



Cuddly toys distribution to displaced children in Shan State



Humanitarian Situation Report No. 11

Reporting Period
1 January to 31 December 2023

Myanmar

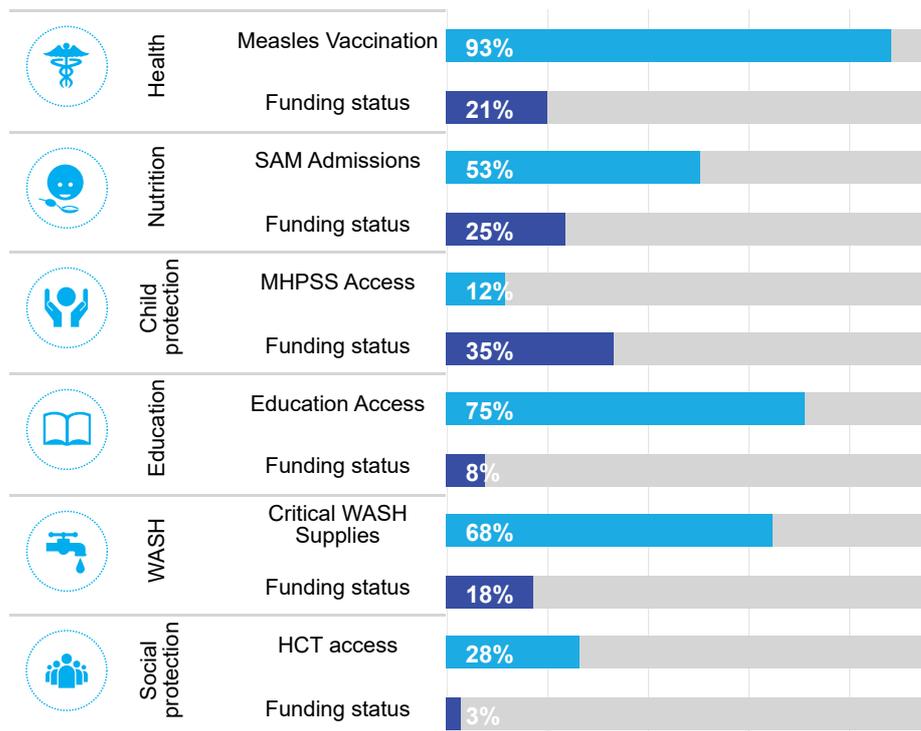
HIGHLIGHTS

- The situation in Myanmar deteriorated significantly in the last quarter of 2023 with the escalation of armed clashes and increasing of grave violations against children. More than 2.6 million people are internally displaced by the end of 2023, an increase of 1.1 million since the same time in last year.
- In 2023, UNICEF received 16.7 per cent of its Myanmar Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal of US\$ 217.9 million. Despite the huge funding gap and multiple constraints, UNICEF and its partner reached almost 1.8 million children and their families.
- Despite the funding limitation, measles vaccination reached 93 per cent against the target. UNICEF and its partners able to support children's education access up to 75 per cent of the target while 63 per cent of WASH supplies and 53 per cent achieved for severe acute malnutrition (SAM) admissions due to the complementary funding and programmatic modalities.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

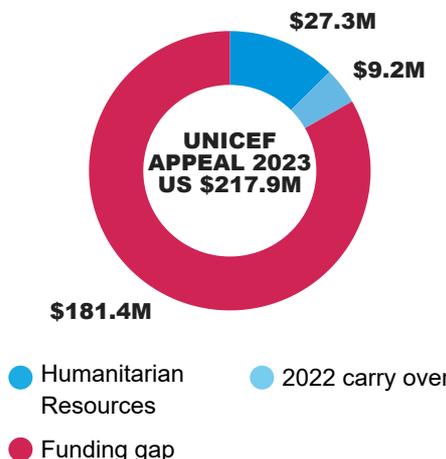


UNICEF RESPONSE AND FUNDING STATUS*



* UNICEF response % is only for the indicator, the funding status is for the entire sector.

FUNDING STATUS (IN US\$)**



** Funding available includes: funds received in the current year; carry-over from the previous year; and repurposed funds with agreement from donors

FUNDING OVERVIEW AND PARTNERSHIPS

UNICEF Myanmar appealed for US\$217.9 million in 2023 to address the needs of 3.7 million people, including 2.3 million children. At the end of 2023, the Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) remains severely underfunded with a funding gap of 83.3 per cent. UNICEF secured US\$36.50 million (US\$27.28 million in 2023 and \$9.22 million carried over from 2022), representing 16.7 per cent of its 2023 HAC appeal. The humanitarian needs remain high going into 2024 as reflected in UNICEF's 2024 HAC appeal.

In 2023, UNICEF received generous support from Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), the United States Fund for UNICEF, the European Commission's Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations Department (DG ECHO), the Government of Canada, the Government of Japan, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Government of Norway, the Royal Thai Government, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA) along with the Central Emergency Response Fund, the World Health Organization (WHO), the Czech Committee for UNICEF, the French Committee for UNICEF, the German Committee for UNICEF and Gavi the Vaccine Alliance. UNICEF Myanmar also received internal allocations from global humanitarian thematic funding and the Emergency Programme Fund (EPF) loan to support the provision of the humanitarian response. Additionally, UNICEF provided humanitarian leadership and cluster coordination and strengthened protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA).

With this support, UNICEF delivered life-saving humanitarian assistance and ensured critical services reached almost 1.8 million children and their families in need. For the year 2024, UNICEF will scale up programmes and approaches to reach more vulnerable children and communities. UNICEF expresses its sincere appreciation to all private and public sector donors for their contributions in supporting the children of Myanmar.

SITUATION OVERVIEW AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Throughout 2023, the humanitarian situation continued to deteriorate across the country, with intensifying armed clashes leading to increased security incidents, human rights violations and internal displacement. The situation deteriorated significantly in the last quarter of 2023 which was the largest in scale for the intensification of the conflict and most extensive geographically since early 2021. The escalation involved heavy fighting, between the Myanmar Armed Forces and various armed groups, including ethnic armed organizations and people's defense forces particularly in northern Shan, Rakhine, Kayah, Sagaing and Chin. The situation is now marked by a surge in displacement, a fragile security environment, profound protection threats, and increasingly unmet needs including a health system in crisis, disrupted education services and food insecurity. The intensifying conflict and indiscriminate attacks have led to a rise in grave violations of human rights including killing, maiming and, arbitrary arrests. Grave violations against children are increasing while attacks on schools and hospitals continue at alarming levels. Children continue to suffer from mental health and psychosocial impacts from witnessing or experiencing violence, as well as new or prolonged displacement.

More than 2.6 million people were displaced as of the end December 2023 – an increase of 1.1 million in one year (1.5 million in December 2022). This includes more than 628,000 people displaced since the upsurge in late October 2023. By the end of 2023, approximately 4.5 million children needed support for the education in emergencies and an estimated one-third of school-age children were not enrolled in any form of learning, while conflict, displacement, and economic hardships have continued to disrupt education over the past three years with life-long impacts on the children of Myanmar⁵. Moreover, 1.3 million children aged below 5 years are in need of nutrition services, with the situation expected to further deteriorate in the coming months. In 2024, 18.6 million people (including six million children) are in need of humanitarian aid – more than 18 times the number before the military takeover in February 2021.

In May 2023, extremely severe Cyclone Mocha ripped through Myanmar, affecting more than 3 million people and causing deaths, injuries, and significant damage to people's homes, internally displaced persons' shelters, and public infrastructure in Rakhine State and throughout Chin, Sagaing, Magway, and Kachin. The cyclone exacerbated pre-existing severe and deteriorating humanitarian vulnerabilities in the affected regions.

Inflation and the depreciation of the local currency are driving up the price of essential items and affecting the flow of commodities in the markets. Fuel stock depletion is affecting the transportation, telecommunications, the agricultural and industrial sectors and is impacting the delivery of supplies to internally displaced persons in conflict-affected townships. Restriction on access, limits to cash withdrawals, bureaucratic obstacles and telecommunication interruptions have continued to hamper the humanitarian response. Arbitrary arrests have escalated with more than 142 humanitarian workers arrested and detained by the different parties to the conflict between January and November 2023⁶.

Civilians fleeing their homes, often multiple times, continue to be exposed to the escalating explosive risk of being harmed by ordnance and those in situations of protracted displacement face intensification of their vulnerabilities over time. The frequency of mine-related incidents has been climbing every year, with an alarming increase in 2023. A total of 858 people injured by landmines and explosive remnants of war was reported nationally in the first nine months of 2023, - a 220 per cent increase in the total number of such casualties recorded in 2022 (390)⁷.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE

Health



New parents receiving community newborn kit for their baby in Southern Shan

In 2023, UNICEF and its health partners extended their services to displaced people and those affected by Cyclone Mocha. UNICEF reached around 679,000 people with primary health care services including caring for pregnant women, newborns, sick children and emergency referrals, in the northwest, southeast, northeast and Yangon peri-urban area. Primary health care consultation has been 1.5 times higher than that achieved in 2022 and exceeded the expected HAC target (226 per cent) due to the UNICEF engagement and advocacy efforts with partners and stakeholders to receive the funding sharing. The intensification of conflict reduced the access to public sector services has led to people relying more on the services provided by INGO/NGO partners. This contributed towards the Health Cluster achieving around 29 percent of its target of reaching 2.3 million people with primary health care services.

UNICEF supported the capacity building of 951 frontline workers from 17 partner organizations on key community-based health care services for newborns and children aged below 5 years. These organizations have been serving across the states and regions, reaching around 2 million people with community-based health care services. Essential supplies, including 274 interagency emergency health kits have also been provided.

UNICEF effectively supported restoring immunization services, planning and implementing catch-up vaccinations, securing adequate budgets, and establishing partnerships with civil society organizations (CSOs) in the most vulnerable areas. These collective efforts resulted in a notable improvement in immunization coverage. Notably, the coverage for the Diphtheria, Pertussis, and Tetanus (DPT3) vaccine reached to an estimated 80 per cent by the end of 2023. Similarly, measles vaccination coverage reached up to an estimated 93 per cent of its 2023 HAC target during the same period. More than 800,000 adolescent girls received Human Papilloma Virus vaccines. UNICEF worked to ensure an equitable allocation 1.5 million doses of COVID-19 (Pfizer) vaccines, supported by COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX).

Nutrition



A child is screened for mid-upper arm circumference measurement in Ayeyarwady Region

In 2023, UNICEF and its partners reached 53 per cent of its annual target for the management of children with severe acute malnutrition (SAM), totalling 5,244 children aged 6–59 months (2,448 boys, 2,796 girls). In terms of preventive nutrition services, more than 2.5 million children aged 6–59 months were reached throughout the year with multiple micronutrient and vitamin A supplements. This exceeded the target due to the usage of multiple platforms and mass campaigns that were conducted twice in 2023. In addition, UNICEF supported 22,823 pregnant and lactating women with micronutrient tablet supplementation, achieving 9 per cent of the cluster target. Moreover, 66 per cent of annual target for infant and young child feeding (IYCF) counselling was achieved with 88,587 primary caregivers (5,539 male, 83,048 female) of children under two years. There have been multiple challenges in achieving the targets and nutrition implementations throughout the year, including limited funding, resources, and operational access, and supply constraints, as well as technical capacity limitations.

As a technical lead agency, UNICEF facilitated a series of nutrition capacity-building training on the integrated management of acute malnutrition for 276 partners, and IYCF counselling training for 89 partners. As a result, those partners in different areas could provide life-saving nutrition services and optimal IYCF services.

Over the course of 2023, UNICEF has collaborated with partners to facilitate the release of essential nutrition supplies, including ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) for the treatment of children with SAM and multiple micronutrients, to cover the needs of more than 50,000 children and 25,000 pregnant and lactating women despite the supply and transport challenges.

Nutrition Cluster

Based on the Myanmar Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) 2023, some 600,000 people were prioritized for lifesaving nutrition support. During 2023, Nutrition Cluster members conducted mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) screenings for 320,046 children and pregnant and lactating women for early detection of acute malnutrition among vulnerable population.

36 per cent out of prioritized severe acute malnutrition (SAM) were provided lifesaving nutrition support and the performance indicator for cured was 72 per cent. This is below the minimum SPHERE⁸ standards expected and when compared to 2022 during the same period, the cure rate was above the standard at 77 per cent. The rest of performance indicator results were above the standard at 11 per cent defaulted and 0.1 per cent died. The erratic supply of lifesaving therapeutic foods for treatment of SAM could be the main

contributory factor and the cluster to consider other modality and alternative ways of SAM treatment during supply shortage. About 28 per cent of targeted cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) were treated with Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program and 89 per cent of MAM cases were cured in 2023 and is comparable to 2022 achievements.

Due to the shortage of nutrition supplies since September 2023, Nutrition Cluster encouraged its members to carry out preventive interventions such as IYCF counselling, micronutrient supplementation and blanket supplementary feeding targeting children under five years and their caregivers. The cluster temporarily endorsed the use of other therapeutic foods following the shortages and this was coordinated with Global Nutrition Cluster, United Nations agencies, partner organizations and technical working groups. In 2023, 96,346 pregnant and lactating women and caregivers were given IYCF counselling to ensure the provision of safe and adequate nutrition for infants, and the promotion of optimal breastfeeding. The cluster achieved 73 per cent for overall preventive response against the humanitarian needs in 2023 and this was an improvement when compared to the previous year's 21 per cent. National cluster and sub national clusters provided support for capacity strengthening among cluster members and provided trainings to 2,803 humanitarian aid workers during 2023.

Child protection, GBViE and PSEA



Age and gender appropriate child protection kits distribution in Rakhine state

In 2023, UNICEF and partners have provided comprehensive child protection humanitarian interventions ranging from preventive awareness/risk informed sessions to the responsive provision of services to children and adolescents in many conflict-affected areas. During 2023, UNICEF and partners reached 242,364 people (90,007 boys, 98,697 girls, 19,294 men and 34,348 women) providing community-based mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS). A total of 188,371 people (11,237 boys, 15,852 girls and 161,282 women) were provided with gender-based violence (GBV) risk mitigation, prevention and/ or response interventions. Child protection partners reached a total of 36,191 people (5,091 boys, 6,041 girls, 10,041 men and 15,018 women) in order them to have a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse by aid workers. This needs to be further ensured across sections as the PSEA encompasses all programme sectors including child protection. 2,621 children received individual case management services and a total of 138,855 people (24,409 boys, 27,786 girls, 34,173 men and 52,487 women) were provided with interventions on landmine or other explosive weapons prevention and/or survivor assistance. In addition, 17,042 child protection kits were distributed to beneficiaries.

UNICEF provided child protection interventions through capacity building to direct and indirect partners, coaching and mentoring on NGO case workers in managing cases of violence against children and GBV, networking among private legal aid service providers, and regularly coordinating with partners and through Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CP AoR) and Mine Action Area of Responsibility (MA AoR), and coordination with other sectors and so on. Child protection partners especially local organizations have been enhanced their skills and knowledge to gradually taking the role of frontline child protection actors to work with communities including children and families alongside taking part in coordination with other child protection and non-child protection agencies as needed. In addition, communities and partners had access to a safe and accessible channel to report sexual exploitation and abuse by aid workers. More than 5.5 million people were reached through digital awareness in various ethnic languages such as Kayin, Kayah, and Kachin on MHPSS services, explosive ordinance risk education (EORE) and psychosocial wellbeing and mental health information.

Child Protection AoR

Throughout 2023, the CP AoR has effectively coordinated the child protection response in Myanmar with a focus on avoiding duplication and minimizing gaps. Despite being grossly underfunded, the CP AoR partners have reached 90.5 per cent of children targeted in the HRP through awareness raising and CP activities. CP AoR partners contribute to the minimum package of services including: case management, psychosocial support to children and caregivers, awareness raising, programming for adolescents and community level child protection. CP kits have also been distributed as needed and child friendly spaces established.

Additionally, the CP AoR has prioritized establishing dedicated working groups (WG) to strengthen the quality of child protection response. The GBV-CP WG developed standardized child marriage messaging⁹ as well as guidance on child protection in GBV Safe Houses¹⁰. The Gender Steering Committee developed a guidance note for gender sensitive child protection programming for under 13-year-olds¹¹. Localization was also a priority for the CP AoR working towards a more localized response. Within this process, the CP AoR developed two dashboards¹² to monitor how well cluster partners are achieving the pillars of localization, including: governance and decision making; influence; participation; partnerships, capacity and funding. The dashboards were used by the Localization WG to identify priority actions by demonstrating the strong and weakness areas of localization pillars for improving localization within the CP AoR.

Furthermore, the CP AoR convened several sessions for partners to strengthen their capacity in areas including proposal writing, prevention of child marriage, community level child protection, and child protection in emergencies (CPIE). The CP AoR, together with the PSEA network have started a project aimed at ensuring children have access to PSEA messages, and safe reporting mechanisms. This project will continue in 2024.

Mine Action AoR

In 2023, the MA AoR in Myanmar achieved key milestones in enhancing upstream collaboration with OCHA, the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG), Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), and Myanmar Humanitarian Fund (MHF), significantly broadening the reach geographically and impact of EORE. This integration not only expanded EORE's reach but also fostered synergies and improved access to affected areas.

A gap analysis conducted in 2023 aimed to optimize coordination,

resource allocation, and to avoid potential duplication, thereby increasing the efficiency and impact of mine action activities. The results of gap analysis were the improvement in targeting and identification of capacity gaps and avoiding the duplication of activities. In response to Cyclone Mocha, a collaboration with Mine Advisory Group and Danish Refugee Council led to an in-depth analysis of landmine risks in conflict-affected areas. The resulting infographic and tailored EORE materials were critical in raising awareness and addressing post-cyclone challenges.

Despite these advancements, challenges persisted, including access restrictions in conflict zones, complexities in victim assistance, and the need for adaptive strategies for natural disasters. Continuous refinement in reporting mechanisms is essential for effective mine action.

In summary, 2023 marked a significant shift towards more integrated, data-driven, and localized mine action approaches in Myanmar, with a strong focus on advocacy, innovative communication and capacity building. Overcoming ongoing challenges remains vital for the continued effectiveness and progress of mine action initiatives in Myanmar.

Education



Children get backpacks as Education in Emergency (EiE) supplies are distributed in Tanintharyi Region.

UNICEF and its partners supported children's access to formal and non-formal education including early learning for 670,883 children to ensure their continuity of learning. This assistance has also contributed to improving basic literacy and numeracy skills, social and emotional learning and, MHPSS, as well as life skills-based education for out-of-school children, hence, children and adolescents can enhance their well-being and quality of life. In addition, UNICEF and its partners also provided teaching and learning materials and essential learning package (ELP) kits benefitting 362,824 children, including those affected by Cyclone Mocha. However, the conflict is hampering children's learning continuity in many areas, including Sagaing, Magway, northern and southern Shan, Kayah, Kayin, Tanintharyi and Mon.

During 2023, 5,281 volunteer teachers/ educators/ facilitators (3,970 women) were trained and supported by UNICEF and its partners' training and incentive support activities, including training on psychosocial support, and inclusive education for children with disabilities. Engagement with relevant stakeholders including partners is critical to ensure safe and immediate access to the most vulnerable children.

A 31 per cent increase in children beneficiary reach was one of the key milestones of the Education Cluster and its partners for 2023 with 1,154,398 children (555,139 boys and 599,259 girls) reached across 14 states and regions (compared with 882,670 children reached in 2022).

As the strengthening of localization, the cluster collaboration with more local actors to take a pivotal lead role in the response is another milestone achievement of education cluster in 2023. The cluster onboarded 34 new local partners and helping them to participate in cluster's work and giving them access to resources including funding. This has greatly contributed to better access capacity and context knowledge in delivering assistance in hard-to-reach locations, especially in the increasingly challenging environment.

The devastating effects of Cyclone Mocha compounded challenges faced by children and communities in accessing education. It destroyed learning spaces in the camp-based and community-based temporary learning centers, as well as formal schools. Bureaucratic obstacles and unsafe access routes restricted responders' ability to conduct needs assessments and respond to emergencies, further impeding children's abilities to access education. During the 4th quarter of 2023, there were conflict escalations in various parts of the country. This caused unprecedented trends of displacement, instability and closure of schools - leading to disruption of children's education.

Water, sanitation and hygiene



Hand washing station for school in Shan state

UNICEF and partners reached 635,897 (204,109 children) conflict affected people in long-term camps, temporary sites, forests, host communities and peri-urban settlements, with life-saving WASH supplies. Clean drinking water was provided to 439,440 people through water boating, purification and chlorination of water, distribution of safe and clean drinking water and water-kiosks. Gender-segregated sanitation services, including emergency latrines and bathing shelters, benefitted 182,957 people. The handwashing behaviour change programme reached 382,270 conflict affected people, including 171,027 people who regularly received soap distributed in collaboration with the World Food Programme. UNICEF provided WASH services to the vulnerable population in collaboration with CSO partners, independent service providers, volunteers' networks, other United Nations agencies, and direct service delivery by UNICEF staff.

Throughout 2023, more than 50,000 internally displaced persons in the long-term camps in Kachin, Rakhine, and northern Shan

received regular WASH services, including clean drinking water, improved sanitation, and critical WASH supplies. UNICEF established water kiosks are distributing affordable bottled drinking water to meet the daily needs of 54,000 people in the peri-urban areas of Yangon, where specific townships are under martial-law. Additionally, 2,000 families with children aged under five years and pregnant women have received a cash benefit, every two months, to meet expenditures towards clean drinking water and hygiene supplies.

In the southeast (Bago, Kayah, Kayin, Shan South, Shan East and Thanintharayi), 190,418 conflict affected people received life-saving WASH supplies. Clean drinking water was provided to 96,080 affected people and gender segregated sanitation service reached 68,382 people who received gender separated and inclusive sanitation services. In the northwest (Chin, Magway and Sagaing), 86,034 affected people received clean drinking water and 17,002 people received gender segregated sanitation services.

WASH Cluster

The humanitarian response in the sector has encountered significant constraints primarily due to the restrictive measures, the increase in the numbers of internally displaced person and the expansion of the conflict affected areas.

Despite obstacles such as restricted access and a shortage of funds, achievements have been realized in meeting the targets set by the WASH Cluster. Some 929,308 women, men, boys and girls, 57 per cent of the cluster's target of 1.6 million people, have received timely, adequate and tailored personal hygiene items and appropriate/ community-tailored messages that enable hygienic behaviour.

WASH cluster partners have been able to provide safe/improved drinking water to 675,769 people (62 per cent of the target 1,098,120) to meet the demand for domestic purposes, at minimum/agreed upon standards. Some 46 percent of the targeted population, 461,754 people (women, men, boys and girls) benefitted from access to safe sanitation with functional excreta disposal systems, thereby reducing safety/public health/environmental risks.

182,444 vulnerable individuals were specifically identified for consultation regarding Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services and Accountability to Affected Population (AAP). Their apprehensions regarding service levels and satisfaction with provided services were met through provision of dignified and inclusive WASH services. Additionally, 27,566 women, men, girls, and boys are benefiting from WASH services in temporary learning environments, while 2,043 individuals received WASH services in temporary healthcare facilities.

Social protection



Emergency Cash Assistance in internally displaced persons' site, northern Shan

Significant progress was made to strengthen disability-inclusive humanitarian action in 2023. Disability screening was carried out for more than 25,500 children and adults in conflict-affected, hard-to-reach, and humanitarian priority areas. A disability management information system was deployed, enabling 2,511 households to receive bi-monthly disability allowances in 2023. This assistance benefited 2,611 children with disabilities, along with their 9,748 caregivers and family members, across 641 villages and wards in 121 townships. A critical success factor was the collaboration with organizations for people with disabilities and a wide network of community volunteers.

The peri-urban maternal and child cash transfer scheme, initiated in 2021 in townships which were under martial law in Yangon, was expanded to reach more than 19,000 pregnant women and children under the aged of two years in 2023 through joint efforts by UNICEF, WFP, and the EU/UNOPS Nexus Response Mechanism. Cash transfers, combined with the promotion of social and behavioural change, have shown a positive impact, with 96 per cent of participants reporting improved financial well-being. The prevalence of minimum dietary diversity increased among pregnant women (75 per cent, up from 39 per cent in 2022) and children aged 6-23 months (45 per cent, up from 16 per cent in 2022).

Furthermore, "Bright Start", the emergency primary healthcare insurance programme covered 32,740 pregnant women and children aged below 5 years as part of its temporary expansion in peri-urban townships which have heightened needs from 2022 through 2023. During this period, it provided 91,470 telemedicine consultations with trained family doctors, 11,600 home deliveries of essential medicines, 1,400 diagnostic investigations and outpatient benefits, and 2,270 hospital cash grants, significantly easing the financial burden for beneficiaries from out-of-pocket health expenses.

Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)



Life-saving messages displayed at an internally displaced persons' camp in Rakhine state as part of Cyclone Mocha Response

Social and Behaviour Change (SBC) and Accountability to Affected Population (AAP)

337,516 community members were reached with key messages on maternal and child health (MCH), nutrition, immunization, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and COVID-19 in 36 townships in Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Shan, Mandalay, Bago, Yangon, Sagaing and Ayeyarwady Region.

Through the “Knowledge Talk” Viber Channel, 600,521 views have been achieved through 475 key messages on nutrition, WASH, education, MHPSS, routine immunization and, MCH. As part of the response to the armed conflict, UNICEF continued to develop, print and disseminate lifesaving key messages based on the needs of the affected population. Approximately 550,000 people affected by Cyclone Mocha (in Rakhine) and floods (in Bago and Yangon Regions and Kayah State) were reached with contextualized lifesaving messages, through 24,000 information, education and communication (IEC) materials and 18 public miking services which is the dissemination of key messages with local languages using loudspeakers.

In-person AAP training sessions were conducted in six locations (Sittwe, Myitkyina, Lashio, Taunggyi, Hpa-An, Mandalay) corresponding to UNICEF field offices. A total of 201 individuals (110 men, 91 women) from partner organizations participated. An e-course on AAP was launched in Burmese, with 138 individuals enrolling and 71 completing it. The AAP dashboard was enhanced to monitor program documents, partner training, and community feedback actions. The AAP action plan for the Myanmar Country Office in 2024 has been developed and shared with the AAP Task Force for their inputs.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION AND STRATEGY

UNICEF capitalizes on its national presence through seven field offices in Myanmar which prioritize all vulnerable children and families, including those in communities who are displaced (or not) by natural disasters and conflicts. UNICEF supports the expansion of humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable people through its leadership roles in the Nutrition Cluster, the WASH Cluster, the CP AoR, the Mine Action AoR, and is co-leading the Education Cluster with Save the Children at national and subnational levels. UNICEF also participates in the Myanmar Cash Working Group and facilitates the in-country inter-agency network for PSEA with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). UNICEF continues to co-lead the Risk

Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) Working Group and participates in the Humanitarian Access Working Group.

In response to the crisis, UNICEF is adapting the way it works to achieve continuity of critical services at scale, coordinating with the Myanmar Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and with an extensive and diverse network of partners, including United Nations agencies, national and international NGOs, private sector partners and local organizations to efficiently deliver life-saving services.

UNICEF Myanmar launched its 2024 HAC appeal for US\$ 208.3 million to reach 3.1 million people, including 2.1 million children, to respond to the multisectoral humanitarian needs across the country. In collaboration with the Myanmar HCT, and through its cluster coordination role, UNICEF contributed to the finalization of the 2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan which was launched with a budget of US\$ 994 million to reach 5.3 million people and it will serve as a guiding framework for humanitarian initiatives in Myanmar.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

- Shining light on autism
<https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/stories/shining-light-autism>
- Children pay a heavy price as more landmines are laid
<https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/stories/children-pay-heavy-price-more-landmines-are-laid>
- Stories: Delivering child protection support despite hazardous environment central Myanmar
<https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/stories/delivering-child-protection-support-despite-hazardous-environment-central-myanmar>
- Stories: Making a difference to children who cannot see
<https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/stories/making-difference-children-who-cannot-see>
- Stories: Turning a new page in children's learning
<https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/stories/turning-new-page-childrens-learning>
- Stories: 5 common breastfeeding problems
<https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/stories/5-common-breastfeeding-problems>
- Stories: How to talk to your children about the death of a loved one
<https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/stories/how-talk-your-children-about-death-loved-one>
- Stories: The resilient spirit of a young girl
<https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/stories/resilient-spirit-young-girl>
- Stories: Cyclone Mocha: Latest example of dire climate threat facing Myanmar's children
<https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/stories/cyclone-mocha-latest-example-dire-climate-threat-facing-myanmars-children>

- Facebook Post: Helping with your child's mental well-being
<https://bit.ly/3SIfkc6>
- Facebook Post: Recognizing signs of distress in children
<https://bit.ly/3SgNWvA>
- Facebook Post: Developmental Milestones in Children & ways to support them
<https://bit.ly/3tVY8QW>
- Twitter: Story on landmine hazards in Kachin State
<https://x.com/UNICEFMyanmar/status/1643514483669889024?s=20>
- Twitter: Story on Child Protection Support amidst conflict in Central Myanmar
<https://x.com/UNICEFMyanmar/status/1635892388010000386?s=20>
- Twitter: #StayandDeliver UNICEF supporting 1m children & their families
<https://x.com/UNICEFMyanmar/status/1630856416193056769?s=20>

HAC APPEALS AND SITREPS

- Myanmar Appeals
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/myanmar>
- Myanmar Situation Reports
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/myanmar/situation-reports>
- All Humanitarian Action for Children Appeals
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals>
- All Situation Reports
<https://www.unicef.org/appeals/situation-reports>

NEXT SITREP: MARCH 2024

ANNEX A - PROGRAMME RESULTS

Consolidated Programme Results

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response			Cluster/Sector response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health								
Children vaccinated against measles	Total	-	750,000	700,000	▲ 93%	-	-	-
Children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities	Total	-	300,000	678,581	▲ 226%	-	-	-
Nutrition								
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	9,829	5,244	▲ 53%	14,714	5,244	▲ 36%
Primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	Total	-	134,896	88,587	▲ 66%	251,887	96,346	▲ 38%
Children 6-59 months receiving micronutrient powder	Total	-	181,746	33,680	▲ 19%	338,375	33,680	▲ 10%
Children 6-59 months receiving Vitamin A supplementation	Total	-	592,504	2.5 million	▲ 423%	-	-	-
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA								
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	2 million	242,346	▲ 12%	-	289,710	-
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	400,000	188,371	▲ 47%	-	67,794	-
People with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by personnel who provide assistance to affected populations	Total	-	400,000	36,191	▲ 9%	-	-	-
Children who have received individual case management	Total	-	20,000	2,621	▲ 13%	-	4,746	-
Children provided with landmine or other explosive weapons prevention and/or survivor assistance interventions	Total	-	850,000	138,855	▲ 16%	-	431,328	-
Education								
Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	890,360	670,883	▲ 75%	1.1 million	1.2 million	▲ 109%
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	890,360	362,824	▲ 41%	-	-	-
Educators/facilitators trained and supported	Total	-	21,864	5,281	▲ 24%	-	-	-
Temporary learning centres rehabilitated	Total	-	500	788	▲ 158%	-	-	-
Water, sanitation and hygiene								

People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	-	580,000	439,440	▲ 76%	1.1 million	675,769	▲ 62%
People accessing appropriate sanitation services	Total	-	430,000	182,957	▲ 43%	999,019	461,754	▲ 46%
People reached with hand-washing behaviour-change programmes	Total	-	800,000	211,243	▲ 26%	1.6 million	355,455	▲ 22%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	930,000	635,897	▲ 68%	1.6 million	907,171	▲ 56%
Social protection								
Households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers	Total	-	90,000	25,010	▲ 28%	-	-	-
Children and adolescents with disabilities reached with assistive technology and interventions to address disability-related need	Total	-	10,000	2,611 ¹³	▲ 26%	-	-	-
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)								
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	Total	-	1.2 million	1.5 million	▲ 132%	-	-	-
People sharing their concerns and asking questions through established feedback mechanisms	Total	-	70,000	32,516	▲ 46%	-	-	-

*Progress in the reporting period 1 January to 31 December 2023

ANNEX B — FUNDING STATUS

Consolidated funding by sector

Sector	Requirements	Funding available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health	25,000,000	2,440,313	2,899,401	19,660,286	79%
Nutrition	15,196,000	2,731,490	1,044,678	11,419,832	75%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	24,000,000	7,163,265	1,203,876	15,632,859	65%
Education	63,000,000	3,898,367	1,312,731	57,788,902	92%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	61,940,000	9,216,767	1,977,653	50,745,580	82%
Social protection	13,525,000	443,987	2,883	13,078,130	97%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)	4,047,500	107,187	249,386	3,690,927	91%
Cluster and field coordination	11,221,000	1,275,700	532,454	9,412,846	84%
Total	217,929,500	27,277,076	9,223,062	181,429,362	83%

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ENDNOTES

1. UNICEF Myanmar Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) 2023
2. UNICEF Myanmar Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) 2023
3. UNHCR Myanmar displacement overview as of 25 December 2023
4. UNHCR Myanmar displacement overview as of 25 December 2023
5. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 'Myanmar Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2024 (December 2023) [EN/MY]', OCHA, 18 December 2023, < <https://www.unocha.org/publications/report/myanmar/myanmar-humanitarian-needs-and-response-plan-2024-issued-december-2023>>.
6. Reliefweb, Myanmar Humanitarian Update No. 35 | 2023 Year in Review, OCHA, 12 January 2024, <<https://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar/myanmar-humanitarian-update-no-35-2023-year-review>>.
7. Myanmar Landmine/ERW Incidents Information | UNICEF Myanmar
8. SPHERE Humanitarian Charter and Minimum standards in Disaster Response is a handbook that sets out minimum standards for four sectors: water, sanitation and hygiene promotion, food security and nutrition; shelter, settlement and non-food items; and health action. For Nutrition the SPHERE minimum standards for cure is above 75%, death is below 10% and defaulter rate is below 15%.
9. Myanmar Child Protection AoR, 'GBV and CP AoR Child Marriage Key Messages', < www.myanmarchildprotection.com/gbv-and-child-protection >
10. *ibid*
11. Myanmar Child Protection AoR, 'Gender Steering Committee', <www.myanmarchildprotection.com/gender-steering-committee>, accessed www.myanmarchildprotection.com/gender-steering-committee
12. Myanmar Child Protection AoR, Localization Working Group ToR, <www.myanmarchildprotection.com/localization-wg>.
13. The number of children with disabilities reached with assistive technology was verified and corrected. In previous reports, the number of children with disabilities being screened were reported.