



Myanmar CO Humanitarian Situation Report 8

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SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- Sporadic flooding continues to displace populations, with increasing risk of displacement in October and November – the months with highest likelihood of cyclones in Myanmar.
- UNICEF is supporting government leadership of the WASH and education Post Floods and Landslide Needs Assessment
- In response to government request UNICEF taking the lead on developing operational guidelines for cash transfers for flood recovery
- UNICEF Myanmar's total 2015 Humanitarian Action for Children appeal of \$46.6 million includes US\$23.3 million for protracted emergencies in Rakhine and Kachin, and US\$23.3 million for the flood response.
- To date only 17 per cent of the required funds for urgent humanitarian assistance for children have been raised.

Over 578,000 children out of **nearly 1.7 million** total people displaced.

(Government, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, 21 September 2015)

This includes all known populations displaced at any point between July and August, as of 21 September.

**UNICEF Flood Appeal
US\$ 23.3 million***

*Funding needs are likely to increase as new assessment data comes in.

Situation Overview

As sporadic flooding continues in some areas of Myanmar, the number of people temporarily or still displaced since July continues to grow. As of 21 September, nearly 1.7 million people, including over 578,000 children, have been displaced by flooding and landslides across Myanmar. The risk of seasonal flooding will continue through the end of the rainy season in mid-October, with compounded risks of flooding, landslides and strong winds possible during October and November, when cyclones most often hit Myanmar. Supported by UNICEF, the Government of Myanmar is leading the recovery process to ensure short-, medium-, and long-term support to flood affected areas, including elements of disaster risk reduction and a focus on building back better to ensure that infrastructure is resilient to future hazards. Myanmar is at highest risk for hazards in the Asia-Pacific region, and UNICEF is fully supportive of Government's emphasis on ensuring that response and recovery programming aims to reduce these risks, especially for the most vulnerable including children, persons with disabilities, and the poor.

Humanitarian Needs

| Estimated Displaced Population (Estimates calculated based on figures from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, 21 September 2015) | | | |
|---|-----------|---------|---------|
| | Total | Male | Female |
| Total Displaced Population | 1,694,180 | 816,425 | 877,755 |
| Children Affected (Under 18) | 578,054 | 278,564 | 299,490 |
| Children Under Five | 150,613 | 72,580 | 78,032 |
| School-Aged Children | 427,442 | 205,984 | 221,458 |
| Pregnant Women | 32,189 | | |
| Lactating Women | 30,495 | | |

Chin and Rakhine states have proportionally suffered the most infrastructural damage, together representing 79% of all destroyed houses in the country. The Government has continued to express interest in the relocation of Chin State's capital, Hakha, to an area that will be less prone to landslides. Sagaing, Magway, Ayeyarwaddy and Bago regions account for 86% of the total population that has been temporarily displaced. Despite on-going relief efforts led by the Government of Myanmar and supported by UNICEF and its partners, immediate relief and long-term recovery needs remain. Debris and mud continue to be cleared from roads and farmland to enable access and freedom of movement for populations, and to enable the re-cultivation of crops destroyed by the floods. Health facilities and schools across the country remain in need of repair or rebuilding, and basic water and sanitation facilities are required in communities, hospitals, health clinics and schools to mitigate the risks of transmissible diseases. Schools that were not severely damaged have resumed lessons, and have in many locations incorporated students from destroyed or unusable facilities, requiring teachers to conduct lessons in shifts, the timing of which prevents some students from being able to attend. The prolonged disruption to people's daily lives and livelihoods caused by the floods and their aftermath, has had a strong impact on people's psychosocial well-being, and increased risks associated with negative coping mechanisms such as child labour, separation of children from their families, trafficking, early marriage, and risky migration.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination

The Government of Myanmar has established an Emergency Operations Centre in the capital, Nay Pyi Taw, and is supporting recovery efforts through the Recovery Coordination Committee. Coordination and planning meetings have been held this week in the capital to kick-off the Government-led Post Floods and Landslides Needs Assessment (PFLNA) to be used as a basis for designing a comprehensive recovery framework to guide the design and implementation of early and longer-term recovery plans. UNICEF is leading support to government for the WASH PFLNA and, along co-leading the Education PFLNA with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). In response to government's request, UNICEF is leading in the development of operational guidelines for cash transfers helping operationalise the disaster risk reduction elements of the country's Social Protection Strategy. UNICEF has been directly involved in all aspects of the PFLNA process to ensure that the needs of children and their families are highlighted in current and future actions taken. UNICEF is continuing to lead the WASH Cluster, Nutrition Sector and Child Protection Sub-Sector, and to co-lead the Education Sector with Save the Children.

Humanitarian Strategy

The Government continues to lead the humanitarian response and planning for the initiation of early recovery efforts. The Government is continuing to clean and rebuild road and bridge infrastructure to reach areas that have been difficult to access following the disaster, and with UNICEF's support is rehabilitating basic facilities in flood-affected villages. Health centres, schools and basic water and sanitation facilities that were damaged or destroyed in the floods will need to be rebuilt or repaired to ensure people have access to basic services, and psycho-social support systems will need to be re-established to help children and families cope with the effects of the disaster. Government is prioritising recovery plans to mitigate the long-term economic and social effects of the floods and landslides that will impact affected populations for several months. It recognises that without early recovery support, the vulnerability of children and their families will increase, while the provision of livelihoods support will enable them to build up resilience and better withstand future hazards.

UNICEF's response to date...

In support of existing Government structures and plans, UNICEF has continued to play a key role in the coordination and initiation of emergency assistance to people displaced and affected by the floods and landslides. On the request of the Emergency Coordination Centre, a UNICEF staff-member was deployed to support coordination efforts. UNICEF is engaging new and existing partners to expand coverage to flood-affected areas, and to ensure that children and their families receive support for both immediate relief and early recovery from the disaster. UNICEF is continuing to monitor the flood response through its existing Humanitarian Performance Monitoring system.

Health



Through expanded partnership with the Myanmar Health Assistants Association (MHAA), UNICEF is supporting the provision of basic health care to children and pregnant and lactating women across Rakhine State, Sagaing and Magway regions. In Rakhine State, 192 pregnant women have received antenatal care, and 120 persons received primary health care for illnesses. The MHAA health teams are joining with the state's Public Health Department to provide emergency health care in flood-affected areas six days a week. Equipment to support the cold-chain to store and distribute vaccines is ready to be distributed in Rakhine, with stocks of additional medical equipment and kits on their way to affected regions.

Nutrition



Through UNICEF support, MHAA has provided nutrition services in coordination with the government's basic health staff. In Rakhine, a total of 650 children aged 6-59 months were screened – one child with SAM and four children with MAM were identified and admitted to treatment. In total, 246 pregnant and lactating women participated in infant and young child feeding (IYCF) counselling sessions and 976 children received multi-micronutrient supplementation. In Chin State, no SAM cases were found through recent UNICEF-supported screening activities by the State Nutrition Team among children aged 6-59 months in 7 shelters. Only three children with MAM were identified.

WASH



UNICEF has finalised several partnership agreements in the past two weeks to ensure coverage of WASH support in flood-affected areas. In Ponnagyun Township in Rakhine State, distribution of 500 hygiene kits for 20,000 people has begun this week. Partnerships with the Department of Rural Development have also been initiated nationally, with direct implementation on-going in several states, including the maintenance and upgrading of water supplies, cleaning of ponds, planning and provision of sanitation facilities, and hygiene promotion activities. The UNICEF-led WASH cluster is also reviewing plans for new and rehabilitated schools and health centres to ensure that adequate water and sanitation facilities are included in these structures.

Education



More than 150 schools in Sagaing and Magway regions were temporarily closed again for several days due to high river water level. While these schools have reopened, the risk of further flooding and closures will have negative impacts on the quality of education for affected students. 10,000 essential learning supplies and 20 school/recreational kits were received by local education authority for distribution in Kale district, Sagaing. UNICEF is also in the process of sending storybooks and Early Childhood Development kits for the flood-affected schools. In Chin State, local education authorities in four townships received 1,666 essential learning supplies, 2 school tents, and 516 roofing sheets. In Sagaing, Magway, Chin, and in Rakhine, UNICEF is facilitating education sector coordination meetings to support local education authorities to ensure harmonized response by humanitarian partners. At national level, UNICEF, along with JICA, will continue to support the Government in the process of conducting the post-flood and landslide assessment and planning education recovery, with focus on the principle of "Building back better".

Child Protection



Psychosocial support continues to be provided across affected areas, including through mobile outreach teams. The Department of Social Welfare (DSW), with UNICEF's support, has trained local volunteers and is planning to construct additional child-friendly spaces in hard-hit areas. In Sagaing and Magway regions, 29 child friendly spaces and 14 mobile teams supported by DSW and UNICEF have reached at least 3,600 children with psychosocial support. In total, 22,000 children have been covered by child protection case management services since the onset of the floods, and over 7,000 have been directly reached through child friendly spaces or mobile protection teams. UNICEF conducted a fact-finding mission in four townships in Rakhine State that have not yet seen a

protection response, and has identified psychosocial support with an integrated anti-trafficking component as a major need.

Funding*

UNICEF has called for US\$23.3 million to fund urgent humanitarian assistance for children affected by the Myanmar floods, however to date only 17 per cent of the required funds have been raised. All funding that has been received for the flood response has been programmed, and UNICEF has no further resources for expanding programming to meet the magnitude of needs across the country.

UNICEF Myanmar is working to leverage resources through a number of channels including a request for additional internal resources; through existing multi-donor funds; and through negotiations with donor governments. UNICEF National Committees have also been approached, however there have been limited contributions except from Japan and UK National Committees.

| Funding requirements for a period of 6 months | | | | |
|---|-------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------|------------|
| Appeal Sector | Requirements | Funds received (not incl. pledges) | Funding gap | |
| | | | \$ | % |
| Health | 6,687,000 | 478,515 | 6,208,485 | 93% |
| Nutrition | 1,473,000 | 0 | 1,473,000 | 100% |
| WASH | 10,000,000 | 2,746,587 | 7,253,413 | 73% |
| Education | 1,920,000 | 308,407 | 1,611,593 | 84% |
| Child Protection | 1,100,000 | 386,493 | 713,507 | 65% |
| Cross-Sectorial Technical Assistance | 2,120,000 | 39,969 | 2,080,031 | 98% |
| Total | 23,300,000 | 3,959,971 | 19,340,029 | 83% |

*Funding requirements are subject to change as the situation is evolving and more comprehensive assessments of the needs of affected populations become available. The UNICEF Myanmar Flood Appeal of US\$23.3 million is part of the total UNICEF Myanmar Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal of \$46.6 million for 2015, and incorporated into the inter-agency Initial Flood Response Plan Appeal of US\$75.5 million.

Next SitRep: 9 October 2015

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