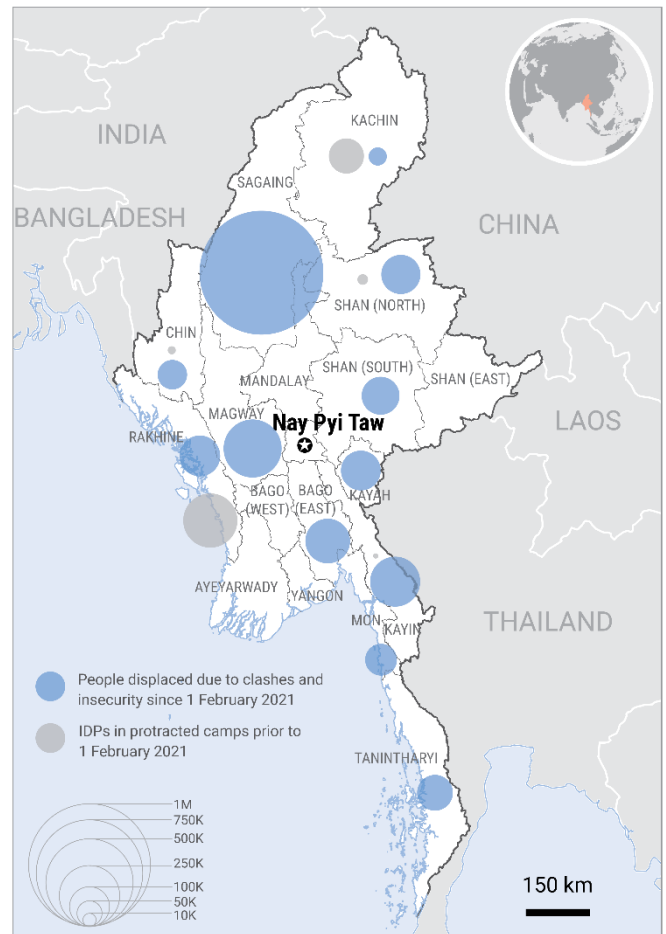


### HIGHLIGHTS AND KEY MESSAGES

- 2023 drew to a close with continued intense fighting across vast swathes of the country, record displacement, and pervasive protection threats facing the civilian population.
- The escalation in fighting since the end of October 2023 has persisted for more than two months and is the largest in scale and most extensive geographically since early 2021.
- At the end of 2023, more than 2.6 million people were estimated to be displaced nationwide, with an estimated 628,000 people forced to flee since the intensification of fighting at the end of October.
- Humanitarians continue to face heavy access constraints and bureaucratic impediment. More than 142 aid worker arrests and detentions by parties to the conflict were self-reported by humanitarian organizations between January and November 2023.
- Advocacy continues for expanded access to conflict areas, especially in areas where bureaucratic impediments have accelerated since the conflict escalation at the end of October.
- Humanitarians have stayed and delivered in 2023, reaching at least 2.5 million people with assistance in the first 9 months of the year and expecting to have assisted 3.1 million people by year's end.
- However, this reach is not as deep or sustained as planned due to gross underfunding of the response, leaving significant unmet needs that are flowing into 2024.
- The [2023 Myanmar Humanitarian Response Plan](#) received just 32 per cent of requested funding in 2023, leaving a \$600 million funding gap.
- The [2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan](#) has been published identifying a record 18.6 million people in need, up from 17.6 million in 2023. The Plan prioritizes 5.3 million people for urgent assistance in 2024 for which \$994 million is required. The Myanmar translation of the 2024 HNRP executive summary can be found [here](#).
- Nearly three years since the military takeover, the crisis in Myanmar risks becoming a forgotten emergency. The situation demands immediate and sustained international attention in 2024 to raise the funds required to alleviate suffering and save lives.



### KEY FIGURES\*

**2.6M**

Total people currently internally displaced across Myanmar

**2.3M**

People currently displaced by clashes and insecurity since February 2021

**306K**

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

**18.6M**

People in Need 2024

**5.3M**

People targeted for assistance 2024

**\$994M**

Requirement 2024

\*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.

## Timeline of events

Jan - Dec 2023



JANUARY 2023

HRP launched prioritizing 4.5 million people for assistance.



FEBRUARY 2023

Martial law declared in 40 townships across multiple states and regions.



MARCH 2023

Concerns grow over premature IDP returns due to SAC camp closure policy.



APRIL 2023

Displacement in the Northwest alone hits 1 million.



MAY 2023

Extremely severe cyclone Mocha devastates western Myanmar.

Cyclone Mocha Flash Appeal targets 1.6 million people.



JUNE 2023

HRP (+Flash Appeal) only 20 per cent funded as of 30 June.

At least 1.9 million people reached nationwide by mid-year.



JULY 2023

SAC continues to restrict access and response to cyclone survivors.



AUGUST 2023

Flooding in Rakhine and Southeast affects 80,000

Emergency Relief Coordinator Martin Griffiths visits Myanmar.



SEPTEMBER 2023

Confirmation of landmine casualties being recorded in every state and region except Nay Pyi Taw.

New coordination structure begins operation.



OCTOBER 2023

Conflict intensifies between MAF and EAOs/PDFs in the Northeast.

Displacement in Myanmar surpasses 2 million.

HCT Localization Strategy adopted.

Lashio airport closed.



NOVEMBER 2023

Escalation of hostilities spreads to the Northeast, Northwest and Southeast.

Informal AA-MAF ceasefire breaks down and hostilities resume.

Martial law in place in 59 townships.



DECEMBER 2023

Key transport routes and humanitarian access remain blocked in active conflict zones; airports closed.

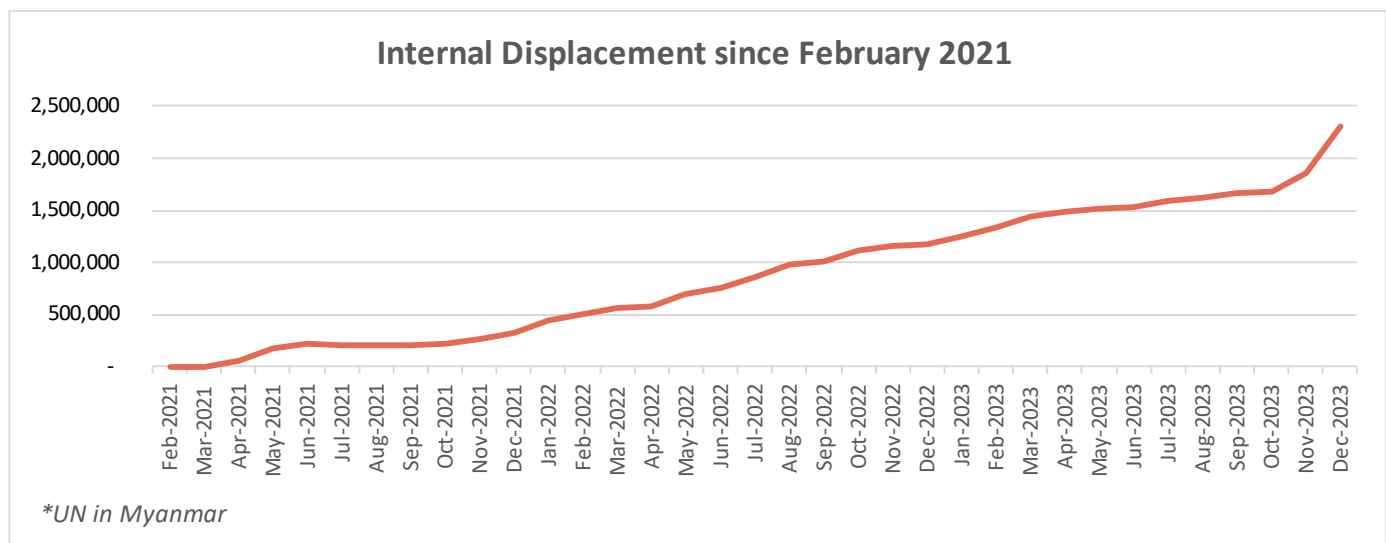
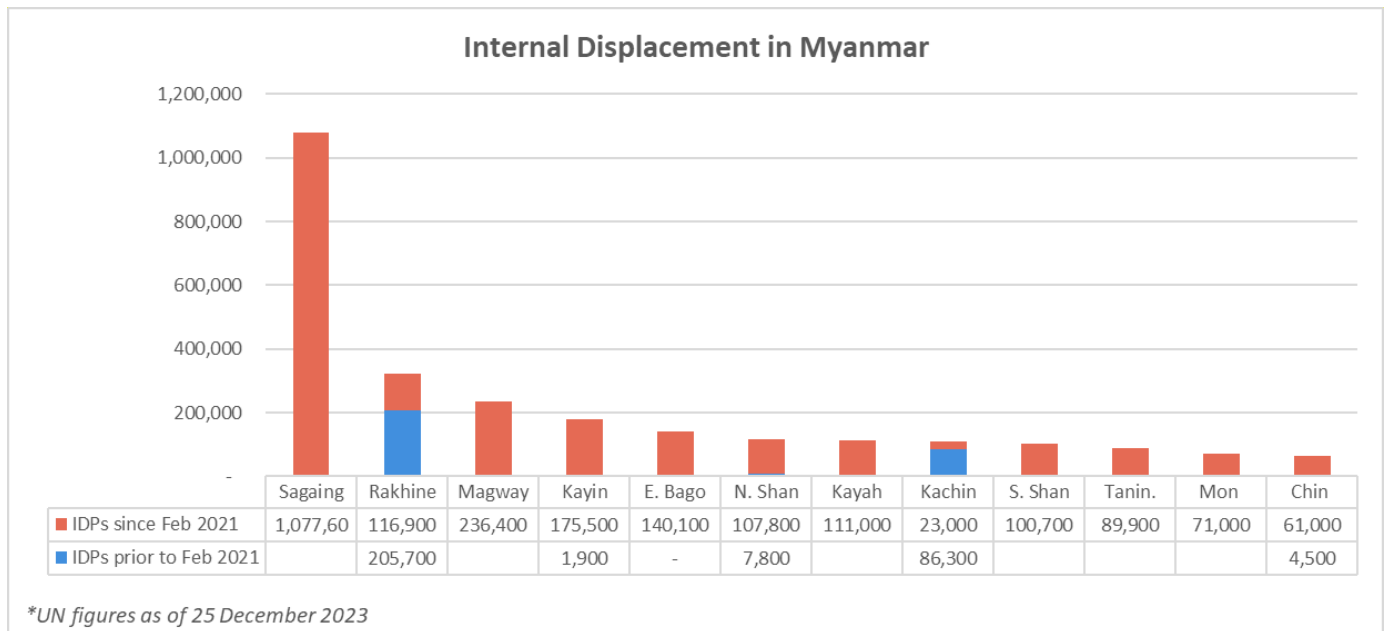
Displacement hits 2.6 million.

HRP (+Flash Appeal) just 29 per cent funded as of 14 Dec, projection of 3.1 million people reached.

## 2023 YEAR-END SITUATION OVERVIEW

Myanmar stands at the precipice at the end of 2023 with a deepening humanitarian crisis that has spiralled since the February 2021. The civilian population is living in fear for their lives, with coping capacities stretched to the limit. The crisis is now marked by surging displacement, a fragile security environment, profound protection threats and escalating unmet needs. The humanitarian situation remains grim at year’s end, largely fuelled by protection risks and conflict, compounded by a myriad of challenges, including food insecurity, a health system in crisis, disrupted education, huge numbers of people on the move amid fears for their safety, and the aftermath of Cyclone Mocha which struck Myanmar in May affecting 3 million people. Inflation and conflict are driving up the price of food, fuel, and other basic items, leaving vulnerable households hungry and in economic distress with increasing numbers resorting to negative coping measures to survive.

The final days of 2023 have been marked by continued intense fighting across a majority of states and regions, with civilians fleeing their homes often multiple times, in large part due to fears over attacks. As of 25 December, more than 2.6 million people estimated were displaced nationwide, with most surviving in terrible conditions, lacking adequate shelter, most often in informal sites and in desperate need of access to basic services such as clean water. People on the move continue to be exposed to escalating explosive ordnance risks, and those in situations of protracted displacement face intensification of their vulnerabilities over time.



## CONSEQUENCES OF UNDERFUNDING IN 2023

At least 2.5 million people were reached with assistance across country by the end of September 2023 which is half of the 5 million people targeted. This includes a significant increase in IDPs and people in the Northwest being assisted. An estimated 3.1 million people are expected to have been reached by the end of the year, despite severe underfunding and access constraints that have intensified since the conflict escalation at the end of October. As of 31 December, the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) was just 32 per cent funded at \$287 million, leaving a funding gap of \$600 million and making Myanmar's HRP one of the worst funded responses in the world.

### US\$886.7m total requirements of plan ?



Underfunding of both the humanitarian and development response in Myanmar for successive years since the military takeover has left significant gaps and unmet needs that are now cascading into 2024. An estimated 1.9 million people prioritized for assistance in 2023 missed out on aid altogether as a result of underfunding and access constraints. In addition, those who were reached with some support usually did not receive the required depth or quality of assistance. Oftentimes people have only been reached once and with one form of support (frequently food), instead of a full package of different types of aid that meet the full spectrum of their needs.

In 2023, underfunding of the humanitarian response meant that:

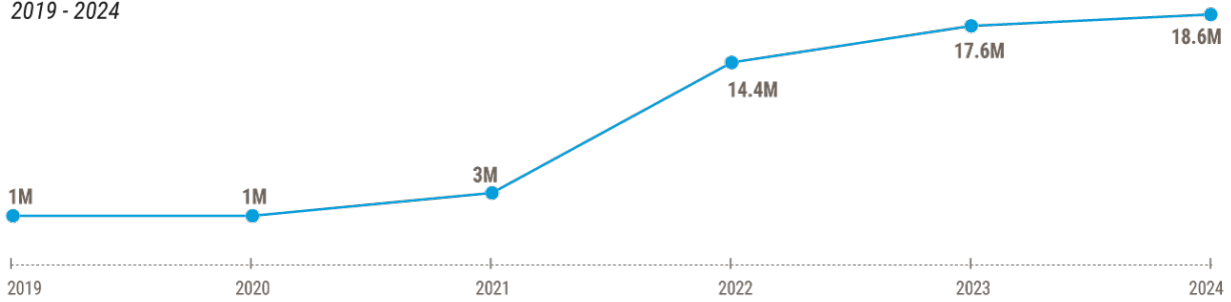
- 10,000 children below 5 years are estimated to have died in the absence of life-saving treatment for severe acute malnutrition (SAM) throughout 2023.
- 42,000 children under 5 years with moderate acute malnutrition likely deteriorated to severe acute malnutrition.
- 217,000 potentially low birth weight (LBW) babies have been born.
- 311,000 children under 5 years have potentially suffered irreparable damage to their optimal growth and development.
- 410,000 children were not supported with life-saving child protection services.
- More than 1.2 million people were left without protection services exposing them to negative coping mechanisms.
- 878,000 people were left without appropriate shelter conditions jeopardizing their physical and emotional well-being.
- 927,000 people were not supported with core NFIs such as bed, mats, kitchen set, and clothes.
- 352,000 people were left without coordination assistance and protection services, including service monitoring, camp management, coordination with camp actors and IDPs.
- More than 1.1 million people have been left without priority life-saving health services, predominantly impacting child and maternal health.
- 200,000 children lacked access to quality educational services.
- At least 832,000 people did not receive adequate support to cover their most urgent hygiene and sanitation needs, likely impacting their health status.
- 672,000 people did not have access to safe drinking water.

## 2024 HUMANITARIAN NEEDS AND RESPONSE PLAN

The humanitarian outlook for Myanmar in 2024 is precarious, driven by widespread deterioration of security environment, grave protection threats, unmet humanitarian needs, and a population whose coping capacity has been steadily worn down over the last three years. Some 18.6 million people are estimated to require humanitarian assistance in 2024 – 1 million more than the same time last year and almost 19 times the number before the military takeover. Children are bearing the brunt of the crisis, constituting 6 million of those in need as a result of displacement, interrupted health care and education, food insecurity and malnutrition, and grave protection threats including forced recruitment and mental distress. More than 12.2 million people are considered to have protection needs in 2024 with reliance on negative coping strategies rising. Protection threats are severe as a result of conflict, violence, harassment, detention, explosive hazards, extortion, forced labour, discrimination, and persecution.

**People in need by year**

2019 - 2024

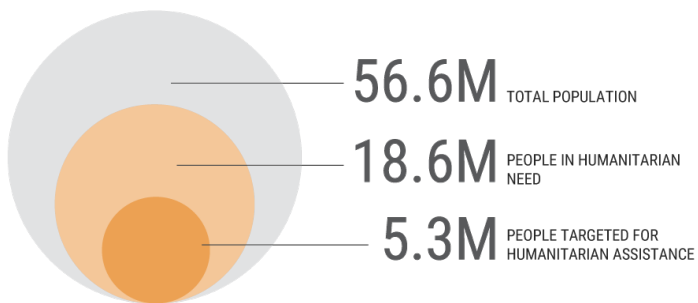
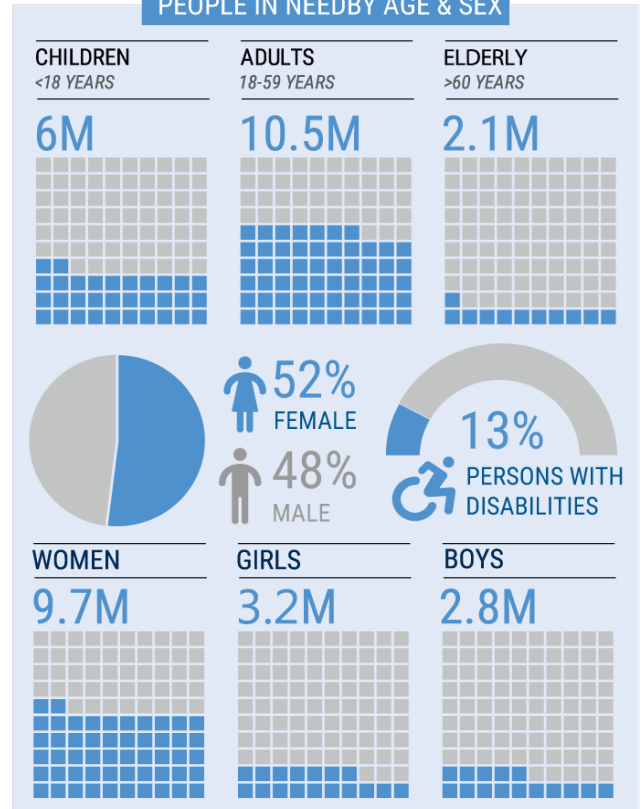


In 2024, displacement is expected to continue increasing at a similar or higher rate than 2023. People on the move continue to be exposed to escalating explosive ordnance risks, and those in situations of protracted displacement face intensification of their vulnerabilities over time. As the protection landscape continues to deteriorate, the risk of irregular movement and trafficking are also increasing. Both water quantity and quality are insufficient for much of the population with 5.6 million people in need of humanitarian WASH support. An estimated 4.3 million people are in need of Shelter, non-food items and Camp Coordination and Camp Management support. Shelter needs are highest in Rakhine, Kachin, Northwest, and Southeast with more than half of all IDPs lacking proper shelter. Widespread interruptions to agriculture and soaring poverty are making it increasingly difficult for people to access and afford adequate food. Food insecurity is affecting some 12.9 million people – nearly 25 per cent of all people in Myanmar – with 19 per cent of the population in severity phase 3 (Crisis) and 4 per cent in phase 4 (Emergency). This is increasing the risk of malnutrition especially among children and pregnant women. The health system is in turmoil and 12.1 million people are estimated to have humanitarian health needs in 2024. The situation has resulted in worsening maternal and child health outcomes, missed routine immunizations, and poor emergency care for pregnant women.

Severe underfunding in 2023, combined with heavy access constrained meant that many vulnerable people prioritized for assistance did not receive sustained, multi-sectoral support and this has had significant flow-on effects for needs in 2024 which have expanded in both scope and severity. During 2024, nearly two million people are expected to fall into the highest category of needs severity (catastrophic), whereas over the past two years only a small number fell into this category (151,000 in 2022 and none in 2023).



**PEOPLE IN NEED BY AGE & SEX**



















**\$994M**

FUNDING REQUIREMENT (US\$)

Against this worrying backdrop, aid workers are committed to staying and delivering and are working to provide a complementary, life-saving humanitarian operation from both inside and outside the country, addressing needs via a range of different modalities with the aim of reaching 5.3 million people with assistance in 2024. To carry-out this lifesaving work, the 2024 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) requests \$994 million in donor support. This is a significant increase in the requirement from 2023 and will require significant additional funds mobilization.

[Note: The *2024 Humanitarian Needs Review and Plan* is a collective analysis by the Humanitarian Country Team and the 242 partners involved in the humanitarian response in Myanmar.]

### People in need, people targeted for humanitarian assistance and requirement by cluster

CLUSTER	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	REQUIREMENT (US\$)	NO. OF PARTNERS
 Education	4.5M	1.4M	94M 	84
 Food Security	12.9M	2.3M	289M 	73
 Health	12.1M	2.7M	130M 	72
 Nutrition	2.2M	0.6M	58M 	36
 Protection	12.2M	3.0M	161M 	111
 Shelter/NFI/CCCM	4.3M	1.3M	149M 	38
 WASH	5.6M	1.7M	106M 	58
 Coordination			7M 	242

## HUMANITARIAN ACCESS AND RESPONSE CAPACITY

In 2023, the primary drivers of access impediments in Myanmar included delays or denial of travel authorizations, checkpoints and, violence against humanitarian workers. Surging conflict and violence, particularly in the Northwest, and Southeast, but also more recently in the Northeast and Rakhine, represented other key limitations. The access situation has worsened with the escalation of armed confrontations since the end of October 2023. In quarter four of 2023, the obstruction of critical transportation routes in townships experiencing active combat further limited the movement of civilians to safer areas, while constraining the access of humanitarian actors and the transportation of critical life-saving supplies. Commercial transport was also heavily affected by domestic and international trade disruptions exposing a broader cross-section of affected communities to shortages of survival items, food, and fuel.

More than 1,300 access-related incidents were reported in the first 11 months of 2023 from every region/state except Nay Pyi Taw. More than 142 aid worker arrests and detentions by various parties were reported from January 2022 until November 2023, underscoring the risks faced by humanitarian workers, with actual numbers likely to be higher than reported.

Access severity monitoring in August 2023 showed that 28 per cent of 278 assessed townships faced extreme access challenges, primarily in the Northwest and Southeast. Around half of the townships were identified as facing moderate access difficulties, with only a quarter considered relatively accessible. Events since 27 October 2023 have further eroded access, making the response even more challenging with active conflict and tighter restrictions introduced in areas where access had previously been possible or at least moderately challenging.

The 2024 HNRP aims to assist some 1.8 million people in the most severely restricted areas that are considered to have “extreme” constraints in the August exercise. Another 2.1 million people in need are in areas with moderate access restrictions. With the escalation of conflict and the deterioration of access in the final weeks of 2023, a higher proportion of those targeted are now residing in areas with likely “extreme” constraints but this is yet to be quantified due to the fluidity of the situation. For 2024, increased funding along with enhancing access to people in need within these hard-to-reach, conflict-affected regions is a key priority for the humanitarian community.

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