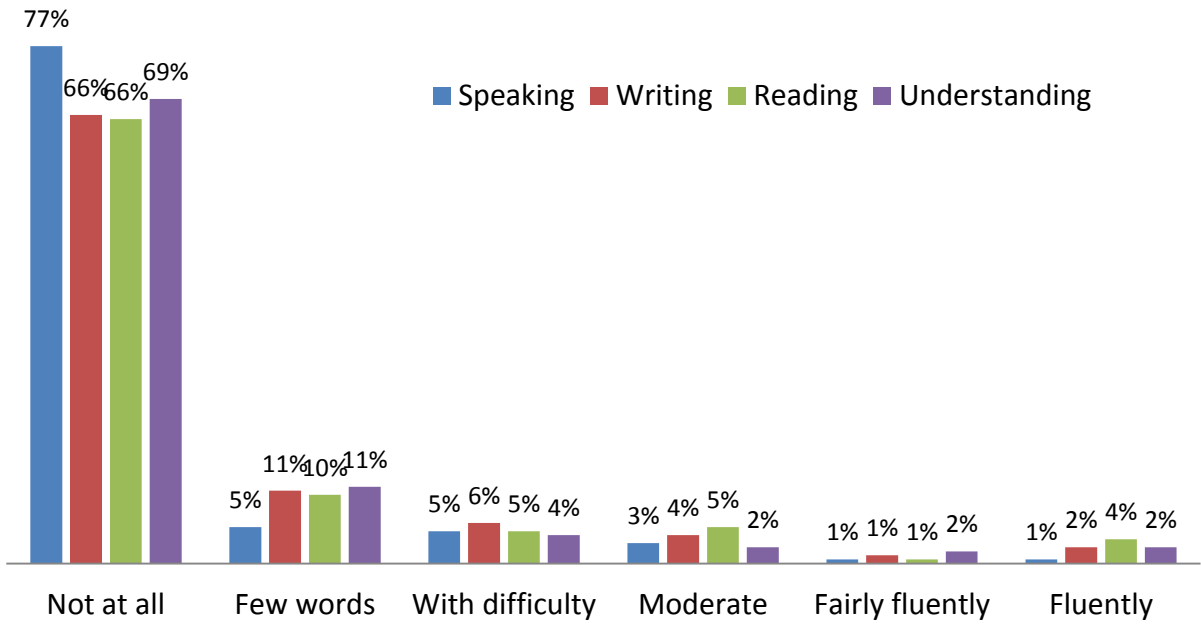
### A. English skills before migration to Bangladesh

We also surveyed the familiarity with English language among the participants before migrating to Bangladesh; high percentage of participants did not know English at that time.

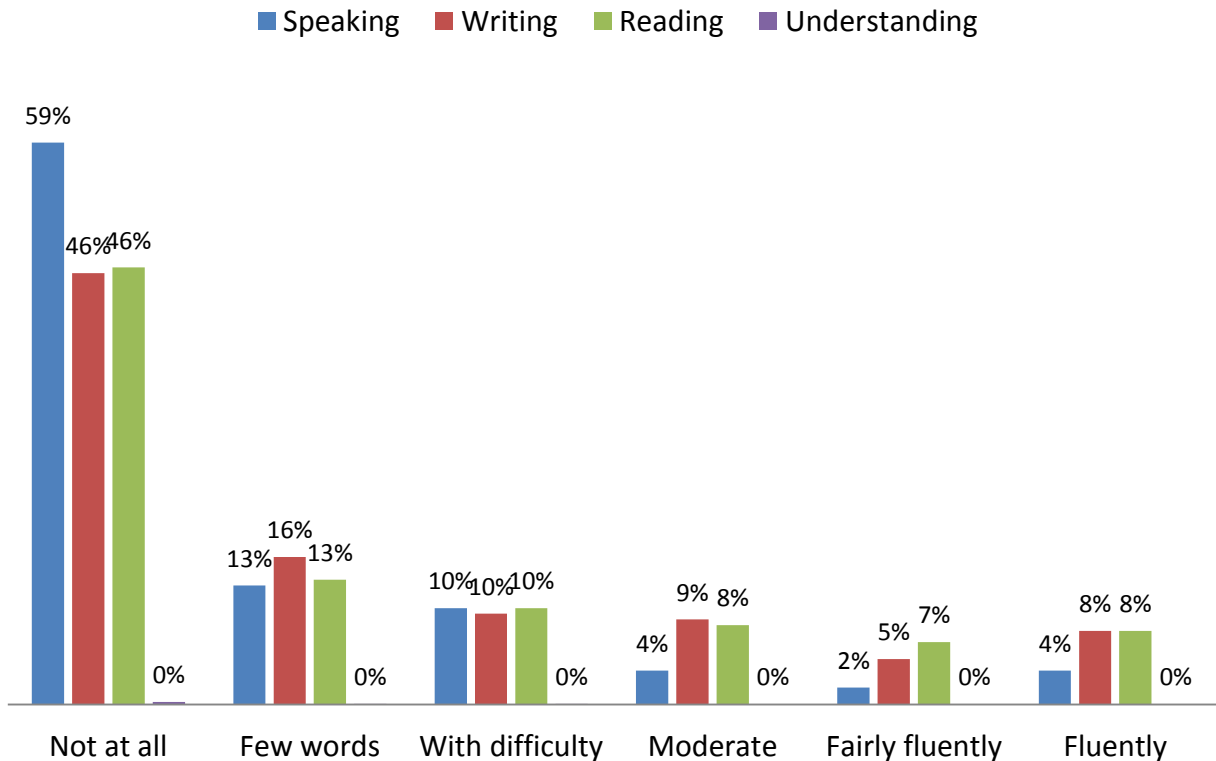
### B. English Skills At Present Time

By analyzing the participants' English skill at the present time, we found out that the number of participants who do not know English is still high. Even though there is a slight increase from lower English level to higher English level, comparing to the changes seen in the Bengali language level it is still comparatively less. So we assumed that Bengali language played an important role for them in their employment access compared to English.

## English skills before migration to Bangladesh



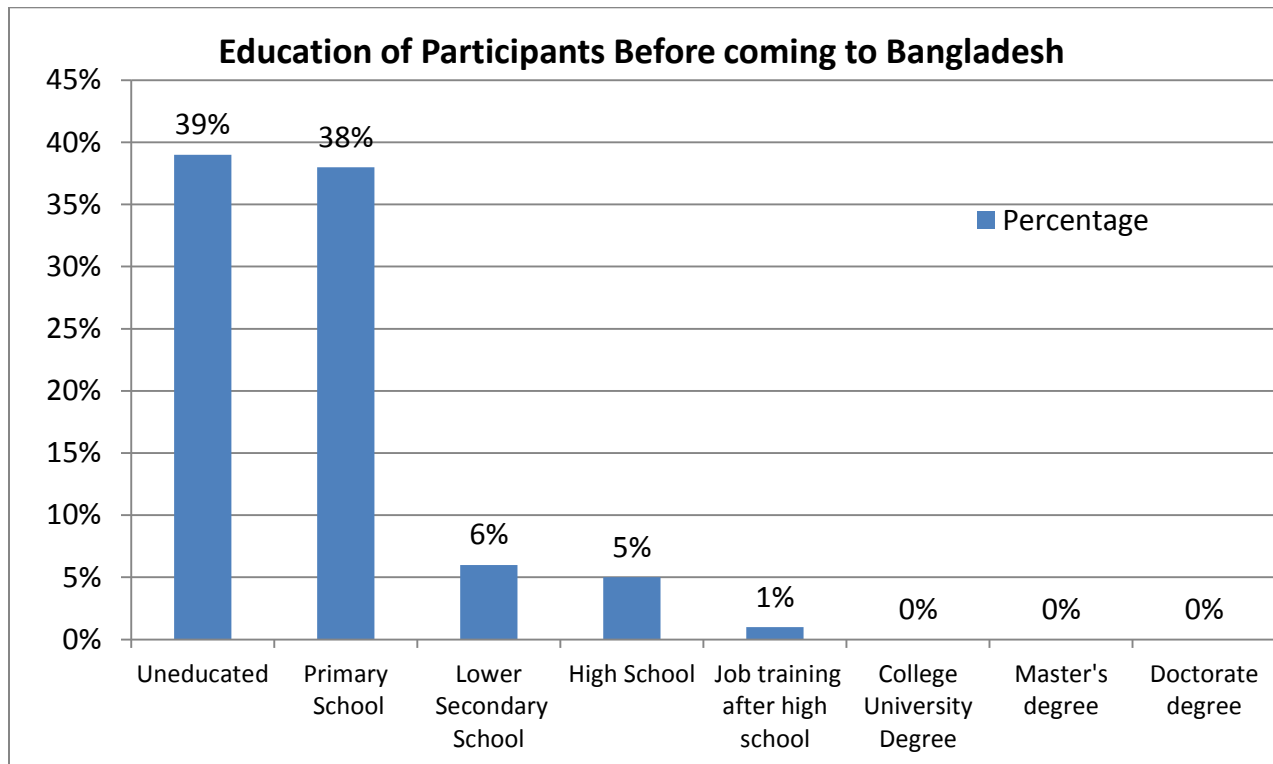
## English skills now



### 3. Education status before and after their migration to Bangladesh

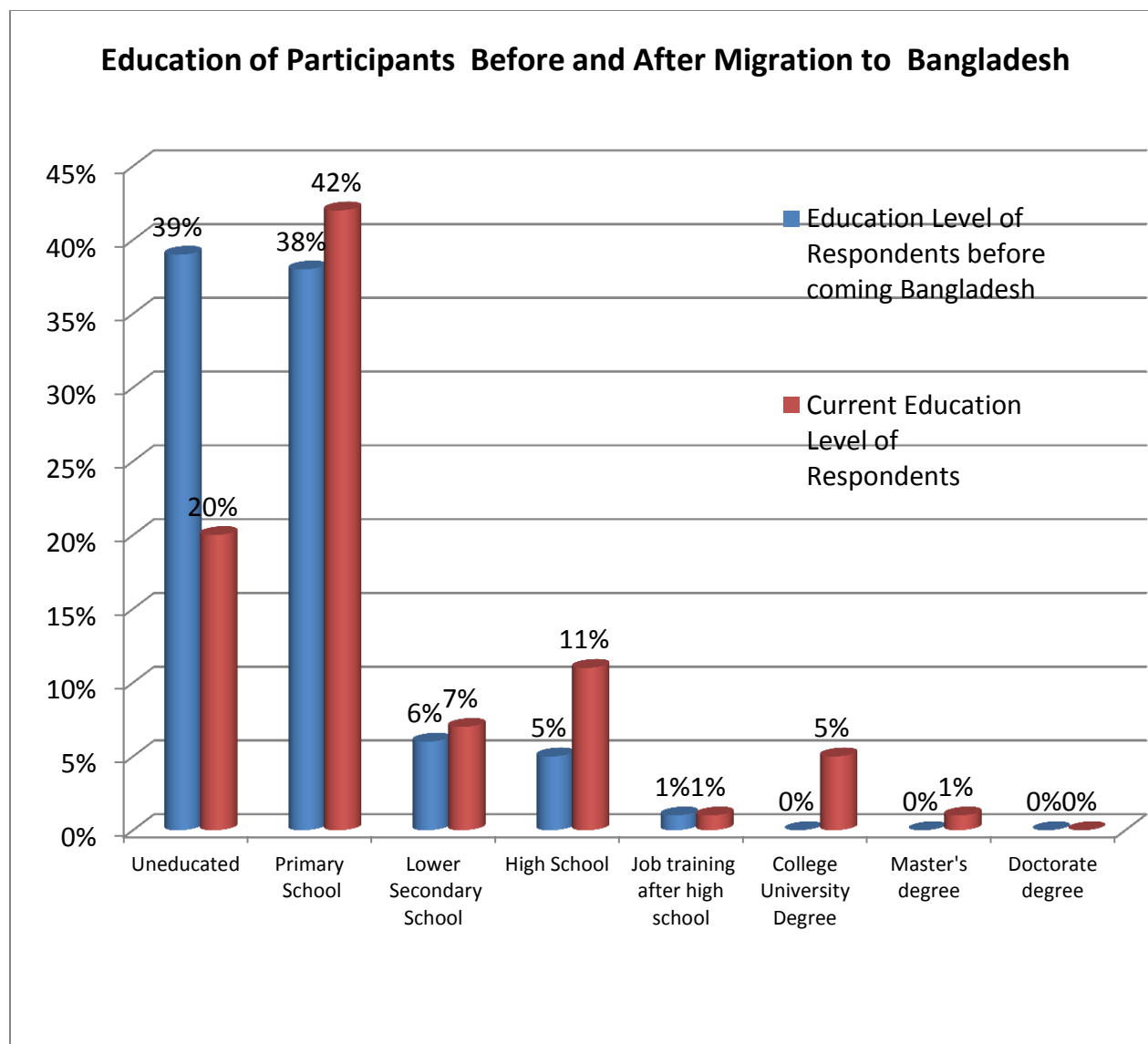
#### A. Education status before migration to Bangladesh

We surveyed the participants about their education background before migrating to Bangladesh, and found out that most of the Rohingyas were uneducated or had completed only primary school. The highest level of education attained is till High School.



#### B. Education Status Before And After Migration To Bangladesh Comparison

Most of the Rohingya's literacy level increased after arriving in the host country Bangladesh: the number of uneducated Rohingyas dropped from 39% to 20%. There is an increase in percentage of participants who attained primary school, secondary school and high school comparing between before and after arrival in Bangladesh. While no participants obtained college or master degree before their arrival to Bangladesh, the data shows that some participants obtained their college and master degree after moving to Bangladesh. The data also shows that 27% respondents who move from Myanmar to Bangladesh got higher education after coming to Bangladesh.

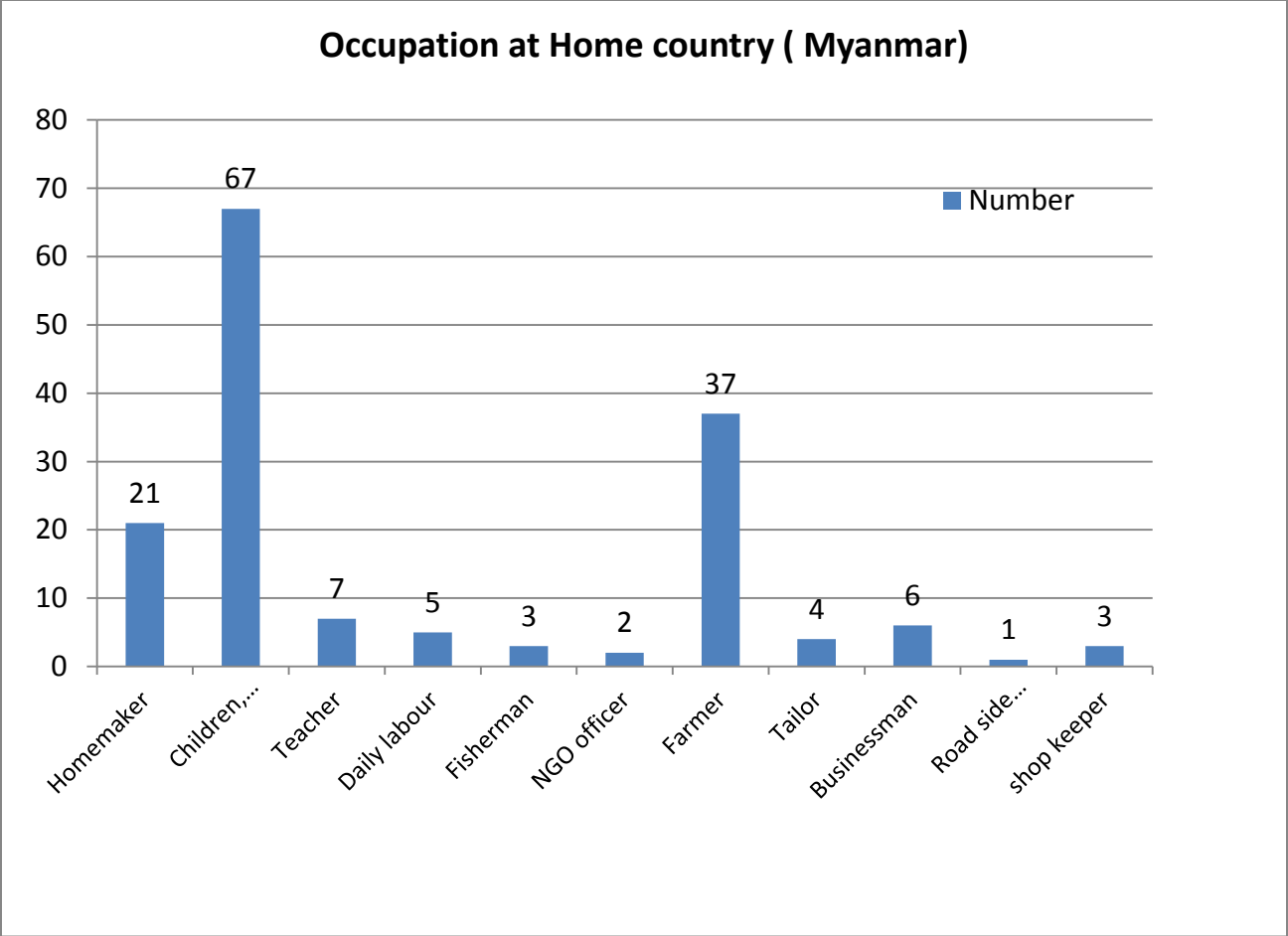


### III. JOB EXPERIENCE-JOB STATUS OF REFUGEES

#### 1. Job status at home country before their migration to Bangladesh

Job distribution of those who had jobs before migration to Bangladesh

Among 167 participants, 41% of them were children upon their arrival year to Bangladesh, 42% has work experience before coming to Bangladesh. Among those who have job before migrating to Bangladesh, there is a variety jobs including teacher, farmer, daily labor, officer, tailor, business and shopkeeper. Farmer is the most popular job among participants before their migration, 37 participants were farmers before in their home country; they had their own lands to work on and used the surplus crops as their lively income.



Number of respondents who had job at home country : 41 %

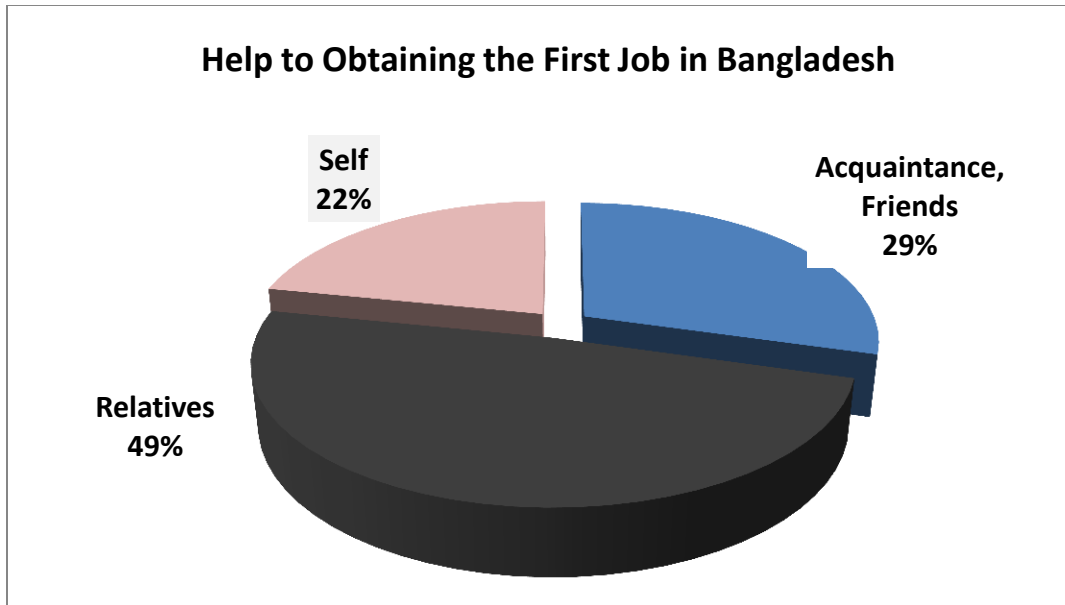
Number of respondents who were student/ children : 41 %

Number of unidentified: 17%

- 2. First job of participants after migration to Bangladesh
  - A. Means of first job access in the host country (Bangladesh)

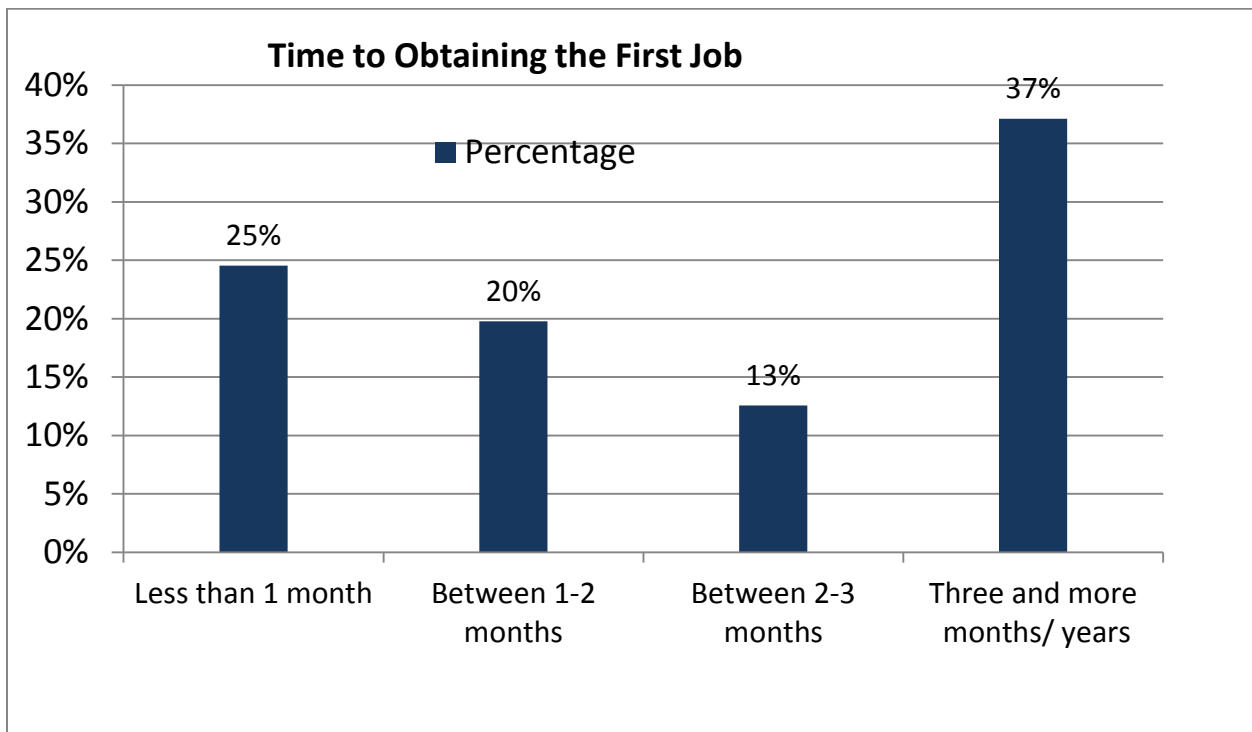
According to our data, we found that 49% of the refugees received help from their relatives to seek for a job. Even while interviewing some of the participants they stated that usually their relatives helps them in accessing shelter, food and even jobs upon their arrival in the host country Bangladesh. The migration of the Rohingyas goes as far back as the 1970s and many have settled down in Bangladesh since then, so they help other Rohingyas they know in settling down after migration.





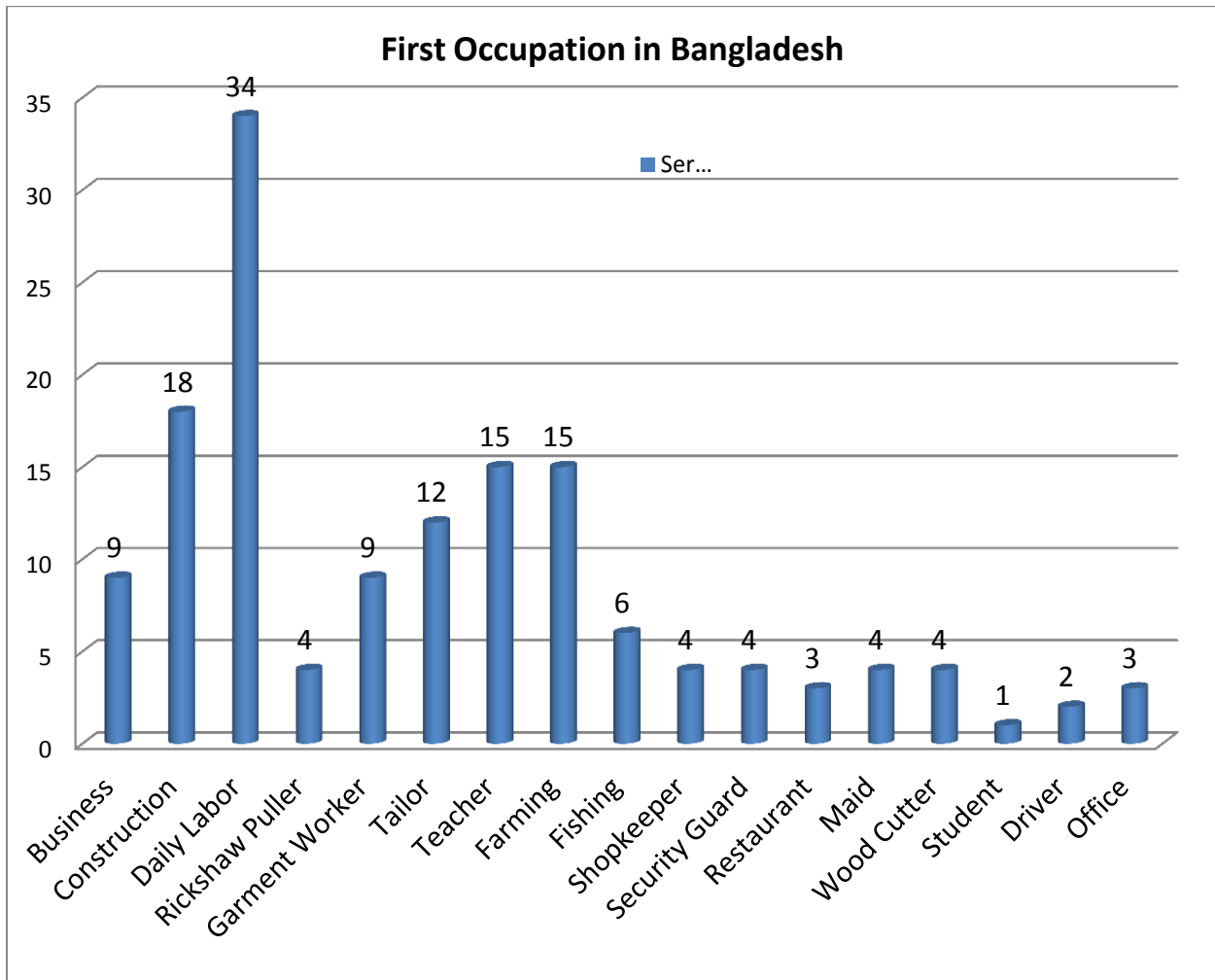
#### B. Time Of First Job Access In The Host Country (Bangladesh)

In order to find out how long it takes for the refugees to find a job at the host country- Bangladesh, we surveyed participants and noticed that more than 50% of the participants got their first jobs in the host country within 1-3 months after their migration.



### C. First Jobs( Particular Jobs) Of Refugees In Bangladesh

The graph below shows the first jobs that participants were employed after migrating to Bangladesh. Contrary to the popular stereotype of the refugees being associated with only labor intensive work we can also see that there exists variety of jobs that the refugees worked in at the host country, for example: teacher, handicraft and shopkeeper, business, driver, officer, worker, tailor. However, 34/ 167 refugees work in labor intensive works like daily labors; daily labor is the most popular job among participants upon their arrival to the host country Bangladesh.

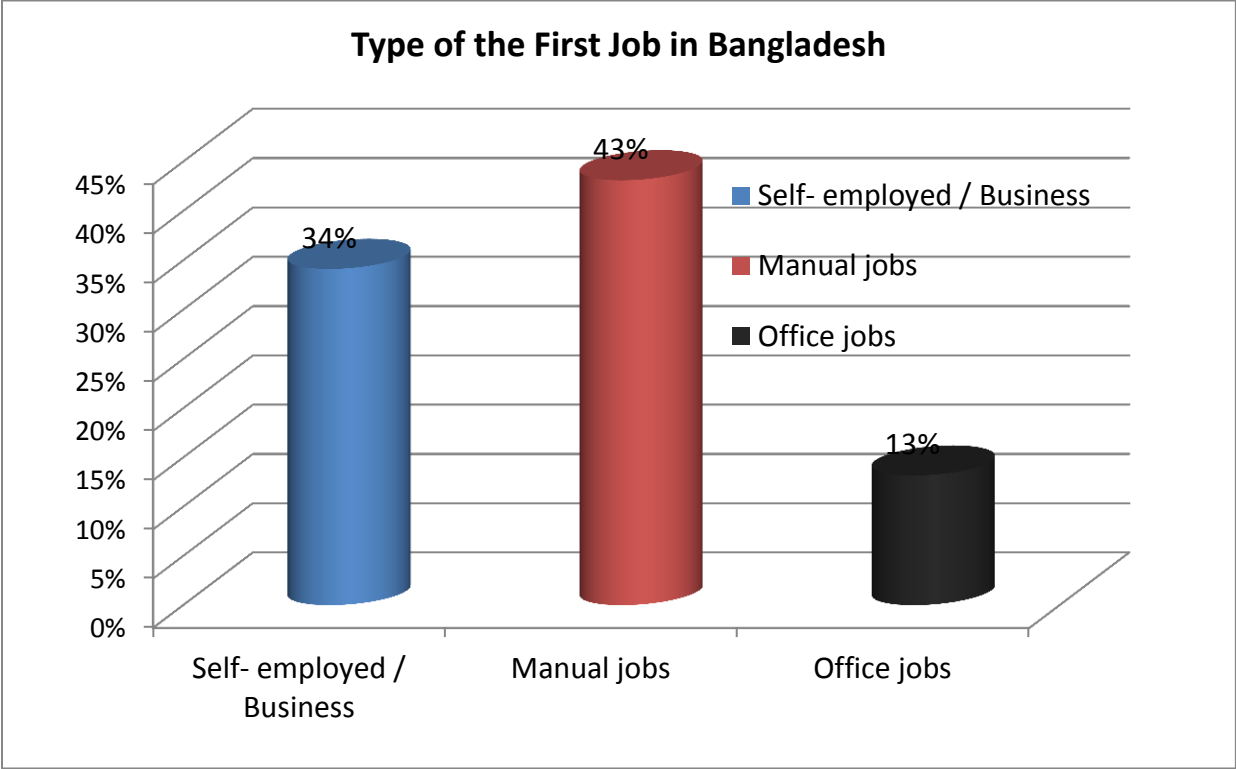


### D. Type Of The First Job In The Host Country ( Bangladesh) Of Refugees

We have divided employment status of participants into 4 different TYPES according to certain fulfillment of the categories:

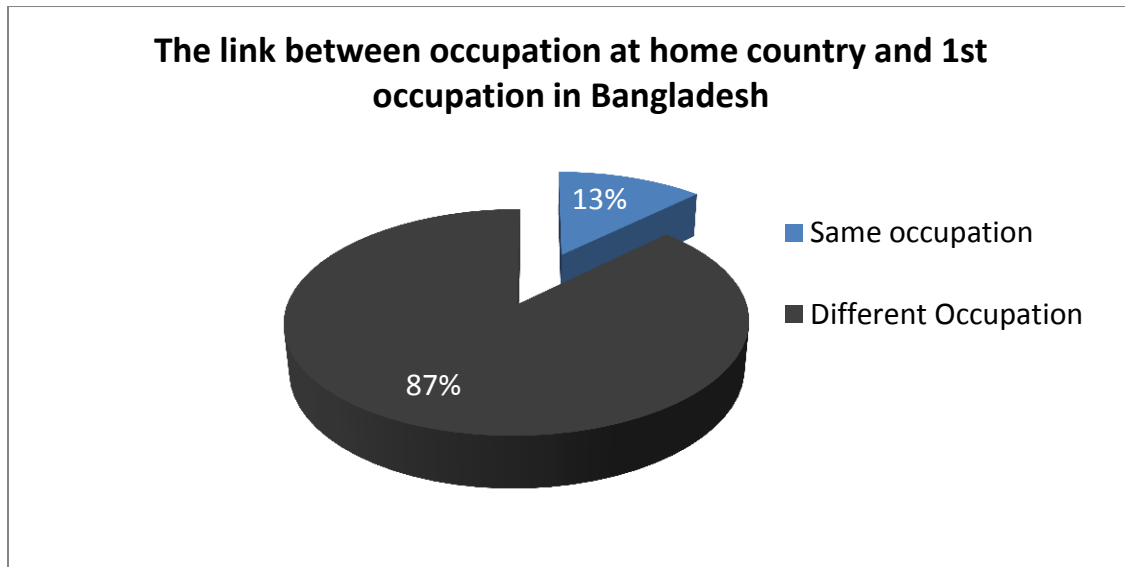
Type	Characteristics	Jobs
Type 1 Self-employed/ Businessman	Degree of this manual labor is lesser, and they have more freedom Service Oriented Jobs	Businessman/ Shopkeeper/ Tailor/ Electrician/ Employee Provider....
Type 2 Manual Labor	Intensive manual labor	Maid/ Garment Worker/ Rickshaw Puller...
Type 3 Office Job	Require specific education level, skills	Office/NGO Worker/ Teacher/ Imam (Mosque Leader), Welfare Association Doctor
Type 4 No Job		Children, Homemaker

We divided the jobs that the participants have worked into 3 Job Types: Self- employed / Business, manual jobs and office jobs. According to collected data about the first jobs of the participants in the host country Bangladesh, we found out that: 43% of the participants first job falls under the manual labor jobs category. There are a relatively high percentage of refugees who got the first job as self-employed/ business refugees as well (34 %).



### 3. Jobs At Home Country \_ First Jobs In Bangladesh ( Host Country) Comparison

We wanted to compare the participants' jobs in the home county to the first jobs in the host country to see if they have the same job or not. After collecting the survey and processing the data we found out that 87% of the participants different first job that were different from jobs that they had in their home country.

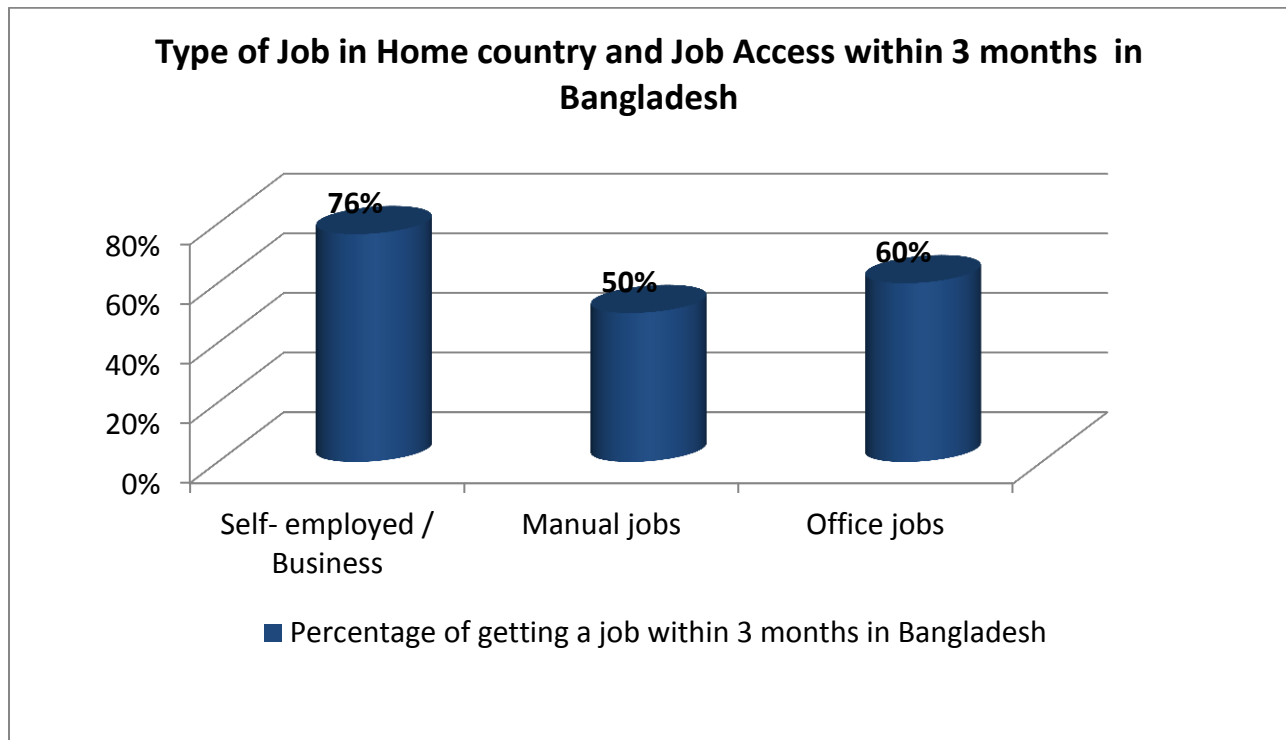


### 4. Job Experience At Home Country \_ Job Access In The Host Country ( Bangladesh)

We wanted to see the participants' job experiences in the Home County and time to get the first job in the host country to see if different job experience will influence job access. In the graph below it shows the percentage of the Rohingya refugee participants getting jobs within 3 months after migrating to Bangladesh.

The participants whose job at home country falls in Job Type 1 (Self-employed / Business) 76 % of them got their first job in Bangladesh within 3 months of after migrating to Bangladesh. 60 % the participants with the Job Type 2 (Office Jobs) at home country got their first job in Bangladesh within 3 months of after migrating to Bangladesh. 50 % of of the participants working in Job Type 3 (Manual Jobs) in their home country got their first job in Bangladesh within 3 months in Bangladesh.

The highest percentage of employment within 3 months after migrating to Bangladesh belongs to the Job Type 1(Self-Employed/Business) and the lowest among the three job types was 50% of participants in the Job Type 3 (the manual workers).



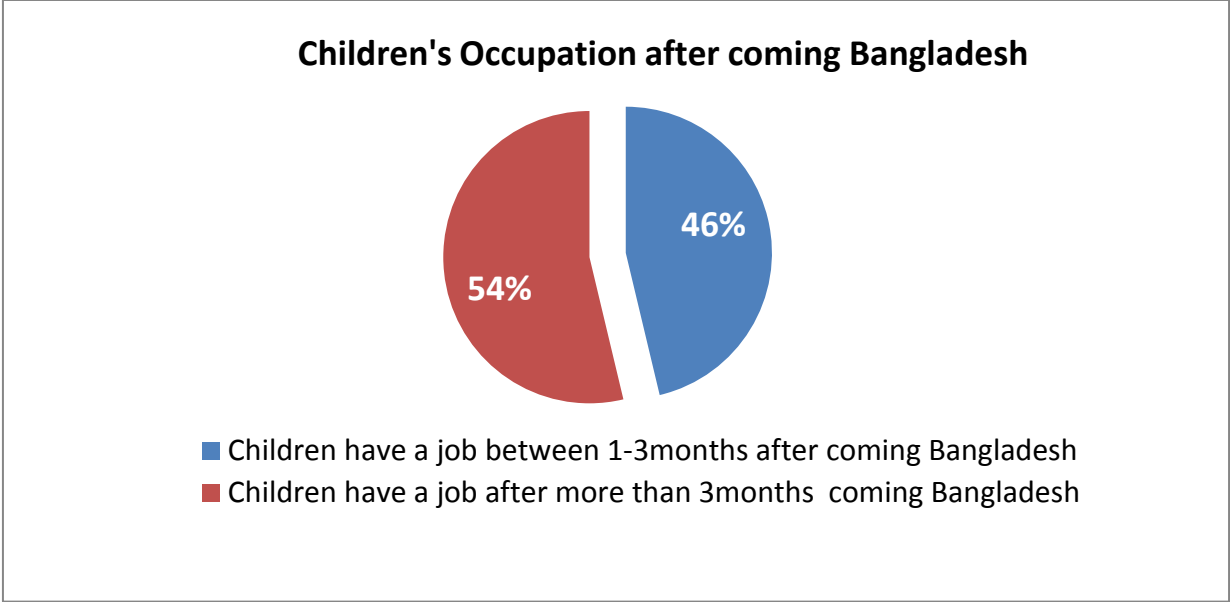
#### 5. Highlights of children refugees

##### A. Percentage of children :

41% of the participants were children at their arrival year.

##### B. Job access of children refugees within 3 months after their migration to the host country- Bangladesh

Among the participants who were children at their arrival year, 46% of them got into the labor force in Bangladesh within 3 months after migration, and 54% of the children participants were employed after more than three months after migration.



6. Job Changing / Transformation Of Refugees In The Host Country ( Bangladesh)

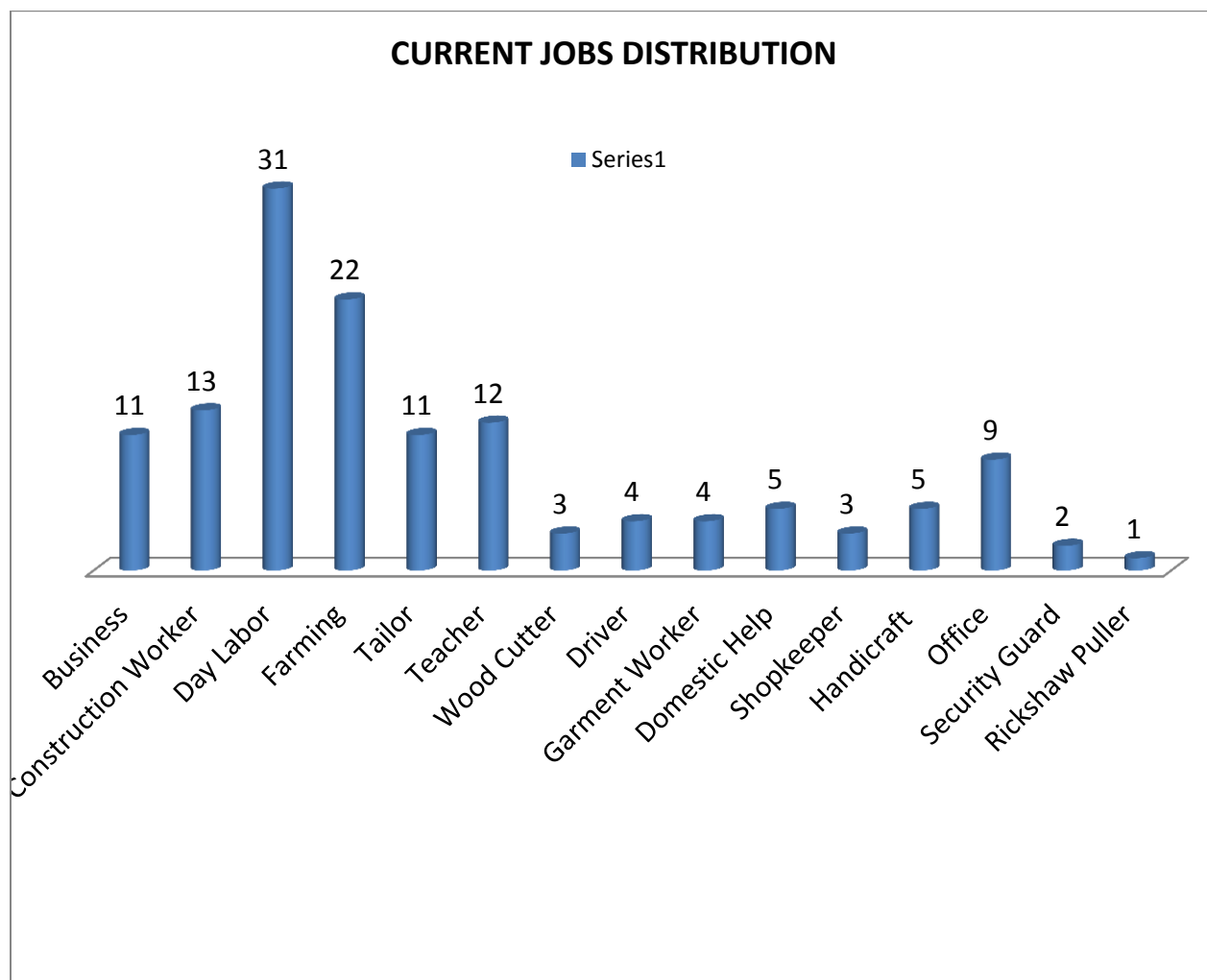
No. of jobs ( in Bangladesh)	Percentage
1 Job	43%
2 jobs	23%
3 jobs	13%
4 jobs	3%
5 jobs	1%
Unidentified	17%

We asked the participants about the different jobs they have been employed in after their migration. The processed data shows that; High percentage of the refugees 43% had the same job since their migration, 36 % of participants experienced 2-3 jobs in Bangladesh, and 4 of refugees had 4-5 jobs. Therefore, it shows that most of refugees continue with the first job that they got at the host country.

*Note : unidentified means participants prefer not to answer.*

7. Current job distribution

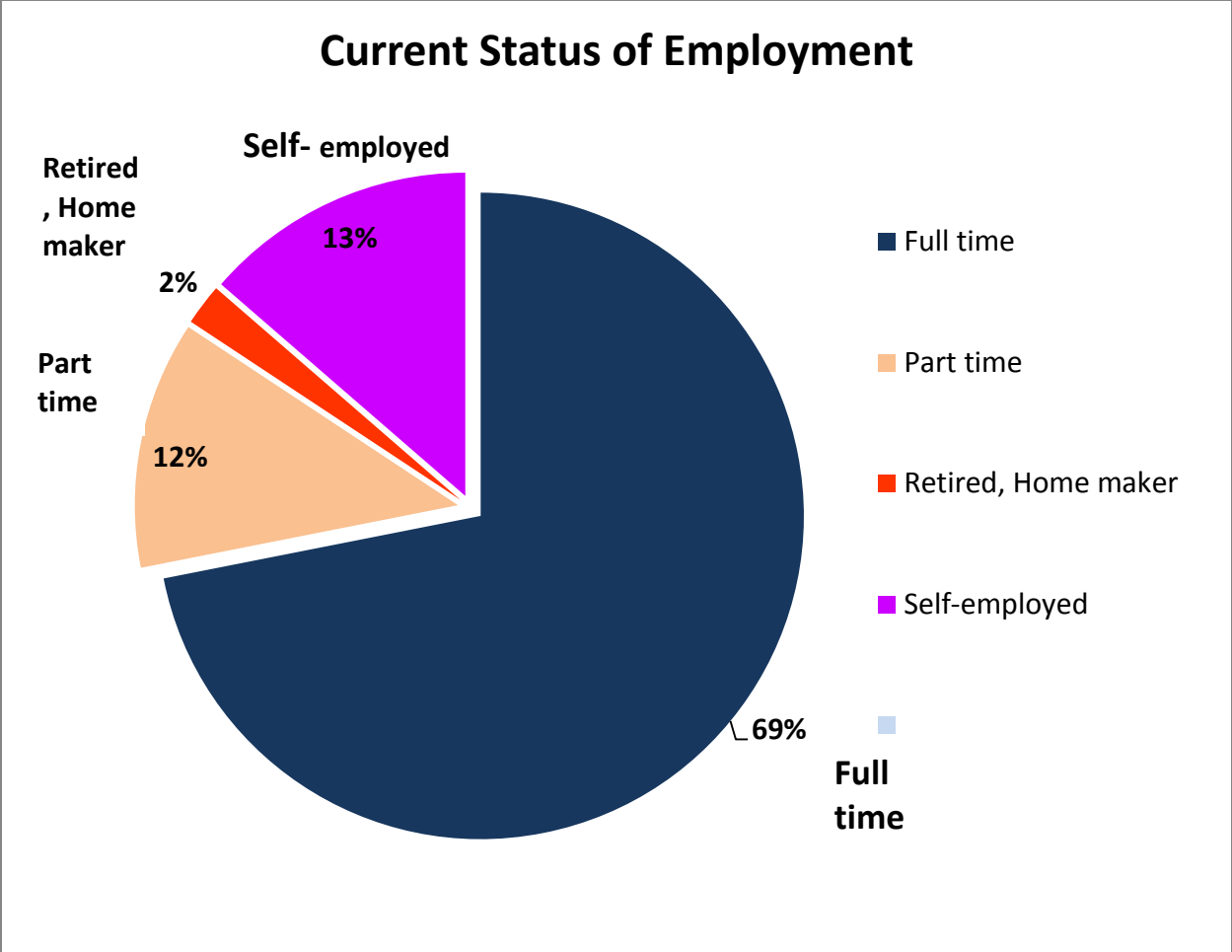
A. Current job distribution of refugees at the host country ( Bangladesh)



There exists a variety of jobs that the refugees work in now. High number of participants work in the labor intensive work sectors compared to number of participants working in the other sectors: 31 participants work as daily labor and 22 participants work in the farming sector.

#### B. Current Status Of Employment Of Refugees At The Host Country ( Bangladesh)

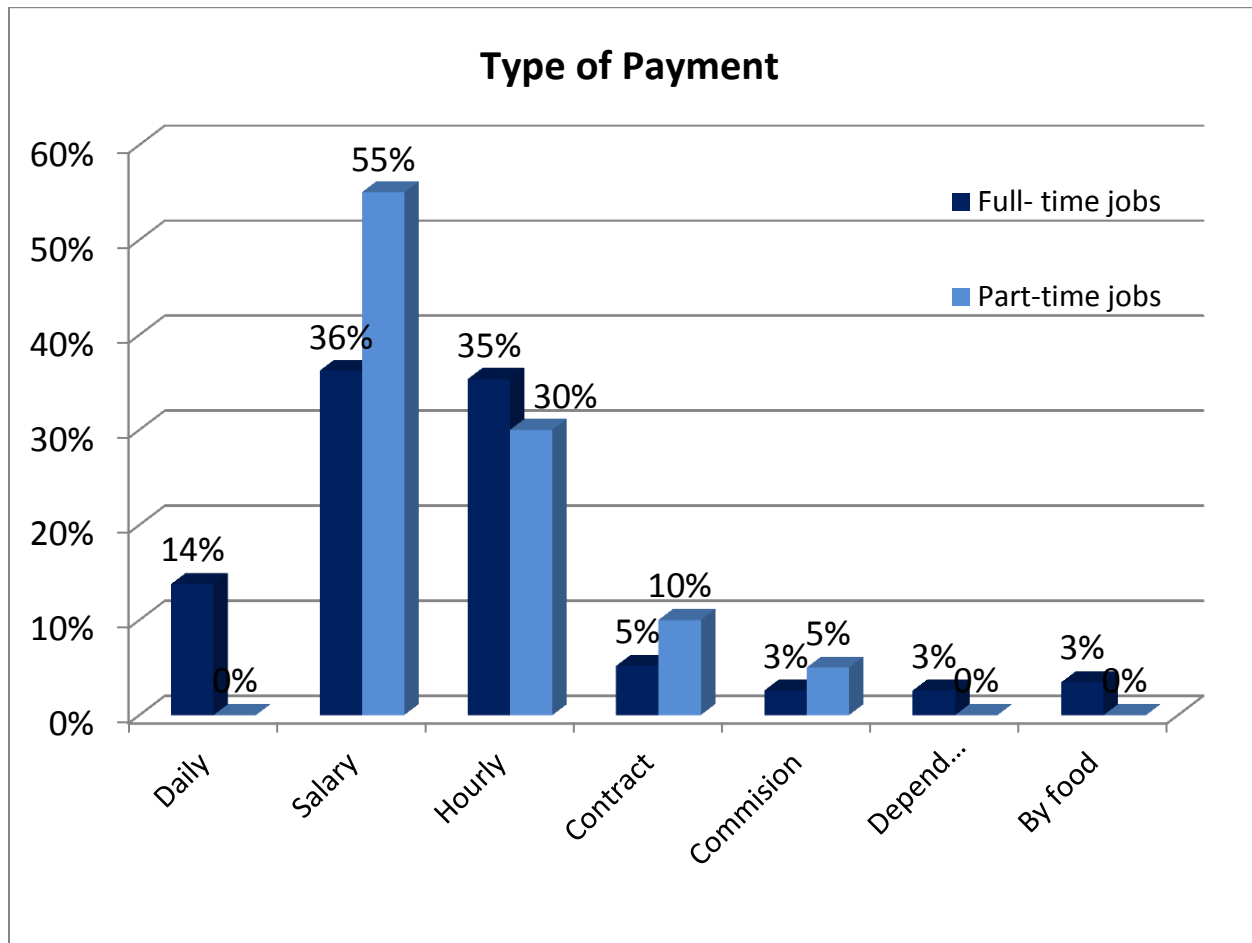
From the data collected regarding the current status of the participants' employment it shows that 69% of the refugees are employed full time, followed by 13% self-employed workers, 12% part time workers and 2% homemaker.



C. Type Of Payment Of Employed Refugees At The Host Country ( Bangladesh

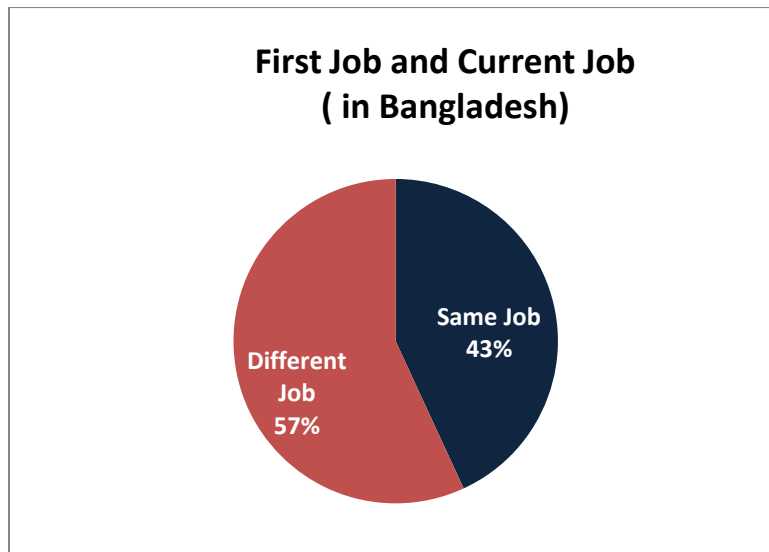
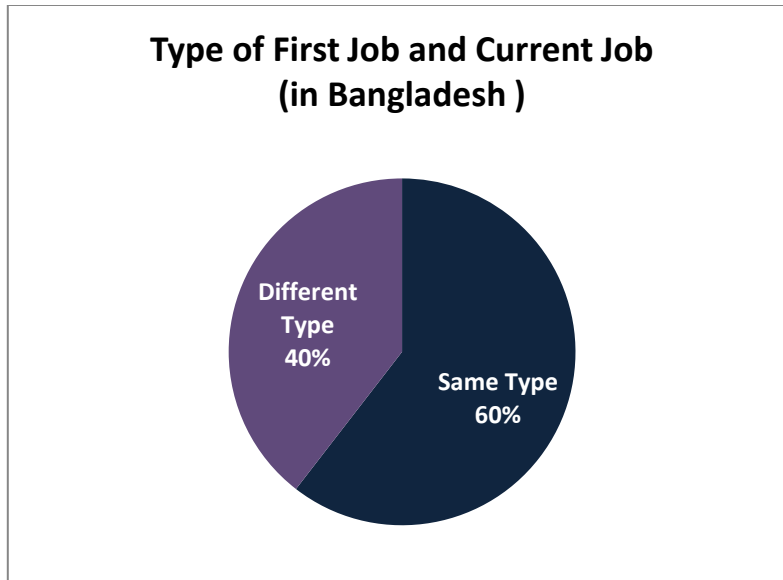
This graph shows how the employers are paid; the employers are divided into two group full-time worker and part-time workers. 36% of the full-time workers earn monthly income, while 30% earn hourly income and 14% earn daily income, 3% are not paid money since they are housemaids and just given food and shelter by their employers. 50% of the part-time workers earn monthly income, and 30% earn hourly income.





#### 8. First Job \_ Current Job, First Job Type \_ Current Job Type Comparison

We analyzed the data for the job changes of the participants after coming to Bangladesh. We found out that 43% of the refugee participants now have the same jobs as the ones they had when they first came to Bangladesh. For the JOB TYPE there is an increase in the percentage of the participants by 17%, so 60% of the participants now belong in the same Job Type to their first Job Types in Bangladesh.



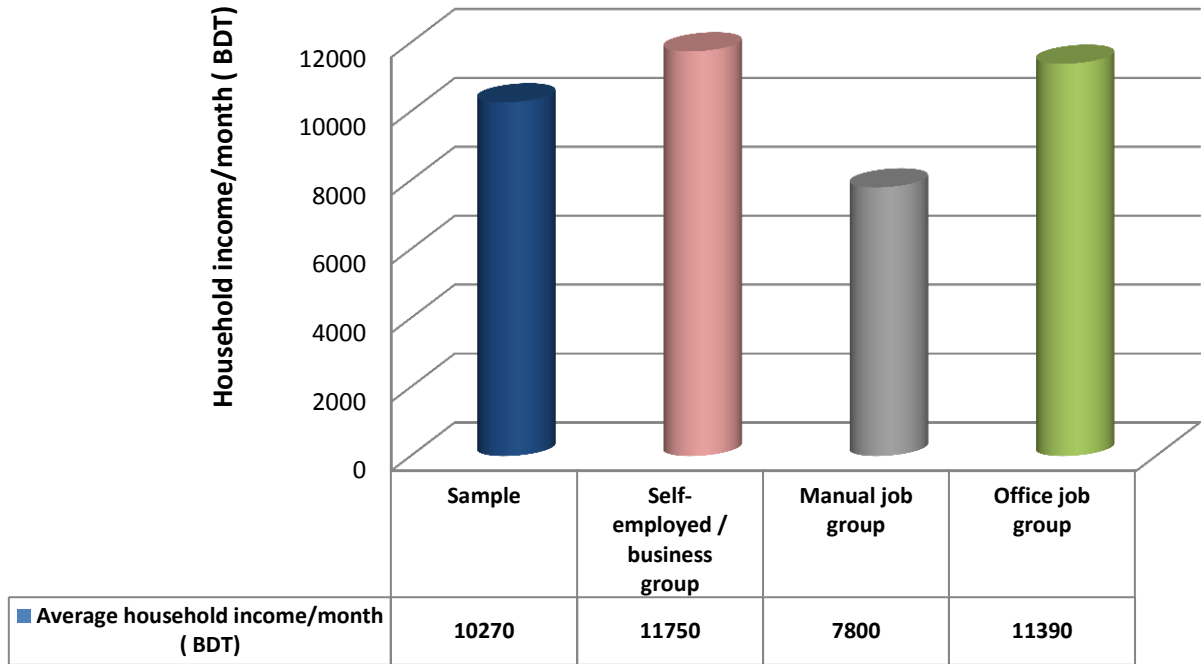
9. Current Average Income Distribution Based On Current Job Types

When comparing the salary among the participants, we used the job type category and noticed that the highest earning are by the Job Type 1 (self-employed/business group), and the lowest is the Job Type 3 (manual job group)

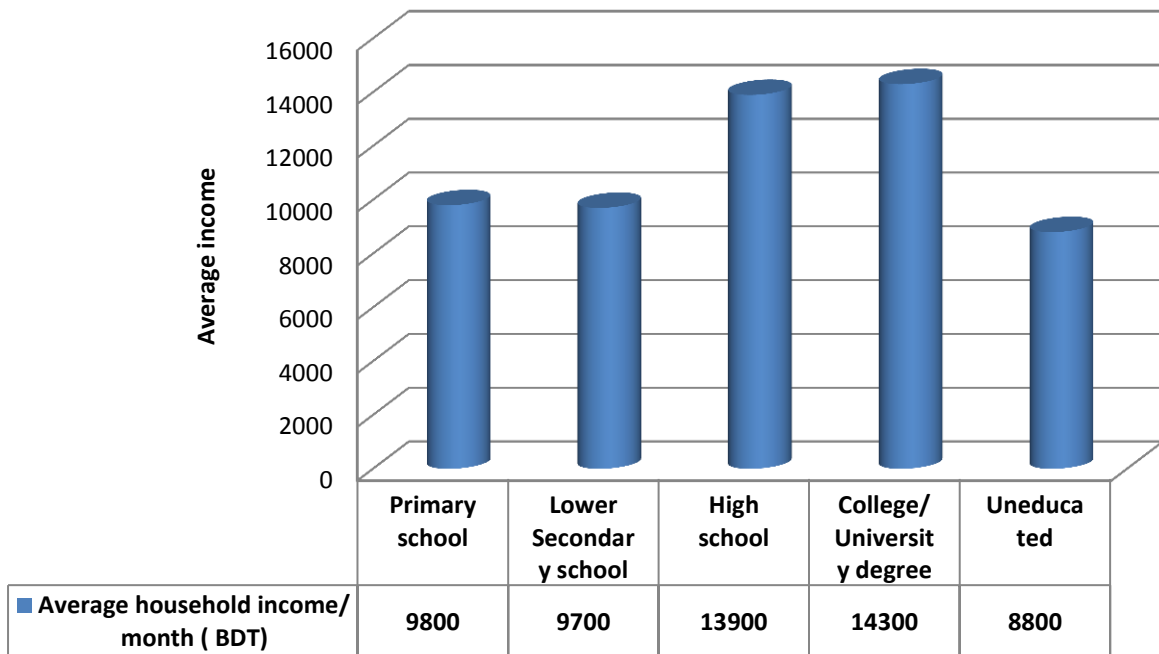
10. Current Average Income Distribution Based On Current Education Level Of Refugees

While comparing the income according to the education level, the highest income is earned by the ones having a bachelor's degree and the lowest income earned is by the ones who are uneducated.

### Average household income/month ( BDT)



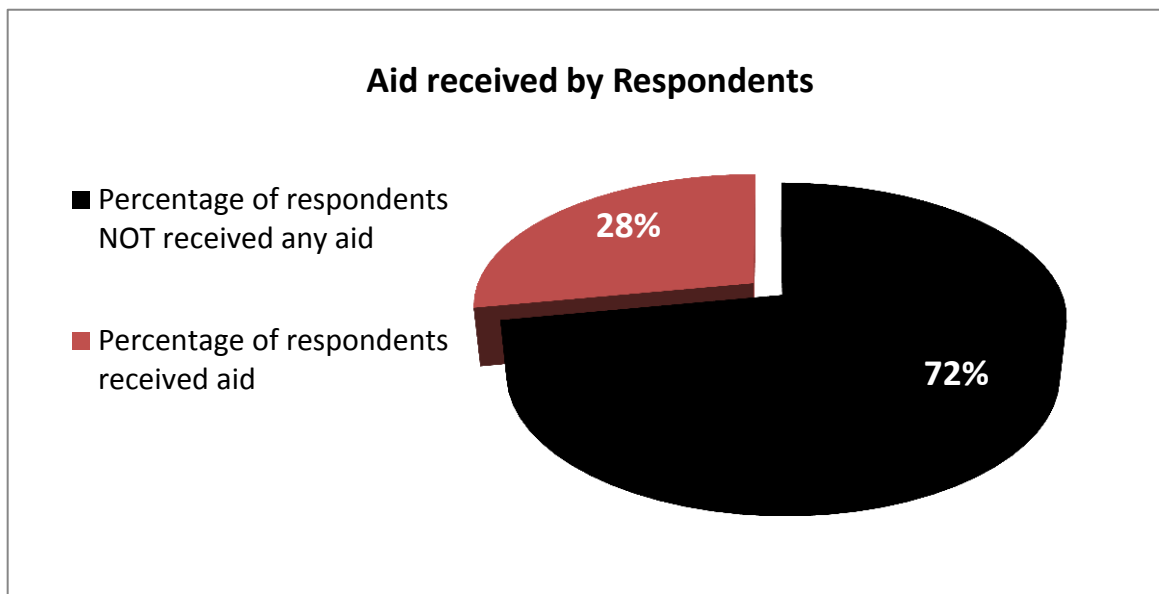
### Current Average household income/ month ( BDT)



#### **IV. SOCIAL AID AND SUPPORT FOR REFUGEES AT THE HOST COUNTRY ( BANGLADESH)**

##### **1. Percentage Of Participants Received Social Aid/ Support**

We wanted to see if social aid was an important factor in helping the refugees to settle down. From the data collected it was noticed that high percentage of the refugee participants 72% have not received aids either from the community or from any social organizations<sup>9</sup>.



##### **2. Sources Of Information For Participants To Access Social Aid / Support**

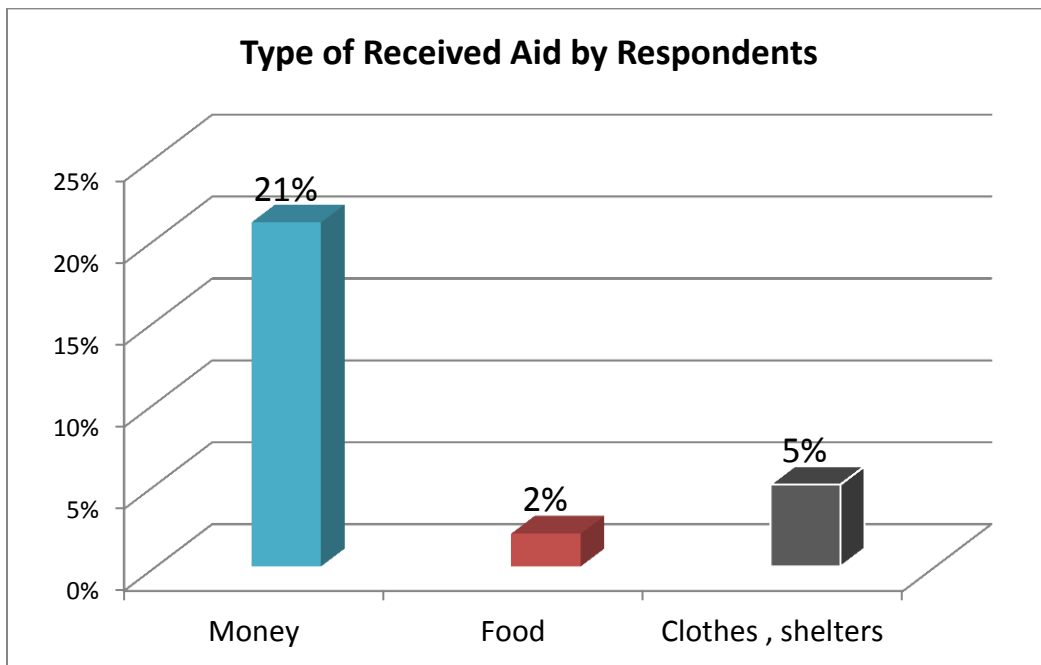
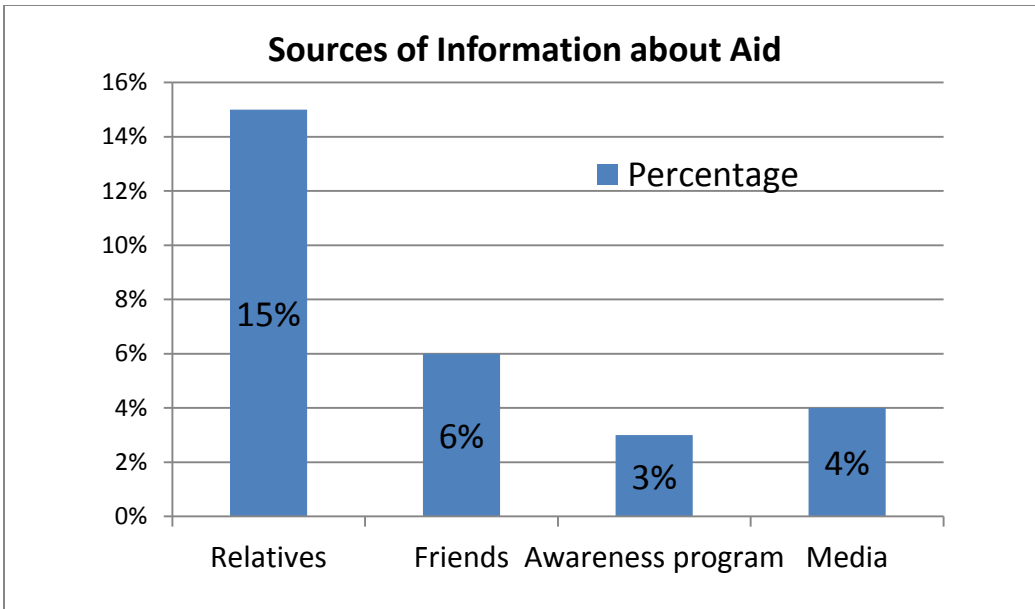
The ones who received the social aid 28% of the participants claimed that they received aids from social organizations. The main actors who made them aware about the social organizations were relatives, friends. Again we see that relatives of the refugees play a big role in the settlement of the refugees.

##### **3. Types Of Social Aid / Support Received By Participants**

Among 28 % of participants who received aids there is a variation of the forms of aid received; 21% of them received money, 5% received clothes and shelters and 2% received food.

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<sup>9</sup> These refugees might not be registered by the host country, and are unidentified refugees so it is hard for the social organizations to help them.



## PART THREE: CONCLUSION AND FINDINGS

After our research on three districts in Bangladesh and one sub-division of the district (Chittagong, Bandarban and Cox's Bazar:Teknaf) having a large population of Rohingya refugees, we came to these conclusion and findings :

- The Rohingyas shares strong cultural ties, religion therefore this helps them to assimilate in Bangladesh.
- About year of their arrival: Many refugees have migrated in different periods of time dating to far back as 1970s. Large population of Rohingya refugees migrated to Bangladesh when they were 18 years old, so many were ready to participate in the labor force. Comparatively there is a small population of Rohingyas aged after 40 who migrated to Bangladesh.
- Most of Rohingya refugees had low level of Bengali language skills (speaking, writing, reading and understanding) before migrating to Bangladesh. However, their Bengali language skills have improved now after arriving in Bangladesh. But for their English skills there are a high number of refugees not knowing English even after migration. Large number of refugees knowing Bengali got employed within the first three months after migration, so Bengali language plays an important role than English in accessing jobs for the refugees.
- High percentages of refugees were uneducated or just completed primary school before their migration to Bangladesh. However, we observed a change in their education level, one fourth of refugees have gotten higher education after migrating to Bangladesh. Few of them even have a bachelors and masters.
- Rohingya refugees who migrated to Bangladesh came from different background in Myanmar (homemaker, daily labor, NGO officer, teacher, shopkeeper, tailor ... ). Their first occupation in Bangladesh varies from businessman to garment worker, teacher to famer, shopkeeper to maid, student to driver, daily labor to tailor. Their job falls under different job categories (self-employed, manual labor, office job). However, almost half of them worked in manual jobs upon arriving in Bangladesh. We observed that only 10%

of the refugee got their first job as the same one to the one they worked in their home country- Myanmar. High percentage of the refugees have accessed to jobs in Bangladesh within 3 months.

After we categorized the jobs into three job types according to certain fulfillment of the criteria, we noticed that there is a drastic increase of the percentage of the same jobs in Bangladesh; 60% of refugees work in the same job type to the ones they worked in their home country.

- Relatives of Rohingya refugees played an important role in settlement, access to job and social aids to the refugees.
- Almost half of the refugees continue with their first job in Bangladesh.
- For current status of Rohingya refugees, most of them work in full-time jobs. Half of them receive salary as payment for their work. Refugees who work as self- employed/ businessman or officer have higher household income compared to those who work in daily labor. Those who completed high school or college or master degree have higher household income compare to refugees who have lower education. Household income varies among Rohingya refugees.
- High percentage of children got into labor force of Bangladesh after a short time of migration.
- More than one fourth of refugees have received social aids (which is analyzed in the period 1970-2017). Among those who have received social aids, most of them received money as support.

## PART FOUR: CHALLENGES AND LIMITATIONS

- The limited budget was a challenge which put a constraint on phase 3 of the research; therefore we had to limit our sample size.
- The language barrier was one of our biggest concerns since both of us the key researchers don't speak Bengali, and most of participants use Bengali or their minority language. However, with the help of the research assistants we could conduct the survey successfully.
- Some data collected by the research assistants could not be used because of it was not clear. Some participants preferred not to answer some questions; therefore some data are reported as "unidentified data".
- Limitation of access to refugee camps and some particular areas due to security issues of both the researchers and the refugees. So we couldn't supervise the survey collections and interview with research assistants and the research participants.
- The status of registered and unregistered refugees is not mentioned in this report, so it lacks clarity of the group of the refugees that we are representing.
- As refugee status is sensitive now in Bangladesh, some of refugees refused to join in research for their safety.



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## PART SIX: QUESTIONNAIRE

### SESSION A :BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A.1. What is your gender?

- A. Male
- B. Female
- C. Other
- D. Prefer not to say

A.2. Which age range do you fall in (when you first came to Bangladesh)?

- A. Less than 18
- B. 18-30
- C. 18-25
- D. 25-30
- E. 30-40
- F. 40- 50
- G. 50-60
- H. more than 60

A.3. How old are you now? \_\_\_\_\_

A.4. Are you married?

- A. Yes
- B. No

A.5. Which religion do you follow?

- A. Islam
- B. Christianity
- C. Buddhism

D. Hinduism

E. Nonreligious

F. Others

G. Prefer not to mention

A.6. Which year did you migrate to Bangladesh?

A. Before 1950s

B. 1950s- 1960s

C. 1960s-1970s

D. 1970s-1980s

E. 1980s-1990s

F. 1990- 1995

G. 1996-2000

H. 2001- 2005

I. 2006-2010

J. 2010-2013

A.7. How long have you been living in Bangladesh?

A. Less than a year

B. 1 - 2 years

C. 3-4 years

D. 5-7 years

E. 7-10 years

F. 10-15 years

G. 15-20 years

H. 2014-2017

A.8. Where did you spend your childhood and adolescence before you came to Bangladesh?

1. In the ..... area ( )

2. In the ..... area ( )

3. In the ..... area ( )

4. Elsewhere in the countryside

5. Prefer not to mention

**SESSION B : EDUCATION AND PROFESSION**

B.1. Which of the options below indicate the highest level of education you have completed before migrating to Bangladesh ?

- A. Primary school (grade 1-6)
- B. Lower secondary school (grade 6–8)
- C. High school (grade 9-12)
- D. Job training after high school diploma
- E. College / University Degree
- F. Master's degree
- G. Doctorate degree

If you choose D/E/F/G, please move to this question :

*Which field / training did you study for your highest level of education ?*

.....

B.2. Have higher education **after coming to Bangladesh?**

- A. Yes
- B. No

If Yes, move to this question:

B.2.1. Which of the options below indicate the highest level of education you have completed after migrating to Bangladesh ?

- A. Primary school (grade 1–6)
- B. Lower secondary school (grade 6-8)
- C. High school (grade 9-12)
- D. Job training after high school diploma
- E. College / University Degree
- F. Master's degree
- G. Doctorate degree

B.2.2. If you choose D/E/F/G, please move to this question :

*Which field / training did you study for your highest level of education ?*

.....

**SESSION C: BENGALI AND ENGLISH SKILL**

C.1. Which following languages did you know **before coming to Bangladesh**? You can choose more than one option

- A. Burmese
- B. Minority group’s language
- C. Bangladesh
- D. English
- E. Others :.....

C.2. How do you evaluate your skills in Bengali language **when you first came to Bangladesh** according to the options below?

	1 Not at all	2 Only a few words	3 With difficulty	4 Moderately	5 Fairly fluently	6 Fluently
a. I speak Bengali						
b. I write Bengali						
c. I read Bengali						
d. I understood Bengali						

**If you choose 1/2/3 from question , please move to this question:**

*C.2.1. Estimate how long you have studied Bengali to obtain needed skills for the job.*

*Study is understood here as any form of institutional education and self-study.*

- 1. I have not studied Bengali at all*
- 2. Less than a year*
- 3. 1–2 years*

4. 3–5 years

5. More than 5 years

C.3. How do you evaluate your skills in Bengali language **now** according to the options below?

	1 Not at all	2 Only a few words	3 With difficulty	4 Moderately	5 Fairly fluently	6 Fluently
a. I speak Bengali						
b. I write Bengali						
c. I read Bengali						
d. I understood Bengali						

C.4. How do you evaluate your skills in English language **when you first came to Bangladesh** according to the options below?

	1 Not at all	2 Only a few words	3 With difficulty	4 Moderately	5 Fairly fluently	6 Fluently
a. I speak English						
b. I write English						
c. I read English						

d.I understood English						
------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

**If you choose 1/2/3 from question, please move to this question:**

*4.1. Estimate how long you have studied English to obtain needed skills for job.*

*Study is understood here as any form of institutional education and self-study.*

*1. I have not studied English at all*

*2. Less than a year*

*3. 1–2 years*

*4. 3–5 years*

*5. More than 5 years*

C.5. How do you evaluate your skills in English language **now** according to the options below?

	1 Not at all	2 Only a few words	3 With difficulty	4 Moderately	5 Fairly fluently	6 Fluently
a. I speak English						
b.I write English						
c.I read English						
d.I understood English						

C.6. Which following languages did you use **after coming to Bangladesh**? You can choose more than 1 option

- A. Burmese
- B. Minority group's language
- C. Bengali
- D. English
- E. Others :.....

C.7. Which language is important for your job ?

- A. Burmese
- B. Minority group's language
- C. Bengali
- D. English
- E. Others :.....

C.8. How important is the Bengali language to your life ?

- A. Very important
- B. Moderately important
- C. Not very important
- D. Not important at all

If you choose A/B/C, please move to this question:

C.8.1. Estimate how long you have studied Bengali to obtain needed skills for job.

Study is understood here as any form of institutional education and self-study.

1. I have not studied Bengali at all
2. Less than a year
3. 1–2 years
4. 3–5 years
5. More than 5 years

#### **SESSION D: JOB AND WORKPLACE**

D.1. Which occupational group **did you belong to when you were working at your home country? (Be specific about the job; for example teacher in history, fireman, farmer )**

.....



\*(Let them write their last job , then we can arrange in group).

D.2. What specific jobs did you work at your home country before coming to Bangladesh?

List five jobs:

Name of job	Main task

D.3. What was your first job in Bangladesh?

.....

D.4. How long did it take you to find the first job when you came to Bangladesh ?

- A. Less than 1 month
- B. From 1 month to less than 2 months
- C. From 2 months to less than 3 months
- D. 3 months and more

D.5. How did you find your first job ?

- A. Through acquaintances
- B. Through Relatives
- C. By myself
- D. Others.....

D.6. Which occupational group **did you belong to at your first job? (Be specific about the job; for example teacher in history, fireman, farmer )**

D.7. Are you employed now ?

A. Yes

B. No

If yes , move to 1.1

D.7.1. Is your current job your first job?

A. Yes

B. No

If No, move to this question 7.2

D.7.2. Mark on the grid below at your five jobs which have longest time ( jobs you had in Bangladesh) : How long your job was, Location, Main task, beginning (m/ year) and end ( m/ year).

Name of job	beginning - ending	Location	Main task

D.8. Which occupational group **do you belong to where you are working now?(Be specific about the job; for example teacher in history, fireman, farmer )**

.....

D.9. Are you self-employed?

A. Yes

B. No

If Yes, go to question

D.9.1. If you are self-employed, what type of equipment and / or premises do you own

List here three most valuable things:

1. ....

2.....

3.....

D.9.2. Does anyone assist you with this work?

A. Yes

B. No

D.9.2a. IF YES, Can you tell us the no. of assistants that works with you. \_\_\_\_\_

D.10. What is your employment status? (Tick any of the following one that applies to you).

A. Employed - FULL TIME

B. Employed - PART TIME

C. Self employed

D. Retired (Go to Q.6)

E. Student (Go to Q.6)

F. Unemployed (Q.6)

G. Homemaker (Q.6)

D.10.1. If part-time, would you work full-time in this occupation if full-time work was offered to you?

Yes

No

D.10.1a. If "No", please explain why?

.....

.....

D.11. On which days do you work?

A. Weekdays

B. Week-ends

D.12. At what time of the day do you work?

- A. Days
- B. Evenings
- C. Nights

D.13. How are you paid?

- A. Hourly
- B. Salary
- C. Commission
- D. Contract
- E. Other (explain):

D.14. Please indicate your three preferred jobs which are suitable with your working skills and experience/ education background.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

### **SESSION E: FINANCIAL CONDITION**

E.1. Is your present employment normally your main source of income?

- A. Yes
- B. No

E.2. How many people live in your household including yourself? \_\_\_\_\_

E.3. How many dependent people in your home ( older people, children, disabled people or ones who cannot do works , unemployed ones ) ?

- a. No one
- b. 1 person
- c. 2 people
- d. 3 people
- e. 4 people
- f. More than 5 people

E.4. If you add up your household income, how much is the monthly net income (income after taxation if applicable)?

If you do not know the exact figure, please give an estimate.

BDT \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ BDT per month

## **SESSION F : SOCIAL AID**

F.1. How many times did you request for financial support from aid organizations?

F.2. Do you have access to any micro-credit loans?

F.3. Have you ever received aid from any organizations?

Yes

No

F.3.1 If yes, how did you hear about the organization?

- A. Media
- B. Awareness Program
- C. Relatives
- D. Friends
- E. Others

F.4. Have you ever received aid from individual?

- A. Yes
- B. No

F.5. How long do they provide the aid for?

- A. 1 month
- B. 1 year
- C. less than a year

- D. 2 years
- E. Other\_\_

F.6. Who are ones the aid target to ? Tick all that applies.

- A. You
- B. Spouse
- C. Children
- D. Grandfather
- E. Grandmother
- F. Your whole family

F.7. Please evaluate the form of aid.

	Money	food	shelter	clothes
Form of aid				

If the aid is in the form of money answer following question.

F.7.1. Is the amount of the aid consistent?

- A. Yes
- B. No

F.7.2. Is the aid paid in

- A. Per Day
- B. Per Week
- C. Per Month
- D. Per Year

F.7.3. How much do you receive? ....

F.8. Is the aid enough to cover the family necessary expenditure (food, clothes and shelter)

- A. Yes
- B. No

F.9. Are you satisfied with the aid you have received ?

- A. Highly satisfied
- B. Satisfied
- C. Moderate satisfaction
- D. Not satisfied

F.10. What is your opinion of the following statements concerning aids/ support s( materials, finance,...) from society ( UNHCR/ other organizations/ individuals ...) for refugee ?

Please answer all items a–e for aid receiving individuals

Please answer e for non-aid receiving individual as well.

	1 Strongly agree	2 Agree	3 Disagree	4 Strongly disagree	5 No opinion
a. These supports/ aids have played an important role in your settlement in Bangladesh					
b. These supports / aids is enough to cover food demand of your family					
c. It is easy to access to these aids					
d. These support/ aids are main sources for my family before I found my job.					
e. Do you think aid is necessary?					

## **G. SESSION G : SOCIAL INTERACTION**

G.1. Are there any refugee's heritage work experience / jobs obtained by local citizens through exchange culture process?

G.2. How much is average budget have you spend on food monthly ?

G.3. How do you rate your relationship with your neighbors ?

- A. Very good
- B. Good
- C. Moderate
- D. Do not know each other much
- E. Not really good
- F. Bad
- G. Very bad

## **H. SESSION H : WORKPLACE ENVIRONMENT**

H.1. How do you rate your relationship with your employer?

- A. Very good
- B. Good
- C. Moderate
- D. Do not know each other much
- E. Not really good
- F. Bad
- G. Very bad

H.2. How you rate your mentioned relationship with people at workplace ?

- A. Very good
- B. Good
- C. Moderate
- D. Do not know each other much
- E. Not really good
- F. Bad
- G. Very bad



H.3. How long did it take you to catch up with work as other staffs?

- A. One week
- B. Two weeks
- C. Under one month
- D. One to two months
- E. Under three months
- F. Three to six months
- G. More than six months

H.4. How do you rate your required skill-learning process?

- A. Very fast learner
- B. Fast learner
- C. Moderate learner
- D. Not really fast learner
- E. Slow learner
- F. Very slow learner

H.5. Do you think are there any skills/ knowledge that you learned / gained from colleagues through exchange process / working process ?

Yes

No

If yes, please share with us which skills / knowledge?

.....

H.6. How do you apply their work experience/ skills / education from their home country in new environment to make a livelihood?(open-ended)