**MYANMAR**

Over 2,500 people lost their shelter after a fire destroyed more than 660 houses on 17 March in the Tein Nyoe displacement site in Mrauk-U Township in Rakhine State, which hosts around 3,300 people, and to reunite separated children and families.¹

**AFGHANISTAN**

Over 200,000 people have returned to Afghanistan from Iran and Pakistan since the start of the year, which is more than double the rate of return over the same period in 2019 and 2020. Additional waves of cross-border migration and internal displacement remain a risk due to escalating conflict and the COVID-19 pandemic. IOM, together with the Government, are delivering humanitarian assistance to returnees at major border crossings. However, limited funding is restricting the scale of operations. As of 21 March, the Afghanistan Humanitarian Response Plan for 2021 is 6 per cent funded. Last year saw the largest number on record for returnees, with close to 868,000 undocumented migrants returning from Iran (860,000 people) and Pakistan (7,900 people).³

**PHILIPPINES**

Thousands of residents in several towns of Maguindanao Province remain displaced following skirmishes between the military and an IS-inspired armed group. More than 48,000 people from 11 towns were affected by the clashes which started early morning of 18 March. According to latest Government reports, about 42,000 people are displaced of which 32,500 are in 42 evacuation centers while the rest are hosted by relatives/friends. The Bangsamoro regional government, supported by local authorities, conducted an assessment and noted the need for food, water, hygiene kits, latrines, emergency shelter and sleeping kits. The Mindanao Humanitarian Team is mobilizing relief items to support the local government response. Several of the displacement areas remain inaccessible due to the volatile situation.⁴

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² Feedback: ocha-roap@un.org  unocha.org/roap  Sources:   1. ISDG, WFP, Media   2. humanitarian partners    3. BARMM MSSD, OCHA   4. IOM

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**PRECIPITATION FORECAST**

The precipitation forecast for the Feb-Mar-Apr season indicates that precipitation is likely to be below normal across eastern China, Japan, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, and Tajikistan. Above normal precipitation is likely across the Philippines, southern Thailand, Viet Nam, Malaysia, and Sri Lanka.

Source: [Columbia University](https://www.columbia.edu/) February 2021

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**ASIA AND THE PACIFIC**

**Weekly Regional Humanitarian Snapshot**

16 - 22 March 2021

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**OCHA presence**

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.