ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

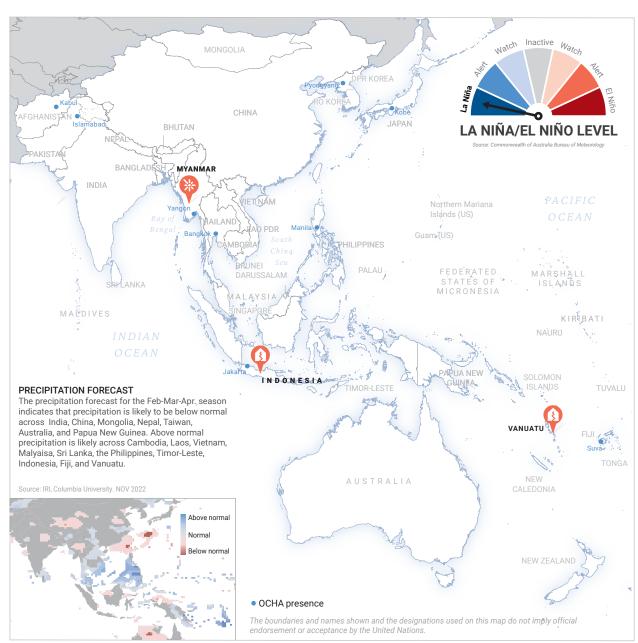
Weekly Regional Humanitarian Snapshot

INDONESIA

A 7.5 magnitude earthquake struck in the early hours of 10 January 148 km northwest of Maluku Tenggara Barat, Maluku Province, at the depth of 131km. A tsunami warning was issued immediately for the areas of Maluku Province and Southeast Sulawesi. then was lifted following an insignificant tsunami less than one meter high. Local authorities reported a dozen damaged houses and several people injured due to the earthquake. While field assessments are ongoing and aftershocks continue, no major impacts have yet been reported.1

VANUATU

A 7.0 magnitude earthquake followed by a number of aftershocks struck in near the coast of Vanuatu in the early hours of 9 January 2023, with an epicentre 23 km west-north-west of Port Olry on the island of Santo, at a depth of about 28 km. According to national disaster management authorities, no significant damages or casualties were reported as of the time of reporting.²



MYANMAR

In Rakhine and southern Chin an informal ceasefire agreement between the Arakan Army (AA) and the Myanmar Armed Forces (MAF) continues to hold but remains very fragile. Transportation of goods and civilian movement have been restored along the main roads and rivers, although the road between Rathedaung and Ponnagyun townships is still closed, and checkpoints from both sides remain in place. The delivery of food, nutrition, health, protection, education, WASH and other humanitarian assistance to affected and displaced people has also gradually resumed in Rakhine with the granting of Travel Authorizations (TAs) after months of disruptions. However, access to eight restricted townships is currently confined to the urban areas. More than 16,000 people remain displaced in Rakhine and Paletwa township in southern Chin due to the most recent AA-MAF fighting, bringing the total number of remaining IDPs from past and present AA-MAF conflict to more than 89,000.

In other parts of the country, particularly in the Northwest and Southeast, heavy fighting, tight security, access restrictions, and threats against aid workers continue to endanger lives, drive new displacement, and hamper humanitarian operations. By the end of 2022, more than 1.5 million people remained displaced across the country, living in undignified conditions and in desperate need.³