



MYANMAR

Humanitarian Update No. 51

9 March 2026

This independent update, covering humanitarian developments up to 9 March 2026, is produced by OCHA Myanmar under its global mandate, in collaboration with the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group and UN agencies. Response figures are based on self-reporting by organizations to clusters.

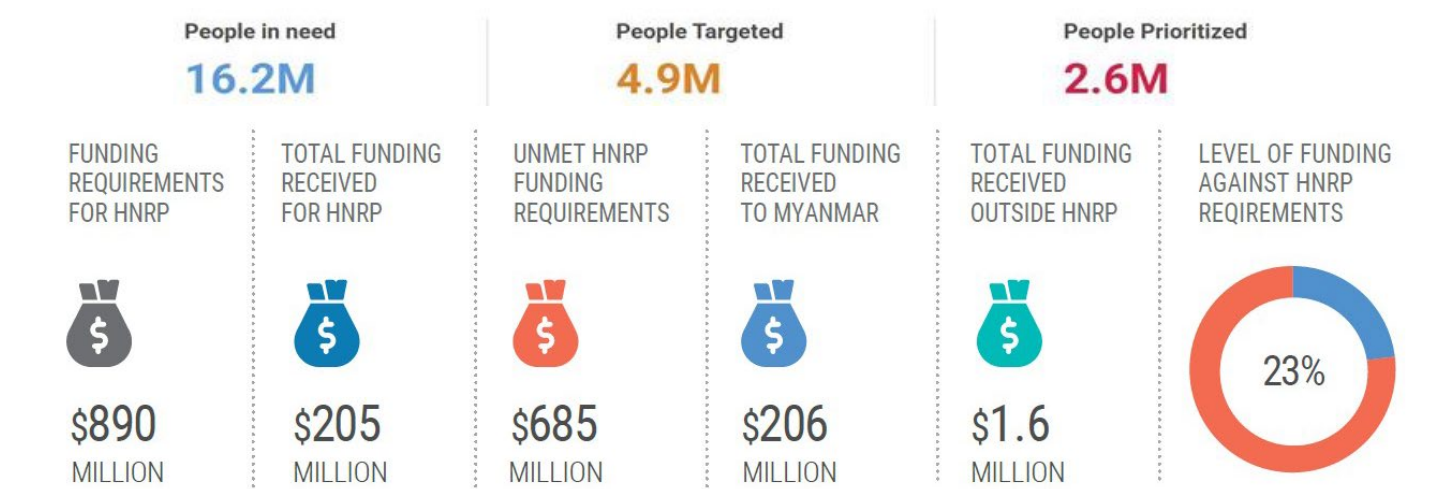
HIGHLIGHTS

- **Conflict continues to fuel suffering and drive humanitarian needs in Myanmar.** Hostilities have been marked by airstrikes and violations of International Humanitarian Law, triggering widespread displacement and civilian harm. The humanitarian situation continues to worsen with each passing year due to ongoing conflict, recurrent disasters, and steady economic decline.
- **Humanitarian partners continue to deliver life-saving assistance to millions of people, despite access challenges, shrinking funding, and insecurity.** In 2025, partners reached 6.3 million people at least once, noting that the depth and frequency of the support provided has in many cases been insufficient. The earthquake response alone reached 1.7 million people, taking advantage of temporary access arrangements that allowed rapid aid delivery in the hardest-hit areas.
- **Underfunding is pushing people into impossible choices and is hindering access to humanitarian aid.** Families are skipping meals, taking dangerous journeys and exposing themselves to serious risks simply to survive. Significant underfunding, inflation, access restrictions, and service disruptions have left many essential needs unmet.
- **In 2026, humanitarians are focusing efforts on 2.6 million people in Myanmar with the very most severe needs, among the 87 million people being hyper-prioritized globally for life-saving aid.** In total, the [2026 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan \(HNRP\)](#) calls on donors for US\$890 million to reach 4.9 million people in Myanmar with critical life-saving assistance and protection services.



At Daw Than Htway's home, clean water now flows directly from the tap—a dramatic shift from years of queuing at diesel-powered pumps. Supported by CERF, solar-powered systems now brings potable water to families in northwestern Myanmar. Photo: UNICEF

KEY FIGURES FOR 2026



SITUATION OVERVIEW

Conflict continues to drive humanitarian needs as civilian casualty figures rise

The humanitarian situation for people in Myanmar remains critical, driven by widespread armed conflict and pervasive insecurity nationwide. Northwestern and southeastern areas, including Sagaing, Magway, Chin, Bago and Kayin, continue to experience intense fighting and displacement, while Rakhine, Shan and Kayah states face ongoing risks of aerial attacks and armed clashes. More than 3.6 million people are estimated to be displaced nationwide, with approximately half of those located in northwestern Myanmar, as hostilities persist and trigger new displacement across conflict-affected areas. Civilians are disproportionately affected, with violence resulting in deaths, injuries and extensive damage to homes and civilian infrastructure.

According to the [UN Human Rights Office](#), airstrikes attributed to the Myanmar Armed Forces in 2025 killed at least 982 civilians – a 53 per cent increase compared to the previous year. At least 287 children were killed in 2025, making it the deadliest year for children since 2021. In Rakhine State, air attacks killed more than 190 people and destroyed homes, medical facilities, camps for internally displaced people, and other civilian infrastructure. The situation has not improved in 2026- more than 400 aerial attacks were reported during the electoral period between December 2025 and January of this year, killing more than 170 civilians.

On 30 January, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres [communicated](#) that he “*strongly condemns all forms of violence and urges all parties to exercise maximum restraint, uphold international human rights law and international humanitarian law and enable safe, sustained and unimpeded access for the United Nations and its partners to deliver humanitarian assistance and essential services to all those in need.*”

In northwestern Myanmar, hostilities intensified across multiple regions and states, triggering significant displacement and widespread shelter damage. Since the beginning of 2026, more than 28,000 people have been displaced across Magway and Sagaing regions, including populations from Kamma, Pauk, Pwintphyu, Salin and Seikphyu townships in Magway Region, and from Bamauk, Indaw, Katha and Tigyaing townships in Sagaing Region. Humanitarian partners have initiated limited life-saving assistance for some of the affected people; however, funding constraints and insecurity continue to limit the scale and reach of the response. Shelter needs remain critical following extensive housing destruction reported since mid-January, with more than 870 houses damaged or destroyed across multiple locations, including significant losses in Myingyan Township in Mandalay Region and in Myaing and Pakokku townships in Magway Region. Further escalation of conflict in January and February displaced more than 17,000 people in Chaung-U and Ye-U townships in Sagaing Region, nearly 5,000 people in Ngazun Township in Mandalay Region, and over 850 people in Mindat Township in Chin State.

In southeastern Myanmar, hostilities persisted across several states and regions, particularly in Bago Region, resulting in civilian casualties, displacement and heightened protection risks. Since late 2025, more than 30,000 people remain displaced in Nattalin Township in Bago Region. Escalation of fighting in parts of Kyauktaga Township in early January temporarily disrupted movement and people’s access to services along the old Yangon–Mandalay highway. In mid-January, air operations and drone activity reportedly damaged homes and displaced over 1,000 people from several villages in Kyauktaga Township. In January, fighting across parts of Bago, Kayin, Mon and Tanintharyi reportedly resulted in civilian casualties, including children, and caused damage to homes and other civilian property. In Mon State, airstrikes, drone attacks and mortar shelling affected civilian villages in Bilin and Kyaikto townships, damaging homes, schools, vehicles and plantations, and have displaced more than 10,000 people since early February.

In Rakhine, Shan, Kayah and Kachin states, clashes and broader insecurity continue to drive displacement and elevate protection risks for civilians. In Rakhine State, intense fighting in Kyaukpyu Township and surrounding areas has compounded humanitarian needs, with an estimated 20,000 displaced people remaining in Thandwe Town in early January. Along the southern Shan-Kayah border, hostilities have displaced over 6,000 people in Mawkmai and Pekon townships in southern Shan. In Kachin State, renewed clashes in Hpakant Township since early February have displaced more than 2,500 people to Hpakant Town, where they are sheltering in a church compound and with host communities.

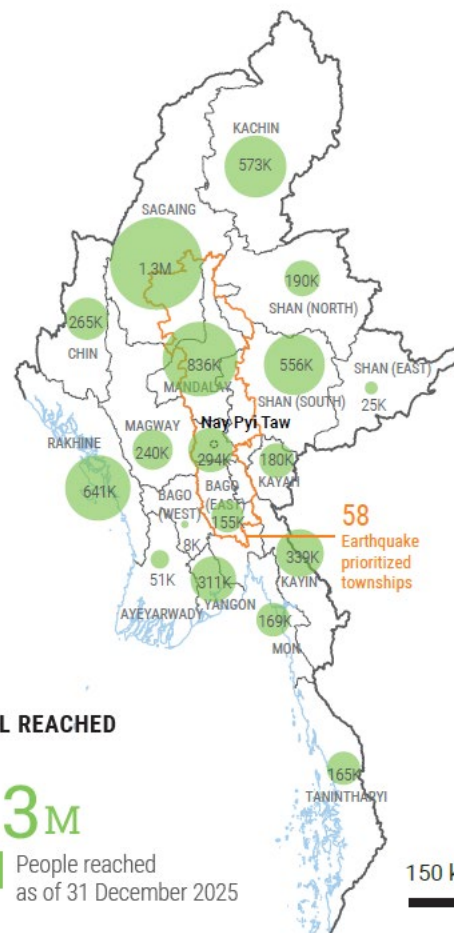
2025 in Review: Humanitarians deliver life-saving assistance to millions despite multiple challenges

The situation in Myanmar in 2025 was shaped by compounding crises, difficult trade-offs and continued operational adaptation. Their humanitarian needs were driven not by isolated events, but by the cumulative and multiplier effects of ongoing conflict, displacement, access constraints, disasters and sudden shocks and prolonged economic hardship. These challenges unfolded in a highly fragmented operating environment characterised by restricted mobility, shifting frontlines and uneven access across regions and states.

The earthquakes in March 2025 generated sudden and large-scale humanitarian needs and placed additional pressure on an already overstretched response. This reinforced the reality that humanitarian action in Myanmar increasingly involves managing layered and protracted risks rather than responding to discrete emergencies.

Despite these constraints, humanitarian partners continued to deliver life-saving assistance at scale. By 31 December 2025, 6.3 million people had been reached, representing 94 per cent of the 6.7 million people targeted. This was achieved through deliberate prioritisation and operational adjustments, as well as temporary access arrangements that allowed rapid aid delivery in the hardest-hit areas.

PEOPLE REACHED BY STATE/REGION



TOTAL REACHED

6.3M

People reached as of 31 December 2025

150 km

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS BY CLUSTER

CLUSTER	PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGETED	PEOPLE REACHED
EARLY RECOVERY		1.7M	34% 558K
EDUCATION	6.5M	1.4M	76% 1.1M
FOOD SECURITY	15.5M	2.5M	69% 1.7M
HEALTH	13.5M	2.9M	76% 2.2M
NUTRITION	3.3M	935K	57% 530K
PROTECTION	15.4M	4.6M	95% 4.4M
Protection	12.9M	4.3M	42% 1.8M
Child Protection	9M	2.4M	53% 1.3M
Gender Based Violence	9M	2.1M	30% 640K
Mine Action	7.6M	1.3M	50% 670K
SHELTER/NFI/CCCM	9.3M	3.2M	49% 1.6M
WASH	10M	3.3M	69% 2.3M
MULTI-PURPOSE CASH		2.4M	69% 1.6M
COORDINATION AND COMMON SERVICES			
CLUSTER NOT SPECIFIED			
LOGISTICS			
TOTAL	21.9M	6.7M	94% 6.3M

However, funding shortfalls significantly affected the scale, coverage and frequency of assistance. By the end of 2025, only 28 per cent of the \$1.4 billion required had been received. As a result, partners were required to prioritise support to people with the most severe and life-threatening needs, often delivering reduced assistance or less frequent support. These adjustments reflected conscious and transparent decisions to maximise impact with limited resources.

For affected communities, prolonged conflict, repeated displacement and reduced assistance contributed to heightened vulnerability and uncertainty. Many households faced difficult choices related to safety, food, health care and livelihoods. National and international staff, local partners and frontline responders continued to operate under challenging conditions, often facing the same insecurity and constraints as the populations they serve.

Reported use of antipersonnel landmines on the rise – Myanmar sees record levels of casualties

Landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) continue to pose a significant threat to civilians across multiple conflict-affected areas in Myanmar. Their use has had severe and long-term consequences for civilians, including children, with contamination expanding further during 2024 and 2025.

The [2025 Landmine Monitor](#) reported increased use of antipersonnel landmines by parties to the conflict amid intensified hostilities following the 2021 military takeover. Myanmar recorded the highest reported number of landmine and explosive ordnance casualties globally for the second consecutive year in 2024, with 2,029 casualties nationwide, approximately double the total reported in 2023. In the first half of 2025, 357 casualties were recorded nationwide (likely to rise due to reporting delays) with the highest numbers reported in Shan State, followed by Rakhine State and Magway Region.

The widespread presence of landmines and ERW continues to restrict freedom of movement, impede humanitarian access and safe returns, and disproportionately affect children. Explosive hazards have been reported near military bases and outposts, as well as in proximity to civilian infrastructure, including mobile phone towers, extractive sites and energy pipelines. While contamination from earlier periods persists, a significant share of casualties reported in 2024 and 2025 is linked to newly placed devices.



Fifteen-year-old landmine survivor Min Htet walks on crutches.
Photo: UNICEF / UNI726109

Civilians have been killed or injured while carrying out routine activities such as farming, foraging, travelling and accessing essential resources, contributing to loss of livelihoods and reduced access to basic services. Since the beginning of 2026, at least 4 civilians have been killed and 17 injured in reported landmine and ERW incidents, with children among the casualties.

Humanitarian Coordinator visits displacement camps in Sittwe

Humanitarian Coordinator, Ms. Gwyn Lewis, completed her first official trip to Rakhine State to observe humanitarian needs and assess response priorities for 2026. Concluding [visits to displacement sites](#) in Sittwe on 27 January, Ms. Lewis said:

“It was really important for me to come to Rakhine State in the past few days, because the conflict here has been going on for so long, and because the impact on both the Rakhine and the Rohingya community has been enormous. I really wanted to come to support the humanitarian colleagues here and understand how we can better support the communities.”



(CLICK IMAGE TO WATCH VIDEO)

The impossible choices of displaced mothers – supporting dignity and safety for conflict-affected women and girls

Families displaced by conflict are often pushed to make impossible choices, with many skipping meals, taking dangerous journeys and exposing themselves to serious risks simply to survive. To keep their families afloat, women are often the ones forced to make difficult choices that prioritize the needs and well-being of their families over their own.

Mothers such as Ma Khin and Daw Ei are often the first to make personal sacrifices, cutting back on much-needed essential items their own health and well-being so their families can get by. With support from the [Myanmar Humanitarian Fund \(MHF\)](#), a local partner distributed carefully curated packages containing sanitary products, hygiene supplies and other items such as flashlights, to displaced women and girls in conflict-affected communities in Kayah and Shan.

“The dignity kit has made things so much easier for me and my daughter. Every item is useful in our daily life,” said Ma Khin, a 43-year-old single mother displaced in Kayah State. “The hand-crank flashlight is truly a blessing for me and my baby girl at night,” said Daw Ei, a 35-year-old mother of two displaced in northern Shan. “It has made us feel so much safer.”



Consultation ahead of a dignity kit distribution in Shan State. Photo: MHF partner

These tailored packages of support empower mothers to protect their safety and dignity during the incredibly difficult experience of being displaced from their homes and communities. For resource-constrained families, the MHF-funded support allows households to direct limited income toward food, school fees and other essentials without forcing women and girls to sacrifice their health, safety and dignity.

These kits provide more than just material support. “They show women that their needs are recognized and that they are not alone,” said a local staff member of the MHF partner.

The MHF continues to prioritize the distinct vulnerabilities of women and girls affected by the compounding crisis in Myanmar, ensuring they are not left behind.

For further information, please contact:

Pierre Peron, Public Information Officer, peronp@un.org

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