



# Myanmar CO Humanitarian Situation Report 2



## SITUATION IN NUMBERS

**Date: 8 August 2015**

**Over 200,000 children**

affected out of **almost 590,000**  
total population affected by the floods  
(Government, Relief and Resettlement Department data,  
07 August 2015)

**This includes all known affected  
populations from July and August, as of 7  
August.**

**UNICEF Appeal for the floods  
intervention**

**US\$ 9.4 million**

## Highlights

- With Government leading the response to the flood affected areas, UNICEF has already provided immediate relief and support to benefit an estimated 60,000 affected children across the country.
- As flood levels are slowly receding in the affected areas, a clearer picture of the affected population and their immediate and long-term needs is emerging.
- In addition, to meeting immediate humanitarian needs, the Government of Myanmar and humanitarian actors are preparing to re-focus on supporting early recovery efforts.
- In Myanmar's delta region, water levels are rising, increasing the number of total affected children significantly.
- UNICEF is appealing for funds of US\$9.4 million to support the humanitarian response and early recovery for population affected by the floods over the coming six months.

## Situation Overview

Children and families in Myanmar have been suffering the devastation brought by floods after weeks of monsoon rains, exacerbated by cyclone Komen that made landfall in neighbouring Bangladesh on 30 July. As of 07 August, the floods have killed at least 89 people and have affected almost 590,000 people across the country, among them over 200,000 children. The number of affected people reported by the Government has doubled since the last SitRep as new data is emerging, including from the Ayeyarwady and Bago Regions where people have moved to higher ground as a government-led preparedness measure because of potential flooding as flood water is moving downstream. Assessments are under-way to assess the severity of the displacement and needs of affected populations. In the four states and regions, Chin, Magway, Sagaing and Rakhine, declared natural disaster zones, the flooding has hit children and families who are already among the most vulnerable in the country. Chin and Rakhine are the two poorest states and over one-third of all poor people in Myanmar live in Magway, Sagaing, Ayeyarwady and Bago (Integrated Household Living Conditions Assessment, 2009-2010; Census 2014).

### Estimated Affected Population

(Estimates calculated based on figures from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief & Resettlement, 07 August 2015)

Start of humanitarian response: 31 July 2015 with the Government's announcement of natural disaster zones

|                              | Total   | Male    | Female  |
|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Total Affected Population    | 589,961 | 284,302 | 305,659 |
| Children Affected (Under 18) | 201,295 | 97,004  | 104,291 |
| Children Under Five          | 52,448  | 25,274  | 27,173  |
| School-Aged Children         | 148,847 | 71,729  | 77,118  |
| Pregnant Women               | 11,209  |         |         |
| Lactating Women              | 10,619  |         |         |

## Humanitarian Needs

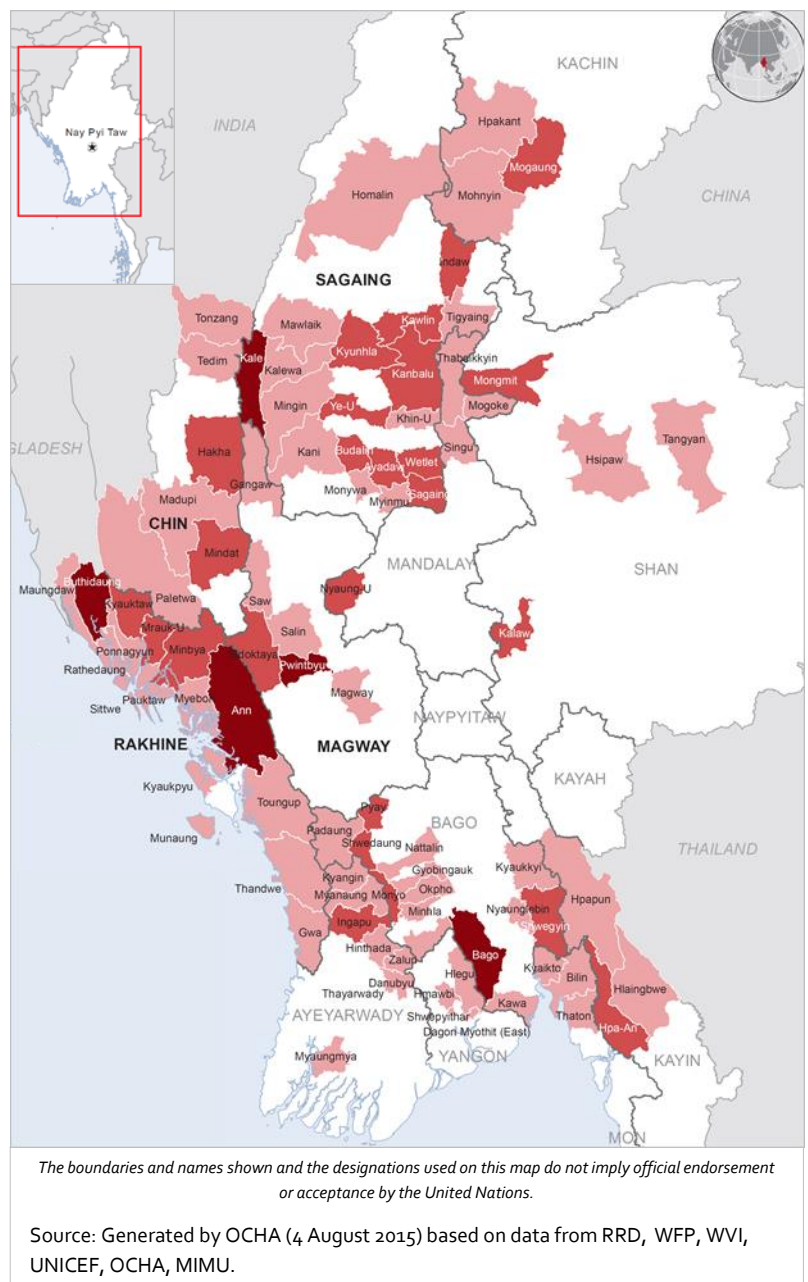
The most urgent needs are food, safe and clean water, sanitation, shelter and access to emergency health care and psycho-social support for children. Floods and landslides have contaminated water and destroyed houses, schools and health facilities, displacing tens of thousands people and cutting off their access to basic services. Damaged roads and bridges block assessment teams and emergency aid from reaching families in large swaths of affected areas. The first of a series of multi-sectoral rapid needs assessments started on 7 August and will provide a clear picture of the immediate and long-term needs of the affected populations. UNICEF staff have joined teams dispatched to Bago and Ayeyarwady to assess the needs of the most recent affected populations. Initial reports from across the country indicate risks of increased food insecurity in the coming months as the flooding has destroyed crops, threatening those children already suffering from both acute and chronic malnutrition across the country. Immediate livelihoods support is critical to mitigate food shortages as there is only a short window for farmers to receive seeds and re-plant crops to avoid missing the complete planting season.

With Government leading the response, UNICEF is working to reach all affected children in Myanmar. UNICEF has provided immediate relief through our field offices across the country, dispatching water purification tablets and other essential water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and health supplies. In coordination with Government and our humanitarian partners, we are providing frontline assistance to assess and respond to the urgent needs of children in education, health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, and child protection.

## Humanitarian leadership and coordination

The Government of Myanmar has taken a leadership role in the response, providing food, building materials, temporary shelters, health care and essential relief items. On 31 July, the Government of Myanmar declared Rakhine, Chin, Sagaing and Magway as natural disaster zones. UNICEF is liaising closely with Government counterparts at all levels to provide all assistance possible. At the request of the Government, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) is coordinating a multi-sectoral rapid needs assessment in the worst affected areas, conducted jointly by Government, UN agencies and international and national NGOs. UNICEF is joining assessment teams across the country and is leading the assessment in Chin State, the poorest amongst the states and regions in the country. Its focus will be two-fold, to identify critical humanitarian and recovery needs and to provide guidance for future recovery plans led by the Government.

At national and sub-national levels, UNICEF is leading the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) cluster, nutrition sector and child protection sub-sector, and co-leading the education sector together with Save the Children. These pre-existing structures are being leveraged to ensure collaboration with Government, UN agencies and international and national NGOs to contribute to a quick, efficient and effective response.



## Humanitarian Strategy

Government leadership is evident in steering the response at union, state and region, and township levels, with an increasing focus on supporting recovery of affected populations. The Government has activated its Emergency Operations Centre to strengthen coordination and response. With Government at the helm, UNICEF is providing support through the sectors/clusters already in place and in coordination with all partners to ensure the survival, protection and well-being of all affected children.

## UNICEF's response to date...

Across the country, UNICEF has been providing aid and assistance to populations affected by the flooding, especially in the four most affected states and regions in response to the devastation after Cyclone Komen. As the situation in many parts of the country is normalising and flood levels are slowly receding in Chin, Rakhine, Sagaing and Magway, UNICEF continues to support needs assessments and provide relief goods. In those flood-affected areas contaminated by land mines and unexploded ordinances in Bago, Kayin and Chin, UNICEF and its partners are kick-starting emergency mine-risk education to raise awareness of how to avoid the dangers posed by land mines and unexploded ordinances.

### ...in Chin

- Landslides and floods have interrupted transport to Hakha, the state capital, and Chin State as a whole, causing extreme food shortage. Lack of food on the markets is causing more and more people to seek refuge in emergency shelters. The road connection between Hakha and Kalay has only just been re-established, opening a badly needed supply line to the affected children.
- UNICEF has provided essential nutrition supplies in stock in Chin to the Chin State Health Department to respond to the increasing food insecurity coupled with existing high rates of malnutrition.
- UNICEF continues to liaise closely with authorities at state and township-level and is taking a lead role in coordinating UN, INGOs and NGOs active in Chin.

### ...in Rakhine

- As flood levels recede, affected populations are slowly starting to return to their villages and evacuation centres are being closed. Once returned, populations continue to face shortage of fresh water (as water sources have been contaminated by saline water) damaged sanitation facilities, and increasing food insecurity as crops have been destroyed. This further threatens many children in Rakhine, including those previously affected by the protracted humanitarian situation and those living in remote and isolated areas.
- UNICEF has dispatched four truckloads of essential water, sanitation and hygiene and child protection supplies, including child protection kits for individual children and 40 kits to set up child-friendly spaces for affected children and their families across Rakhine, and is helping to transport fresh water to areas where sea water has contaminated ponds.
- In Mrauk Oo, UNICEF helped supply drinking water for over 200 children living in institutional care who are in particular need of support.
- In partnership with BBC media action, UNICEF has developed key messages for communities to support the safety of women and children that are now being broadcast by local Rakhine radio stations.

### ...in Magway

- Schools, hospitals and clinics across the region have been badly damaged. In Pwint Phyu, the region's worst affected township, schools serving over 20,000 students were flooded.
- UNICEF has provided 1,500 additional hygiene re-fill kits (a total of 5,000 since the on-set of the crisis) and bleaching powder to clean contaminated wells enough to provide access to clean wells for over 65,000 people.
- A child-friendly space where affected children receive psycho-social support was set up by the Government, with assistance and training provided by UNICEF, the Myanmar Red Cross Society and Save the Children.
- Through our field presence, UNICEF continues to support the Government's coordination efforts and also established coordination links with emergency committees such as camp management, transportation and supply and logistics.

### ...in Sagaing

- As in other areas, schools and hospitals were badly affected. In Kalay, the General Hospital was flooded and medical supplies were lost, interrupting health services.

- As floods are receding, affected populations are slowly starting to return to their villages while many still remain in shelters, especially in Kalay, one of the worst affected townships in the country. In the shelters and across the region, water and sanitation is a major concern as sanitation facilities are not available or destroyed and wells have been contaminated.
- UNICEF provided bleaching powder enough to provide access to clean wells for over 145,000 people and hygiene kits that will benefit over 20,000 people.
- UNICEF continues to support the Government's coordination efforts and is liaising closely with emergency committees such as camp management, transportation and supply and logistics.

### ...in other affected areas

- As water is moving downstream, populations in Ayeyarwady and Bago are now more and more affected. Assessment teams including UNICEF staff were sent out yesterday to assess their needs.
- Reports from our field staff in Kachin, Shan and the South-East (Mon, Kayin, Tanintharyi) indicate that the situation is normalizing and affected populations are returning to their homes and that support is being provided by their state and region governments.
- In Kayin, all temporary emergency shelters have been closed today and the Government has distributed a two-week ration of water and food as well insecticide treated mosquito nets to families leaving the shelters. Township authorities have already received bleaching powder enough to clean wells that can serve over 40,000 people that had been provided by UNICEF to the State Government.
- In Moe Gaung Township, the worst affected township in Kachin, UNICEF has provided immediate assistance, including oral rehydration salts, zinc tablets and sanitation supplies.
- In Mon and Shan, UNICEF is collaborating with township education officials to distribute essential learning packages to children who have lost their school materials, to get them ready to return to school.
- UNICEF continues to liaise closely with state and region authorities across the country and is actively supporting the Government's recovery and rehabilitation and more long-term development efforts through our programmes of cooperation for young child survival and development, education, child protection, and social policy.

## Communications for Development (C4D)

Information, education and communication materials on how to provide psycho-social support and how to avoid health risks posed by unsafe water and sanitation facilities and debris have been distributed across the country. Radio spots with these key protection and safety messages continue to be frequently broadcasted (up to 3 times a day) across the country to an estimated 4.4 million people in affected areas, in Myanmar and other local languages.

## Funding\*

| Funding Requirements for a period of 6 months |                  |                  |                  |            |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------|
| Appeal Sector                                 | Requirements     | Funds received*  | Funding gap      |            |
|   |                  |                  | \$               | %          |
| WASH  | 4,400,000        | 2,528,846        | 1,871,154        | 43%        |
| Education                                     | 1,649,600        | 0                | 1,649,600        | 100%       |
| Health  | 1,500,000        | 50,000           | 1,450,000        | 97%        |
| Nutrition                                     | 500,000          | 0                | 500,000          | 100%       |
| Child Protection                              | 1,100,000        | 50,000           | 1,050,000        | 95%        |
| Programme Support                             | 311,950          | 0                | 311,950          | 100%       |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>9,461,550</b> | <b>2,628,846</b> | <b>6,832,704</b> | <b>72%</b> |

\*Funding requirements are based on the most reliable, up-to-date information available but subject to change as the situation evolves. The UNICEF appeal is part of a larger UN wide appeal of US\$47 million for the emergency response. Initial funding from the UN Central Emergency Response funds (CERF) of US\$ 9,161,457 was announced on 7 August, of which UNICEF has received US\$2.3 million for WASH programmes. Additionally US\$100,000 were received from the Japanese National Committee. The appeal of US\$9.4 million for UNICEF corresponds to the floods intervention only and is additional to the global humanitarian appeal of UNICEF Myanmar of US\$ 24 million.

## Next SitRep: 12 August 2015

UNICEF Myanmar Media Centre: [http://www.unicef.org/myanmar/media\\_24458.html](http://www.unicef.org/myanmar/media_24458.html)

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**Who to  
contact for  
further  
information:**

**Alison Rhodes**  
Chief of Advocacy, Partnerships and  
Communications  
UNICEF Myanmar  
Tel: +95-1 230 5960-69  
Email: [arhodes@unicef.org](mailto:arhodes@unicef.org)

**Shalini Bahuguna**  
Deputy Representative  
UNICEF Myanmar  
Tel: +95-1 230 5960-69  
Email: [sbahuguna@unicef.org](mailto:sbahuguna@unicef.org)

**Penelope Campbell**  
Chief of Young Child Survival and  
Development/Emergency coordinator  
UNICEF Myanmar,  
Tel: +95-1 230 5960-69  
Email: [pcampbell@unicef.org](mailto:pcampbell@unicef.org)