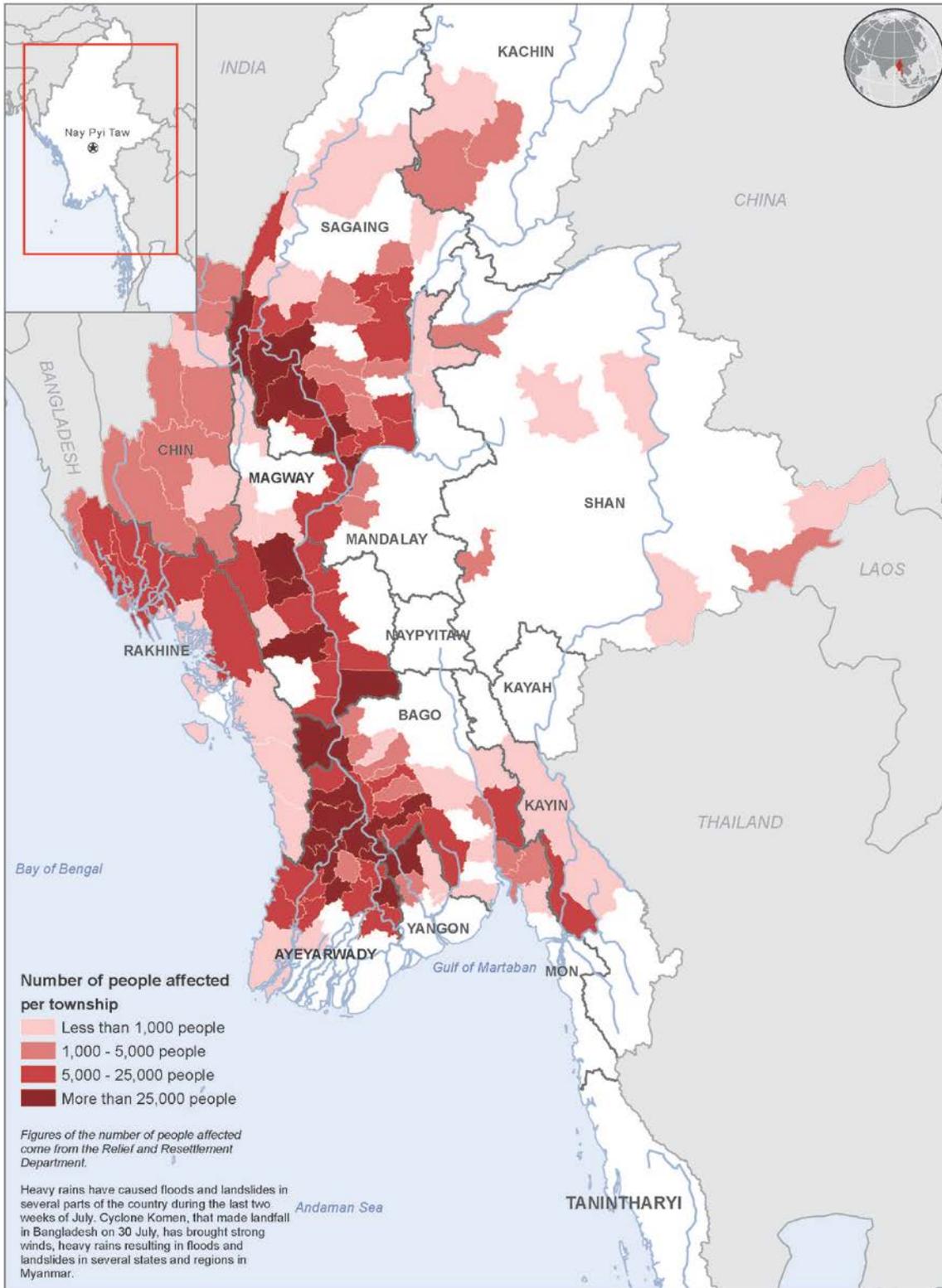




INITIAL FLOOD RESPONSE PLAN FOR MYANMAR

August to December 2015

MYANMAR: Flood Affected Areas (20 Aug 2015) 





Myanmar: Initial Floods Response Plan (Aug to Dec 2015)

US\$75.5 MILLION

required to address the needs of over 580,000 people in the next five months.

As part of the 2015 Myanmar Humanitarian Response Plan, this document is developed by the Humanitarian Country Team in support of the Government-led flood response. It covers the period from August to December.

MYANMAR: AN OVERVIEW OF THE DISASTER

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Heavy rains have caused floods and landslides in several parts of Myanmar since June 2015. On 30 July, Cyclone Komen made landfall in Bangladesh, bringing strong winds and additional heavy rains to the country, which resulted in widespread flooding across 12 of the country's 14 states and regions (Ayeyarwady, Bago, Chin, Kachin, Kayin, Magway, Mandalay, Mon, Rakhine, Sagaing, Shan Yangon). On 31 July, the President declared Chin and Rakhine states, and Magway and Sagaing regions as natural disaster zones.

As of 20 August, the National Natural Disaster Management Committee (NNDMC) reported that 117 people were killed and over 1.6 million people have been displaced by floods and landslides since mid-July. This was used as a planning figure to develop the initial flood response plan. Population figures continue to change daily as people in some areas, where flood waters are receding, start to return to their homes, and people in other areas are newly affected by floods.

The NNDMC identified Hakha in Chin State, Kale in Sagaing Region, Pwintbyu in Magway Region, and Minbya and Mrauk-U in Rakhine as the five most affected townships where a total of 229,600 people were affected by the floods. According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, over 1.4 million acres of farmlands have been inundated, with more than 800,000 acres destroyed, as of 25 August. Damage to crops and arable land will disrupt the planting season and pose a risk to long-term food security. While the water has receded in many areas, in particular in the northern part of the country, many roads and bridges were destroyed in the worst affected states and regions, and transportation remains a challenge for assessments and assistance delivery. Many roads in remote areas are covered in mud and debris. At the time of writing, rains continue across the country, especially in affected regions in the north.

Multi-sectoral Initial Rapid Assessments (MIRA) have been conducted in 317 locations of 34 townships in Ayeyarwady, Bago, Chin, Magway, Rakhine and Sagaing, covering close to 200,000 people. Other needs assessments were also carried out in areas not covered by the MIRA assessments in Chin and Rakhine states. According to the Rakhine State Government (RSG), Buthidaung, Kyauktaw, Minbya, Maungdaw and Mrauk-U townships are the most severely affected areas in Rakhine State. Preliminary findings indicate that floods and salt water have severely damaged the paddy fields. A major concern remains water contamination, as most villages use water ponds for drinking water and many ponds have been flooded and contaminated. Landslides on the way to Hakha Township in Chin State have been cleared and food supplies and assistance delivered but the situation remains critical. In Magway, two of

the worst affected townships are Pwintbyu and Sidoktaya. According to RRD, Kale is the hardest hit township in Sagaing, with some 85,000 people affected. In Ayeyarwady Region, over 504,000 people are currently affected or displaced by floods.

On 4 August, the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar welcomed international assistance for the flood response. Priority humanitarian needs include food, water and sanitation services, shelter and access to emergency health care. Livelihood support, health and education assistance and other interventions are also needed for the early recovery phase.

RESPONSE STRATEGY

Response to the floods by the UN and partners began immediately. Agriculture inputs, food, shelter materials, non-food-items (NFIs), water, sanitation, protection and health services have been provided by a range of actors in support of the government and civil society.

The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) has agreed that this flood emergency will be responded as part of the 2015 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), which aims to support the Government and local communities to ensure that the lives, dignity and well-being of persons affected by conflict/disaster are protected. The HCT will expand the scope of the 2015 HRP currently limited to Rakhine, Kachin and northern Shan states to the worst flood affected areas, including Ayeyarwady, Bago, Chin, Magway, Rakhine and Sagaing, and revise the financial requirements.

The HCT remains committed that the flood response will be guided by the strategic objectives outlined in the 2015 HRP, and will monitor and report the progress as per the agreed monitoring framework for 2015. The HCT has undertaken a rigorous assessment of operational capacity to deliver against assessed and evolving needs. The response will cover all vulnerable groups, including IDPs, host communities, ethnic and indigenous groups and other affected people.

This initial flood response plan calls for US\$75.5 million to address to humanitarian needs of over 580,000 flood-affected people from August to December 2015, contributing to a fully inclusive recovery and rehabilitation. The target populations and response priorities presented in this plan are estimated based on the preliminary findings of the ongoing assessments, flood severity mapping and secondary data analysis. The Government figure of 1.6 million displaced people is the sum of all people who (have) left their homes and entered evacuation sites. Flood impact is still being assessed but results strongly suggest that the affect will not be limited to those who fled their homes for evacuation sites. In many cases, there was an immediate impact on the

overall livelihoods of people across the most affected townships. For example, the total population of the five townships designated by the Government as “most affected” and of additional twelve townships, where over 25 per cent of the total population was evacuated, is 2.5 million. Given the dynamic situation and expectation of additional response and assessment information coming in, this plan will be reviewed and revised as necessary one month after its launch.

RELIEF, RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT

Partners recognize that strengthening resilience and supporting community development will help to reduce the need for protracted humanitarian operations. The humanitarian community supports the timely planning and coordination of recovery efforts under the leadership of the Government to ensure that recovery activities are embedded in the humanitarian phase, laying the foundation for full rehabilitation and long-term development. In support of the Government’s recovery plan, a Framework for Transition from Relief to Recovery has been developed to scale up recovery and reconstruction efforts, incorporating recovery-oriented activities of this plan. The overall aim is to decrease dependency on aid, especially on food assistance, through increased support for self-sufficiency. To this end, the Government and humanitarian/development partners will undertake a joint assessment of recovery needs in affected townships, paving the way to an inclusive Recovery Planning Forum with participation of the

Government at different levels, civil society, private sector and international partners.

As per the agreed Framework of Transition from Relief to Recovery, four main areas require urgent action: (i) support to rural livelihoods – mostly farmers – and food security; (ii) restoration of equitable social services; (iii) rehabilitation of community infrastructure and temporary wage employment; and (iv) close coordination amongst Union and State/Regional governments, township administrations, civil society, private sector, humanitarian and development actors.

COORDINATION ARCHITECTURE

The Government is leading the response and has activated the national Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), which is operational 24 hours. In an effort to support operations and, strengthen response coordination and information sharing, humanitarian and development agencies have seconded staff in Nay Pyi Taw to provide technical assistance to the EOC. In addition, the Government is in the process of establishing Recovery Coordination Centre (RCC) to work alongside EOC. Supported by the Recovery Hub Offices at sub-national level, RCC will facilitate transition from relief to recovery. The Government has put in place a system to process a fast-track Travel Authorizations (TA) for international staff to work in the flood affected states/regions. Regular meetings of the Humanitarian Country Team and of sectors and clusters continue in both Yangon and in affected areas to ensure effective coordination.

2015 HRP: STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

The humanitarian response will be guided by the following strategic objectives of the 2015 HRP:

- 1 Ensure that the life-saving protection and assistance needs of people affected by conflict and/or disasters are met
- 2 Ensure that people affected by conflict and/or disasters have equitable access to basic services and livelihoods opportunities
- 3 Ensure the resilience of communities to conflict and natural disasters and contribute to early recovery and durable solutions

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Cluster	People targeted	Requirements (US\$)
Camp Coordination and Camp Management	33,000	200,000
Education	51,000	2,300,000
Food Security (food assistance including cash/asset creation)	582,538	21,500,000
Food Security (livelihoods support)	440,000	18,000,000
Health	582,400	6,500,000
Nutrition	143,000	1,500,000
Protection	300,000	4,300,000
Shelter/NFIs	75,000	3,700,000
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	400,000	17,500,000
Grand Total		75,500,000

PRIORITY HUMANITARIAN ACTIONS



Camp Coordination and Camp Management

Track the movement of newly displaced people to inform a multi-cluster joint response.



Education

Restore access to essential educational services, which promotes protection and well-being of flood-affected children.



Food Security

Distribute ready to eat food and High Energy Biscuits (HEB) for the first three to seven days of the response;

Provide life-saving food assistance consisting of basic food basket (including cash) for flood-affected food insecure women, girls, boys and men;

Implement community asset creation/rehabilitation activities;

Gender and protection sensitive livelihoods support to flood affected farmers through provision of emergency agricultural livelihoods kits including crops and vegetable seeds, fertilizers, tools, livestock and fishing gears;



Health

Establish or re-establish accessible life-saving health services for people affected by floods



Nutrition

Establish or re-establish screening and treatment of acute malnutrition among children under five; Support appropriate infant and young child feeding (IYCF) through pregnant and lactating women and/or caretakers; Prevent micronutrient deficiencies among under five children and pregnant and lactating women.



Protection

Restore and strengthen the provision of social and protection services in the aftermath of the natural disaster whereby forced displacement (even if temporary) and losses have led to increased vulnerability, psycho-social distress and immediate risks of violence and exploitation as a result of overcrowded evacuation centres and broken community protection structures; Ensure the inclusion of the most vulnerable groups of affected populations, including women and adolescent girls, separated children, people with disability and older people in the response and prevention services; Address increased protection risks related to a secondary impact of the natural disaster that deplete resilience and coping mechanisms. These risks include migration to already congested urban hubs (increased exposure to sexual exploitation and child labour) and increased incidence of GBV including trafficking.



Shelter/NFIs

Swift provision of emergency shelter/household items with increased focus on support for reconstruction of damaged/destroyed housing as part of wider early recovery efforts to minimize displacement.



Water and sanitation and hygiene

Provide adequate temporary water and sanitation facilities in those evacuation centres where people may remain for a longer period;

Initiate infrastructure rehabilitation through recovery approach, to support safe and dignified return of affected people to their places of origin, ensuring sustainable access to water and sanitation, and functional health and school infrastructure;

Promote hygiene practices in the wider affected population to reduce the risk of waterborne diseases outbreak.

CLUSTER/SECTOR PLANS

Sector/cluster-specific indicators will be the same as those in the current 2015 Humanitarian Response Plan.



Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

Contact Information: Edward Benson (benson@unhcr.org)

Priority Actions

- Track the movement of newly displaced people to inform a multi-cluster joint response;
- Utilize existing camp management structures, notably in Rakhine State, for the benefit of the emergency response /early recovery.

\$0.2 million
required to reach
33,000 people



Education

Contact information: Marco Grazia (marco.grazia@savethechildren.org)

Priority Actions

- Targeted girls and boys regain access to formal or non-formal essential education services in safe and protective learning spaces;
- Improve/restore learning environment through distribution of teaching and learning materials;
- Promote context-relevant life-skills education programme, including psychosocial support to ensure protection, well-being and resilience of flood affected children and the communities.

\$2.3 million
required to reach
51,000 children



Food Security

Contact information: Masae Shimomura (masae.shimomura@wfp.org),
Christophe Loubaton (christophe.loubaton@foodsecuritycluster.net)

Priority Actions

- Distribute ready to eat food and High Energy Biscuits (HEB) for the first three to seven days of the response;
- Provide life-saving food assistance consisting of basic food basket (including cash) for flood-affected food insecure women, girls, boys and men;
- Implement community asset creation/rehabilitation activities;
- Gender and protection sensitive livelihoods support to flood affected farmers through provision of emergency agricultural livelihoods kits, including crops, vegetable seeds, fertilizers, tools, livestock and fishing gears.

\$ 39.5 million



Health

Contact information: Dr. Gabriel Novelo Sierra (novelog@searo.who.int)

Priority Actions

- Immediate mobilization of health human resources (Rapid Response Team - RRT) for surveillance and onsite treatment and patient referral systems;
- Support for micro-planning and resumption of primary health care services in flood-affected areas (facility-based and community-based);
- Provide essential medicines, equipment and supplies, including transportation and rehabilitation resources;
- Continue life-saving newborn/child health care and reproductive health care services.

\$6.5 million
required to reach
582,400 people



Nutrition

Contact information: Martin Eklund (meklund@unicef.org)

Priority Actions

- Identify and provide treatment for acute malnutrition among young children and pregnant and lactating women, including therapeutic feeding for severe

\$1.5 million
required to reach
143,000 people

acute malnutrition (SAM) and supplementary feeding for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM);

- Protect, promote and support appropriate infant and young child feeding (IYCF) through support to pregnant and lactating woman and/or caregivers;
- Prevent/control micronutrient deficiencies among under five children and pregnant and lactating women;
- Monitor unsolicited donations of breast-milk substitutes (BMS);
- Nutrition situation monitoring through assessments and/or surveys.

Protection

Contact information: Amber Larsen (LARSENA@unhcr.org)

Priority Actions

- Support restoration of social services to provide response and prevention mechanisms, with equitable access for vulnerable groups. This will be achieved through strengthening of the Government response capacity (in particular the Department of Social Welfare) by facilitating surge deployment of trained social workers to provide response and prevention services;
- Provide psychosocial and case management support, including through mobile outreach teams in hard-to-reach and return areas, to identify and refer vulnerable women, girls, unaccompanied and separated children, the elderly and persons with disabilities to life-saving services;
- Distribute dignity kits to women and girls of reproductive age;
- Identify and empower informal community-based protection mechanisms (such as women's groups) to support community-led recovery and sustainable outcomes;
- Identify community-based organizations to work alongside government structures to enhance protection system-building and promote sustainable and inclusive recovery;
- Support other sectors/clusters and the Government structures at different levels to raise and prioritize protection concerns in the overall response and mitigate violence, exploitation and abuse.

\$4.3 million
required to reach
300,000 people

Shelter/NFIs

Contact Information: Edward Benson (benson@unhcr.org)

Priority Actions

- Provide emergency shelter (tarpaulins, tents, plastic sheets, shelter kits) and NFIs, especially to the most vulnerable flood-affected households;
- Support efforts to repair/rebuild damaged/destroyed housing as part of wider early recovery efforts (Construction of (newly located) temporary shelter/camps should only be considered as a last resort).

\$3.7 million
required to reach
75,000 people

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Contact information: Olivier Le Guillou (oleguillou@unicef.org)

Priority Actions

- Provide emergency water supply and water treatment tablets/sachets; Clean and chlorinate water points; Provide emergency latrines in evacuation centers where the affected people remain more than a week; Distribute hygiene kit and disseminate emergency hygiene message;
- Rehabilitate WASH facilities particularly for schools and health centers through cash for work, based on community mobilization; Targeted provision of limited household sanitation supplies; Messaging on health risk and good hygiene behaviour in disaster situation to build resilience;
- Reinforce WASH facilities in school and health centres; Community-led Total Sanitation (CLTS) and smart subsidies approach adopted; Building back better DRR orientated WASH infrastructure constructed.

\$17.5 million
required to reach
400,000 people



Guide to Giving

CONTRIBUTING TO THE HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE PLAN

Myanmar's humanitarian response plan provides sector-specific descriptions of the activities required to address the needs of the affected people, and the estimated funding requirements to address these needs. The plan contains contact information for each of the sectors. To learn more about the outstanding gaps, needs, and possible implementing partners, download the plan from:

www.humanitarianresponse.info/system/files/documents/files/HRP%20Myanmar_FINAL.pdf

DONATING THROUGH THE CENTRAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND (CERF)

The CERF provides rapid initial funding for life-saving actions at the onset of emergencies and for poorly funded, essential humanitarian operations in protracted crises. The OCHA-managed CERF receives contributions from various donors – mainly governments, but also private companies, foundations, charities and individuals – which are combined into a single fund, to be used for crises anywhere in the world. Between 2006 and 2015, CERF has provided Myanmar with \$99.2 million to address priority life-saving needs. For the floods response in Myanmar, the CERF rapid response window has allocated \$8.9 million for nine projects covering food, WASH, health, protection, CCCM and shelter/NFIs. Find out more about the CERF and how to donate by visiting the CERF website:

www.unocha.org/cerf/our-donors/how-donate

DONATING THROUGH THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND (ERF)

The Myanmar ERF is a multi-donor pooled fund that provides humanitarian organizations with rapid and flexible in-country funding to address critical funding gaps in the core humanitarian response, and to respond quickly to urgent emergency needs. For the floods emergency response, the ERF has made available \$1.3 million to complement the CERF rapid response window. To learn more about the Myanmar ERF, please send an email to erf-myanmar@un.org. Further information on ERFs can be found here:

www.unocha.org/what-we-do/humanitarian-financing/emergency-response-funds-erf

REGISTERING AND RECOGNIZING YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

OCHA manages the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), which records all reported humanitarian contributions (cash, in-kind, multilateral and bilateral) to emergencies. Its aim is to give credit and visibility to donors for their generosity and to show the total amount of funding and resource. For detailed information about donor contributions to Myanmar, please visit the FTS website:

<https://fts.unocha.org/pageloader.aspx?page=emerg-emergencyCountryDetails&cc=mmr>