

MYANMAR

January-March 2023

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

95,000 people received core relief items comprising kitchen sets, blankets and sleeping mats, ensuring their basic needs were met.

11,500 people received shelter support for safe and dignified living conditions while in displacement.

8,300 people with specific needs benefited from cash assistance to meet their basic needs.

UNHCR PRESENCE



POPULATION OF CONCERN

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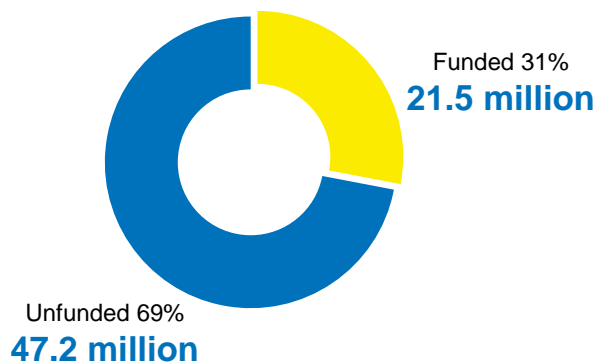
Internally displaced people (IDP) living in Rakhine, Chin, Kachin, Shan, Kayah and Mon States, and Bago (East), Tanintharyi, Sagaing and Magway Regions (as of 31 March 2023). According to UN sources, an estimated 1.4 million people have been displaced due to the resumption and intensification of clashes between the Tatmadaw and ethnic armed organizations (EAOs) and/or People's Defense Forces (PDF) after 1 February 2021.

630,000

Estimated Rohingya in Rakhine State, of which some 147,000 are living in displacement camps as well as among the host community since 2012.

FUNDING (AS OF 5 APRIL 2023)

USD 68.7 million



Update On Achievements

South-East

- The security situation continued to deteriorate with heavy fighting, shelling and airstrikes observed in multiple states and regions, including near town centres and displacement sites. The number of IDPs crossed the 400,000 mark. Landmines and explosive remnants of war continue to pose severe protection risks and threats to civilians.
- UNHCR and partners distributed **core relief items (CRIs) comprising blankets, sleeping mats, mosquito nets, kitchen sets, jerry cans, buckets, tarpaulins, and solar lamps to 38,600 people (12,000 families) in Kayin, Kayah, Shan (South) States and Bago Region (East).** In addition, **3,000 people (870 families) received emergency shelter assistance in Shan State (South).**
- In Kayah, Kayin, Shan (South) States and Bago (East) and Tanintharyi Regions, **840 people with specific needs (PSN) - including older people, people with disabilities, children, people with serious medical conditions, and female headed households - were identified and supported with multipurpose cash assistance.**
- In Shan State (South), **300 families were supported with pilot cash assistance in Taunggyi, Shan State (South) to enable them to meet their most pressing needs.**
- Emergent areas of conflict in the South-East since the events of 1 February 2021 have limited humanitarian access and diminished possibilities for durable solutions. Nevertheless, where feasible, programmes consider solutions from the start for IDPs pursuing or hoping to return to their areas or origin. UNHCR and partners completed **22 Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in Kayah and Shan (South) States targeting 21,000 people for the construction of a school, a road, a community infrastructure, water tanks and solar streetlights.**
- Through Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), UNHCR and partners **ensured equitable access to services to over 36,000 IDP** which contributed to their overall protection.
- Over **190,000 personal protective equipment (PPE)** were distributed in Kayah, Kayin and Shan (South) States as part of UNHCR's COVID-19 response.



UNHCR and partners distributing core relief items in Kayin State © UNHCR

Rakhine

- The informal November 2022 ceasefire between the Arakan Army (AA) and the Tatmadaw continues to hold. Communities nevertheless remain vigilant and fearful of a resumption in fighting and thus limit their movements.
- Despite access restrictions, UNHCR and partners distributed **CRIs to 36,800 IDP (7,850 families) in Rakhine State (Central) and 6,500 IDP (2,650 families) in Rakhine State (North).**
- UNHCR and partners also supported **5,700 PSN in Rakhine State (Central) and 1,600 PSN in Rakhine State (North).**
- In Rakhine State (Central), UNHCR and partners provided **emergency shelter assistance to 1,600 people (370 families).** Moreover, some **5,200 people (940 families) moved into longhouses (transitional shelters).** These

shelters help meet the urgent needs for safe and dignified housing in the protracted Rohingya and Kaman IDP camps. Some 1,700 people (300 families) received corrugated galvanized iron (CGI) roofing sheets to strengthen their shelters.

- Through CCCM, UNHCR and partners continued to ensure the wellbeing of, and equitable access to services for over 170,000 IDP living in Rohingya camps and displacement sites following the AA-Tatmadaw conflict in Rakhine State (Central). CCCM services include the provision of static complaints and response mechanisms in each camp, carrying out awareness and information campaigns, monitoring services, conducting camp level coordination meetings so that service providers from all sectors in the camps consult with IDP communities and engage wider coordination structures.



UNHCR and partners distributing core relief items in Rakhine State (North) © UNHCR

- In Rakhine State (Central), UNHCR and partners carried out outreach activities and information campaigns targeting 560 people living in Rohingya and Kaman IDP camps. Topics covered included access to complaint response mechanisms, pre-distribution information sharing, and information on access to services including sharing schedules for upcoming vaccination campaigns.
- In Rakhine State (North), PPE was distributed to some 6,000 people (2,350 families) as part of UNHCR's COVID-19 response.

North-West

- The situation remained highly volatile, notably in Magway and Sagaing Regions, where frequent airstrikes, arson attacks and landmine incidents sparked new displacements within Myanmar and to neighboring India. Displacements are approaching 1 million with an estimate 990,000 IDP reported, according to the UN. Some humanitarian actors - including local organizations - have suspended, delayed, or limited activities in some locations due to movement restrictions and road blockages.
- UNHCR's partner distributed CRIs to 3,150 people (750 families) in Pakokku and Seikphyu Townships, Magway Region. Preparations are ongoing to assist PSN with multipurpose cash assistance.

Kachin and North-East

- In Kachin and Shan (North) States, frequent airstrikes, shelling, and explosive remnants are putting civilian lives at risk. Arbitrary arrests, forced labour and the destruction and theft of civilian properties were also reported.
- UNHCR and partners distributed CRIs comprising mosquito nets, tarpaulins, kitchen sets and sleeping mats to 10,500 IDP (2,100 families). In addition, some 400 people (80 families) received emergency shelter assistance.
- Through CCCM, UNHCR and partners continued to ensure equitable access to services to over 100,000 IDP, contributing to improved protection outcomes. UNHCR also distributed solar lamps to over 200 returnee families in Momauk and Mansi Townships, Kachin State.

- UNHCR's multipurpose cash assistance was provided to 200 people assessed as having acute vulnerabilities and/or protection risks.
- In Kachin and Shan (North) States, IDPs pursued avenues that allow them to rebuild their lives despite the limited prospects for lasting solutions after February 2021. UNHCR and partners completed a pilot programme providing small grants for various community-led projects in six solutions sites in Bhamo Township, Kachin State. These grants act as 'seed money' and are designed to encourage communities to harness their own resources and assets to improve their environment. In turn, communities were able to facilitate road rehabilitation work, expand access to clean water supplies, and support community halls.



UNHCR provides targeted shelter support to IDPs in Kachin State. New homes are constructed for families and solar streetlights are installed to illuminate pathways and provide a sense of security. © UNHCR

Working in partnership

- UNHCR Myanmar collaborates closely with all relevant stakeholders including UN agencies, international and local NGOs, as well as humanitarian and development partners. UNHCR is an active member of the UN Country Team (UNCT), the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and the Cooperation Partners Group (CPG), as well as the Myanmar Cash Working Group co-chaired by WFP, Mercy Corps, and support by OCHA.
- UNHCR leads the Protection and the combine Shelter/NFI/CCCM Clusters at the national and sub-national levels. In the three northern townships of Rakhine State, UNHCR co-chairs the MIAG alongside the UN Resident coordinator - a platform focusing on creating conditions conducive for refugee returns and improving the wellbeing of remaining communities through nexus programmes. UNHCR also co-chairs, alongside UNDP, the South-East Working Group



The Shelter/NFI/CCCM Cluster organized a CCCM training of trainers which was attended by 21 participants from six different humanitarian agencies in Rakhine State © UNHCR

(SEWG), which has been the main forum for coordination and discussion related to cohesion and major development issues.

- Against the backdrop of the Peer-to-Peer Review mission recommendations, UNHCR continues to strengthen its leadership in the various coordination platforms and regions, while ensuring issues such as access to civil documentation and citizenship are integrated in various programmes/responses¹.
- With some IDPs returning to areas of origin, [transitional solutions activities continued in coordination with regional working groups](#); Durable Solutions Working Group in North-East, MIAG in Rakhine (North) and South-East Working Group.
- Read more about the [regional impact of the current crisis in Myanmar here](#).

Accountability to affected populations (AAP)

- UNHCR Myanmar continuously takes steps to ensure [AAP](#), adopting [age, gender, and diversity \(AGD\)](#) approaches throughout its programmes and activities. Despite the evolving operational constraints, UNHCR endeavours to ensure women, girls, men and boys of all ages, abilities and diverse backgrounds/locations participate in their protection and solutions outcomes.
- UNHCR supported AAP strengthening, through expansion of communication channels and capacity building of UNHCR and partner staff members. People we serve are raising their voices on concerns and providing feedback to UNHCR and partners through existing complaints and feedback mechanisms and through the help of regular post distribution monitoring. In the South-East, hotline cards are distributed to people we serve and are aimed at improving two-way communication and complaint and response mechanisms in challenging environments.
- UNHCR continued to promote meaningful participation in decision making, by ensuring involvement of all groups within the community in identification, planning and implementation of quick impact projects.

Accessing civil documentation and citizenship

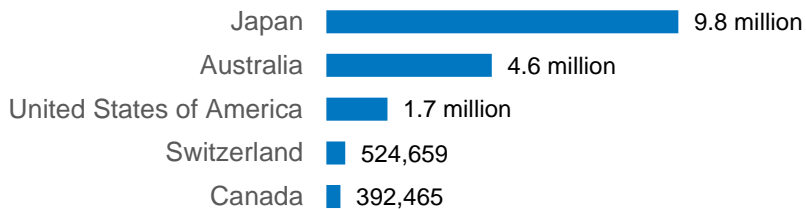
- Collaborating with a community of national and international partners working in various spheres, UNHCR aims to enhance understanding of challenges and opportunities in obtaining civil documentation for all people in Myanmar. Findings shared by partners following their engagement with different communities highlighted the wide-ranging impact of not having civil documentation, and the importance of preventing and reducing statelessness especially amongst marginalized populations.
- In Rakhine State (Central), [UNHCR continued to address legal and systemic issues related to statelessness, civil documentation and birth registration](#) through monitoring, referral of cases and awareness raising on procedures, and strategy development for affected communities - Rohingya, Kaman and Rakhine included. UNHCR works in camps, villages, and displacement sites with two legal partners to ensure cost-free legal aid and case management to people we serve. Some [80 people received group information on procedures related to civil documentation and birth registration](#), [30 received individual counselling](#) while [13 received legal aid](#).
- In Kayah and Kayin States and Bago (East) and Tanintharyi Regions, [90 people received legal counseling sessions, legal consultations and support for citizenship applications](#).

¹ Following a Peer-to-Peer support mission, the Humanitarian Country Teams (HCT) decided to review of the humanitarian coordination structure in Myanmar to be more fit-for-purpose to facilitate humanitarian response to increasing humanitarian needs against a severely restrictive and highly dynamic and changing operating environment and limited humanitarian funding.

Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programmes with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds.

EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD



BROADLY EARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

Special thanks to the major donors of broadly earmarked contributions that can potentially be used for this operation due to their earmarking to a related situation or theme, or to the region or sub-region.

Canada | Germany | United States of America | Private donors

UNEARMARKED CONTRIBUTIONS | USD

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Sweden 69 million | Norway 63.1 million | Denmark 35.6 million | Netherlands 34.1 million | Germany 23.1 million | Switzerland 18.9 million | Belgium 11.9 million | Ireland 11.9 million

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