

This more comprehensive product now replaces the daily Flash Updates that were previously issued by OCHA Myanmar on Cyclone Mocha. This Sit Rep is produced by OCHA in collaboration with the seven operating humanitarian clusters and their sub-working groups in Myanmar. The humanitarian response section is not necessarily reflective of all humanitarian interventions undertaken on the ground but rather those voluntarily reported by partners. The next Sit Rep will be issued on 2 June 2023.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Two weeks after Cyclone Mocha hit western Myanmar safe shelter remains a key priority for cyclone-affected people who have been left without a roof over their head as the monsoon approaches. Cyclone Mocha has exposed significant safety and security challenges for cyclone affected communities.
- To date, shelter and other relief items have been distributed to more than 63,000 people.
- More than 230,000 people have received food assistance but household food reserves are dwindling, and communities are having difficulty buying food due to price rises and crop damage. Loss of agricultural inputs and livestock is a growing problem.
- The cyclone has created an education emergency with approximately 80 per cent of schools and educational infrastructure reportedly sustaining damage ahead of the start of the new school term. Work is underway to reinstate Temporary Learning Spaces (TLSs), disseminate learning kits to children, and restore schools and learning centers to operation.
- While humanitarians continue to ramp up support where they have authorizations and supplies, so far it has only been possible to reach a fraction of the 1.6 million people identified for assistance in the \$333 million Flash Appeal launched last week.
- Wider access for distributions is urgently needed, along with permission to transport humanitarian supplies from in-country warehouses and into Myanmar from other countries. Detailed plans for the transport and distribution of supplies have been shared and are pending approval.
- Pledges of additional funding from generous donors have started arriving, but much more is needed to adequately support vulnerable people and ensure prompt distributions of critical supplies.



A woman standing in front of her house that was destroyed by Cyclone Mocha. Rathedaung, Rakhine. Credit: OCHA

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Two weeks have passed since Cyclone Mocha struck Myanmar the humanitarian response is gathering pace but aid agencies still require more supplies, expanded access and additional funds to distribute assistance at-scale. Needs are enormous across all communities. The consequences of the cyclone reach far beyond the physical destruction of houses and public infrastructure, with a range of safety risks now also threatening the well-being of the affected population. These risks include the movement of unexploded ordnance (UXOs) in flooded areas, instances of sexual and gender-based violence, loss of civil documentation, looting, extortion, and robbery. Such risks pose a direct threat to affected communities, potentially exacerbating negative coping mechanisms such as high interest borrowing and children begging due to the lack of job opportunities of their parents. This situation increases the likelihood of child labor, exploitation, and abuse.

The cyclone's impact has eroded community support systems among affected populations. Reports from partners on the ground indicate that parents are struggling to adequately care for their children while they are rebuilding their damaged homes or are seeking employment to sustain their families. Of particular concern is the situation faced by displaced

communities, that are currently enduring overcrowded living conditions that lack privacy, sanitation, and proper lighting in many areas. These conditions pose the risk of sexual abuse and harassment, particularly targeting women and adolescent girls. Adding to the gravity of the situation is the destruction or damage to most of the Women and Girls' Centers in the affected areas.

Despite ongoing access challenges, humanitarian partners are ensuring that field observations continue in order to gain a comprehensive understanding of the cyclone's impact, especially among vulnerable groups. Simultaneously, those who have access are intensifying their response efforts, delivering critical and lifesaving assistance to affected communities in the Rakhine, Chin, Magway, Sagaing, and Kachin.

FUNDING

According to Financial Tracking System (FTS), as of 30 May, \$1.9 million has been received for the \$333 million Cyclone Mocha Flash Appeal, which seeks to provide assistance to 1.6 million people affected by the cyclone in Rakhine, Chin, Sagaing, Magway, and Kachin. Immediate funding is crucial to support vulnerable individuals in the impact zones. More than one million of those targeted for support are in the hardest-hit Rakhine state. Donors are urged to give quickly and generously given the approaching monsoon. Equally important is ensuring predictable and unhindered access, enabling the swift delivery of critical and lifesaving supplies to affected communities. Humanitarian organizations are currently using supplies from warehouses within Myanmar where these exist but are awaiting approval for the importation of additional humanitarian stocks from outside the country to replenish stockpiles.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Education in Emergencies

Needs

- In Rakhine, preliminary field observations indicate that about 80 per cent of schools and other educational infrastructure, such as public libraries, in Maungdaw, Buthidaung, Kyaukpyu and Rathedaung townships have been damaged.
- In the Northwest and Northeast, similar destruction was reported in Hakha, Matupi and Thantlang townships of Chin, as well as in Waingmaw township in Kachin, where the overall situation in the IDP camps is dire.

Response

- Cluster partners continue to conduct observational missions to evaluate the damage in the affected regions.
- In Rakhine, partners with access have begun the following activities:
 - Re-establishing Temporary Learning Spaces (TLSs).
 - Mobilizing and planning for Open Learning Orientation sessions.
 - Planning to distribute 4,000 open learning kits to children.
- Cluster partners are collaborating to renovate schools and learning centers in Sha It Yang and Maga Yang IDP camps in Waingmaw township in Kachin, to restore the educational infrastructure in time for the new school year. They are also planning to distribute open learning kits in these centres.
- In Kachin, a collaborative effort between the Education Cluster and local partners is underway to repair educational infrastructure.

Gaps & Constraints

- In cyclone-impacted areas, excessive debris continues to be a significant problem, slowing the repair and reopening of schools. This issue is further exacerbated by flooding in certain areas and additional hazards such as unexploded ordnance (EO).
- In Rakhine, the lack of travel authorizations and necessary approvals from the authorities is limiting the ability of education partners to provide immediate interventions before the start of the school year in June.

Food Security

Needs

- According to field observations in 18 townships in Rakhine, Chin, Magway, and Sagaing:

- Household food stocks are being depleted. One partner reports that 80 per cent of households surveyed in Rakhine stated their communities and neighbors are struggling to access food. In camps, food ranks among the top priority needs.
- Most affected individuals in these areas reported that markets are either not functioning or prices are extremely high. In Rakhine, in-kind assistance is currently preferred by many affected people as a result.

Response

- In the first two weeks of the cyclone response, WFP has reached more than 230,400 people in need across Rakhine (as of 28 May). Of these, 76,400 are newly affected by the cyclone, along with 154,000 of WFP's regular relief beneficiaries, who were also impacted by the cyclone. Plans for further expansion this week are underway.
- In Rakhine, one partner with access has completed food distributions to 6,000 IDPs. Distributions to a further 15,200 IDPs are ongoing.
- In the Northwest, partners continue to provide cash for food assistance, as the markets there are more functional than in Rakhine.

Gaps & Constraints

- In northern Rakhine, 8,000 people in need of food assistance remain difficult to reach due to lack of travel authorizations. They received a two-month ration in April and accessing these communities as soon as possible is critical.
- Many warehouses were damaged by the cyclone. Materials for repairing the warehouses are not available locally, compromising the capacity of stakeholders to properly stock program items.
- Prices of commodities and other services have doubled or tripled in the most affected areas. Transportation contracts signed before the cyclone are having to be re-negotiated.
- Local CSOs face heavy scrutiny at checkpoints, limiting their ability to distribute support.
- In the Northwest, although telecommunication services are being restored, they are still unreliable, making it difficult to contact local partners for information on needs and responses.

Health

- A comprehensive update will be reflected in Sitrep #3.

Nutrition

Needs

- In Rakhine:
 - A total of 2,200 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) urgently require 396 boxes of micronutrient tablets to be distributed within the first week of June, as existing stocks will expire by the end of May 2023.
 - There is a need for anthropometric measurements tools, including 10 sets of height boards, and 10 Seca Scales for use by partners in Buthidaung and Maungdaw to scale up active screening for early referral and treatment.
 - Four out of 14 static centres for out-patient therapeutic treatment and supplementary feeding were destroyed by the cyclone and need reconstruction. An additional 10 centres need minor repairs.
- In the Northwest, further analysis of identified needs is being processed and will be reflected in the next Sitrep.

Response

- In Rakhine,
 - A one-time blanket distribution of Ready-to-Use Supplementary Food (RUSF) is being planned for 4,100 children, aged 6-59 months, with a ration size of 15 sachets per child for one month in the displacement sites in Sittwe, Pauktaw, Ponnagyun, Kyauktaw, Mrauk-U, Minbya, and Rathedaung townships.
 - Three out of seven treatment centers, namely Thet Kae Pyin, Da Paing, and Say Tha Mar Gyi, have resumed treatment at temporary spaces.
 - Two additional centers, Ohn Taw Gyi and Mezali Kone treatment centers, are expected to resume operation in the coming days.
 - Nutrition centers in Baw Du Pha Rohingya camp and Hla Ma Chay were the hardest hit and need total renovation. Due to the absence of support infrastructure, 153 malnutrition cases, including 121 children under five and 32 caregivers from Baw Du Pha Rohingya camp and Hla Ma Chay have been referred to

the nearest Integrated Nutrition Centers in Ohn Taw Gyi and Thet Kae Pyin respectively for regular follow-up and consultations.

- Three out of seven treatment centres (namely Thet Kae Pyin, Da Paing, and Say Tha Mar Gyi) resumed treatment at temporary spaces.
- Two more centres in Ohn Taw Gyi and Mezali Kone treatment centres are going to resume operation in the coming days.
- A total of 1,593 people, including 934 children under five and 659 caregivers, received nutrition assistance including treatment, preventative, and follow-up services through staff and partners.
- In the Northwest, all nutrition partners are currently implementing their regular activities, including Infant and Young Child Complementary Feeding, community awareness, community mobilization, outpatient therapeutic programmes, the Targeted Supplementary Feeding Program (TSFP) and the Blanket Supplementary Feeding Program (BSFP) at their targeted areas in Sagaing, Magway and Chin.

Gaps & Constraints

- Due to bureaucratic delays and lack of access approvals, the Nutrition Cluster has not been able to fully quantify Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) requirements.
- Continued strong advocacy is needed for access approvals to enable the review and dissemination of guidance on breastmilk substitutes.
- The Nutrition Cluster continues to confront challenges in strengthening sub-national Nutrition Cluster coordination, particularly in the Southeast and Northeast, where the loss of experienced staff has been substantial.

Protection

Needs

General Protection

- In Rakhine:
 - Increasing protection risks require urgent attention, including threats to safety and security, unexploded ordnance (UXOs), sexual and gender-based violence, loss of civil documentation, looting, extortion, and robbery. New negative coping mechanisms observed include borrowing money at high interest, and children begging for food due to the lack of job opportunities, which might lead to child labor, exploitation, and abuse.
 - IDPs in AA-MAF sites in Mrauk-U and Kyauktaw reported that their houses in their villages of origin were also destroyed by the cyclone, and they need support to repair them.
 - Tensions and disputes over limited resources and ownership of shelters were observed in IDP camps and displacement sites. Hence, there's an urgent need for shelter, relief items, water and sanitation facilities, in addition to food and health services.
 - In Mrauk-U and Kyauktaw townships, female-headed households and elderly people reportedly face greater difficulties in accessing services. The capacity of community-based support is decreasing due to a lack of supply and capacity, which will likely exacerbate the vulnerability of these groups.
- In the Northwest:
 - Inadequate WASH facilities pose challenges, especially for girls and women who face limited access to toilets and bathing facilities, compromising their physical health and safety. Frequent power outages and inadequate lighting at night exacerbate these safety concerns.
 - Due to the scarcity of sanitary kits for girls and women, they are reusing babies' diapers, which they are washing and drying in the sun. This situation emphasizes the urgent need to address the lack of adequate hygiene kits for girls and women in the affected areas.
 - In church facilities, IDPs are compelled to share crowded rooms, accommodating up to four households per room. This situation significantly compromises the privacy and dignity of girls and women, as they face challenges in finding a space to change clothes.
 - Several partners have observed a sense of hopelessness and elevated levels of stress among the communities.

Child Protection

- Child protection partners report the most urgent need is for children's clothes. There are children reportedly walking around without clothes, often unsupervised, increasing child protection risks, including physical risks of playing in debris or water unsupervised, as well as exposing children to trafficking, violence, or exploitation risks.
- There is a need for support to caregivers, including mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS), as well as more Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) to ensure children are supervised and provided basic PSS through recreational activities.
- Cases of neglect have been identified as caregivers are preoccupied with the stress of rebuilding and suffering from psychosocial distress.
- Children with disabilities, as well as children whose caregivers have a disability, need additional support following the cyclone, as reported by several partners. The lack of partners providing targeted disability support, which is required to ensure children can access services, is compounding needs. Some children will also require assistive devices.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

- Protective services and referral mechanisms for women and children, especially GBV survivors, are inadequate. Most Women and Girls' Centers in Rakhine's IDP camps have been damaged or destroyed.
- The demand for emergency health kits and hygiene/dignity kits is rising among women and girls in affected townships, especially IDPs. An estimated 141,560 women and girls in Rakhine require dignity kits.
- Overcrowding, a lack of privacy, and insufficient lighting in displacement sites heighten the risk of sexual abuse and harassment for women and adolescent girls. Inadequate water and sanitation facilities, including poorly-lit and isolated latrine locations, exacerbate these risks. In Rakhine, most solar lamp poles are non-functional since the cyclone.
- The cyclone has disrupted community support systems in Rakhine, intensifying the risk of GBV. Factors such as power outages, faulty lighting, dilapidated latrines, damaged water facilities, and overcrowded living conditions exacerbate these threats.

Response

General Protection

- Explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) delivery continues in areas affected by Cyclone Mocha. Partners are delivering tailored safety messages through direct presentations to communities, distribution of new posters and other materials, social media campaigns, and radio stations in local languages. Safety trainings for aid workers involved in the cyclone response have been organized in the Northwest and will continue to be delivered on a regular basis. Similar arrangements are being made for Rakhine.
- As travel authorization and access are still challenging, the Cluster is engaging CSOs and camp/site-based staff and volunteers on the ground to explore all options to safely deliver critical protection assistance to cyclone-affected communities.
- Protection Cluster members are sharing Communication with Communities (CwC) messages in Rakhine regarding mine risk education, post-cyclone hazards, PSEA, and PSS.

Child Protection (*Note that figures may be inaccurate due to underreporting*)

- Child Protection (CP) Area of Responsibility (AoR) partners are providing MHPSS and psychological first aid (PSFA) in both Rakhine and the Northwest, including support on 'caring for children during adverse situations,' using social media platforms. In Rakhine, 3,153 people were reached, and in the Northwest, 7,896 were reached, including both children and caregivers.
- Child-Friendly Spaces (CFSs) are important for children to have a sense of normalcy. The rehabilitation of destroyed CFSs, as well as the establishment of mobile/temporary CFSs, is ongoing. To date, 80 CFSs have reportedly been rehabilitated or established in the Northwest, and 73 in Rakhine. These spaces also assist in identifying children in need of case management and referral for specialized treatment. To date, 598 children in the Northwest and 326 children in Rakhine have been reported as being under case management.
- 76 help desks have been established in the Northwest for children and caregivers, often supported by community-based facilitators/volunteers, to support CP monitoring and rapid reunification.
- Child-friendly awareness raising on key messages continues to reach large numbers of people. To date, 13,699 people were reportedly reached in the Northwest, and 1,869 people in Rakhine. In response to the trafficking risk, two partners in the Northwest have received trafficking training, including awareness activities related to trafficking, from agencies.
- Some 113 CP kits were distributed in the Northwest and 118 kits in Rakhine.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

- Observation missions have been conducted in Rakhine by UNFPA and GBV partners to better understand the situation and needs. These include missions in Rathedaung, Buthidaung, Maungdaw, Sittwe, Ponnagyun, Myebon, Pauktaw, Kyauktaw, and Kyaukpyu townships.
- Two mobile teams have initiated GBV and psychosocial support services in 20 villages across Sittwe, Pauktaw, and Rathedaung townships in Rakhine.
- Three GBV and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) mobile teams have begun GBV services in Rathedaung and Sittwe townships in Rakhine.
- Approximately 24 Women and Girls' centers have started providing GBV services in Buthidaung, Sittwe, Pauktaw, Kyauktaw, Ponnagyun, and Myebon in Rakhine.
- Hotline services with a new number for GBV services have been activated in Rakhine.
- Dignity kits have been distributed to 750 households in Buthidaung, Rathedaung, and partially in Sittwe, through mobile teams, healthcare facilities, and GBV centers.
- In the Northwest, the provision of case management services, including mental health and psychosocial support to GBV survivors in Chin, is ongoing. There are plans to distribute 280 dignity kits to women and girls in the Matupi township in Chin.
- A Women and Girls' center for people with disabilities (PwD) was established in Kale township in Sagaing.
- In Kachin, continuous monitoring of the situation is being undertaken. The most affected households have received cash for essentials, including dignity kits, ensuring their basic needs are met.
- In Kachin, some GBV actors have identified funding proposals for the reconstruction and renovation of camps in Waingmaw, Tanai, Mansi, and Shwegu townships.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)

- Partners are providing age-appropriate and gender-sensitive Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) services. They have been conducting group activities to promote psychosocial wellbeing for children at safe spaces (mobile CFSs), ensuring that children with disabilities can access support. They are also facilitating sessions or home visits to promote caregivers' self-care.
- The MHPSS Area of Responsibility (AoR) is working to ensure that all staff involved in the response are equipped with the PFS skills and can safely identify needs and make referrals.
- One partner is providing PFA to cyclone-affected communities in the Sittwe camps, Buthidaung, and Maungdaw in Rakhine, using PFA-trained community health workers and psychosocial workers. To strengthen referrals in these areas, including for GBV, CP, Mine Action (MA), specialized mental health, and other emergency needs, cash is being provided for transportation. Support includes the distribution of 172 essential mother-child kits to mothers with children under five years old who have pre-existing mental health issues and were directly affected by the cyclone in Sittwe, and the distribution of dignity kits to 400 affected women and girls in Buthidaung township in Rakhine. Around 100 kits are awaiting approval for distribution in Buthidaung and Maungdaw, and additional funds have been requested to distribute 1,800 more kits.

Gaps & Constraints

- Most community centers and safe spaces in the camps in Rakhine have been destroyed, indicating a need for temporary safe spaces and PSS presence in the affected communities.
- Access to affected areas is a constant challenge in parts of both Rakhine and the Northwest, where partners face significant restrictions and there has been destruction of roads and bridges due to flooding.
- Electricity and telecommunication services remain limited, especially in the Northwest, preventing partners from accessing information on the cyclone's impact and the scale of humanitarian needs.
- There is a shortage of trained professionals, particularly in protection areas, to identify and address protection issues and concerns.
- Both financial and human resources are urgently required for the protection of children. Limited partners are providing response services and access challenges are delaying the response. Funding is insufficient to ensure a high-quality response to those affected.
- There is a lack of contingency funding for local partners to respond to immediate needs in a timely manner.
- The availability of kits is insufficient to support communities promptly. There remains a significant gap in CP kits due to transportation challenges from Yangon. Many kits have been dispatched and will be available this week. There are also ongoing procurement needs for supplies to operate CFSs.

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

Needs

- In Rakhine, according to the most recent field observations, at least 43,468 houses were damaged.

- In the Northwest, an estimated 11,160 people were affected, and approximately 224 houses and public structures were damaged in Chin. In terms of humanitarian needs, more than 9,200 people in Chin, about 166,000 people in Sagaing, and nearly 37,500 people in Magway urgently need shelter and Non-Food Item (NFI) assistance.
- In Kachin and northern Shan, more than 2,700 people require shelter support, according to field observations.
- In Kachin, Mansi and Waingmaw townships were primarily affected by strong winds. As a result, approximately 380 structures, including houses, latrines, kitchens, schools, and a clinic were damaged in Waingmaw township, affecting more than 720 people. In Mansi township, 130 structures in 8 villages were damaged, affecting about 500 people. Those affected require food, household NFI items, dignity kits, and shelter materials.

Response

- Cluster partners have provided shelter materials and NFI kits, as well as site maintenance through partners to more than 63,000 cyclone-affected people as per the below:
 - In Rakhine, partners reached more than 12,600 affected families in Kyauktaw, Maungdaw, Minbya, Mrauk-U, Myebon, Ponnagyun, Rathedaung and Sittwe townships, and about 2,400 households in Sittwe townships received site maintenance.
 - In the Northwest, cash assistance for shelter reconstruction to 450 affected HH in Chin and multi-purpose cash assistance for 1,950 affected HH in Sagaing and Magway will be provided in mid-June. In addition, in-kind assistance for more than 2,100 affected families and repairs to roads and bridges by cluster partners are also being planned in the Northwest.

Gaps and Constraints

- The Cluster's cyclone response remains grossly underfunded, with a funding gap of \$67.2 million, given the magnitude of needs.
- In the Northwest, 38,422 households targeted for assistance have not yet been reached with support. While transportation of assistance to various parts of the Northwest remains under strict control, humanitarian actors are also encountering challenges in providing cash assistance.
- In Kachin and northern Shan, there remains a gap in the provision of reconstruction or repair of approximately 546 shelters, 19 kitchens, and 8 community halls.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs

- In the Northwest, according to ongoing field observations, more than 700 households in Chin, 4,800 households in Magway, and 2,800 households in Sagaing were affected by the cyclone, bringing the total estimated number of affected people to 41,500. The current estimate of affected households may rise as further field observations are conducted. These impacted households are in urgent need of WASH assistance, with particular demand for drinking water, emergency latrines, and hygiene supplies.
- In Yinmarbin township in Sagaing, 8 out of the 24 most affected locations have been visited. The renovation of water sources and emergency latrines is urgently needed as nearly all have been contaminated and latrine pits have flooded.

Response

- In Rakhine, cluster partners with access have distributed WASH and other emergency items to cyclone-affected households in both Rohingya IDP camps and Rakhine displacement sites across various townships, utilizing existing access permissions:
 - Local CSOs received essential aid items to be delivered to affected communities in Sittwe and Ponnagyun townships. These items included 1,000 hygiene kits, 1,000 x 20-liter buckets, 2,000 x 10-liter buckets, 2,000 collapsible water containers, 150 tarpaulin sheets, 150 coils of rope, 5 drums of calcium hypochlorite, 2,000 bars of soap, 100 boxes of water flocculation and disinfectant, 2 water tanks, and 50 dustbins.
 - The WASH Cluster facilitated training sessions for staff members of local CSOs and NGOs, focusing on chlorination techniques and the proper use of purification tablets for water treatment to respond to reports of water contamination due the cyclone.
 - To enhance planning of respective responses, the WASH Cluster is engaging with the Department of Rural Development on dewatering activities in affected townships, particularly in relation to pond drainage.

Gaps & Constraints

- Limited stocks and increased market prices in Sittwe in Rakhine are hindering the humanitarian response.
- Disrupted telecommunications and power outages following the cyclone remain a major challenge for information access and sharing. In the Northwest, ongoing fighting, insecurity and the presence of troops are restricting field observations, as well as responses, particularly in Sagaing.

GENERAL COORDINATION

Coordination meetings at various levels continue to occur in the affected areas to address immediate issues and needs across all sectors, engaging different constituencies within the humanitarian community. These meetings play a crucial role in analyzing field observations from affected areas and informing response planning.

Humanitarians require three essential elements to meet the needs of people affected by the cyclone. Firstly, there is a need for increased supplies to replenish stocks in the cyclone zone. This includes moving supplies within the country and importing them from outside Myanmar. A number of requests for importation are currently awaiting approval. Secondly, humanitarians need expanded access to reach affected communities. Based on discussions in Nay Pyi Taw, a detailed two-week distribution plan has been shared and is pending approval. Time is of the essence to carry out these distributions before the monsoon season arrives. Finally, there is a need for increased funding to support the scale-up of the operation and facilitate the urgent procurement, transport, and distribution of supplies.

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