

**MYANMAR: Cyclone Mocha** Situation Report No.4

As of 14:00 8 June 2023

This more comprehensive product now replaces the daily Flash Updates that were previously issued by OCHA Myanmar on Cyclone Mocha. This Sit Rep is produced by OCHA in collaboration with the seven operating humanitarian clusters and their sub-working groups in Myanmar. The humanitarian response section is not necessarily reflective of all humanitarian interventions undertaken on the ground but rather those voluntarily reported by partners. Sit Reps are now being issued weekly.

# **HIGHLIGHTS**

- The humanitarian access situation in cyclone-hit Rakhine state has deteriorated with existing travel authorizations (TAs) for humanitarian organizations suspended this week pending new, centralized discussions in Nay Pyi Taw.
- Initial approval for humanitarian distribution and transportation plans for cyclone-affected townships in Rakhine have also been rescinded pending further Nay Pyi Taw-level deliberations. Similar plans in Chin are also pendina.
- Some requests for the replenishment of relief supplies from outside the country have been approved, but with significant conditions. Others remain pending.
- The suspension of access in
- Rakhine brings a stop to activities that have been reaching hundreds of thousands of people. To date, more than 110,000 affected people have received shelter and other essential relief items.
- Food assistance had reached almost 300,000 affected people in Rakhine state alone.
- In Rakhine, partners were distributing seeds and organic fertilizers to provide families with food to eat and sell. Further scaled-up distributions of agricultural inputs are critical to combating food insecurity in affected areas over the months ahead and are now also on pause.

Sittwe, Rakhine. Credit: Ben Small/UNDP

- Humanitarians have also been prioritizing the wellbeing of children in the response, including through the establishment of hundreds of mobile and temporary child-friendly spaces, and the distribution of critical child safety messaging to nearly 28,000 people across Rakhine and the Northwest.
- The suspension of activities in Rakhine could not have come at worse time with the monsoon arriving. An urgent scale-up of the response is needed, expanding activities that had already been underway in the impact zone and adding to assistance being distributed by a range of local authorities and civil society organizations in different areas.

# SITUATION OVERVIEW

The monsoon season has arrived in Myanmar, further worsening the living situation facing people whose homes were damaged or destroyed by Cyclone Mocha in mid-May. Heavy rains and some flooding were observed in areas that were already heavily impacted, further hampering the recovery process for people whose coping capacities are already stretched to the limit.



Against this backdrop, access restrictions have escalated. Existing TAs that had been facilitating assistance delivery in Rakhine have been suspended pending centralized discussions in Nay Pyi Taw through the Disaster Management Committee. Using these existing approvals, humanitarians had been reaching a growing number of people in need. More than 113,200 people in the affected areas have received shelter and other relief items, while food assistance has reached more than 293,800 people in Rakhine alone. In addition, humanitarians have been working to ensure cyclone-affected children are looked after with the establishment of 240 mobile and temporary child-friendly spaces in Rakhine and the Northwest. These spaces provide safe environments for children to engage in recreational activities and receive vital psychosocial support after the trauma and disruption they have experienced. Approximately 28,000 people in Rakhine and the Northwest have also received important child safety messages.

Humanitarians had been hoping to scale-up their operations in the coming weeks, but this centralized decision on TAs now puts that on hold. Initial approval for humanitarian distribution and transport plans across 11 townships have also been rescinded pending additional deliberations in Nay Pyi Taw. Similar plans for Chin are also not yet approved.

Some import requests have been approved with conditions. Others remain pending. Flexible imports are critical for the replenishment of supplies. Scaled-up financial support is also urgently required to facilitate the timely procurement of vital supplies. According to the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), as of 6 June, only US\$8 million in additional funds has been received against the \$333 million Cyclone Mocha Flash Appeal. This appeal aims to provide assistance to 1.6 million people most heavily impacted by the cyclone in Rakhine, Chin, Sagaing, Magway, and Kachin.

## HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

### Education in Emergencies

Needs

- In Rakhine, there are urgent needs for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of damaged education infrastructure, as well as the provision of teaching and learning materials.
- According to field observations, 18 schools and 50 Temporary Learning Spaces (TLSs) were destroyed in Buthidaung and Maungdaw townships.
- In Thet Ka Pyin Rohingya village in Sittwe, the roof of the Basic High School needs urgent repair as it is undermining the usability of the school during the rainy season. Students are currently attending despite the lack of a roof. This is one of the few high schools that Rohingya students are able to attend in central Rakhine.
- In the Northwest, there is an urgent need for roofing sheets for school buildings, renovation of WASH facilities in schools, including latrines, and for learning materials in cyclone-affected areas of Kale, Khin-Oo, Tamu, Salin, Pakokku, Kani, Kanbalu, Yinmarbin, Salingyi, Saw, Pauk and Myaing townships.
- In Chin, one school was destroyed and another five were damaged by the cyclone in Falam township. Partners
  report an urgent need for roof sheets for the damaged schools, repair of WASH facilities and supply of educational
  materials.
- In Kachin, educational materials are needed for cyclone-affected students in Sha It Yang Camp, Waingmaw township to ensure they have resources for learning for the 2023-2024 academic year.

### Response

- In Rakhine, education partners have undertaken the following activities:
  - A cluster partner has started student registration and began distributing open learning materials to 6,733 students (3,538 Boys and 3,195 Girls) in Sittwe and Pauktaw townships.
  - Partners are preparing to distribute 1,000 student kits for catch-up classes in Rohingya IDP camps in Sittwe township. They are planning to rehabilitate 50 TLSs in Rathedaung township and 20 schools in Buthidaung and Maungdaw townships. These learning spaces will be equipped with the necessary school furniture.
- In Chin, the local Education Department has a plan to distribute 2,186 Emergency Learning Package (ELP) kits and 2,400 roofing sheets to public schools in Tedim, Falam, Matupi and Paletwa townships. These materials have been provided to the state Education Office by education cluster partners. Education partners also have a complementary plan to distribute 2,000 ELP kits and 2,000 roofing sheets to community schools in Hakha township.
- In the Northwest, the following responses were underway by partners this week:
  - Partners were distributing 7,440 ELP kits and 4,472 Home Based Learning (HBL) kits to community schools in Kale, Tamu townships in Sagaing and in Salin and Pakokku townships in Magway.
  - Some 7,500 ELP kits, 7,500 HBL kits and 1,846 roofing sheets were provided to community schools in Khin Oo, Kani, Kanbalu, Yinmarbin, Salingyi townships in Sagaing and in Saw, Pauk and Myaing townships in Magway.

• In Kachin, one cluster partner will provide a \$6,000 grant for the renovation of school infrastructure and will conduct WASH activities in schools affected by the cyclone in the Sha It Yang camp, Waingmaw township.

### Gaps & Constraints

- In cyclone-impacted areas, excessive debris continues to be a problem that is slowing the repair and reopening of schools. This issue is further exacerbated by flooding in certain areas and additional hazards such as unexploded ordnance (EO).
- In Rakhine, access constraints are limiting the ability of education partners to provide immediate interventions as the school year gets underway. Permission for partner to construct 46 TLSs and 13 non-formal education centers in Sittwe and Pauktaw townships, is still pending.
- There is an urgent need for resources and materials to support the speedy restoration of learning infrastructure. The provision of learning materials in affected locations is the main gap.

### Food Security

### Needs

- The Food Security Cluster requires \$74.6 million to target one million people for the cyclone response; this includes some 360,000 displaced people and other extremely vulnerable people who were already dependent on food assistance prior to Cyclone Mocha, nearly 10,000 people who require additional, expanded support, and an additional 500,000 people in the worst-affected areas who are at risk of acute food insecurity due to the cyclone and have limited access to jobs or other opportunities to earn an income.
- In the Rakhine and the Northwest, cyclone-impacts on the agriculture and fishery sectors pose long-term threats to food security with livelihoods inputs and assets damaged and destroyed.
- Roughly 92 per cent of flood affected farmland is located in nine townships in Magway. The remaining affected farmlands (8 per cent) are located in Sagaing. The main crops affected are sesame and green gram (mung bean). Smaller areas covered with summer paddy seeds and sunflower have also been affected.
- More than 13,000 animals were reported dead in ten townships of Rakhine, mainly in Rathedaung, Mrauk-U, Pauktaw, Maungdaw and Ponnaguyn townships.
- Household food stocks continue to be depleted as food prices in markets remain extremely high.

#### Response

- As of 4 June, WFP had reached more than 293,800 people in need of food support across Rakhine as part of the cyclone response. This includes 110,000 newly affected people, in addition to 183,800 of WFP's regular relief beneficiaries, mostly IDPs, who were affected by the cyclone.
- As of 3 June, approximately 4,027 metric tons (39 per cent of the total plan for the first month) of rice and highenergy biscuits have been distributed to cyclone-affected people in Rakhine.
- WFP has completed the installation of the mobile storage units as temporary warehouses in Kyauktaw, Ponnagyun
  and Ratheduang townships. These units will serve as storage and handover points for food commodities to WFPs
  implementing partners.
- Partners have been preparing for food security and early recovery interventions in the agriculture sector in Sittwe and Buthidaung townships, primarily for the upcoming planting season.
- In Kachin, food security partners provided emergency food assistance to 15 households in Mansi township, where some farms were severely damaged.
- In Rakhine, partners have been distributing seeds and organic fertilizers to provide families with food to eat and sell.

#### Gaps & Constraints

- One cluster partner is ready to support some 60,000 households with multi-purpose cash assistance in 19 villages in Sittwe township, pending access being approved.
- WFP is ready to assist 11,000 people in the northern part of Buthidaung township, pending access approval.
- The cyclone has caused substantial damage to many warehouses. Locally sourced materials for warehouse repairs are unavailable, compromising partners' ability to properly store supplies.
- Food prices continue to rise and remain higher than pre-cyclone in most areas.
- Local CSOs are still facing intense scrutiny at checkpoints, which limits their capacity to distribute aid.
- Telecommunication services in the Northwest are gradually being restored, but they are still unreliable. This unreliability is hampering communication with local partners.

# 🕈 Health

#### Needs

- Approximately 429,000 people affected by the cyclone still require essential healthcare services, including primary healthcare packages and timely responses to epidemic-prone diseases.
- In Rakhine, half of the township hospitals, which were damaged but remain operational, require repair. Nine
  hospitals are still heavily dependent on generators, resulting in high fuel demand. Damaged roads and transport
  disruptions continue to limit physical access to healthcare facilities for affected people. Additionally, nine clinics in
  the Sittwe IDP camps were destroyed, and one was partially damaged.
- Nine cyclone-affected rural health centres eight in Chin and one in Magway are having a direct impact on the delivery of health services in these areas.
- Cases of Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD), including among children, continue to be reported although the situation seems to be stabilizing. This highlights the urgent need to prevent potential outbreaks of water and vector-borne diseases. The risk is elevated due to flooding, inadequate water and sanitation conditions, and displacement, which have worsened living conditions.
- Mobile clinics operating in Rakhine urgently need to replenish their stock of medicines, including analgesics, antibiotics, and emergency/trauma care supplies.
- Cash assistance is vital to support the replacement of medicines for chronic diseases, transportation, and medical referrals. Financial support will ensure continuity of care and access to essential healthcare services.

### Response

- Since the aftermath of the cyclone, health partners have provided healthcare services to 12,424 people in Rakhine, the Northwest, and Kachin.
- Partners remain vigilant in monitoring case of AWD and other high-epidemic diseases, such as dengue and measles, and reporting them through the Early Warning Alert and Response System (EWARS), which is operating in Rakhine and Kachin for verification and detection of potential public health threats. In parallel, public health authorities maintain a close watch on any surge in the number of AWD cases in all five affected states and regions.
- In Rakhine, health partners are exploring alternative set-ups to deliver healthcare services in an efficient manner in the face of severe building damages of clinics in IDP camps in Sittwe. Health partners remain dedicated to assisting those most affected by Cyclone Mocha. Mobile and fixed clinics in accessible areas of Rakhine are actively expanding their response to meet the urgent needs of the affected people.

### Gaps & Constraints

- The Health Cluster urgently requires \$23.1 million to provide essential healthcare services, including primary healthcare packages, complementary packages, and timely response to epidemic-prone diseases. These interventions aim to reach 429,000 affected people.
- Wider access is crucial to effectively extend health services, allocate resources, and carry out early warning and outbreak investigations. Health partners continue to face persistent challenges in accessing the most severely affected areas even three weeks after the cyclone.

### Nutrition

### Needs

- Nutrition partners report that despite the release of nutrition supplies by customs in the aftermath of the cyclone, there is still a risk of a potential pipeline break for therapeutic nutrition supplies and micronutrients.
- There is a pressing need for increased funding for local procurement of micronutrients in order to address the nutritional needs of women and children. This proactive approach aims to prevent a prolonged shortage of these essential nutrients, which are crucial for safeguarding their health and wellbeing.

### Response

- In Rakhine, nutrition partners had been expanding service provision options by collaborating with other sectors. So far, the Mental Health, and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) and Child Protection AoR have partnered with the cluster to provide key messages during group sessions for malnourished children's caregivers at integrated treatment centres.
- In Rakhine, 9 out of 14 treatment centers have been providing nutrition treatment services including medical consultations, routine medicine for severely acute malnourish (SAM) children, and supply distribution followed by individual counselling in the Sittwe and Pauktaw Rohingya camps. To date, 3,452 people, including 3,080 children under 5 years, and 372 caregivers, received nutrition assistance.

### Gaps & Constraints

- In Rakhine, nutrition partners in Pauktaw are facing an acute shortage of transportation, which has hindered the
  continuation of nutrition group messaging and counselling sessions in 24 villages. However, partners have been
  identifying alternatives where possible, including by providing tele-consultations to some of the affected villages
  where mobile phone access is available.
- The Nutrition Cluster is particularly concerned about a disruption in the supply of preventive micronutrient supplements in areas where the prevalence of anaemia was already a significant public health issue prior to the cyclone.
- Access remains a major challenge for implementing nutrition responses including permissions for organizations to carry out essential nutrition curative and preventive services for vulnerable malnourished children and their caregivers.

### Protection

### Needs

General Protection

- In Rakhine:
  - There are growing protection concerns including but not limited to, the lack of shelter, post-cyclone hazards, unexploded ordnance (UXOs), loss of civil documentation, and other protection risks associated with lack of access to humanitarian aid and basic services, loss of income generation sources, and a lack of access to information.
  - A lack of dignified living spaces due to overcrowding in emergency settings increases protection risks including around sexual abuse and harassment, especially for women and girls. This is exacerbated by the inadequate provision of safe and accessible water and sanitation facilities. The lack of lighting and placement of latrines in isolated areas further increases the risks for women and children.
  - Although most markets have re-opened, there is a significant increase in prices of food across Rakhine and of other essential items, including construction materials, notably in Sittwe. The continued elevated prices, particularly of food items, in the markets are likely to increase negative coping mechanisms, including the potential for irregular movements/trafficking, gender-based violence, suicide/attempted suicide, and petty crime.
  - There are concerning reports from local partners of increasing mental health disorders and suicide attempts among affected people, particularly women and girls.
  - Despite the cyclone, plans for camp closure and relocations of displaced people are proceeding. Meanwhile, in the relocation site for families from Kyauk Ta Lone (KTL) Camp, the cyclone caused significant damage to almost all the latrines, making them unusable. As a result, many families are practicing open defecation. Families who have the means are constructing their own latrines and others are walking back to the KTL Camp, which poses safety risks for women and girls, particularly at night. Although the de facto authorities provide water at the relocation site, it is insufficient to meet the needs of the displaced people. Most families residing in Kyauk Ta Lone IDP camp Kyaukpyu township have now dismantled their shelters and relocated. The relocation site is flood-prone.
  - In Rakhine, the bridges to access Thae Chaung village, IDP camp and hospital in Thet Kae Pyin village were destroyed, posing major challenges for IDPs to access markets and health services.
  - In Sittwe township, the site leader of a displacement site in Ohn Yae Paw village reportedly told new IDPs to leave the monastery where they had been sheltering since the cyclone due to insufficient space and resources. An estimated 16 families are now facing challenges in rebuilding their shelters destroyed by the cyclone.
  - There is an urgent need for tarpaulins for temporary protection from rain and safety.
  - Re-fencing the water ponds in all IDP camps in Rakhine should be prioritized to prevent child drownings. In the Northwest:
    - In Magway, civilians are still facing reduced freedom of movement due to tight travel restrictions in Saw, Pauk, and Pakokku townships. Checkpoints are now conducting strict inspections of tricycles and individuals passing through.
    - Some affected people are grappling with psychological trauma and distress stemming from concerns regarding limited assistance, inability to meet their basic needs, uncertainty, and ongoing armed clashes in certain areas, further complicating the cyclone recovery process.
    - Recent robberies in downtown Pakokku are an indication that the daily survival of civilians is becoming increasingly challenging, with dwindling income, heightened poverty levels, and people resorting to harmful coping mechanisms in the face of hardships.

### Child Protection:

- Child protection concerns are expected to escalate over the coming weeks as children and caregivers resort to negative coping mechanisms to navigate their challenging circumstances. Addressing these critical child protection needs requires immediate support in terms of access and funding.
- Partners in both Rakhine and the Northwest have reported the following child protection concerns between 1 and 5 June:
  - There is a need for safety and awareness-raising messages on the dangers and injuries that might be caused to children playing in debris and water.
  - There is an ongoing need for CFSs in affected communities so that children have a safe space to play.
  - Safety issues, including GBV risks, among children have been reported due to inadequate WASH facilities and shelters.
  - Community volunteers, partners and staff have observed an increase in child labour, due to the lack of livelihoods opportunities for breadwinners following the cyclone, the need to replace basic items, interruptions to education, lack of friendly spaces, lack of adequate supervision, and pressure to contribute to household incomes when resources are low, among others.
  - Adolescent programming is urgently needed as teens are reportedly being stopped from participating in recreational activities due to obligations to support shelter reconstruction.
  - Child Protection kits are still needed to provide children with basic necessities, including clothes.
  - Psychosocial distress has been observed by partners for both children and caregivers.
  - Physical and emotional abuse, including violence within homes and communities, as well as mental health and psychosocial distress among both caregivers and children are being reporting in both Rakhine and Northwest. Scaling up case management is necessary to support children, along with providing support to caregivers to minimize risks.

#### Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

In Rakhine:

- Protective services and referral mechanisms for women and children, especially GBV survivors, are inadequate. Temporary shelters and safe spaces are required to provide medical care and psychosocial support to women and girls. GBV service delivery points were damaged during the cyclone, and partners are resuming service provision using temporary tarpaulins. At least 12 centers were damaged in Mrauk-U, Kyauktaw and Pauktaw townships, although this figure is likely higher due to underreporting.
- There is still a need for dignity kits for the most vulnerable women and girls in affected townships in Rakhine, especially among IDPs.
- In Rakhine, inadequate water and sanitation facilities, including poorly-lit and isolated latrine locations, increases the risk of sexual abuse and harassment for women and adolescent girls.

### Response

General Protection:

- Explosive ordnance risk education (EORE) activities have been conducted in areas affected by Cyclone Mocha. Partners have been delivering tailored safety messages through direct presentations to communities, distributing posters and other materials, conducting social media campaigns, and utilizing local radio channels.
- In the Northwest, key priority clusters such as WASH, food, health, shelter/NFI, and education are receiving capacity-building training and messaging on how to incorporate protection principles into their humanitarian response and promote meaningful access for affected people with safety and dignity.
- A partner had been planning to begin the distribution of cash and in-kind support for 7 days' coverage of food rations, hygiene kits and dignity kits for 375 HH (1,717 people) at Kyaukhtu town in Saw township in Magway and for 375 HH (1,748 people) at Yinmarbin township in Sagaing.
- On 2 June, a specialized agency working on psychological services provided humanitarian actors working on the cyclone response with 'Finding Calm Amidst Chaos' training.
- The Protection Cluster is working on a protection analysis to better understand concerns emerging from the cyclone aftermath. This analysis will better inform priorities and operational programming, advocacy and fundraising.

Child Protection (Note that figures may be underreported)

- Child Protection partners have been providing children with services to mitigate child protection concerns, despite challenges such as funding and access.
- Information sharing and awareness raising messages have been disseminated among affected communities. To date, partners have reached 13,746 people in the Northwest and 14,080 people in Rakhine.

- Some 240 mobile and temporary CFSs have been established or are being maintained in the Northwest (85) and Rakhine (155), providing safe environments for children to engage in recreational activities and receive psychosocial support.
- Child Protection partners have been distributing child protection kits despite challenges in procurement. Some 113 CP kits have been distributed in the Northwest and 853 have been distributed in Rakhine.
- Case management, a priority response for children in the aftermath of the cyclone, has been underway, along with following up on referrals for individual cases. A total of 599 children in the Northwest and 381 in Rakhine children have been identified for case management and their cases will be followed up on.
- Child and caregiver help desks have been supporting rapid reunification and provision of other information. To date, there are 76 help desks in the Northwest and 94 help desks in Rakhine.

### Gender-Based Violence

- Rakhine:
  - In Rakhine, GBV services have been provided through the mobile teams and fixed centers in all targeted areas. Three additional mobile teams are planned for GBV and MHPSS services, pending approval from the Department of Social Welfare.
  - A total of 1,500 dignity kits were distributed in Sittwe, Pauktaw, Mrauk-U and Kyauktaw townships, and around 15,000 kits were pre-positioned for delivery.
  - Partners supported GBV prevention through male engagement initiatives, community dialogues, and doorto-door visits in Sittwe and Pauktaw townships. GBV and PSEA-related messages have also been disseminated among affected communities.
  - A total of 24 GBV service delivery points for GBV case management services have been functioning in the 8 most cyclone-affected townships of Rakhine while 3 GBV hotlines/helplines are operational.

### • In the Northwest:

- Cash and clean delivery kits were delivered to 62 pregnant women in Paletwa (41) and Sami (21) townships.
- A partner is planning to distribute 480 dignity kits in Tedim, Hakha, and Kanpetlet townships of Chin.
- A partner is providing GBV case management services and PSS in Falam, Hakha, Thantlang, Matupi townships.
- Mobile PSS services are being provided by various actors in several townships in the Northwest.

### Gaps & Constraints

- Accessing affected areas remains a persistent challenge in parts of Rakhine and the Northwest. In the Northwest, heavy restrictions, demands for paperwork and screening at security checkpoints, and access issues, along with telecommunications backouts and road blockages, remain the primary challenges. Moreover, the active conflict in Thantlang and Hakha townships has further exacerbated the humanitarian situation facing IDPs. The lack of access had already forced the distribution of dignity kits to be suspended.
- There is a shortage of trained professionals, especially in the field of protection, to effectively identify and address protection issues and concerns.
- Urgent financial and human resources are needed for child protection efforts. A limited number of partner
  organizations are providing response services, and access challenges are further impeding the response.
  Insufficient funding is hindering the provision of a comprehensive response to those affected.
- There is a lack of contingency funding for local partners to promptly address immediate needs in a timely manner.

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

### Needs

- According to field observations, it is estimated that at least 195,000 houses were damaged by the cyclone in affected areas the vast majority (191,000) in Rakhine affecting 849,000 people (779,000 in Rakhine).
- Transportation of high-demand shelter items into Rakhine remains a priority due to limited stocks and inflated local market prices. There is an urgent need for tarpaulins for temporary protection from rain and for safety.

### Response

- Cluster partners have provided shelter materials and NFI kits, as well as CCCM support, to 113,275 people, as below:
  - In Rakhine, partners provided shelter materials, NFI assistance, and support for site maintenance and safety activities to more than 22,655 affected households. In addition, shelter and NFI assistance is currently being planned for distribution to a further 23,568 households pending approvals. A comprehensive evaluation of the conditions of longhouse shelters in IDP camps has also begun.

- In the Northwest, partners are pre-positioning NFI kits for 3,297 families and multi-purpose cash assistance to 2,840 families in the affected areas in Chin, Magway and Sagaing. Some partners have started procurement processes for in-kind interventions, while transport requests remain pending.
- In Kachin, cluster partners are planning to repair and reconstruct 420 shelters and 37 kitchens, as well as some camp-related communal structures.

### Gaps & Constraints

- The Cluster's cyclone response remains severely underfunded given the magnitude of needs and limited resources.
- In Rakhine, shelter and NFI materials, along with food and other essential items are in short supply in the markets. The prices of tarpaulins, metal roofing sheets and nails have increased more than 200 per cent.
- In the Northwest, ongoing fighting, the presence of troops, bureaucratic delays and pending access approvals are hindering partners' response in affected areas.
- In Kachin, 104 damaged shelters are still in need of repair.

## Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

### Needs

- In Rakhine, dewatering services are needed for more than 100 ponds contaminated by saline water due to storm surge in several townships.
- To date, approximately 48,000 people in the Northwest require emergency WASH assistance, specifically safe drinking water, emergency latrines, and hygiene supplies. This includes 4,000 people in Chin, 24,000 people in Magway, and 20,000 people in Sagaing.

### Response

- In Rakhine, cluster partners provided WASH and other emergency relief items to cyclone-affected households in both Rakhine displacement sites and Rohingya IDP camps, and other affected villages in several townships, as below:
  - Some 5,780 hygiene kits, 265 water filters, 365 jerrycans, 2,265 buckets, 36 dustbins, 70 tarpaulin sheets and 251 ropes were distributed in Mrauk-U, Myebon, Pauktaw, Rathedaung and Sittwe townships.
  - More than 389,220 liters of drinking water were distributed to 122 locations in Sittwe township. In addition, water boating and trucking services were provided to 8 Rakhine displacement sites in Kyauktaw township, 17 Rohingya and Rakhine displacement sites/camps in Sittwe township, and 3 Rohingya camps/villages in Pauktaw township.
  - Some 76 boxes of water purification tablets (16,000 tabs per box) were distributed to WASH partners, to provide 55,000 affected people with emergency drinking water access (7.5 liters per person per day) for 30 days, in Buthidaung, Kyauktaw, Maungdaw, Minbya, Mrauk-U, Rathedaung and Sittwe townships.
  - Some 38 hygiene promotion sessions were conducted for nearly 1,600 displaced people in 2 IDP camps and 18 villages/wards in Sittwe township.
  - Technical coordination is ongoing among WASH partners and the Department of Rural Development for dewatering services for saline water intrusion in 107 water ponds in three townships due to the storm surge.
- In the Northwest, procurement of hygiene kits for 1,000 affected people is being processed to distribute in Hakha and Matupi townships in Chin during this week.

### Gaps & Constraints

- Limited stocks and increased market prices in Sittwe in Rakhine are hindering the humanitarian response.
- In the Northwest, ongoing fighting, insecurity and the presence of troops, and access approvals are restricting field observations, as well as responses.

For further information, please contact:

Danielle Parry, Officer in Charge, parryd@un.org, +95 9797002713 (Phone/Signal)

**Suhad Sakalla**, Humanitarian Affairs Officer, sakalla@un.org, +95 9797007815, +972 054433 4202 (Signal/WhatsApp) For more information, please visit *www.unocha.org* | https://reliefweb.int/country/mmr | https://www.facebook.com/OCHAMyanmar