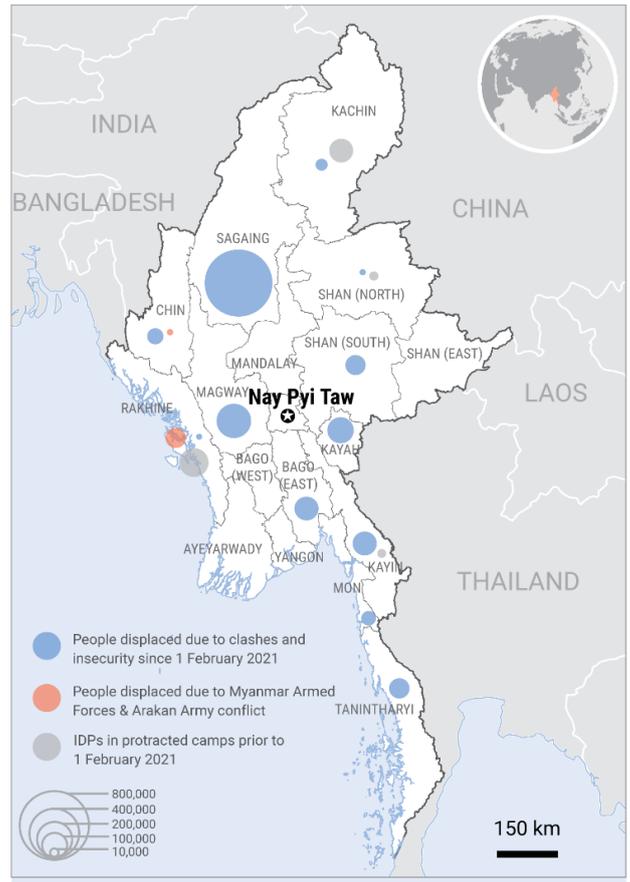


This regular update, covering humanitarian developments up to 13 July, is produced by OCHA Myanmar in collaboration with the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group and UN agencies. Response figures are based on self-reporting by organizations to clusters. The next humanitarian update will be issued in August 2023.

### HIGHLIGHTS & KEY MESSAGES

- Ongoing conflict and natural disasters are continuing to exacerbate humanitarian needs across Myanmar.
- Nearly 1.9 million internally displaced people face precarious living conditions and urgently need critical and lifesaving assistance.
- Two months have passed since Cyclone Mocha struck western Myanmar and expanded humanitarian access is desperately needed to support those affected.
- After a brief suspension, humanitarians have been able to re-start their regular programmes in Rakhine, but the humanitarian cyclone response remains paused by the SAC.
- Distribution, transport and import requests have all been resubmitted and are now pending approval.
- Countrywide, restrictions on humanitarian access have increased in multiple states and regions, notably in the Southeast and Kachin, further impeding timely and efficient aid delivery to affected and displaced communities.
- Sustained support, including financial assistance, from the international community is crucial to allowing partners to stay and deliver in challenging circumstances.
- Six months into 2023, the [combined \\$US886.7 million Humanitarian Response Plan and Cyclone Mocha Flash Appeals](#), remain critically underfunded, with only 17 per cent of the required funding received, as of 14 July.



### KEY FIGURES\*

**1.9M**

Total people currently internally displaced across Myanmar

**1.6M**

People currently displaced by clashes and insecurity since February 2021

**328K**

People who remain internally displaced due to conflict prior to February 2021, mainly in Rakhine, Kachin, Chin, and Shan

**70K**

Civilian properties estimated burnt or destroyed since February 2021.<sup>1</sup>

\*Displacement figures fluctuate during any given month. These figures represent the number of people currently verified as displaced. Cumulative numbers for returns and displacement are not always available.

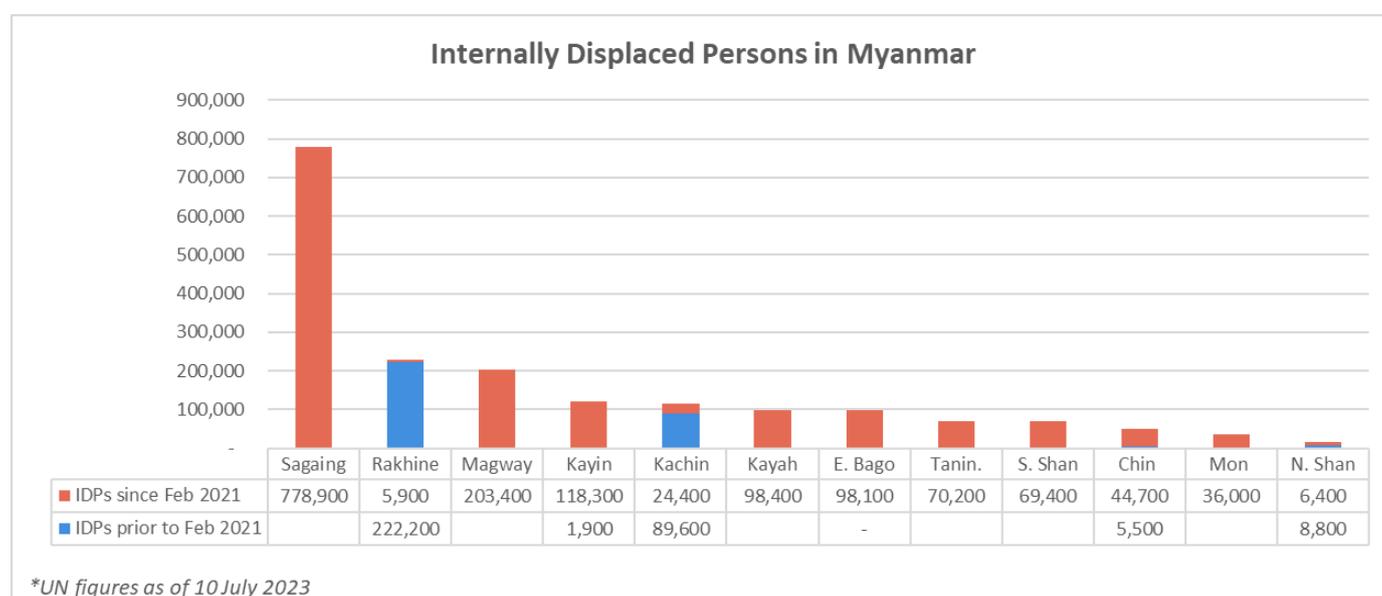
### SITUATION OVERVIEW

Active conflict and disaster are driving new and worsening humanitarian needs in Myanmar. Limited access remains a significant challenge for humanitarians and people in need, especially in conflict-affected areas, hampering efforts to deliver sustained assistance at-scale. In Rakhine, two months have passed since Cyclone Mocha, and only a limited

<sup>1</sup> Data for Myanmar (up to 31 May 2023)

number of partners have received travel authorizations (TAs) for their regular activities. Relief efforts by the humanitarian community to address the cyclone's impact have been suspended since early June. The UN and its partners continue to advocate for expanded access to communities affected by the cyclone and have resubmitted the previously approved distribution and transportation plans to the SAC for reactivation. Ensuring humanitarian access to cyclone-affected communities is crucial, particularly during the ongoing monsoon season. Families are still grappling with the devastating aftermath of Cyclone Mocha, resulting in significant ongoing humanitarian needs, particularly in terms of shelter and food provision. During the monsoon season, water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) needs become more pressing, and contaminated water caused by flooding and heavy rain can lead to health and nutrition complications.

Simultaneously, heavy fighting has been seen in several parts of the country, leading to fresh casualties and displacement. Nearly 1.9 million people are currently displaced, with the vast majority (almost 1.6 million people) fleeing their homes since the takeover. In addition, more than 70,000 civilian houses and structures, including religious buildings, are estimated to have been burnt down or destroyed in conflict-affected states and regions, mostly in the country's Northwest, although this data is difficult to verify.



In the Southeast, daily fighting has intensified. Kayah has witnessed the heaviest conflict across several townships, including Bawlake, Hpasawng, and Mese, resulting in more than 8,000 people fleeing their homes within Kayah or across the Thai border. In Tanintharyi, armed clashes erupted on 8 June in Ka Net Thi Ri village, leading to the displacement of more than 5,000 people from 11 villages in Thayetchaung township. Other townships in the Southeast, including eastern Bago, Kayin, southern Shan, and Mon, have also witnessed armed clashes and violence, causing population movement and resulting in damage to houses and casualties, reportedly including children and IDPs.

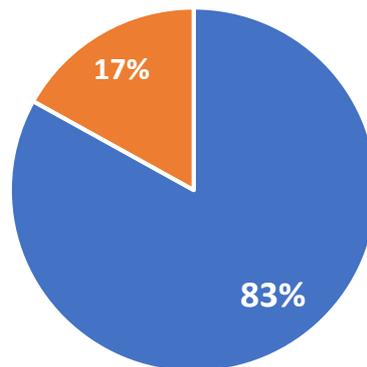
In Kachin, heavy fighting has been reported in Waingmaw township since early July, with a significant deployment of ground forces and use of airstrikes near Nam Sam Yang village. On 6 July, airstrikes reportedly killed two civilians and injured several others working in a paddy field between Kan Paik Ti and Waingmaw towns. As of 6 July, more than 440 people from Nam Sam Yang village had been displaced to 3 locations in Waingmaw township. Humanitarian partners have provided them with food and essential relief items, but access constraints and new travel requirements for national staff have recently intensified in Kachin, limiting the work of humanitarian organizations.

In the Northwest, armed clashes and military operations in June displaced approximately 9,300 people from Falam, Hakha, Kanpetlet, and Matupi townships in Chin, as well as Katha and Sagaing townships in Sagaing. However, during the same period, about 1,100 people in Myaing township, Magway, returned to their places of origin. Landmines, improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and explosive remnants of war (ERWs) continue to pose an increasing risk to both local communities, including IDPs, and humanitarian aid workers.

Despite the challenging operational environment and funding constraints, humanitarian organizations are working round the clock to respond to needs across Myanmar. At least 1.2 million people were reached in the first quarter of 2023 with mid-year reach data currently being compiled. However, the combined [2023 Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\)](#) and [Cyclone Mocha Flash Appeal for 2023](#) are critically underfunded, with only 17 per cent of the total

requirements received suggesting partners may be forced to make difficult decisions about their activities in the second half of the year. WASH, Health, and Education are the worst-funded clusters according to the Financial Tracking Service with commitments still in the low single-digits as a percentage of the requirements. Limited financial support has a direct impact on the ability of organizations to deliver assistance at-scale and adversely impacts communities in need. Restricted funding will force clusters to prioritize life-saving and critical activities, compromising the depth and breadth of multi-sectoral relief necessary to improve overall well-being, living standards, and durable solutions.

### Myanmar Humanitarian Response Plan + Cyclone Mocha Flash Appeal- 2023 (US\$886.7m)\*



■ Gap (US\$737m) ■ Received (US\$150m)

\*OCHA Financial Tracking Service, as of 15 July 2023. The total figure includes the required US\$764 million for the 2023 Myanmar Humanitarian Response Plan and an additional \$122 million required for new activities and support for those newly impacted by Cyclone Mocha.

## HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

### Humanitarian Access

Humanitarian efforts in various states and regions have faced significant difficulties due to conflict, bureaucratic obstacles, and increasing reports of violence and threats against aid workers.

In the aftermath of Cyclone Mocha, the decision-making process for TAs in Rakhine has been centralized at the Nay Pyi Taw level, and cyclone assistance has been paused for more than a month. Some humanitarian organizations have received permission to resume their regular activities, but this is not sufficient to meet all needs. Close scrutiny of staff movement and extensive waits at checkpoints, often lasting two to three hours, have led to numerous field mission cancellations.

Access in other states or regions, including Kayin, northern Shan, Sagaing, Magway, Chin, Mon, and Kayah, has been increasingly challenging due to escalated military operations and new requirements. Additional bureaucratic hurdles such as denial of TAs, insistence on TAs for national staff and refusal of passage through military checkpoints forced aid organizations to reschedule or delay their planned activities in several states including Rakhine, Kayah, Kachin, and northern Shan.

Compounding these challenges, Ethnic Armed Organizations (EAOs) and People's Defence Forces (PDFs) have repeatedly obstructed humanitarian movements, detaining private transporters and confiscating relief goods in northern Shan, Chin, Kayah, and Sagaing.

Arrests or detentions of aid workers have noticeably increased in recent months, with 50 humanitarian staff reported to have been detained or arrested since January 2023. Within the reporting period, 15 staff members from a diverse range of aid organizations in Magway, Chin, and Rakhine (5 per area) were apprehended. Although most of these staff

members were subsequently freed, the disruption significantly affected the scheduled delivery of essential health services.

## Needs, Response, Gaps and Challenges by Cluster

*The information below is provided by each of the seven operating clusters and their sub-working groups in Myanmar. Information is self-reported by aid organizations to the relevant clusters on a monthly basis for inclusion in this update. Accordingly, this section is not necessarily reflective of all humanitarian interventions undertaken on the ground but rather those voluntarily reported by partners. All partners are encouraged to report their work via the relevant clusters to ensure good visibility of gaps and response. The ICCG's Information Sharing Protocol allows for this information to be shared in a non-identifiable manner.*

### Education in Emergencies

#### Needs

- In Kachin, educational needs were identified among the newly displaced families in Shwegu township. The Education Cluster is working with partners on the ground to address the educational needs of the displaced children once access is possible.
- In Rakhine, 95 per cent of Temporary Learning Centers (TLCs) in IDP Rohingya camps in Sittwe and Pauktaw townships were destroyed due to the cyclone. Reconstruction and rehabilitation of these TLCs is urgently needed, in addition to teaching and learning materials support.
- In the Northwest, safety and security measures, including awareness raising sessions, are needed to protect students, teachers and school staff from the risk of unexploded hazards in and around schools. In Chin, an explosive device was found at a high school in Tonzang downtown area, according to local media and sources.
- In Kayah, there is an urgent need for establishing TLCs and building latrines, as well as providing learning materials for children in the Pein Chit Camp in Loikaw township.

#### Response

- In Kachin, partners are working on distributing around 3,000 learning items across 15 locations in Bhamo, Momauk, and Mansi townships in the coming weeks. Partners also conducted the Better Learning Program for Parental Training for 40 parents in Namhkan and Kutkai townships in northern Shan.
- In Rakhine, more than 8,400 Rohingya children (4,499 boys and 3,920 girls), ranging from kindergarten to Grade 5, were enrolled in schools in Sittwe and Pauktaw townships. In addition, partners recruited 8 school administrator teachers and 10 assistant teachers for the TLCs in 5 Rohingya camps in Sittwe township. Additionally, safe school teams (SSTs) were established in eight camps across these two townships, to ensure the safety and well-being of students within the educational facilities.
- In the Northwest, partners conducted various training programs to enhance the capacity of volunteer teachers in 9 townships in Magway, 11 townships in Sagaing and 1 township in Mandalay. These activities included Non-Formal Primary Education (Phase 2) Training for 264 volunteer teachers (120 men and 144 women) and Protection Sexual Exploitation Abuse (PSEA) training for 246 volunteer teachers (114 men, 132 women). In Magway, one partner distributed 1,181 Education in Emergency (EiE) kits and 1,100 student kits to 34 villages in Salin and Sinphyukyun townships.
- In the Southeast, social and emotional wellbeing learning (SEL) training was organized for 44 basic education teachers (12 men and 32 women) from Hlaingbwe and Kyainseikgyi townships in Kayin. Moreover, some 490 student kits and 8 teacher kits were distributed in the border area in Kayin.

#### Gaps & Constraints

- In Rakhine, the provision of educational services is being affected by pending travel authorizations (TAs). Uncertainty surrounding the approval of construction and rehabilitation of TLCs further complicates the situation.
- In the Northwest, partners encountered challenges in transporting EiE supplies to Hakha township in Chin and in Kale township in Sagaing due to increasing restrictions and delays at checkpoints, as well as confiscation of vehicles.

### Food Security

#### Needs

- Nationwide, 15.2 million people are estimated to be moderately or severely food insecure in 2023.
- Income losses, coupled with high inflation, have worsened food insecurity. Among households that have experienced significant income reductions, the level of food insecurity is particularly severe. More than half of

households have been forced to reduce assets, increase borrowing or reduce spending, and Myanmar's progress against malnutrition seems to have halted or reversed.<sup>2</sup> According to the May 2023 World Bank Survey of Farming Households, the percentage of households expressing concerns about inadequate food supply has increased to 48 per cent, up from about 26 per cent in May 2022. These households face challenges in coping, often resorting to selling their productive assets. Therefore, the preservation and improvement of agriculture and livelihoods are critical to preventing a further deterioration of household food security.

- Based on May market price monitoring, the Survival Minimum Expenditure Basket (SMEB) in June 2023 has increased from MMK195,000 to MMK250,000 (US\$93 to \$119). This 28 per cent increase indicates the impact of sharp inflation and currency fluctuations over the last six months. In comparison, the preceding six months witnessed a more moderate increase of eight per cent.
- The labour market continues to exhibit overall weakness, and it is anticipated that economic activity will remain limited in the medium and longer-term, especially in conflict-affected areas. The World Bank's Myanmar Economic Monitor released in June 2023 projects a growth rate of three per cent for the period leading up to September 2023. This projection indicates that growth remains significantly below the levels observed in 2019.
- Analysis of the impact of Cyclone Mocha:
  - The cyclone has had an impact on fishery infrastructure and inputs; caused livestock losses; affected planted crops, farmland and orchards; and reduced agricultural production.
  - Half of the surveyed households reported the loss of assets, in particular those required for crop and livestock production. Damage to roads is still affecting access to markets.
  - One-third of farmers reported severe damage to their fields, while another third reported minor damage. Farmland has been lost as a result of saltwater intrusion, debris, and sediment. Among the affected farmers, 13 per cent reported the loss of seed stock. Additionally, one in four farmers reported damage to their irrigation infrastructure, including irrigation tools.
  - Livestock owners, particularly those in Rakhine, reported significant losses of animals, including poultry, swine, cattle and goats. More than one-third of livestock owners reported the loss of productive assets, such as animal housing structures and stocks of feed.
  - Needs for agricultural inputs, livestock feed, and agricultural infrastructure have increased following the cyclone, specifically seeds to start the agricultural season; fishing boats and fishing tools to support the recovery of the fishing sector; and feed and sheds for livestock producers.

## Response

- In May 2023, partners reached around 62,900 beneficiaries across 10 states and regions, including through the following activities:
  - In southern Shan, one partner provided multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) for food assistance to 11 households in Pekon township.
  - In Sagaing, one partner provided 180 rice bags for IDPs in Kale township. Other partners provided food assistance to nearly 1,200 beneficiaries in Chaung-U, Indaw, Katha, and Wuntho townships.
  - In Chin, partners provided unconditional cash assistance to 389 IDPs.
  - In Magway, partners provided cash for food to more than 5,000 beneficiaries in Saw township and reached around 10,000 beneficiaries through income-generating cash grants in Myaing, Pauk and Saw townships.
  - In the three weeks following the cyclone, in Rakhine and Magway WFP delivered more than 5,400 metric tonnes of mixed food items, reaching around 394,400 people (188,000 newly affected by the cyclone and 207,000 people who are regular beneficiaries). Assistance to those newly affected by the cyclone has been paused by the SAC since 7 June.

## Gaps & Constraints

- Support to the Cluster is still largely focused on food assistance. Funding for livelihoods and agriculture is critically needed to ensure food assistance is impactful.
- Assistance to those newly affected by the Cyclone Mocha has been suspended for more than a month and it is urgent that this support is allowed to resume.
- The Food Security Cluster is severely underfunded at 11 per cent. The lack of funds is preventing partners from providing comprehensive assistance that ensures 2,100kcal/person/day on a minimum of 3 months (for emergency response).
- The lack of funding is limiting the scope of the Food Security response, particularly in terms of agriculture - including crop production, livestock, and fisheries - livelihoods, food processing, food conservation/storage and food transportation/marketing.

<sup>2</sup> World Bank, [Myanmar Economic Monitor June 2023: A fragile recovery](#).



## Needs

- In Kachin, due to logistics and transportation constraints, essential medicine and health services remain priority needs particularly for displacement sites in Shwegu and Bhamo townships. Malaria rapid diagnostic tests and treatment supplies are also in high demand for people in hard-to-reach and malaria-endemic areas.
- In northern Shan, emergency medicine is needed for newly displaced people in Muse and Namhkan townships. There are some delays in program-related activities to manage Tuberculosis which need to be strengthened among communities in northern Shan due to travel limitations for implementing partners for their regular mobile visits.
- In Kayah, IDPs in camps in conflict-affected townships require essential medicines for seasonal flu, along with tarpaulins and basic food. In addition, there is an urgent need to treat cases of malaria that were recently reported among some IDPs in camps in the eastern part of Loikaw township where there is no access to medical services for severe patients. There is also an insufficient number of mosquito nets.
- In Kayin, eastern Bago and Tanintharyi, contingency health supplies, including oral rehydration salts (ORS) and Zinc tablets, are much needed, especially amid the monsoon season. In conflict-affected areas, medicines and health supplies are needed for patients with injuries who require emergency care.
- In Rakhine, the following needs were identified:
  - Dengue fever and malaria cases continue to be reported in displacement camps across Kyauktaw, Ponnagyun and Rathedaung townships. These areas are highly endemic areas for malaria and dengue, and this is the peak season. There are currently an estimated 140 cases of malaria and 110 cases of dengue in these townships.
  - Two months after Cyclone Mocha, medical care, medicines and referral support remain high priorities in affected villages, towns and IDP camps in Rakhine.
  - Mobile clinics operating in Rakhine need to replenish their stock of medicines, including analgesics, antibiotics, and emergency/trauma care supplies.

## Response

- In Rakhine, more than 18,500 health consultations have been provided as part of primary health care services, along with control measures for vector-borne disease in June. There is also an ongoing discussion on the renovation of mobile clinics in IDP camps in Sittwe township. The Early Warning, Alert and Response System (EWARS) is still functioning for acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) cases, and regular AWD response activities are ongoing through partners.
- In Kachin, 3,179 health consultations were provided in IDP camps, new displacement sites, durable solution sites, and hard-to-reach locations, according to EWARS reported data. Additionally, 546 IDPs received integrated primary healthcare services in new displacement sites in Shwegu and Bhamo townships in June.
- In northern Shan, 5 mobile clinics provided 3,827 consultations in 18 IDP sites and 61 villages in June. A total of 626 consultations were also conducted during routine clinic and awareness raising sessions in Lashio, Kutkai and Namtu townships.
- In Kayin, 463 people received primary health care services through 17 mobile clinics; 139 pregnant women received emergency obstetric care referral support; and 103 children received early childhood care support in June. Family planning commodities were also provided to Hpa-An Hospital.
- In Kayah, consultations were provided to 243 IDPs in 20 camps in conflict-affected Demoso and Loikaw through mobile medical services in June. MHPSS, PSEA and GBV awareness sessions were also provided in these camps.
- In southern Shan, primary health care services were provided at 5 IDP sites in June, along with hygiene kits, dignity kits and household kits.

## Gaps & Constraints

- In Rakhine, the following challenges and gaps were reported:
  - Due to Cyclone Mocha, most of the mobile clinics in the Sittwe IDP camps were damaged and mobile health partners have been providing essential health services as part of their regular activities in some temporary areas.
  - Restricted access and delayed TAs for the direct implementation of services and transportation of medicine and medical supplies from Yangon to Rakhine are affecting the provision of health services.
  - There are challenges in providing the required malaria and dengue-related services to vulnerable people in the aftermath of Cyclone Mocha and the delays to TAs for healthcare providers.
- In Kachin, access to affected and displaced people in Bhamo District remains challenging and requires multi-sectoral advocacy.

- In northern Shan, additional checkpoints on the way to Hsipaw, Kyaukme, Kutkai and Namtu townships have been reported, raising safety and security concerns for humanitarian personnel and affected people. Additionally, more human resources and medicines are required to provide health services in areas with new displacement.
- In Kayin, the main challenges include ongoing armed conflict and limited access to affected people. The humanitarian response faces numerous gaps due to the limited number of available humanitarian partners and insufficient funding. In Kayah, there has been a shortage of implementing partners to provide malaria-related services since 2021 when the primary health service continuum was disrupted. Before then, the Ministry of Health (MoH) led malaria elimination activities in Kayah, which was previously in the elimination phase of malaria. However, when the elimination activities were slowed down and the malaria infection rate has increased.

## Nutrition

### Needs

- A potential pipeline break is being forecast in September for therapeutic nutrition supplies and micronutrients if additional funds are not received and import delays are not resolved.
- A total of \$5.8 million is needed for ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) and micronutrients to avoid the projected gap in supplies in September. If financial support is not received urgently, around 7,500 children could die from malnutrition in Myanmar this year, out of nearly 40,000 severely affected children.
- In Kayin, nutrition supplements and micronutrient tablets are in high demand to support mothers and children, particularly in conflict-affected areas, according to partners.

### Response

- The Cluster is working closely with its global counterparts to draft guidelines for cash and voucher assistance (CVA) in Nutrition in Emergencies.
- In Rakhine, nutrition partners implemented the following responses in June under their regular programming:
  - Partners provided nutrition assistance to more than 6,400 IDPs in IDPs Rohingya camps in Sittwe and Pauktaw townships. This assistance included medical consultations, nutrition supplies, Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling, and the dissemination of critical messages on optimal IYCF practices in malnutrition treatment centres in the camps.
  - Partners provided nutrition services to 77 children newly identified as having severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and 97 children with moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) in Rohingya IDPs camps in Sittwe and Pauktaw townships. Six of the 77 SAM cases had critical medical conditions and were referred to the focal health agency for management. Partners will continue providing follow-up to ensure these six children receive optimal care.
  - A total of 49 field-based volunteers (30 men, 19 women) received training on integrated management of acute malnutrition to address the shortage of staffing so that services can be expanded in hard-to-reach and underserved areas in northern Rakhine.

### Gaps & Constraints

- A service gap analysis conducted in Rakhine revealed that 80 per cent of AA-MAF conflict displacement sites (142 out of 178 in Rakhine, plus Paletwa in Chin) still lack appropriate nutrition response services for children under five.
- In Kachin, except for WFP-supported partners providing a Blanket Supplement Food Programme (BSFP) assistance, there is a lack of other partners available for the management of SAM and other nutrition-specific services required in Mohnyin township. The Nutrition Cluster is exploring ways to address this gap in collaboration with other partners and clusters.
- In Sagaing, there is lack of specialized nutrition service providers for various reasons, including insufficient capacity and resources, as well as funding. This is particularly concerning as the lean and rainy seasons approach. The Nutrition Cluster is exploring various ways to address this issue by encouraging partners to expand interventions into areas of high need and collaborating with health partners already operating in the targeted areas.
- In the Northwest, safety and security concerns continue to affect access to life-saving therapeutic nutrition services.


**Protection**
**Needs**

- There remains a need for more extensive explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) and awareness raising, along with ongoing psychosocial and livelihood support for landmine victims. During the first 4 months of 2023, 388 casualties were reported nationwide. This figure already represents 99 per cent of the total casualties reported in 2022 (390 reported).<sup>3</sup> The cyclone and related flooding in Rakhine and the Northwest has raised the EO risk with fears that mines and other explosives may have shifted and contaminated new areas.
- In the Southeast, the following concerns and needs were identified:
  - Civilian casualties due to indiscriminate shelling, landmines, arbitrary arrests and detention, destruction of civilian property, and restrictions on humanitarian access remain major protection concerns.
  - In Kayin, a recent rapid protection assessment indicates that adults, children and youth are increasingly migrating to Thailand in search of work due to the lack of employment and livelihoods opportunities in their places of origin or temporarily displacement. Protection risks for children and youth on the move are expected.
  - In Mon, there is a need for clean delivery kits for IDPs in Thanbyuzayat township.
- In Kachin, approximately 5,000 IDPs from various IDP camps have returned to their villages of origin or moved to solutions sites in the first half of 2023 in Waingmaw, Myitkyina, and Mansi townships. Based on multisectoral joint solutions site assessments conducted at three return villages in Waingmaw township on 5 May, protection needs are high in addition to shelter, WASH, livelihoods, and educational needs.
- In the Northwest, key drivers of displacement and humanitarian need include regular airstrikes and armed clashes, killing and maiming of civilians, military raids into villages, use of landmines and ERW, arbitrary arrests and detentions destruction of civilian properties, including rural health clinics and community schools, movement restrictions, blockages of supply transport.
- In Rakhine, the following concerns and needs continued to prevail:
  - Humanitarian needs continue to increase in the aftermath of the cyclone and have further exacerbated because of access restrictions and monsoon rains. IDPs who already lived in challenging conditions are now in dire need of food, shelter, and healthcare services. Families are reportedly either sleeping in the rain or in unsuitable shelters. The absence of livelihood opportunities is driving people to consider desperate actions, including suicide attempts, as reported by partners and in local media. There has been an increase in children begging and child exploitation in IDP camps in Sittwe and Pauktaw townships as families seek alternate sources of livelihoods and sustenance. There is also need for MHPSS for the affected people.
- Child Protection partners have observed the following child protection risks continue across the country:
  - Post-cyclone child protection risks continue to increase as families remain displaced, face high anxiety, and are living in crowded living conditions. These include, inter alia, risks of children joining armed groups, psychosocial distress, unsafe migration, early child marriage, child labour, and violence inside and outside the home, including gender-based violence (GBV).
  - The increase in children playing without supervision compounds these child protection risks. Dangers and injuries have also been reported in Rakhine due to collapsed buildings.
  - There is an urgent need to rebuild Child Friendly Spaces (CFSs) in cyclone-affected areas, as well as provide children with uniforms and books to return to school.
  - Across Myanmar in conflict areas, as well as post cyclone, partners are reporting an increase in physical, sexual and emotional abuse, as well as dangers of trafficking and dangerous onward movement.

**Response**

- In the Southeast, partners undertook the following responses:
  - In Kayin, partners completed 17 Rapid Protection Assessments; distributed NFIs to 295 IDP households; conducted 35 NFI post distribution monitoring surveys; and provided legal advice/counselling for 5 IDPs in Kawkareik and Kyainseikgyi townships.
  - In Tanintharyi, partners facilitated the issuance of birth certificates for 15 children and provided one power of attorney for legal representation in Pindaya township in southern Shan.
  - In eastern Bago, partners provided cash assistance to two persons with specific needs (PSN) in eastern Bago and referred three PSNs to relevant agencies.
  - In Kayah and southern Shan, partners approved 76 cases of PSN for assistance and conducted 80 post-distribution monitoring surveys with IDPs from Hsihseng, Lawksawk, and Pinlaung townships.

<sup>3</sup> UNICEF. Myanmar Landmine/ERW Incidents Information.

- Partners conducted 7 legal and human rights awareness sessions for 70 people in Nyaungshwe and Taunggyi townships in southern Shan, three-day community resilience trainings in Kayin and Tanintharyi, and capacity-building sessions on human trafficking trends, risk factors and potential responses and statelessness/access to civil documentation.
- In Kachin, from 22 to 23 May, UNHCR and two Durable Solutions Working Group (DSWG) partners conducted an in-person training on housing, land and properties (HLP) and HLP due diligence to 29 staff from organizations members of the Kachin DSWG and CCCM/Shelter. From 6 to 9 June, UNHCR and one of its partners provided a legal protection team training for community leaders and representatives from solutions sites in Waingmaw, Hpakant and Myitkyina townships in Kachin.
- In the Northwest, despite access constraints and funding limitations, menstrual pads were distributed to 320 displaced girls and women, and household kits consisting of blankets and mosquito nets were distributed to 200 displaced households in Pakokku township, Magway. Additionally, the Protection Cluster organized its first training on Protection Incident Monitoring System (PIMS) in 2023 in the Myanmar language to 32 participants from 16 organizations with the aim to enhance monitoring of protection concerns across the Northwest.
- In Rakhine, the Protection Cluster concluded a three-day training for eight protection frontliners of an INGO that will take on the responsibility of AA-MAF sites protection focal points in Kyauktaw township, including handling protection monitoring and community awareness on various protection-related matters.
- Child Protection (CP) partners continue to provide services to children, caregivers and communities in affected areas, including awareness raising, CFS construction, distribution of Child Protection kits, adolescent programming, case management and psychosocial support.
  - Partners are scaling up engagement with communities to better prevent and respond to child protection issues.
  - Partners also received a training to ensure their responses are inclusive for children with disabilities.
  - CP and GBV AoRs produced a guidance note on GBV survivors who seek shelter with their children. Additionally, a tip sheet for gender sensitive child protection programming for under 13-year-olds was developed.

### Gaps & Constraints

- In the Northwest, despite urgent needs due to Cyclone Mocha, significant access restrictions and safety and security concerns have hindered interventions. More interventions are largely required, particularly in conflict affected and hard-to-reach areas, especially in Sagaing. Significant challenges were reported during the planning of distribution of aid because community members did not want to allow strangers or unfamiliar visitors to enter their villages.
- In Chin, some partners report that it is no longer safe to travel to affected communities due to armed attacks and clashes.
- In Kachin and northern Shan, partners supporting displaced people face increased risks of search and checks, scrutiny and travel restrictions.
- In the Southeast, several challenges were prominent in May and June 2023:
  - Major impediments, including checkpoints, extensive road blockage, and unpredictable armed clashes make it challenging for humanitarian workers to gain access and authorisations to provide assistance.
  - Movement restrictions are ongoing in Kayin and Tanintharyi. The safety of humanitarian workers is compromised with ongoing security threats and landmine incidents.
  - In Kayah, movement restrictions are increasing due to the expansion of intensified fighting across the state, and unapproved TAs, especially to conduct activities in Loikaw town.
  - An arson attack at the immigration office in Launglon township in Tanintharyi affected the ability of one of the partners to support the issuance of civil documentation.
- Access and funding constraints are leading to inadequate coverage for people, including children, in need. Despite severe Protection needs and concerns, the Cluster is less than 17 per cent funded halfway into 2023.

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

#### Needs

- In Kachin, cluster partners identified that more than 15,500 IDPs in Shwegu, Mohnyin, Hpakant and Waingmaw townships need shelter and NFI assistance. Specifically:
  - More than 14,000 IDPs, who have been sheltering in various sites or in the forest in Shwegu township since April 2023, need shelter and NFI assistance. Nearly 9,000 of them cannot be reached due to access restrictions.
  - More than 200 out of 600 IDPs in Mohnyin township have not received NFI support since their arrival in late May 2023.

- More than 1,100 IDPs in Hpakant township, who have been displaced since late April 2023, still need additional NFI support.
- About 90 IDPs in Waingmaw township need NFI assistance and other essential relief items.
- In the Northwest, cluster partners identified the following needs in May and June.
  - In Chin, nearly 280 temporary shelters in Falam, Hakha and Thantlang townships have been damaged and destroyed by strong winds in May and are in need of shelter support.
  - In Sagaing, partners identified needs of in-cash assistance for about 1,800 displaced families in four townships: nearly 1,000 families in Indaw, Katha and Tigyaing townships urgently need NFI assistance and more than 800 families in Kale township need shelter support.
- Across the Southeast, emergency shelter materials remain a high priority for IDPs:
  - In Kayin, shelter materials and NFIs, including solar lamps, mosquito net, blanket, mat, bucket and jerrycan, are needed for more than 4,000 displaced families in 15 villages in Kawkareik township, according to an assessment conducted in June.
  - In Tanintharyi, insufficient adequate shelter is exposing IDPs in Dawei, Launglon, Thayetchaung townships to health risks.
  - Shelter materials are urgently needed for IDPs who are sharing spaces with host families in cramped houses in Shwegyin, Taungoo and Thandaunggyi townships in eastern Bago, and in Bilin and Kyaikto townships in Mon.
- In Rakhine, nearly 1,700 shelters in IDPs camps, displacement sites and villages across several townships that were affected by the cyclone, urgently need tarpaulins to cover damaged roofs.

### Response

- In Kachin and northern Shan, cluster partners provided NFI and shelter support in May and June as below:
  - 4,000 IDPs in Shwegu township received NFI and shelter assistance.
  - 230 displaced families in Hpakant township received essential household items.
  - More than 30 displaced families in Mohnyin township received essential household items and shelter kits. In addition, about 250 IDPs in Mohnyin and Myitkyina townships received NFI assistance.
  - More than 10 displaced families in Lashio township received NFI kits.
- In the Northwest, cluster partners provided essential relief items and shelter materials as below:
  - In Chin, 720 IDPs including children in Tedim township received winter jackets and blankets.
  - In Sagaing, 2,500 families received multi-purpose cash assistance in Ayadaw, Chaung-U and Kale township.
- In the Southeast, cluster partners provided the following assistance in May and June:
  - In Kayin, more than 1,200 IDPs in Hpa-An, Hlaingbwe and Myawaddy townships received NFI assistance.
  - About 1,000 displaced families in eastern Bago, Kayah, Kayin and Tanintharyi received shelter, emergency relief items and cash assistance.
  - In southern Shan, about 2,200 IDPs in four camps in Hsihseng township and four camps in Pinlaung township received shelter and NFI materials.

### Gaps & Constraints

- In Kachin, access to displacement sites remain challenging, causing a significant gap to address the needs of 9,000 IDPs in Shwegu township. Efforts are underway to transport the necessary support.
- Ongoing conflict, insecurity, restrictions on travel and transportation of humanitarian supplies as well as disrupted telecommunications and internet access in certain areas remain major challenges to reach displaced people across the Northwest and the Southeast. In the Northwest, humanitarian partners have no access to Tigyaing, Indaw and Katha township in Sagaing because of ongoing fighting and access constraints.
- In Rakhine, TAs for shelter and NFI activities cyclone responses have not been approved. Market prices, including shelter materials, have been significantly high after the cyclone and IDPs are struggling for the daily food need.

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

### Needs

- In Rakhine, 58 per cent of 196 AA-MAF displacement sites still lacked sufficient water; 57 per cent remain without appropriate sanitation; and 72 per cent still experienced hygiene gaps (Cluster 3W analysis, May 2023).
- More than 246 ponds and 70 wells in Sittwe, Ponnagyun, Rathedaung, Mrauk-U, Minbya, Myebon and Pauktaw townships were contaminated with saltwater due to storm surge that has caused additional suffering

amid insufficient water for drinking and domestic use. A total of 22,194 latrines were damaged in 646 sites and many people remain without appropriate sanitation; along with 86 per cent of affected populations still lack appropriate hygiene supplies. (Monthly 3W June and 3W Mocha Damaged assessment report).

- In the Southeast, WASH assistance, including water purification items, hygiene kits, food and basic medicines, is required for IDPs. In southern Shan, more than 1,000 IDPs in Pekon township urgently need water and sanitation assistance. These IDPs were displaced from Moe Bye town to Pekon town in early June 2023.
- In Kachin, water for drinking and domestic use, emergency latrines and hygiene items are urgently needed for more than 14,000 IDPs in Shwegu township.

## Response

- In Rakhine, WASH partners undertook the following response in about 120 Rakhine and Rohingya IDP camps/sites and about 550 other locations in 10 townships in May and June:
  - Distributed 265 water filters, 2,630 jerrycans and buckets, 22,833 hygiene kits, 36 dustbins, 250 tarpaulin and ropes, 951 boxes of water purification tablets and 389,220 liters of drinking water. They also provided hygiene promotion sessions in 65 locations.
  - Constructed 1,075 new emergency latrines and repaired 74 latrines.
  - Supported transportation of water by trucks and boats and distributed 566,720 liters of drinking water in Sittwe, Rathedaung and Mrauk-U townships and more than 2 million liters in Pauktaw township.
  - Partners and the Department of Rural Development dewatered 233 ponds and 70 wells.
- In northern Shan, WASH partners distributed hygiene kits, soap, water containers and water purification materials to 230 displaced families in Muse township.
- In Kachin, cluster partners continued regular hygiene promotion activities in protracted camps in Bhamo and Waingmaw townships in May and June.
- In the Northwest, the following responses were undertaken in June.
  - In Chin, hygiene kits were distributed to 1,000 displaced families in 35 villages in Hakha, Matupi and Thantlang townships.
  - Partners provided 14 water tanks (1,000 liters), 7 units of latrines, 8 handwashing stations in Kanpetlet township in Chin and Saw township in Magway.
- In the Southeast, WASH partners provided jerrycans, buckets, kitchen items to 565 displaced families in Kyondoe town in Kawkareik township in Kayin. A partner also provided cash assistance to 176 displaced families in Bilin, Kyaikto and Thaton townships in Mon.

## Gaps & Constraints

- In Rakhine, humanitarian access to affected people due to pending TAs remains a major challenge for WASH activities and responses. Most WASH partners continue to have limited stock to respond to emerging needs, while market price is increasing and supplies in markets are limited in cyclone affected locations.
- In the Northwest and Southeast, limited access, lack of approval of TAs, physical obstacles on transportation of supplies, including road blockages and multiple checkpoints, as well as ongoing conflict and insecurity remains major challenges for reaching the affected people.
- Humanitarian access remains limited to new displacement sites in many townships in Kayah and southern Shan.
- In Kachin, TAs to reach IDPs in Shwegu township remain pending. Efforts are ongoing to obtain access.

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