



unicef 
for every child

Myanmar Flood Flash Update No.3

Date: 27 September 2024

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Across Myanmar, an estimated 1 million people¹ are affected by the ongoing flooding throughout 70 townships in Bago, Kayah, Kayin, Magway, Mandalay, Mon, Nay Pyi Taw, Rakhine, Sagaing, eastern and southern Shan, and Tanintharyi regions/states. The most affected areas are Mandalay Region, southern Shan, eastern Bago, Kayin, Mon, and Nay Pyi Taw. As per state-run media, more than 400 fatalities have been reported as of 25 September.²

The flooding and landslides have caused significant damage to homes, household assets, and critical infrastructure, including health facilities, schools, water sources, major highways, bridges, and WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) infrastructure. Livelihoods have been destroyed, forcing many families to evacuate. Communication challenges persist due to flooded roads and downed electric lines. While floodwaters have receded in some areas, ongoing rain and riverine conditions continue to threaten some areas with recurrent flooding and potential river overflows.

Around 480,000 people are affected in Mandalay and Magway regions including Nay Pyi Taw. In Rakhine, more than 40,000 people from villages including IDPs locations in Mrauk U, and Myinbya and Tounangoup townships are affected. In Bago east, more than 180,000 people are affected while in eastern and southern Shan, flooding and landslides have affected over 100,000 people. In Mon and Kayin states, affected figures are over 200,000.³

Across all affected areas, critical needs include access to safe drinking water, hygiene items, medicine, food, shelter, and humanitarian cash assistance.

Acute watery diarrhoea, dengue fever, malaria, cholera and measles are already a threat to children in Myanmar. The ongoing flooding is likely to worsen the spread of waterborne diseases and increasing the need to provide urgent health, nutrition and WASH services. Despite ongoing rapid response efforts, delivering essential WASH assistance—such as clean water, sanitation, hygiene supplies, menstrual hygiene management, and shelter—remains a significant challenge. Numerous schools were forced to close or are being used as shelters, affecting the access to education for thousands of children. Child Protection concerns are critical in the aftermath of the floods, with risks such as family separation, psychological distress, exposure to explosive ordnance, and physical dangers, including drowning. Initial assessments indicate that more than 270,000 children and over 180,000 parents and caregivers are in urgent need of child protection services.

¹ United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Myanmar Flood Situation Report 3, 27 September 2024.

² [25 Sept 24 gnIm.pdf \(digitalagencybangkok.com\)](#)

³ United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Myanmar Flood Situation Report 3, 27 September 2024

UNICEF Response

WASH

UNICEF has been supporting the flood affected populations with the distribution of life saving WASH supplies including water purification chemicals, hygiene kits, soaps and water storage containers. In Shan, critical WASH supplies have been provided as part of an inter-agency distribution, with further WASH supplies distributions planned in coming weeks. In the northwest, UNICEF is working with partners to assess the situation in Mandalay and respond to the needs. The response is expected to include provision of critical supplies including hygiene kits, soap, water purification sachets to the families affected by floods. UNICEF is planning to support affected populations with critical WASH supplies in Kayin state. Additional distribution of the lifesaving WASH supplies will be prioritized based on the assessment reports from other flood affected areas.

Health and Nutrition:

UNICEF, in collaboration with partners, is distributing newborn kits to cover the needs of pregnant women and one-month old babies. Some partners started providing essential health care services to flood-affected communities.

UNICEF in collaboration with partners and local communities is providing integrated nutrition services. Maternal infant and young child feeding (MIYCF) counselling was provided to caregivers of children under two years. To increase the effectiveness of the counselling services, 216 nutrition bowls with posters were provided to caregivers of children 6-23 months in Sothern Shan State for the promotion of dietary diversity and the quality of complementary food. Screening is integrated with ongoing flood response for early detection and treatment of children under five with wasting. UNICEF is also coordinating with partners for the transportation and distribution of multiple micro-nutrient powders to children 6-59 months for the prevention of micro-nutrient deficiency disorder especially in flood-affected areas.

Child Protection

In Bago and Kayin, UNICEF is planning to distribute 400 Child Protection (CP) kits for children and 1,200 adolescent girls' kits for girls and young women. UNICEF and partners are providing community sessions on mental health and psychosocial support (including organizing mobile Child Friendly Spaces), prevention of family separation, violence against children (VAC) and risk mitigation on gender-based violence (GBV) alongside awareness and orientation on explosive ordinance risk education (EORE) to flood affected communities. In Sagaing, Magway and Mandalay regions, child protection kits will be distributed along with flood and CP key messages. In Shan, UNICEF plans to distribute CP kits for 1,000 households along with 1,000 adolescent girls' kits for girls and young women. In northwest, southeast, and Shan (south and east), family tracing and reunification (FTR) alongside awareness raising on VAC, GBV, and EORE; and case management services remain as priorities.

Education

In select flood-affected areas, UNICEF has advanced with partners the supply distribution of pre-positioned contingency teaching and learning supplies, such as the Essential Learning Package (ELP) kits, roofing sheets, school kits, recreation kits and as available, mental hygiene management (MHM) kits, school hygiene kits, and first aid kits. In addition, UNICEF is collaborating with partners to prepare a mental health and psychosocial (MHPSS), disaster risk reduction (DRR), and EORE training package and resources. Trainings are planned for educators and caregivers/parents to equip them with the skills and knowledge to effectively support children and ensure the continuity of their learning in safe learning environments.

Humanitarian Cash Assistance

UNICEF is planning, in collaboration with local partners and stakeholders, to provide humanitarian cash assistance to 6,000 vulnerable families affected by the floods in Shan (south), Bago (east) and Kayah. This support is intended to help families meet their immediate basic needs—such as purchasing food, water, and other essentials—in areas where markets are functioning, and as part of the recovery phase. By offering cash assistance, UNICEF aims to

empower families to make informed decisions that best address their unique circumstances. Additional funding is needed to scale up this component of UNICEF's response strategy.

Social and Behaviour Change

UNICEF has reached 19,167 people with lifesaving messages through social media with emergency preparedness tips for before, during and after floods, tips to watch out for risks of landslides, child protection messages on prevention of GBV in shelters, tips for families who are separated due to the flood and managing stress after natural disaster. UNICEF in collaboration with Cherry FM radio station is broadcasting lifesaving messages on emergency preparedness and coping tips during and after flood to save lives and to prevent from risks to alert communities for preparedness and safe evacuation. Emergency messages on prevention of snake bites and waterborne diseases, such as diarrhoea, through improved hygiene practices and safe water usage are printed and distributed in temporary shelters in Naypyitaw.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

OCHA is coordinating the overall humanitarian response with all clusters, through the coordination mechanisms established at the national level as well as in sub national levels. Joint rapid need assessment and response is being undertaken with other UN agencies, and other partners in the most-affected areas.

UNICEF will continue to provide leadership for WASH cluster, Nutrition Cluster, Child Protection and Mine Action Areas of Responsibility (AoRs) and co-leading the Education Cluster (with Save the Children). Cluster discussions at national and sub-national levels are ongoing to coordinate the response and meet priority needs of affected people. There are significant concerns about the lack of humanitarian funding and supply gaps due to multiple competing demands and challenges around access/connectivity.

The WASH Cluster is assessing contingency stocks from cluster partners to address urgent needs across the country. So far, around 120,000 people have received critical assistance, including family hygiene kits, soap, rope, plastic sheets, water purification tablets, and jerry cans. This support has reached populations in Rakhine, as well as in Bago, Shan, Mandalay, Sagaing and Kayin. In parallel, cluster partners are disseminating vital flood-preparedness messaging, distributing water purification tablets, and conducting essential cleaning of water sources. These collective efforts are ensuring that vulnerable communities receive both immediate relief and long-term support for water and sanitation needs.

With the immediate child protection concerns including family separation, psychological distress, and dangers, injuries including drowning, the CP AoR priorities include the provision of family tracing and reunification, case management, MHPSS and widespread awareness raising activities targeting children and their caregivers. The CP AoR continues to support partners with delivering child protection services to the children and caregivers affected by the floods with an estimated 10,600 children being reached through child protection kits, and nearly 1,000 children and over 580 adults reached with MHPSS, among various interventions. The AoR has produced a short guidance on child protection response to the floods for all AoR members, outlining priority actions at this stage in the response. Furthermore, the CP AOR conducted an online orientation on Family Tracing and Reunification as well as Unaccompanied and Separated Children.

The Mine Action AoR and its partners have been actively distributing Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) materials to raise awareness among communities about the potential movement of landmines due to flooding with more than 9,000 people reached. In addition, the Mine Action AoR is conducting an assessment with partners to determine the extent of contamination and gather data on previously reported incidents in flood-affected regions. This assessment will help prioritize our response, ensuring that the most vulnerable populations receive critical support and services first.

The Education cluster is assessing available stock contingency across six key regions to provide essential educational supplies, including textbooks, stationery, and teaching aids, to affected schools and students through education cluster partners. The stock includes a range of items that are critical to ensuring educational continuity

and promoting a safe and hygienic learning environment for children and teachers in crisis-affected areas. More than 4,400 households have been provided with essential items while assistance for education expenditure has been provided to 2,500 students. The cluster is also continuing to monitor the extent of the damage to community-based centers, learning spaces, schools, and monastic schools.

The Nutrition Cluster in the Southeast and Rakhine activated the flooding contingency plan and partners have begun cross-sectoral rapid needs assessment amidst access limitations. In the Southeast, partners started responding through distribution of IYCF bowls and provision of blanket supplementary feeding program (BSFP) support to displaced families, based on the limited funding and stock availability. In southeast, 240 children under two years have been reached with nutrition support, while 206 pregnant and lactating women were identified for IYCF counselling.

For further
information contact: [Marcoluigi Corsi](#)
Representative
Myanmar Country Office
Tel: (+95) 9765491680
Email: mcorsi@unicef.org

[Julia Rees](#)
Deputy Representative Programmes
Myanmar Country Office
Tel: (+95) 9883768865
Email: jrees@unicef.org

[Faika Farzana](#)
Emergency Manager
Myanmar Country Office
Tel: (+95) 9883768871
Email: ffarzana@unicef.org