

BURMA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2013

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

140,000

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Rakhine State

U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – August 2013

100,000

IDPs in Kachin and Northern Shan States

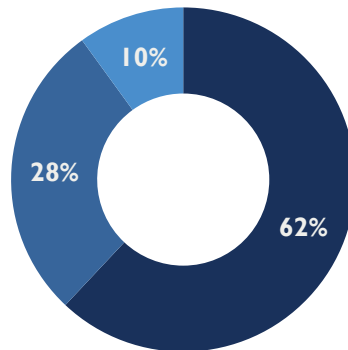
OCHA – August 2013

48,000

People Displaced by Flooding in Kayin, Mon, and Shan States and Bago, Sagaing, and Yangon Regions

OCHA – August 2013

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2013



- Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (62%)
- Logistics & Relief Commodities (28%)
- Nutrition (10%)

HIGHLIGHTS

- A U.N.-led convoy delivers emergency relief items to previously inaccessible displaced populations in Kachin State
- Increased fighting follows stalled Government of Burma (GoB)–Kachin Independence Organization (KIO) peace talks
- USAID/OFDA provides an additional \$4 million in humanitarian support in August

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO BURMA IN FY 2013

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| USAID/OFDA | \$6,050,000 |
| USAID/FFP | \$8,000,000 |
| STATE/PRM ³ | \$37,618,964 |

\$51,668,964

TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO BURMA

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- In September, the GoB permitted a U.N.-led convoy to deliver emergency relief items to IDPs living in the Woi Chyai Camp in Laiza town, an area of Kachin State under KIO control, for the first time since December 2011. Between September 7 and 10, the U.N. and humanitarian partners delivered food, medicine, kitchen sets, mosquito nets, and plastic sheeting to more than 4,300 people displaced by conflict. In total, approximately 100,000 IDPs currently reside in Kachin and northern Shan states, including more than 53,000 people located in areas beyond GoB control, according to the U.N.
- As of August 31, the Rakhine State Government (RSG), in coordination with humanitarian partners, had relocated nearly 94,000 people—approximately 78 percent of the 120,400 people requiring shelter assistance in Rakhine—to communal long houses, according to OCHA. Humanitarian organizations have expressed concern, however, that government authorities are not consulting IDPs in relocation plans and that extensive camp consolidations and relocations could lead to permanent segregated and inequitable settlements.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ The U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM). State/PRM's funding of more than \$14.5 million assists vulnerable Burmese refugees and asylum seekers residing in the region.

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

Kachin State

- Fighting in Kachin State increased in mid-September after peace talks between the GoB and the KIO ended without agreement. The GoB and the KIO held peace talks earlier in the year, signing a tentative seven-point peace deal in late May; however, the GoB has yet to secure a ceasefire and conflict is ongoing.
- Although the GoB has authorized the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) to provide humanitarian assistance in KIO-controlled areas of Kachin, the KIO continues to deny MRCS access to affected populations due to its connection to the GoB, according to local media. The MRCS, through the Kachin State Red Cross, had planned to provide assistance to more than 1,300 displaced households in KIO-controlled areas in August.
- To prepare for possible returns following the preliminary ceasefire in May, 10 local non-governmental organizations (NGOs) developed a joint programming strategy for the safe return and resettlement of IDPs. The strategy outlines return scenarios and programming to ensure a practical, coordinated, and appropriate response involving all stakeholders.

Mandalay Region

- Of the approximately 12,000 people displaced by the March violence in Meiktila city, nearly 4,000 people remain in camps and other sites, according to local authorities. OCHA reports that Meiktila IDPs have limited access to employment and some basic services due to continued movement restrictions.

Rakhine State

- The RSG, in coordination with humanitarian partners, continues to relocate IDPs to communal long houses in Rakhine State. The remaining IDPs—including approximately 14,000 in Pauktaw Township, 930 in Rathedaung Township, and 10,600 in Sittwe Township—will relocate once temporary shelters are prepared.

Sagaing Region

- On August 24, anti-Muslim rioters set fire to Muslim homes and property in villages in Kanbalu town, Shwebo District, destroying approximately 50 houses and leaving more than 300 people homeless, according to international media. The GoB contained the violence by deploying military personnel and approximately 250 police officers.

Floods

- In late July and August, flash flooding in several areas of Burma, including Kayin, Mon, and Shan states and Bago, Sagaing, and Yangon regions, displaced more than 48,000 people, according to GoB estimates. Most-affected areas included Kayin and Mon states, where floods impacted approximately 36,400 people. In addition, flooding affected at least 70,000 acres of farmland.
- The GoB, U.N. agencies, and humanitarian partners provided food, health care, temporary shelters, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance to affected populations. As of August 31, all flood-displaced people had returned home; however, humanitarian organizations report that affected populations will continue to require assistance due to flood impacts on crops and livelihoods.

LOGISTICS AND RELIEF COMMODITIES

- USAID/OFDA recently provided an additional \$667,000 in FY 2013 funding to support the distribution of emergency relief commodities to IDPs and host communities in Rakhine State. Through USAID/OFDA support, Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US) distributions benefited nearly 24,000 people, including more than 15,000 IDPs.
- In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA provided more than \$1.7 million to support logistics activities and the provision of emergency relief commodities in Rakhine State and Mandalay Region.

NUTRITION AND WASH

- In response to WASH needs in Rakhine State, USAID/OFDA recently provided SC/US with more than \$333,000 in FY 2013 funding to procure and distribute hygiene kits and conduct hygiene promotion activities for nearly 4,000 displaced and host-community households in Pauktaw Township. In addition, SC/US is improving drainage systems to minimize health and flood risks for approximately 4,400 households recently relocated to Sittwe IDP camps in Rakhine State. USAID/OFDA contributed nearly \$600,000 to SC/US in FY 2013 to support WASH activities in Rakhine.
 - USAID/OFDA recently provided an additional \$1 million in FY 2013 funding to NGO Solidarités to improve sustainable access to safe drinking water, sanitation facilities, and hygiene promotion activities for IDPs residing in Kyauktaw, Pauktaw, Rathedaung, and Sittwe townships. Solidarités plans to construct a drainage network for rain and wastewater, rehabilitate and construct new latrines and wells, improve water harvesting systems, distribute hygiene kits, and conduct hygiene promotion sessions focusing on hand washing, waste management, and water quality safety. The USAID/OFDA-supported activities will reach nearly 51,000 IDPs and approximately 19,000 host-community members. USAID/OFDA contributed \$1.4 million to Solidarités in FY 2013 for WASH activities.
 - In August, USAID/OFDA contributed \$2 million to the U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF) to provide nutrition and WASH assistance in Kachin and Rakhine states. USAID/OFDA assistance will improve WASH facilities in IDP camps in both areas, including recently relocated camps and previously inaccessible areas in Rakhine, and will support UNICEF’s community-based management of acute malnutrition, micronutrient supplementation, and infant and young child feeding support in conflict-affected areas.
 - In FY 2013, USAID/OFDA provided nearly \$4 million for WASH activities and \$600,000 to support nutrition interventions in Kachin and Rakhine states.
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EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE

- To support the ongoing food needs in Rakhine State, humanitarian organizations continue to distribute food commodities to populations in need on a monthly basis, with nearly 700 metric tons provided to more than 73,000 IDPs throughout Rakhine State between June 1 and 18, OCHA reports.
 - In FY 2013, USAID/FFP contributed a total of \$8 million to support the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) Emergency Food Operation (EMOP) in Burma. The EMOP provides emergency food assistance to approximately 162,000 IDPs living in Kachin, Rakhine, and northern Shan states. USAID/FFP also supports WFP’s other emergency food assistance activities, including the local procurement of rice and legumes for highly food insecure IDPs in Burma.
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OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- In late August, the U.N. Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) Underfunded Working Group ranked Burma high on its list of countries recommended to receive additional funding. Based on the recommendation, the U.N. Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator Valerie Amos approved an underfunded emergency allocation of \$3 million to support ongoing humanitarian projects in Kachin State.
- In early August, the U.N. released its revised Rakhine Response Plan, requesting more than \$109 million to meet the humanitarian needs of approximately 176,000 conflict-affected people. This figure includes approximately 140,000 IDPs and an estimated 36,000 people residing in 113 isolated villages, where ongoing tensions and movement restrictions have limited access to livelihoods opportunities and basic services. The revised plan aims to create durable solutions using conflict-sensitive approaches, complement GoB-led relief efforts, and link humanitarian recovery with development strategies and activities. To date, donors have provided nearly \$79 million—or approximately 72 percent—of total requested funding for relief activities in Rakhine State.
- To date in 2013, donors have provided nearly \$159 million to address humanitarian needs in conflict-affected areas of Burma. As of September, the Kachin Response Plan was funded at nearly 28 percent, while the Rakhine Response Plan was funded at approximately 72 percent.

- In FY 2013, State/PRM contributed nearly \$17 million to partner organizations operating in Kachin and Rakhine states, as well as southeastern Burma, to support health care services, physical rehabilitation centers, shelter activities, camp coordination and camp management, and preparations for sustainable, voluntary returns. Of the total contribution, nearly \$2 million targeted improving UNHCR's protection activities and operational capacity by enhancing staffing and coordination with the U.N. Humanitarian Country Team and the international community in Burma.

CONTEXT

- In early June 2011, a ceasefire between the GoB and the KIO broke down when fighting erupted in southeastern Kachin State between GoB forces and the Kachin Independence Army—the military arm of the KIO. An estimated 100,000 people remain displaced in Kachin and northern Shan states as a result of fighting. More than half of those displaced reside in areas beyond GoB control, with limited humanitarian access. Local NGOs continue to access displaced populations in KIO-controlled areas, including along the Burma–China border; however, access to some areas remains inconsistent. In late May, the GoB and KIO agreed to a preliminary ceasefire.
- An estimated 140,000 people remain displaced in Rakhine State as a result of violence in June and October 2012 between ethnic Rakhine Buddhist and Rohingya Muslim communities, as well as non-Rohingya Muslims.
- On November 1, 2012, U.S. Ambassador Derek J. Mitchell redeclared a humanitarian disaster for FY 2013 due to the ongoing complex emergency in Burma. USAID/OFDA regional advisors based in Bangkok, Thailand, continue to conduct assessments in affected areas of Rakhine and Kachin states to assess humanitarian conditions, identify humanitarian gaps, and recommend response options.
- In mid-March, fighting erupted between Buddhist and Muslim residents in Meiktila city, located in central Burma's Mandalay Region, and spread to several neighboring townships. Fighting, looting, and burning of homes and buildings resulted in significant displacement and property damage in Meiktila city and surrounding areas.
- On March 25, 2013, Ambassador Mitchell declared a disaster due to humanitarian needs resulting from the communal conflict in Meiktila.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BURMA PROVIDED IN FY 2013¹

| IMPLEMENTING PARTNER | ACTIVITY | LOCATION | AMOUNT |
|--|--|---|---------------------|
| USAID/OFDA² | | | |
| SC/US | Logistics and Relief Commodities | Mandalay Region | \$100,000 |
| SC/US | Logistics and Relief Commodities, WASH | Rakhine State | \$2,000,000 |
| Solidarités | WASH | Rakhine State | \$1,400,000 |
| UNICEF | Nutrition, WASH | Kachin and Rakhine States | \$2,350,000 |
| WFP | Logistics and Relief Commodities | Rakhine State | \$200,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE | | | \$6,050,000 |
| USAID/FFP³ | | | |
| WFP | Local and Regional Food Procurement | Countrywide | \$8,000,000 |
| TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE | | | \$8,000,000 |
| STATE/PRM | | | |
| NGO Implementing Partners | Humanitarian Assistance | Neighboring Countries | \$20,718,964 |
| UNHCR | Humanitarian Assistance | Kachin State, Rakhine State, and Southeastern Burma | \$13,800,000 |
| Other Partners | Humanitarian Assistance | Regional | \$3,100,000 |
| TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE | | | \$37,618,964 |
| TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BURMA IN FY 2013 | | | \$51,668,964 |

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds.

² USAID/OFDA funding represents actual or obligated amounts as of September 30, 2013.

³ Estimated value of food assistance.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses response around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.821.1999.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>