



Myanmar

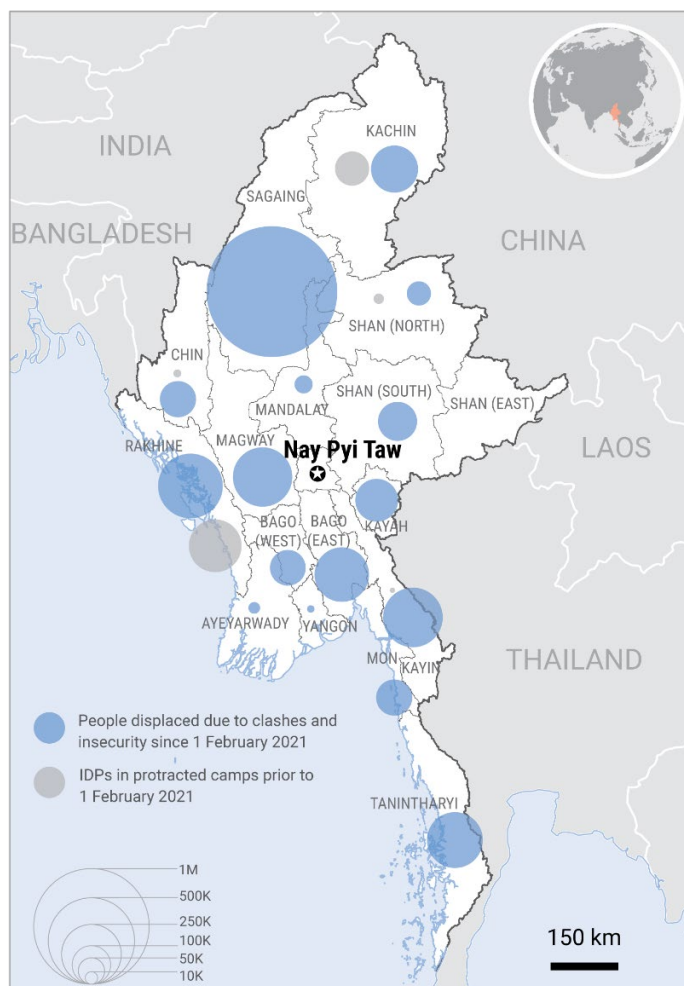
Humanitarian Update No. 50

17 November 2025

This independent update, covering humanitarian developments up to 16 November 2025, is produced by OCHA Myanmar under its global mandate, in collaboration with the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group and UN agencies. Response figures are based on self-reporting by organizations to clusters.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **People across Myanmar continue to face the compounded effects of multiple crises**, including ongoing conflict, seasonal flooding, and the devastating earthquake that struck in March 2025.
- **Hostilities between the Myanmar Armed Forces and various non-state armed groups persist** across several states and regions. Daily incidents involving artillery shelling, armed clashes, and shifting front lines continue to result in civilian harm and widespread displacement.
- As of November 2025, **nearly 3.6 million people are estimated to be internally displaced nationwide**. Renewed fighting in October and early November has forced additional families to flee their homes, exacerbating humanitarian needs.
- **Myanmar remains classified as a hunger hotspot of “very high concern”** in the latest global food security report. In Rakhine State, the nutrition situation is projected to deteriorate rapidly, particularly in Maungdaw and Buthidaung townships.
- **Landmines and explosive ordnance: two civilian casualties are recorded each day in Myanmar**, highlighting the continued need for risk education and clearance efforts.
- With less than two months remaining in the year, the 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan (HNRP) is severely underfunded, with **only 15 per cent of required resources received**. This funding gap threatens the delivery of life-saving assistance to millions in need.



KEY FIGURES

19.9M

People in need in 2025

5.5M

People targeted in 2025

\$1.1B

Required for 2025 HNRP

15% FUNDED

The 2025 HNRP has received \$174M against the \$1.1B appeal.

2M

Additional people in need after the earthquakes

1.1M

People targeted for earthquake response

\$275M

Required for earthquake response, including early recovery

70% FUNDED

Earthquake addendum has received \$191M against the \$275M appeal.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Conflict continues to impact civilians and deepen humanitarian needs

Civilians across Myanmar continue to be affected by hostilities between the Myanmar Armed Forces and various non-state armed groups. The ongoing conflict, coupled with displacement, insecurity, and access constraints, is driving significant humanitarian needs.

Hostilities persist across multiple states and regions, particularly in the Northwest, Rakhine, and Southeast, with continued reports of clashes and aerial attacks. Civilian casualties, displacement, and incidents are raising concerns under international humanitarian law.

As of November 2025, an estimated 3.6 million people are displaced across Myanmar—the highest figure on record. Of these, 1.7 million are located in the hardest-hit regions of the Northwest, Rakhine, and Southeast.

Many displaced families have fled multiple times and now reside in informal shelters with limited access to essential services such as food, healthcare, and clean water. Protection risks are rising, and community resilience is under severe strain.

In the first half of 2025, Myanmar [ranked second globally for conflict intensity](#) and fourth most dangerous country for civilians, with over half the population exposed to conflict. Field reports from recent weeks suggest a continued deterioration in conditions for civilians in affected areas.

In Sagaing Region, one of the most impacted areas in northwestern Myanmar, armed clashes have displaced over 14,600 people in Chaung-U and Monywa townships since early October, and around 2,000 people in Kale Township since mid-October. Road closures and ongoing fighting have left many stranded in insecure areas. In Tamu Township, over 6,000 displaced people sheltering in forested areas face critical shortages of food and medicine, with approximately 1,500 individuals, including children, pregnant women, and those with chronic illnesses, urgently needing assistance.

Widespread bombardment reportedly destroyed at least 1,760 houses, along with several monasteries and school buildings, across Chaung-U, Natogyi, Taungtha, and Wetlet townships in Mandalay and Sagaing regions. Civilian casualties in October were significant, including at least 25 reported deaths and 55 injuries from aerial bombing in Chaung-U Township on 6 October during the candle lighting festival.

In southeastern Myanmar, insecurity persists across all states and regions. In Kayin State, intensified clashes in Hpapun, Kawkaik, and Myawaddy townships have forced more than 3,400 people from Lay Kay Kaw Town and surrounding areas to flee since late September, many of whom remain unable to return home. In Southern Shan State, renewed fighting in Pekon and Pinlaung townships near the Kayah border has displaced over 3,000 people to safer areas since mid-October. In Tanintharyi Region, escalated violence on 10 October prompted residents in Dawei Township to flee, with more than 350 people reportedly sheltering in forested areas. In Mon State, incidents of armed violence on 9 October reportedly resulted in the deaths of 5 children and injuries to 12 others in Bilin Township.

Reports are being received daily of conflict from multiple areas across the country. In Rakhine State, artillery shelling reportedly struck a village in Pauktaw Township on 29 October, killing a child and injuring four other civilians. In Chin State, airstrikes in Mindat and Tedim townships on 27 and 28 October reportedly injured five civilians. In Magway Region, an airstrike in Pauk Township on 2 November reportedly injured five civilians, including a child. In Mandalay Region, attacks involving motorized paragliders in Mahlaing Township on 27 October reportedly injured two civilians and damaged several houses.

As the human toll of the conflict continues to rise, all parties to the conflict are urged to take all feasible measures to protect civilians and civilian infrastructure, in accordance with their obligations under international humanitarian law.

Food Security: Myanmar ranks as a hunger hotspot of “very high concern.”

Myanmar has been classified as one of six hunger hotspots of “very high concern” in the latest [Hunger Hotspot](#) report published on 11 November by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP). The report warns that acute food insecurity is deepening in 16 countries, with Myanmar among those facing the most severe risks.

Ongoing armed conflict, a worsening economic crisis, and the impact of monsoon flooding, resulting in substantial livelihood losses—are expected to sustain persistently high levels of acute food insecurity in Myanmar. Between September and October 2025, an estimated 11.8 million people (22 per cent of the population) faced high levels of acute food insecurity, including 1 million people at emergency levels.

In Myanmar, funding shortfalls, extreme access constraints and the impact of monsoon flooding, which resulted in substantial livelihood losses, are further aggravating the crisis. Some 11.8 million people (22 per cent of the total population) faced high levels of acute food insecurity between September and October 2025, including 1 million people at emergency level.

The situation is further compounded by funding shortfalls and extreme access constraints, particularly in conflict-affected areas. In northern Rakhine, the nutrition outlook is especially concerning, with projections indicating a deterioration to Critical Phase 4 in Maungdaw Township and Catastrophe Phase 5 in Buthidaung Township between November 2025 and May 2026.

Economic pressures continue to erode household purchasing power. Annual inflation is expected to remain high at around 31 per cent for the 2025/2026 financial year, with food prices rising steeply in areas affected by conflict. Domestic supply shocks—driven by insecurity and currency weakness—are likely to keep prices elevated.

The March 2025 earthquake, which caused an estimated US\$11 billion in economic losses (14 per cent of GDP) and a 2.5 per cent contraction in national output, has added further strain to household food security.

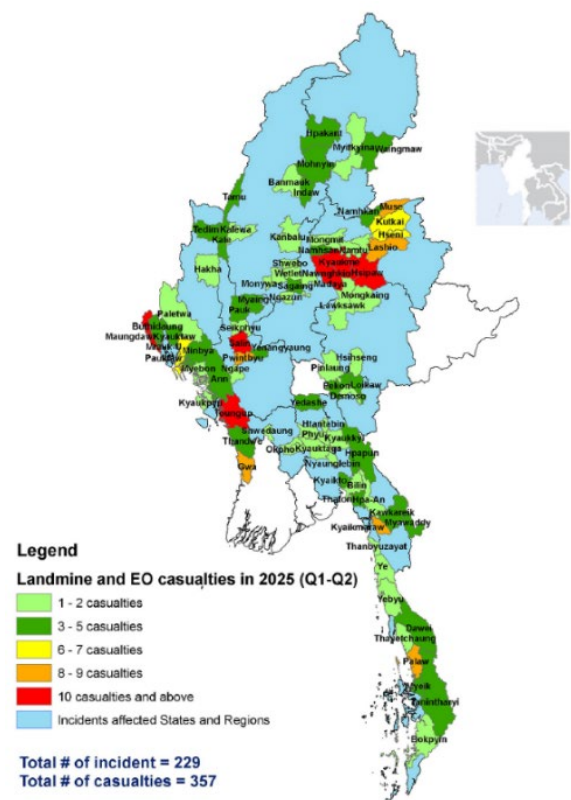
According to the report, 410,000 children under five and pregnant and breastfeeding women are projected to face acute malnutrition between June 2025 and May 2026, underscoring the urgent need for sustained nutrition support and humanitarian access.

Landmines and Explosive Ordnance: two civilian casualties reported daily in Myanmar

Monitoring of landmine and other explosive ordnance (EO) incidents during the first half of 2025 recorded [357 civilian casualties across Myanmar](#)—representing 33 per cent of the total reported in 2024 (1,082 cases).

Shan State experienced the highest impact, with 68 incidents resulting in 103 casualties (29 per cent), followed by Rakhine State with 58 incidents and 87 casualties (24 per cent), and Magway Region with 27 incidents and 43 casualties (12 per cent). The remaining states and regions collectively accounted for 35 per cent of the total.

Children made up 27 per cent of all casualties, underscoring the continued threat that landmines and EO pose to the most vulnerable populations. These figures reflect civilian casualties only.



Humanitarian response reaches 5 million people: sustained support remains a priority

During the first three quarters of 2025, humanitarian partners reached 75 per cent of the 6.7 million people targeted under the 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan and the earthquake response. Due to underfunding, access constraints, and additional shocks driving increased needs, the assistance provided was often less comprehensive and less consistent than originally planned. Strengthening the quality, quantity, and regularity of humanitarian support—particularly in hard-to-reach areas—remains a top priority.

While there have been modest access improvements in 2025, including localized progress to facilitate the earthquake response in Mandalay and Sagaing, the overall access environment remains heavily constrained. This underscores the need for strong reliance on and risk-sharing with local responders, who continue to serve as the backbone of the humanitarian response.

Deployment of Gwyn Lewis as ad interim Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Myanmar

On 22 October, the United Nations confirmed the deployment of Ms. Gwyn Lewis of Ireland as the ad interim United Nations Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC a.i.) in Myanmar, effective until further notice.

Ms. Lewis brings over 25 years of experience in international development, peacebuilding, and humanitarian affairs, with a strong track record both within the UN system and in broader international contexts. Prior to her deployment to Myanmar, Ms. Lewis served as the UN Resident Coordinator in Bangladesh, where she led coordination efforts across a range of development and humanitarian priorities. Her leadership comes at a critical time for Myanmar, as the UN and partners continue to respond to complex and evolving humanitarian needs across the country.

Advancing the Humanitarian Reset in Myanmar: local leadership and simplifying coordination

The evolving humanitarian landscape in Myanmar calls for a strategic shift in how aid is delivered. In line with the global Humanitarian Reset agenda, there is a growing emphasis on strengthening local leadership, simplifying coordination structures, and ensuring that resources are better aligned with the needs and priorities of affected communities.

The Myanmar Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) is actively advancing a key component of this reset: the development of a more agile, locally driven coordination system. A dedicated HCT Task Team, comprising local actors, international NGOs, UN agencies, and donors conducted a nationwide survey involving 252 respondents from local and national organizations. The survey aimed to assess the current coordination structure and reflects a broader commitment to inclusive and accountable humanitarian action, rooted in the leadership and expertise of frontline responders.



Leaflets highlighting the rights of people receiving assistance are read by earthquake-affected women during a distribution in Mandalay Region. (Photo: OCHA)

Findings from the survey will inform recommendations to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the coordination system. The Task Team's recommendations will focus on three key areas: localization, accountability to affected people, and the efficiency of shared services. In addition, a series of coordination review workshops will be held to develop actionable steps toward a more streamlined, inclusive, and context-adapted coordination model.

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