



Woman whose house was destroyed in the earthquake receives shelter material and non-food items. | © IOM May 2025

HIGHLIGHTS



More than 6.3 million people are in need in the areas hardest-hit by the earthquakes, requiring a significant scale-up in response.



Challenging weather conditions; early monsoon season with heavy rainfall on a daily basis posing additional challenges for people residing outside in makeshift shelters without protection against the elements. Increased risk of waterborne diseases.



While the response has moved into the Early Recovery stage, multisectoral humanitarian response needs remain high and significant, particularly outside town centres. Early recovery and reconstruction needs are nonetheless vast, where support for restoring people's livelihoods as well as access to essential services will be key.



IOM's **Flash Appeal** calls for **USD 17.3M** to provide life-saving assistance to earthquake-affected people during the first three months of the response. So far, **USD 9.1M** has been confirmed or is in the pipeline, with a current funding gap of **USD 8.2M.**¹

¹ The IOM Flash Appeal for the Myanmar Earthquake Response, is in line with Myanmar Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan Flash Addendum, and the IOM Myanmar Crisis Response Plan. For more information, please visit the [Myanmar Crisis Response Plan 2025 | Global Crisis Response Platform](#).

SITUATION UPDATE

Almost two months after the earthquake, humanitarian needs remain high and widespread, with many yet to have received any assistance – particularly affected communities in hard-to-reach areas. Food and emergency shelter assistance remain among the top needs, with the majority of affected households needing cash as a flexible means to meet immediate needs and kickstart longer-term recovery efforts.

In the past week, Myanmar saw the first rains of an early monsoon season, which are expected to exacerbate these needs and worsen the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) crisis, particularly for communities residing in makeshift collective shelters and displacement camps. Access to clean drinking water and safe WASH facilities remains challenging for many earthquake-affected communities as a result of destroyed water systems, leading to reliance on unsafe WASH practices and increasing risks of the spread of waterborne and communicable diseases.

Steps towards early recovery are being made as assessments begin to reveal the full scale of the damage caused by the quake and through ongoing strategic-level discussions at the Early Recovery Cluster to ensure recovery efforts are well adapted to the local context. According to the [World Bank](#), an estimated USD 11 billion, equivalent to 14 per cent of the country's GDP 2024/2025, has been damaged. Beyond the massive damage of physical infrastructure, the quake has disrupted foundational social and economic infrastructure, impacting livelihoods of potentially up to 3.5 million workers – including migrant workers in Myanmar ([ILO 2025](#)).

IOM appealed for USD 17.3 million to reach 293,560 crisis-affected persons during the first three months of the response. Currently around 30 per cent funded, IOM is calling for additional support to respond to the most urgent needs and to support affected people to rebuild their lives. While humanitarian emergency needs remain high, the vast recovery and reconstruction needs are becoming increasingly evident, as well as support for restoring access to essential services and people's livelihoods.

SECTORAL NEEDS AND IOM RESPONSE

31	60	70,000	3,449	7,358	4,885
Local partners in affected townships	IOM staff based in Sagaing and Mandalay offices	Relief items received with ongoing distributions	Individuals received relief items	Individuals received cash assistance, with ongoing distributions set to reach 54,600.	Patients accessed medical consultations/care by IOM mobile clinics

Shelter and non-food items

Needs and response gaps: Almost one and a half months after the earthquake, needs for shelter assistance persist. While the response is moving towards early recovery, it must be highlighted that a significant share of the affected population is yet to receive any shelter assistance, whether for emergency shelter solutions transitional shelter or shelter repair assistance. Market assessments show that shelter material and related shelter construction or emergency shelter items are limited, and in many places only accessible at soaring prices. Existing shelters across earthquake-affected areas, including collective shelter solutions, pose safety and privacy concerns, lacking partitioning walls and failing to provide safe spaces for women and girls. Shelter repair kits (particularly tarpaulins, ropes and tools) and basic non-food items continue to be in great need, in particular in hard-to-reach areas which continue to face supply shortages and limited access to financial services for cash-based assistance.

IOM response: IOM started distributions of the 70,000 relief items received from IOM's Global Stocks Warehouse, and donations from , Finland and Luxemburg, with air transportation supported by the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and onward in-country transportation supported by ECHO and UPS, in coordination with WFP and

the Logistics Cluster. Additional relief items are expected to arrive from Bulgaria and Poland. IOM is also coordinating donations from the private sector, including companies based in Myanmar, for relief items already in country. This includes hygiene products, water filters, solar rechargeable lamps and batteries, and shelter items.

Distributions are ongoing in targeted wards in Amarapura, Mandalay, while distributions in Naw Pyi Taw will start in the coming days. In Amarapura, IOM did not assist those who stay in the collective shelters or informal displacement sites, who were already targeted by other organizations – rather, IOM assisted people who are staying in front of their collapsed houses or under partially collapsed structures yet to have received any assistance. IOM and community volunteers conducted needs assessments and data verification ahead of the distributions, and conducted duplication checks with the Shelter / NFI / CCCM Cluster.

Communities were provided with information on AAP, PSEA and available humanitarian assistance. Complaints and feedback mechanisms were also set up to ensure affected people are aware of and have the channels for lodging complaints and providing feedback to IOM.



Women packing shelter kits after distribution in Amarapura, Mandalay | © IOM May 2025

Health

Needs and response gaps: A large number of health facilities were severely damaged. According to rapid needs assessments, an estimated 395 health facilities in Sagaing, Eastern Bago, Kayin, Mandalay, Naypyitaw, and Southern Shan remain non-functional due to the earthquake. There is a continued shortage of clean drinking water due to damaged water infrastructure in many of the affected communities. For people residing in temporary shelters and displacement sites, overcrowding, inadequate waste disposal and lack of sanitation facilities pose additional health risks, particularly risks of disease outbreaks, acute watery diarrhea (AWD) and respiratory infections. Chronic illnesses, particularly diabetes and hypertension, are among the most frequently reported conditions of IOM's mobile clinic patients. Continued and adequate supply of essential medicines will be critical for primary healthcare service provision, as well as continued assessing and addressing of nutrition for early detection of increase risks if malnourishment for children under 5, lactating and pregnant women, of vulnerable families.

IOM response: IOM mobile clinics, composed of doctors, nurses, midwives, and health educators, have been deployed to various townships in Mandalay Region since 5 April, providing direct healthcare services to earthquake-affected populations. Mobile teams covered multiple villages and wards in Mahar Aung Myay and Amarapura townships. Cumulatively, IOM mobile clinics have attended to 3,758 individuals (1,240 males and 2,518 females). Health needs have shifted from trauma care for injuries to the treatment of common illnesses, including non-communicable diseases. The most common health conditions identified were:

- Diabetes
- Hypertension
- Acute respiratory infections
- Psychosocial support needs

For patients requiring further assessments or secondary/tertiary care, IOM facilitated 30 referrals to the Japan Medical Center, Mandalay General Hospital, Station Hospital (Amarapura Township), Mandalay Children's Hospital and a private hospital in Mandalay.

IOM mobile teams also emphasized primary disease prevention by delivering information on behavioral and medical health risks and conducting health promotion and education activities. Health educators provided tailored health education to patients and caretakers during their visits.

Protection and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support

Needs and response gaps: Insecurity persists across earthquake-affected areas, which continue to experience conflict, impacting movement and posing protection risks and threats. As mentioned, women and girls residing in makeshift shelter and displacement camps face additional protection risks resulting from overcrowding, lack of lighting and privacy, gender-segregated facilities, no access to toilets with lighting at night, including risks of sexual harassment and abuse, and other forms of gender-based violence. There are also reports that female-headed households struggle or face additional barriers to access emergency relief and financial assistance.

Assessments conducted by UN agencies and partners, confirmed by IOM MHPSS teams on the ground, confirm that psychosocial support needs remain high and widespread, with the majority of people experiencing distress having lost loved ones, property, and livelihoods, facing uncertainty and with limited access to care and support services.

IOM response: IOM MHPSS staff deployed to Mandalay continued to join IOM mobile health clinics in Mahar Aung Myay and Amarapura townships to reinforce the health response for people in need. Teams provided focused non-specialized mental health and psychosocial support, conducting MHPSS assessments, providing emotional support, psychological first aid, group wellbeing sessions, lay counselling and psychoeducation. Seventy-seven individuals have been supported so far. Responding to the needs on the ground, IOM is expanding its protection and MHPSS response through two local partners in Mandalay and Sagaing to expand community-based MHPSS interventions, as well as protection case management. IOM is training 36 Protection and MHPSS partner staff on protection case management to ensure they have the technical skills and capacity to provide comprehensive protection case management in line with international standards and best practices. To ensure mainstreaming of protection and GBV risk mitigation, IOM protection staff also conducted safety audits at distribution points in Amarapura township to identify and mitigate protection and gender-based violence risks, particularly for women and girls.

Emergency Cash Assistance

Needs and response gaps: Recent assessments by the Market Analysis Unit and REACH highlight the continuous strong need for cash-based interventions (CBI) in the aftermath of the earthquake. Markets remain largely functional and able to supply essential goods, making them well-positioned to support CBI. However, many affected households face reduced income and limited access to cash due to infrastructure damage and disrupted financial services. With rising demand for staple items and flexible household spending needs, cash assistance emerges as a practical and preferred modality. It allows families to prioritize their most urgent needs while supporting local markets and economic recovery in a context where in-kind aid faces logistical and access challenges.

IOM response: IOM is working with nine local organizations to provide cash assistance to 54,600 affected individuals in Mandalay, Sagaing, Shan, Magway, Bago, and Nay Pyi Taw. To date, IOM has reached 7,358 individuals with cash assistance, including multi-purpose cash assistance, cash for food, health, shelter and settlements, protection and water, sanitation and hygiene. While some partners have already started cash distribution, others are conducting cash feasibility and safety audit assessments before proceeding with the distribution. IOM continues to coordinate with the Cash and Markets Working Group and other actors to ensure a coordinated response.

IOM MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE IS FUNDED BY:



From
the People of Japan



Funded by the
European Union



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



CANADEM
INTERNATIONAL CIVILIAN RESPONSE CORPS
CORPS DE RÉACTION CIVILE INTERNATIONALE



CONTACT

IOM Myanmar
Daihei MOCHIZUKI
Chief of Mission
dmochizuki@iom.int

Media and Communication
Itayi VIRIRI
Senior Media and Communications Officer
iviriri@iom.int