



Myanmar

Humanitarian Situation Report #2

unicef 

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

Highlights

- During the month of April, increased fighting in Kachin State displaced an estimated 5000 civilians.
- Access to people in need in conflict-affected areas remains extremely challenging.
- Between 24-26 April, UNICEF delivered 3,601 hygiene kits benefitting over 20,600 people in Muslim, Rakhine and Hindu communities in Maungdaw District.
- UNICEF is working with interagency colleagues to update the preparedness and response planning for the upcoming cyclone season with a focus on Rakhine State.
- UNICEF Myanmar received generous funding support from Denmark, Japan and the United States; however, significant funding gap of US\$ 19 million remains. Without additional funds, UNICEF will not be able to address the essential needs of children, women and men across parts of Rakhine, Kachin and Shan States.

UNICEF's Response with Partners

	UNICEF		Cluster/Sector	
	UNICEF Target	Total Results*	Cluster / Sector Target	Total Results*
Nutrition: # of children under 5 with SAM admitted to therapeutic care	9,000	347	10,600	751
Health: # children and women provided with access to health care services	135,000	40,107		
WASH: # people accessing sufficient water	117,570	44,928	508,978	184,493
Child Protection: # children with access to PSS	246,950	129,420	274,475	131,895
Education: # children accessing pre-primary/primary learning opportunities	37,000	12,482	60,850	35,221

*Total results for UNICEF are for January through March unless otherwise noted.

4 May 2018

319,000

children in need of humanitarian assistance
(37% of total people in need)

863,000

people in need
(2018 Humanitarian Needs Overview)

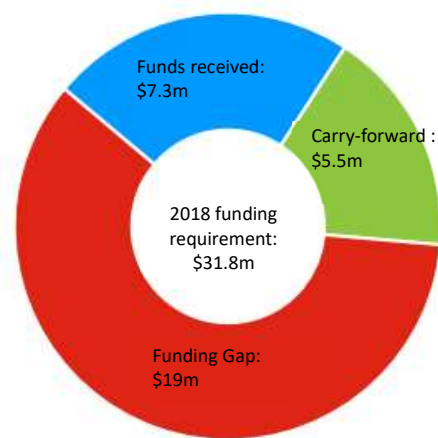
UNICEF Myanmar HAC Appeal 2018

US\$ 31,780,000

Funds Received 2018

US\$ 7,342,864

Funding Status 2018:



Note: Carry forward funding includes funding for activities in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine as well as \$1.5 million for ongoing school reconstruction in response to 2015 flooding in Rakhine.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Rakhine

UNICEF remains concerned about the conditions of crowded IDP camps in central Rakhine where 129,000 people remain reliant on humanitarian assistance. UNICEF clusters/sectors are working with the CCCM/Shelter/NFI clusters to identify actions that—with appropriate funding—can be quickly taken to improve living conditions in IDP camps. The camps, erected in 2012, were constructed based on technical guidelines provided by the Government of Myanmar. Agencies note that space allotments in camps are inadequate, leading to overcrowding of houses, people, and social service points. Current concerns include the need for rehabilitation or reconstruction of shelters, access pathways within the camps, and improvements to WASH and education facilities. Addressing some of the identified challenges will require additional allocations of land by the government as the current space is not sufficient for implementation of the proposed solutions. However, improved access to livelihoods opportunities for IDPs, as well as increased access for humanitarian service providers, would also lead to improvement in camp conditions.

In Maungdaw District—comprised of Maungdaw and Buthidaung townships—accurate figures of the population of Rakhine and ethnic minorities are still unavailable. UNICEF does not have access or permission from the Government of Myanmar to conduct basic needs assessments. Access constraints for UNICEF—particularly international staff—remain the biggest hurdle to assessments, implementation, and programme monitoring. Currently, travel authorization—which takes approximately two weeks to process—when granted, is valid for only a two-week period. The constant reapplication process, in addition to significant requests for information on activities, hampers effective response activities. Working through local partners, UNICEF continues to provide basic health, nutrition, WASH and child protection services in Maungdaw District where possible.

Kachin and Shan

Throughout April, armed clashes between the Myanmar military forces and Kachin Independence Army (KIA) escalated affecting Tanai, Hpakant, Sumprabum, Moegaung and Momauk townships as well as Laiza. Intense fighting continued with aerial bombings and use of heavy artillery. UNICEF field staff estimate that an additional 3,500 people have been



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displaced including over 1,000 people who are sheltering in a nearby forest. Local organizations including church groups, civil society groups and NGOs are advocating with the Kachin State Government and Myanmar military for evacuation of trapped and displaced people. Access to active conflict areas remains extremely difficult for UNICEF staff and international partners, as well as Myanmar NGOs. Outside the areas of active conflict, national staff and national partners have access and provide basic humanitarian services to those most in need.

UNICEF also remains extremely concerned about the situation in northern Shan State.

Armed clashes in March and April were reported in Namtu, Hseinni, Kutkai and Manton with additional landmine cases reported in Kyaukme and Hsipaw townships. Furthermore, there has been a recent increase in military presence in Kokang, Special Administrative Zone. In Shan, displacement patterns show many people flee areas of fighting for several days seeking shelter in monasteries, churches or neighbouring villages and return home within a period of weeks. Throughout Shan, the Government and local partners have been providing support to those displaced. Should the fighting be sustained and lead to prolonged displacement, additional assistance will likely be required. Access to newly-affected areas remains restricted due to insecurity.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

- The Government of Myanmar is leading response activities in Rakhine through the Union Enterprise for Humanitarian Response, Rehabilitation and Development (UEHRRD). In Kachin and Shan, the Department for Disaster Management (formerly Relief and Resettlement Department) and line ministries are providing support to newly displaced people and working to increase service provisions in government-controlled areas.
- UNICEF is leading the water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) Cluster, Nutrition Sector, co-leads the Education Sector, leads the Child Protection sub-sector and participates in the interagency coordination mechanisms at national/sub-national levels. As part of the strategy development process, the WASH cluster will combine data with the Protection Sector.
- UNICEF also participates in the interagency coordination mechanisms at the national and sub-national levels to ensure joint planning and advocacy including Humanitarian Country Team and Area Humanitarian Country Teams and the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group.

Humanitarian Strategy

UNICEF is striving to meet the humanitarian needs of crisis-affected and displaced children, women and men across parts of Rakhine, Kachin and Shan States. UNICEF coordinates with partners to provide critical life-saving and life-sustaining services in child protection, education, health, nutrition and WASH. UNICEF's comparative advantage is its ability to work simultaneously with the Government, international and national NGOs and other local organizations to ensure that vulnerable communities receive the support they require. Together with its partners, UNICEF continues to advocate for additional access to ensure the full complement of services can be provided to those in need, including those in hard-to-reach or isolated locations.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

In the first quarter 2018, in Rakhine, UNICEF and its partners admitted 347 SAM children under 5 years for therapeutic care, reached 4,995 Pregnant and Lactating Women (PLW) with infant and young child feeding (IYCF) counselling and provided micronutrient supplementation to 19,961 children U5 and 3,827 PLW. Restricted access for UNICEF and partners in Maungdaw District remains a major challenge and explains in part the low number of SAM admissions. In Kachin, UNICEF provided 939 PLW with IYCF counselling and reached 452 children under 5 years with micronutrient supplementation. UNICEF also continues to work with the World Health Organization (WHO), the Government of Myanmar and other partners to introduce identification and treatment of malnutrition into routine health activities.

Health

To improve the coverage of health services in Maungdaw and Buthidaung townships, UNICEF's partner, the Myanmar Health Assistant Association (MHAA) is coordinating with the Rakhine State Health Department, District and Township Medical Offices to provide maternal, neonatal and child health (MNCH) services as well as immunization and referrals. This is particularly important for communities with little access to static health facilities. UNICEF continues to partner with MHAA and Myanmar Heart Development Organization (MHDO) to ensure IDPs in camps in central Rakhine have access to basic health services. The multi-sector



Menstrual Hygiene Management Technical Working Group defined priority activities and an action plan.

In Kachin, UNICEF's local partner Health Poverty Action (HPA) provides immunization, MNCH, and referral support including for women in need of emergency obstetric care. UNICEF hopes to expand these services in Kachin and into northern Shan in 2018. In late February and early March, UNICEF in collaboration with local partners, WHO, and other agencies responded to an outbreak of acute watery diarrhoea (AWD) in Liaza, Kachin.

WASH

Through WASH activities, UNICEF is ensuring that children and families access sufficient water of appropriate quality and quantity for drinking, cooking and personal hygiene as well as sanitation facilities both in camps and communities. WASH sector also focus on an integrated intervention to provide WASH services in education and health facilities and child friendly spaces. UNICEF works with nine national and international partners to deliver emergency WASH services to IDPs and crisis-affected communities throughout Rakhine, Kachin and Shan States and is targeting over 117,500 people including over 43,500 children with WASH programming.

Access to Maungdaw District slightly improved for national WASH partners and UNICEF during March and April 2018, however in Kachin and Shan States there were no improvements in access to non-government controlled areas. As a result of access restrictions, no data is currently available on the basic WASH situation for communities identified as in need and targeted through the Humanitarian Action for Children and Humanitarian Response Plan. Overall the reduced



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access results in a restriction on UNICEF's ability to implement, support, and monitor WASH services in many locations. In areas of central Rakhine, even where access is officially granted by the Government of Myanmar, Camp Management Committees continue to block WASH activities as they seek to personally benefit from humanitarian activities. The resulting delays impair the quality and timely delivery of WASH services such as latrine renovation and desludging. Access challenges in Rakhine also mean that several WASH infrastructure projects identified for the dry season will not be completed—leaving many IDP camps with old, dilapidated sanitation structures and

inadequate drainage for the duration of the next rainy season. The WASH cluster continues to negotiate for access so partners can deliver on WASH activities especially in Pauktaw township in central Rakhine where the public health situation is most dire.

In Maungdaw District, UNICEF is partnering with MHDO to provide WASH support for 20,000 people. Additionally, in Maungdaw Township between 24-26 April, UNICEF, in coordination with the Government, distributed hygiene kits to 35 Muslim, Rakhine and Hindu villages benefiting 22,600 people including over 8,600 children. Additional locations are being identified for future distributions. In Kyaukme, northern Shan, in cooperation with the Government's Department for Disaster Management, UNICEF provided 200 newly displaced IDPs with hygiene kits. In Kachin, to respond to recent fighting and displacement, UNICEF is sending additional hygiene kits, tarpaulins, water storage containers and water purification sachets to local partners for response activities.

Contingency stocks of hygiene kits, water treatment and storage equipment, and emergency sanitation equipment are in place to respond to potential outbreaks to cover a population of 320,000 people. In coordination with the Health Cluster, the UNICEF-led WASH Cluster monitors acute watery diarrhoea in camps. The WASH Cluster has also finalized consultations with State Governments and partners in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States to revise its 2017-2019 Strategic Operational Framework; and consultations also took place for a review of its monitoring framework which will be reflected in the quarter one, 2018 report.

Education

UNICEF Education in Emergencies (EiE) activities supported 13,563 IDP students to access quality education in temporary learning classrooms (TLCs) in IDP camps and host communities during the academic year 2017-2018. Of these, 11,340 primary students participated in the government end-of-year examinations in February 2018. UNICEF also supported 500 students with non-formal primary education (NFPE), of whom 164—including 62 girls—participated in the NFPE Level-2 final examination in April 2018.

UNICEF and partners supported IDP students in Sittwe, Pauktaw and Minbya Townships and remain key service providers to conflict-affected children in Rakhine IDP camps where government involvement is still limited. UNICEF also completed the reconstruction of three schools in Minbya which will hold 421 students when schools reopen after winter break. UNICEF and partners are challenged by the lack of funding for EiE programming despite its important protective impacts for children.

In Kachin State, UNICEF provided 517 IDP students with emergency learning packages containing exercise books, pencils, erasers and a ruler. In both Kachin and Shan States, UNICEF coordinates closely with the State Education Department and Township Education Offices to get IDP children back into schools, with appropriate support, as quickly as possible.



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Child Protection

UNICEF remains extremely concerned about risks posed to children in IDP settings and/or those who live in areas of active conflict. Segregation, discrimination and substandard living conditions create further protection risks for children under 18 with little access to basic services, such as education, health centres and safe areas to play; services that are essential for healthy development and growth. Living long-term in confined spaces—as many IDPs have been since 2011/2012—impacts on the mental health and wellbeing of children. As a result of camp living, children are in danger of risky migration, trafficking and negative coping mechanisms such as child marriage, substance misuse, sexual violence and hazardous labour. Where there is active conflict, children are at further risk of unexploded remnants of war such as landmines, recruitment into armed groups, sexual violence used in conflict, and denial of humanitarian assistance.

In all Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States, UNICEF is prioritizing mental health and psycho-social support programming in addition to case management with a focus on provision of services. This includes mobile or static child-friendly spaces which creates safe spaces for children and parents/caregivers, providing key messages and support, and mine risk education. In addition, UNICEF is supporting training of para-social workers who act as a link and advocate for children. Child Protection Groups form community-based networks which support the monitoring and reporting of grave violations against children as well as abuse and violations.

In Maungdaw District of Rakhine State, UNICEF's partners are currently reaching nearly 7,000 children in 30 villages per week with psycho-social activities. In Kachin and Shan States, UNICEF and our partners are reaching over 36,000 children and their caregivers with psycho-social support.

Social Protection

In March, all remaining MCCT payments for the Government of Myanmar's Fiscal Year 2017 were successfully completed by the Department of Social Welfare (DSW). Approximately 60,000 beneficiaries were registered and paid in all 17 townships and 26 IDP camps in Rakhine State. UNICEF continues to lead the work of the Technical Reference Group (TRG)—comprising of the World Bank, World Food Programme, Save the Children and International Rescue Committee as core members—to complete program implementation and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) guidelines. Key activities of the TRG during March and April have been:

- Drafting of Operations Manual for the Rakhine State MCCT's implementation;
- Capacity building for systemization of registration and payments data;

- Developing a complaints management system for all beneficiaries informed by feedback from the Protection Sector;
- Developing a M&E framework and tools for implementation (verification, exit surveys, Post Distribution Monitoring, environment assessments, etc.); and
- Capacity building of DSW staff on data analysis, to strengthen understanding of coverage, gaps, equity issues, etc.



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UNICEF is helping pull together a complete package of M&E tools for the Rakhine State MCCT by the end of May to hand over to DSW. Some M&E activities have already commenced on a limited basis, based on the design support of UNICEF and the TRG.

Media and External Communication

On International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action, a high-level event was organised in Nay Pyi Taw with representatives from Government Ministries, Embassies, UN Agencies and donors. The conference was accompanied by strong multimedia materials calling on all parties to end the conflict and provide: greater support for mine risk education in hard-to-reach areas; increased investment in assistance for survivors; the initiation of landmine clearance wherever possible; and for the Government of Myanmar to become a State Party to the Mine Ban Treaty, already signed by 164 States.

On Rakhine, following the global launch on 23 February of the Rohingya Child Alert: "*Lives in Limbo: no end in sight to the threats facing Rohingya children*", a number of stories have been disseminated through social media to increase public awareness of the work UNICEF is doing for all children in Rakhine including: the support of community volunteers to help tackle malnutrition in Maungdaw District; and support by UNICEF to improve water and sanitation in central Rakhine.

Funding

UNICEF's 2018 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal for Myanmar is US\$31.8 million. To-date, UNICEF has received generous funding support from Denmark, Japan, the United States and the UN Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). With the funds available from the previous year, the current funding gap is 60 percent. Given the nature and complexity of the crisis in three locations of the country, UNICEF requires predictable and flexible resources to be able to meet the increasing humanitarian needs.

Funding Requirements as defined in 2018 Myanmar Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal of January 2018 for a period of 12 months)					
Appeal Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Funds Received Current Year	Carry-Over	\$	%
Nutrition	5,680,000	779,430	698,403	4,202,167	74%
Health	3,017,000	965,875	241,903	1,809,222	60%
WASH	8,650,000	3,156,058	1,109,133	4,384,809	51%
Child Protection	5,800,000	1,607,747	778,049	3,414,204	59%
Education	6,434,000	752,274	2,004,844	3,676,881	57%
Cluster Coordination	2,199,000	80,914	620,804	1,497,282	68%
Total	31,780,000	7,342,300	5,453,134	18,984,565	60%

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

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/2018_HAC_Myanmar.pdf

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Annex A: SUMMARY OF PROGRAMME RESULTS

		UNICEF and IPs		Cluster Response	
		2018 Target	Total Results	2018 Target	Total Results
NUTRITION					
# of children aged 6 to 59 months with SAM admitted to therapeutic care	Rakhine	9,000	347	10,600	751
# of children aged 6 to 59 months that receive micronutrient supplementation	Kachin	5,000	452		
	Rakhine	29,000	19,961		
	Shan	5,000	-		
# of pregnant or lactating women that receive micronutrient supplementation	Kachin	2,500	-		
	Rakhine	12,000	3,827		
	Shan	4,000	-		
# of pregnant or lactating women that access IYCF counselling	Kachin	2,000	939	4,100	1,054
	Rakhine	29,000	4,995	31,575	5,056
	Shan	1,000	-	835	-
HEALTH					
# children 9 to 18 months vaccinated against measles ¹	Kachin	7,000	617		
	Rakhine	21,000	3,058		
	Shan	1,000	0		
# children and women provided with access to health care services	Kachin	25,000	13,684		
	Rakhine	35,000	26,423		
	Shan	5,000	0		
WASH					
# of people (children, women, men) accessing sufficient water of appropriate quality and quantity for drinking, cooking and maintaining personal hygiene	Kachin	36,700	14,860	116,862	68,531
	Rakhine	71,870	29,820	374,137	102,406
	Shan	9,000	248	17,979	13,556
# of people (children, women, men) accessing toilets and washing facilities that are culturally appropriate, secure, sanitary, user-friendly and gender-appropriate	Kachin	36,700	14,860	116,862	57,416
	Rakhine	71,870	28,480	374,137	70,147
	Shan	9,000	0	17,979	6,045
# of people (children, women, men) that receive critical WASH-related information to prevent child illness, especially diarrhoea	Kachin	36,700	35,095	116,862	46,411
	Rakhine	71,870	17,688	374,137	63,063
	Shan	9,000	248	17,979	12,193
# of people (children, women, men) accessing safe water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in their learning environment, child-friendly spaces & emergency health care facilities	Kachin	14,680	100		
	Rakhine	28,748	1,187		
	Shan	3,600	0		
CHILD PROTECTION					
# people (children, women and men) with access to psychosocial support	Kachin	99,000	30,127	94,536	30,127
	Rakhine	120,450	94,103	152,786	96,578
	Shan	27,500	5,190	27,153	5,190
# children accessing appropriate case management services	Kachin	n/a	38		
	Rakhine	n/a	756		
	Shan	n/a	31		
# children released from armed forces and armed groups	See notes	-	19		
# people with access to UXO information	Kachin	90,000	5,004		
	Rakhine	3,000	139		
	Shan	25,000	18,869		
# adolescents provided with life skills to prevent negative coping mechanisms	Kachin	2,500	365		
	Rakhine	15,000	6,439		
	Shan	500	146		
EDUCATION					
# of children 3-10 years accessing pre- primary or primary learning opportunities.	Kachin	7,000	0	16,000	1,618
	Rakhine	30,000	12,482	41,750	28,736
	Shan	-	-	3,100	4,867
# of adolescents 11-17 years old accessing non-formal education opportunities	Kachin	450	0	12,070	0
	Rakhine	5,000	564	16,700	8,656
	Shan	-	-	2,850	2,096
# of children aged 3-17 years who receive emergency education and recreational materials	Kachin	7,200	517		
	Rakhine	20,000	0		
	Shan	2,700	0		

Notes: The number of children released from armed forces and groups is cumulative. The total children released since 2012 and the signature of the Action Plan is: 868

¹: The target in the HAC 2018 incorrectly reflects a target for this indicator of 28,000 children; the figure should be 29,000 children as reflected here.