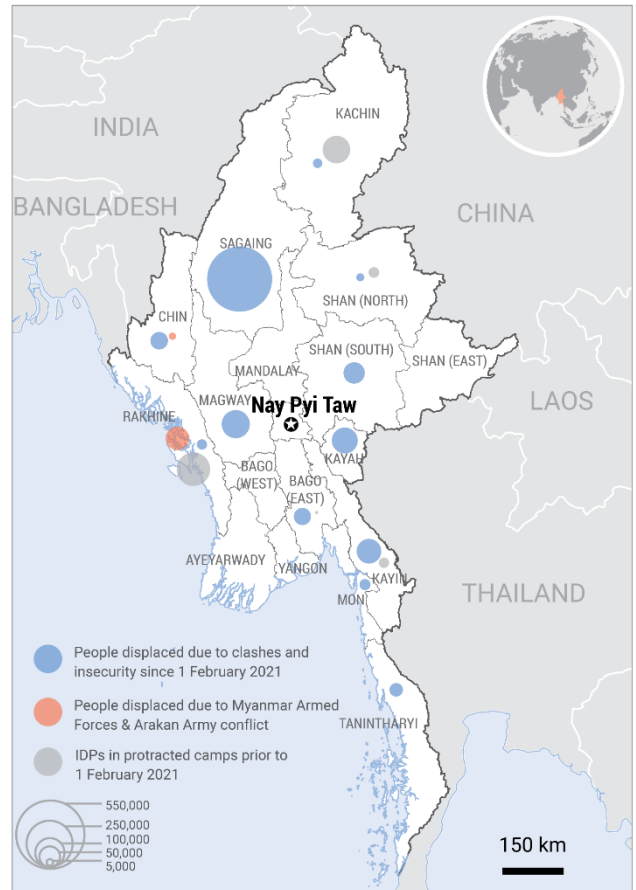


This regular update, covering humanitarian developments up to 26 September, is produced by OCHA Myanmar in collaboration with the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group and UN agencies. The next humanitarian update will be issued at the end of October 2022.

HIGHLIGHTS & KEY MESSAGES

- Hostilities and soaring inflation continue to impose security and protection risks on affected and displaced people.
- More than 1.3 million people remain displaced across the country, of whom more than 1 million were displaced since the 2021 military takeover.
- Of particular concern is the escalation in fighting between the Myanmar Armed Forces (MAF) and the Arakan Army (AA) in Rakhine state and southern Chin, which has displaced more than 17,400 people since August and prompted movement restrictions that are delaying the delivery of critical assistance, particularly food and nutrition support.
- More areas are being contaminated with landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERWs) due to active fighting in Rakhine and other areas, threatening the lives of people seeking safety or returning to their places of origin.
- Inflation in the costs of basic commodities and the rapid devaluation of the Myanmar Kyat, continue to limit individual purchasing power and the ability of farmers to plant and grow food. As a result, there are continued concerns about food affordability and availability in the upcoming lean season.
- Intensifying armed conflict and access restrictions are obstructing the transportation of medical supplies and mobile clinic activities, particularly in Rakhine and Kayah states. Malaria drugs are critically needed in light of increasing cases due to the monsoon season.
- Humanitarian partners have continued to respond to new needs, reaching 3.1 million people with at least one form of assistance in the first half year of 2022. However, a shortfall in funding and access constraints have hindered partners from delivering the range of relief required, leading to significant unmet needs.
- The 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) is only 20 per cent funded, leaving a gap of US\$660 million (FTS). Partners are consequently being forced to make tough decisions about prioritization of their assistance. Worryingly, funding remains below 2021 levels despite a dramatic increase in needs in 2022.



KEY FIGURES*

1.3M

People internally displaced across Myanmar

1M

People currently displaced by clashes and insecurity since February 2021

330K

People internally displaced due to conflict prior to February 2021, mainly in Rakhine, Kachin, Chin, and Shan

28K

Civilian properties estimated to have been burnt or destroyed since February 2021.¹

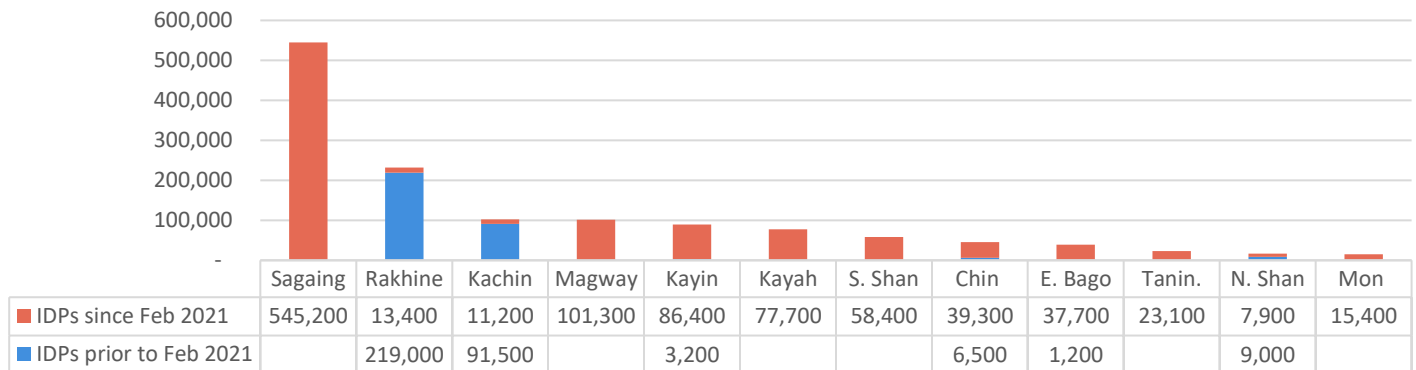
*Displacement figures fluctuate during any given month. These figures represent the number of people currently displaced. Cumulative numbers for returns and displacement are not always available.

¹Data for Myanmar in remaining states (up to 25 August 2022), Progressive Karenni People Force on Kayah (up to 31 August 2022), OCHA field data on Sagaing/Magway/Chin (up to 15 September 2022)

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Ongoing hostilities, insecurity, economic stress and soaring inflation are significantly impacting the lives, movement and safety of conflict-affected people across the country. The conflict has led to the deaths of more than 2,316 people, including an estimated 188 children,² and has caused injury to thousands of others. Between January and July 2022 alone, UNICEF recorded 206 casualties from landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW). The actual number is likely to be higher due to underreporting as a result of access constraints, insecurity, and telecommunication challenges. More than 1 million people have been internally displaced since the 2021 military takeover, bringing the total number of internally displaced people (IDPs) to more than 1.3 million across the country, as of 26 September 2022, according to latest UN figures.

Internally Displaced Persons in Myanmar

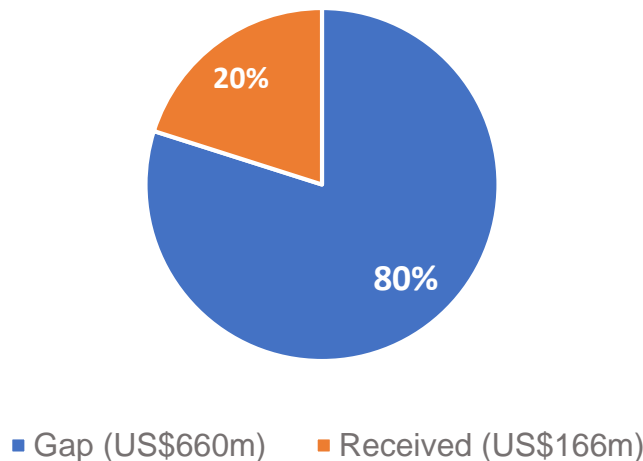


*UN figures as of 26 September 2022

■ IDPs prior to Feb 2021 ■ IDPs since Feb 2021

Local and international humanitarian partners have been rapidly scaling up efforts to respond to pre-existing and emerging needs using creative approaches to overcome access constraints. During the first half of 2022, partners reached 3.1 million people with assistance at least once which represents half of the target for the year. However, access constraints and underfunding have meant this assistance is often intermittent and does not cover the full range of people's needs. Immediate removal of access obstacles, particularly in conflict areas, and increased funding to the 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan are urgently needed for humanitarian partners to respond to escalating needs, provide protection and alleviate suffering.

Myanmar Humanitarian Response Plan 2022 (US\$826m)



² Oral update by UN Acting High Commissioner for Human Rights, Nada Al-Nashif on the human rights situation in Myanmar to the Human Rights Council, 26 September 2022.

Escalating conflict in Rakhine and Southern Chin prompts severe access restrictions for humanitarian partners



Food distribution at Taung Myint AA-MAF conflict affected IDPs site, 5 September 2022. Photo: People in Need (PIN)

Fighting between the AA-MAF has continued across Rakhine State and Paletwa Township in Chin State. Since August, more than 17,400 people have been newly displaced, bringing the total number of internally displaced people (IDPs) from past and present AA-MAF fighting in these areas to more than 91,000, according to UN latest figures. The use of heavy weapons, airstrikes, landmines and mortar shelling has been seen in multiple townships, mainly in Maungdaw, Rathedaung and Buthidaung in northern Rakhine; and Mrauk-U, Kyauktaw, and Minbya in central Rakhine. In a new dynamic, conflict between the AA and the MAF has also spread to southern Rakhine. Amid fears about inter-communal tension, arbitrary arrests, indiscriminate attacks, and destruction to private property, many people have left their villages.

military troops shooting [in random] directions during the armed conflicts. That is why, when our village was hit by heavy artillery in early morning, we fled". When she arrived at Ywar Thit Kay displacement site with nothing, she received humanitarian assistance and was provided with a cooking set and other essential items but like others at this site, she still needs food and shelter. There are concerns about the safety of returns, with the de facto authorities reportedly pushing people displaced from AA-MAF conflict to go back to their places of origin before October of this year even as fighting continues.

One mother who fled her village in Mrauk-U township describes the situation. "I had experienced and witnessed

Local and international humanitarian partners have been working to meet the basic needs of affected people however access to displaced people has become increasingly difficult. Security measures have tightened in many areas across the state; waterways and roads have become blocked in northern Rakhine; and the transportation of medical supplies and food has been restricted into Paletwa. These measures have limited people's movement and are obstructing the delivery of humanitarian assistance. On 15 September, the de facto authorities prohibited the UN and INGOs from accessing six key townships - Buthidaung, Maungdaw, Rathedaung, Mrauk-U, Minbya, Myebon - until further notice. Access requests to the other 11 townships in Rakhine continue to be processed but food and nutrition activities continue to face problems. These service and supply interruptions are compounding the suffering of affected people who depend on humanitarian support for their survival. The movement restrictions have also prompted concerns about commercial shortages and surging prices for key commodities, including food, in some areas. The UN is advocating for restrictions to be eased for humanitarian activities and for expedited access through checkpoints for humanitarian actors delivering critical assistance. In addition, funding is urgently required to address needs and overcome contingency supply shortages. Since May, the United League of Arakan/Arakan Army (ULA/AA) has also been pushing to introduce a parallel registration and travel notification system for humanitarian actors in Rakhine and this has resulted in additional interference in the implementation of humanitarian activities.

Hostilities continue risking lives in the country's Southeast, Northwest and Northeast

Intense fighting across Myanmar continues to claim lives, displacing men, women and children, destroying homes and sources of livelihood, and posing severe protection risks.

In the Northwest, the situation remains volatile with conflict involving artillery fire, aerial and other indiscriminate attacks, as well as the use of landmines across Chin State, Magway and Sagaing regions. Of particular concern is the killing of at least 13 people, including 11 children, and the injury of many others, reportedly due to MAF airstrikes that hit a monastic school in Let Yet Kone village of Tabayin township in Sagaing Region, according to the UN and various sources.³ The MAF has reportedly continued conducting security raids, random searches, arbitrary arrests and detentions across the Northwest. The situation is causing ongoing displacement, with 685,800 IDPs across the Northwest living mostly in informal sites, with relatives or in the jungle. As of 15 September, more than 26,000 houses are estimated to have been burnt down since the military takeover in February 2021, the vast majority of which were recorded in Sagaing (21,119).

In Kachin State, intense fighting between the MAF and the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) has continued in Hpakant township and since early September has escalated in Momauk and Shwegu townships. In Hpakant, about 430 people, including 7 pregnant women, remain trapped in Nam Poke village, unable to relocate to safer locations due to the

³ See [statement](#) attributable to the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General on Myanmar, 20 September 2022.

presence of MAF troops in the area, according to local sources. These IDPs are among 3,000 people displaced from Se Zin village into displacement sites in Hpakant and Mohnyin since mid-July 2022 due to armed clashes between the MAF and the KIA. Fighting in Momauk township followed the deployment of MAF troops in Wa Wang village and the other locations around the area. Consequently, more than 300 households from Wa Wang, Kum Bang, Hkan Nan and Kyauk Sa Khan villages were temporarily displaced into churches and IDP camps in the same townships in early September but returned to their villages by mid-September after the MAF left the area, according to the UN and partners. While displaced, these IDPs received cash-for-food and relief items, including dignity kits and family kits. In Shwegu township, armed clashes between the MAF and local People's Defence Force (PDFs) ensued on 22 September around Yay Loi village. The security situation deteriorated after local PDFs announced the closure of several sections of Myitkyina-Mandalay Road. As a result, about 400 people from 3 villages (Yay Loi, Moe Sit and Sin Tet) have been displaced into 2 monasteries in the urban area of Shwegu town. The de facto authorities reported that they have provided some food assistance to the IDPs, but more food, relief items and COVID-19 preventative materials are still needed.

Across the Southeast, fighting has continued between the MAF and the combined forces of various EAOs and PDFs. In Kayah State, intense clashes involving massive air strikes and artillery fire have continued in Loikaw, Demoso, and Hpruso townships, causing civilian casualties and displacement. Between 1 and 22 September, artillery and gun fire resulted in the killing of 11 civilians, including 3 children, and injury to numerous others as well as the displacement of many families across the state, according to partners and local media. The majority of IDPs in Kayah are hosted in these three townships where food shortages are being reported due to tight restrictions imposed since early 2022. In Kayin, armed clashes have continued in Kawkareik, Kyainseikgyi and Myawaddy townships, which have recently witnessed a heavy presence of military forces. Similarly, intermittent clashes have been reported in Mon, Tanintharyi and eastern Bago. In southern Shan, more than 300 IDPs sheltering in Nawng Htaw village in Hsihseng township fled to a monastery to seek refuge due to intense fighting, including multiple airstrikes and mortar fire in mid-September. These IDPs are originally from Demoso and Loikaw townships in Kayah State and from Pekon township of southern Shan and were displaced a few months ago due to fighting in their places of origin. According to the latest UN figures, as of 26 September, about 292,100 people remain displaced in collective centres and host communities in various townships across southern Shan, including in Taunggyi, Hsihseng, Nyaungshwe, Kalaw, Pinlaung, Pindaya, Pekon, Lawksawk, Maukmai and Loilen townships.

In northern Shan, civilian casualties, displacement and destruction of civilian properties have been reported due to continued fighting in Muse, Mongkaing, Kutkai and Moebye townships. Fighting also expanded into new townships, including Hsihseng but calmed down in other townships, allowing the return of some IDPs to their villages of origin. Forced recruitment remains a major protection concern in this area. Despite the fighting and its associated restrictions, humanitarian partners were able to provide cash-for-food to IDPs hosted in IDP camps and within host communities across northern Shan.

Enhancing accountability towards affected people in Myanmar

Being able to call a plumber to fix a broken toilet is something most of us take for granted. However, in IDP camps it is not always obvious who to contact when something goes wrong, and repairs are required.

Creating a central point-of-contact for people to raise concerns is a priority for camp management agencies like Lutheran World Federation (LWF) Myanmar.

When two latrines at Ah Nauk Ywe camp in Pauktaw township were damaged due to wet-season leaks, 26-year-old Kyaw** (name changed) and two other IDPs were able to flag the need for urgent repairs and get immediate action via the camp's well-established complaints and feedback mechanism.

This was just one of 9,681 complaints and pieces of feedback received and acted on by LWF in the 8 IDP camps and 33 displacement sites it manages in Rakhine State between January and August 2022. Issues range from registering the need for straightforward repairs and concerns about the opening hours of the nearest health clinic, through to more serious complaints about dynamics between camp staff and IDPs.

It is an example of accountability to affected populations (AAP) in action and is something humanitarian partners are working hard to replicate across the response to improve the dignity of people's living conditions while ensuring the needs, preferences and concerns of affected people guide the aid they receive.

Additional resources are desperately needed to support this AAP scale-up and allow the work of individual agencies and organizations to feed into collective nationwide analysis.



Photo: A community member sharing feedback to a Community Complaint Response (CRM) Facilitator during a home visit in Ohn Taw Gyi South. Photo: LWF

“I know about the LWF CRM system. Complaints are being collected through the home visit, at the safety space and at the distribution points. We can share complaints to the CRM team if we have any issue...[the] CRM team listen to community’s concerns in the camp and refer to respective sectors.” -Affected community member in Ah Nauk Ywe IDP camp

As one of the Camp Management Agencies supporting displaced people in central Rakhine, LWF receives complaints related not only to their own services, but also on behalf of all service providers working in the respective camps and sites. As part of LWF’s AAP work, community members are provided with information on available services and are encouraged to log complaints, provide feedback and share their needs and concerns via complaint boxes and hotlines. LWF has also recruited local community members and trained them to orient their own communities on how to lodge complaints. These focal points conduct awareness sessions and directly collect community feedback during home visits and regular interactions in camps and sites. Confidential spaces have been established in the camps for people to speak to staff and attend sessions. This work has also allowed opportunities for the sharing of information on COVID-19 prevention measures.

The AAP/Community Engagement (CE) Working Group and the PSEA Network are jointly trying to mobilize \$1.5 million for 2022-2024 to cover a full-time coordinator, information management support, development and operation of a collective feedback and response mechanism, inter-agency assessment and community engagement, and capacity-strengthening support for the expanding AAP/CE WG membership of 40 organizations. For the past year, the Working Group has been focused on laying the groundwork for this mainstreaming AAP across the country. This includes endorsing a national action plan for the systematic collection of AAP data, developing a course on AAP in Myanmar language for humanitarian staff, and translating key global resources for use in trainings and capacity strengthening.

“Being accountable to the people we are assisting is a basic requirement of our work and dedicated resources are needed to make this happen consistently on a national scale. Listening to the people we are serving empowers them and helps us improve the effectiveness of our assistance so it’s a sound investment,” said national AAP/CE WG co-chair, Michelle Sanson.

Where they exist, these mechanisms work. Communities see the actions taken by humanitarian organizations in response to their feedback—AAP in action. However, this work needs to be expanded.

“I am very grateful for providing the rice assistance for the poor people like me, as well as for the better rice quality compared to the past distributions.” –Affected community member in Shwe Pyi Thar, Yangon using WFP’s Community Engagement Mechanism.

“Thank you so much for considering my letter request to increase the cash amount due to the local commodity price increase. Now the entitlement [has] increased.” - Affected community member in northern Shan using WFP’s Community Engagement Mechanism.

Having dedicated AAP resources available would ensure that feedback like Kyaw’s is not only received and acted upon in his camp, but also feeds into broader national analysis of the needs, experiences and preferences of affected people – an invaluable resource for informed decision-making and responsive assistance.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

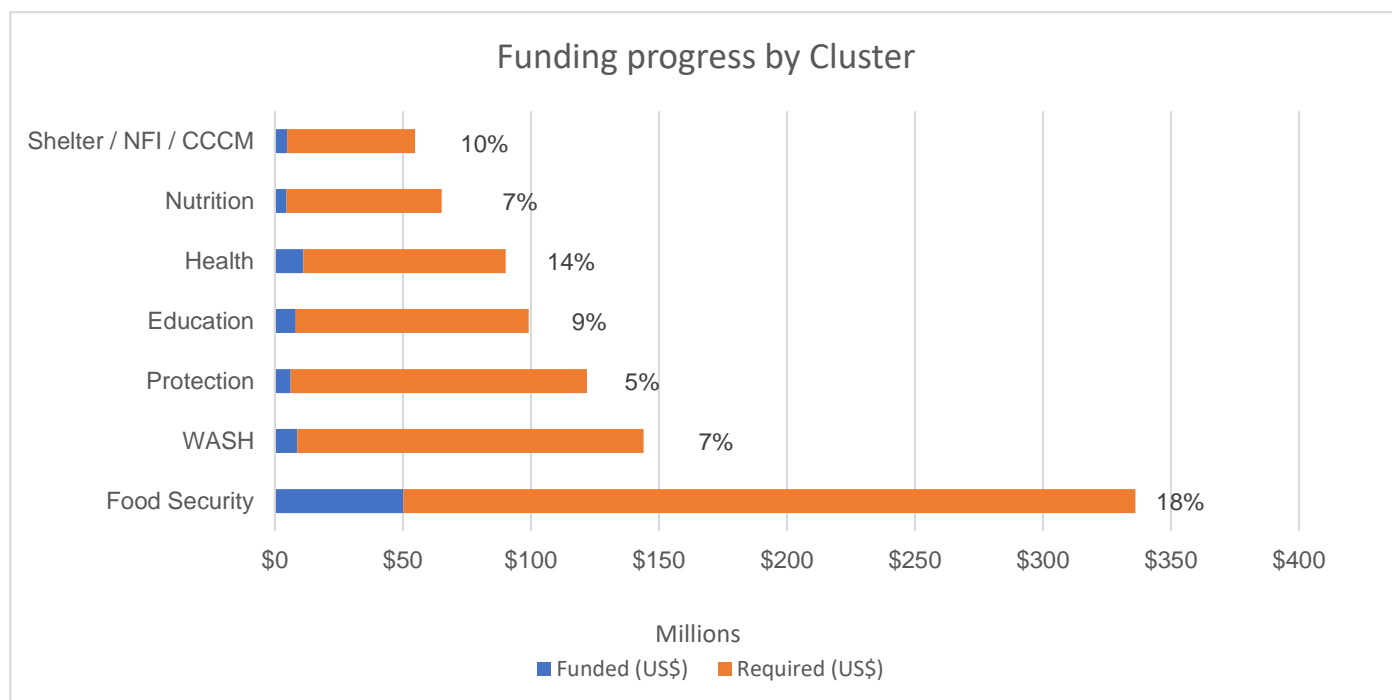
Humanitarian Access: Bureaucratic and administrative restrictions, compounded by ongoing fighting, as well as violence and threats against aid workers, continue to hamper humanitarian operations. In particular, arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel remains a major risk, with staff and volunteers of local organisations most at risk. In the Southeast, a clinic was reportedly destroyed by artillery fire, although local health workers were able to retrieve medical supplies and equipment. In southern Shan, new steps in the process for securing travel authorisation have substantially delayed several missions to deliver multi-sectoral assistance, although informal approval has now been received for a long-awaited inter-agency mission to deliver support to IDPs. Similar new requirements and subsequent delays in humanitarian operations have been reported in Sagaing. Interference by both the de facto authorities and other armed actors in the implementation of humanitarian activities also continues to obstruct the delivery of services and assistance.

As mentioned above, renewed fighting in Rakhine and southern Chin since late August, access to affected people has been heavily constrained by new security measures and attempts to introduce parallel travel authorization processes by armed groups. When they are allowed to move, humanitarian actors are being subjected to increasingly lengthy checkpoint inspections which, in some areas, have forced partners to reduce the operating hours of critical services, including mobile health teams.

Restrictions on mobile telecommunications and internet data services, particularly in Chin, Magway and Sagaing, are further disrupting humanitarian operations. The impact of the monsoon season, with flooding and heavy rainfall in Rakhine, Kachin and southern Shan, has also impeded access. Three health workers were among the victims of a landslide that killed six people following torrential rain in Shan State in July. A local clinic was also damaged.

The latest ACAPS report⁴ places Myanmar among three standout crises globally that showed a marked deterioration and received a ranking of “extreme” regarding access constraints for humanitarian partners. The report also notes that Myanmar recorded the second highest number of aid workers killed in the first half of 2022 and the third highest number of both aid workers injured and incidents of looting of humanitarian assets.

Funding situation by cluster: As of end of September, funding for the 2022 HRP is 20 per cent of requirements with all clusters seriously underfunded, threatening their ability to respond to growing needs and leaving gaps in response. Given the much wider scale of assistance planned in 2022 in response to the surge in displacement and soaring needs, especially in the Northwest and more recently in Rakhine, increased resources are urgently required to support a meaningful package of support to affected people. Funding constraints are now affecting the breadth and quality of assistance delivered by humanitarians. As part of the [HRP Mid-Year Monitoring Report](#), partners have outlined the tough decisions they are having to make to prioritize their assistance due to access constraints and funding shortfalls. The consequences of underfunding and unmet needs in 2022 will be grave, including a potential worsening of malnutrition and an increase in the adoption of negative coping strategies. Donors are urged to give generously in solidarity with the people of Myanmar to prevent suffering and a loss of hard-fought development gains.



⁴ Myanmar Country level | ACAPS

Education in Emergencies

Needs

- Across the country, there is a need to continue to advocate with all parties to allow specific minority communities to access education.
- There is a shortage of textbooks and teaching and learning materials in most learning centres in conflict-affected areas including Rakhine, Chin, Magway, Sagaing, Kachin and Kayah.
- More financial resources are required for the continuation of secondary education, as current funding mostly focuses on Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) and primary education.
- There is a need to hire more volunteer teachers as more children are attending community schools. Incentive payments to attract more volunteer teachers are therefore needed.

Response

- Sub-national cluster coordinators are continuing to support partners with evidence-based planning and decision making on educational activities.
- Based on community consultations, the Education Cluster has produced a common analysis of children's access to education across the country and their immediate needs.

Gaps & Constraints

- Delayed and extended waiting times at checkpoints, as well as blockages and delays with travel authorizations continue to present significant challenges for multiple partners in delivering humanitarian education assistance.
- Building educator capacity is a massive and urgent gap which must be filled to enable children enrolled in community-based education pathways (such as monastic and ethnic learning centres) to have meaningful learning experiences.
- In Chin, Magway and Sagaing, children must rely on independent education service providers and community-based models to access education because schools run by the de facto authorities remain closed. However, humanitarian support for these alternate models is currently insufficient due to access limitations. In Kayah and Shan states, distribution of assistance is being affected by increased security checkpoints.

Food Security

Needs

- Escalating armed conflict in most of the cluster's operational areas has led to concerns for the security and safety of staff both of large agencies and cooperating partners.
- Increases in the costs of basic commodities, particularly food and fuel, have been driven by inflation and the rapid devaluation of the Myanmar Kyat (MMK). Compared to August 2021, the cost of a basic food basket is now 52 per cent higher; rice is now 38 per cent higher; edible oil prices are, on average, 130 per cent higher, and fuel prices are between 110 and 160 per cent higher.
- Farmers are in desperate need of supplementary support. Agricultural production is facing serious challenges, particularly in heavy conflict areas as value chains are disturbed, resulting in decreased planted areas and a likely decline in output, affecting food availability. Labour prices have increased, along with the cost of agricultural inputs affecting the ability of farmers to plant crops - for example, the cost of compound fertilizer has increased by 143 per cent compared to the same time last year. Farmers continue to face challenges from plant diseases, in particular Yellow Mosaic Virus affecting pulses.
- Almost half of all livestock producers have recently reported a decrease in herd/flock size due to the increased price of feed and livestock diseases, mainly African Swine Fever affecting pigs.
- The Cluster is finalizing analysis of the latest food security assessment from August-September with food insecurity expected to have worsened compared to the same time last year.

Response

- In Rakhine, the cluster is ensuring sufficient contingency stocks are in place to respond to impacts from increased clashes between the MAF and AA, including potential new displacement.
- In newly conflict-affected areas, particularly the Northwest and Southeast, the Food Security Cluster has expanded its partnerships with local NGOs and CSOs with operational presence and local knowledge. These innovative partnership models have proven invaluable in reaching new IDPs and other affected populations. In addition, WFP was granted approval to transport food by boat to Paletwa in Chin in August – the first such movement since the start of the year. However, WFP has not yet been able to negotiate approval to distribute food to IDPs in the area and recent restrictions will make this more difficult.
- WFP, together with its partners, has gained access to about 100,000 newly displaced people to provide three months of support from August onwards.

- Cluster partners continue to review cash-based transfer entitlements in the face of rising inflation. WFP has increased the transfer value twice in 2022 for people in need in Rakhine, Shan, and Kachin states, increasing WFP's costs by \$450,000 per month.
- The Food Security Cluster is prepared to support the winter season through the provision of time-critical agriculture inputs, such as vegetable seeds and fertilizer, to urgently improve nutrition of affected farming families and supplement their income.

Gaps & Constraints

- The Food Security Cluster has been unable to reach the vast majority of those newly displaced since the military takeover, despite significant increases in the number of displaced people and their growing humanitarian needs. The de facto authorities are regularly restricting access and distributions in most states and regions.

Health

Needs

- There is an urgent need for malaria drugs (particularly chloroquine and primaquine), diagnostic rapid-tests and long-lasting insecticidal bed nets. Significant increases in the number of reported malaria cases are being driven by the monsoon and restrictions on the movement of people and supplies into crisis-affected communities.
- There is an ongoing need for timely and effective emergency medical care amid severe interruptions to public services. Essential medicines and diagnostics are needed to support mobile clinic activities.
- Information and awareness-raising on adolescent and sexual reproductive health must be strengthened, with youth-friendly discussions, counselling and other SRH services currently very limited in hard-to-reach areas.

Response

- In 16 townships of Kachin, 2,500 information, education and communications (IEC) posters and pamphlets related to COVID-19, influenza, vaccination, monkeypox, dengue and health were distributed for community awareness during August 2022.
- In Chin, 258 households from Thantlang township were provided with hygiene kits to prevent diarrhoea in August 2022.
- In Kayin, mobile clinics reached 994 people in Hlaingbwe township, including 324 males and 670 females. Of these, 161 were children under the age of 5 and 231 were elderly people above 60.
- In Kayah, 106 referral cases were supported, and 340 dignity kits and 50 newborn kits were distributed to 2 IDP camps in Demoso township.
- In eastern Bago, emergency medical supplies were provided to 35,578 people in Kyaukkyi and Htantapin townships. This included an inter-agency emergency health kit (IEHK), 30,000 Amoxicillin tabs, 1,000 sachets of oral rehydration salts (ORS) and 5,000 Zinc tablets.

Gaps & Constraints

- Due to intensified armed clashes, partners are facing travel restrictions, inhibiting mobile clinic activities and the transport of supplies. This has created delays in providing primary health care services in affected areas.
- Increasing security checkpoints, as well as limited availability of and high prices for fuel have impacted on operations. Heavy rain, floods, and landslides, alongside difficult administrative processes continue to delay the transportation of medicines.
- Procurement and supply chain disturbances have heightened the risk of malaria drugs, diagnostics and other commodities running out during the month of September 2022. The Health Cluster is exploring solutions to overcome these logistical challenges.
- Virtual activities to raise awareness on adolescent sexual and reproductive health have been conducted in response to accessibility issues. However, these have not been as effective as interactive, in-person sessions.

Nutrition

Needs

- In Kachin, there is need for emergency nutrition referral services for malnourished children in banana plantation sites in Waingmaw township, according to reports from an implementing partner. In addition, there are growing nutrition needs among IDPs in Hpakant township, including mothers and children.
- In the Southeast, food insecurity and the deteriorating nutrition situation of IDPs remains a major concern in Kayah, particularly in Demoso, Hpruso and Loikaw townships, due to continued fighting and associated access restrictions.

Response

- In Rakhine, the following responses were undertaken in August 2022:
 - Nutrition partners provided lifesaving nutrition services, including Mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) screening, distribution of micro-nutrient powder and tablets to 65 children under five, 11 pregnant women and 7 lactating women in Mrauk-U.
 - Quantities and locations of existing stock were shared with nutrition partners to aid them in contingency planning.
 - The Nutrition Cluster is coordinating the collection of data on nutrition in children under-five and in pregnant and lactating women (PLW).
- In Kachin, the Nutrition Cluster is working with partners to coordinate necessary nutritional and medical services for malnourished children. The cluster is also coordinating with WFP to include supplementary nutrition for children within its blanket food distribution in displacement sites in Hpakant.
- In the Southeast, the sub-national Nutrition Cluster and nutrition implementing partners are initiating data collection of children under-five and are providing them with continued nutrition services including active MUAC screening, distribution of micro-nutrient powder and tablets.

Gaps & Constraints

- In Rakhine, nutrition activities are facing interruptions due to access constraints imposed by the de facto authorities with TA requests for nutrition activities are no longer being processed.
- In Kachin, continued armed clashes have meant that only one partner has been able to provide nutrition services to IDPs from Se Zin villages who are currently sheltering in displacement sites in Hpakant township. The Nutrition Cluster is looking into innovative ways to address this issue.
- In the Southeast, nutrition partners are facing challenges in accessing IDPs and affected people due to flooding, as well as high scrutiny at checkpoints and delayed travel authorization.
- The high cost of transport due to inflation remains a major constraint, affecting the delivery of essential nutrition services and supplies within and between townships.

Protection

Needs

- In Rakhine and southern Chin, the following needs have been identified due to active conflict between the AA and MAF in August and September:
 - The non-displaced Rohingya population, who are already limited in their freedom of movement and lack support networks in urban areas, are now at risk of further confinement in their villages, affecting their access to vital services.
 - Rakhine residents along the Ah Ngu Maw - Maungdaw Road and residents from four Rohingya village tracts have reportedly been prohibited from leaving their villages. This will increase protection risks and obstruct the delivery of humanitarian assistance to people in need in the area.
 - New IDPs displaced by clashes between the AA and MAF in Rathedaung township in northern Rakhine need food, dignity kits, medicine, and household kits (Rapid Needs Assessment, September 2022).
- In Chin, partners reported that families fleeing conflict who are travelling into India are at risk of trafficking and sexual violence, including GBV, while young people are engaging in unsafe migration to Malaysia across the Myanmar-Thailand border.
- In Kachin, according to an assessment conducted by an INGO in Se Zin Village in Hpakant township, more than 2,800 IDPs require cash support and dignity kits. GBV partners are coordinating to address these needs.
- In the Northwest, particularly in Sagaing, services remain limited. Increased programming for child protection, gender-based violence, mine action, mental health, psychosocial support, and other protection interventions remains a priority.
- In southern Shan, assessments conducted at four collective centres in Taunggyi township found that IDPs are leaving these centres because they are not meeting basic needs. The de facto authorities have asked these IDPs to return to their places of origin, and managers at collective centres have reportedly not been permitted to receive additional IDPs at their premises. It was also reported that some IDPs who were about to move out of these collective centres were not allowed to rent houses in a specific ward and had to seek shelter in peripheral areas. Protection partners are following up on this matter.
- In northern Shan, fears that children and elderly people will be forcibly recruited or extorted by EAOs have reportedly led to internal and cross-border displacement mainly to Thailand, especially in Muse, Namhkam, and Mongyai townships. Protection partners are looking into this issue.
- Landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) continue to pose a threat to the life and safety of civilians in Myanmar. UNICEF recorded 117 landmine explosions, resulting in 49 people being killed and 157 being injured between January and July 2022. However, the actual number is likely to be higher due to access constraints, insecurity, and internet challenges. Due to worsening conflict, assistance to the increasing number of explosive ordnance (EO) victims is urgently needed.

- There is a humanitarian imperative to stop returns and camp closures until land intended for relocation/return has been checked for and cleared of landmines.
- In eastern Bago and Kayin, IDPs at five IDP sites (three in eastern Bago, two in Kayin) noted a lack of sufficient food and medicine, shelter, blankets and mosquito nets; an increased risk of GBV for women due lack of privacy in shared accommodations; and difficulties facing pregnant women in finding transportation to travel to nearby clinics and hospitals to deliver their babies (August GBV Safety Audit).
- In Mon and Kayin states, partners reported increased cases of sexual violence against children.
- In eastern Bago, rapid protection assessments conducted in six collective centres in Taungoo township among IDPs displaced from Kyaukkyi township in June and July identified the need for psychosocial support, education for children, livelihood opportunities; the replacement of lost civil documentation; access to health for pregnant women and people with medical conditions; and rehabilitating existing poor shelters, which lack privacy. Food and health services were also needed by host communities, which are becoming less accessible due to movement restrictions and security issues.

Response

- In Rakhine and Paletwa in southern Chin, FLER partners are conducting rapid needs assessments and are planning for disability support and protection referrals, while EORE is underway. Two INGOs provided explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) to people newly displaced and affected by the recently renewed conflict between the MAF and AA. The INGOs are currently seeking permission to deliver EORE to IDPs sheltering in cyclone shelters. Another INGO is delivering EORE messaging and distributing food in Warzi Monastery in Mrauk-U township.
- A thousand child protection kits were pre-positioned in Mrauk-U (520), Paletwa (107) and Kyauktaw townships (380) as part of contingency planning efforts in Rakhine and southern Chin.
- In Buthidaung township, in response to the recent escalation of conflict between the AA and the MAF, an international NGO and other partners have been distributing basic items, including dignity kits, to new IDPs where access is possible. One partner established spaces for women and girls and held GBV awareness activities in five villages in Buthidaung township. The partner is coordinating with health partners to refer sexual and reproductive health and GBV cases for medical care.
- In Chin, 800 dignity kits and 30 clean delivery kits were distributed to women and girls in IDP camps in Mindat township.
- In northern Shan, 165 dignity kits and 1 clean delivery kit were distributed to women and girls in displacement sites in Naungkhio township. In southern Shan, 300 dignity kits were distributed by partners in IDP locations in west Pekon.
- In Kachin, with support from UNFPA, a local partner provided 90 dignity kits to women and adolescent girls in 14 IDP camps in Myitkyina, Chihpwi, Mogaung, Tanai and Hpakant townships.
- In coordination with the Northwest Protection Working Group, training on GBV in emergencies was provided in late August to cluster members from Chin, Sagaing, and Magway to address and improve GBV responses, and understand risk mitigation and prevention, in the Northwest.
- In eastern Bago, a CSO partner has started GBV and SRHR awareness raising activities and GBV response activities in Taunggoo and Zayutgyi townships in eastern Bago.
- In Kayah and southern Shan, AAP mapping is taking place to enhance communication with communities. An INGO and a national CSO also plan to distribute 1,050 dignity kits in Loikaw township.
- Mine Action partners are continuing to scale up EORE across the country. Accordingly, many organisations operating under other clusters have been able to partially mainstream emergency EORE into their programming. Mine Action organisations have also been organizing trainings to NNGOs/CSOs to deliver EORE and safety briefings and first aid training to first responders.
- A local NGO provided rehabilitation services, including prosthetics, to 40 victims of landmines and EO in various parts of the country since the beginning of 2022.
- An INGO covered medical care costs for 17 victims of landmines/EO and referred them to longer-term economic recovery and protection assistance in August 2022.
- The Child Protection AoR continues to support the Joint Education Needs Assessment which will help inform the HNO/HRP 2023. Service mapping was conducted in Rakhine and in the Northwest to identify available partners and their capacity to respond.
- In Kachin, members of the durable solutions working group (DSWG) conducted a joint assessment in Shar Du Zut in August 2022 to better understand the situation, including at the proposed site where 24 households from KBC camp plan to resettle. The survey assessed the intentions of IDPs, their needs and development plans. This is the third joint exercise in Kachin in 2022.

Gaps & Constraints

- Victims of landmines and other explosive ordnance are facing severe challenges and there are major shortfalls in support to this vulnerable group. A multi-sector, holistic, long-term approach is urgently required to support victims and other people with disabilities. While emergency medical care has been made accessible through

coordinated action by INGOs and CSOs, the availability of several components of victim assistance (physical rehabilitation, MHPSS, assistive devices, livelihoods) remains inadequate. Alternative livelihoods options are also essential to support the socio-economic reintegration of survivors, but for now only emergency cash assistance is provided.

- Displaced people in Rakhine and Paletwa township in Chin are being exposed to risks from EO during their displacement and during returns. Awareness raising is critical for newly displaced households, but access continues to be restricted. In addition, routes to reach households still living in or near the conflict zones are blocked, inhibiting the communication of EO safety messages.
- In northern Rakhine, response missions to IDP sites in Rathedaung have been affected by security concerns, limited access windows and a lack of TAs to specific IDP sites. Travelling takes four to five hours, leaving little time for assessments to be conducted and responded to; overnight stays are not possible due to safety and security concerns.
- In Kayin, there are no GBV case management agencies in Myawaddy township. Currently, only legal services are available for GBV survivors, provided by one legal partner. In addition, there is a lack of GBV services in areas outside SAC control in Mon and Kayin states and Tanintharyi region.

Shelter, Non-Food Items (NFIs), Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

Needs

- In Kachin, more than 3,000 IDPs who have been newly displaced in Hpakant, Mohnyin and Waingmaw townships need humanitarian assistance, including shelter and NFIs. Some have been moving from one location to another for their safety and for better access to basic services.
- In northern Shan, more than 700 IDPs in Nawngkhio township remain in displacement sites and need humanitarian assistance.
- In Rakhine and Paletwa township in Chin, many households who have been newly displaced by the renewed MAF-AA conflict need shelter and NFI assistance.
- In the Southeast, many IDPs are living in makeshift shelters in Demoso, Hpruso, Loikaw and Pekon townships in southern Shan and Kayah states, due to damage by heavy rains. These areas have limited access, causing difficulties in providing the IDPs with required shelter assistance.
- In the Northwest, emergency shelter kits and partial support, such as roofing and tarpaulins, are needed in Chin, Magway and Sagaing to address increased displacement. Road renovation and water supplies are also needed. (Partner assessment in August 2022)

Response

- In Kachin and northern Shan, partners provided emergency NFI kits to about 2,100 newly displaced people in August and to 800 IDPs in early September 2022. A rapid needs assessment was conducted, and partners are planning to respond remaining IDPs as required.
- In Rakhine, the following responses were undertaken:
 - Partners distributed NFIs to 207 newly displaced households in AA-MAF displacement sites in August. They will distribute shelter materials to more than 500 displaced households from September.
 - Construction of 60 longhouses in Rohingya camps was completed in August. Since the beginning of the year, partners have constructed 261 shelters in Rohingya IDP camps in Kyaukpyu, Pauktaw and Sittwe townships, providing safe and dignified housing for more than 11,400 IDPs.
 - In Kyauktaw township, NFIs were distributed to 48 households who arrived from Paletwa to the existing 3 displacement sites in early September
- In Chin, MRCS distributed family kits, hygiene kits, shelter tool kits and mosquito nets to the new IDPs in Paletwa township in late August.
- In the Southeast, partners distributed 2,000 NFI kits, 2,800 roofing sheets with 22 kilograms of nails and 1,900 tarpaulin sheets to 6 IDP camps in Demoso township of Kayah in August.
- In the Northwest, partners provided NFI assistance to 2,178 people, mostly IDPs, and shelter assistance in 5 IDP camps in Thantlang township in Chin during August.

Gaps & Constraints

- In Kachin and northern Shan, more than US\$5 million is required for the construction of 8,314 shelter units to meet identified needs associated with camp relocation.
- In Rakhine, land issues continue to pose challenges for construction and repair of shelters and other infrastructure in IDP camps in Sittwe township.
- The majority of CCCM service providers are not being funded for camp management activities at AA-MAF displacement sites. The CCCM sector requires \$450,000 to establish more dedicated CCCM/site management activities. The amount of funding required is likely to increase in line with additional displacement due to current fighting in Rakhine. At present, basic site management responsibilities are currently run by staff from other sectors.

- Due to the resumption of the AA-MAF conflict, humanitarian service providers are facing restrictions in Rakhine. Several key roadways in Mrauk-U township are already blocked and tight scrutiny is being imposed at the Navy Checkpoint in Sittwe, delaying humanitarian response missions. These have directly impacted the transport and delivery of shelter materials and NFI assistance to displaced households. The problems at the Sittwe Navy checkpoint are also directly impacting on the ability to deliver assistance to more than 25,000 Rohingya IDPs in the Pauktaw camps, as well as to other affected people in Pauktaw.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs

- In Rakhine, 21 per cent of the 112 AA-MAF displacement sites lack sufficient water; 39 per cent lack appropriate sanitation; and 77 per cent have hygiene gaps (Cluster 3W analysis, August).
- In the Northwest, 90 per cent of the 304 displacement sites covered by WASH partners were found to lack appropriate sanitation and 68 per cent of them had hygiene gaps in August 2022 (Cluster 3W analysis, August) reflecting the current funding and access problems.
- In northern Shan, 275 displaced families (1,224 IDPs) sheltering in 5 displacement sites in Namtu and Nawngkhio townships are reportedly in urgent need of hygiene items according to reports from partners.
- In southern Shan, displacement sites in Phe Khon township need drinking and domestic water supply, basic hygiene items and sanitation facilities due to recent constraints on humanitarian access, according to reports from partners in August.
- In Kachin, 389 households (1,762 IDPs) who were displaced from Hpakant township in late July and 245 households (1,158 IDPs) who were displaced from Waingmaw township in early August need WASH services such as emergency latrines, water quality testing, upgrades to existing water source quality, hygiene kits, improved and partitioned bathing spaces, and hygiene awareness sessions, according to reports from local partners.

Response

- In Rakhine, WASH partners provided reusable sanitary pads to 1,439 women and girls in AA-MAF displacement sites in Kyauktaw, Mrauk U, Minbya, Myebon and Sittwe in August.
- In northern Shan, WASH partners provided the following responses in August:
 - 824 IDPs from 2 displacement sites in Nawngkhio and 1 displacement site in Namtu townships received emergency hygiene items.
 - 460 IDPs in one IDP camp in the Kokang Self-Administered Zone received 100 hygiene kits, 500 bars of soap and water purification materials.
- In southern Shan, a partner distributed emergency WASH supplies, including hygiene kits, water purification tablets, tarpaulins and 20L plastic buckets to 1,812 families (3,887 people) in 40 IDPs sites in Hsihseng, Pekon, Taunggyi and Nyaungshwe townships in August.
- In Sagaing, hygiene Kits were distributed to 201 displaced households in Katha town.
- In Kachin, the following responses were undertaken in August:
 - Desludging construction was finished in E-Din Ward in Myitkyina.
 - Hygiene promotion sessions were given to 404 people from various townships.
 - 186 displaced household (386 IDPs) from Se Zin village who are displaced in Tar Ma Hkan in Hpakant received squatting plates, brushes, scoops, water purifiers, steel cups, 41-gallon plastic buckets and hygiene disposal bins.
 - WASH partners covered the running costs of a waste management system that is supporting 59 IDP camps in Myitkyina, Waingmaw, Chipwi, Tanai and Hpakant townships.
 - WASH partners constructed 6 latrines and renovated 1 unit of bathing space in Shing Jai IDP camp in Waimaw township; constructed 16 latrines in IDPs sites in Hpakant, Myitkyina and Chipwi townships; installed a 150-foot drainage channel in Tanai township; provided hygiene promotion session to all 31 IDP camps in these townships; and provided fuel for waste collection activities to the Township Development Committees (TDCs) of Myitkyina, Waingmaw, Chipwi and Hpakant townships.
 - 218 displaced households (1,043 IDPs) in Bhamo, Hpakant and Momauk townships each received 22 litres of Gravity-Based Water Purifier, which depends on activated carbon instead of electricity to clean water.
 - UNICEF and the WASH Cluster organized desludging, as well as operation and maintenance training for 22 staff and volunteers (16 Male and 6 Female).
 - 14 staff from WASH partners attended PSEA Training provided by an INGO on 31 August.

Gaps & Constraints

- In northwest Myanmar, WASH responses continue to be implemented in a low-profile approach, with partners facing serious challenges in reaching affected people due to humanitarian access constraints, blocked transport and insecurity.
- There are insufficient funds for current WASH contingency stocks for IDPs in many areas of Sagaing, southern Shan and Kayah.
- In Rakhine, WASH responses are being impeded by renewed fighting between the MAF and AA as well as recent access restrictions in six townships in northern Rakhine.
- Land issues continue to present significant challenges for WASH infrastructure and repairs, particularly in IDPs camps in Sittwe township, where landlords are trying to claim land compensation from humanitarian organizations.
- Travel restrictions are being imposed on humanitarians due to insecurity remain in Monekoe sub-township of Muse township, Kongyan township in northern Shan, at the border areas between northern and southern Shan, and at the border areas of southern Shan and Kayah states.