OVERVIEW

In Myanmar, increased armed conflict and monsoon floods continue to trigger new displacement and exacerbate humanitarian needs. According to the UN, over 1.9 million people remain displaced within the country, with 47 townships in the North-West and the South-East still under martial law. Airstrikes, indiscriminate shelling, landmines, widespread arson, forced recruitment and raids on civilian targets, including homes, schools, health facilities, places of worship, as well as villages and internally displaced people (IDP) sites continued. Heavy rains and flooding temporarily displaced thousands, mostly in the North-West and the South-East. Prolonged humanitarian access constraints are impacting the provision of protection and life-saving services and straining the resilience of affected communities.

In Thailand, according to the Royal Thai Government (RTG), as of 2 October, 7,259 refugees were sheltered in five Temporary Safety Areas (TSAs) across three districts (3,790 in Mae Sariang, 821 in Khun Yuam and 2,647 in Mueang) in Mae Hong Son Province. The conflict across the border in Kayah State reportedly subsided in early September and moved further away from the Thai-Myanmar border. In Mae Hong Son, the RTG recorded that a total of 2,673 individuals have returned to Myanmar since July 2023, including 2,130 in September. Further south, following fighting in the Tanintharyi region, the RTG reported 374 new arrivals between 20 and 22 September in Ranong Province who returned to Myanmar on 24 September. Humanitarian access to the TSAs remains limited and is granted on a case-by-case basis.

In India, around 50,600 individuals* from Myanmar’s North-West region have sought protection in the country since February 2021. Of this number, 5,438 individuals are in Delhi and have registered with UNHCR. The number of reported new arrivals to Manipur remains minimal. Due to the changing weather and frequent rains, health problems relating to common colds and fever have been reported among arrivals in the districts of South Mizoram. Community-based organisations (CBOs) and NGOs are facilitating patient referrals to public primary health centres. According to CBOs and humanitarian organizations on the ground, medicine and food are urgent needs.

*Estimates by the Operation Center for Displaced Persons, Ministry of Interior (OCDP/MOI). Around 35,000 refugees have reportedly returned to Myanmar.

KEY DISPLACEMENT FIGURES

♂ 95,600
Estimated refugee outflows to neighbouring countries since 1 February 2021*

♂ 1,670,200
Estimated total internally displaced persons (IDPs) within Myanmar, displaced since 1 February 2021

♂ 1,124,800
Refugees and asylum-seekers from Myanmar in neighbouring countries as of 30 June 2023

♂ 1,976,400
Estimated total internally displaced persons (IDPs) within Myanmar as of 2 October 2023
Estimated total number of IDPs in Myanmar reaches 1 million as of 2 October 2023.

**FORCED DISPLACEMENT TRENDS**

**New Arrivals to Thailand**

- March 2021: First reports of new arrivals to Thailand
- September 2022: Estimated total number of IDPs in Myanmar reaches 1 million

**New Arrivals to India**

- January 2022: $826M Myanmar HRP launched
- December 2022: Estimated refugee movements to India & Thailand since Feb. 2021 reaches 72,000
- January 2023: $764M Myanmar HRP launched
- May 2023: Cyclone Mocha hits coastal areas of Myanmar and Bangladesh
- October 2023: Inter-Agency Flash appeals launched Myanmar ($333M) & Bangladesh ($42M)

**Forced displacement within Myanmar**

- October 2023: High-level meeting on Rohingya refugees in Bangkok, Thailand
- October 2023: Estimated total number of IDPs in Myanmar reaches 1 million

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1. *Age and gender disaggregation is only available for 10% of the new arrivals who approached UNHCR in New Delhi.*

2. *Age disaggregation is only available for 24% of the overall IDP figure.*

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For feedback and clarifications, please write to UNHCR RBAP at <rbapdima@unhcr.org> and <rbapext@unhcr.org> To learn more, visit the Situation Myanmar Situation [unhcr.org](http://unhcr.org) Operational Data Portal.
# Myanmar Emergency Update as of 2 October 2023

**UNHCR REGIONAL BUREAU FOR ASIA AND PACIFIC (RBAP)**

**MYANMAR**

## Core Relief Items (CRIs)

In **Myanmar**, scaling up the provision of core relief items (CRIs) to meet basic needs and maintain a minimum standard of living for IDPs remains a priority since most people often leave behind their possessions during flight. UNHCR and partners in Myanmar reached 34,000 people (7,575 families) with CRIs in Rakhine (Central), Rakhine (North), Kachin, Shan (North), Shan (South), Kayah, Kayin and Mon States:

- **Rakhine State (North)**: 5,800 people (1,600 families)
- **Rakhine State (Central)**: 18,350 people (3,550 families)
- **South-East: Shan (South), Kayah and Kayin States and Mon States**: 8,600 people (2,200 families)
- **Kachin and Shan (North) States**: 1,250 people (225 families)

In **Myanmar**, UNHCR and partners continue to engage local partners, civil society and faith-based organizations who work across the country in hard-to-reach areas to assess needs and provide support where feasible.

## Shelter

In **Myanmar**, shelter assistance remains a growing humanitarian need. Extreme poverty, lack of basic needs and civilian infrastructure have diminished the absorption capacity of host communities and heightened protection risks. UNHCR and partners provided shelter support to ensure forcibly displaced and stateless communities live in safe and dignified conditions. UNHCR and partners reached 21,930 people (4,235 families) with emergency and/or transitional shelter support in Rakhine (Central) and Shan (South) States:

- **Rakhine State (Central)**: 19,100 people (3,700 families)
- **South-East: Shan (South)**: 2,830 people (535 families)

In **Myanmar**, UNHCR and partners are providing shelter support to ensure forcibly displaced and stateless communities live in safe and dignified conditions.

## Food

In **Thailand**, food delivery to the remote TSAs in Mae Sariang District is difficult, especially during the rainy season. Household-level cooking is still not permitted in Nai Soi TSA, meaning partners can only distribute wet meals and fresh food. In **Thailand**, WEAVE delivered fresh vegetables to Nai Soi TSA (300 kg pumpkin, 200 kg potato, 200kg cucumber, 500 kg cabbage, 120 kg pork, and 50 kg chili) to prevent the risk of malnutrition among the population.

The Border Consortium (TBC) continues to be the main food provider for all the TSAs.

In **Thailand**, WEAVE and TBC.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SECTOR</th>
<th>NEEDS/PRIORITIES</th>
<th>RESPONSE</th>
<th>PARTNERS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>In Thailand, the provision of health services continued to be challenging with an uptick in flu and malaria cases due to the heavy rains increased cases of flu and malaria.</td>
<td>In Thailand, IRC is setting up a clinic in the Mae Ki TSA staffed with refugee medics. MSF and ICRC currently support medical referrals to Thai Hospitals. Regarding prevention, IRC vaccinated 44 children in September in Nai Soi TSA.</td>
<td>In Thailand, IRC, Malteser International, MSF, ICRC, and UNICEF.</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>In Thailand, heavy rains can contribute to polluted water making its way to streams and rivers, which refugees could use as drinking water if they are not provided with access to clean water.</td>
<td>In Thailand, IRC installed a gravity water system to ensure a regular supply of clean and safe drinking water to the population in Kyaw Pla Kee TSA and in Mae Ki TSA. In addition, to ensure continuity of WASH services and waste management in the camp and to reduce the environmental impact of the settlement, a group of IRC volunteers have started collecting waste in the TSAs, providing mosquito repellents and fumigating the sites every week to reduce the risk of malaria and water-borne diseases.</td>
<td>IRC.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA)</td>
<td>In Myanmar, scaling up the provision of direct multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) – the preferred modality of forcibly displaced and stateless people – where implementation is feasible remains a priority.</td>
<td>In Myanmar, UNHCR is providing one-time MPCA to enable affected people to meet basic needs, mitigate protection risks and ensure a minimum level of dignity in an emergency. During the reporting period, UNHCR and partners in Myanmar provided MPCA to 1,268 people (235 families) in Kachin, Shan (North), Shan (South) and Kayin States as well as cash assistance to 200 people with specific needs in Rakhine (Central), Shan (South), Kayin, Kayah States.</td>
<td>IRC.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors that have contributed to UNHCR’s Myanmar Situation response, as well as those that contribute to UNHCR programmes with unearmarked funds for use at the global level or softly earmarked funds for the Asia-Pacific region. For more details, please see the latest funding update here.