

BURMA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2014

SEPTEMBER 30, 2014

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

828,000

People in Burma in Need of Humanitarian Assistance
U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – December 2013

421,000

People in Burma Targeted to Receive Humanitarian Assistance in 2014
OCHA – December 2013

137,000

Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Rakhine State
OCHA – August 2014

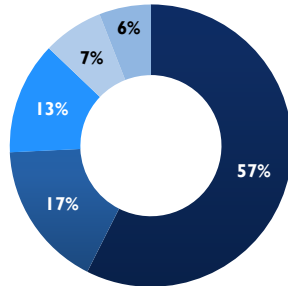
99,000

IDPs in Kachin and Northern Shan States
OCHA – August 2014

70,000

Food-Insecure People in Rakhine
OCHA – July 2014

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2014



- Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (58%)
- Nutrition (17%)
- Shelter & Settlements (13%)
- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (7%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (6%)

USAID/FFP² FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2014



HIGHLIGHTS

- Heavy rainfall and localized floods are affecting populations throughout Burma.
- An estimated 236,000 people remain displaced and in need of humanitarian assistance in Kachin, Rakhine, and Shan states.
- The U.S. Government (USG) provided more than \$45 million to address humanitarian needs in FY 2014.

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO BURMA IN FY 2014

USAID/OFDA	\$4,060,609
USAID/FFP ²	\$5,000,000
State/PRM ³	\$36,302,374
\$45,362,983	TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO BURMA

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Heavy rainfall since July resulted in landslides and floods in Ayeyarwady, Bago, Magway, Thanintharyi, and Yangon regions, as well as in Kayin, Rakhine, and Shan states. The Government of Burma (GoB), U.N. agencies, and other humanitarian actors are providing emergency assistance to flood-affected populations.
- Following its expulsion of Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) from Rakhine in February, the GoB announced in July that all aid groups, including MSF, could resume operations. On September 8, MSF signed a memorandum of understanding with the GoB authorizing MSF's continued work nationwide. As of September 30, however, negotiations with local authorities continued and MSF had not resumed full operations.
- The USG provided more than \$45 million in FY 2014 assistance to support humanitarian response efforts in Burma. This funding includes more than \$4 million from USAID/OFDA for activities that provide emergency shelter assistance, increase access to economic opportunities, and support water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions for vulnerable populations. In addition, USAID/FFP provided \$5 million to support local and regional procurement of emergency food assistance through the U.N. World Food Program (WFP). With more than \$36 million, State/PRM is supporting the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and other implementing partners to assist IDPs in Burma and Burmese refugees in neighboring countries.

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

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

³ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

Kachin and Shan States

- Clashes between GoB forces and the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) in Hpakant Township had displaced approximately 200 people as of August 13. Churches and local government authorities reportedly provided assistance to meet the immediate needs of the displaced people, according to local media.
- Overall, nearly 92,000 people remained displaced in Kachin as of August 1, according to the U.N. Of these, approximately 49,000 resided in areas outside of GoB control, limiting humanitarian access.
- Fighting between GoB forces and the Ta'ang National Liberation Army in northern Shan on July 19 and 20 reportedly led to one civilian death and caused the displacement of more than 800 people, according to the U.N. and local media. In response, humanitarian organizations, including U.N. agencies, provided food and emergency relief commodities to displaced populations. The non-governmental organization (NGO) Save the Children/U.S. (SCF/US) also provided temporary sanitation facilities and psychosocial support to affected individuals.
- In August, WFP conducted a needs assessment in Kye Thi Township, Shan State, where violence displaced more than 60 households—or approximately 400 people—in July. The assessment indicated that IDPs did not require emergency food assistance as private donations were sufficient to cover immediate and short-term needs.
- USAID/OFDA is supporting humanitarian response efforts—including agriculture and food security interventions, shelter and settlements support, and WASH activities—for conflict-affected populations in Kachin and Shan states. With approximately \$499,000 in FY 2014 support, the NGO Metta Development Foundation is targeting more than 24,000 beneficiaries in Kachin through IDP camp shelter construction or repair, water system improvements, hygiene promotion campaigns, and agricultural skills training on soil fertility management and seed selection. USAID/OFDA is also supporting SCF/US to provide emergency relief commodities and WASH support to more than 3,200 people in Kachin and Shan.

Mon State

- At the end of September, fighting between GoB forces and the Democratic Karen Benevolent Army (DKBA) erupted in Mon State, according to local news media. Weeks of growing tension and incidents between the two groups led to full-scale clashes at several locations in Mon on September 26. Media reports indicate that the clashes have displaced dozens of households as people flee to escape the violence.

Rakhine State

- In late July, five months after forcing MSF to halt humanitarian health activities in Rakhine, the GoB announced that it would welcome the resumption of MSF operations in the state. MSF and the GoB signed a memorandum of understanding on September 8, establishing a framework for MSF health activities in five areas, including Rakhine. As of September 30, the NGO had begun consultations with relevant stakeholders and community representatives regarding the resumption of its activities, but MSF and local authorities had not finalized negotiations.
- The GoB lifted a curfew—in place since violence flared in June 2012—in Rakhine's capital, Sittwe, on September 11. Officials stated that the decision was a result of improving security conditions, international media report.
- More than 137,000 people remained displaced in Rakhine as of August 1, according to the U.N. OCHA Director of Operations John Ging, in collaboration with U.N. Development Program Assistant Administrator Haoliang Xu, conducted a two-day visit to Rakhine beginning on September 9 to assess ongoing humanitarian response efforts and development needs at several IDP camps. Ging reported progress since his previous visit a year earlier but noted the need for further improvements in the humanitarian situation.

Floods

- Heavy rainfall since July has resulted in landslides and floods in Ayeyarwady, Bago, Magway, Thanintharyi, and Yangon regions, as well as in Kayin, Rakhine, and Shan states. A July landslide in Shan resulted in seven deaths, and a July landslide in Kachin resulted in five deaths at the Ye Jang IDP camp. The Kachin Independence Organization (KIO) relocated more than 100 vulnerable households in the Ye Jang IDP camp to higher ground following the floods, local media report.

- In Bago, August flooding displaced more than 25,000 people to 56 displacement sites, according to the U.N. In response, WFP deployed an emergency response team and distributed 186 metric tons (MT) of two-week food rations to the flood-displaced population. Regional officials also provided cash assistance, food, and seeds. Most displaced people had returned to their homes as of August 14, according to local media.
 - Floods in early September forced as many as 4,000 people to temporarily flee to higher ground in eastern Shan, although authorities did not report any deaths or injuries resulting from the floods, according to local media.
-
-

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

- WFP—with other U.N. agencies and partner organizations—coordinated four humanitarian cross-line missions to KIO-controlled areas in Kachin State in August. The missions delivered 158 MT of food assistance to more than 24,000 IDPs, bringing total food assistance delivered to IDPs in KIO-controlled areas to more than 870 MT since January, according to WFP.
 - As of September, WFP expected that funding shortfalls would limit the ability of humanitarian actors to address ongoing food needs in Burma beginning in November. Access to nutritionally-balanced and adequate food supplies will remain a challenge for vulnerable populations in Burma the U.N. reports.
 - With \$5 million in FY 2014 support, USAID/FFP supported the local and regional procurement of nearly 5,600 MT of food through WFP's Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO). As of August, the PRRO had purchased more than 38,000 MT of food—valued at \$22 million—from the local market in Burma and provided food assistance to more than 200,000 IDPs in Burma since January.
 - USAID/OFDA is supporting partners, including Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US) and the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF), with \$692,000 in FY 2014 assistance to address nutrition needs among vulnerable populations. SC/US is facilitating access to nutrition services for mothers and children and promoting best practices for infant and young child feeding, while UNICEF is supporting therapeutic feeding and nutrition supplement programs for children.
-
-

WASH

- Community resistance in Rakhine has impeded efforts to respond to IDP WASH needs in recent months, according to the WASH Cluster—the coordinating body for humanitarian WASH activities, comprising U.N. agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders. Throughout July, humanitarian actors reported that WASH interventions in Myebon Township, Rakhine, had decreased, and in the Ah Nauk Ye IDP camp in Pauktaw Township, Rakhine, incidents against humanitarian agencies resulted in the temporary suspension of all WASH activities between July and September.
 - USAID/OFDA provided approximately \$2.3 million for WASH interventions in FY 2014. This funding included more than \$850,000 to NGO Solidarités for emergency WASH assistance to conflict-affected populations in Kachin and Rakhine and \$700,000 to UNICEF to improve sanitation facilities and increase access to safe drinking water for IDP populations in Rakhine. With nearly \$277,000 from USAID/OFDA, NGO ZOA is also improving WASH facilities, including latrines and drainage systems, for Rakhine IDPs.
-
-

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- The 2014 Burma Strategic Response Plan (SRP), launched by U.N. agencies and other humanitarian actors, requests a total of \$192 million to respond to humanitarian needs in Burma throughout 2014, with a focus on Kachin and Rakhine. Donors had contributed nearly \$93 million—or 48 percent of the total appeal—to the SRP as of September 24, according to the U.N.

CONTEXT

- In early June 2011, a ceasefire between the GoB and the KIO broke down when fighting between GoB forces and the KIA erupted in southeastern Kachin State. An estimated 98,000 people remain displaced in Kachin and northern Shan states—more than half of whom 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.
- An estimated 137,000 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.
- As of December 2013, nearly 7,000 people remained displaced due to inter-communal violence in the Meikhtila area of Mandalay Region. Approximately 400,000 of the 828,000 conflict-affected people identified by the U.N. as in need of humanitarian assistance reside in southeast Burma, including Kayah, Kayin, Mon, and southern Shan states, as well as the Bago and Taninthayi regions.
- On October 29, 2013, U.S. Ambassador Derek J. Mitchell redeclared a humanitarian disaster for Burma due to the ongoing complex emergency. USAID/OFDA regional advisors based in Bangkok, Thailand, remain in contact with humanitarian partners in Burma and continue to conduct assessments in affected areas of Kachin and Rakhine states to assess humanitarian conditions, identify humanitarian gaps, and recommend response options.

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BURMA PROVIDED IN FY 2014¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
IOM	Shelter and Settlements	Kachin and Rakhine States	\$260,352
Metta Foundation	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Kachin State	\$498,945
SC/US	Logistics and Relief Commodities, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Kachin and Rakhine States	\$1,024,808
Solidarites	ERMS, WASH	Rakhine State	\$1,000,000
UNICEF	Nutrition, WASH	Rakhine State	\$1,000,000
ZOA	WASH	Rakhine State	\$276,504
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$4,060,609
USAID/FFP³			
WFP	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$5,000,000
STATE/PRM			
International Organization (IO)/NGO Implementing Partners	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh, Malaysia, Thailand	\$24,002,374
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance	Kachin State, Rakhine State, and Southeastern Burma	\$12,300,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$36,302,374
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BURMA IN FY 2014			\$45,362,983

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

² USAID/OFDA funding represents obligated amounts as of September 30, 2014.

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 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>