



This report is produced by OCHA on behalf of the Humanitarian Coordinator. It covers the period from 20 to 26 July. The next report will be issued depending on availability of information.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- Some IDPs returned home and the Government indicates that, as of 24 July, some 61,000 people are displaced in 58 locations in Maungdaw and Sittwe.

II. Situation Overview

The general security situation across Rakhine State remains stable even though the level of tension is reportedly high in some areas. The curfew is still in force in six townships. The level of economic and livelihood activities has increased in Sittwe with shops, markets and banks in operation, although there are concerns as parts of the population is yet to resume their economic activities.

The Government has taken some measures to address concerns related to anti UN and NGO sentiments by some members of the public. While hostile slogans on posters, t-shirts and stickers still circulating in Sittwe, assistance is now welcome in some camps previously inaccessible.

The IDPs are slowly returning to their place of origin or sources of livelihood. As of 24 July, the Rakhine State Government estimated that there are over 61,000 IDPs accommodated in 58 camps in Maungdaw and Sittwe townships.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

The Government continues to lead the response and provide food, shelter, NFIs and medical supplies to the IDPs with support from UN, NGOs, and the Red Cross Family.

The inter agency assessment findings completed on 10 July indicate that majority of the IDPs are in Sittwe and Maungdaw. Major needs identified by the assessment still remain as food, shelter, NFI, WASH and health. Majority of the people still rely heavily on the food distribution by the Government, humanitarian partners and religious organizations. The signs of malnutrition are obvious in some camps along with reported incidents of diarrhea, dysentery, respiratory and skin infections.

A sectoral response plan is being finalized to take into consideration the results of an inter-agency rapid assessment as well as the response priorities indicated by the Government and affected communities. Partners estimated that IDPs will require relief assistance even if the situation was to normalize in the coming months, as most of the IDPs lost their possessions and their sources of livelihood and social services would take some time to become fully functional again.



Food

- The majority of the IDP locations are still heavily reliant on food aid from the Government, humanitarian partners and religious organizations. With low levels of domestic stocks in camps, delivery of food assistance will continue to be needed.
- The majority of the food distribution is taking place around Sittwe while access to Maungdaw remains an issue. This poses concerns over the possible repercussion of food insecurity in the affected locations.
- From 1 to 23 July, WFP assisted 75,623 people with 884 MT of mixed food commodities in Sittwe, Maungdaw and Rathedaung. Daily food distribution has now been replaced by a 10 day food distribution cycle.

75,623 IDPs
received
884 MT
of food
from 1 to 23 July.

- WFP has signed agreements with Save the Children and Consortium of Dutch NGOs (CDN) to distribute food in the IDP camps in Sittwe until September 2012.



Health and Nutrition

- Static and mobile clinics in Sittwe and Rathedaung are currently being operated by the Myanmar Medical Association (MMA) with the support of UNFPA. One static and two mobile teams in each township currently provide reproductive health services including antenatal care, referral of obstetric emergencies, post natal care, birth spacing services, health education/ information on sexual and reproductive health and basic medical treatment to displaced families.
- The health sector assessment identified that there are 250 pregnant women in Sittwe. In view of this situation, UNFPA through MMA provided 400 clean delivery kits to pregnant women in their last trimester. Contraceptive packages which include three months injection, oral pills and emergency pills were also dispatched to mobile and static teams in both townships to cover 375 women in need of such assistance. These activities will be ongoing for another two months.
- The Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) from Yangon and Sittwe region, ICRC staff, in coordination with local authorities, have provided first aid services to 3,596 persons, health education to 7,039 persons and psychosocial support 2,537 persons. MRCS also assisted 40 patients with transportation from village camps to Sittwe hospital. In addition, about 40 volunteers were assigned to conduct awareness on water and sanitation, psychosocial support, health education, first aid, patient referral, blood donation and collect information in the fields on a daily basis.
- With the guidance of National Nutrition Centre/DoH, the State Nutrition team started rapid nutrition assessment of children aged 6 months to 5 years in some IDP camps. Of the 212 children that were assessed, four (1.8%) were showing signs of severe acute malnutrition (SAM), 25 (11.8%) with moderate malnutrition (MAM) and 60 (28.3%) were at risk of malnutrition.
- The State Health Department has distributed ready-to-use-therapeutic-foods (RUTF) high energy biscuits (NRG-5) to all children between the ages of 6 months to 5 years old as part of supplementary feeding program. As of 23 July, a total of 400 cartoons of high energy biscuits (NRG-5) have been distributed through eight clinics in Sittwe.
- The State Health Director and UNICEF investigated reports of Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever (DHF) outbreak at Kaung Da Ka camp on 23 July, which resulted to be negative.



Livelihood

- UNDP conducted livelihood assessment in 50 camps in Sittwe, four camps in Maungdaw and Rathedaung. UNDP is planning to provide fuel efficient stoves in Sittwe and Maungdaw township.
- CARE plans to provide 850 baskets of rice seed (300 in Maungdaw, 200 in Buthidaung, 200 in Sittwe and 150 in Rathedaung). Priority will be given to those families who are willing to start monsoon cultivation but do not have capacity. CARE is working with the Ministry of Agriculture (MAD) for beneficiary selection. All rice seeds will be distributed by the first week of August with support from MAD.
- In addition, CARE plans to distribute 1,200 bags of fertilizer by the end of August (500 bags in Maungdaw, 400 in Buthidaung, 150 in Rathedaung and 150 in Sittwe). CARE will work closely with MAD for beneficiary selection as well as distribution.



Shelter and NFIs

- Emergency shelter provision remains a priority for the Government, which plans to immediately reorganize the two largest IDP populated camps to reduce overcrowding. A total of 12 camp locations have been identified to temporarily relocate all IDPs in Sittwe. The Government started shelter construction in Thet Kae Pyin, Baw Du Ba, Done Tike Kwin and Min Gan 1 camps.
- The Relief and Resettlement Department (RRD) appointed camp managers in each IDP camps in Sittwe. The camp committees include IDPs and host community members. Biweekly meetings are being planned as part of the camp management arrangement. UNHCR has been requested to provide technical assistance on camp management, coordination of data related to relief distributions and day-to-day administration.
- UNHCR shipped 400 tents to Maungdaw to temporarily accommodate displaced families awaiting reconstruction of their houses. UNHCR is in discussions with the Government to examine ways of providing support for the reconstruction of 222 of the 444 houses burned during the violence in early June. CARE has also indicated its readiness to support the Government in building 128 houses destroyed by fire in Maungdaw. Discussions are ongoing concerning design and necessary approvals.

- A plan to construct a road is also in place in Maungdaw South where villages with the largest numbers of burnt houses are situated.
- In both Sittwe and Maungdaw, UNHCR has distributed to date approximately 6,000 NFI kits (mats, plastic tarpaulin, blankets, mosquito nets and kitchen sets). An additional 1,000 NFI kits committed to the camp with the greatest needs will be distributed in the coming week. Distributions are completed in cooperation with the RRD. In addition, Save the Children distributed 540 kits, UNICEF/ABCD 1,500 and Malteser 2,000 kits. CARE has also started to distribute 2,000 family kits to displaced families in Sittwe.
- Warehousing remains a concern for all agencies in Sittwe. RRD warehouse, which has been used by agencies, is full and a few organizations are still seeking space. RRD is discussing with other government departments additional space to be allocated for storage of relief supplies.

13,000
NFI kits
being distributed



Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- Two water treatment units in Thechaung village and U Oatama Park continue to produce about 10,000 litres per day of clean drinking water, which is being distributed in eight IDPs camps. A total of 715 water bags were distributed in six camps.
- UNICEF continued working with a local partner to construct 143 temporary sanitary latrines in 50 camps and distributed 542 buckets and 2,680 soap cakes for hand washing in 50 camps, as of 23 July.
- The local partners embarked on solid waste management at 10 IDP camps twice a week for systematic disposing of solid waste and helping drainage at the camps.
- A local partner distributed 178 lime bags in 50 camps to dispense at the dumping sites and around the latrines to prevent breeding of flies and rats, as of 23 July.

IV. Coordination

- Coordination meetings continue to be held on a regular basis in Sittwe, the capital of Rakhine State.
- OCHA has organized a number of inter-agency coordination meetings over the past weeks, in support of the Government efforts in Yangon and Sittwe.

V. Funding

- As of 16 July, the Government sources indicated that donations from the Government, private companies, different religious groups and individuals amounted to approximately US\$361,854.
- International donors contributed US\$1,144,000 and announced that an additional US\$600,000 would be mobilized to support relief operations in Rakhine State.

VI. Contact

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