MYANMAR Flood Situation Report No.2

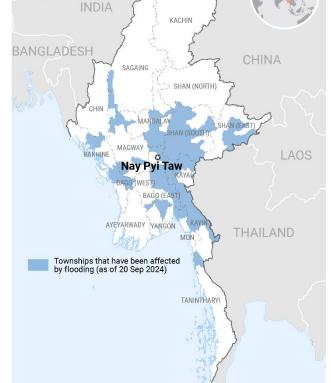
20 September 2024

This independent report, covering humanitarian developments up to 20 September, is produced by OCHA Myanmar under its global mandate, in collaboration with the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group and UN agencies. Response figures are based on self-reporting by organizations to clusters. The situation is fluid, and estimated figures are subject to change.

BHUTAN

Highlights

- Ten days after the extensive flash flooding, emerging reports of impact indicate that an estimated 887,000 people, including displaced people, have been affected in 65 townships across Bago, Kayah, Kayin, Magway, Mandalay, Mon, Nay Pyi Taw, Rakhine, Sagaing and eastern and southern Shan regions/states.
- So far, more than 300 fatalities and nearly 100 injuries have been reported. The most severely affected areas remain in devastation, with widespread destruction to homes, household assets, water sources, and electricity infrastructure. Roads, bridges, communication networks, schools, public service facilities, religious sites, and crops and farmlands have been severely damaged or completely collapsed.
- Amid severe underfunding of the response the 2024 Humanitarian Needs & Response Plan remains 27 per cent funded – OCHA and the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) a.i. are actively fundraising to mobilize additional resources to quickly scale-up ongoing flood response efforts.
- The Emergency Relief Coordinator, a.i. has provisionally approved a CERF allocation of up to US\$4 million to help kick-start emergency relief efforts.
- Rapid response efforts continue in the affected townships, delivering critical support to impacted communities. Urgent needs include drinking water, food, essential medicine, household kits, clothing, shelter, and lifesaving equipment for emergency preparedness.



• Funding and unrestricted access to affected areas are crucial for humanitarian organisations to effectively respond to the needs of impacted communities.

Situation Overview

Ten days after the onset of pervasive flash flooding, reports of the impact from affected areas continue to surface. Floodwaters have receded in most regions, allowing communities to begin cleanup efforts. The most severely affected areas remain devastated, with widespread damage to homes, household assets, water sources, and electricity connections. In addition, critical infrastructure and public properties, including roads, bridges, communication networks, schools, public service facilities, religious sites, and crops and farmlands, have been collapsed and damaged.

Latest reports indicate that an estimated 887,000 people, including those displaced by the conflict, have been affected by flooding across 65 townships in Bago, Kayah, Kayin, Magway, Mandalay, Mon, Nay Pyi Taw, Rakhine, Sagaing, and eastern and southern Shan regions/states. The most affected areas so far, in order, are Mandalay Region, southern Shan, eastern Bago, Kayin State, and Nay Pyi Taw. Many have been evacuated to safer locations based on the severity of the situation in their areas. Rapid response efforts are ongoing in the affected townships, providing critical support to impacted

communities. The initial requests for emergency support have highlighted the urgent need for drinking water, food, basic medicine, household kits, clothing, and shelter.

- In Mandalay Region, one of the hardest hit areas, water levels in most of the flooded villages have receded as of 18 September, and communities have begun cleaning up. However, returning to their homes, particularly in submerged villages, remains a challenge. There are growing health concerns due to the lack of accessible clean water. More than 230 people from 15 affected villages have been reported dead, and 50 individuals have been hospitalized at Yamethin Hospital. Many flood victims in Myitthar Township reside in highland areas, living in temporary makeshift shelters and pagodas. Emergency assistance and rescue efforts have been challenging to reach them, and there is an urgent need for food and healthcare services.
- In eastern and southern Shan, flooding and landslides have affected 26 townships, resulting in at least 78 reported fatalities and 47 individuals sustaining injuries.
- In Bago Region, one of the hardest-hit areas, more than 100,000 people have been severely affected across Bago, Htantabin, Oktwin, Phyu, Taungoo, and Yedashe townships. This includes thousands of individuals in conflictaffected areas that require humanitarian assistance. Villages along the Sittaung River remain flooded and hazardous, while other areas have seen the floodwaters recede.
- Mon and Kayin states have also been impacted by flooding and landslides. Nearly 90,000 people across four townships in Kayin and 11,950 people in three townships in Mon have been affected. Several relief centers remain in Kayin, where many people have begun returning home.
- In Nay Pyi Taw, more than 72,000 people in Pyinmana, Poke Ba Thi Ri, Tatkon and Zay Yar Thi Ri townships have been affected by flooding.
- In Chin State, strong winds and torrential rains have destroyed 180 acres of farmlands and damaged water pipelines. Due to floodwaters and landslides, transportation routes between Falam and Kale and Mindat and Matupi townships remain disrupted.
- In the Sagaing Region, agricultural lands in Chaung-U, Myaung, and Myinmu townships were flooded, damaging some crops.
- In the Magway Region, reports show that more than 26,000 houses were damaged or washed away, and an estimated 50,000 acres of agricultural lands were flooded. Several bridges and road sections were damaged or destroyed, affecting access to impacted communities and complicating response efforts.
- In Kayah State, more than 6,500 people have been affected in Demoso, Hpruso, and Shadaw townships. Flooding and landslides have caused significant destruction to livestock, farmland, and civilian properties. Over 48,000 acres of paddy and other crops have been submerged, with an estimated 5,000 paddy fields damaged across the state.
- In Rakhine State, more than 40,000 people, including those displaced by the conflict, have been affected by flooding in Minbya, Mrauk-U, and Toungup townships.

Humanitarian Needs and Response by Cluster

The progress updates below are provided by operating cluster partners in Myanmar. Accordingly, this section is not necessarily reflective of all humanitarian interventions undertaken on the ground but rather those voluntarily shared by partners. All partners are encouraged to share updates on their progress via the relevant clusters to ensure good visibility of gaps and response and support resource mobilization. The Inter-cluster Coordination Group (ICCG)'s Information Sharing Protocol allows for this information to be shared in a non-identifiable manner.

Education in Emergencies

- In the Northwest, the Cluster has allocated 30,000 essential learning kits and 2,000 roofing sheets to support the response efforts, while discussions are ongoing regarding the impact and reconstruction of damaged schools.
- In Kayin State, provision of education kits and cash is underway for 2,700 students in Hpa-An Township.

Food Security

- Food Security Cluster will provide a one-month emergency food ration, including rice, fortified biscuits, and nutrition
 products, to flood-affected people, ensuring their immediate food needs are met. Cluster partners are also
 assessing the impact on crops, livelihoods, and people's access to food.
- In the Northwest, partners have provided emergency food assistance to more than 11,500 people in Magway regions.
- In Kayin State, nearly 5,000 people in downtown Hpa-An received fortified biscuits on 16 September. A partner also
 delivered 1,000 portions of cooked rice daily to evacuation centers in downtown Hpa-An between 14 and 17

September. Food baskets (rice, edible oil, instant noodle, dried fish, beans, and salt) are underway for about 10,000 people in Hpa-An Township. In addition, cash for food assistance will also be provided to another 2,700 people in Hpa-An.

- In Bago Region, approximately 72,000 flood-affected people in Htantabin, Oktwn, Phyu, Taungoo, and Yadashe townships are to receive rice and fortified biscuits.
- In southern Shan, distribution of rice is underway to approximately 100,000 people in Hopong, Hsihseng, Kalaw, Lawksawk, Nyaungshwe and Taunggyi townships.

***** Health

- In Bago Region, partners distributed emergency health kits and newborn kits to more than 1,000 people. The distribution of more than 1,000 clean delivery kits is currently underway in Taungoo Township.
- Local responders in Bago Region need emergency medical supplies for primary health care services.
- In Kayin State, mobile clinic services are being provided for flood-affected people in Hlaingbwe, Hpapun and Kyainseikgyi townships.

Sutrition

• In the Northwest, the cluster partners' distribution of micronutrients and nutrition bowls for children under five, as well as clean delivery kits, facial masks and hand gels is ongoing in Singu Township in Mandalay Region.

Protection

- Partners emphasized the need for mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), as well as psychological first aid sessions and refresher training for flood-affected communities and volunteers. This is critical due to the trauma experienced from losing family members, valuable belongings, and enduring such devastating crises.
- In Bago Region, over 360 people received child protection kits in Taungoo Township. Along with the distribution of
 assistance items, key messages on MHPSS and the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse were also
 disseminated to raise awareness and provide guidance.
- In Kayin State, partners distributed 144 dignity kits and 50 clean delivery kits in Hpa-An Township.
- In the Northwest, provision of 1,000 child protection kits is underway for people in Magway and Mandalay regions.
- In Nay Pyi Taw, the distribution of 200 dignity kits is underway to affected people in four townships.

Shelter, Non-Food Items (NFIs), Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

- In southern Shan, shelter materials were provided to nearly 400 people in Pekon Township. Essential relief items are being distributed to nearly 1,000 flood-affected people in five displacement sites in Nyaungshwe Township.
- In Kayin State, approximately 15,000 people in Myawaddy Township are currently in the process of receiving essential household assistance.
- In Mon State, more than 2,200 flood-affected households in Ye Township urgently need essential household items.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- In Nay Pyi Taw, the distribution of 200,000 soap bars is currently underway for flood-affected people in four townships.
- In the Southeast, the distribution of WASH items (hygiene kits, jerrycans, water purification tablets, and tarpaulin sheets and ropes) is currently underway for more than 36,000 people in eastern Bago and Kayin State.
- In Kayin State, the distribution of 3,200 hygiene kits is nearly completed, reaching flood and landslides-affected households in Hlaingbwe, Hpa-An, Hpapun, Myawaddy and Thandaunggyi townships.
- In the Northwest, more than 3,000 affected people received 70 hygiene kits and cash for food assistance in Magway and Mandalay regions.

Key Challenges and Gaps

- Rescue teams faced inadequate resources, particularly boats, lifesaving equipment, and protective gear, both during the peak of the flooding and in emergency preparation for potential future flooding.
- Telecommunications and internet services are unstable, frequently interrupting humanitarian communications and operations.

- Response efforts are impacted by physical constraints such as road blockages, damaged bridges, and ongoing clashes.
- Existing resources among the actors are too limited to address the needs of the entire affected population.
- Funding remains a significant challenge for the flood response, with additional difficulties anticipated as many areas
 remain inaccessible to local responders and humanitarian partners. Moreover, local procurement is hindered by
 access restrictions and shortages of goods within communities.
- Humanitarian response efforts in Myanmar remain hindered by severe underfunding, with only 27 per cent of the required funding for the Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan received in 2024. More resources are urgently needed to sustain the delivery of emergency assistance.