



Myanmar

Humanitarian Situation Report #6 (January-June 2019)

unicef 

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

19 July 2019

460,788

of children in need of humanitarian
assistance (HNO 2019)

Kachin:	71,150
Kayin:	4,475
Rakhine:	364,767
Shan:	20,396

941,351

of people in need
(HNO 2019)

UNICEF Appeal 2019
US\$ 59 million

Highlights

- Mid-way through 2019, UNICEF has provided hygiene kits or hygiene items to nearly 306,000 people and provided sustained access to safe water to over 105,000 people, and education support to over 24,000 children between 3-17 years.
- As of the end of June, UNICEF has provided treatment for severe acute malnutrition to nearly 2,000 children between 6-59 months, helped to vaccinate nearly 5,000 children 9-18 months against measles, and provided psychosocial support to nearly 32,500 people.
- While access to several areas of Rakhine state is gradually improving, it is still not being granted to the full state. Despite this, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNFPA, and Malteser International, have successfully carried out needs identification missions to 19 new displacement sites in Buthidaung and Rathedaung Townships and delivered humanitarian assistance in 17 sites reaching nearly 5,000 people.
- Despite the generous contribution of donors thus far, mid-way through the year UNICEF Myanmar remains with a funding gap of 66 percent (US\$38.9 million), impacting the ability to fully reach children in need of life-saving and life-sustaining humanitarian assistance.

UNICEF's Response with Partners

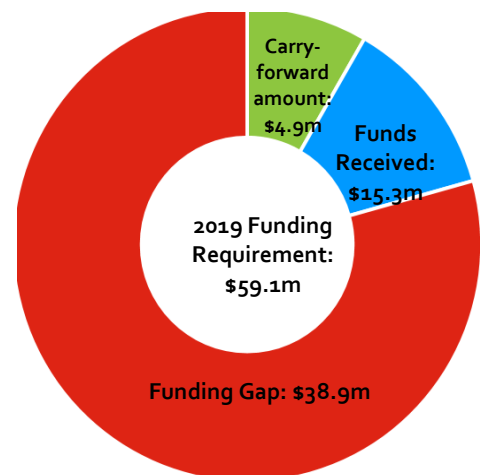
	UNICEF		Cluster/Sector	
	UNICEF Target*	Total Results**	Cluster/Sector Target	Total Results**
Nutrition: # of children 6 to 59 months admitted for SAM therapeutic care	10,401	1,945	5,202	1,945
Health: # children/women with access to health care	105,000	33,999		
WASH: # of people benefitting from safe drinking water	512,654	105,111	487,648	228,424
Child Protection: # people with access to MHPSS	287,160	34,442	267,596	50,700
Education: # of children accessing pre- primary or primary learning opportunities	105,409	21,836	95,062	43,539

* UNICEF targets are higher than cluster targets in some areas due to change in UNICEF methodology after HRP was completed.

**Total Results reported are cumulative.

***With the exception of the nutrition sector which reports monthly, cluster/sector reporting is quarterly.

Funding Status 2019



Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Kachin and Shan States

The humanitarian landscape in the northeast region remains characterized by the consequences of conflict, landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERWs); This year there have been 63 total documented landmine incidents and 99 total associated casualties across the country. One out of every four casualties of landmine incidents in Myanmar is a child. A total of 21 incidents have occurred in northern Shan State thus far in 2019, injuring 31 people of which 13 were children, and killing 12 people of whom six were children. Mine incidents across Shan State accounted for 32 percent of total incidents and 43 percent of total casualties in the country. Kachin State accounts for 24 percent of landmine-associated injuries and deaths and 24 percent of incidents countrywide in 2019.

Concomitant with the ceasefire, there has been no reported displacement in Kachin State since November 2018. Instead, humanitarian agencies continue to receive requests from the Government to support small scale returns of existing IDPs. A 2019 survey of Kachin State IDPs, organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and its partners, has found that most IDPs have strong preferences to return home, with 65 percent of respondents reporting intent to return home if and when they leave the camps. The total number of displaced in the state has fluctuated but remains over 97,000 with people sheltering at 136 camps or camp-like settings; of these nearly 40,000 (41 percent) are in non-government-controlled areas.



UNICEF and other humanitarian actors continue to have difficulty accessing different population groups for assessment and response activities in Kachin State. OCHA estimates that during the first half of June, 36 percent of the affected people were not reached with services or reached with difficulties, especially in areas not under government control. Overall, humanitarian access appears to have deteriorated in the months coinciding with the ceasefire when compared to the last 24 months.

Reportedly, in June, 50 households moved to Nan Sa Yang village in Kachin State. The total number of returnees remains small and movements are generally uncoordinated and often to places that are still considered unsafe due to landmine contamination or proximity to military establishments. Humanitarian agencies struggle to respond to such cases because they have not been involved in the returnee process and are unable to verify the principles guiding the returns.

In December of 2018, the Myanmar Army or Tatmadaw declared a unilateral ceasefire with ethnic armed organizations (EAOs) lasting in five military operation areas including northern Shan and Kachin States. The ceasefire has been extended twice and is now effective until 31 August. Though incidence of fighting has dropped significantly, particularly in Kachin State, there has been fighting between the EAOs, and in some cases with the military in the first six months of the year.

Rakhine State

Displacement due to ongoing conflict between the Tatmadaw and Arakan Army (AA) has gradually reduced in northern townships of Buthidaung and Rathedaung townships, peaking in April at almost 17,000 IDPs; number have reduced to 5,572 as of end of June 2019. Population movements remain fluid however, with frequent reports of new arrivals and returns depending on clashes. Fighting between the AA and Tatmadaw continues in Paletwa township of Chin state, which is geographically contiguous with Rakhine State; where more than 3,000 people are displaced.

The Rakhine State Government has indicated that it is planning to transfer some of the newly displaced to "relocation sites" across the state. While details have not been officially confirmed, it is understood that nine sites across five townships have been identified for relocation and that construction activities at some of these sites are underway. Potential issues of concern include security and physical safety, distance from places of origin, inter-communal considerations, housing, land and property rights and encampment policy. UNICEF and the Maungdaw Inter-Agency Group (MIAG) partners have met to formulate joint positions for a common and principled approach to possible relocation of displaced persons and circulate a draft paper on key considerations.

Humanitarian access not related to the new displacements remains severely restricted for UNICEF and most humanitarian agencies across northern townships of Rakhine State, yet marginal improvements have been observed in June as compared to the last six months. UNICEF national staff received travel authorization (TA) approvals to carry out programme visits to nine Village Tracts in Maungdaw and Buthidaung townships in June. It is the first time UNICEF has obtained any regular programming TA approvals outside of towns since November 2018. For international UNICEF staff however, only missions to carry out needs identification and distributions to newly displaced populations have been approved outside of urban towns. UNICEF's activities in IDP camps in central Rakhine State continue and are largely not impacted by the fighting. However, development activities have been slowed or stalled and some activities have been moved to new locations where fighting makes accessibility impossible.

An indefinite Government-ordered internet blockage as of June 2019 across eight townships in Rakhine State and Paletwa township in Chin state, threatens to further limit access and reporting capabilities in coming months and is impacting an estimated one million people. In central Rakhine State, partners are generally able to access Sittwe township to use internet services, however the blockage is affecting the ability of UNICEF staff and partners to quickly share information except through telephone calls.



Kayin State

Fighting broke out in Kayin State on 21 June between the Tatmadaw/Border Guard Force (BGF) and the Democratic Karen Buddhist Army (DKBA) near Me Zaing Mountain in Hpa-An township. The skirmish resulted in over 100 displaced civilians, including local villagers and monks. BGF informed the media that a ceasefire was agreed to on 22 June between Tatmadaw/BGF and DKBA and was marked by a reconciliation ceremony in Myaing Gyi Ngu area, however it is unknown whether all parties agreed to the ceasefire.

Landmine incidents continue to plague the region. The most recent mine incident occurred on 24 June in Hpa-pun township Kayin State, when two villagers were injured. This incident comes on the back of a mine explosion just days earlier in Thandaungyi township, in which three people sustained injuries and one died at the scene. While these cases have been documented, it is suspected that many more cases occur and are not reported for fear of reprisals by authorities or armed groups, particularly in cases where victims of landmines could potentially seek damages. UNICEF continues to monitor these situations closely. Where possible, assistance is provided by the government and members of the mine action group in Kayin State. UNICEF, as co-chair of the Mine Risk Working Group (MRWG), has called on all parties to conflict and other stakeholders to scale up efforts to protect children and their families from the devastating impact of landmines.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

- UNICEF is leading the WASH Cluster and leads the Nutrition in Emergencies Sector and Child Protection sub-sector and is co-leading the Education in Emergencies Sector at both that national and sub-national levels in Rakhine and Kachin States. UNICEF, through these roles, participates in the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) in Yangon and relevant sub-national level coordination groups.
- UNICEF-led cluster/sector coordination groups and UNICEF sections continue to work with the relevant partners to engage in camp closure strategy and engagement discussions at a national level but with a focus on sites declared closed in Rakhine State.
- Working with UNOCHA, sector coordination groups participated in joint monitoring activities alongside the Myanmar Humanitarian Fund (MHF) staff May 2019. To date, MHF allocations in 2019 have supported new displacements in Rakhine State with input on needs and prioritization from the clusters and sectors.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF will address the humanitarian needs of crisis-affected and displaced people in Rakhine, Kachin, Kayin and Shan states. As a cluster/sector lead agency, UNICEF will work with the Government, national and international nongovernmental organizations and civil society partners to provide critical life-saving and life-sustaining services in

nutrition, health, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), child protection and education. Services will target populations identified in the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), including internally displaced people in camps, stateless populations and other crisis-affected populations. UNICEF will continue to advocate for unfettered and consistent humanitarian access to ensure that services can be provided to those in need, in line with their basic human rights. Working at the interagency level, UNICEF will conduct natural disaster response planning and related activities throughout the country. UNICEF has developed a more specific Rakhine Response Plan for 2019 which focuses on expanding activities in the State through linked humanitarian and development activities.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

The 2019 achievements thus far in nutrition are relatively limited due to capacity and partner availability, as well as travel and access restrictions. Thus far, UNICEF and our partners have admitted nearly 2,000 children between 6 and 59 months for treatment of severe acute malnutrition (SAM) and completed infant and young child feeding (IYCF) to nearly 7,500 pregnant or breastfeeding women. UNICEF partnered with Myanmar Health Assistant Association (MHAA), Save the Children International (SCI) and Action Contre La Faim (ACF) to provide nutrition services including screening and treatment of SAM in communities of central and northern Rakhine State. UNICEF's partner ACF continues to run two Out-Patient Therapeutic Program (OTP) centres in northern Rakhine State that provide comprehensive nutrition services. In the central part of Rakhine State, MHAA, ACF and SCI continue to run 53 OTP centres across 16 camps and 58 villages to screen and treat children under five for SAM and provide IYCF counselling and micronutrient supplementations to children and their caregivers.

Implementation of services continues to be limited in northern areas of Rakhine State due to security concerns and lack of access. Thanks to the roll out of Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) and IYCF counselling training to Ministry of Health and Sports (MoHS) staff, MHAA has been working to expand nutrition services through mobile clinics alongside Government primary healthcare services. In close coordination with Township Health Departments, UNICEF's partner MHAA joined mobile visits of Township Ministry of Health and Sports (MOHS) staff to five IDPs sites in Mrauk U, Buthidaung and Ratheduang townships in June. Nutrition screenings, IYCF counselling and micronutrient supplementations were performed during the visits. UNICEF also supported State and township nutrition teams and Sittwe State General Hospital with nutrition supplies (length board sets, Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF), F-75 and F-100) for IMAM rollout activities.



UNICEF also supported State and township nutrition teams and Sittwe State General Hospital with nutrition supplies (length board sets, Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF), F-75 and F-100) for IMAM rollout activities.

In coordination with nutrition partners, the State Health Department and State Nutrition Team conducted state-level IYCF counselling and Training of Teachers (ToT) refresher training to township nutrition focal points from 14-16 June. The training was also delivered to basic health staff in Ramree township from 18-27 June. Training will continue in other townships which did not receive the training in 2016. The IYCF rollout will be integrated with the IMAM rollout to promote good infant feeding practices and improve the nutrition status of children and pregnant/breastfeeding women (PLW).

Nutrition in Emergencies Sector

Ongoing humanitarian nutrition activities are being implemented by partners to reach the targets set in the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan. To evaluate and improve coordination performance within the sector, Rakhine nutrition partners started a Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring (CCPM) process. Preliminary reports for the process have been received and a workshop with partners to formulate action points to address areas of improvement is planned. A Nutrition sub-sector coordination meeting chaired by State Health Department and State Nutrition Team (SNT) is being held on a monthly basis. At the June 2019 meeting, nutrition partners and the SNT planned and organized nutrition promotion activities for the month of August to support exclusive breastfeeding, nutrition for children under five and PLW, and iodine salt testing.

Nutrition partners in Kachin state are providing services in IDP camps to reduce the risk of malnutrition by improving the nutritional status of children as well as PLW through promotion and protection of optimal infant and young child feeding (IYCF) practices both in government-controlled and non-government-controlled areas. A number of national and

international NGOs including World Concern Myanmar (WCM), Community Health and Development organization (CHAD), Health Poverty Action (HPA), Plan International, Kachin Baptist Convention (KBC), Community Partners International (CPI), Metta Development Foundation, and Wunpawng Ninghtoi (WPN) are supporting the humanitarian nutrition activities in Kachin State. Starting in May 2019, nutrition partners regularly participated in a monthly joint mobile clinic in IDP camps led by Kachin State Health Department and health partners. There is need to support improved coordination, capacity building, and quality monitoring within the sector as some nutrition partners are implementing programs in hard-to-reach and remote conflict-affected areas.

Health

Thus far in 2019, UNICEF has achieved only 16 percent (1,725/11,000) of where we would expect to be at mid-year in Kachin due principally to heavy monsoon rains and limited ability to access some populations in need. Similarly, the result in the number of children 9 to 18 months vaccinated against measles was only 42 percent from the planned mid-year target. Kachin has more areas controlled by non-state actors making it more difficult for partners and MoHS to conduct immunization activities. Nonetheless, a total of 1,688 people (821 females; 867 males) from conflict-affected areas in Kachin and Shan States accessed basic health care services in June through UNICEF-supported activities, 100% of the monthly target. Nearly 600 children 9-18 months (289 girls; 304 boys) or 176 percent of the target were vaccinated against measles and a total of 961 children under five years old (387 girls; 574 boys) with diarrhoea were treated with ORS and Zinc.



UNICEF's partner Myanmar Health Assistant Association (MHAA) tried to improve beneficiary access in central and northern Rakhine State through close coordination with State and Township Health Departments. An overall increase in access to health services, especially in central Rakhine State, was credited to more mobile teams being deployed as a result of UNICEF's support to MHAA in coordination with Township Health Departments teams reaching newly displaced in Kyauktaw, Mrauk-U and Minbya townships. In June 2019, a total of 7,423 (127 percent) people (female: 4,667; male: 2,756) received basic health services, a 4 percent improvement from the last reporting period. UNICEF met 84 percent and 34 percent of the targets for access to basic health services in central and northern Rakhine respectively. A total of 359 children aged

9-18 months (female: 174; male: 185) were vaccinated against measles. This monthly achievement was lower than expected compared to the last reporting period, in part due to incomplete data received from northern Rakhine State. Mid-year target achievements for children aged 9-18 months vaccinated against measles are 71.9 percent (2,516/3,500) and 29.1 percent (437/1500) for central and northern Rakhine respectively. Across all emergency target areas of Rakhine, Kachin and Shan, 33,999 total affected people and children received health services in the first six months of 2019.

In all target areas of Rakhine, Kachin and Shan States, UNICEF partners is working through NGO partners as well as with government officials. This allows for increased information sharing as well as consistency in the use of national guidelines during training of community volunteers in provision of basic services. This approach assists in collecting community feedback and ensuring appropriate accountability to affected population (AAP).

WASH

Between January and June 2019 UNICEF has, with partners, supplied safe drinking and domestic water to over 105,000 people, functional sanitation systems to over 87,000 and hygiene kits or items to nearly 306,000 people. In Kayin State, a joint Water and Sanitation assessment by UNICEF, UNHCR, and IRC national staff was conducted on 4 June in Myaing Gyi Ngu IDP camp, which holds over 5,000 people including 2,700 children. The assessment included transect walks to map and support proposed water and sanitation infrastructure, resulting in a report and supporting documents which will be presented to the Director of the Department of Social Welfare (DSW) and shared with relevant stakeholders for resource commitment.

In northern Shan State, UNICEF is working with partner Metta to improve WASH in Emergency response through trainings, and also support menstrual hygiene and health activities through a June campaign led by the WASH cluster. UNICEF provided emergency preparedness sanitation stocks including 158 sets of latrine pans and pipes to the Department of Disaster Management (DDM) in Lashio, northern Shan State. UNICEF organized the WASH in Schools Implementation Strategy workshop and ToT and supported the visit of the Deputy General Director of the Department

of Basic Education to visit WASH in Schools activities in Kachin State. UNICEF and partners also distributed supplies for nearly 32,500 IDPs ahead of the monsoon season in anticipation of increased diarrhea cases.

In Rakhine State, UNICEF provides sustained water, sanitation and hygiene promotion services in Kyauk Phyu, Myebon and Khin Ni Pyin (KNP) IDP camps with total populations of nearly 10,500 individuals. These three camps are considered closed according to the Rakhine State Government, however IDP freedom of movement in those camps remains very limited or restricted resulting in a need for continued humanitarian support.

To address water shortages in IDP camps due to high temperatures and a late rainy season, UNICEF supplied emergency water by boat to Ah Nauk Yee camp for over two months, and provided water to KNP, and Ah Nauk Ye village for almost one month. Over 12,000 people benefited from water boating this year with an average provision of 7.5 liters of treated drinking per person water per day.

Between late March and end of June 2019, UNICEF, UNHCR, UNFPA, and Malteser International, have carried out joint needs identification missions to 19 new displacement sites in Buthidaung and Rathedaung Townships. Following the missions, UNICEF and partners were authorized to return to 17 displacement sites to deliver humanitarian assistance, to date reaching 4,782 persons (949 households). In June, UNICEF and partners reached 491 displaced persons in Rathedaung township with WASH supplies through direct distributions. In central Rakhine State, UNICEF continues to work with partners to gather information on, and respond to the needs of, an estimated 30,000 IDPs in 55 sites across Minbya, Mrauk-U, Ponnagyun and Kyauktaw townships but has already worked with the Department of Rural Development to provide hygiene kits, water purification sachets and other basic supplies to over 18,000 people displaced due to the AA-Tatmadaw conflict. A water pump and bladder were provided in one site to ensure availability of clean drinking water.

The UNICEF-World Food Programme partnership which provides UNICEF soap alongside WFP food distributions continued targeting 100,000 people each month in northern Rakhine State. To improve conditions in northern Rakhine State, UNICEF engaged in a new WASH partnership with Community and Family Services International (CFSI) in Maungdaw and Buthidaung townships and will provide water supply, household latrine construction, hygiene promotion and WASH in schools.



WASH Cluster

This year the WASH Cluster has held State-level workshops with partners and the Government to review its three-year strategy. The monitoring framework was also reviewed to track progress on camp closures in Rakhine State and adapt accountability to affected population (AAP) indicators with inputs from the Global WASH Cluster Quality Assurance and Accountability project leads. This review was followed by data entry trainings to ensure all partners understand the importance of quality data and use of the system. The WASH Cluster welcomed Humanity & Inclusion as a new partner in June, with plans to improve WASH inclusion response starting in Kachin State.

As part of the AAP WASH Cluster mechanism, the cluster team conducted 91 independent field monitoring visits which includes sex and age disaggregated focus group discussions and consultations for feedback. Information collected has been shared to the WASH partner in charge at each location as well as in plenary at cluster meetings. In addition, joint cluster visits and assessments with other sectors have been conducted including Protection and Gender-Based Violence. The WASH Cluster nationally celebrated Menstrual Hygiene and Health through a nation-wide campaign involving all partners.

In partnership with academic institutions including Tufts University, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) and Asia Institute of Technology (AIT), the WASH Cluster has delivered trainings, supported government with project designs and has prepared to conduct evaluations and studies in July and August. With Tufts University, the WASH Cluster is evaluating its sanitation strategy with segmented (age and sex disaggregated) consultations as well as an evaluation of the cash grants program used in Kachin for WASH facility operation and maintenance in IDP camps. With LSHTM, the WASH Cluster delivered trainings at the IDP camps to reach camp-based staff with a focus on improving handwashing programs and practice.

Contributing to humanitarian and development continuum and in partnership with AIT and Oxfam, the WASH Cluster in Kachin provided trainings and raised significant awareness with the local government on fecal sludge management (FSM) to the point that it is now a high priority for the government in Kachin. The government has adopted good practices as a result of trainings and awareness raising including improved health and safety systems and ways of working. These have been formally captured in a FSM standard operating procedure (SOP) following a joint workshop. The government has purchased a new desludging truck which will significantly improve operational efficiency and support the reduction of prices for FSM in humanitarian and development areas. AIT supported detailed designs while visiting Myiktyina three times. The WASH Cluster, Oxfam and municipality officers also travelled, with AIT, to Thailand to learn more about FSM plants and operations.

Education

In the first half of 2019, UNICEF reached more than 24,000 children and nearly 2,000 teachers in conflict-affected townships of Rakhine, Kachin, Chin, northern Shan and Kayin States. UNICEF's Education in Emergencies (EiE) response included maintenance of temporary learning classrooms, provision of volunteer teachers' incentives, support to parent-teacher associations, provision of teaching and learning materials, school construction, and capacity building to teachers for inclusive and quality education. Despite these achievements, UNICEF Myanmar has received only 35 percent of the requested funding for 2019; as a result, UNICEF is currently evaluating the need to reduce annual targets for several indicators.

UNICEF and partners provided educational support services to more than 17,000 displaced children in central and northern Rakhine State despite escalating conflict. UNICEF through partners reached 14,881 (6,680 girls) at the primary level and 1,111 post-primary level children; 95 percent of whom passed their final exams in March 2019, including 1,136 (449 girls) Grade 4 students who completed primary education. A total of 551 non-formal primary education (NFPE) students (boys-274, girls-277) were enrolled in 16 NFPE centers in Sittwe and Pauktaw townships, and 337 NFPE students (151 girls) passed the NFPE final exam including 134 students (60 girls) who completed Level 2 to finish their primary education. However, there are limited post-primary education opportunities for displaced Rohingya children due to underlying systematic barriers including limited freedom of movement and lack of government post-primary schools available near IDP camp locations. UNICEF provided teaching and learning materials to 900 IDP students (440 girls) in Paletwa Township, Chin State as well as two school tents for 88 primary school students in Kone Pyin IDP camp and Ku Chaung Phyar IDP camp where there was gap of available learning space in government schools.



To improve quality and inclusive teaching, UNICEF and partners provided new curriculum training to 326 volunteer teachers and 1,307 government teachers through Ministry of Education (MoE) in nine conflict-affected townships of both central and northern Rakhine in May. UNICEF is planning, with State Education Department (SED) and Department of Basic Education (DBE) officials, to support newly displaced primary and post-primary children in seven conflict-affected townships of central and northern Rakhine State with Essential Learning Packages (individual backpacks for children) and School-in-a-Box kits benefiting 12,000 displaced children at 57 targeted government primary schools.

In Kachin, UNICEF and our partner with the SED reached 3,695 (1,841 girls) pre-primary/primary and 1,281 post-primary IDP children in both government-controlled and non-government-controlled areas. Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) refresher training for 110 (99 female) volunteer teachers and In-Service Teacher Education training (SITE) through MoE was provided to 175 (150 female) government teachers with UNICEF support. UNICEF is also planning to reach more than 4,000 newly displaced children at government schools with teaching and learning materials in the 2019-2020 academic year which started in June. In northern Shan State, UNICEF provided ELP kits to 246 IDP students and story books in Shan language to 1,098 (572 girls) pre-primary children through the SED.

In Kayin state, UNICEF reached 600 (304 girls) returnee students with ELP kits; 15 school and recreation kits were provided to schools hosting children from Myaing Gyi Ngu IDP camp. UNICEF also supported one NFPE centre in Myaing Gyi Ngu IDP camp, where 190 (105 girls) IDP students were able to access primary education and 12 (10 female) teachers

received NFPE teacher training from Aug 2018 to March 2019. Based on 2019-2020 data, 750 out of the 1,750 school age children in the camp are back in school, however 1,000 remain as out of school children. Discussions are underway with the relevant Government officials in Kayin State and other partners to address this need.

Education in Emergencies (EiE) Sector

Two joint MoE/EiE sector coordination meetings were organized in February and May, with discussion of key issues including MoE's handover of payments for volunteer teachers in the IDP camps, provision of textbooks and other support from MoE to IDP students, capacity building support to volunteer teachers with a focus on pedagogy, child protection and holistic subjects particularly in Rakhine State. There was also discussion on MoE engagement in the Government's National Draft Strategy for Camp Closure and how EiE sector partners can work with the MoE to support these initiatives in a principled manner.

A joint verification exercise for the MoE/EiE sector was organized in January at the Rakhine State Education Department (SED) office in Sittwe, where officials participated and verified their volunteer teacher lists with EiE partners. After this exercise, MoE verified its support of 497 (178 female) volunteer teachers in Rakhine State, of which 171 (71 female) were handed over from EiE partners. In Kachin, EiE coordination with State and Township Education Officers supports partners in providing placement tests for new IDP students in government-controlled areas.

In May, EiE partners, MoE officials (national and sub-national level) and donors engaged in a UNICEF training on EIE sector coordination that kicked-off the mid-term review process of the EIE Sector Strategy. The EiE Sector is also evaluating how best to engage in IDP camps declared "closed" by the Government, leading several consultations and developing a guidance document outlining suggested next steps, as well as engaging relevant development partners in discussion around how the principles may affect programming. The MoE and SED are embracing coordination efforts with the EiE Sector through the appointment of five SED EiE focal points in May 2019 and the set-up of co-chaired meetings at sub-national level.

Child Protection

To date in 2019, and in partnership with national and international NGOs, UNICEF supported 63,537 children (29,508 girls; 34,029 boys) and 34,096 adults (20,573 women; 13,523 men) affected by emergencies through psychosocial support, case management, adolescent life skills programme, awareness raising, parenting session and explosive ordinance risk education (EORE). Of these, approximately 31,736 children (14,823 girls; 16,913 boys) received psychosocial support including access to psychosocial activities through the 187 Child-Friendly Spaces. In northern Rakhine State, UNICEF implementing partner covered 16 new locations in addition to 95 old locations across three townships. A total of 668 children were newly registered in MHPSS activities including in Child Friendly Spaces in 37 village tracts. Due to the reduction in armed clashes, the implementing partner was able to regularly run MHPSS activities through mobile and regular Child Friendly Spaces. In addition, 2,870 adolescents (1,525 girls and 1,345 boys) in all three states were reached with life skills programming that built key protective skills and resilience.



Within the last 6 months, there were 121 casualties (33 people killed) from 77 incidents of landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERW) countrywide. Shan State accounts for 40% of the total casualties from 22 incidents and followed by 24% in Kachin and 24% in Rakhine States. Shan has the highest rate of children casualties, representing 42% of casualties from the State. Among the total casualties, children represent 32% country wide. UNICEF and its implementing partners supported Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) sessions in contaminated areas including Shan, Rakhine, Bago, Kayin and Kachin States/region reaching nearly 43,000 people¹ of whom 21,648 were children (11,899 girls, 9,749 boys). This includes 737 children in northern Rakhine State where the EOR risk has developed and increased over the past year

¹The difference between the EORE figures here and those in the HPM table is the inclusion here of Bago Region, which is not a targeted area in the HAC.

A total of 7,023 children (3,284 girls; 3,739 boys) and 10,246 adults (5,814 women; 4,432 men) received awareness raising session on child rights (including violations), safe migration, anti-trafficking, GBV, early marriage and other targeted child protection prevention messages in emergencies.

UNICEF and Plan International co-organized a two-day national workshop, based on the results of consultations with adolescents. Those consultations facilitated by Plan International, Relief International and Community and Family Services International in Kachin and Rakhine States helped to better understand the drivers of violence affecting adolescents in Myanmar. Along with the qualitative data, the workshop also drew upon the results of secondary data analysis of the Demographic Health Survey, 2014 census and other household data to examine violence affecting lives of adolescents. The workshop saw a wide range of participants from Child Protection in Emergencies Working Group, Gender-Based Violence Working Group, Government officials and donors. It was part of the broader re-programming effort bringing violence prevention/reduction to the core of the UNICEF-assisted adolescent-target activities. The outcomes of this workshop will inform UNICEF future programming on adolescent-targeted activities.

A regular case review meeting was organized between the CFTMR members and the Prevention Committee against the use and recruitment of children (according to the implementation of the Joint Action Plan signed in 2012), led by the Myanmar Armed Forces. The parties undertook a data cross-checking of suspected minors in armed groups, reviewing age proof documentation for both pending and newly reported cases. UNICEF provided an MRM induction session on the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism for U-Reporters in Lashio, northern Shan to increase awareness of these issues among a broader swath of children and youth.

Child Protection in Emergencies sub-sector working group (CPiE WG)

The CPiEWG meetings were held at sub-national levels in all three conflict-affected locations: Rakhine, Shan and Kachin States. Agencies are reviewing key CPiE prevention messages to improve and enhance communication in these areas. Proposed messages will be available in both English and Myanmar for validation by CPiEWG members in the July meetings; once approved they will be used by all partners in their activities. CPiEWG members have also received a survey to determine their interest in including explosive ordinance risk education sessions within their ongoing humanitarian activities. The results of the survey will be shared at the next CPiEWG meeting in July as well as with mine actors at the next mine risk working group (MRWG) meeting, also in July. The MRWG held three state-level meetings in Kayin, Kachin and Kayah states gathering government representatives, Tatmadaw representatives, members of the Joint Monitoring Committee, international and national NGOs and community-based organizations.



© UNICEF/2019/RuslanaSirman

Communications for Development (C4D), Community Engagement & Accountability

At the start of 2019, UNICEF's Communication for Development team intended to improve AAP through information and feedback centres in camps where IDPs would be able to receive information about services as well as ask questions, raise complaints and provide feedback on services received. However, following exchanges with partners and other agencies it was agreed that this approach would not be suitable at this time for the Myanmar context. Discussions with partners operating in the camps reveal that while many different approaches to communicate with communities and gather information from affected populations are used, no coordinated mechanism exists that allows for systematic inter-sectoral or inter-agency information sharing, review, action and follow-up of collected data.

UNICEF conducted a survey of its humanitarian partners to understand the barriers they experience to effective accountability to affected populations (AAP) and communication with communities (CwC). Top challenges included lack of interest from the community, language barriers and low literacy levels. This indicates the need for innovative, visual ways of communicating with communities and of providing access to information and feedback mechanisms. To help partners strengthen AAP and CwC, UNICEF will hold a workshop in July to explore what each is doing around AAP, identify gaps and agree on key steps for stronger, accountable two-way communication systems.

Media and External Communication

UNICEF's advocacy and external communication in 2019 was spearheaded by the visit of the UNICEF Executive Director to Rakhine State at the beginning of the year and the office has continued to build on the momentum generated.

Throughout the first six months of the year, UNICEF called on parties to conflict to protect the lives of children and their families including when more than 30 children were released from the Myanmar Army in March and during the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action in April. Additionally, UNICEF provided regular reports on the situation of children in Rakhine State to the various UN entities, including the Independent Fact-Finding Mission and continues to raise its concern about the human rights situation in Rakhine, Kachin and Shan States. UNICEF continues to regularly highlight its humanitarian response in Myanmar via different digital platforms including the newly re-launched website. UNICEF continued responding to local and international media including VOA-Burma and Radio France International (RFI).

Funding

UNICEF Myanmar would like to thank our generous contributions to our Humanitarian Action for Children 2019 appeal which has allowed us to make such a difference in children's lives. They are the Governments of Japan and Denmark, USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance and Office of Food for Peace, European ECHO, and the Central Emergency Response Fund of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. We would also like to thank representatives of USAID/OFDA, USAID/FFP, Embassy of Japan and Australian Aid for visiting our field offices and activities to see the impact their funds are having on people's lives.

Funding Requirements (as defined in Humanitarian Appeal of 28/01/2019 for a period of 12 months)					
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Funds Received Current Year	Carry-Over	\$	percent
Nutrition	\$4,083,586	\$ 2,044,996	\$ 307,786	\$ 1,730,804	42 %
Health	\$4,260,000	\$ 1,671,364	\$ 853,139	\$ 1,735,497	41 %
WASH	\$28,117,920	\$ 5,325,840	\$ 1,636,079	\$ 21,156,001	75 %
Child Protection	\$9,743,920	\$ 3,930,199	\$ 750,731	\$ 5,062,990	52 %
Education	\$10,464,523	\$ 2,284,621	\$ 1,393,012	\$ 6,786,890	65 %
C4D	\$2,444,830	-	-	\$ 2,444,830	100 %
Total	\$59,114,779	\$ 15,257,020	\$ 4,940,747	\$ 38,917,012	66%

* Funds available includes funding received against current appeal as well as carry-forward from the previous year.

Next SitRep: 15/08/2019

UNICEF Myanmar: <https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/>

UNICEF Myanmar Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/unicefmyanmar/>

UNICEF Myanmar Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/2019_HAC_Myanmar.pdf

**Who to
contact for
further
information:**

June Kunagi
Representative
Myanmar
Tel: +95 1 230 5960
Email: yangon@unicef.org

Paul Edwards
Deputy Representative
Myanmar
Tel: +95 1 230 5960
Email: yangon@unicef.org

Jane Strachan
Emergency Specialist
Myanmar
Tel: +95 1 230 5960
Email: jstrachan@unicef.org

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

2019 SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS	UNICEF and IPs			Cluster Response (Reported Quarterly)		
	2019 Target	Total Results*	Change Since Last Report	2019 Target	Total Results Q2	Change Since Last Report
NUTRITION						
# of children aged 6 to 59 months with SAM admitted to therapeutic care	10,401	1,945	▲ (+754)	5,202	1,945	▲ (+754)
# of children aged 6 to 59 months that receive micronutrient supplementation	73,052	1,991	-			
# of PLW that receive micronutrient supplementation	18,940	1,982	▲ (+1,843)			
# of PLW that access IYCF counselling	25,482	7,472	▲ (+1,525)	39,179	7,841	▲ (+1,551)
HEALTH						
# children 9 to 18 months vaccinated against measles	15,000	4,973	▲ (+952)			
# children/women with access to health care services	105,000	33,999	▲ (+9,111)			
WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE PROMOTION						
# of targeted people benefitting from safe drinking and domestic water	512,654	105,111	▲ (+16,036)	487,648	228,424	▲ (+46,343)
# of targeted people benefitting from a functional excreta disposal system	512,654	87,328	▼ (-2,368)	487,648	201,375	▲ (+53,294)
Targeted population provided with hygiene kits or items	512,954	305,931	▲ (+38,194)	487,648	198,519	▲ (+43,111)
Targeted population accessing appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene education in schools, TLS/CFS	503,654	73,257	▲ (+13,984)	91,782	21,798	▲ (+9,515)
CHILD PROTECTION						
# people (children/adults) with access to psychosocial support	287,160	34,422	▲ (+1,953)	267,596	50,700	▲ (+4,471)
# children accessing appropriate case management services	n/a	462	▲ (+115)			
# people with access to landlines/UXO information	111,500	42,812	▲ (+4,359)	164,150	83,246	▲ (+58,171)
# adolescents provided with life skills	26,500	2,870	▲ (+5850)	26500	5,458	▲ (+1,219)
EDUCATION***						
# of targeted children (3-10 years) accessing pre- primary or primary learning opportunities.	105,409	21,836	▲ (+3,645)	95,062	43,539	▲ (+12,672)
# of targeted adolescents (11-17 years) old accessing post primary education opportunities	89,793	2,582	▲ (+250)	37,837	5,441	▲ (+5,533)
# of teachers/facilitators who have completed trainings	4,400	-	▲ (+1,930)	2,699	1,205	▲ (+528)

*Total results for both UNICEF sections and cluster/sector are cumulative.



© UNICEF/2019/AxelleChazal