Myanmar • Displacement in Rakhine State Situation Report No. 3 28 June 2012



This report is produced by OCHA, on behalf of the Humanitarian Coordinator, in collaboration with humanitarian partners. It was issued by OCHA Myanmar Country Office. It covers the period from 21 to 27 June. The next report will be issued depending on availability of information.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- The overall security situation is reported to be stable. Emergency rule and curfew remain in place in six Townships across Rakhine State.
- According to official figures, 78 people are dead, 87 injured and 3,000 residential buildings are damaged as of 24 June. Over 52,200 people remained newly displaced across Rakhine State. Humanitarian partners estimate that around 90,000 people are affected, including the newly displaced people.
- As of 25 June, WFP has provided 725 metric tons of food commodities (rice, pulses, oil and salt) to over 92,000 affected people in five townships, Sittwe, Pauktaw, Maungdaw, Rahtedaung and Buthidaung.
- A total of 14 representatives from six UN agencies, six INGOs and two donor agencies left for Sittwe on 27 June to take part in a mission organized by the Government to observe the situation in Rakhine State and to strengthen coordination with the State Government as a primary focal point for the response.
- The traffic on the road between Buthidaung and Maungdaw is interrupted due to a landslide.

II. Situation Overview

The security situation is reported to be stable. Emergency rule and curfew remain in place in six Townships across Rakhine State, where communal violence occurred since the beginning of June, following the rape and murder of an ethnic Rakhine woman on 28 May and the killing of 10 people by unidentified mob in Tunggup on 3 June.

Despite no major disturbances since 24 June, small-scale incidents have been reported in some remote areas. Security measures continue to be in place as tension between the two communities reportedly remains high in many areas including in Sittwe, Maungdaw and Rathedaung.

The latest official figures released by the Ministry of Information indicate that, as of 24 June, about 100 communal attacks occurred in Rakhine State, resulting in 78 deaths. A total of 87 people, including two security personnel, are injured and over 3,000 residential buildings damaged. According to the Rakhine State Government, over 52,200 people remain newly displaced across Rakhine State. Humanitarian partners estimate that around 90,000 people, including the newly displaced people, are affected by the disturbances and in need of assistance.

The Union Government organized a meeting in Naypyitaw on 25 June, which was chaired by the Minister for Border Affairs and attended by the Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement and the Minister for Immigration and Population, to discuss the situation in Rakhine State with international humanitarian partners. The UN Humanitarian Coordinator (HC), accompanied by representatives of six humanitarian agencies, attended the meeting in which he reiterated the humanitarian community's commitment to humanitarian principles, impartiality in particular, and balanced aid distribution. During the meeting, the Government reaffirmed their continued support to the agencies for their work and to conduct rapid needs assessment and resume larger-scale activities.

A total of 14 representatives from six UN agencies, six INGOs and two donor agencies left for Sittwe on 27 June to take part in a mission organized by the Government. The mission aims to observe the situation and to strengthen coordination with the State Government as a primary focal point for the response.

On 27 June, the jetty in Buthidaung was submerged due to floods and the traffic of boats was suspended. As of 28 June, the water has started receding.

The traffic on the road between Buthidaung and Maungdaw is interrupted due to a landslide.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

The Union Government, through the Rakhine State Government, has been providing life-saving assistance since the beginning of the violence. Preliminary information indicates that Sittwe, Maungdaw and Rathedaung are the priority areas for intervention. Urgent needs include shelter, food, medical supplies, education materials and WASH facilities.

The Rakhine State Fire Service Department, with support from Myanmar Red Cross Society volunteers, are carrying out search and rescue activities as well as cleaning the affected sites.

UN agencies and INGOs have been assisting the affected people in the accessible areas since 12 June. Staff are also being redeployed to Rakhine State to resume relief activities. At the request of the Government, MRCS has deployed 168 Red Cross volunteers to assist the IDPs with basic health care and restoring family links services (RFL).

UN agencies, INGOs and MRCS/ICRC have deployed technical staff, both national and international who are coordinating with the local authorities and staff remaining in Rakhine State to carry out initial multi-sectoral needs assessments to inform the planning of a coordinated response.

Assessments are being carried out as planned, with locations divided among the agencies and using a standard multi-sectoral rapid assessment format that has been translated into Myanmar. To date, over 50 locations have been visited by the assessment teams.

OCHA and the Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU) are working together on data collection and processing.



- As of 25 June, WFP has provided 725 metric tons of food commodities (rice, pulses, oil and salt) to over 92,000 affected people in five townships, Sittwe, Pauktaw, Maungdaw, Rahtedaung and Buthidaung.
- An additional 440 MT of mixed commodities and 1,000 MT of rice have been dispatched to Sittwe for further distribution. WFP plans to increase its logistics capacity through contracting of four additional trucks in Sittwe and arrangements are underway to increase its storage capacity.

725 MT of food provided to 92,000 affected people.

WFP reopened its sub-office in Maungdaw on 22 June with the presence of an international staff.



Health

Mobile medical teams from the Military, UNFPA and the Myanmar Medical Association (MMA) continue to provide primary health care services to the camps in Rathedaung, Sittwe and Buthidaung. UNFPA also supported MMA with additional medical supplies and equipment for the next three months to strengthen the capacity of their five mobile clinics in Sittwe and

- Rathedaung. Six Emergency Reproductive Health kits have been delivered to cover the needs of 400 pregnant women and contraceptives for 1,500 women.
- WHO is working closely with local health authorities to monitor communicable diseases in all IDP camps in Rakhine State. No outbreak has been reported to date. WHO will send 10 Interagency Emergency Health Kits (IEHK) and 12 diarrheal kits to Sittwe, Ponagyun, Buthidaung, Maungdaw and Rathetaung within this week.
- Save the Children and Action Contre la Faim (ACF) have deployed experts to assess the nutrition situation in IDP camps.

Shelter and NFIs

- As of 23 June, the Government has established 82 camps in five townships. Additional shelter units
 are urgently needed in most IDP camps as the existing camps are already overcrowded.
- The Relief and Resettlement Department provided 800 temporary shelters to the camps in Sittwe, Maungdaw and Rathedaung.
- UNHCR distributed 200 family kits in Maungdaw on 24 June. A total of 2,000 family kits are stored in Sittwe and additional 7,000 kits are being shipped to Rakhine State.
- To date, MRCS has provided 806 mosquito nets, 748 blankets, 574 towels, 32 kitchen sets, 90 jerry cans, 32 tarpaulins, 45 mats and 434 buckets to IDPs in Maungdaw Township.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

MRCS's WASH team has arrived in Rakhine to assess the sanitary conditions in IDP camps. Two
emergency water treatment units will be installed in two camps in Sittwe in addition to the distribution
of 30,000 packets of oral rehydration salt (ORS) and 1,000 bars of soaps to the IDPs.

Protection

- A total of 13 children were reunited with their families through MRCS's Restoring Family Links (RFL) services.
- The Department of Social Welfare, under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, is
 providing psycho-social support in most of the IDP camps in Rakhine State. Malteser International
 plans to provide similar support in Sittwe, Maungdaw and Pauktaw.

IV. Coordination

- OCHA continues to organize coordination meetings in Yangon on an impromptu basis.
- OCHA has deployed one international and two national staff in Sittwe to establish contacts with local authorities, and coordinate the relief efforts. The first general coordination meeting in Sittwe was organized on 25 June with participation from the Government, UN agencies and I/NGOs.
- OCHA and UNHCR are coordinating UN and NGOs efforts.

V. Contact

Please contact:

Yangon: Barbara Manzi, Head of Office, UN-OCHA manzi@un.org

To be added or deleted from this Sit Rep mailing list, please e-mail: ochamyanmar@un.org