

BURMA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

RAKHINE CRISIS RESPONSE

FACT SHEET #5, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018

MAY 21, 2018

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

800,000

Estimated Rohingya in Northern Rakhine Prior to October 2016
UN – October 2016

127,600

Estimated IDPs in Rakhine State
UN – March 2018

693,000

Estimated People Displaced from Burma to Bangladesh Since August 25
ISCG – May 2018

212,500

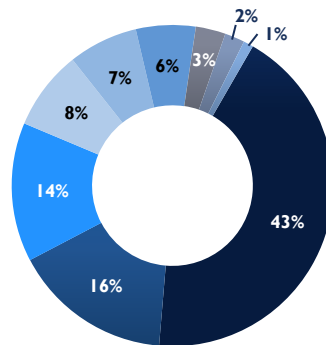
Estimated Burmese Refugees in Cox's Bazar Prior to August 2017
ISCG – November 2017

24,000

Estimated Refugees Residing in Highest-Risk Areas of Cox's Bazar
UNHCR – March 2018

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING

By Sector in FY 2017–2018



- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (43%)
- Protection (16%)
- Health (14%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (8%)
- Nutrition (7%)
- Agriculture & Food Security (6%)
- Shelter & Settlements (3%)
- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (2%)
- Multipurpose Cash Assistance (1%)

USAID/FFP² FUNDING

BY MODALITY IN FY 2017–2018³



- Local & Regional Procurement (55%)
- Cash Transfers for Food (24%)
- Complementary Services (21%)

HIGHLIGHTS

- USG provides more than \$94 million in additional support to crisis-affected populations in Burma, Bangladesh
- USAID Administrator conducts official visit to Burma, Bangladesh to observe ongoing relief efforts
- Relief actors conduct preparedness activities ahead of cyclone, monsoon seasons in Burma, Bangladesh

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE BURMA RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018⁴

USAID/OFDA	\$18,308,734
USAID/FFP	\$83,248,844
STATE/PRM ⁵	\$197,851,094

\$299,408,672

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- On May 15, USAID Administrator Mark Green announced more than \$44 million in FY 2018 funding from USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP to support internally displaced and other conflict-affected populations in Burma, as well as Burmese refugees in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar District. The announcement was made as part of a mid-May visit to Burma's Rakhine State, during which Administrator Green observed humanitarian conditions and met with representatives from USAID-supported non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and affected communities. The funding supplements \$50 million in State/PRM funding announced on April 23, and brings U.S. Government (USG) funding for the Rakhine crisis response in Burma and Bangladesh to nearly \$203.6 million since the outbreak of violence in August 2017.⁶ Cumulatively, the USG has provided more than \$299 million in humanitarian assistance for the Burma complex emergency response in FY 2017–2018.

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

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

³ USAID/FFP funding by modality reflects publically announced funding as of May 15, 2018

⁴ Funding includes all USG humanitarian funding for the Burma complex emergency, including the Rakhine crisis response

⁵ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

⁶ This total comprises more than \$131 million in State/PRM funding, approximately \$69 million in USAID/FFP funding, and nearly \$3.6 million in USAID/OFDA funding for populations in Burma and Bangladesh affected by the ongoing Rakhine crisis. It does not reflect the totality of State/PRM or USAID funding for the Burma complex emergency response. State/PRM funding includes additional regional contributions to UN and international organization partners supporting those most in need in the region, including ongoing programs for Burmese refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), while USAID funding includes new and ongoing activities in Burma's Kachin, Rakhine, and Shan states, as well as Bangladesh.

DISPLACEMENT, POPULATION MOVEMENT, AND HUMANITARIAN ACCESS

Rakhine State

- In Burma, an estimated 127,600 ethnic Rohingya in central Rakhine IDP camps live in overcrowded conditions with restricted freedom of movement and limited access to essential services and livelihood opportunities, according to the UN. In April, Government of Burma authorities discussed plans to close several central Rakhine IDP camps; however, the future status of IDPs following camp closures remains unclear.
- Government of Burma-imposed travel restrictions continue to impact needs assessments and the consistent delivery of humanitarian assistance in northern Rakhine. In northern Rakhine's Buthidaung and Maungdaw townships, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) is unable to conduct needs assessments due to access constraints, including insufficient travel authorizations and short duration of travel authorizations when granted, the UN agency reports.
- USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$10.6 million in FY 2018 to partner organizations addressing acute needs throughout Burma, including seven implementing partners operating in central and northern Rakhine. The funding will support activities intended to boost agricultural livelihood opportunities; increase access to health care and nutrition services; provide emergency relief commodities, cash assistance, and protection services; and improve shelter and sanitation conditions among conflict-affected communities.

Bangladesh

- From January 1–May 3, more than 8,400 people fled from Rakhine to Cox's Bazar, representing a significant decrease compared to the peak of the influx in late 2017, when thousands of refugees crossed the border daily, according to the UN Inter-Sector Coordination Group (ISCG)—a humanitarian response coordination body in Bangladesh comprising UN agencies, international NGOs, and other stakeholders. Refugees fleeing Rakhine continue to cite insecurity and lack of access to livelihoods as primary reasons for seeking shelter in Bangladesh, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Cumulatively, more than 905,000 Rohingya refugees are sheltering in Cox's Bazar, including more than 693,000 refugees who have arrived in Cox's Bazar since late August 2017 following armed attacks and subsequent military operations in Rakhine, ISCG reports.
- The influx of refugees to Cox's Bazar since August has negatively affected host communities, particularly in Teknaf and Ukhia sub-districts, ISCG reports. Ongoing competition for livelihood opportunities; deforestation due to refugee firewood collection; increasing food, fuel, and transportation prices; and overburdening of basic services have contributed to tensions between refugee and host community populations. In response, relief actors are implementing activities to mitigate the impacts of the refugee influx on host communities by prioritizing agriculture and livelihoods support; environmental rehabilitation; education, health, and nutrition activities; and infrastructure works.
- On April 23, Acting Secretary of State John J. Sullivan announced an additional \$50 million in State/PRM funding for the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNHCR, and UNICEF to assist vulnerable populations fleeing Rakhine, as well as host communities in Cox's Bazar.

SHELTER AND SEASONAL PREPAREDNESS

Rakhine State

- The annual cyclone and monsoon seasons, which frequently contribute to food shortages and increased health and shelter needs throughout Burma, pose acute risks to IDPs residing in overcrowded central Rakhine camps and other vulnerable populations in the state. Rakhine IDP camps were constructed in 2012 to provide temporary shelter to displaced populations for up to three years; many shelters and other facilities are now in urgent need of repair, according to the UN. Several USAID/OFDA NGO partners are providing water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support to vulnerable populations in Rakhine ahead of the cyclone and monsoon seasons, and one partner is conducting monsoon preparedness activities in selected central Rakhine IDP camps.

Bangladesh

- Emergency preparedness and response planning for the cyclone and monsoon seasons remains the humanitarian priority in Cox's Bazar, where the lack of land suitable for settlement continues to hinder efforts to mitigate seasonal risk. As monsoon season begins, relief actors estimate that at least 150,000 refugees are residing in areas at high risk of flooding and landslides; of these, approximately 24,000 people are estimated to be sheltering in areas with severely unstable terrain. Relocation of refugees from areas of highest risk is ongoing, with more than 16,000 people relocated from high-risk areas or to facilitate critical infrastructure development as of May 7, ISCG reports. In addition, USAID/FFP partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) is clearing and developing 123 acres of land for additional refugee settlements.
 - In preparation for the cyclone and monsoon seasons, relief organizations had reached more than 141,000 households—nearly 80 percent of the 180,000 households targeted for shelter support—with shelter upgrade kits, including bamboo poles, ropes, shelter-grade plastic sheeting, sandbags, and tools, as of May 7, ISCG reports. In addition, dredging to ensure water flow into and out of the Naf River—the primary waterway near Cox's Bazar displacement sites—and upgrades to community facilities, such as food distribution points and health clinics, continue in Cox's Bazar displacement sites and host communities.
 - In March, State/PRM partner IOM conducted an assessment in Cox's Bazar, identifying multi-sector challenges for displaced populations. Approximately 60 percent of assessed displacement sites in Cox's Bazar had limited road access, primarily due to population density, which limits relief actors' ability to construct additional roads. According to IOM, the least accessible areas were located in the Kutupalong–Balukhali displacement site, where nearly 623,000 refugees reside, complicating the delivery of humanitarian assistance. In response, USG partners IOM, UNHCR, and WFP are improving physical access to existing refugee settlements by paving existing paths, building bridges and roads, fortifying embankments, and clearing drainage channels. Access improvement projects include cash-for-work activities, which also provide refugees with income.
 - IOM, UNHCR, and WFP are scaling-up activities in Cox's Bazar to prepare for the upcoming monsoon season, including camp expansion activities, pre-positioning food stocks in strategic locations, and training on early warning systems. In addition, ISCG food security partners have developed an emergency preparedness and response plan, including a tracking system for food stocks, storage capacities, and shipment updates, WFP reports. A new logistics hub under construction in the Madhu Chara area—approximately one kilometer north of the Kutupalong–Balukhali site—will provide humanitarian actors with more than 5,000 cubic meters of common storage space. The Logistics Sector—the WFP-led coordinating body for humanitarian logistics activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders—is supporting humanitarian monsoon preparedness plans through the provision of 20 storage containers for pre-positioned commodities dispersed across seven sites in Cox's Bazar, ISCG reports.
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HEALTH AND WASH

Rakhine State

- A USAID/OFDA NGO partner plans to reach nearly 76,500 conflict-affected people with primary and reproductive health care, as well as acute malnutrition screenings, through three mobile clinics in northern Rakhine's Buthidaung, Maungdaw, and Rathedaung townships pending travel authorizations. The partner also aims to improve access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities and promote improved hygiene practices among vulnerable populations. Another USAID/OFDA partner is planning to implement WASH activities in northern Rakhine, aiming to benefit nearly 18,300 people through hygiene promotion activities, latrine construction, and water source rehabilitation as access allows.
- In FY 2018, USAID/OFDA continues to support partners to provide health, nutrition, and WASH assistance to IDPs and conflict-affected communities in central Rakhine. For example, a USAID/OFDA NGO partner operating in Pauktaw and Sittwe townships is desludging latrines, improving water point management, and promoting improved hygiene practices in IDP camps.

Bangladesh

- Health organizations are preparing to respond to increased health needs during the monsoon season by training mobile medical teams, broadcasting Rohingya-language recordings at health care service sites, and conducting first aid trainings for community health volunteers, according to the UN World Health Organization (WHO).
- On May 6, the Government of Bangladesh's Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, with support from UNICEF, WHO, and other relief agencies, commenced a cholera vaccination campaign targeting nearly 1 million vulnerable individuals in Cox's Bazar in advance of the monsoon season. Nearly 250 mobile vaccination teams are supporting the campaign, which had vaccinated a total of 464,000 refugees and host community members in Teknaf and Ukhia as of May 9. This is the second cholera vaccination campaign targeting refugees and host communities in the district. From October–November, health actors administered nearly 900,000 doses of cholera vaccine to vulnerable populations in Cox's Bazar. In addition to vaccination campaigns, relief actors continue to support efforts to improve access to safe drinking water and promote good hygiene practices to reduce the risk of cholera.
- Health actors in Cox's Bazar completed the third round of vaccinations against diphtheria, a preventable, highly infectious respiratory disease, reaching more than 431,000 children ages six weeks–15 years in late April, ISCG reports. From November 8–May 5, health actors reported nearly 6,900 confirmed and suspected diphtheria cases in Cox's Bazar, according to WHO. The number of diphtheria cases and related deaths has declined since January, and WHO has recorded no new diphtheria-related deaths since mid-April.
- High population density and flood-prone terrain continue to result in substandard WASH conditions for many refugee and host community populations in Cox's Bazar. Populations in approximately 50 percent of displacement sites had limited access to safe water sources and approximately 40 percent and 50 percent of sites lacked sufficient bathing facilities and latrines, respectively, to meet the needs of the refugee population, according to a March IOM survey. Furthermore, safety near sanitation facilities remains a concern for refugees, as more than 90 percent of the surveyed displacement sites did not have gender-segregated bathing facilities and latrines and approximately 95 percent of the sites had inadequate lighting near WASH facilities. Subsequently, refugees reported that security incidents most frequently occurred while collecting firewood, utilizing sanitation facilities, and accessing water sources.
- In response to ongoing needs for safe drinking water and improved sanitation facilities among vulnerable populations in Cox's Bazar, sector organizations are constructing additional wells, with more than 300 tubewells constructed from April 24–May 7, bringing the total number of operational wells to more than 5,200, as well as decommissioning wells in areas where existing facilities are contaminated, flood-prone, or improperly constructed. During the same period, relief actors constructed nearly 600 latrines and distributed approximately 13,500 hygiene kits to vulnerable populations. Additionally, water scarcity in Teknaf remains a challenge for response actors, who continue to truck water to displacement sites.

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

Rakhine State

- IDPs and other conflict-affected populations continue to lack sufficient food and access to livelihood opportunities, although relief organizations are unable to accurately assess the food security and nutrition needs of vulnerable groups in northern Rakhine due to Government of Burma-imposed access constraints. Despite humanitarian access restrictions, WFP reached approximately 178,000 conflict-affected people and IDPs in 10 townships in central and northern Rakhine with food assistance in April.
- With FY 2018 funding, a USAID/OFDA partner plans to implement agricultural-based livelihood activities, including conducting agricultural and fishery trainings and providing agricultural inputs for conflict-affected communities. By providing affected individuals with fishing equipment and information regarding fishing regulations and processing techniques, the NGO aims to improve communities' access to fish—typically the primary source of protein in northern Rakhine—and a source of income. In addition, the partner plans to increase access to child-friendly spaces in northern Rakhine, aiming to reach approximately 2,500 children ages 5–12 years.

- In response to nutrition needs of vulnerable populations in Rakhine, UNICEF continues to provide acute malnutrition treatment, micronutrient supplementation, and infant and young child feeding counseling to vulnerable children and pregnant and lactating women. Although humanitarian access constraints in northern Rakhine continue to prevent UNICEF from reaching all of the 9,000 children experiencing severe acute malnutrition (SAM) targeted for assistance throughout Burma in 2018, the UN agency admitted nearly 350 children under five years of age experiencing SAM to treatment centers and provided micronutrient supplements to nearly 20,000 children and nearly 5,000 pregnant and lactating women from January–March.
- On May 17, USAID/FFP announced approximately \$37 million for WFP to help food-insecure and conflict-affected populations in Burma and Bangladesh. The funding includes \$7 million in emergency food assistance and nutrition support for vulnerable populations in Kachin, Rakhine, and Shan states.

Bangladesh

- More than 90 percent of refugees in Cox’s Bazar depend on emergency food distributions as their primary food source due to lack of income-generating opportunities and access to markets to purchase food, according to a March IOM survey. A separate assessment conducted by relief actors in early May indicates that as a result of lack of income-generating opportunities, Rohingya refugee households are increasingly selling relief items provided by humanitarian organizations to address other emergency needs. To increase household food security, State/PRM partner IOM has distributed micro-gardening kits—comprising rope, spades, vegetable seeds, and watering cans, among other supplies—and food storage drums to 18,000 Rohingya refugees and 3,400 host community members to date.
- With \$30 million from USAID/FFP, WFP is delivering life-saving food and nutrition assistance to Rohingya refugees residing in Cox’s Bazar. USAID/FFP funding is also supporting WFP to conduct disaster risk reduction activities in preparation for the cyclone and monsoon seasons.
- In April, food security actors reached approximately 855,000 people—100 percent of the population targeted for emergency food assistance—through general food distributions and electronic vouchers (e-vouchers). Approximately 209,000 people are receiving food assistance through a WFP e-voucher program that provides beneficiaries with monthly transfers to a pre-paid debit card to purchase food in pre-approved shops. WFP continues to provide newly arrived refugees with a three-day ration of fortified biscuits and hot meals, and integrate all new arrivals into the ongoing food assistance cycle. Additionally, WFP provides malnutrition treatment, school meals, and livelihood interventions for vulnerable women and their households in Cox’s Bazar host communities. Approximately 144,000 children in more than 550 host community schools receive fortified biscuits every school day, the UN agency reports.
- In response to decreased livelihood opportunities in host communities, relief organizations had provided livelihood support to 27,100 host community households through the provision of agricultural inputs and livelihood training, as well as income-generating activities, as of May 6. WFP and other relief actors are also providing refugee households with cash-for-work opportunities.
- The Nutrition Sector—led by USG partner UNICEF—screened more than 158,200 children younger than five years of age in Cox’s Bazar for acute malnutrition from April 24–May 7, admitting nearly 1,100 children experiencing SAM and nearly 1,200 children experiencing moderate acute malnutrition to inpatient and outpatient treatment facilities, as appropriate. In addition, more than 2,800 children ages 6–59 months and 1,400 pregnant and lactating women were admitted to blanket supplementary feeding program sites through WFP and nutrition partners during the same period.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The 2018 Interim Humanitarian Response Plan for Burma, released in November, requested \$183.4 million to address the needs of 832,000 conflict- and disaster-affected people in Burma between January and December 2018. As of May 21, other international donors had contributed approximately \$36.1 million towards the appeal, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

- The 2018 Bangladesh Joint Response Plan, released in mid-March, requested \$950.8 million to address the needs of 1.3 million people, including Burmese refugees and host communities in Bangladesh, through December 2018. As of May 21, other international donors had contributed \$92.2 million towards the appeal, according to FTS.

CONTEXT

- Intercommunal violence in 2012 displaced tens of thousands of people in Rakhine, according to the UN. As of February 2018, nearly 128,000 people remained displaced in Rakhine, while other vulnerable populations lacked access to basic services and livelihood opportunities due to ongoing tensions and movement restrictions. Many IDPs in Rakhine are Rohingya—a minority group not formally recognized by the Government of Burma and denied rights to citizenship, freedom of movement, and public services.
- Following attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army on northern Rakhine checkpoints and police posts in October 2016 and August 2017, Government of Burma security forces launched military operations in northern Rakhine’s Buthidaung, Maungdaw, and Rathedaung. Since August 25, insecurity and violence have prompted approximately 693,000 people to flee from Burma to Bangladesh. These new arrivals join an estimated 212,500 predominantly Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh who have fled previous outbreaks of violence in Burma, bringing the total number of Burmese refugees in Bangladesh to more than 905,000 people.
- On October 18, 2017, U.S. Ambassador Scot A. Marciel reissued a disaster declaration for Burma due to the ongoing complex emergency. USAID/OFDA staff and State/PRM regional refugee coordinators are coordinating with humanitarian partners in Burma and Bangladesh to assess humanitarian conditions, identify response gaps, and recommend response priorities.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA RESPONSE IN FY 2017¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
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
Save the Children/U.S. (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
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$7,725,661
USAID/FFP³			
CARE	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Bangladesh	\$119,046
UNICEF	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Rakhine	\$550,586
	Complementary Services: Nutrition	Rakhine	\$616,338
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food	Kachin	\$4,604,924
	Local and Regional Procurement	Kachin, Rakhine, Shan	\$7,395,076
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food	Bangladesh	\$1,500,000
	Food Vouchers	Bangladesh	\$1,000,000

	Local and Regional Procurement	Bangladesh	\$3,500,000
	Complementary Services: Logistics Support and Relief Commodities; Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Bangladesh	\$1,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$20,285,970
STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Humanitarian Assistance	Burma, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Thailand	\$30,170,793
International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$2,280,000
IOM	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh, Thailand	\$23,791,691
UNICEF	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$2,250,000
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$12,500,000
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance	Southeast Asia	\$4,810,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$75,802,484
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA RESPONSE IN FY 2017			\$103,814,115

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA RESPONSE IN FY 2018¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
American Refugee Committee	Health, Protection, WASH	Rakhine	\$817,486
DRC	ERMS, Protection	Kachin, Rakhine, Shan	\$1,000,000
Metta Foundation	Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Kachin, Shan	\$1,000,000
Norwegian Refugee Council	ERMS, Multipurpose Cash Assistance	Rakhine	\$580,267
SC/US	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, WASH	Rakhine	\$1,434,292
Solidarités International	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Kachin, Rakhine	\$1,500,000
UNICEF	Health, Protection, WASH	Kachin, Rakhine, Shan	\$3,503,916
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Protection, WASH	Rakhine	\$747,112
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING			\$10,583,073
USAID/FFP³			
UNICEF	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Bangladesh	\$2,636,334
	Local and Regional Procurement	Bangladesh	\$189,000
	Complementary Services: Nutrition	Bangladesh	\$4,737,540
WFP	Local and Regional Procurement	Bangladesh	\$11,112,710
	Complementary Services: ERMS	Bangladesh	\$3,067,290
	Food Vouchers	Bangladesh	\$4,000,000
	Complementary Services: Logistics Support and Relief Commodities; Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Bangladesh	\$220,000
	Emergency Food Assistance and Nutrition Support	Bangladesh	\$30,000,000
	Emergency Food Assistance and Nutrition Support	Burma	\$7,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING			\$62,962,874

STATE/PRM			
Implementing Partners	Humanitarian Assistance	Thailand	\$17,648,610
IOM	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$43,400,000
UNICEF	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$27,300,000
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$26,600,000
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance	Burma and Region	\$7,100,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$122,048,610
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$195,594,557
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018			\$299,408,672

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. USAID/FFP and State/PRM funding includes funding for both Burmese refugees and asylum seekers in the region, as well as IDPs inside Burma.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents publicly announced funding as of May 15, 2018.

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

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.
- 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 or +1.202.661.7710.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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>