

MYANMAR

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN 2023

YEAR-END DASHBOARD (JAN - DEC 2023)

OVERVIEW

At the close of 2023, Myanmar was entrenched in a deepening humanitarian crisis with the civilian population facing new dimensions of conflict across multiple fronts that are driving surging displacement and escalating humanitarian needs. Increasing fear for their lives and is now grappling with exhausted coping capacities. The humanitarian situation remained dire at year's end, primarily fueled by profound protection risks from conflict and discrimination, compounded by a range of challenges such as food insecurity, a beleaguered health system, disrupted education, and the aftermath of Cyclone Mocha which struck Myanmar in May and affected more than three million people. Inflation and conflict have led to a sharp increase in the price of essential items, leaving vulnerable households hungry and economically distressed, pushing many to resort to negative coping measures for survival.

The final days of 2023 witnessed intense fighting across the majority of states and regions, compelling civilians to flee their homes, often multiple times, largely due to fears of indiscriminate attacks and the use of aerial bombardment. As of 31 December, more than 2.6 million people were estimated to be displaced nationwide, facing dire conditions

and inadequate shelter, often in informal sites, with a desperate need for basic services like clean water. Those on the move are confronting escalating risks from explosive ordnance, and individuals in protracted displacement situations are seeing their vulnerabilities compounded over time. The cumulative impact of conflict, displacement, poverty, and natural disasters underscores the gravity of the humanitarian crisis in Myanmar, necessitating urgent and comprehensive interventions to alleviate the suffering of the affected population.

Humanitarian efforts in 2023 faced severe hindrances due to access constraints and bureaucratic impediments, with at least 142 arrests and detentions of aid workers reported. However, advocacy persists for expanded access to conflict areas, particularly in regions where bureaucratic hindrances have intensified since the escalation of conflict in late October. **Despite these challenges, resilient humanitarian actors used a range of approaches to reach at least 3.2 million people with assistance at least once.** It is also likely that actual reach is higher due to underreporting of assistance in conflict areas but this remains difficult to quantify. While the number of people reached is

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS BY CLUSTER

CLUSTER	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	PEOPLE REACHED	WOMEN	% CHILDREN, ADULTS, ELDERLY (<18yrs, 18-59yrs, 60+yrs)	FUNDING REQUIRED (US\$)	FUNDING RECEIVED (US\$) ¹
EDUCATION	3.8M	1.5M	82% 1.2M	52%	92% 8% 0%	93M	17% 16M
FOOD SECURITY	15.2M	2.6M	90% 2.3M	51%	32% 57% 11%	218M	38% 82M
HEALTH	10M	2.5M	31% 769K	65%	28% 64% 8%	118M	30% 36M
NUTRITION	2.2M	590K	74% 437K	63%	74% 26% 0%	52M	28% 15M
PROTECTION	11.5M	2.1M	80% 2M	51%	35% 57% 8%	145M	37% 54M
Child Protection	5.3M	1.1M	88% 1M	51%	35% 57% 8%		
Gender Based Violence	7.7M	868K	46% 523K	51%	35% 57% 8%		
Mine Action	11.4M	2.1M	15% 369K	51%	35% 57% 8%		
SHELTER/NFI/CCCM	3M	1.2M	82% 1M	52%	35% 55% 10%	124M	39% 48M
WASH	5.2M	1.6M	65% 1.1M	52%	37% 55% 8%	128M	12% 18M
COORDINATION AND COMMON SERVICES						9M	65% 6M
CLUSTER NOT SPECIFIED							51M
TOTAL	17.6M	5M	65% 3.2M	52%	46% 47% 8%	887M	37% 324M

¹ Based on FTS records as of 20 Feb 2024.

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17.6 MILLION
PEOPLE IN NEED

5 MILLION
PEOPLE TARGETED
(2023 HRP + Flash Appeal)

3.2 MILLION (65%)
PEOPLE REACHED 2023
(2023 HRP + Flash Appeal)

\$886.7 MILLION
FUNDING REQUIRED

\$324 MILLION (37%)
RECEIVED¹

272
PARTNERS

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

1 Protection risks and needs are identified, monitored, mitigated, and met for 2.1 million people, while the centrality of protection is upheld across the humanitarian response including through promotion of respect for human rights, international humanitarian law and humanitarian principles

2 Suffering, morbidity, and mortality is prevented or reduced among 3.1 million displaced, returned, stateless and other crisis-affected people experiencing or at risk of food insecurity, malnutrition, and health threats

3 At least 2 million displaced, returned, stateless and other crisis-affected people have safe, tailored, timely and dignified access to the essential services and support to ensure their survival and prevent deterioration of their humanitarian needs

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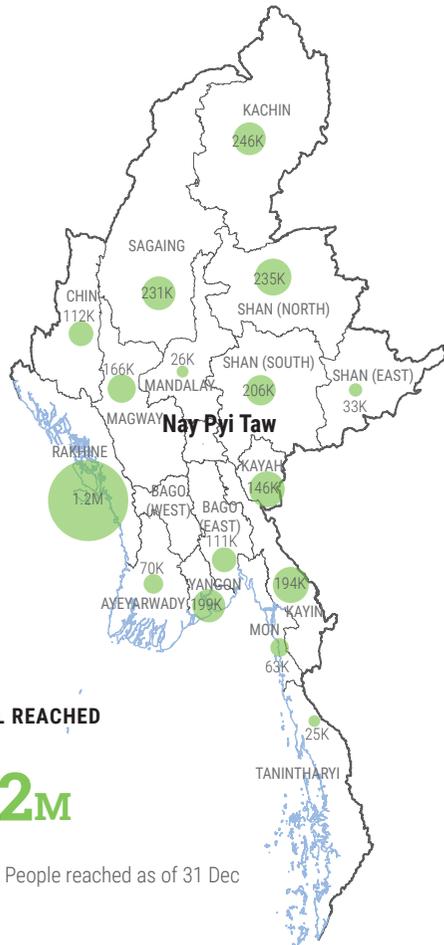
YEAR-END DASHBOARD (JAN - DEC 2023)

substantial in the circumstances, this reach falls short of the envisioned depth and sustainability due to substantial underfunding, resulting in an unprecedented level of unmet needs (1.8 million people missed), which is expected to persist into 2024. As of 31 January 2024, funding against the 2023 Myanmar Humanitarian Response Plan had reached \$324 million which is only 37 per cent of the requested funding, leaving a significant \$563 million funding gap. Urgent attention and a substantial increase in financial support for both humanitarian and development actors are imperative to bridge this gap in 2024.

Analysis of reach

Humanitarians reached 65 per cent (3.2 million people) of the annual HRP target set at 5 million individuals, with more than half a million people impacted by cyclone Mocha assisted via a range of modalities. Notably, close to 1 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) received assistance during the course of the year, reflecting a concerted effort in 2023 to better address the needs of one of these critically vulnerable groups. This is a 33 per cent increase on the number of IDPs

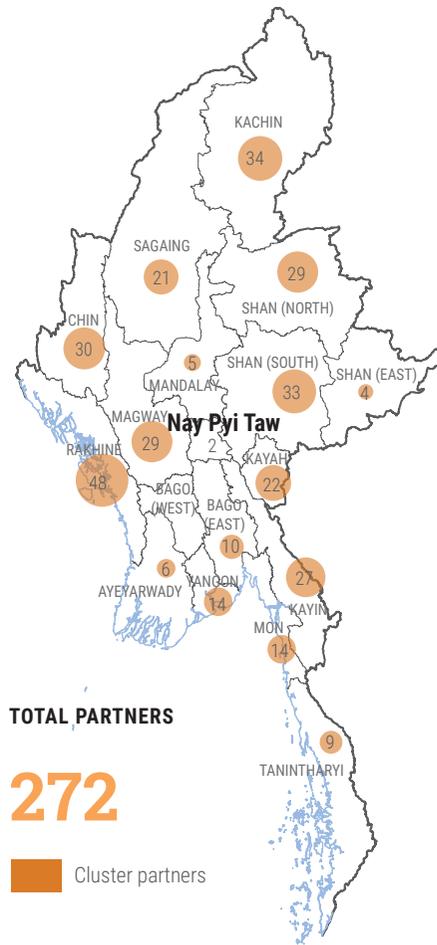
PEOPLE REACHED BY STATE/REGION



reached in 2022 but still means that there were significant gaps in assisting newly displaced people in hard-to-reach areas. Additionally, more than 1.8 million of people reached fall within the category of other crisis-affected people with humanitarian needs, highlighting the diverse challenges faced by the population and humanitarian efforts to support non-displaced populations due to the collapse of basic services and in the absence of large-scale development interventions. This is unsustainable in the longer-term and underscores the need for complimentary development funding to build community resilience.

The data also underscores a specific emphasis on children in the response, with the number of boys and girls reached steadily increasing each quarter, indicating an awareness of the vulnerabilities children face in crisis situations. Furthermore, there is a consistent and commendable effort to reach persons with disabilities, as reflected in the steadily increasing numbers throughout the year. This commitment has led to a more inclusive approach to humanitarian assistance, recognizing and actively addressing the specific challenges confronted by this group, though overall

PARTNERS BY STATE/REGION



KEY FIGURES BY POPULATION GROUP



FUNDING BY DONOR (US\$) as of 12 February 2024



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. For more information, please visit www.unocha.org | <https://reliefweb.int/country/mmr> | <https://www.facebook.com/OCHAMyanmar>

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numbers of persons with disabilities reached still remain far behind those targeted for humanitarian assistance. The data also reveals a consistent trend wherein the number of women reached exceeds that of men, showcasing a heightened awareness of gender-specific vulnerabilities.

Thanks to the concentrated efforts of the clusters in enhancing outreach and bolstering partner capacity, the count of partners reporting their progress grew significantly from 222 in 2022 to 269 in 2023. Likewise, the overall number of participating cluster partners (those participating in cluster meetings and activities) increased from 238 in 2022 to 272 in 2023. The majority of partners are thus now regularly sharing their progress on their humanitarian response activities.

Despite formidable access constraints, humanitarian operations demonstrated resilience by expanding into hard-to-reach areas, achieving 64 per cent of those targeted in the Southeast. A notable increase was also seen in people reach figure from 269,600 at the end of 2022 to 536,000 in the close of 2023, reflecting a significant expansion in coverage of assistance. The Northeast and Rakhine experienced a notable scale-up in assistance, with rates of 112 per cent and 88 per cent respectively with the quarter 4 escalation in fighting and Cyclone Mocha likely to be key factors in the increased response effort in these areas. Encouragingly, the clusters covering education, food security, protection, and shelter/NFI/CCCM noted improved results against escalating needs reaching anywhere between 65 per cent up to 90 per cent of their targets by the conclusion of 2023. The Health Cluster reported only 31 per cent reach, although to some extent this is the result of underreporting of this type of activity.

CLUSTER HIGHLIGHTS



631K

boys, girls and teachers received learning materials (learners' kits + teachers' kits)



726K

people were supported to access primary health care services



762K

people received overall community awareness raising for prevention and mitigation of protection risks



54K

people received dignity kits



439K

people reached through distribution of NFIs



2.1M

people received food assistance (in-kind and/or through cash)



320K

children aged 6-59 months screened for wasting



273K

people received child protection case management and psychosocial support



445K

people received mine action community awareness raising support for prevention and mitigation of protection risks

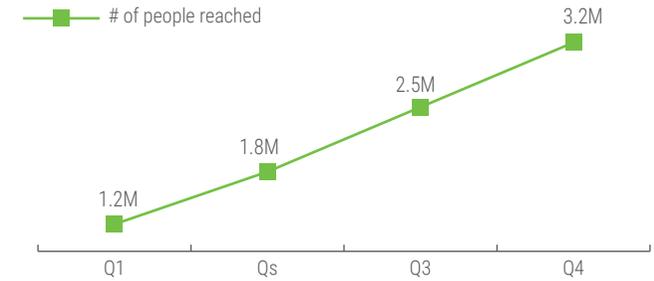


929K

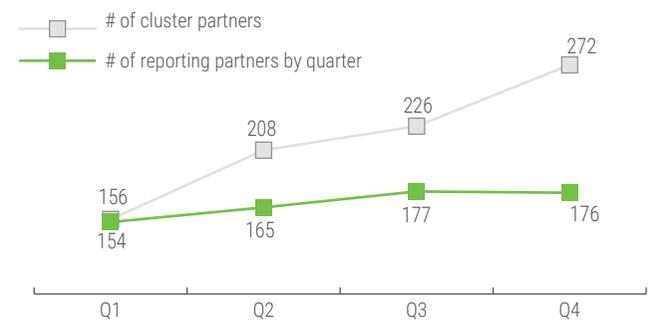
crisis-affected people were reached with hygiene items and community-tailored health and hygiene messages

TRENDS

People reached in 2023



Partners in 2023



HUMANITARIAN PARTNERS BY TYPE



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CONSEQUENCES OF UNDERFUNDING

In 2023, while collective endeavors managed to reach 3.2 million people out of 5 million people targeted with some form of assistance, this support was not as deep or sustained as intended. Oftentimes, people have only been reached once and with one form of support (frequently food), instead of a full package of different types of aid that meet the full spectrum of their needs, leaving significant gaps among those reached. In total, 1.8 million people targeted for assistance were not reached at all due to severe under-funding and access constraints. An additional 12.6 million people with some level of humanitarian need were not prioritized for assistance in 2023, falling outside the HRP target, and thus also have ongoing unmet needs which development actors have not been able to address at-scale.

These funding shortfalls and related response gaps - now repeated over successive years since the military takeover - are having cascading impacts from one year to the next. As a result, not only has the absolute number of people in need been consistently increasing from 1 million in 2021 prior to the military takeover, to 14.4 million people in 2022, 17.6 million people in 2023 to 18.6 million people in 2024 (the fifth highest in the world)², but simultaneously, the severity of their needs has significantly worsened. During 2024, nearly 2 million people are expected to fall into the highest category of needs severity (catastrophic), whereas over the past 2 years only a small number fell into this category (151,000 in 2022 and none in 2023).

Nearly three years since the military takeover, the crisis in Myanmar risks becoming a forgotten emergency with catastrophic implications for the well-being of millions of people and for regional security if 2023 funding levels are repeated in 2024. The situation demands immediate attention and increased international support to address the humanitarian and development challenges faced by the civilian population. Donors play a pivotal role in mitigating the human cost of this emergency and the longer-term crisis facing the country and humanitarians are requesting a record \$994 million in 2024 to support 5.3 million people with life-saving assistance. In addition to increased humanitarian funding towards this plan, urgent funding for complementary development action is also required to reverse the growth in humanitarian need and build the resilience of communities in the face of persistent shocks. Increased advocacy is needed to bridge the funding gaps, protect lives, and secure a sustainable future for Myanmar. The lives of millions are at stake, and a unified effort is essential to raise the profile of the crisis, addresses critical gaps in the response and provide a lifeline to those in desperate need.

IMPACTS OF UNDERFUNDING

Preventable death and prolonged suffering



Underfunding directly increases the risk of lost lives, particularly among vulnerable children suffering from acute malnutrition and people denied access to critical health services.

An escalating health crisis



With a large portion of the population deprived of essential health services, preventable diseases are likely to escalate, posing a severe threat to public health and well-being with potential regional consequences.

Stunted development and lost opportunity



Educational and developmental opportunities for children are being stifled, perpetuating a cycle of disadvantage and hampering the nation's long-term growth and stability.

Increased vulnerability



The underfunding and subsequent response gaps amplify the vulnerability of already marginalized communities, exposing them to heightened risks of exploitation, abuse, and displacement.

UNMET NEEDS

As a result of the dire humanitarian funding situation (37 per cent of required funding received), clusters report the following consequences for affected people whom they had planned to reach in the 2023 HRP but were unable to support.



More than 200,000 children targeted for assistance lacked access to quality educational services in 2023, hindering their development, squandering future opportunity and perpetuating a cycle of disadvantage.



More than 1.1 million people targeted for support were left without priority life-saving health services, disproportionately impacting maternal and child health, and escalating the risk of preventable disease, something that has potential regional implications.



10,000 children below five years suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) faced grave risk of preventable death in the absence of life-saving treatment and support planned in the HRP.

42,000 children under five years missed out on preventative acute malnutrition management and likely deteriorated to SAM, with potential consequences for their survival and long-term well-being.

311,000 children under five years faced higher risks of irreparable damage to their optimal growth and development, negatively impacting their educational achievement, productivity in adulthood, and the development potential of the entire country.

An estimated 217,000 babies were potentially born with low birthweight (LBW) as a result of assistance gaps and are likely to face life-long negative impacts due to malnutrition experienced during their time in the womb.



410,000 children (37 per cent of the children targeted) were not supported with the life-saving child protection services planned by partners in the HRP.

More than 1.2 million people (57 per cent of all people targeted) were left without humanitarian protection services exposing them to negative coping mechanisms, some of which are life-threatening (such as risky migration) and others have life-long consequences that are extremely difficult to reverse (such as the sale of productive assets and early marriage).



72 per cent of planned shelter activities (construction, reconstruction, repair) were not implemented in 2023, leaving 878,000 people living without appropriate places to live and sleep, jeopardizing their physical and emotional well-being.

76 per cent of NFI kits planned for distribution were not delivered, leaving 927,000 people without the core relief items they need to survive with dignity such as beds, mats, cooking utensils and clothes.

352,000 displaced people were left without camp coordination assistance and protection services including service monitoring on the need for repairs and replacement infrastructure, camp management, coordination with camp actors and IDPs.



At least 832,000 people did not receive adequate support to cover their most urgent hygiene and sanitation needs, likely impacting their health status.

Access to safe drinking water was not provided to 672,000 people who had been targeted for WASH support.

² GHO
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