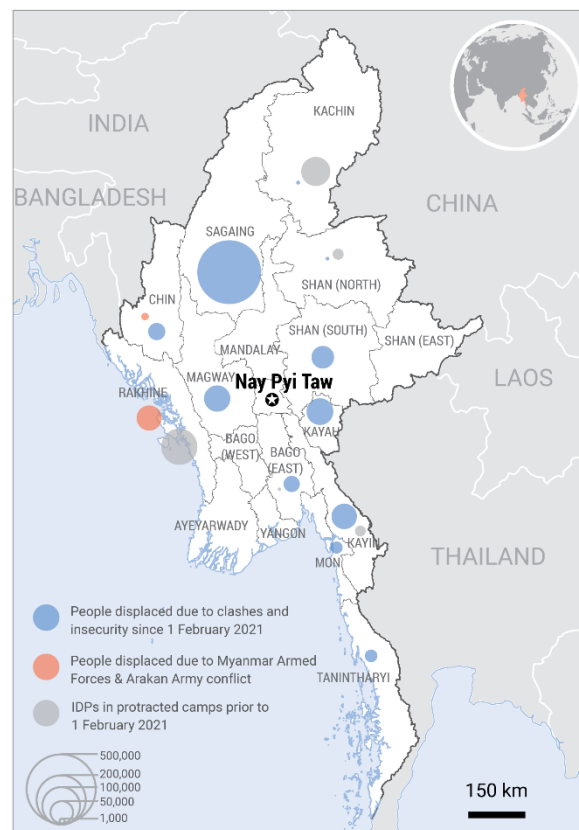


This regular update, covering humanitarian developments up to 31 July, is produced by OCHA Myanmar in collaboration with the Inter-Cluster Coordination Group and UN agencies. The next humanitarian update will be issued in August 2022.

HIGHLIGHTS & KEY MESSAGES

- More than 1.2 million people are currently displaced across the country. This includes nearly 866,400 people displaced by the conflict and insecurity since the military takeover last year.
- Inflation in commodity prices, including for food, fuel, shelter materials and NFIs, remains a major concern to partners in addressing the needs of the most vulnerable. Interim measures are being applied to mitigate against its impact on humanitarian programming where possible, but communities are struggling in the face of cost pressures.
- Humanitarians are stepping up efforts to expand support to affected people in northwest Myanmar which hosts the majority of the country's new IDPs (583,100 as of 25 July 2022).
- Contingency planning is underway as tensions escalate in Rakhine.
- The unstable security situation and cyclical displacement across the Southeast and Northwest are exacerbating mental health issues among children and their caregivers, generating increased need for child protection responses in these areas.
- In northern Shan, forced recruitment, extortion and landmines continue to put IDPs and host communities at risk.
- In Rakhine, there remain significant shelter gaps for displaced people. There are also significant deficits in water availability in the AA-MAF sites in Rakhine and Chin.
- In the Southeast, shelter and other humanitarian support is urgently needed for newly displaced people including 5,400 new IDPs in Kyaukkyi township in eastern Bago.
- The [2022 Humanitarian Response Plan \(HRP\)](#) is only 13 per cent funded prompting the need for prioritization in the second half of the year.



KEY FIGURES*

1.2M

People internally displaced across Myanmar

866K

People currently displaced by clashes and insecurity since February 2021

346K

People internally displaced due to conflict prior to February 2021, mainly in Rakhine, Kachin, Chin, and Shan

21K

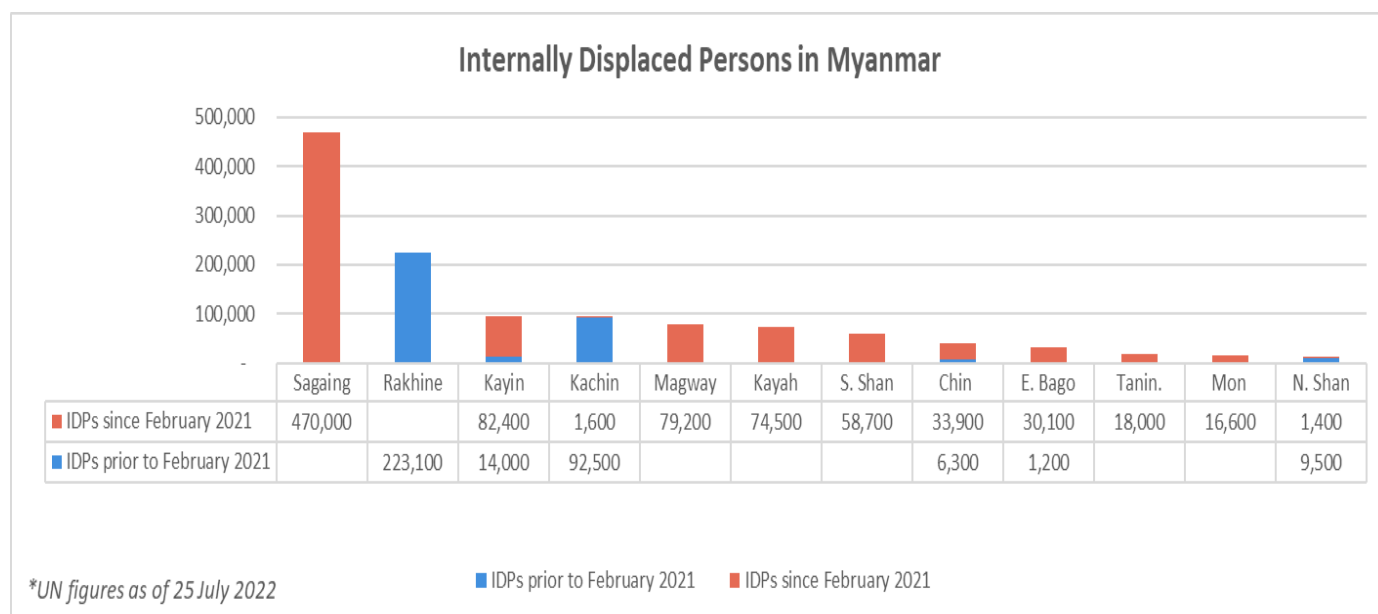
Civilian properties estimated burnt or destroyed since February 2021.¹

**Displacement figures fluctuate during any given month. These figures represent the number of people currently displaced. Cumulative numbers for returns and displacement are not always available.*

¹ OCHA's data on Sagaing/Magway/Chin (up to 18 July 2022), [Progressive Karenni People Force](#) on Kayah (up to 1 July 2022), [Data for Myanmar](#) in remaining states (up to 31 May 2022)

SITUATION OVERVIEW

The people of Myanmar continue to bear the brunt of ongoing hostilities and a crippling economic situation that has been compounded by increasing inflation since May. Both crises have entrenched people's pre-existing vulnerabilities and generated new needs. There are currently, more than 1.2 million internally displaced people (IDPs) in camps and informal displacement sites across the country. Of those who are displaced, 866,400² fled their homes since the 2021 military takeover. A further 346,600 people are in protracted displacement as a result of conflict prior to 2021, the majority of whom are in Rakhine State. Many of the new IDPs have been displaced multiple times. Many have been sheltering for months in the jungle, where it is difficult to reach them with humanitarian assistance, particularly during the rainy season.



During the past year, limited numbers of IDPs have managed to return to their places of origin, but this is sometimes short-lived and most people have been unable to return due to insecurity and ongoing hostilities in their places of origin, the destruction of their homes, or lack of livelihood opportunities. More than 21,000 civilian properties, including homes, churches, monasteries, and schools, have reportedly been destroyed since the military takeover.

Humanitarian partners are trying to reach 6.2 million people with life-saving assistance this year, including IDPs in conflict areas, wherever access is possible. Despite the ongoing access challenges and shortfalls in funding, humanitarian partners have been providing affected people with critical life-saving assistance, including emergency shelter and NFIs, food and livelihood assistance, health and nutrition, education, as well as protection services, including child protection, gender-based violence, legal aid and mine action, to alleviate their suffering and strengthen their resilience. Mid-year results are being finalized now and are expected to show at least 3 million people or almost half the 2022 target have been reached with humanitarian assistance since the beginning of the year. The Inter-Cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) is working to identify ways of expanding reach into under-served, high displacement areas, particularly in the Northwest where the response has been challenging. On 29 July, the HCT endorsed a proposal to proceed with the establishment of a sub-national ICCG for the Northwest to improve coordination and information sharing, as well as access advocacy.

Myanmar remains one of only four countries in the world classified by ACAPS as having “extreme” access constraints, alongside Eritrea, Ukraine and Yemen.³ A new analysis of the physical, conflict and stakeholder constraints that are affecting accessibility in different parts of the country has been produced by the Humanitarian Access Working Group. The analysis indicates that humanitarian access is considered ‘difficult’ or ‘very difficult’ to at least 1.4 million people of the 6.2 million targeted for assistance this year. High-level efforts continue to advocate for access to these areas and donors are encouraged to support efforts by partners in underserved locations where needs are severe, on the understanding that this work may take longer, require more human resources and deliver results on a smaller scale because of the access constraints.

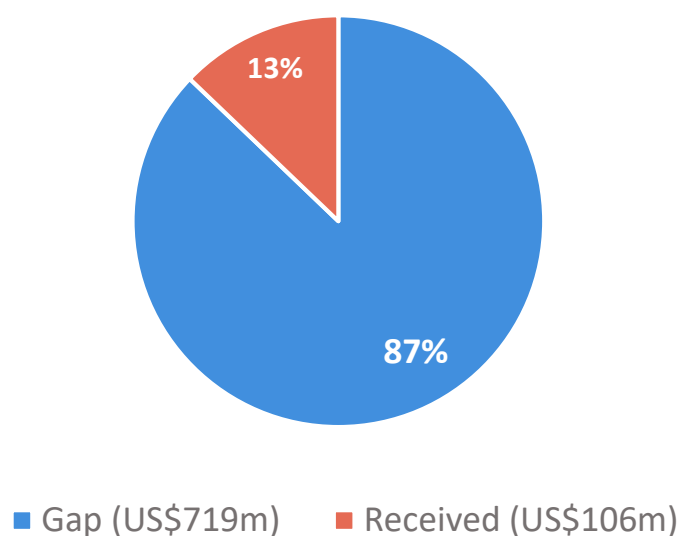
² UN figures, as of 25 July 2022.

³ ACAPS, “Humanitarian access overview”, July 2022

Several inter-agency needs monitoring missions have taken place in the first half of the year. In late June, several UN agencies visited one relocation site, one temporary displacement site and three protracted IDP camps in Kyaukme, Manton and Namtu townships in northern Shan to assess the overall humanitarian situation of the IDPs and identify need and gaps in responses. Based on the findings of this mission, IDPs are in need of more vocational training activities to support their livelihoods. In Namtu township, IDPs are in need of desludging services and water purifying chemicals. Displaced children have access to public education in these two towns, and health services are also provided, but there is a need to scale-up. With the ongoing increase of commodity prices, the running costs for camps have become challenging within existing allocations, especially in protracted IDP camps and relocation sites in Manton and Namtu townships. The UN, in collaboration with its partners, including local organization, is currently arranging responses to the identified needs. The joint distribution mission to southern Shan that was scheduled for early July in response to a prior needs monitoring mission, remains pending due to travel authorization issues. Advocacy is underway to resolve this delay.

It is critical that humanitarian partners have unconditional, unimpeded and safe access to all affected people wherever they are in Myanmar. Funding is also critically needed, especially in light of the increasing inflation since May 2022, in order to save more lives, protect people and alleviate their suffering. As of 27 July, the 2022 Humanitarian Response Plan is only 13 per cent funded, leaving a gap of \$719 million (FTS) and clusters will be working to make difficult prioritization decisions for the second half of the year.

Myanmar Humanitarian Response Plan 2022 (US\$826m)



Surge in displacement as hostilities intensify across Myanmar

The security and humanitarian situations in Myanmar continued to deteriorate over the past month due to intense fighting across many parts of the country, including in the Northwest, Southeast and Kachin. As a result, new displacement and destruction of civilian properties were reported, triggering new humanitarian needs and further compounding the already fragile situation. There has also been an escalation in tensions in Rakhine State prompting small-scale displacement and tightened security.

In the Northwest, intense clashes were reported between the MAF and various People's Defence Forces (PDFs), including the Chinland Defence Force (CDF), in 28⁴ townships since June 2022. This has led to a surge in the number of people on the move across the Northwest, mostly in Sagaing Region, where more than 70,000 IDPs were recorded

⁴ Chaung-U, Depayin, Kale, Kanbalu, Katha, Monywa, Myaung, Myinmu, Pale, Sagaing, Salingyi, Shwebo, Tamu, Taze, Wetlet and Yinmarbin townships in Sagaing Region; in Gangaw, Myaing, Pauk, Saw, Seikphyu, Tilin and Yesagyo townships in Magway Region; and in Falam, Kanpetlet, Matupi, Mindat and Tedim townships in Chin State

between 20 June and 25 July, according to UN figures. Most of these IDPs are living in informal displacement sites with limited access to support and services. In total, as of 18 July, more than half million people have been displaced across the Northwest since the military takeover, and more than 41,900 have been displaced from the Northwest into Mizoram State in India. In addition, at least houses and other civilian properties, including churches and monasteries, have reportedly been destroyed across Northwest Myanmar, since the military takeover⁵. In the north, armed clashes were also reported in several townships in Kachin State during June, although the scale of fighting was smaller when compared to the situation in the Northwest. These clashes have forced about 3,000 people into temporary displacement in Mogaung township in late June. On 7 July, these IDPs returned to their villages of origin. Recently, armed clashes between the MAF and the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) have also intensified in the border area of Kachin and Sagaing, particularly in Hpakant township in Kachin State, resulting in fresh displacement.

Similarly, the country's Southeast has continued to witness intensified fighting between the MAF and the combined forces of the Karen National Liberation Army (KNLA) and PDFs, mostly reported in several townships⁶ in Kayin, Mon, eastern Bago and Tanintharyi. In addition, intermittent clashes between the MAF and the combined forces of PDFs and Karenni Nationalities Defence Forces (KNDF) were also reported in the border area of southern Shan and Kayah, especially in Demoso, Hpruso and Pekon townships. Consequently, large scale displacement has been reported in Kyaukkayi township of eastern Bago, as well as Palaw and Thayetchaung townships in Thanintharyi Region since late June. During July some IDPs have returned to their places of origin in these areas. Overall, as of 25 July, southeast Myanmar was hosting 273,600 IDPs displaced since the military takeover.

In northern Rakhine, the security situation remains volatile, particularly in Rathedaung township with reports of displacement following armed clashes between the MAF and the AA in Maungdaw township on 18 July. The UN and its partners are still verifying the number of new IDPs and their current locations. At the time of writing this report, the MAF has been deploying more troops into the area, imposing movement restrictions on people and transportation including waterways, and enacting other security measures, including night curfews and house searches. The situation is being assessed in preparation for potential responses to emerging needs and state-wide contingency planning has been carried out. Initial reports from partners indicate that the IDPs and host communities in these areas have shortages of food and essential commodities due to the movement restrictions. Partners on the ground are preparing to respond to these emerging needs.

Sources indicate that an estimated 2,000 people, including IDPs from earlier AA-MAF conflict, have fled their homes and monasteries in villages and urban areas of Rathedaung township out of fear of conflict reigniting. They have reportedly sought refuge in safer locations in the township. Random checks on the streets and residential searches, including arrests, were reported in Rathedaung township. The UN and its partners are yet to verify the full details of the displacement, but initial reports indicated that most of the IDPs and host communities continue to experience shortages of food and essential commodities due to movement restrictions. According to the de facto authorities and partners as of 18 July, a total of 76,867 IDPs are currently hosted in 162 sites and 24 host communities in Rakhine State and Paletwa township in southern Chin states due to AA-MAF fighting between early 2019 and late 2020.

In Rakhine and northern Shan, landmines and explosive remnants of war (ERWs) remain a major threat to civilian safety, particularly displaced people on the move in unfamiliar areas. According to initial reports by partners and the de facto authorities, landmine/ERW explosions between 1 June and 22 July killed four civilians and injured six more, including two children, in Hsipaw, Kutkai, Lashio, Nawngkhio and Muse townships of northern Shan, while five civilians were killed and three others were injured, including one child, in Ann, Kyauktaw, Minbya, Myebon and Rathedaung townships in Rakhine. In Rakhine, landmines remain a critical challenge for returns among those displaced by the previous AA-MAF conflict. Mine action partners are expanding mine risk education campaigns and other risk mitigation activities in rural areas especially in the villages of origin of the AA-MAF IDPs to make potential returns safer.

Inflation takes its toll on Myanmar

On top of the alarming security, COVID-19, humanitarian and human rights situations that have been sweeping the country over the past two years, the people of Myanmar are now grappling with yet another debilitating threat: inflation.

After the military takeover in February 2021, widespread conflict, insecurity and displacement, restricted mobility, protests and strikes resulted in massive job losses, interruptions to agriculture and a surge in poverty. Livelihood opportunities of people across the country were severely impacted, particularly for those in rural areas who are dependent on the agriculture sector. An estimated 1.6 million jobs were lost in 2021, with women disproportionately

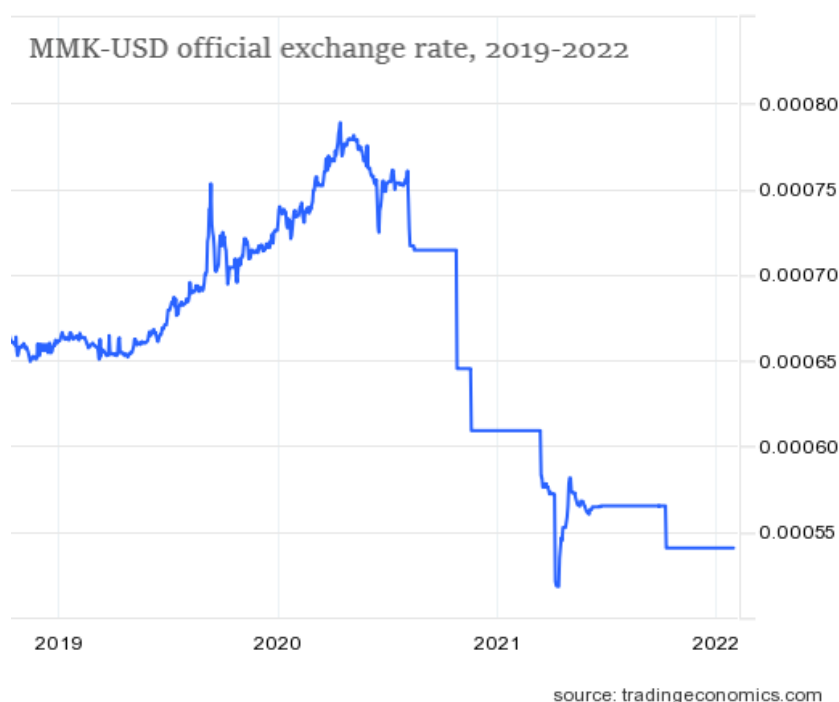
⁵ OCHA field report.

⁶ Hpapun, Kawkareik, Kyainseikgyi and Myawaddy townships in Kayin State; Bilin, Kyaikhto and Paung townships in Mon State; Htantabin, Kyaukkayi and Shwegyin townships in eastern Bago; and Palaw, Launglon and Thayetchaung townships in Tanintharyi Region

impacted.⁷ Families in Myanmar have lost, on average, more than half of their income since February 2021 with soaring poverty rates threatening to reverse almost two decades of economic progress.⁸ Now dramatic inflation in global commodity prices and international supply chain disruptions is deepening the socioeconomic stress on households nationwide. According to the World Bank, inflation reached more than 17 per cent in March 2022, with food price rising 15 per cent and non-food inflation reaching 20 per cent. Fuel prices have risen dramatically. This has been driven largely by the Ukraine crisis which has disrupted agricultural imports and fuel flows, as well as domestic fiscal policies, leading to rising energy and food prices.

According to the latest data from the World Food Programme, the average cost of a basic food basket in Myanmar (rice, oil, chickpeas, salt) has increased by 35 per cent in a year (June 2021 to June 2022). Global inflation, along with Indonesian's temporary ban on the export of palm oil, has caused the price of edible oil to increase by 112 per cent in Myanmar over that period.⁹ In May 2022, India also announced a global ban on wheat exports after a heat wave reduced output and raised domestic prices.¹⁰ The impact of this decision on the Myanmar market and food security is being closely monitored.

The World Bank reports that Myanmar's economy is projected to grow by just three per cent in the fiscal year ending in September 2022, following an 18 per cent contraction last year.¹¹ According to the World Bank, this weak economic activity is the product of a range of constraints facing the Myanmar economy including the sharp rise in the prices of imported inputs and consumer goods, partly attributable to the war in Ukraine; elevated levels of domestic conflict; electricity outages; and persistent logistics and financial sector disruptions. Recent policy shifts have added to challenges for businesses and at the individual level, households continue to face major constraints in accessing their own money. Daily withdrawal limits continue at banks and foreign exchange rules are impacting on households and trade more broadly. The Myanmar Kyat depreciated by more than 20 per cent against the US dollar within half a year in 2021 further reducing purchasing power.¹²



The sharp rise in fuel prices is now causing devastating spillover effects for households in terms of transportation costs and availability of basic items. It is also affecting farmers with potentially devastating consequences. As an example, increasing fuel costs are impacting on the use of mechanical tillers, an important step in the preparation of soil for planting and the cultivation of soil after planting. Farmers must now spend more money on this activity, along with higher costs to transport food products. In fact, a recent joint monitoring mission comprised of UNDSS, UNFPA and OCHA in Puta-O township, Kachin State in early July 2022 found that most farmers could not cultivate farming land

⁷ ILO, *Employment in Myanmar in 2021: A rapid assessment*, pp. 3.

⁸ Save the Children, *"Families in Myanmar lose more than half their income in year of conflict,"* 28 July 2022.

⁹ WFP, *Market Price Update*, June 2022

¹⁰ Shruti Menon, *"India wheat export ban: Why it matters to the world,"* BBC, 6 June, 2022

¹¹ World Bank, *"Myanmar economy remains fragile, with reform reversals weakening the outlook,"* 21 July 2022.

¹² World Bank, *"Reforms Reversed," Myanmar Economic Monitor*, 21 July 2022

due to the high prices of fuel, leading to lower productivity compared to previous years. This diminished output, along with increased fertilizer prices will contribute to price rises for consumers and potentially reduced availability of some foods. According to the Food Security Cluster, rising costs in livestock feed are also causing producers to resort to alternative grains, which in turn increases the retail price of these grains in markets due to higher demand.

Rising food prices and constrained agricultural production will likely lead to heightened food insecurity into 2023 as items become increasingly unaffordable for much of Myanmar's population. Approximately 12 million people (about 22 per cent of the population) were already estimated to be moderately food insecure in Myanmar at the end of 2021, with an additional 1.2 million severely food insecure.¹³ Assessments from March to April showed some modest seasonal improvement but further assessments in August will be critical in analyzing the direction of food insecurity into 2023, fully factoring in inflation. A lack of livelihoods opportunities, coupled with increased prices, risks people to resorting to negative coping mechanisms, including going into escalating debt, selling productive assets, and reducing food consumption. In fact, the World Bank reports that more households reported cutting consumption, borrowing from family and friends, and depleted savings in May 2022 than three months prior.¹⁴

CASE STUDY

Khin Thida* is a 39-year-old mother of three in Yangon. She has a teenage son and daughter as well as a two-year old child. Before February 2021, Khin Thida* and her family had a comfortable life. She and her husband worked as masons at a construction site and their older children attended school. But she says everything changed last year.

After the country's economic crisis her husband lost his job and her daughter Sabal*, 17, had to drop out of school to work in a garment factory to help support the family financially.

"Basic prices have risen sharply. In the past, I could buy some cuts of meat and some vegetables for two meals with 3000 MMK (around 1.50 USD). Now, it's only enough for one meal and sometimes it's not even enough to buy that. I may cry soon if I continue talking about my problems. Most of the families in my neighbourhood are in a similar situation to us. If their situation is better, it's not much better," Khin Thida shared.

However, because most factories shut down, her daughter also lost her job in August 2021. Sabal found it difficult finding work because she had yet to finish high school and, therefore, she didn't have a national registration card. Khin Thida's husband tried to make ends meet by working as a trishaw driver, but business didn't go well.

"I need to go back to my parent's hometown to apply for a registration card because our household's registration address is there. However, I can't go back as my family can't afford the transportation charges. It's merely 30 USD, but we don't have any extra money," said Sabal. "I'm helping my mother with house cleaning and looking for a new job every day. If you ask me what I do for fun, I only want to go back to school. I was hoping to be a nurse after school. I was happy being at school."

As a result, the whole family is dependent on the mother and daughter's small daily income from cleaning. Khin Thida says that she wishes her children could get stable jobs and live a comfortable life. She can't imagine what her family's life will be like if current circumstances continue.

Case study contributed by Save the Children

**Names changed to protect identities*

Impact of inflation on humanitarian responses: challenges and mitigation measures

Humanitarian partners are also facing the impacts of inflation as operational and support costs continue to increase in Myanmar, particularly in terms of procurement of some key relief items. The Health Cluster cited an increase in not only the cost of purchasing medical supplies, but also the cost of storing and transporting such supplies. According to

¹³ Humanitarian Needs Overview 2022

¹⁴ World Bank, "Reforms Reversed," Myanmar Economic Monitor, 21 July 2022

local media, the price of pharmaceuticals in Myanmar has recently increased by between 5 and 10 per cent and some medicines are out of stock, due to challenges in receiving import permits, along with inflation leading to diminished purchasing power among importers. The Health Cluster estimates that the cost of some medical supplies is double what it was a year ago. Further, the costs of maintaining clinics and offices, transporting staff and patient referrals (investigation fees, patient transportation, medicines, meals and patient attendants) have all increased. The Nutrition Cluster noted that field-level implementation is being affected by the erosion of the purchasing power which has forced partners to reduce support to activities, such as mother-to-mother support groups for awareness sessions and nutritional refreshment support. Similarly, the distribution of nutritional food baskets to targeted beneficiaries has been affected because of the high costs involved that are not sustainable. Some partners are reportedly adjusting their programming targets or the depth of their assistance to avoid fully cancelling these programs - for example by reducing the number of food items in a basket. The WASH Cluster is being impacted by the rising price of fuel which is adding to the cost of transporting supplies and running generators and water pumps. The Shelter/NFI/CCCM cluster is heavily reliant on commodities and has reported being significantly affected by the lack of liquidity and inflation in the price of local relief stocks, particularly construction items. For example, the price of concrete has risen from MMK8,000-8,500 in 2021 to MMK12,500-16,000 per bag in 2022. Timber (12' length, 3" x 2") has increased from MMK7,500-8,000 in 2021 to MMK10,000-12,000 in 2022 and is being exported to Bangladesh and India at higher prices, causing a domestic supply shortage. Inflation has had a significant impact on the ability of all partners to establish and maintain existing framework agreements for commonly procured items and materials. This is resulting in a flurry of procurement complications and procedures with flow-on impacts for implementation. Logistically, agencies are having to review agreements and contracts with operational services and suppliers, particularly for transport. Given these challenges, a level of flexibility from donors for implementation and project budgets is encouraged.

Given that the cost per person for assistance is higher than expected in 2022, with a larger proportion of budgets taken up by operational, logistic, and support costs, and overall underfunding of the response, partners will need to re-assess priorities and realistic reach in the second quarter of the year.

Clusters are attempting to respond to the impacts of inflation on households wherever they can. Earlier this year, WFP increased the transfer value of cash assistance in central Rakhine by roughly MMK2,000 per person based on price monitoring, which had showed a steady rise in prices, particularly of edible oils. In addition, some Food Security Cluster partners are using flexible funds to cover unexpected additional costs due to the inflation. When flexible funds are not available, programmatic adjustments are being considered, such as downsizing the provided food assistance package to ensure that all targeted people still receive some assistance, albeit of a lesser volume. Given the significant lack of livelihoods opportunities that is preventing many from being able to afford basic necessities, partners are providing critical cash assistance, especially to those in IDP camps and sites. In 2021, humanitarian organizations reached more than one million people with cash and humanitarian cash transfers, totaling more than \$38 million. Nearly two-thirds (73 per cent) of this cash assistance were unconditional/unrestricted, and nearly half (43 per cent) was provided to displaced people within Myanmar.¹⁵ According to the latest update from partners, in 2022, more than 250 cash-specific activities are ongoing across Myanmar, with most of these being unconditional cash transfers. Looking forward, clusters are exploring how to integrate cash, including multi-purpose cash, more widely into their workplans, such as providing cash for education, wash, and health support which have not previously been heavily cash-based.

HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE

Humanitarian Access: In the first six months of 2022, humanitarian agencies continued to face serious access challenges across the country. Heavy bureaucratic processes and attempts to interfere with humanitarian activities were further compounded by an increase in fighting. Conflict activity shifted from the historical hotspot areas of Rakhine, Kachin and northern Shan to the centre, Northwest and Southeast of the country. The deteriorating security situation is impacting humanitarian operations, especially in conflict areas, with partners facing increased risks of being collaterally impacted by IEDs or being caught in crossfire, either when traveling along roads that are disputed or when they are in proximity of a potential target. To reach people in need, partners often need to pass several military checkpoints, facing harassment and increasingly tight investigations along the way. In areas affected by conflict, partners reported military personnel staffing checkpoints, restricting and/or limiting the passage of humanitarian items, including food or medicine, alleging that these goods may be distributed to PDFs and EAOs and so cannot be allowed through.

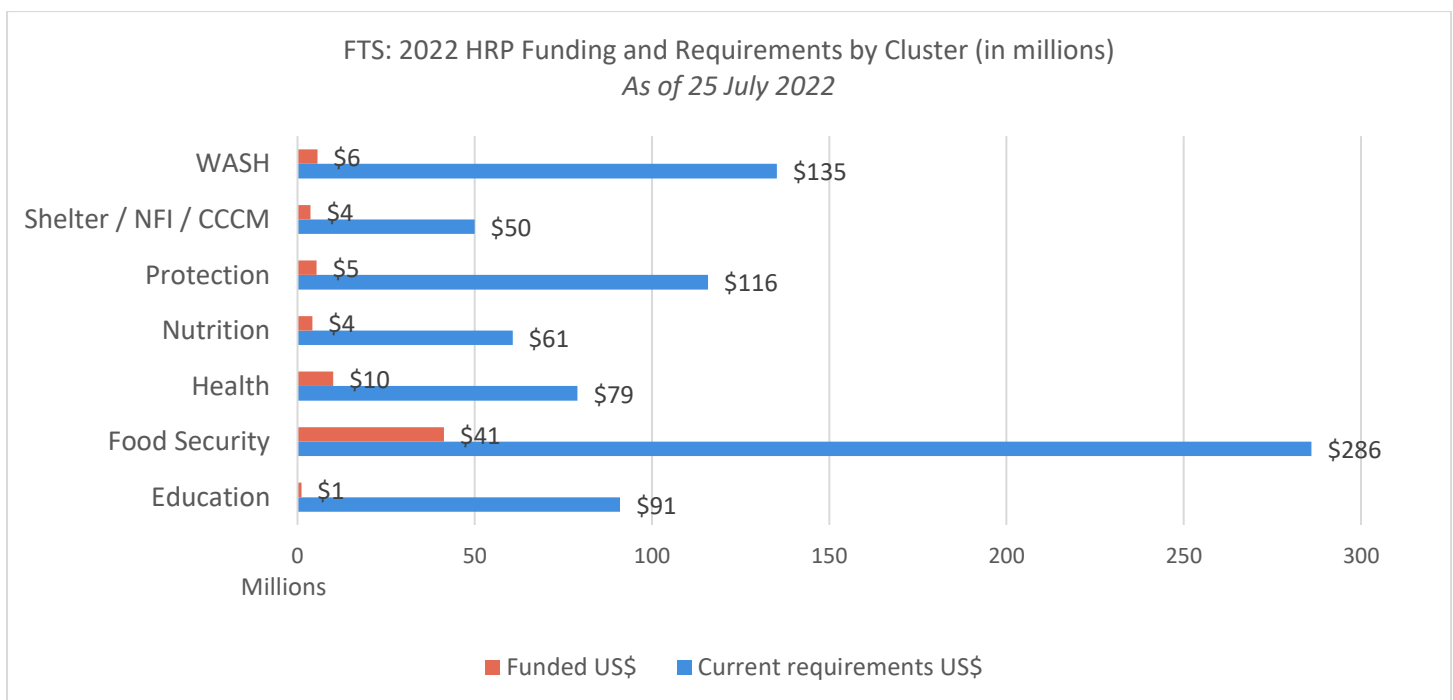
Efforts to secure inter-agency approvals for assessments and the delivery of assistance at scale have often faced heavy bureaucratic processes that have delayed or stalled the response. While the TA for a multi-agency mission to urban Mindat in Chin is still pending, a multi-sectoral monitoring mission was successfully conducted in six townships

¹⁵ Cash Working Group, 2021 Cash and Voucher Assistance Activities

of Shan South in May, looking at the needs of IDPs who fled fighting in Kayah State. Access for direct distributions in response to the mission findings remains difficult and negotiations continue over pending travel authorizations.

The access environment is expected to remain challenging in the second half of 2022 with a need for continued high-level access advocacy with all sides. In the meantime, the humanitarian community will need to continue principled partnerships with local civil society organisations and community-based organisations and a mix of approaches, depending on what is best suited for the respective area that needs to be accessed.

Funding situation: The funding situation for 2022 is now dire with all clusters seriously underfunded, threatening their ability to respond to the growing needs and gaps in response. Given the considerably wider scale of assistance planned in 2022, increased resources are urgently required to support a meaningful package of support to people in need. Funding constraints are now affecting the breadth and quality of assistance delivered by humanitarians. As part of the mid-year monitoring report, partners will have to make tough decisions about their plans and operations in the second half of the year. This is likely to mean, lower-cost life-saving and critical activities are retained and that the response does not offer the required depth of relief needed to contribute to people's overall well-being, dignified living standards, or chance of finding durable solutions. Prioritization of planned activities will form part of the mid-year ICCG report, due out in August. The consequences of underfunding and cancelled activities in 2022 will be grave, including worsening malnutrition and an increase in the adoption of negative coping strategies. Donors are urged to give generously in solidarity with the people of Myanmar to prevent suffering and a loss of hard-fought development gains.



Education in Emergencies

Needs

- There is a need for general school stationery and teaching and learning materials, such as textbooks, for children across the country, but particularly in Kachin State.
- Most community learning centers are struggling with funding deficits to cover the teacher incentive payments required to keep the staff and properly support children's learning. There is lack of teachers in schools across the country, but this is proving particularly challenging in Kayah and Shan states.
- Education for children in Myanmar is being gravely impacted by the continuous rise in the cost of living amid diminishing sources of household income across the country. Affordability of associated education costs, such as school supplies, is difficult for many families because of their strained financial situation.
- Cash for education interventions is in high demand to support families, communities, and education centers afford to send their children to class.
- There are continued access constraints which are also affecting education opportunities with the arrest and harassment of humanitarian partner staff delivering education assistance. Staff have been accused of

supporting the Civil Disobedience Movement when transporting textbooks to various project locations in Kayah and Shan States.

- Many learning centers are overcrowded as enrolment has surpassed the available infrastructure and staffing capacities. This is particularly happening in areas where children from specific ethnic and religious communities have stopped attending public schools run by the de facto authorities.

Response

- The Education Cluster has supported the provision of Education in Emergencies (EiE) materials in the Temporary Learning Centers (TLCs) in IDP camps in Rakhine. This has led to an increase in the number of children enrolled.
- The Education Cluster is conducting a feasibility mapping exercise to inform the design and planning of the Joint Education Needs Assessment (JENA) which is expected to be completed by the end of the year.
- The Education Cluster has been advocating with Township Education Officers in Sittwe to facilitate the process of obtaining transfer education certificates for IDP children to allow them to continue their formal learning.
- In Kachin, the Education Cluster has supported the establishment of TLCs and renovation of existing learning spaces during June. In addition, education supplies, including for Early Childhood Education (ECE), have been distributed, while teacher capacity has been strengthened through trainings.
- In collaboration with the Gender in Humanitarian Action (GiHA) workstream, the Education Cluster delivered gender training to its national partners across the country in early July, using simultaneous translation to ensure effective participation of local partners.
- The Education Cluster has published a call for Expressions of Interest (EoI) for the Education Cannot Wait (ECW) Multi Year Resilience Program (MYRP) and has been initiating the application and subsequent proposal development process for this funding opportunity.

Gaps & Constraints

- Delayed and extended waiting times at checkpoints, as well as blockages and delays with TAs are continuing to present significant challenges for multiple partners in delivering humanitarian assistance. The renewed tensions between the MAF and the Arakan Army (AA) in Rakhine have led to increased security, tougher scrutiny at checkpoints and detentions which are all making it harder to reach people in need.
- Educator capacity building is a massive and urgent gap which should be filled to enable children who have been enrolled in community-based education pathways (such as monastic and ethnic learning centers) to have meaningful learning experiences.
- Although Rohingya students were allowed to enrol in Sittwe University this year, the process has not been smooth and there remain challenges. Many barriers remain in place for Rohingya children to access education at different levels (middle, secondary and higher) due to underlying issues including freedom of movement, access to livelihoods for families, and language skills. Advocacy efforts should be continued to prioritize Rohingya children and youths' access to education while addressing the fundamental disadvantages imposed on Rohingya people in general.

Food Security

Needs

- The Northwest of Myanmar continues to host a high number of IDPs due to active conflict at the junction of Sagaing, Magway and Chin states. These areas remain hard-to-reach for food security partners. Even Paletwa township - previously accessible via Rakhine - is now inaccessible.
- The ongoing increase in prices, especially of oil and fuel, continues to affect both households and farmers. While livestock prices remain very low, animal feed prices continue to increase. Fertilizer prices are also a significant issue for efficient agricultural production.
- The average cost-per-person of food assistance in US dollars decreased in 2022 compared to 2021. This is likely because of the improved exchange rate against the Kyat which is used for local procurement. The current average cost for food assistance will need to be updated for the second half of the year, along with Minimum Expenditure Basket (MEB), given the rise in food prices.
- The overall food basket price remains stable compared to last month. The exception was in Mon state, where the basket increased by 12 per cent in one month primarily due to higher chickpea retail prices as a result of low stocks and transportation challenges related to the rainy season, as well as higher fuel costs.¹⁶

¹⁶ WFP Myanmar, Market Price Update, May 2022

- The third round of data analysis from FAO/WFP from March to April 2022 shows a modest improvement in some food security indicators. However, data was collected just after the winter crop harvest, and most food security indicators remain very low by global standards. There will be another round of analysis after the wet season which will inform the HPC for 2023.

Response

- During June 2022, the Food Security Cluster provided 688,940 people with food assistance and agriculture and livelihood support, including 267,128 people in host communities, 309,256 IDPs, 106,736 non-displaced stateless people in Rakhine, and 5,820 resettled/locally integrated people/returnees. Out of these 688,940 people, 377,017 people were reached for the first time this year. Among those, 181,057 IDPs received initial food assistance for the year; 171,859 non-IDPs received food assistance; and 24,101 people across all population groups received agriculture and livelihoods assistance. Geographically:
 - In the Northwest (Chin and Sagaing), 10,041 people received food assistance, including 3,617 new beneficiaries; among those, 2,367 were IDPs in Chin State.
 - In the southeast, 122,668 people received food assistance, including 114,074 new people, of whom 47,835 were IDPs.
- On average, food distributions by partners provided to people in need were 14 kilograms (kg) per person per month. In 2021, this average was 13 kg of food per person per month.

Gaps & Constraints

- Food Security partners must develop new partnerships in order to access vulnerable groups in remote, under-served areas. The Food Security cluster is working on this to scale up the response and overcome access constraints.



Health

Needs

- There is an increasing number of IDPs who have rapidly emerging needs including: (1) additional frontline health service provision; (2) malaria prevention and control through rapid diagnostic test kits, anti-malaria drugs and insecticide-treated mosquito nets during the rainy season; (3) antenatal care and support to pregnant women; and (4) essential medicines.
- In particular, an uptick in malaria cases has been reported by local health partners in Kanpetlet, Matupi, and Mindat townships in Chin and there have been requests for additional mosquito nets for displaced communities. Forty cases have been reported by partners in those townships in the second quarter of 2022.
- Myanmar has a history of low availability of medical products and sale of substandard and falsified products in the market. This is exacerbated by the current political situation and restrictions on importation, creating challenges for the local availability of medical products in the market. The Health Cluster is looking into this issue to better analyse the situation and its implications.
- Information and awareness-raising on adolescent and sexual reproductive health (SRH) needs to be strengthened in hard-to-reach areas, especially because access to conduct youth-friendly discussions, counselling and other SRH services is still very limited in those locations.

Response

- In Kachin State, 5,402 health consultations were conducted through mobile clinics in 44 locations (IDP camps, villages/wards, and flood-affected camps) in June 2022. As part of the flood response, 1,561 people in 14 temporary displacement sites in Bhamo and Shwegu townships received 395 hygiene kits.
- In Chin State, 16 villages in Thantlang township hosting 10,000 conflict-affected people (IDPs and host communities) received 14 first aid kits and 7 inter-agency emergency health kits through community health volunteers. Moreover, 61,500 Vitamin-A capsules were distributed through a health partner organization in Lay Shi, Lahe, Nanyun, Khamti townships and 216,399 Amoxicillin tablets were delivered to health facilities in Paletwa, Kale, Taze, Lay Shi, Lahe, Khamti, and Nanyun townships.
- In Shan State, Magway, Mandalay and Sagaing regions, 206 tuberculosis (TB) patients out of the 218 who are registered received MMK12 million (US\$6,486) in cash support in June.
- In Kayah State, 3 mobile clinics treated 1,247 IDPs across 25 IDP camps in Demoso and Hpruso townships.
- In southern Shan State, 130 hygiene kits and 1,042 dignity kits were distributed to 3,510 IDPs across 14 displacement sites of Hsihseng, Pinlaung and Nyaungshwe townships.

Gaps & Constraints

- The intensified armed clashes and military presence at checkpoints continues to delay critical service provision by mobile clinics and other outreach activities, including the transportation and distribution of medicines and related equipment.
- Funding gaps exist for supporting referral services of medical emergency cases to secondary and tertiary level health facilities.
- From 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2022, there were 20 confirmed attacks on health care in Myanmar. From these attacks, 17 deaths and 1 injury were reported.¹⁷

Nutrition

Needs

- Gaps remain in the availability of life-saving nutrition supplies. More than 8,400 cartons of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) held up in customs by the de facto authorities were released on 30th June following advocacy efforts by UNICEF. However, the following gaps remain because of lack of funding: (1) 26,957 cartons of RUTF (worth \$1 million) that are needed for the management of severe acute malnutrition (SAM); (2) \$1.1 million is needed for WFP nutrition commodities. WFP's pipeline for these items is secured until December 2022, however the WFP nutrition unit has taken out an internal loan/advance financing to procure these stocks and needs additional funds to repay this advance.
- In Rakhine, the need for SAM treatment is increasing during the lean season which is now at its peak. Consequently, the number of children treated for SAM has doubled to 500 in June, compared to 252 in April. Similarly, there are increasing trends for moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) among children and malnutrition among pregnant mothers.
- In the Southeast, emergency support is urgently needed to respond to the recent surge in new displacement in Mon State: 3,000 people and 6,000 people were displaced in Thaton and Thanbyuzayat townships respectively, while some 11,000 IDPs have returned to their places of origin in Bilin township.
- There is a need to expand the number of nutrition partners in the Southeast, particularly Mon, Kayin, southern Shan, Kayah, eastern Bago and Tanintharyi, to strengthen coordination on nutrition responses.

Response

- In Kachin State, with UNICEF's support, local partners worked closely with UNHCR during June to distribute essential nutrition supplies, which include micronutrient tablets (MNT) for mothers, as well as Vitamin A, deworming tablets and fortified blended food and micronutrient powders (MNP) for children in two sites in Mansi township as per the below breakdown:
 - 13 boys and girls (6-59 months) received MNP
 - 254 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) received preventative multiple MNT
 - 176 children (6-59 months) received vitamin A supplements
 - 55 boys and girls (6-59 months) and 58 PLW who are at risk of acute malnutrition from priority locations benefited from blanket supplementary feeding
 - 1,380 boys and girls (6-59 months) and 238 PLW were screened for malnutrition.
 - 1,144 primary caregivers of 0-23 month-old children received Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) counselling
 - Two PLWs were newly admitted as part of the Targeted Supplementary Feeding Programme (TSFP)
- In Rakhine, the partnership of two key nutrition partners was extended from June to December 2022 which will allow for the continuation of life-saving nutrition services for more than 150,000 IDPs in 7 townships. However, funding for this extended duration is required for sustainable planning and response.
- The Nutrition Cluster conducted Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) training in June 2022 for 35 staff (20 male and 15 female) from 7 nutrition partners to ensure quality life-saving service provision for vulnerable communities in Rakhine.

Gaps & Constraints

- In Kachin, Unconditional Cash Transfers (UCT) for PLW that were scheduled by a local organization in June were delayed due to the banking and cash approval process by the Central Bank.
- Regular nutrition monitoring visits across the country to obtain accurate nutrition data are being affected by funding shortages, unstable internet and telecommunication services, and bad road conditions, which limit physical access during the rainy season.

¹⁷ WHO surveillance system for attacks on health care

- In the Southeast, the majority of organizations working in conflict areas, including areas of mixed control, are facing access constraints in terms of collecting field information in a timely manner. Other constraints faced are transport barriers, such as checkpoints, and delays/denial of TAs.

Protection

Needs

- In northern Shan, forced recruitment, extortion and landmines continue to put IDP and host communities at risk. In 2022, there have been increasing reports of forced recruitment by multiple armed actors. The presence of armed actors very close to camps, and the occasional entrance of armed actors into camps without prior discussion with IDPs, are key protection concerns for affected people.
- There is an increased risk of GBV for women and girls in Gandari camp in Buthidaung township due to poor lighting and a lack of privacy in bathing areas (Source: Joint Post-Storm Shelter assessment mission, Gandari camp, Buthidaung township, June 2022). The Protection Cluster is working to address these concerns.
- In Rakhine, according to protection monitoring, women are more afraid to go out of their homes and their camps to work due to the rising tension between AA and MAF. This is further limiting their livelihood opportunities.
- There are increasing reports of children being arrested in Chin, Sagaing, Bago, Magwe and Kayah since the beginning of 2022, when compared to the equivalent period in 2021. Between February and June 2021, 288 children received legal aid, while 635 children (359 boys and 276 girls) received legal aid during the first half of 2022.
- The ongoing unstable security situation and recurrent displacement across the Southeast and Northwest have exacerbated mental health issues facing children and their caregivers, according to partners. There is a need for a greater child protection response in eastern Bago to children recently displaced by conflict.
- In the Southeast, the following needs were identified:
 - Psychosocial distress has been prolonged, especially for displaced children and their families who are sheltering in the jungle and on riverbanks due to repeated displacement and lack of access to basic services, including shelter and food. Although community-based learning centres have been established in some locations for children, these are still limited. Children have access to these centres for learning and recreational activities. The Child Protection team is closely working with education sector in the Southeast to provide Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS), Psychosocial First Aid (PFA) and PSEA training to teachers in the affected communities.
 - MHPSS is needed for both IDP and host communities in Myaing Gyi Ngu village and Kamarmaung town in Kayin State (UNHCR, Focus Group Discussion, June 2022). Movement restrictions and limited access to markets, coupled with inflation and loss of livelihoods, have resulted in harmful coping mechanisms such as child labour, school dropouts, and unsafe migration for job opportunities.
 - There have been increasing reports of forced recruitment especially in southern Shan. The Protection Cluster has been undertaking advocacy at country and capital levels on this trend.
 - Tension has been observed between IDP and host communities in Hpruso due to a perception of unequal assistance provision, language barriers, beliefs, and other different perceptions. The Protection Cluster will work with the Accountability to Affected People/Community Engagement (AAP/CE) Working Group to develop relevant messages to address this issue and disseminate them through partners as part of their regular community engagement.
 - Dignity kits for women in Tanintharyi are needed. Most of the IDPs are living in overcrowded collective centers or in the jungle and require shelter. Very limited healthcare is available, even for children under five years old who are particularly vulnerable from a health and nutrition perspective. Areas including Tanintharyi, the border areas with Thailand, Mon and eastern Bago require close monitoring.
- In central Rakhine, there are increasing reports of domestic violence and drug abuse affecting all communities as a result of the shortage of food and livelihoods opportunities.
- In Kachin and northern Shan, protection partners identified the following needs during field missions:
 - Lack of housing, land and property (HLP) documents for IDPs sheltering in IDP camps outside SAC control in Waingmaw and Momauk townships. The IDPs face barriers and challenges to access such documents because of delays, high unofficial costs/fees, travel constraints and complicated administrative procedures.
 - There is a need for psychosocial support for IDPs in camps in Kutkai townships, specifically for male camp leaders, who have been threatened by armed groups asking for taxation and looking for new recruits.
- In the Northwest, and particularly in Sagaing, there is a need to increase child protection, GBV, mine action, mental health and psychosocial support, and other protection programming as existing services remain limited compared to the emerging needs.

- Landmines and ERWs continue to claim lives and pose risks to the safety and security of civilians. According to the latest UNICEF report, a total of 162 civilian casualties from landmines or ERW were recorded countrywide between January and May 2022. Shan recorded the highest number of casualties (53 per cent, followed by Kachin (10 per cent) and Sagaing (9 per cent), Rakhine (7 per cent) and Mandalay and Kayin (5 per cent each). Children represent 35 per cent of casualties from landmine/ERW explosions countrywide.
- Landmine and explosive ordnance (EO) contamination continues to be a major impediment to safe and voluntary returns for more than 180,000 people in central and northern Rakhine. A recent household intention survey on returns for those displaced during the past AA-MAF conflict found that among 1,960 households surveyed, “demining of nearby farms and forests” was the most reported need for people to feel ready to return, representing 38 per cent of all primary considerations. While Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) has proven to be effective in preventing accidents and improving the capacity of communities to live with EO contamination, mine clearance and land release will ultimately be critical for finding a durable solution to the displacement crisis in Rakhine.
- In the Northwest, there is a huge need for more mine action interventions, particularly EORE and victim assistance, according to Protection Cluster partners and communities, due to heavy fighting, which includes the use of landmines and rockets. The escalation in fighting has driven increased food insecurity among the communities which, in turn, has forced people to cultivate land that might be contaminated.
- In the Southeast, mine victims and their families are facing economic hardship, especially as most survivors and victims are family breadwinners. There is a need for a multi-sectoral response to these victims of mine action incidents and to EORE more generally. The ICCG has agreed that this should be mainstreamed through all activities in 2022.

Response

- UNFPA is purchasing 3,000 dignity kits for adolescent girls and will soon distribute these through partners in Rakhine, Kachin and northern Shan.
- With the support of UNFPA, CSO partners in Mon State distributed 1,016 dignity kits and 100 Clean Delivery Kits (CDKs) in June to women and girls in IDPs camps in Thanbyuzayat and Kyarinnseikkyi townships, Kayin state.
- In central Rakhine, 150 dignity kits and 20 CDKs were distributed to displaced women and girls in Mahamuni IDP camp in Kyauktaw township. 37 dignity kits have been distributed to two IDP camps in Buthidaung township where people were affected by strong winds and rains in May and June 2022.
- In southern Shan, UNFPA’s partners are currently distributing 1,000 dignity kits at IDP sites in Pinlaung, Hsihseng and Nyaung Shwe Townships.
- A total of 1,077 Child Protection kits were distributed to more than 2,500 children and adolescents who were recently displaced in Mon and Kayin.
- The Child Protection AoR conducted a series of capacity building trainings in June for 107 staff from Child Protection and GBV CSOs and networks operating across the country. Topics covered included family separation, child protection minimum standards, child protection in emergencies, children associated with armed organizations and landmine/ERW dangers.
- In response to the increasing reports of domestic violence and drug abuse in Rakhine, the Child Protection AoR, along with CSOs, CCCM colleagues and WHO, have developed messages for communities, schools and youth groups on drug abuse.
- The Child Protection AoR in Rakhine has been working with Handicap International (HI) on mainstreaming disability inclusion in programming and reporting by Child Protection actors.
- In Rakhine, the Child Protection AoR has collaborated with the Gender-Based Violence Sub-Sector (GBVSS) to train nurses on referral pathways for child survivors. Mechanisms have been reviewed to include a SoP and basic principles for care for child survivors.
- In the Southeast, the following interventions were undertaken:
 - 600 Child Protection kits were distributed to IDPs by national partners and churches in June 2022, covering Taungoo township and Ah Lae’ Ka Yan Oke Su.
 - Through local partners, UNICEF and its partners distributed 200 Child Protection kits to IDP children and families in Kyarinseikgyi township in Kayin.
 - With the technical support of UNFPA, MHPSS training was provided to partner staff on 14th June.
 - UNFPA organized a half-day PFA training to 52 staff from an International NGO on 6 and 7 June. Another full day PFA session to another national UNHCR partners was also conducted on 28 June.
 - Dignity kit orientation was provided to a national partner in Mon State on 24 June.
 - UNICEF and an international NGO organized a training on Assessing Child Protection Monitoring (Monitoring and Reporting on Grave Violations) to 22 protection actors in the Southeast.
 - Child Protection 5Ws database training was conducted for Child Protection actors in the Southeast.

- Case management services are being provided by partners in some parts of the Southeast however there are limited services available in eastern Bago.
- A series of coordination meetings is being carried out with local CSOs regarding delivery of life-saving child protection supplies to recent IDPs in Mon State in areas not controlled by the SAC.
- In central Rakhine, the Protection Cluster is currently revisiting its preparedness plan and protection emergency needs and gaps in the AA-MAF sites in light of the rising tensions.
- In Kachin and northern Shan, UNHCR, together with a national partner, distributed 655 solar lanterns to 655 IDP households in Putao township (field mission, 15-19 June)
- INGO Mine Action teams, CSO partners and community focal points delivered EORE sessions to 6,292 people during June 2022. The team was also able to support nine people (including seven children), to cover the cost of their immediate medical needs and referral for longer-term Economic Recovery and Protection Assistance.
- To support localization of mine action efforts, an INGO delivered EORE training of trainers (ToT) sessions in June, supporting community focal points and CSO staff working in harder-to-reach areas of Kachin, Shan and Rakhine.
- In the Northwest, a mine action partner recruited volunteers in Mindat, Matupi, and Saw townships and delivered EORE ToT sessions to them. In Matupi, the volunteers started delivering EORE and conducting baseline assessments. Volunteers in Saw are working remotely to establish relationships with the leaders of affected villages to support remote baseline assessments and EORE.
- In Rakhine, a mine action partner has been delivering safety awareness sessions to MHF/LIFT partners remotely (originally planned in person but shifted to online due to the escalating tensions).
- A mine action partner started a project with an INGO in June to deliver ToT sessions to CSOs in Mrauk-U and Myebon. The CSOs will then deliver basic EORE key messages to conflict-affected villages and communities, as well as collecting basic contamination information.
- In the southeast, the MA AoR, in coordination international mine action partners, conducted an EORE awareness session on 20 June to 33 staff from 12 child protection and GBV partners operating in the area.

Gaps & Constraints

- Increasing fuel prices are driving up the cost of essential items needed by affected people, in particular women and girls. This is also affecting the delivery of humanitarian aid as the original budget for implementing activities may no longer be sufficient to meet needs and procure supplies. Likewise, planned cash support might not cover all identified recipients.
- In Rakhine, the demolition of child-friendly structures in IDP camps by landowners and increased rent being charged for the land where these structures are built, have pushed up the cost-of-service provision.
- Human rights lawyers are increasingly being targeted and scrutinized by the SAC. Greater protection needs to be provided to lawyers responding to the arrest and detention of children and youth.
- Underfunding, the limited number of active protection partners in the Northwest, and the lack of a sub-national ICCG and other inter-sectoral coordination mechanism in the Northwest constitute a huge challenge, especially now that two-thirds of total IDPs since the military takeover are in this area. Establishing a coordination mechanism is important to advocate for access and funding and is now more viable with additional sub-national focal points coming on board. The establishment of a Northwest ICCG was approved by the HCT on 28 July.
- As tensions are escalating in Rakhine, mine action teams are focusing on provision of material and technical support to community focal points and CSOs, including actors working in more remote areas of Minbya and Ponnagyun townships.
- There is a significant gap in gathering data on EO contamination, accidents, and casualties in the Northwest. While there are some organizations collecting data there is no centralized repository.

Shelter, Non-Food Items (NFIs), Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM)

Needs

- In Rakhine, there is a gap in coverage of emergency shelter needs for 1,000 households or 4,500 IDPs in AA-MAF displacement sites. There is also a remaining funding gap to rebuild 500 longhouses for 4,000 households (about 22,000 IDPs) living in the 2012-established IDP camps.
- Due to the volatile security situation between the AA-MAF, ESNFI/CCCM partners in Rakhine have agreed on the need to prepare a sector-specific contingency plan for high-risk locations, flowing on from the ICCG's multi-sectoral contingency planning exercise.
- In Kachin, more than 8,000 shelters in IDP camps remain in need of repair, replacement, or reconstruction (Cluster Report, May 2022). In addition, a transitional solution for shelter construction is needed for the IDPs who are willing to move out of the camps.

- Partners will soon conduct monitoring to identify the critical needs facing for an estimated 3,000 people displaced in Mogaung township.
- In the Southeast, shelter and other humanitarian support is urgently needed for newly displaced people including 5,400 new IDPs in Kyaukkyi township in eastern Bago.
- In Kayah, more durable shelter solutions are needed as most IDPs across the state, particularly in Demoso and Hpruso townships, are residing in makeshift shelters with limited access to tarpaulins, during the rainy season.

Response

- In Rakhine, partners provided different forms of emergency shelter assistance to nearly 1,500 displaced households in AA-MAF displacement sites in June. By the end of the second quarter of 2022, cluster partners had reconstructed nearly 200 shelters in Rohingya IDP camps in Kyaukpyu and Sittwe townships. Cluster partners are also planning to reconstruct 370 shelters in Sittwe and Pauktaw townships.
- In the Southeast, UNHCR distributed non-food items to 800 households (3,760 IDPs) in Hpapun township, 440 households (1,640 IDPs) in Myawaddy township in Kayin State; 1,730 households (8,100 IDPs and returnees) in Demoso and Loikaw townships in Kayah State; and 40 households (130 IDPs) in eastern Bago. In addition, CCCM training was conducted on 17 and 27 June 2022 for Kayah Protection Network members.

Gaps & Constraints

- In Rakhine, the de facto authorities have flagged plans to close some of the AA-MAF displacement sites in Sittwe township and have asked IDPs to choose from three options: return to their places of origin, live in the current location with relatives, or to move to a relocation site designated by the de facto authorities. Almost all IDPs have reportedly expressed a desire to live in a relocation site, despite no information about the sites being provided. Early advocacy around IDP and humanitarian/development involvement in the process for selecting such sites is critical.
- In the Southeast, lack of humanitarian access, safety and security, including for humanitarian workers, continues to be a serious impediment to planned responses. In particular, transportation of shelter materials and relief items to IDPs in Demoso and Hpruso townships in Kayah State and Pekon township in southern Shan remains extremely difficult. Lack of access to conduct detailed and accurate monitoring is leading to delays in response planning and distributions.
- The lack of travel authorization and security risks in the field continue to be major challenges in the Northwest. Many townships have been severely affected by conflict, arson and property destruction, which have left major but as yet unquantified shelter needs. As a result of these combined factors, there have been no shelter/NFI distributions in the Northwest since the beginning of 2022.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Needs

- In Rakhine, 42 per cent of AA-MAF displacement sites (135 in total) are lacking sufficient water, while 34 per cent of the sites lacks appropriate sanitation, and 51 per cent have hygiene gaps (cluster 3W analysis, June 2022).
- In Chin State, 68 per cent of the 211 displacement sites covered by WASH partners are lacking sufficient water, while 70 per cent lack appropriate sanitation, and 96 per cent had hygiene gaps in June (cluster 3W analysis, June 2022).
- In the Southeast, thousands of newly displaced people in eastern Bago urgently need humanitarian assistance, including WASH responses, according to local partners.
- Critical WASH needs were identified by the inter-agency assessment that was conducted in May 2022 in 20 displacement sites in 6 townships across southern Shan. The needs included hygiene items, operational cost for water supply systems (such as fuel charges) or water trucking and sanitation facilities that are currently not meeting the standard required (20 per latrine) in most sites.
- In Kachin, more than 64,700 IDPs from almost 100 protracted IDP camps in 5 townships (Bhamo, Hpakan, Mansi, Myitkyina, Shwegu and Waingmaw) are facing water shortages and lack water treatment facilities. In addition, there has been a funding gap for WASH support in Ja Yang Camp (8,500 IDPs) in Momauk township and in Pan Hkaw Yang Camp (1,400 IDPs) in Shwegu township since March 2022.

Response

- In central Rakhine, partners have reached 90 out of the 119 AA-MAF displacement sites in 8 townships and provided more than 40,000 IDPs with critical WASH supplies, including 3,900 water purification tablets, 520 jerrycans, 670 hygiene kits and 200 hygiene promotion sessions in June. In addition, close to 90 households received soap and 9,600 women and girls received sanitary pads.

- In the Northwest, partners covered 133 out of the 271 displacement sites, reaching more than 21,300 IDPs in Chin and Sagaing in June. This includes distribution of 1,320 hygiene kits in Mindat township, cash assistance to 4,710 households (about 19,800 IDPs) in Khin-U, Mingin, Pale, Tabayin, Ye-U and Yinmarbin townships in Sagaing.
- In the Southeast, partners distributed WASH supplies to 430 households (1,100 IDPs) in Kyainseikgyi township of Kayin State in June. Each household received water purification tablets for 30 days and 10-litre water buckets. During the same period, partners distributed similar WASH supplies to about 5,000 households (24,900 IDPs) in forest areas in Bilin and Thaton townships of Mon State.
- In Kayah, one of the partners directly distributed water purification tablets, water containers, hand sanitizer and basic hygiene kits to about 3,600 households (16,000 IDPs) in Demoso and Loikaw townships between 7 and 14 June.
- In Kachin, the cluster provided a variety of WASH support in 11 townships in June. Partners distributed locally made water filters and hygiene kits to 1,100 people in an IDP camp in Injangyang township. Similarly, partners reached 3,900 households (19,000 people) in 31 IDP camps in Chipwi, Hpakant, Myitkyina, Sumprabum, Tanai and Waingmaw townships, providing monthly cash support (for fuel for water pumping, solid waste management, etc.) and hygiene promotion activities. This WASH assistance included implementation of 2 Gravity Flow Systems, construction of 108 latrines and bathing facilities, as well as construction of 258 handwashing facilities and distribution of 172 cleaning kits. At the same time, partners also reached 2,280 households (12,700 people) in Bhamo, Mansi, Momauk and Shwegu townships with cash grants for WASH-related needs.

Gaps & Constraints

- In Rakhine, there were delays in hygiene kit distribution to IDP camps in June as transportation routes by both waterway and road were blocked for security reasons. Delivery of humanitarian assistance here continues to be impeded by access constraints and delays in MoU renewals for WASH partners have resulted in the refusal of TAs for responses in displacement sites and camps. Land issues continue to present a significant challenge for WASH infrastructure in the IDP camps in Sittwe township, where claimed landowners are requesting land compensation fees. The WASH Cluster and other partners have been advocating with the state de facto authorities for a resolution on this issue, which is also affecting other sectors.
- In the Northwest, only a limited number of WASH partners can provide humanitarian assistance in Chin, Sagaing and Magway, due to various challenges including lack of safety and security, limited access and blockage of transportation routes to affected people.
- In the Southeast, access constraints have continued with severely limited movement of supplies and humanitarian staff due to military checkpoints. An effective Accountability to Affected Populations (AAP) mechanism is challenging for most partners to implement when using a low-profile approach. Funding limitations are also a challenge for procurement of WASH supplies.
- In Kachin, cluster partners continue to face funding shortages which could result in gaps in the WASH response in most IDP camps in the coming months.
- The volatile security situation in Monekoe sub-township of Muse in northern Shan and border areas in southern Shan, northern Shan and Kayah states is slowing down the WASH response.

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