

As of 17 May 2025

This Situation Report is produced by OCHA in collaboration with the 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.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Seven weeks on, the impacts of the 28 March earthquakes in central Myanmar continue to drive significant humanitarian needs, both for immediate relief and early recovery.
- Many families remain displaced in temporary shelters or rental housing due to safety concerns, including fear of returning to structurally compromised homes, with limited sustainable long-term shelter solutions in sight.
- Despite heightened risks due to unsafe drinking water and poor sanitation, no major disease outbreaks have been reported.
- Disruptions to food supply chains, health services, and livelihoods have reduced access to nutritious food, especially for families already affected by poverty and displacement.
- Nearly 509,400 people (57 per cent of targeted population) still urgently need food assistance.
- Shelter/NFI Cluster partners have reached more than 138,000 people with emergency NFI kits and more than 19,800 people with emergency shelter assistance across six affected states and regions.
- The Flash Addendum to the 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan was issued on 11 April calling for US\$275 million to reach 1.1 million people with urgent aid. As of 16 May, only US\$44.2 million has been disbursed.



Photo: A distribution of hygiene kits and non-food items to earthquake-affected communities in Tada-U Township, Mandalay Region, on 15 May 2025. Credit: OCHA/Pierre Peron

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SITUATION OVERVIEW

Seven weeks after devastating earthquakes struck central Myanmar on 28 March, humanitarian needs remain acute across the affected areas. A number of displaced people remain at temporary sites due to safety concerns, particularly the fear of returning to damaged homes or homes located near structurally compromised buildings. Some affected communities have lost their homes entirely and face significant, prolonged recovery challenges, while others are able to begin repairs on partially damaged houses. Many displaced families are currently staying in rental accommodations but lack sustainable, long-term shelter options. Temporary displacement sites have largely closed or are in the process of closing, with a mix of voluntary and involuntary returns. In some areas, people remain in place due to continued access to basic services and support. Both rural and urban displacement areas continue to face serious environmental and public health risks due to limited solid waste management infrastructure.

Although humanitarian partners are scaling up their response efforts, funding remains limited despite the scale and urgency of the needs. This underscores the importance of sustained support for both immediate relief and early recovery. The Flash Addendum to the 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan was issued on 11 April calling for US\$275 million to reach 1.1 million people with urgent aid. According to the Financial Tracking System, as of 16 May, only US\$44.2 million has been disbursed,

Over the past two weeks, 66 per cent of assessed markets remained operational, with a small proportion reporting intermittent closures of one or two days per month. Essential goods such as vegetables and hygiene items are widely available, however, medicine and fuel remain limited – particularly in Sagaing. About a quarter of assessed markets were considered unsafe due to ongoing conflict. Despite these challenges, markets continue to effectively serve surrounding communities, with strong integration at both village and township levels. Meanwhile, supply chains for construction materials are gradually resuming, and factories have restarted operations in Sagaing.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Early Recovery

Needs:

• Support is needed in Nyaungshwe Township in southern Shan to restore sustainable livelihoods through job creation and the provision of agricultural and fishing inputs.

Response:

- The cluster has finalized its strategic framework, focusing on restoring community infrastructure, expanding access to
 essential services, and promoting resilient livelihoods. Community-led recovery and long-term resilience remain key
 priorities.
- A cluster member has trained 36 staff and volunteers from five local organizations in southern Shan on parenting skills in crisis settings and drug use prevention.
- A partner completed a preliminary debris assessment and has launched a pilot debris removal project in the worstaffected areas.
- Assessments on cultural sites, education, and resilience-building are being planned.

Gaps & Constraints:

• Additional security checkpoints along key routes are impacting timely access to affected communities.

Education in Emergencies

Needs:

- Top priorities include repairing classrooms, setting up temporary learning spaces, and providing teaching and learning materials, according to multisector initial rapid assessments (MIRA).
- Mental health and psychosocial support are urgently needed for both teachers and students.
- Rural schools face greater water, sanitation and hygiene needs compared to urban schools.
- Families currently sheltering in schools need urgent shelter and non-food item support to relocate, allowing learning spaces to be restored.

Response:

- While schools remain closed—except for some pre-primary and special sessions—cluster partners have provided learning materials to 5,076 children in Kayin, Mandalay, and Sagaing. Reach is expected to expand once schools reopen in June.
- Partners are preparing back-to-school plans for both formal and non-formal education, including support for learners in temporary shelters.
- Early recovery planning has begun and will overlap with ongoing emergency education support.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Access to schools in hard-to-reach rural areas remains a major challenge for assessments and assistance.
- Funding remains insufficient to meet the extensive needs of affected students and teachers.

Food Security

Needs:

- Nearly 509,400 people (57 per cent of the 901,000 targeted) still urgently need food assistance. Immediate needs include cash, seeds, fertilizer, animal feed, and veterinary supplies. These are especially critical in earthquake-affected townships of Chauk, Magway, Natmauk, Taungdwingyi, and Yenangyaung in Magway Region.
- In southern Shan, significant damage to the fisheries sector particularly in Nyaungshwe Township, where over half of the fishponds were destroyed requires support for restocking and equipment replacement.
- Priority should be vulnerable groups such as female-headed households, families with older persons or persons with disabilities, subsistence farmers, and casual labourers.

Response:

- Between 1 and 13 May, about 23,300 earthquake-affected people in Mandalay, Sagaing, and southern Shan received emergency food assistance.
- In Mandalay Region, more than 9,400 people, including nearly 1,200 displaced persons, received food assistance in Amarapura, Aungmyaythazan, Mahaaungmyay, and Myittha townships.
- In Sagaing Township, nearly 14,700 people, including over 1,600 displaced people received food assistance.
- In southern Shan, more than 400 people in Nyaungshwe Township received food assistance.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Only 43 per cent of the targeted 901,000 people have been reached, leaving critical needs unmet.
- Agricultural production is at risk due to damaged infrastructure, asset losses, weak input markets, and limited access to credit. While 60 per cent of rural farmers can sell their produce, high transport costs have forced them to accept lower prices. Trade is restricted to local areas in 30 per cent of villages, and 10 per cent have no market access, primarily in Sagaing Township.
- Food supply is increasingly difficult in Sagaing, where traders are unable to transport rice from Mandalay and are relying on existing stocks, raising concerns about shortages.
- Coverage remains uneven, with some areas such as eastern Bago and northern Shan reporting no distributions to date.

ই Health

Needs:

- Despite heightened risks due to unsafe drinking water and poor sanitation, no major disease outbreaks have been reported. Suspected acute watery diarrhoea cases have been quickly verified and addressed to prevent spread.
- The risk of malaria and dengue is rising as stagnant water from rains creates mosquito breeding grounds. Most affected people lack access to insecticide-treated bed nets.
- Mental health remains a major concern. According to MIRA, 67 per cent of respondents reported emotional distress linked to the earthquake and ongoing conflict. About 84 per cent said they have no access to mental health services.

- Since the earthquake response, health partners have reached 41,000 people (9 per cent of the target) in 44 affected townships, with 52 per cent of those reached in Mandalay. Nearly half are women over 18.
- Efforts are underway to integrate mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) into existing health services.

- Coordination is ongoing to ensure equitable and effective delivery of physical rehabilitation services as part of the earthquake response. The Technical Advisory Group for Disability Inclusion and the Health Cluster are setting up a Physical Rehabilitation Working Group amongst relevant rehabilitation stakeholders.
- Health partners continue to provide essential medicines to service providers on the ground.

Gaps & Constraints:

- As partners rely heavily on local pharmaceutical procurement, they have consistently requested guidance on reliable and safe suppliers.
- The absence of data on the status and functionality of health facilities affected by the earthquake limits planning for infrastructure rehabilitation.

Needs:

• Clear visibility of partners' supply pipelines is essential to ensure timely and coordinated delivery of humanitarian assistance in the coming weeks.

Response:

- The Logistics Cluster is coordinating storage services with partners across key locations:
 - In Mandalay, 22 cubic metres of non-food item (NFI) cargo are currently stored.
 - In Taunggyi Town in southern Shan, 20 cubic metres of NFI cargo are stored.
 - In Yangon, 445 cubic metres of partner cargo are stored.
- A logistics vendor list has been compiled and shared to support partners with procurement and transport needs.
- To improve importation processes, key issues are being collected from partners, and a mapping exercise is underway.
- Updated Standard Operating Procedures (May 2025) for the cluster's common services are available online.

Gaps & Constraints:

• Challenges like lengthy procedures, delays and various requirements including a lack of clear guidelines, persist for the importation of relief items.

Nutrition

Needs:

- Nutrition vulnerabilities in Mandalay and Sagaing regions have been significantly worsened due to the earthquakes. Disruptions to food supply chains, health services, and livelihoods have reduced access to nutritious food, especially for families already affected by poverty and displacement. Children under five and pregnant and lactating women face increased risks of acute malnutrition, illness, and death if timely support is not provided.
- Immediate priorities include therapeutic food for children with acute malnutrition, micronutrient supplements, and counselling on infant and young child feeding (IYCF) to promote safe feeding practices. There is also a critical need to address the misuse of breast milk substitutes (BMS), which can be dangerous in emergency settings due to poor sanitation and limited clean water. Training for caregivers and responders on BMS Code compliance and the promotion of exclusive breastfeeding is urgently needed.

- Since the earthquake response, 2,883 children and 241 pregnant and lactating women have been screened for acute malnutrition, with 29 children referred for therapeutic treatment.
- A total of 2,228 caregivers and pregnant and lactating women have received IYCF counselling. To combat micronutrient deficiencies, 2,810 children and 1,396 pregnant and lactating women have received multiple micronutrient supplements.
- In addition, 4,535 children and 993 pregnant and lactating women are enrolled in the blanket supplementary feeding programme.
- Nutritious food parcels including rice, chickpeas, iodized salt, cooking oil, and fortified biscuits have been distributed to vulnerable households in Mandalay and Sagaing. All nutrition activities are carried out with other cluster partners as part of the joint earthquake response.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Some affected townships still lack adequate partner presence, creating gaps in service delivery. Physical access is limited by damaged infrastructure and ongoing security concerns, delaying the delivery of supplies and staff.
- Limited funding and supply chain issues are restricting the scale of the response. Increased financial support, more emergency nutrition supplies, and expanded partner engagement are essential to meet needs in all priority locations.

Protection

Needs:

- Access to safe and dignified shelter remains a critical need, as many affected people are living in makeshift structures without adequate protection from the elements, including extreme weather conditions. The lack of privacy and secure space, particularly for women and children, heightens the risk of gender-based violence, exploitation, and other protection concerns.
- The destruction of health facilities and continued disruption of essential services have left communities without access to medical care, including mental health and psychosocial support, which requires urgent attention.
- The earthquake has exacerbated vulnerabilities among already displaced populations. These communities face compounded protection risks, including the absence of civil documentation, movement restrictions, and limited access to humanitarian assistance. Reports of forced evictions are increasing, and urgent attention is needed to address widespread housing, land and property (HLP) concerns among the displaced.
- Urgent advocacy is needed to secure humanitarian access and to engage parties to the conflict to enable the delivery of critical protection services to those in need.

Response:

- Since the earthquake response, cluster partners have reached more than 27,000 people with targeted protection support, including case management services for people at heightened risk, such as the older persons and persons with disabilities, in eastern Bago, Kayin, Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing and southern Shan.
- Also in the same states and regions, nearly 104,400 people have been reached through protection needs assessments and ongoing monitoring. Over 102,100 people have participated in community-based awareness activities designed to prevent and mitigate protection risks and human rights violations.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Humanitarian access remains severely constrained due to ongoing conflict, roadblocks, and bureaucratic impediments, hampering aid delivery and limiting partner presence.
- Access to aid distribution is often controlled by parties to the conflict, which can create challenges in ensuring equitable and impartial assistance. These dynamics may lead to risks of exclusion, manipulation, or misuse.
- Overcrowded and unsafe shelters continue to expose women, girls, children, older persons, and persons with disabilities to heightened protection risks.
- Lack of funding for provision of legal aid, HLP and forced eviction issues remains a huge gap that will increase vulnerability and tension among the affected population.

Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

Needs:

- Affected people, especially those displaced or with low income, are facing ongoing distress anxiety, shock, and emotional exhaustion.
- Safe, private spaces for mental health support are urgently needed.
- Vulnerable groups need regular psychosocial support to cope and recover.
- There is a critical need to reduce stigma the widespread misconception that seeking psychological support will result in hospitalization at local mental health institutions.

- Partners are running a national campaign to raise mental health awareness, being broadcasted on TV and radio programmes.
- Weekly webinars and Burmese-language materials support frontline workers and communities.
- Forty volunteers are being trained in basic psychological support.
- A recent safe-space event reached over 150 people with meals, art, and family activities.
- Free counselling and workshops are available in Mandalay, with a new centre opening in June 2025.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Stigma and low awareness limit uptake of services.
- Shortages of trained staff, materials, and safe spaces affect service delivery.
- Referral options for serious cases are limited.
- Sustained engagement and trust-building with local partners is needed to strengthen MHPSS response.

Child Protection (CP) Area of Responsibility (AoR)

Needs:

- Child protection risks are rising post-earthquake due to overcrowding, loss of livelihoods, and caregiver stress leading to violence, child labour, unsafe migration, and separation.
- Children face fear, anxiety, and growing exploitation risks, worsened by lack of shelter, health care, and basic services. Urgent need for mental health and psychosocial support for children and caregivers to reduce harm.
- Family tracing, reunification, and case management are essential, especially for girls (64 per cent of unaccompanied children) at risk of abuse and trafficking.
- Community-based protection must be scaled up to strengthen local support systems.
- Adolescents need targeted and gender-sensitive support to reduce risks of recruitment, labour, and GBV especially in unsafe, overcrowded sites lacking privacy.

Response:

- Since the earthquake response, the CP AoR has reached nearly 43,000 people with child protection services, including over 38,000 children and 411 persons with disabilities.
- AoR partners distributed approximately 11,300 child protection kits and reunified 2 unaccompanied children through family tracing. Over 980 children were enrolled in case management for protection concerns. Targeted gendersensitive programming reached nearly 400 adolescents, while close to 4,800 people received life-saving information.
- Psychosocial support or psychological first aid was provided to more than 25,300 people. To strengthen coordination, a dedicated dashboard was developed to track earthquake-specific child protection activities.
- CP AoR developed an earthquake-specific response dashboard and continues to share key materials and guidance with partners. It also organized an online training on establishing child friendly spaces, attended by 120 participants, and a five-day case management training in northwestern Myanmar.

Gaps & Constraints:

• Major constraints include funding shortfalls and limited access due to insecurity. Ongoing conflict in some earthquakeaffected areas has deterred partners from establishing child friendly spaces.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) AoR

Needs:

- GBV risks remain high due to overcrowding, lack of privacy, and negative coping mechanisms, including intimate partner violence, sexual exploitation and abuse, trafficking, and harassment.
- Displacement sites and makeshift shelters lack safe, gender-sensitive WASH facilities, increasing GBV exposure.
- Women and girls face widespread psychological distress but limited access to psychosocial support and GBV services, especially in conflict-affected areas.
- Adolescent girls and women with disabilities face added risks due to limited accessibility and tailored services.
- Livelihood support is urgently needed for women heading households after income loss.

Response:

- Nearly 50 partners are delivering GBV services including case management, psychosocial support, legal aid, and dignity kits. Five helplines remain active.
- Since the earthquake response, GBV partners have reached 9,543 people including 363 persons with disabilities with response and prevention services in eastern Bago, Kayin, Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw, Sagaing and southern Shan. Additionally, 18,365 dignity kits and women's essential items have been distributed.
- Partners are scaling up efforts where access and operational capacity allows. Updated referral pathways and service
 maps have been disseminated to partners. A total of 73 frontline workers have been trained to strengthen response.
 Eight new women and girls safe spaces (WGSS) will be established across four states and regions.

Gaps & Constraints:

• Access to GBV services is hindered by conflict, damaged infrastructure and funding shortfalls.

- Key services (like case management, clinical management of rape, WGSS, and legal aid) are lacking in many areas.
- Shortage of trained staff, partner presence, and limited humanitarian access persists.
- Stigma and harmful norms limit reporting and service uptake. Stress among frontline responders is also an emerging concern and needs support.

Mine Action AoR

Needs:

- Landmine risks remain critical, with 32 of 58 priority townships already contaminated prior to the earthquakes. The earthquakes have displaced explosive ordnance into new areas, including residential homes.
- Emerged or shifted landmines pose serious threats to affected communities and humanitarian responders. Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) must be integrated across all cluster responses.
- With the monsoon approaching, the threat from unexploded ordnance is expected to increase. Children are particularly vulnerable, often seen playing unsupervised.
- As mines can take various forms, children risk handling them unknowingly, increasing the potential for injury.
- There is an urgent need to scale up victim assistance including cash support, rehabilitation, and mental MHPSS despite resource constraints.

Response:

- MA AoR partners have reached 2,524 people: 2,465 with EORE (including 41 persons with disabilities) and 59 with victim assistance.
- Digital EORE materials in multiple formats and languages have been widely disseminated through local media and community networks, receiving positive feedback.
- Earthquake-specific EORE messages have been shared with other clusters; approximately 80 per cent of actors in northwestern Myanmar are delivering these messages.
- The MA AoR has developed township-level maps overlaying contamination data with earthquake-affected areas to help guide partner prioritization.

Gaps & Constraints:

- While victim assistance and MHPSS is being scaled up, access to prosthetics and rehabilitation remains limited due to logistical challenges and incomplete referral pathways.
- Conflict-related access constraints, especially in eastern Bago and Kayin, continue to hamper the response.

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

Needs:

- Seventy-four per cent of the worst-affected townships remain without any shelter assistance, while 50 per cent have received no NFI support. Even in areas already reached, more than 75 per cent of targeted people still require assistance.
- Nearly 100 informal settlements have been identified across the earthquake-affected areas. Most are in critical condition, with no coordinated camp management support.
- Overcrowded and unmanaged sites are heightening risks of gender-based violence, disease outbreaks, and fire hazards.
- Safe and sustained humanitarian access is urgently needed to deliver life-saving assistance and establish basic camp management structures in underserved areas.

- Since earthquake response, Shelter/NFI Cluster partners have reached 138,581 people with emergency NFI kits and 19,813 people with emergency shelter assistance across six affected states and regions. Twenty-three partners are delivering NFI support, and 11 are providing emergency shelter.
- In central and northwestern Myanmar 87,589 people (57,506 in Mandalay and 28,228 in Sagaing) have received NFIs, while 7,791 people (3,768 in Mandalay and 4,028 in Sagaing) have received emergency shelter. In Nay Pyi Taw, 7,883 people have received shelter support and 2,200 have been provided with NFI kits.
- In southeastern Myanmar, 48,769 people have received NFIs, including 36,503 in southern Shan, 8,669 in eastern Bago, and 3,597 in Kayin. Emergency shelter support has reached 4,139 people in these states.
- CCCM support is in place in 17 sites, with local organizations being supported to initiate CCCM activities in additional locations.

• The cluster has finalized updated technical guidance on earthquake- and climate-resilient shelter designs, promoting environmentally sustainable construction options.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Balancing immediate shelter response with longer-term, durable solutions remains a major challenge. Limited funding continues to restrict partners' capacity to scale up the response.
- Prepositioned supplies remain insufficient to meet escalating needs. Stock shortages in Mandalay are particularly concerning, hindering timely response efforts.
- Significant gaps in camp management persist. Displaced families are enduring unsafe and overcrowded conditions, poor site planning, inadequate weather protection, and limited access to essential services.
 Urgent CCCM interventions are critical. Without proper site setup and monitoring, the approaching monsoon season risks severe flooding, increased overcrowding, and disruptions to vital services for vulnerable populations.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

Needs:

- Solid and excreta waste management remains a critical issue in Nyaungshwe Township in southern Shan due to challenging geological conditions and the absence of functional waste collection, transport, and disposal systems.
- Access to safe drinking water is still a major concern in most affected areas. Water system rehabilitation has been slow, and water quality testing, particularly in Nyaungshwe Township, has shown contamination risks.
- Of the 58 prioritized earthquake-affected townships, 36 remain outside the current WASH response. In Yedashe
 Township in eastern Bago, water systems were damaged by the earthquake, and even those still functioning have
 turned turbid, raising water quality concerns.
- There is an urgent need to expand hygiene promotion, especially on acute watery diarrhoea prevention, to help mitigate the risk of disease outbreaks in affected communities.

Response:

- WASH partners continue to respond by providing safe drinking water (through filtration systems, bottled water, and purification tablets), constructing emergency sanitation facilities, and distributing hygiene items.
- Over 294,000 people have received support since the earthquake response. Of these, 56 per cent benefited from hygiene item distribution, 32 per cent from water distribution, and 12 per cent from sanitation interventions. The response remains largely focused on emergency relief, but partners are urged to transition toward sustainable solutions, including rehabilitating damaged WASH facilities to ensure long-term resilience.
- A technical WASH assessment is ongoing to evaluate infrastructure damage and identify rehabilitation needs to support early recovery planning.

Gaps & Constraints:

- Rehabilitation work has started in some areas, but progress is limited. Sustained funding is essential to support recovery and move beyond short-term emergency responses.
- Rural and urban displacement areas continue to lack solid waste infrastructure, posing serious environmental and public health risks.

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