Highlights

- During July, UNICEF continued to support populations displaced by continued fighting in Kachin and northern Shan States.
- UNICEF provided: health services to 8,739 people including over 4,000 under five children, 955 children under 5 with SAM; reached 27,700 IDPs with life-saving WASH services; provided 23,353 children with learning opportunities.
- The Myanmar HAC has a funding gap of nearly 60 percent. As of 31 July 2018, UNICEF Myanmar has received only $8 million of the requested $31.8 million.
- In July, over 147,500 people were affected by torrential rains. Over 133,000 were temporarily displaced in 326 evacuation centers due to flooding. UNICEF provided supplies worth $107,000 to the Government of Myanmar for flood response reaching over 8,800 individual flood affected families and 90 flood-affected villages.

UNICEF’s Response with Partners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>UNICEF Target</th>
<th>Total Results*</th>
<th>Cluster/Sector Target</th>
<th>Total Results*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition: # of children 6-59 mo with SAM admitted to therapeutic care</td>
<td>9,000</td>
<td>548</td>
<td>10,600</td>
<td>1,394</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health: # children and women provided with access to health care services</td>
<td>135,000</td>
<td>56,032</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>WASH: # people accessing sufficient water</td>
<td>117,570</td>
<td>70,406</td>
<td>508,978</td>
<td>241,500</td>
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<td>Child Protection: # children with access to PSS</td>
<td>246,950</td>
<td>155,738</td>
<td>274,475</td>
<td>162,940</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education: # children accessing pre-primary/primary schooling</td>
<td>37,000</td>
<td>24,589</td>
<td>60,850</td>
<td>39,666</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNICEF’s Response with Partners:

**Funding Status 2018:**

- **Funds received 2018:** $8m
- **Carry-forward received 2018:** $5.5m
- **2018 funding requirement:** $31.8m
- **Funding Gap 2018:** $18.3m

Note: Carry-forward funding includes funding for activities in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine as well as $1.5 million for ongoing school reconstruction in response to 2015 flooding in Rakhine.
Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Rakhine

The situation in Rakhine remains relatively stable with activities continuing throughout central and northern Rakhine. Though UNICEF retains access to most areas, for others—particularly agencies working in Maungdaw District (Maungdaw and Buthidaung Townships)—access remains challenging. For UNICEF and other organizations who are receiving access, there are still obstacles including the limited nature of access—for example geographic limitations or time-bound access authorization. In addition to bureaucratic impediments to reaching UNICEF-supported locations, monsoon season causes high winds making several camps more difficult to access due to rough seas. However, in large part, UNICEF’s emergency and development work in Rakhine State is proceeding.

Kachin and Shan

In Kachin and northern Shan, the fighting between the Myanmar Army and armed ethnic organizations has lessened from the peak earlier in the year, but continues. For more than two years, the Government has not permitted UN or international non-governmental organization staff to travel to areas beyond government control. This continues to limit the support agencies can provide directly to beneficiaries or capacity-building support to local organizations who are assisting approximately 40,000 displaced people. In Government-controlled areas, access also remains fraught with complications and some areas remain off limits. In July, over 3,500 people affected due to on-going fighting as reported by UNICEF staff from northern Shan State. While many returned home already, others remain in temporary shelters or monasteries and rely on the support of NGOs and local communities. UNICEF remains extremely concerned about the protection of civilians in these areas—especially children. Media reports indicate that some forced recruitment is ongoing. Though this cannot be independently verified, it highlights the need for neutral and impartial international actors to be allowed access to provide “protection by presence” and to support the most vulnerable.

Flooding in southern Myanmar

Flooding and strong winds have impacted communities in Ayerwaddy, Magway, Bago, Sagaing, Kaya, Kayin, Rakhine, Tanintharyi and Mon states. The government’s Department of Disaster Management reports that over 164,000 people were temporarily displaced. Many have been able to return home as flood waters subside, however number of river monitoring stations remain above emergency thresholds. UNICEF provided humanitarian assistance to flood-affected population in Bago, Kayin, Mon, Magway and Thanintharyi through the Department of Social Welfare and the Department of Rural Development. UNICEF is working with partners to assist families as they return home and begin cleanup activities.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

- UNICEF is leading the WASH Cluster, Nutrition Sector, co-leads the Education in Emergencies Sector, leads the Child Protection in Emergencies sub-sector. Through these mechanism, UNICEF participates in the interagency coordination mechanisms at national and sub-national levels.
- UNICEF cluster/sector leads are working with the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group to identify populations in need and response activities for the forthcoming 2019 Humanitarian Needs Overview and Humanitarian Response Plan.
- UNICEF is working with Humanitarian Country Team and other actors to assist the Government in development of a strategy for the closure of IDP camps in line with humanitarian principles and in the spirit of the Rakhine Advisory Commission recommendations issued in August 2017.
- A Global WASH Cluster Information Management Specialist supported the team in Myanmar for five weeks to work on a reform of the monitoring framework in consultation with key stakeholders at both field and Yangon levels.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF is striving to meet the humanitarian needs of crisis-affected and displaced children, women and men across parts of Rakhine, Kachin and Shan States. UNICEF coordinates with partners to provide critical life-saving and life-sustaining services in child protection, education, health, nutrition and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH). UNICEF’s comparative advantage is its ability to work simultaneously with the Government, international and national NGOs and
other local organizations to ensure that vulnerable communities receive the support they require. UNICEF continues to advocate for additional access to ensure the full complement of services can be provided to those in need, including those in hard-to-reach or isolated locations. UNICEF also works with the interagency on natural disaster response planning and response activities countrywide where and when needed.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition:
In July UNICEF continued to focus on identification and treatment of children with acute malnutrition in Rakhine. 955 (6-59 months) children are admitted for treatment of acute malnutrition up to end of July. UNICEF has worked with Myanmar Health Assistant Association (MHAA) to provide nutrition services including screening and treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in seven townships of the state. Thus far, the team has conducted two rounds of micronutrient powder distribution to targeted villages. 23,350 (6 – 59 months) children and 9,264 PLW received micronutrients supplementation.

A total of 806 basic health staff from seven townships of Rakhine including 219 staff from Maungdaw and Buthidaung townships have received Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) training. The remaining 10 townships of Rakhine will roll out IMAM training by the end of 2018 which will allow Ministry of Health and Sport staff to provide an essential set of nutrition services—including micronutrient supplementation, IMAM, and community-based infant and young child feeding services through all of their health facilities.

In Kachin and northern Shan, UNICEF’s nutrition partners jointly with State Nutrition Teams conducted nutrition promotion and Integrated Young Child Feeding programme in IDP camps. In addition, cooking demonstrations and “model mother” selection activities have been completed in four townships. The “model mothers” will support mothers in their communities to identify and implement best practices for child feeding and care, and serve as role models and peer support for them.

Nutrition Sector Coordination:
UNICEF continues to coordinate partner working on nutrition in emergency settings. IOM is working with partner to undertake growth monitoring and nutrition screening activities for children 6-59 months in Pauktaw and Buthidaung townships. The monitoring activities in 22 villages in Pauktaw identified four cases of SAM and 19 cases of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) out of 926 children 6-59 months. In Buthidaung revealed that of 1,322 children assessed in 42 villages, nine were diagnosed with SAM and 48 were diagnosed with MAM. Children with complicated SAM cases are referred to the Sittwe hospital, while those with non-complicated SAM and MAM are referred to the nearest out-patient treatment programs supported by partners including MHAA, Save the Children and Action Contre la Faim.

Health
During the month of July, 8,739 people—including over 4,000 children of under five years—received health services in Rakhine State. In addition, 26 patients received referral support through our local partner MHAA. UNICEF and MHAA are currently looking at an expansion of maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH) services including immunizations and emergency referral support in Maungdaw District (Maungdaw and Buthidaung Townships) where access to basic services are limited.

In Kachin and Shan, UNICEF’s partner Health Poverty Action provided basic health services to 784 people and provided referral support to 66 severely ill patients and/or pregnant women requiring emergency obstetric care. In July, HPA’s access was at times limited due to conflict as well as heavy rain.
**WASH**

In Rakhine, UNICEF reached over 27,700 IDPs in Sittwe, Myebon, Kyauk Phyu, and Pauktaw townships with critical lifesaving water supply and sanitation services. Construction of the UNICEF-supported Department of Rural Development warehouses were completed and assessed in Sittwe and Maungdaw to mobilize contingency stocks to facilitate response activities in Maungdaw District. In addition, UNICEF staff visited locations of potential future village interventions with government counterparts. Under the new partnership with WFP, UNICEF will provide soap to 100,000 people per month in Maungdaw District. However, without additional funds, several of these UNICEF-funded activities—providing critical water supply and sanitation operations and maintenance services—are at risk. UNICEF will only able to negotiate small extensions of current activities through established partners.

Kachin and northern Shan, flooding in some areas of northern Shan and security concerns have hampered access. UNICEF partners constructed 40 new latrines and four bathing spaces in Ta Naing Township, undertake three menstrual hygiene management (MHM) awareness sessions in Myitkyina township and are planning for new projects starting across non-government controlled areas of both Kachin and northern Shan.

**Flooding:**
The recent flooding in Bago and the southeast of Myanmar has had severe WASH impacts on communities. WASH response included short term support for those in evacuation sites—such as hygiene kits and water purification tablets—as well as support for those returning to their villages as flood water subsided—including bleaching powder. UNICEF has dispatched WASH supplies to support an estimated 35,000 people.

**WASH Cluster Coordination:**
Through UNICEF’s leadership of the WASH Cluster, contingency stock lists, emergency preparedness tools, and latrine desludging guidelines are being updated. WASH cluster partners continued to respond to conflict-related displacement, and are also looking at assistance to flood-affected areas of Bago and the southeast of Myanmar. The UNICEF-led Kachin WASH sub-cluster organized a Desludging Technical Working Group meeting in Myitkyina with the government to discuss the outcomes of a recent Desludging and Market assessment survey which will inform humanist and development desludging activities in Myitkyina town. The mid-year WASH Cluster monitoring report shows the need for additional hygiene support in Kachin and Shan including hygiene items and desludging. Water quality remains a concern in all areas; particularly in Rakhine villages targeted through the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan.

**Education**
UNICEF continued to provide Education in Emergencies (EiE) support to children affected by inter-communal violence and conflict in Rakhine, Kachin and northern Shan States. A total of 23,353 children have received various forms of support which include individual learning packages, school learning kits and recreational kits. Children in these areas have also benefitted from being taught by trained teachers in well-maintained temporary learning classrooms (TLCs).

In Rakhine, UNICEF continued to support both children in IDP camps, as well as in villages affected by conflict or recovering from past floods and cyclones. UNICEF signed new agreements with two INGOs targeting over 14,000 children in IDP camps and surrounding communities, who will have access to formal primary school while 1,051 adolescents will continue with non-formal education—both primary school learning and vocational skills. To further support these activities, UNICEF is providing additional support including teacher training, maintenance of the TLCS, essential learning packages to children and school kits to the TLCS. With UNICEF support, the INGOs will work, in Sittwe, Pauktaw, and Minbya townships reaching 54 TLCs and 16 non-formal primary education centres in central Rakhine.

UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Education (MoE) to reconstruct, rehabilitate and/or repair schools throughout Rakhine. To date, UNICEF has completed the reconstruction of more than 28 schools and rehabilitated and repaired 57 schools. A combined 32,246 children including those living in crisis-affected villages will benefit from these schools,
which have been handed over to the State Education Department. Security concerns, access and poor weather conditions have been the main factors affecting the timely completion of school construction sites.

A total of 1,404 newly displaced children (606 boys and 743 girls) from kindergarten to grade 10 were registered and enrolled into government schools near IDP camps after taking placement exams. UNICEF is supporting the influx of students with Essential Learning Packages (ELP) and support to schools. In addition, UNICEF provided the State Education Department with three school tents—benefiting 500 students including one for an IDP camp which is not located near an existing government school. In northern Shan, a total of 962 children received essential learning package kits to ensure that, even with the displacement, they are able to continue learning. To address needs in Kachin, UNICEF is supporting a local NGO partner to provide maintenance and/or improvement of TLCS as well as continued essential learning materials and early childhood development kits. UNICEF is closely working with State Education Department and Township Education Officers to get more information on enrolment of IDP students, needs and gaps.

Flooding:
Flooding in Bago, Kayin, Mon and Thanintharyi resulted in the closure of more than 500 schools at the peak of the floods, impacting over 25,500 children. Schools were closed either due to inundations or because they were being used as temporary shelters. However, as the situation improved in some areas schools reopened. UNICEF is working with the Ministry of Education and partners in the affected townships to assess the extent of damage to individual schools and losses incurred by children in order to respond if necessary. From informal assessments, the main needs include: cleaning of school facilities/grounds, desludging of school latrines, provision of classroom furniture and supplies, and provision of uniforms and learning materials. UNICEF has prepositioned “Emergency Learning Package” kits with Township Education Offices for use in flood-affected areas.

EiE Coordination:
Together with Save the Children, UNICEF continues to perform its EiE coordination role at national and subnational levels, bringing together partners and government education officials to discuss pertinent issues related to children affected by emergencies. UNICEF continued to advocate for, and engage with the MoE, increasing Government responsibility for the education of children in IDP camps. The MoE has agreed to pay for the salaries of volunteer teachers who work in TLCS and funding will be provided for the current academic year (June 2018-April 2019). The MoE also agreed to provide textbooks to more than 20,000 IDP students in all IDP camps. So far more than 12,000 students have received textbooks. UNICEF and the EiE Working Group will continue to follow up with the GoM to ensure inclusion of IDP children into budgeting, planning and education activities. As the sector co-lead, UNICEF continued to: monitor the enrolment, coordinate the distribution of textbooks and the provision of grade 2 curriculum training for volunteer teachers by the government, finalize the EiE sector’s disaster preparedness plan, and help prioritization for accessing humanitarian funding including Myanmar Humanitarian Fund (MHF).

Child Protection
During the month of July, PSS activities reached over 14,400 children in conflict-affected areas of Myanmar—of whom half are in Rakhine. UNICEF and partners are reaching nearly 7,200 children on a regular basis in Rakhine with more than 11,000 children signed up for activities. Nearly 200 adolescents are also being reached through the Extended and Continuous Education and Learning or EXCEL programme or adolescent toolkit. Mine risk activities and case management activities are also ongoing—particularly in Maungdaw District.

Access to justice for children in Rakhine initiative aiming to fill the gap of child-targeted legal services and legal awareness for vulnerable communities in Rakhine continued. The service operated by Legal Clinic Myanmar provided legal consultation to three child victims, two of those were also represented in court. Legal consultation was provided to seven children in conflict with the law, three of whom were represented in court. In target communities 160 people received legal awareness trainings. A legal service hotline has been established as part of the initiative to provide access to free legal support to children and youth.
In Kachin, psychosocial support was provided to over 6,100 boys and girls. Additional children and youth were reached with case management and adolescent programming. Partners carried out structured MRE sessions to enlighten boys, girls, women and men on the presence of landmines and Explosive Remnant of War (ERW); and associated harm on human life. The sessions were held in camp and non-camp settings—principally in Kachin and Shan States.

In Shan, UNICEF’s CP activities have reached over 1,200 people, including over 1,100 children. The majority of beneficiaries were reached through psychosocial support; however others were reached through adolescent activities and mine risk education.

**Social Protection**
With UNICEF’s technical support, Myanmar approved its first National Social Protection Strategy in 2015. UNICEF continues to work with the government to ensure that progress is made on funding and capacity to implement key parts of the strategy – and to prioritize the needs for inclusion and protection of children in all aspects of national policy-making. The Maternal and Child Cash Transfer programme started in 2017 in Chin State and was expanded to Rakhine State. The key principles underpinning the MCCT programme in Rakhine are universality, social cohesion, equity and inclusion.

As of July 2018, approximately 60,000 pregnant women and mothers with children under two years are benefiting from regular/quarterly cash transfers (MMK15,000 per month or approximately USD10) under the Government’s Rakhine State Maternal and Child Cash Transfer (RSMCCT) programme. The objective is to improve the nutritional outcomes for all mothers and children during the first critical 1,000 days of life. UNICEF has been providing technical and capacity support to the Department of Social Welfare (DSW) in operationalization of key principles of universality and inclusiveness in the government-led social protection system as a facilitator to the Technical Reference Group (TRG). Recently, UNICEF supported the organization of the RSMCCT coordination meeting in Sittwe to support active coordination and collaboration among key implementing partners and stakeholders. The strengthening of the collaboration is supporting Rakhine State Department of Public Health and DSW to link existing beneficiaries with health and nutritional services including nutrition and hygiene related messaging, antenatal care, immunization and birth registration.

**Supply and Logistics**
Supply and Logistics support remains a strategic input towards achieving results for children through humanitarian action. UNICEF Myanmar currently has 46 long-term arrangements in place for various services and goods including purchase of hygiene kits, school furniture, etc.; in-country logistics; printing; security; and travel services. UNICEF maintains three warehouses—one each in Yangon, Sittwe in Rakhine State and Myitkyina in Kachin State. All three warehouses hold supplies for both regular programme activities as well as prepositioned supplies for emergencies. Of the total USD 1.5 million in supplies, roughly 34 percent are for emergency activities.

As part of the flood response activities, UNICEF transported supplies from Yangon within 24 hours of the request from the government. Major items provided to the government for their response include hygiene kits, bleaching powder, latrine pans & pipes, tarpaulins, water purification sachets, and child protection kits for children and adolescents. The total value of supplies provided for flood response is over USD 107,000 and includes 750 individual kits for adolescent males, females and children, 20 child friendly space kits, over 5,000 hygiene kits, 8,000 each of 10 liter and 20 liter buckets, PUR sachets for 26,000 people, and bleaching powder for 90 villages. Additional beneficiaries will be reached through smaller distributions of latrine pans and pipes, tarpaulins and other supplies. Through these supplies, UNICEF will reach over 8,800 individual families through cooperation with the Government of Myanmar.

**Media and External Communication**
UNICEF continues to feature its humanitarian response in Myanmar using human interest stories and photos in different digital platforms. In July, UNICEF highlighted its education programmes in Rakhine state through an interview with Associated Foreign Press and BuzzFeed News Japan.
The Myanmar HAC has a funding gap of nearly 60 percent. As of 31 July 2018, UNICEF Myanmar has received only $8 million of the requested $31.8 million. Without additional support, UNICEF will be unable to meet targets for the year resulting in children in crisis going without critical WASH, health, nutrition, education and child protection support.

### Funding Requirements

**Funds available* as defined in 2018 Myanmar Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal of January 2018 for a period of 12 months**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Funds available</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Funds Received Current Year</td>
<td>Carry-Over</td>
<td>$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>5,680,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health</td>
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<td>WASH</td>
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<td>Child Protection</td>
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<td>Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cluster Coordination</td>
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<td>226,595</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>31,780,000</td>
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<td>5,453,134</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Funds available includes funding received against current appeal as well as carry-forward from the previous year.
1 Includes $1 million for WASH cluster research and special activities (distinct from general cluster coordination activities).
2 Includes $30,000 provided to SPCRM for the Rakhine Maternal and Child Cash Transfer programme. The decrease from previous reporting period is a result of reallocation of carry over funds for emergency response activities in all five programme areas.

**Next SitRep: 28/09/2018**

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