

Strengthening Regional Responses to the Rohingya situation

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Rohingya history and their persecution

The Muslim community is the Rohingya.



Rohingyas are not Bangalese, they are from Arakan or Rakhaine state

Who are the Rohingya?

- Arakan was independent and sovereign kingdom for centuries
- It was an independent kingdom between Southeast Asia and the Indian subcontinent
- Burmese intruded Arakan and occupied
- Arakan again become independent
- Again Occupied during the British era

Sufferings & slow genocide

Slow genocide started with

- Limiting access to Education
- Limiting Rights
- Restricting Movement
- Limiting Earning source
- Rape
- Arson, etc.

LIVING WITHOUT A COUNTRY, THE ROHINGYA EXILE



1948

MYANMAR BECAME INDEPENDENT FROM THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

THE COUNTRY'S MILITARY REGIME SUBDUED ETHNIC MINORITIES IN THE NEW BURMA.

SPECIALLY TO THE ROHINGYA.

BLAMED AS MUSLIM MIGRANTS,
THEY STARTED SUFFERING A LONG SILENT GENOCIDE
DURING THE DICTATORSHIP AND NOW IN A DEMOCRACY,
BACKED BY A TERRIFYING FALSE BUDDHISM.

ESCAPING FROM DEATH, THE ROHINGYA LEFT ARAKAN.

Remove the Rohingya, especially the Muslims

Citizenship revoked and denied

After 1982

Ultra nationalist, Buddhism and Burmese

The screenshot shows a video player with a red background at the top. The text "Citizenship Law of Burma" is written in yellow, followed by "(1982)" in yellow. Below that, the Burmese text "မြန်မာနိုင်ငံသားဥပဒေ" is written in yellow. The bottom part of the video shows a white background with the text "Chapter II" and "Citizenship" in black. Below this, there are three numbered paragraphs in black text. Paragraph 3 describes nationals such as the Kachin, Kayah, Karen, Chin, Burman, Mon, Rakhine or Shan and ethnic groups as have settled in any of the territories included within the State as their permanent home from a period prior to 1185 B.E., 1823 A.D. are Burma citizens. Paragraph 4 states: "The Council of State may decide whether any ethnic group is national or not." Paragraph 5 states: "Every national and every person born of parents, both of whom are nationals are". A red box highlights the text "THE COUNCIL OF STATE MAY DECIDE WHETHER ANY ETHNIC GROUP IS NATIONAL OR NOT." at the bottom of the video player. The video player controls are visible at the bottom, showing a play button, a progress bar at 6:52 / 1:01:56, and various icons.

Citizenship Law of Burma
(1982)
မြန်မာနိုင်ငံသားဥပဒေ

Chapter II
Citizenship

3. Nationals such as the Kachin, Kayah, Karen, Chin, Burman, Mon, Rakhine or Shan and ethnic groups as have settled in any of the territories included within the State as their permanent home from a period prior to 1185 B.E., 1823 A.D. are Burma citizens.

4. The Council of State may decide whether any ethnic group is national or not.

5. Every national and every person born of parents, both of whom are nationals are

THE COUNCIL OF STATE MAY DECIDE WHETHER ANY ETHNIC GROUP IS NATIONAL OR NOT.

History of persecution

- 1785 (Arakan was over swept by the Bamar)
- 1799
- 1971
- 2012
- 2016
- 2017

80% of the Rohingya people are out of the country



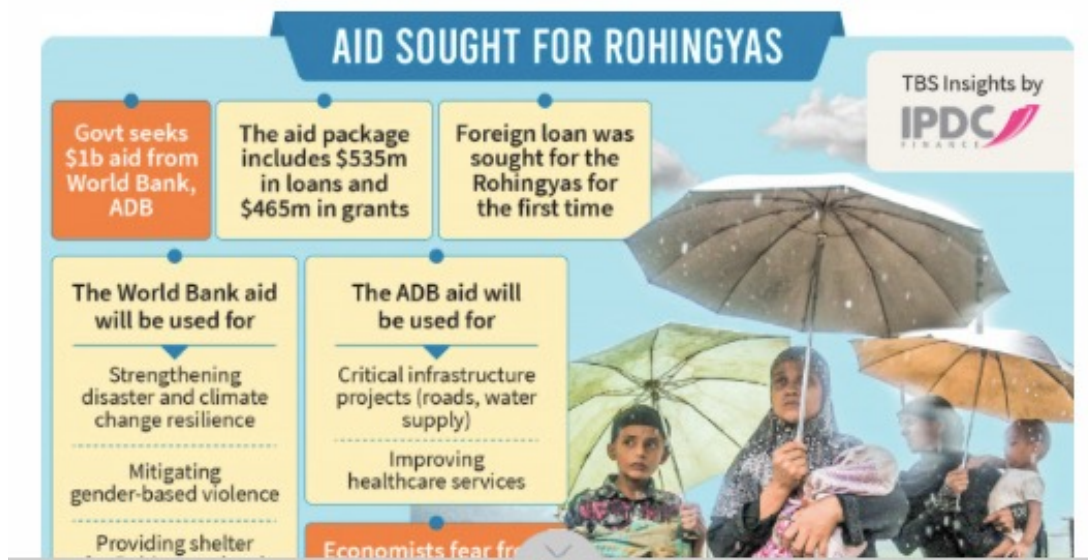
Case in International Court of Justice- ICJ

- **International Court of Justice**
 - Time process e.g. Russia vs. Myanmar.
 - Financial crunch
- Also irony when international countries are investing in Myanmar!



For the first time, Bangladesh seeks foreign loans to support Rohingyas

\$1 billion sought from WB and ADB – \$535 million in loans and \$465 million in grants



Bangladesh has done an incredible thing but now in challenge

Funding shortfalls also forced WFP to cut its food vouchers from US\$ 12 to US\$ 8 per person per month in Cox's Bazar camps.

Way forward

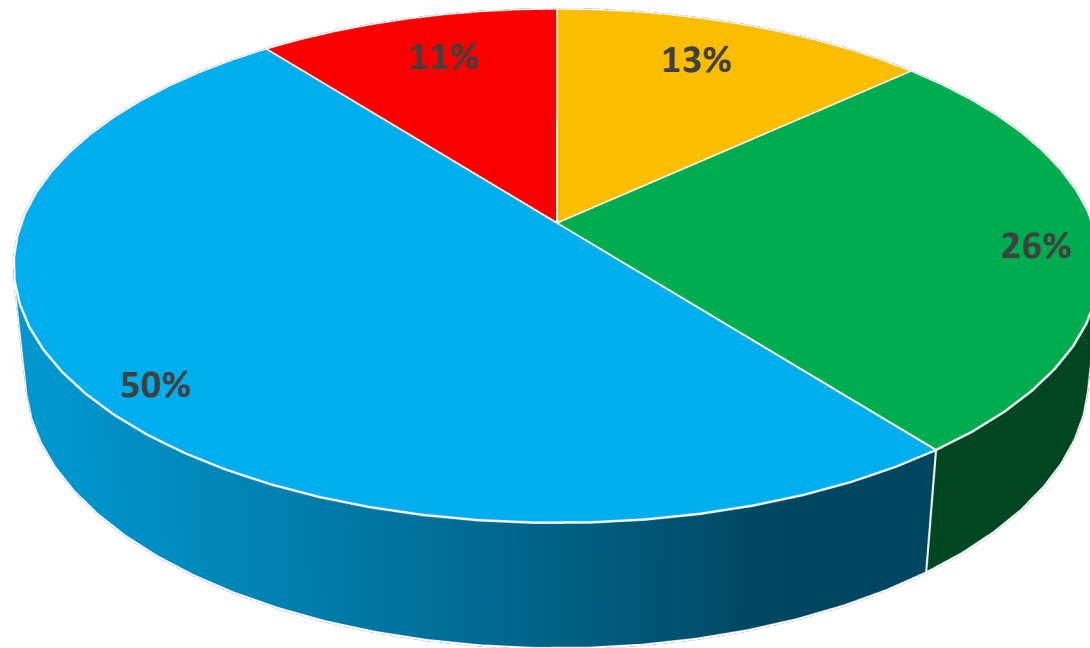
- Strengthen advocacy with ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights
- Advocacy with ASEAN Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children.
- Linking them with the democratic movement, e.g. NUG, AA, PDF.
- Advocacy for Rohingya citizenship, Rights and dignified repatriation.



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Survey findings

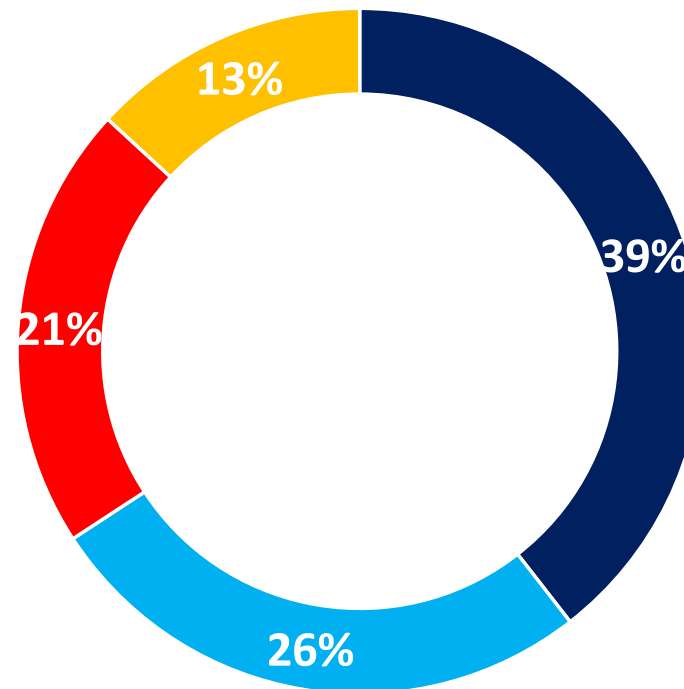
Types of NGO participated in the survey...



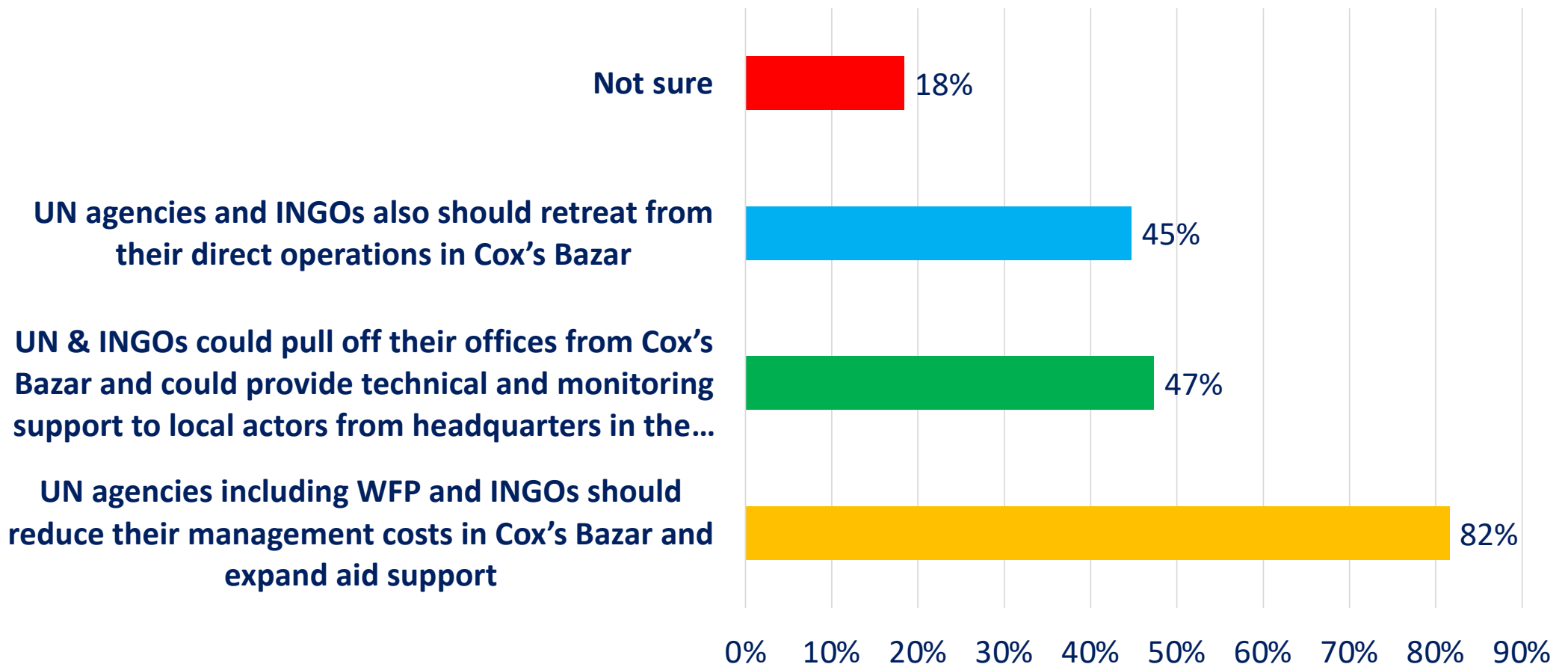
■ International NGO ■ Local NGO ■ National NGO ■ Other

1. In your opinion, Rohingya response in Bangladesh should be like...

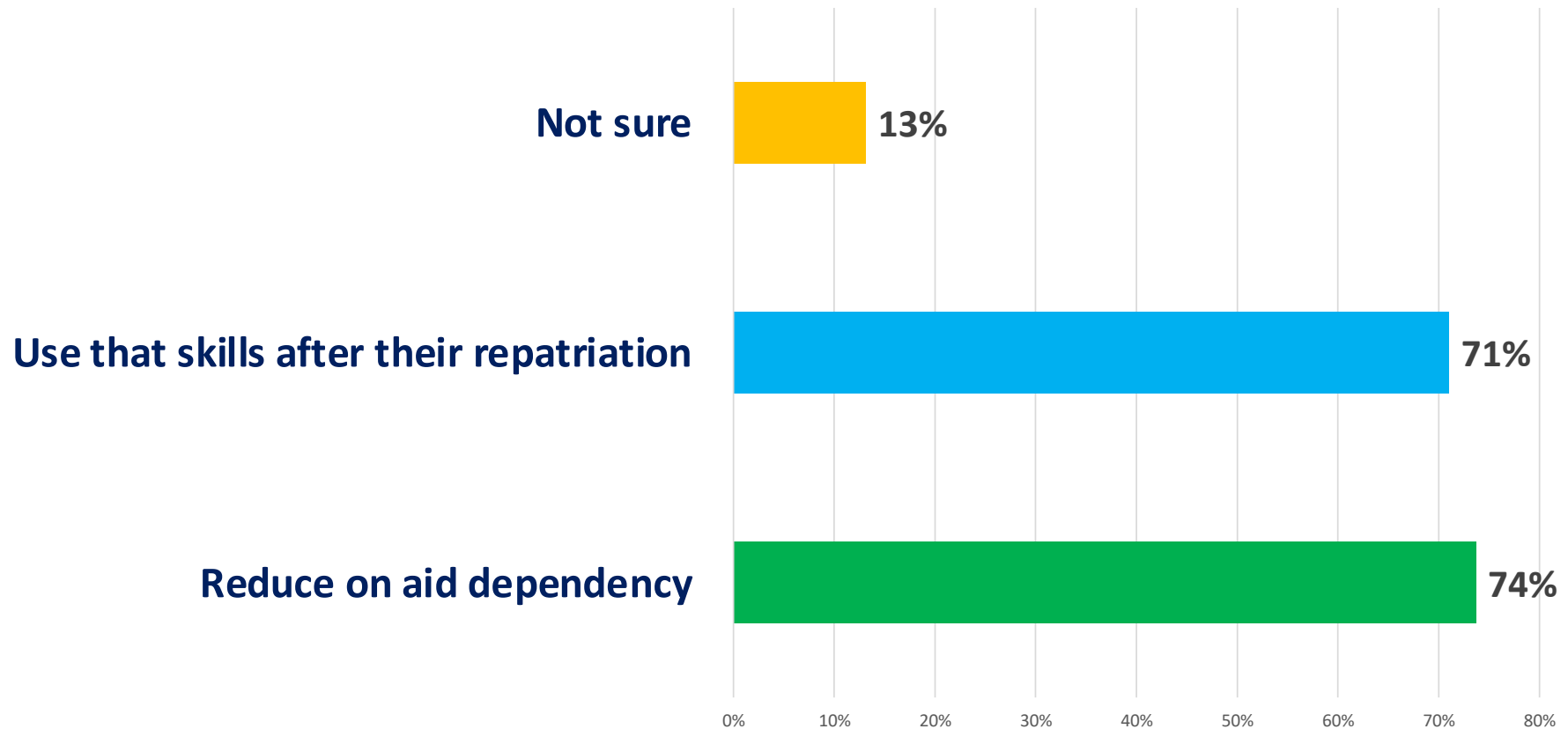
- Right-based response
- Service delivery response
- As usual, like UN, INGO & LNGO response
- Not sure



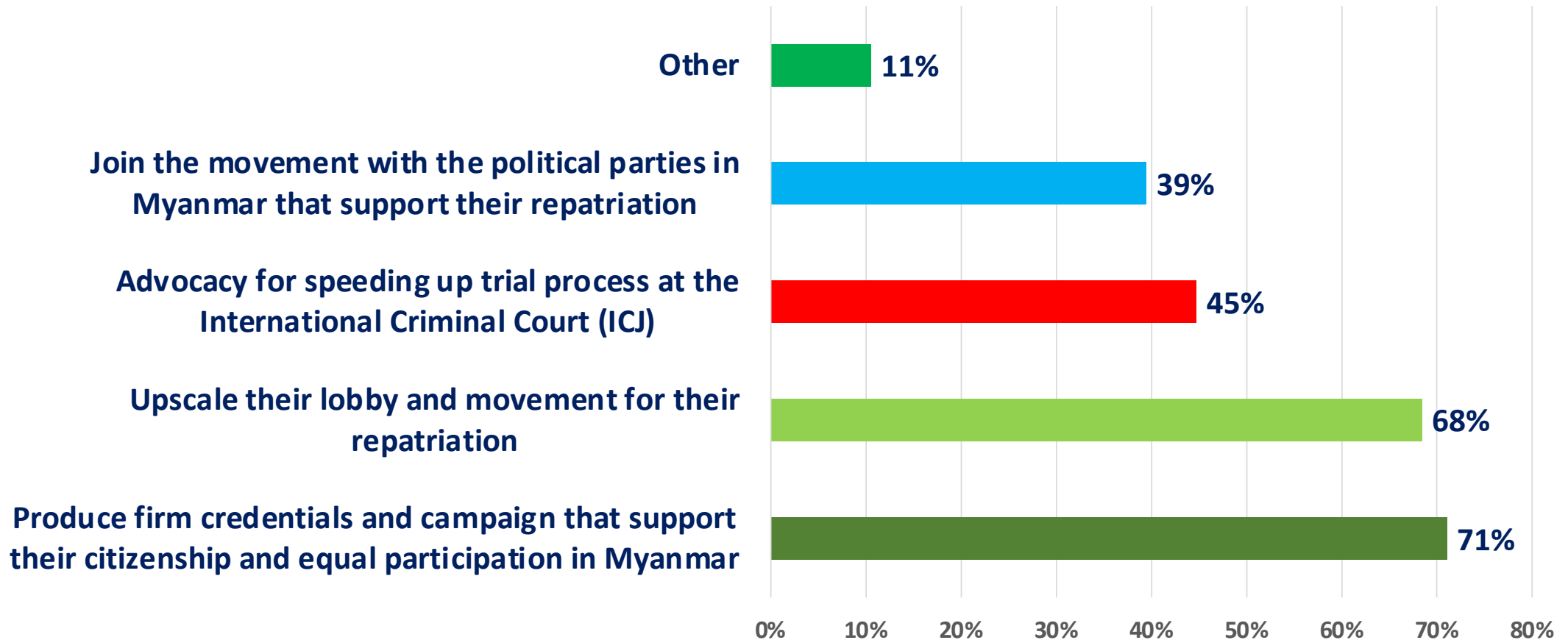
2. Funding shortfalls forced WFP to cut its food vouchers from US\$ 12 to US\$ 8 per person per month in Cox's Bazar camps. In your opinion what could be the possible options to remain with food support that previously stood at US\$ 12 (multiple choice).



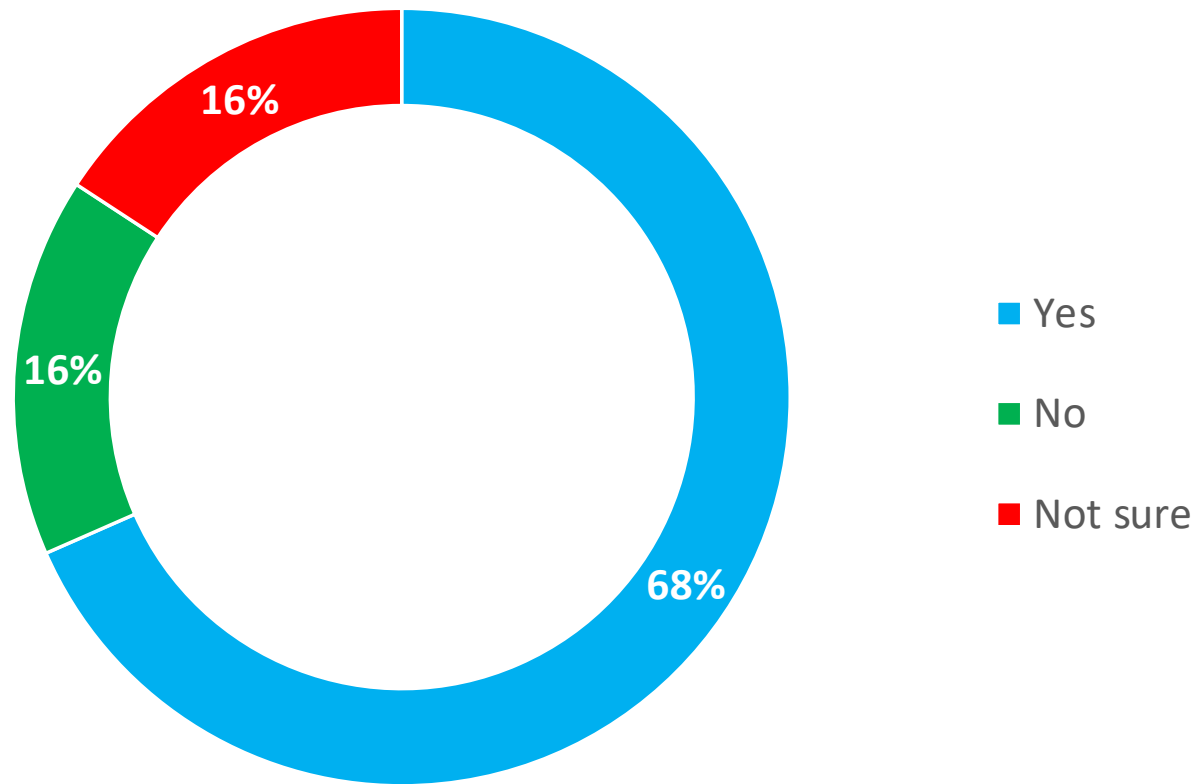
3. Do you think Rohingya community should also be trained to develop their skills with the aim of gaining necessary skills to- (multiple choice)



4. Do you think Rohingya community and their CSOs, both at home and abroad should- (multiple choice)?



5. Do you consider Rohingya people in Cox's Bazar should have access to higher education until their safe repatriation?





Thank you