



# BURMA – COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #3, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2017

JULY 27, 2017

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**51.5 million**

Total Population of Burma  
HCT – December 2016

**6.4 million**

People Residing in  
Conflict-Affected Areas  
HCT – December 2016

**525,448**

People Targeted in  
2017 Burma HRP  
HCT – December 2016

**120,699**

IDPs in Rakhine State  
UN – May 2017

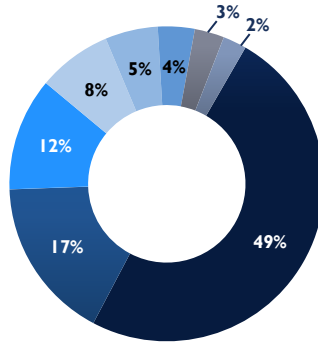
**87,000**

IDPs in Kachin State  
UN – May 2017

**12,000**

IDPs in Shan State  
UN – May 2017

## USAID/OFDA<sup>1</sup> Funding By Sector in FY 2017



- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (49%)
- Protection (17%)
- Health (12%)
- Nutrition (8%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (5%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (4%)
- Shelter & Settlements (3%)
- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (2%)

## USAID/FFP<sup>2</sup> FUNDING



- Local & Regional Food Procurement (65%)
- Cash Transfers for Food (33%)
- RUTF (2%)

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Monsoon-related flooding temporarily displaces at least 91,000 people
- Tropical Cyclone Mora affects approximately 150,000 people in May
- Insecurity in Kachin, Rakhine, and Shan drives sporadic displacement, limits humanitarian access

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA RESPONSE IN FY 2017

USAID/OFDA	\$7,725,661
USAID/FFP	\$6,151,714
STATE/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$24,496,483

**\$38,373,858**

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- As of July 21, monsoon-related flooding had temporarily displaced at least 91,000 people in the Ayeyarwady, Bago, Magway, and Sagaing regions and Kayin State, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Magway is the most-affected region, with approximately 63,000 people displaced, followed by Sagaing, where flooding displaced 23,000 people. The Government of Burma (GoB) is leading response efforts and providing humanitarian assistance, in coordination with relief actors.
- The UN reports that more than 120,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Rakhine State are sheltering in camps and resettlement sites due to clashes between GoB forces and non-state actors, which have continued sporadically since 2012. However, many of the tens of thousands who fled following the eruption of clashes between GoB forces and non-state actors in October 2016 have returned to areas of origin in Rakhine, the UN reports.
- In late May, Tropical Cyclone Mora made landfall near the Burma–Bangladesh border, affecting approximately 150,000 people in northern Burma, the GoB reports. Displaced households sheltering in IDP camps were among the most-affected populations.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## NATURAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE

- On May 30, Tropical Cyclone Mora made landfall over western Burma and southeastern Bangladesh, bringing heavy rainfall, strong winds, and rough seas to coastal and inland areas. The storm affected approximately 150,000 people, resulted in at least one death, and caused significant infrastructure damage in Burma, according to the GoB. The GoB reported that areas of northwestern and western Rakhine sustained the most severe damage, with International Federation of the Red Cross assessments finding that nearly 14,500 houses were damaged or destroyed. In displacement camps, the storm damaged latrines, offices, and shelters, many of which were already in poor repair. As of late June, the GoB had allocated approximately \$1.2 million to address storm-related needs.
- As of July 21, monsoon floods had displaced more than 91,000 people in 29 townships across the Ayeyarwady, Bago, Magway, and Sagaing regions and Kayin State, the GoB Relief and Resettlement Department (RRD) reported. Magway is the most-affected area, with nearly 63,000 people displaced by recent flooding. In Sagaing, where monsoon-related flooding has resulted in at least four deaths and temporarily displaced more than 23,000 people, RRD and the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) are providing food assistance, hygiene kits, relief commodities, and safe drinking water to displaced households. In addition to flooding in Magway and Sagaing, local media reported on July 19 that monsoon-related landslides in Hpa-an Township in Kayin had destroyed several houses and blocked roads.
- The GoB is leading flood response efforts and providing displaced households with cash assistance for food and shelter repair, relief commodities, and safe drinking water, OCHA reports. As of July 21, the GoB had allocated approximately \$93,000 in emergency assistance to flood-affected households. Furthermore, RRD has pre-positioned tarpaulins and water purification tablets in Ayeyarwady, Bago, and Magway to mitigate the effects of future flooding. During a July 17–21 flood impact assessment mission to Sagaing, a joint UN and international non-governmental organization (NGO) team found that relief efforts were meeting humanitarian needs.
- To mitigate the impact of natural disasters, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$3.1 million in FY 2017 to fund disaster risk reduction (DRR) programs in Burma aimed at building community resilience and strengthening national and sub-national disaster management capacity.

---

---

## HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND POPULATION MOVEMENT

### *Kachin and Shan States*

- As of mid-July, nearly 100,000 IDPs who fled conflict in Kachin and Shan States were sheltering in more than 170 camps and resettlement sites, of which 40 percent are located in areas outside of government control with limited humanitarian access, the UN reports. A majority of IDPs are women and children, heightening protection concerns among relief actors. Ongoing access and movement restrictions hinder international humanitarian assistance from reaching populations in need, with local organizations providing a substantial proportion of assistance to address needs. IDPs cite protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance as priority needs, according to UN assessments.
- During June and July, clashes between GoB forces and the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) in Kachin's Tanai Township resulted in displacement to villages within the township. OCHA reports that nearly 1,100 people—approximately 275 households—displaced within the township by recent clashes will require assistance. Kachin government authorities have provided displaced people, who are primarily sheltering in churches and monasteries, with basic food assistance, including rice, oil, salt, and safe drinking water. As of mid-June, markets in Tanai town were functioning; however, basic commodity prices have increased due in part to access restrictions. OCHA reports that relief commodities and WASH supplies are among the priority needs.
- A USAID/OFDA partner and local organizations report that GoB restrictions on civilian movement and the closure of four of five access points to Tanai's government-controlled area have hindered access and raised protection concerns. UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Renata Dessallien has advocated with the GoB for improved access and respect for the safety of civilians, and OCHA raised Tanai township access challenges with the Kachin State Government Chief Minister on July 17.
- Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army attacks in Shan State's Kokang Self-Administered Zone during March resulted in at least 30 deaths. The attacks also prompted 20,000 people to flee into China and 10,000 migrant workers to flee to home areas, the UN reports. As of May, local organizations reported that the security situation had improved and that displaced populations had largely returned. A joint UN assessment to Kokang in May found that an estimated 2,000 people were sheltering in camps and resettlement sites in Kokang's Laukiang town and that 400 people were staying with

host community households. The UN reports that humanitarian access to areas north of Laukkiang remains limited due to insecurity and that food assistance and protection are priority humanitarian needs.

- In northern Shan, fighting between GoB forces and the Ta'ang National Liberation Army (TNLA) in Namhsan Township displaced several hundred people in mid-May. Following further clashes in Namhsan on June 23—during which at least one civilian was killed in the village of Manlan—the UN reported that more than 400 people fled to Namhsan's Lashio village. The GoB temporarily detained 200–300 Manlan villagers, including young males who were interrogated, according to a local NGO. Local NGO actors provided cash assistance for transportation, as well as food and relief commodities to address humanitarian needs following the clashes. Local authorities have limited humanitarian access to affected areas.
- From July 19–20, approximately 730 people fled to northern Shan's Hseni town from surrounding villages, reportedly due to TNLA forces conducting abductions for payment, while the GoB continues to conduct military operations in the vicinity of Hseni. A joint UN-NGO assessment found that most of the displaced population is sheltering in a Hseni monastery. The monastery, the GoB, and MRCS are meeting needs, including providing cash and food assistance, hygiene kits, and mosquito nets to displaced households.

### ***Rakhine State***

- Since October 2016, ongoing clashes in northern areas of Rakhine have displaced populations within Burma and to neighboring Bangladesh. By May, the UN estimated that more than 74,000 people had fled to Bangladesh. Although limited humanitarian access has hindered comprehensive assessments, the UN estimates that as many as 20,000 IDPs who fled since October 2016 have returned to areas of origin in Rakhine since the GoB announced the end of security operations in the state in February 2017. However, sporadic clashes between government forces and non-state elements continue to drive displacement and limit access to basic services and humanitarian assistance. Among returnees, shelter remains a priority concern given the onset of monsoon rains and that fighting damaged or destroyed many houses.
- In addition, the UN reports that approximately 120,000 people, displaced since 2012, are residing in 36 camp settings in Rakhine. Given that many camps were constructed from 2012–2013, shelters are in disrepair. Following the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine—a national commission headed by former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan—the GoB has initiated the process of closing three IDP camps in central Rakhine, which shelter approximately 330 households; the GoB reports that closing all IDP camps may take up to five years. Due to protection concerns in areas of origin, the GoB has offered to provide some displaced Muslim households with houses at displacement sites or transportation and financial support for households to leave Rakhine and settle in other regions, the UN reports. For other IDPs, the GoB is building houses and infrastructure at designated resettlement sites. Humanitarian organizations are closely monitoring resettlement processes to ensure that returns and relocations are safe, voluntary, and conducted with dignity, while continuing to assess living conditions in camp settings to inform assistance strategies.

---

---

## **FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION**

- Between January and April, an international NGO admitted nearly 5,200 severe acute malnutrition (SAM) cases to its 12 outpatient therapeutic program centers in Rakhine's Maungdaw District—an increase of 42 percent compared to the same period in 2016. Given seasonal trends, such as the onset of the monsoon, combined with limited humanitarian access, the NGO expects a 55 percent increase in annual average SAM cases by the end of 2017. In addition, the NGO anticipates a potential increase in respiratory infections and diarrhea, which can aggravate the effects of malnutrition. During the same period, the NGO admitted nearly 1,600 malnourished pregnant and nursing women, representing an 82 percent increase compared to the same period in 2016. The organization reports that GoB movement restrictions have prevented people in need from seeking assistance and limited humanitarian organizations' ability to provide assistance.
- A UN World Food Program (WFP) food security assessment conducted in March and April indicated widespread severe food insecurity and malnutrition in northern Rakhine. The assessment indicated that approximately one quarter of the population was severely food-insecure and in need of humanitarian assistance. As of April, WFP estimated that 38,000 households—or 225,800 people—required humanitarian assistance in Rakhine. Scarce income opportunities, poorly functioning markets, and volatile food prices are contributing to insufficient food access for many households. Based on the assessment, at least 173,000 people required immediate emergency food assistance and nutrition support, including as

many as 80,500 children younger than five years of age expected to require SAM treatment during the next 12 months. WFP continues to provide life-saving food assistance to 515,000 people displaced or affected by conflict and natural disasters in Burma. USAID/FFP partner WFP delivered food to 25,500 food-insecure and vulnerable people displaced during the recent security operations in northern Rakhine.

- In March, USAID/FFP partner WFP continued to implement a mobile cash transfers pilot program in Kachin, providing emergency assistance in the form of electronic credit that beneficiaries can use to purchase food in local markets. WFP expanded the project from the initial three IDP camps in Kachin's Myitkyina city to three additional camps in Waingmaw town, enabling the program to reach a total of 284 households, or 1,400 IDPs.
- In Rakhine, USAID/FFP supports the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) to provide Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF) to an estimated 8,250 children suffering from SAM in nine townships. Focusing on displaced and crisis-affected populations, UNICEF and its partners also provide active and passive SAM screening for children, community-based SAM treatment, and capacity building for local government health authorities via monitoring, planning, and training support.
- To improve maternal and child health, USAID/OFDA partner Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US) is supporting infant and young child feeding practices (IYCF) and antenatal support services and treating SAM through an outpatient therapeutic program. Furthermore, camp staff and community volunteers receive training in community-based management of acute malnutrition and IYCF.

---

---

## HEALTH, PROTECTION, WASH

- Given the protracted conflict in Kachin, Rakhine, and Shan, conflict-affected households have increasingly resorted to negative coping mechanisms to meet needs, including through family separation and child marriage, according to humanitarian stakeholders. In addition, relief actors report a growing incidence of sexual exploitation and gender-based violence. In response, USAID/OFDA is supporting UNICEF to build the capacities of communities and local partners to identify and refer child protection cases, mainstream the protection of children within other humanitarian programs, and provide mental health and psychosocial support for people who have experienced violence or abuse. UNICEF also provides case management services, including through mobile teams that reach populations that would otherwise lack access to protection services.
- In Kachin and Shan, UNICEF is improving access to health care services for IDPs and conflict-affected households with FY 2017 support from USAID/OFDA. To address immunization coverage gaps, UNICEF is strengthening the capacity of local staff to manage common childhood diseases and supporting the provision of vaccinations through routine health services. UNICEF is also training traditional birth attendants and auxiliary midwives in newborn-child and maternal health care and conducting outreach and health education and hygiene promotion activities. In Kachin, Rakhine, and Shan, where WASH issues remain a priority, USAID/OFDA is supporting UNICEF to deliver critical WASH support more than 27,000 people, including approximately 20,000 IDPs. UNICEF activities in IDP camps include desludging of latrines, strengthening management of water points to maintain water quality, and hygiene promotion.
- With \$1.4 million in FY 2017 funding, USAID/OFDA continues to support SC/US to provide health, nutrition, and WASH assistance activities in IDP camps, informal sites, and conflict-affected communities in Rakhine's Pauktaw and Sittwe districts. SC/US aims to improve access to basic services, including WASH facilities, health care, and nutrition activities.

---

---

## OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The 2017 Myanmar Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) calls for \$150.3 million to address the needs of 525,000 conflict and disaster-affected people between January and December 2017. As of July 27, the 2017 HRP was 44 percent funded.

## CONTEXT

- In early June 2011, a ceasefire between the GoB and the KIA broke down when fighting between GoB forces and the KIA erupted in southeastern Kachin and resulted in population displacement. As of May 2017, an estimated 98,000 people remained displaced in Kachin and northern Shan, with many of the displaced residing in areas outside of GoB control with limited humanitarian access. Local NGOs continue to access displaced populations in KIA-controlled areas, including along the Burma–China border; however, access to some areas remains inconsistent.
- In Rakhine, an outbreak of intercommunal violence in June and October 2012 between ethnic Rakhine Buddhists and Rohingya and non-Rohingya Muslims displaced tens of thousands of people, according to the UN. As of May 2017, approximately 120,000 people remained displaced in Rakhine, while other conflict-affected populations lack access to basic services and livelihoods opportunities due to ongoing tensions and movement restrictions. Many IDPs in Rakhine are Rohingya—a minority group not formally recognized by the GoB and, therefore, are stateless and denied rights to citizenship, public education, and freedom of movement within Burma.
- In southeastern Burma, hundreds of thousands of people in the Burma–Thailand border region, stretching from central and southern Shan to Tanintharyi Region, remain displaced and in need of humanitarian assistance. However, the Burma Humanitarian Country Team notes that the needs of people in these areas are covered through a separate durable solutions framework that is beyond the scope of the 2017 Humanitarian Needs Overview and HRP.
- On November 15, 2016, U.S. Ambassador Scot A. Marciel reissued a disaster declaration for Burma due to the ongoing complex emergency. USAID/OFDA staff based in Bangkok, Thailand, remain in contact with humanitarian partners in Burma and continue to conduct assessments in affected areas of Kachin and Rakhine to evaluate humanitarian conditions, identify humanitarian gaps, and recommend response options.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA RESPONSE IN FY 2017<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA<sup>2</sup></b>			
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Protection	Kachin, Rakhine, Shan	\$500,000
Metta Foundation	Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Kachin, Shan	\$1,000,000
SC/US	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, WASH	Rakhine	\$1,431,842
Solidarités International	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Kachin, Rakhine	\$1,600,000
UNICEF	Health, Protection, WASH	Kachin, Rakhine, Shan	\$3,000,000
ZOA	WASH	Rakhine	\$193,819
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING</b>			<b>\$7,725,661</b>
<b>USAID/FFP<sup>3,4</sup></b>			
UNICEF	RUTF	Rakhine	\$151,714
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food	Kachin, Rakhine, Shan	\$1,000,000
	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Kachin, Rakhine, Shan	\$4,000,000

WFP	Cash Transfers for Food	Bangladesh	\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING</b>			<b>\$6,151,714</b>

<b>STATE/PRM<sup>4</sup></b>			
NGO Implementing Partners	Humanitarian Assistance	Malaysia, Thailand	\$17,522,642
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh, Thailand	\$1,663,841
Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Humanitarian Assistance	South East Asia	\$4,810,000
UNICEF	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$500,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING</b>			<b>\$24,496,483</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA RESPONSE IN FY 2017</b>			<b>\$38,373,858</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

<sup>2</sup> USAID/OFDA funding represents committed or obligated amounts as of July 27, 2017.

<sup>3</sup> Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change once purchased.

<sup>4</sup> USAID/FFP and State/PRM funding includes funding for both Burmese refugees and asylum seekers in the region, as well as IDPs inside Burma.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.821.1999.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at

<http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>