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## Myanmar

In Myanmar, children and their families remain highly vulnerable, especially in conflict-affected areas. Figures show that in 2020, approximately 922,000 people will need protection, over 869,000 will need access to safe water and sanitation, 256,000 will need education and 9,400 will need to be treated for severe acute malnutrition (SAM).<sup>1</sup> The situation in Rakhine State is increasingly complex. In 2019, fighting between the Myanmar Army and the Arakan Army led to the displacement of over 30,000 people, in addition to the 128,000 people internally displaced since 2012 and the 470,000 stateless people in need of humanitarian support.<sup>2</sup> In Kachin State, the situation remains relatively stable, though 98,000 people remain internally displaced and are living in camps.<sup>3</sup> In northern Shan State, short-term displacement continued in 2019. Though fewer than 10,000 people are living in displacement camps in northern Shan,<sup>4</sup> many have been displaced multiple times, exacerbating their vulnerabilities. In these environments, children, particularly girls, are vulnerable to exploitation, sexual and gender-based violence, neglect, family separation, risky migration and abuse. Cramped camp conditions heighten these vulnerabilities, and limited access to basic services increases risks of communicable disease transmission. Children face additional risks from the increasing use of improvised explosive devices and landmines.<sup>5</sup>

### Humanitarian strategy

In 2020, UNICEF will continue to meet the needs of internally displaced people and other conflict-affected populations through the provision of supplies and technical assistance, while improving accountability to affected populations and the implementation of durable solutions. UNICEF will continue to provide assistance in Rakhine, Chin, Kachin, Shan and Kayin states – including to address gender- and disability-specific needs – in line with the priorities identified by cluster/sector leads.<sup>6</sup> UNICEF will work to establish humanitarian and development linkages while supporting authorities and local populations to strengthen capacities, identify risks and build resilience. UNICEF's core activities will focus on preventing and treating SAM; providing nutrition support for pregnant and breastfeeding women; supporting access to health services; addressing gender-based violence; monitoring and reporting on six grave violations of children's rights; ensuring access to safe water and sanitation; and fostering learning opportunities for children aged 3 to 17 years. Cross-sector programming will emphasize early childhood care and development and adolescent-focused education and protection activities. UNICEF will continue to advocate for unfettered access to all in need, and will address vulnerability throughout the country through risk-informed response and programming.

### Results from 2019

As of 31 August 2019, UNICEF had US\$20.2 million available against the US\$59.1 million appeal (34 per cent funded).<sup>7</sup> Due to the growing humanitarian needs, sector targets and costs increased substantially in 2019, though lack of funding and limited access inhibited the response. The Government continued to place severe restrictions on travel of international and national staff, which impeded the response to newly displaced people and in conflict-affected areas. UNICEF explored new opportunities and partnerships in 2019, and as a result, reached over 454,000 people with hygiene kits and 57,000 people with health care. Over 2,700 children aged 6 to 59 months with SAM in Rakhine received therapeutic care, and the roll-out of integrated management of acute malnutrition within Rakhine State health facilities was completed through training and follow-up support. In addition to regular water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) activities, UNICEF provided technical training to build the capacities of the Government and national partners in Kachin. UNICEF targeted adolescents through non-formal education, violence prevention activities and life-skills training. To address increased conflict, psychosocial training was provided to 600 teachers in Rakhine. UNICEF also led cluster/sector coordination at the national and sub-national levels for nutrition, WASH, child protection and education.

# Humanitarian Action for Children

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#### Total people in need

986,000<sup>8</sup>

#### Total children (<18) in need

362,000<sup>9</sup>

#### Total people to be reached

339,850<sup>10</sup>

#### Total children to be reached

166,500<sup>11</sup>

#### 2020<sup>12</sup> programme targets

##### Nutrition

- 8,279 children aged 6 to 59 months with SAM admitted to therapeutic care
- 20,500 pregnant and breastfeeding women accessing infant and young child feeding counselling

##### Health

- 105,000 children and women accessing health care services
- 15,000 children aged 9 to 18 months vaccinated against measles

##### WASH

- 166,550 targeted people benefiting from safe/improved drinking water for domestic purposes
- 339,850 people provided with hygiene kits or key hygiene items

##### Child protection

- 81,500 people with access to mental health and psychosocial support
- 68,500 people with access to information on landmines / unexploded ordnance
- 15,000 women, girls and boys provided with risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions to address gender-based violence

##### Education

- 51,140 children and adolescents aged 3 to 17 years accessing primary or post-primary learning opportunities.
- 34,500 children aged 3 to 17 years who received learning materials to support continuous access to education

	Cluster/sector 2019 targets	Cluster/sector total results	UNICEF 2019 targets	UNICEF total results
<b>NUTRITION</b>				
Children aged 6 to 59 months with SAM admitted to therapeutic care	5,202	2,712	10,401	2,712
Children aged 6 to 59 months who received micronutrient supplementation			73,052	20,471
Pregnant and breastfeeding women who received micronutrient supplementation			18,940	6,595
<b>HEALTH</b>				
Children aged 9 to 18 months vaccinated against measles			15,000	7,086
Children and women provided with access to health care services			105,000	57,107
<b>WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE</b>				
People with access to a sufficient water of appropriate quality and quantity for drinking, cooking and maintaining personal hygiene	487,648	228,424	573,384	124,994
People with access to toilets and washing facilities that are culturally-appropriate, secure, sanitary, user-friendly and gender-appropriate	487,648	201,375	573,384	88,681
<b>CHILD PROTECTION</b>				
People with access to psychosocial support	267,596	50,700	287,160	36,683
People with access to mine risk/unexploded ordnance education information	164,150	83,246	111,500 <sup>ii</sup>	76,168
Adolescents provided with life skills	26,500	5,485	26,500	2,634
<b>EDUCATION</b>				
Children aged 3 to 10 years provided with pre-primary or primary learning opportunities	95,062	43,539	105,409	34,284
Children aged 11 to 17 provided with non-formal education opportunities	37,837	5,441	89,793	5,307
Teachers/facilitators who have completed training	2,699	1,205	3,600	0
<b>COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT</b>				
People reached through accountability mechanisms to voice their concerns			244,483	0 <sup>iii</sup>

\* Results are as of 31 August 2019 unless otherwise noted. UNICEF targets are higher than cluster/sector targets for some programmes due to UNICEF's global targeting methodology, which calls for a needs-based approach to targeting. Note that the 2019 appeal was developed after the completion of the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan; as a result, the Humanitarian Response Plan figures were not adjusted to reflect these changes. Low achievements in UNICEF results in nutrition, health and child protection can be attributed to low funding, limited access due to conflict or government restrictions, and in the case of nutrition and child protection, lack of qualified partner capacity.

<sup>i</sup> Cluster/sector results as of the second quarter of 2019.

<sup>ii</sup> The target for landmines / unexploded ordnance increased between the finalization of the 2019 appeal and the start of 2019 due to increased fighting and reported mine usage in Rakhine State.

<sup>iii</sup> Due to lack of funding, UNICEF was unable to complete this activity; however, UNICEF carried out traditional accountability to affected populations activities through regular programming.

#### Funding requirements

UNICEF requires US\$46.0 million<sup>13</sup> to provide life-saving and life-sustaining assistance to children, their caregivers and communities in five conflict-affected areas of Myanmar in 2020. UNICEF will target all children in need, as identified in the 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan, who are not covered by other cluster partners. The budget requirements will allow UNICEF to fulfill its commitments to children and provide coordination for WASH, nutrition, education and child protection activities. UNICEF will continue to support internally displaced people and identify durable solutions to humanitarian needs. Timely and flexible funding will be critical to UNICEF's ability to meet the 2020 targets.

Sector	2020 requirements (US\$)
Nutrition	7,780,000
Health	5,532,000
Water, sanitation and hygiene	9,461,000
Child protection	14,538,000
Education	8,733,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>46,044,000</b>

<sup>1</sup> Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 'Myanmar: 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan', OCHA, 2019.

<sup>2</sup> 'Myanmar: 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan' and the 2019 Supplemental Response Plan.

<sup>3</sup> Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 'Myanmar: 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview', OCHA, 2019.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Within the first 11 months of 2019, there were 194 casualties documented (47 killed); children represent 25 per cent of the total number of casualties.

<sup>6</sup> UNICEF leads the WASH cluster, the nutrition-in-emergencies sector and the child protection-in-emergencies sector working group, and co-leads the education-in-emergencies sector with Save the Children.

<sup>7</sup> Available funds include US\$15.3 million received against the 2019 appeal and US\$4.9 million carried forward from the previous year.

<sup>8</sup> Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 'Myanmar: 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview', OCHA, 2019.

<sup>9</sup> 'Myanmar: 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan'.

<sup>10</sup> This includes the total number of people to be reached with hygiene kits or hygiene items as the largest target for a single indicator (women/girls represent at a minimum 50 per cent of the target population for each activity). According to the 2014 census, an estimated 4.6 per cent of the population is disabled - all efforts are being made to ensure that activities and policies are inclusive and include improved data collection.

<sup>11</sup> This includes 49 per cent of people to be reached with hygiene kits or hygiene items in a state (i.e., the percentage of children for that state as published in 'Myanmar: 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan'). For the gender breakdown and information on disabilities, please see endnote 8.

<sup>12</sup> For UNICEF-led cluster/sectors, there is a decrease from 2019, as 2020 targets take into account more response limiting factors and discussions by the Humanitarian Country Team.

<sup>13</sup> Compared with the December 2019 appeal, the funding requirement has increased by US\$5.3 million due to an increase in the number of children targeted by UNICEF for nutrition, child protection and education assistance following a reassessment and redistribution of targets per respective cluster partners and the finalization of sector needs in the Humanitarian Needs Overview. The decrease in WASH targets reflects a reassessment of WASH cluster partner capacities, with WASH partners able to take on a larger portion of beneficiaries.

#### Who to contact for further information:

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