Myanmar: Snapshot of Humanitarian Issues (16 October 2015)



FLOODING

Heavy rains since June 2015 caused floods and landslides in several parts of Myanmar. On 30 July, Cyclone Komen made landfall in Bangladesh, bringing strong winds and additional heavy rains to Myanmar. This resulted in widespread flooding across 12 of the country's 14 states and regions, temporarily displacing about 1.7 million people. Renewed flooding was reported in Sagaing Region and Shan State in October following consecutive days of heavy rains. Humanitarian and development partners have been supporting the government to address the immediate humanitarian needs of 580,000 people and to support the recovery of all flood-affected communities. Continued support is needed to help people rebuild their livelihoods, especially in rural areas where vast areas of farmland were destroyed. The Government of Myanmar is leading response and recovery efforts with support from national and international partners.

KACHIN AND SHAN NORTH

Over four years since the conflict erupted again in Kachin and northern Shan states, over 100,000 people remain displaced. Recent armed clashes led to new displacement in the Sumprabum and Mansi areas. Fighting has subsided in many parts of the Kokang Self-Administered Zone and humanitarian access for international organizations has improved but remains restricted to some areas. According to the Government, of the 60,000 people who fled from Kokang to China in February and March 2015, an estimated 8,000 remain in China while the rest have returned.

RAKHINE STATE

In Rakhine State, ongoing intercommunal tensions continue to affect both displaced people in camps and people in surrounding communities. In May 2015, the Government announced that it was starting a phased plan to end displacement. The first phase of return and relocation resulted in about 10,000 people moving out of long-houses and into individual homes. Meanwhile, some 130,000 displaced people in Rakhine remain confined to camps where they remain largely dependent on humanitarian aid. Many Muslims, both in camps and in isolated villages, do not have adequate access to healthcare, education and other basic services due to ongoing restrictions on their freedom of movement.

