

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Urgently needed shelter upgrades are underway in Rakhine camps which still house 120,000 internally displaced people four years after the outbreak of violence.
- Humanitarian organisations face access challenges five years after the conflict in Kachin and northern Shan was reignited.
- Fresh fighting has displaced thousands of people in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine.
- IDPs tell of their struggle to educate their children in Kachin's camps.
- The challenges of accessing health care in Rakhine.
- Humanitarian organizations have been working to increase the resilience of communities where women and children are vulnerable to protection risks due to annual flooding.
- 18-strong Myanmar delegation joins 9000 participants at the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul.

## FIGURES

# of IDPs in Kachin and Shan states	100,000
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# of IDPs in Rakhine State	120,000
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## FUNDING

### \$189.5m

requested (US\$) for the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP).

### \$93.5m

in new contributions reported in 2016 towards HRP.

### \$125.3m

in total humanitarian funding received in 2016 including contributions outside the HRP.



## In this issue.....

Shelter repairs in Rakhine	P.1
5 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of Kachin/Shan conflict	P.2
New displacement in three states	P.2
Education challenges for IDPs	P.3
Health access in Rakhine	P.4
Local responses to protection needs	P.5
World Humanitarian Summit	P.6
Mid-year funding update	P.7

## Urgent IDP shelter repairs underway in Rakhine

### More than a million dollars still needed for accommodation improvements

Urgently needed shelter upgrades are underway in Rakhine camps which are still home to approximately 120,000 internally displaced people four years after the outbreak of violence in 2012. Successive rainy seasons and floods, as well as Cyclone Komen in 2015, have taken a toll on these shelters which were originally only built to last a maximum of three years. Many structures are now at the end of their lifespan. In May, the shelter situation was further compounded by a fire which swept through Baw Du Pha 2 camp in rural Sittwe destroying 49 long houses and affecting around 2,000 people. The Rakhine State Government moved quickly to respond and rebuild all of the damaged long houses in the camp. But across other camps in the state, shelter needs remain acute. A joint assessment conducted by the Rakhine State Government and humanitarian partners in March 2016 in priority camps of Sittwe, Pauktaw and Myebon townships indicated an urgent need for major renovations to more than 60 per cent of the long-houses in the Sittwe camps and full rehabilitation of more than 80 per cent of three assessed camps in Pauktaw. Significant renovation work was also needed in one large camp that contains 89 long-houses in Myebon Township.



An example of the shelter repairs carried out so far in Rakhine's IDP camps credit: Shelter/CCCM Cluster

In response, the international community committed more than US\$2.5 million in assistance to address chronic needs in 11 camps in Sittwe, three in Pauktaw and one in Myebon which are collectively home to more than 95,000 displaced people. The Shelter Cluster Lead, UNHCR, initially committed US\$1.1 million and the Lutheran World Federation invested US\$300,000 towards the work. In June, an additional US\$1 million was made available through the Myanmar Humanitarian Fund and the Danish Refugee Council further supported these efforts with another US\$270,000 in funding. Despite these efforts, made possible by the generosity of Australia, Sweden and the United Kingdom, there are still chronic needs remaining for more than 30,000 people in camps across Sittwe, Pauktaw, Kyauktaw, Kyaukphyu, Ramree and Rathedaung. Estimates suggest this work could cost an additional US\$1.5 million and the Shelter Cluster is speaking to relevant authorities in Nay Pyi Taw to explore the Government's capacity to cover this remaining gap. As the Rakhine State Government's quick response to the fire in Baw Du Pha 2 camp illustrated, its capacity to address shelter needs is impressive. As the Shelter Cluster Lead, UNHCR continues to advocate for this gap to be addressed as an urgent priority.

## Five year anniversary of renewed conflict in Kachin and northern Shan

### Humanitarian access critical for 100,000 people who remain displaced

*Humanitarian access is vital to protecting and meeting the needs of IDPs*

The 9<sup>th</sup> of June marked five years since hostilities were reignited in the Kachin and Shan armed conflict – one of the world’s longest running civil wars. The conflict has displaced 100,000 people into camps across Kachin and northern Shan where fighting continues. While people have developed coping mechanisms to deal with the conflict, many have been displaced multiple times and the impact of this cycle of disruption to livelihoods cannot be underestimated. The anniversary prompted calls from Myanmar-based NGOs for all sides to renew their commitment to observing international humanitarian law and to negotiating a durable, peaceful resolution to the conflict. These were sentiments echoed by the UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Myanmar, Yanghee Lee, during her visit to the country in late June. The Special Rapporteur noted that in



*UN humanitarian staff visit IDPs at Border Post 8, Kachin State. Credit: UNOCHA*

Kachin “humanitarian access is shrinking particularly to non-government controlled areas.” Similarly she noted that in northern Shan, “access is hampered by shifting front lines” and that the “situation is becoming more complex with multiplying numbers of actors using armed force.” Regular access for local humanitarian organizations has enabled the delivery of aid to continue in most areas however international organizations are facing increased access challenges. Predictable, timely humanitarian access to Government and Non-Government Controlled Areas is vital for organizations to ensure that the needs

of all people affected by the conflict are adequately met and that protection issues are being addressed on behalf of displaced people. In June, the Acting UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, Janet Jackson, met with senior military officials to advocate for more consistent access arrangements in Kachin and Shan.

## Fresh fighting displaces thousands across three states

### IDPs increase in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine

 **Almost 12,000**  
people newly displaced  
in Kachin and Shan in  
2016

More than 4000 people have fled their homes during the second quarter of 2016 amid heightened tensions and outbreaks of conflict between armed groups in northern Shan. A further 240 people were displaced in Kachin during the same period. These fresh movements take the total number of people newly displaced by conflict in both states during 2016 to almost 12,000. However, displacement in northern Shan is often temporary and by the end of June, more than 9,000 of these newly displaced people had returned home. The remaining 3,000 people are mostly sheltering in monasteries, host communities or existing camps, and these people remain in need of emergency assistance and protection due to the ongoing volatility of the situation. The immediate needs of these newly-displaced people are being covered by state authorities, the Myanmar Red Cross Society, local communities and local NGOs, with support from INGOs and the United Nations.

## New OCHA Resources

[Myanmar: Snapshot of Humanitarian Issues \(as of 31 March 2016\)](#)

[Hail, Heavy Rains and Win Affected Townships \(25 April 2016\)](#)

[Myanmar: New Displacement in Rakhine State \(as of 28 April 2016\)](#)

[Myanmar: Baw Du Pha 2 IDP Camp, Rakhine State \(as of 3 May 2016\)](#)

[Humanitarian Update: New displacement in northern Shan State \(as of 10 May 2016\)](#)

[Myanmar: New displacement in northern Shan State \(as of 31 May 2016\)](#)

[Myanmar: Natural disaster risks and past events \(as of 31 May 2016\)](#)

## Statements by the Humanitarian Coordinator

[UN RC/HC statement on floods in Myanmar \(14 June 2016\)](#)

[UN RC/HC statement on capsizing of boat off the cost of Sittwe \(20 April 2016\)](#)

[UN RC/HC statement on earthquake in Myanmar \(14 April 2016\)](#)

More than 1,900 people affected by fresh conflict in Rakhine during the second quarter of 2016 remain in camps across four townships - Ponnagyun, Rathedaung, Kyauktaw and Buthidaung. The group was forced to flee after fighting broke out on April 16 between the Myanmar Military and the Arakan Army near Wa-Ngwe village in Kyauktaw Township and near Nattha-Ywe village in Rathedaung Township in the northern part of Rakhine State. The Rakhine State Government has provided cash to the 395 affected families and humanitarian organizations have delivered other relief. Returns are dependent upon security in people's villages of origin. The State Government has agreed that suitable locations for longer-term shelter will be identified if displaced people feel unsafe returning home. Elsewhere in Rakhine, about 120,000 IDPs remain in camps, the majority of whom are Muslims who identify themselves as Rohingya.



*An OCHA Assessment with IDPs at Auk Pyin Nyar Primary School, Kyauktaw, Rakhine on April 2016. Credit: UNOCHA*

## Leaving no child behind: Access to education in Myanmar's displacement camps

### Displacement threatens future of young IDPs in Kachin and Shan

Tens of thousands of children remain displaced in 165 camps across Kachin and Shan as a result of conflict since 2011. The ongoing instability has stopped many families from returning home and the disruption will have long term consequences for children's education.

37 year old Bowk Lung (*pictured right*) moved to Robert Camp for displaced people in Bhamo Township in Myanmar's northern Kachin State five years ago after renewed fighting near her home village. As well as her own two children, she took responsibility for her nephews whose parents sent them to access the educational opportunities provided in camps in Government Controlled Areas. She says families living in Robert Camp struggle to support their children's education while making ends meet. "Everything is expensive here. We have to buy everything from firewood to vegetables. At home, I used to grow vegetables. When I prepared meals, I picked some and made something out of it. It was simple. Now we spend almost everything on food and do not have much left for education. I want to see my children growing up well and achieving their dreams. But I have no idea when I can go home," she says.



*Credit: UNOCHA*

Nationwide, nearly four million (one third) of Myanmar's children are not enrolled in school.<sup>1</sup> In conflict affected parts of the country, the figures are stark. Only 16 per cent of emergency-affected adolescents in Kachin and Shan States (5,000 out of the 31,000 in need) are currently attending post-primary education according to Education Cluster

<sup>1</sup> Myanmar Statistical Yearbook 2015, Page 104, Dept of Human Resources & Education Planning/ UNICEF

 Across Myanmar, almost **4 million children** are not enrolled in school

 **\$7.7m** funding shortfall for education in Myanmar (2.5m in Kachin/Shan and 5.2m in Rakhine)

monitoring.<sup>2</sup> Free, camp-based education is often only provided up to the end of primary school and children need to travel to neighboring towns to access middle and high school classes. This presents safety, logistics and financial issues for many families as their children get older. Cost is a major factor stopping children from attending class and it's an issue the new Myanmar Government has started working to address. Students from areas outside government control also find it difficult to get into government schools, colleges or universities because they don't have all the necessary documents to enroll or their qualifications aren't recognized.

Delivering on the global promise at the World Humanitarian Summit to leave no one behind requires a commitment to providing education for all children, no matter where they live. This includes children displaced by conflict and disaster in Myanmar. The 2016 Myanmar Humanitarian Response Plan requested US\$2.7 million to assist in providing education in Kachin and northern Shan states. So far, only six per cent of this need has been met by donors.<sup>3</sup> Read more about education access for young IDPs in Kachin and Shan States [here](#).

## Challenges of accessing healthcare in Rakhine

### Cost of medical treatment out of reach for many



*A two-month old baby being referred for specialized care. Credit: IOM*

20 year old Nini<sup>4</sup> from a village in Buthidaung Township in northern Rakhine State is the proud mother of a now six month old baby boy. But things could have gone very differently for Nini who suffered from severe abdominal pain, weakness and a high fever when she went into labour. There were no available basic health staff in her village and a volunteer who had attended special training referred her to Buthidaung Hospital. Despite facing challenges finding transport to the hospital 10 miles from her village, she was admitted in time, delivered her baby safely and stayed in hospital for nine days with support from the International Organization for Migration (IOM). Nini is one of almost a thousand people in Buthidaung and Pauktaw Townships who have benefited from an IOM project that is aimed at improving health access in hard to reach parts of Rakhine by covering medical costs for patients in need. With support from the Central Emergency Response Fund, IOM is making it possible for patients, regardless of their ethnicity, to get emergency health referrals, while also covering the prohibitive associated cost of transport, meals, hospital stays and consultation fees.

For people living in Rakhine, one of Myanmar's poorest states, cost is consistently identified across all communities as being among the main obstacles to health care access. In March, the Early Recovery Network conducted a multi-sector assessment across three townships of Mrauk-U District (Mrauk-U, Minbya and Kyauktaw) which showed a lack of cash to pay for transport to health facilities, consultation fees and other costs, is the greatest challenge for people when it comes to accessing medical care in Rakhine. Muslims living in villages and IDP camps in Rakhine face particular financial and logistics challenges when it comes to accessing health care for serious conditions. For this group, costs are very high because of a medical referral and travel approval system

*The CERF is helping overcome financial obstacles to accessing medical care*

<sup>2</sup> Myanmar Humanitarian Response Plan Monitoring Report January-March 2016/Education Cluster

<sup>3</sup> Myanmar Humanitarian Response Plan Monitoring Report April – June 2016 /Education Cluster

<sup>4</sup> Real name changed and village name unspecified.

*Boat trips to Sittwe General Hospital are expensive and dangerous*

which frequently requires expensive boat transport to Sittwe. While Muslims can also access healthcare at Maungdaw District and Buthidaung Township Hospitals, a higher level of care for serious medical conditions is only available to them at Sittwe General Hospital.

As well as requiring a medical referral letter from health authorities, these boat trips to Sittwe are expensive, slow and dangerous in bad weather, presenting a grave risk to patients. After her recent visit to Rakhine, the Special Rapporteur, Yanghee Lee, called for the “cumbersome” permission and referral process to be urgently reviewed, warning that it “has resulted in preventable death and could lead to more if not urgently addressed. It is vital that all people are granted safe and timely access to health services without discrimination. As a minimum, it is important to ensure that all people (including Muslims and people of unresolved citizenship status) have safe access to all Township Hospitals in emergency cases.” The Health Sector has raised similar concerns about the referral pathways used for Muslim people in Rakhine and has recently



*Mobile clinics provide basic care to IDPs in camps in Rakhine but serious conditions often involve expensive travel to Sittwe. Credit: UNOCHA*

recommended the implementation of a single service delivery structure, organized to address the health needs of all populations in the state.

The stakes could not be higher in Rakhine which has among Myanmar’s poorest health outcomes, especially in terms of child and maternal care. Despite these results, health remains the most under-funded sector in the 2016 Humanitarian Response Plan for Rakhine receiving only 13 per cent of the funds needed.

 **\$15.5m still required**  
to meet urgent health needs in Rakhine

## Local responses to protection needs

### **Building local skills to help victims of gender based violence and to provide psychosocial support**

Humanitarian organizations in Myanmar have been working to increase the resilience of communities where women and children are vulnerable and face protection risks due to annual flooding. After Cyclone Komen caused flooding and landslides across the country in 2015, many reports of gender-based violence (GBV) were received but the Department



*The Tedim camp in Chin state, hosting communities who remain unable to return home after the 2015 floods. Credit: UNFPA*

of Social Welfare and local organizations did not have the capacity to fully meet demand for support services. In response, UNFPA used part of a US\$400,000 rapid response grant from the Central Emergency Response Fund to send a GBV training specialist to cyclone hit areas of Chin State. The project built the skills of Government and local case workers from Marie Stopes International in GBV prevention and response. These teams were then able to train others across the flood-stricken states and regions of Sagaing, Rakhine, Magway and Chin reaching more than 170,000 displaced people with GBV awareness

raising messages. More than 2,000 people were also provided with psychosocial support services. For many women in IDP camps, this support is vital to everyday survival. “Many

 **UNFPA is building local capacity to improve protection in emergencies**

of the women in these areas have lost their homes and have been relocated to IDP camps. They feel scared when they leave their tents to use the bathroom, or to gather wood to make fires, because they are often harassed by local men. Many have previously come from violent homes so they are already fragile,” UNFPA GBV Officer Seinn Le Le Htet said.

UNFPA said the training was an important step in changing entrenched attitudes in Myanmar where domestic violence is all too often considered a normal part of life, with few serious legal consequences. “In some areas of Chin, if a man rapes a woman, he can redeem himself by compensating her family. He must buy the family anything from a bag of sugar, or rice, to a pig or a cow. If they accept the gift, the rape is forgiven, and forgotten, but not by these women,” Seinn Le Le Htet said.

Many of those trained agreed to join a new register of local psychosocial support case workers, building a network of Myanmar people able to respond to their own community’s protection needs. It is exactly the kind of local capacity building advocated at the World Humanitarian Summit and is an important step in reducing human vulnerability to disasters in Myanmar.

## New global commitment to people in crisis

**Myanmar delegation joins 9,000 world leaders, humanitarian workers and affected community members at the World Humanitarian Summit.**

At the [World Humanitarian Summit](#) in Istanbul in May, global leaders declared their support for a new [Agenda for Humanity](#), as well as making a collective commitment to reduce suffering and deliver better for people caught in crisis. The 18-strong Myanmar delegation in Istanbul included representatives from the Myanmar Government, as well as local and international humanitarian organizations and civil society representatives.

Mr. Htin Lynn, then the Director-General of the International Organizations and Economic Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, led the Myanmar Government’s delegation at the Summit. As well as committing to increased investment in disaster preparedness, [the Director-General](#) noted Myanmar’s commitment to principled humanitarian access.

“Humanitarian partners including the United Nations, ICRC and MSF are authorized access to areas beyond Government control to provide life-saving support to vulnerable civilians. Myanmar will maintain this inclusive and compassionate approach even in times of conflict and insecurity. We will leave no one behind,” he said.

At the Summit, the founder of Myanmar’s Metta Development Foundation, Daw Lahpai Seng Raw, advocated for local organizations to be acknowledged as critical actors in any humanitarian response and funded accordingly.

“How can we seize this moment to change people’s lives and improve the way we respond? The answer is not difficult: We would say by tapping into the existing capacity of local actors and the relationships they have with the government and communities where they work,” Lahpai Seng Raw told participants in Istanbul.

There is now an urgent need to make good on the promises made at the Summit, and to turn commitments into concrete action. This work will be a global effort where everyone,

*The World Humanitarian Summit endorsed the Agenda for Humanity’s core responsibilities:*

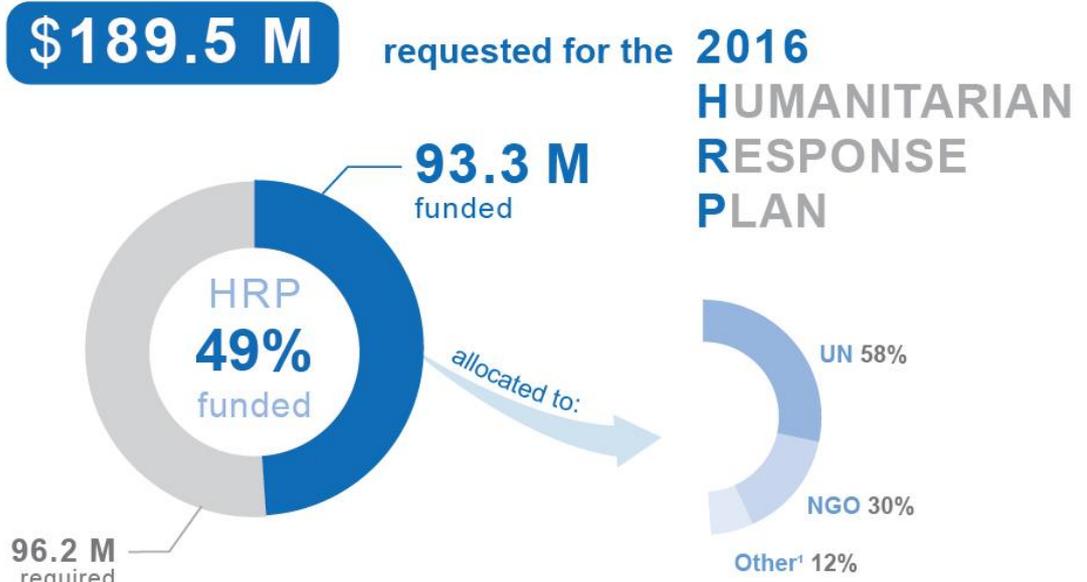
1. Prevent and end conflict
2. Respect rules of war
3. Leave no one behind
4. Working differently to end need
5. Invest in humanity



*The United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon meets representatives of affected communities at the World Humanitarian Summit. Credit: OCHA / Oktay Çilesiz*

from the highest level of Government to ordinary citizens and affected communities, will have an essential role to play. In September, the Secretary-General will report to the United Nations General Assembly on the achievements of the Summit and propose ways to take commitments forward. In Myanmar, the humanitarian community is already working hard to build on Istanbul's momentum. World Humanitarian Summit outcomes will be the focus of this year's local World Humanitarian Day celebrations on 19 August. A coalition of local NGOs is also lobbying their counterparts in Myanmar to sign up to and implement a global [Charter for Change](#) committing them to work more closely with local organizations and recognize their critical role in responding to humanitarian need.

**MYANMAR: Humanitarian Funding Update** (as of 30 Jun 2016)



1. "Other" refers to unallocated balance of the Myanmar Humanitarian Fund (MHF), and funding provided by Red Cross Movement, MSF and various recipients (detailed not yet specified).

For further information, please contact:

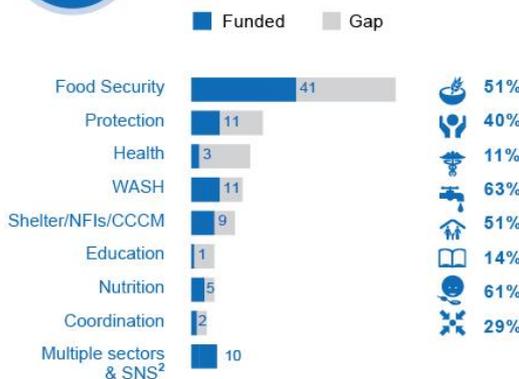
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**HRP FUNDING BY SECTOR**



2. "Multiple Sector and Sector Not Specified": of a total of \$10 M, 4.1 M has been allocated for Kachin and \$5.9M for Rakhine. Information about detailed allocation by sector is not available at the time of reporting.

**OCHA allocations via funding mechanisms**

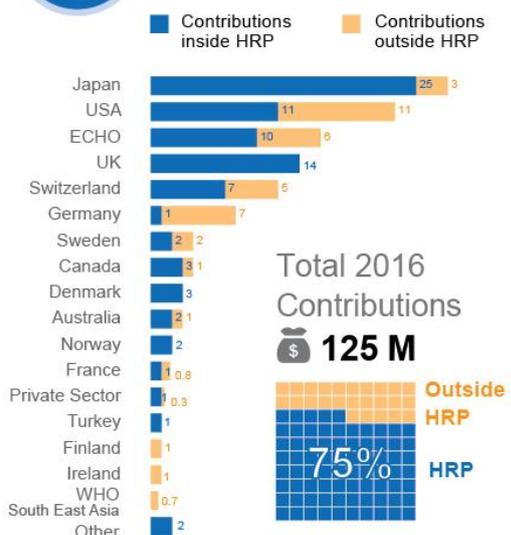


MHF allocations were received by Australia, Sweden and UK.

Creation date: 07 Aug 2016 Source: FTS Feedback: [ochamyanmar@un.org](mailto:ochamyanmar@un.org) [www.unocha.org](http://www.unocha.org) [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int)



**DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS**



Total 2016 Contributions  
**\$ 125 M**

