



Key points

- Humanitarian needs in Myanmar continue to rise sharply since February 2021 as a result of political and economic upheaval and increased conflict.
- Myanmar is facing a rapidly growing food security crisis, with more than 1 in 4 people already food insecure.
- Since January 2022, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has assisted 17 244 households (85 000 people) through the distribution of agricultural inputs along with the implementation of cash and voucher assistance, enabling them to increase food production and meet their basic needs.

Challenges facing food security and agriculture

Agriculture is a source of livelihoods for nearly 70 percent of the population in Myanmar. Ongoing violence, economic crisis, recurrent climate-induced shocks and population displacement, among other factors, are disrupting the national food system. The cost of fertilizers is currently four times higher compared with 2019 and quality seeds are increasingly becoming unavailable or unaffordable, particularly affecting cereal producers. According to the findings of the food security and livelihoods assessment* that was conducted by FAO and the World Food Programme (WFP) in September 2022, 54 percent of farmers reported a reduction in their expected harvest. Furthermore, 47 percent of livestock keepers reported a decrease in their livestock assets and 54 percent reported that they are facing increasing challenges in accessing animal feed.

As a result, food production is declining and food prices are soaring, leading to unprecedented levels of food insecurity with 53 percent of households adopting negative coping mechanisms. Against this backdrop, providing farmers with seeds and fertilizers during the winter planting season (November–December) represents a critical opportunity to enable vulnerable households to quickly produce their own food and increase their self-reliance.

In numbers



15.2 million* people facing moderate or severe food insecurity



+1.3 million¹ internally displaced people



54%* of farmers expect a decrease in their harvest



USD 15.9 million still needed by FAO under the 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan

USD 3.8 million is urgently needed to provide smallholder farmers with humanitarian agricultural aid during the winter planting season. Vegetable seeds and fertilizers would enable them to produce food for themselves and their communities, while strengthening their livelihoods' resilience.

* FAO and WFP. 2022. Myanmar: DIEM-Monitoring assessments results (September 2022). In: *FAO Data in Emergencies Hub*. Rome. Cited 12 October 2022. <https://data-in-emergencies.fao.org>

1 UNHCR. 2022. Myanmar emergency overview map. In: *Global Focus*. Geneva. Cited 12 October 2022. <https://reporting.unhcr.org/document/3248>

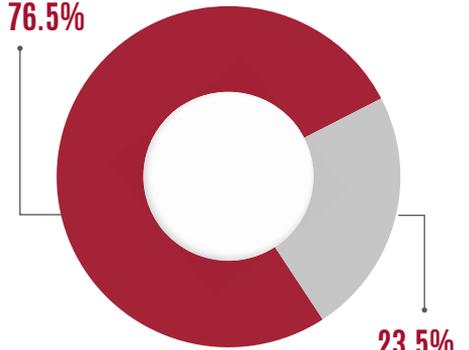


Funding

FUNDING GAP

USD 15.9 million

76.5%



23.5%

FUNDING TO DATE

USD 4.9 million

Response to date (January–September 2022)

- Conducted two food security and livelihoods assessments in May 2022 and September 2022, in partnership with WFP.
- Provided 16 695 households (82 491 people) with 108 528 face masks, 63 264 soaps, 639 tonnes of fertilizer, 5.5 tonnes of maize seed, 134 tonnes of paddy seed and 904 kg of vegetable seed, and raised their awareness on COVID-19 prevention measures.
- Provided multipurpose cash assistance to 12 950 households, transferring approximately USD 1 161 870.
- Engaged 549 households in cash-for-work activities, distributing approximately USD 60 000.

Planned response (October–December 2022)

- Provide 13 600 households (68 000 people) with 1.6 tonnes of vegetable seed.
- Provide 7 800 livestock-keeping households with 1 500 tonnes of animal feed.
- Provide 22 270 households (111 350 people) with 693 tonnes of compound fertilizer.
- Provide 2 000 households (10 000 people) with multipurpose cash assistance (USD 57 per household).
- Facilitate capacity-building trainings and support six women's groups to improve their agricultural enterprises.
- Train 422 farmer trainers (e.g. para-technicians and community animal health workers) on good agricultural production and livestock management practices.
- Raise the awareness of 22 270 households on COVID-19 prevention measures and provide them with soap and face masks.
- Disseminate dietary guidelines for pregnant and lactating women, and children under five years of age, and provide counseling where possible.



FAO requires

USD 20.8 million



to assist

128 822 households

(694 110 people)

Resource partners

The Governments of Belgium and Japan, the Central Emergency Response Fund and FAO internal funds.

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