

BURMA - COMPLEX EMERGENCY

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2015

MARCH 30, 2015

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

940,700

Estimated Number of People in Burma in Need of Humanitarian Assistance
Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) – December 2014

540,700

Estimated Number of People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Kachin, Rakhine, and Shan States and the Mandalay Region
HCT – December 2014

536,400

People in Burma Targeted by the HCT to Receive Humanitarian Assistance in 2015
HCT – December 2014

146,500

Estimated Number of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Rakhine State
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) – January 2015

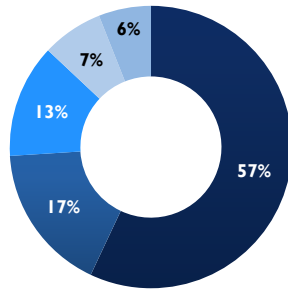
98,500

Estimated Number of IDPs in Kachin and Northern Shan States
OCHA – February 2015

14,000

Estimated Number of People Displaced in Kachin and Northern Shan States since January 1, 2015
OCHA – February 2015

USAID/OFDA¹ Funding BY SECTOR IN FY 2014 & FY 2015



- Water, Sanitation, & Hygiene (57%)
- Nutrition (17%)
- Shelter & Settlements (13%)
- Logistics Support & Relief Commodities (7%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (6%)

USAID/FFP² FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2014 & FY 2015



HIGHLIGHTS

- Protracted conflict between Government of Burma (GoB) forces and the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) continue to cause widespread displacement and insecurity in Kokang self-administered zone
- The GoB declares a 90-day state of emergency and imposes martial law in Kokang
- UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator (RC/HC) Renata Dessallien condemned attack on Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) convoy

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING TO BURMA IN FY 2014 & FY 2015

USAID/OFDA	\$5,060,609
USAID/FFP	\$15,000,000
State/PRM ²	\$39,306,820
\$59,367,429	
TOTAL USAID AND STATE ASSISTANCE TO BURMA	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Violent clashes broke out between GoB and MNDAA forces in northern Shan State's Kokang self-administered zone on February 9. The UN estimates that 13,500 people have been displaced internally, while tens of thousands of people fled across the border into China, according to local media.
- Two separate MRCS convoys were attacked by gunfire on February 17 and 22 while transporting displaced families away from conflict-affected areas in Kokang. According to statements released by MRCS following the incidents, three MRCS volunteers and four civilians were injured during the attacks.
- Burmese President Thein Sein issued an executive order revoking all temporary resident permits—known locally as white cards—as of March 31. According to local media, card holders must surrender their cards to authorities by May 31. There are more than 700,000 white card holders in Rakhine State; the vast majority are Rohingya.

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

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

² U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AND POPULATION MOVEMENT

Kachin and Northern Shan States

- On February 9, clashes erupted between GoB and MNDAA forces in northern Shan State's Kokang self-administered zone, prompting Burmese President Thein Sein to impose a 90-day state of emergency and martial law on February 18. The UN estimates that the fighting has internally displaced approximately 13,500 people—mainly migrant workers—from Kutkai, Muse, and Lashio townships, while others have fled from Kokang's administrative capital, Laukkai, to Lashio and further into Mandalay Region. The UN also reports that approximately 3,000 people are sheltering at a site near Border Post 125, located along Kokang's border with China, and are receiving some humanitarian assistance from the GoB's Relief and Resettlement Department and local civil society organizations. An unconfirmed number of people remain trapped in conflict-affected areas and humanitarian access to these areas is restricted due to fighting and general insecurity, according to relief organizations.
- Local media report that tens of thousands of people have crossed the border into China as a result of the clashes between GoB and MNDAA forces. According to Chinese media, more than 60,000 people have sought refuge in China's Yunnan Province since the fighting began on February 9, although the UN notes that the number remains unconfirmed.
- On February 17, an MRCS convoy transporting approximately 100 IDPs from conflict-affected areas in Kokang to Chin Shwe Haw town came under gunfire, injuring two MRCS volunteers. A subsequent attack occurred on February 22, injuring an MRCS volunteer and four civilians as they travelled from Laukkai to safer areas. In response to the first attack, RC/HC Renata Dessallien issued a statement condemning the attack on the MRCS convoy and calling on all parties to the conflict to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian staff, uphold their obligations under international humanitarian law, and allow the safe passage of humanitarian convoys from conflict-affected areas.
- As of February 15, an estimated 98,500 people remained in protracted displacement in Kachin and northern Shan as a result of the June 2011 collapse of ceasefire agreement between the GoB and the Kachin Independence Organization and ongoing conflict. Of those displaced, 60 percent reside in IDP camps with populations of more than 1,000 people, whereas the residual population resides in smaller IDP sites or settlements.
- From January 22–24, a UN interagency mission traveled to Kachin's Hpakant and Lone Khin townships to assess the humanitarian needs of more than 1,000 people displaced from Aung Bar Lay and surrounding villages to Kan See village during GoB and Kachin Independence Army (KIA) clashes that erupted on January 14. Based on assessment findings, the mission urged state and local authorities, as well as members of KIA, to ensure the protection of civilians and facilitate the safe and voluntary relocation of IDPs from Kan See to Lone Khin and Hpakant IDP camps.

Rakhine State

- More than 146,500 people, the majority of whom are Rohingya, remained displaced in Rakhine as of January, according to the UN. Nearly 70 percent of those displaced in Rakhine reside in IDP camps in Sittwe Township.
- On February 11, President Thein Sein issued an executive order that all temporary resident permits—known locally as white cards—will expire on March 31. Local media report that there are more than 700,000 white card holders in Rakhine; the vast majority are Rohingya. The announcement follows the adoption of a controversial bill allowing all white card holders to vote in the May constitutional referendum. According to local media, card holders must surrender their cards to authorities by May 31.

RELIEF COMMODITIES AND SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

- Local authorities, MRCS, and civil society organizations are providing food and emergency relief commodities to populations displaced from Kokang to Lashio. In February, MRCS provided emergency relief commodities, temporary shelter, and transportation, as well as other assistance, to approximately 7,000 people displaced by the ongoing fighting in Kokang.
- To assist the 1,000 people displaced in Kachin's Hpakant and Lone Khin in January, MRCS, national and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and Kachin authorities—in coordination with international humanitarian

actors—provided emergency relief commodities, including blankets, hygiene promotion kits, and school supplies, in addition to food assistance, to newly displaced populations.

- On January 23, a fire broke out in Kyein Ni Pyin IDP camp located in Rakhine's Pauktaw Township, destroying 10 barracks and affecting 450 people, the UN reports. In coordination with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), MRCS, and other humanitarian organizations, the Rakhine State Government provided emergency food and relief assistance, including blankets, mosquito nets, sleeping mats, tents, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) kits, to affected families.
- More than 6,000 people residing in Pauktaw's Nget Chaung camp—situated on exposed marshland—are at high risk of high winds, flooding, and storm surges resulting from tropical cyclones or storms, the UN reports. According to Lutheran World Federation and UNHCR, the camp's shelters, intended to be temporary, are in very poor condition after more than two years of use and urgently require repairs or reconstruction. The camp experiences regular seasonal flooding, placing stress on shelter infrastructure and posing significant health risks for residents.

FOOD ASSISTANCE

- In response to the needs of displaced populations in Hpakant and Lone Khin and limited access for international humanitarian actors, Kachin authorities—in coordination with MRCS and local NGOs—provided two months of food assistance to approximately 1,000 new IDPs. The UN World Food Program (WFP) also supported a local NGO to provide food assistance to approximately 3,000 IDPs residing in preexisting displacement camps in Hpakant and Lone Khin.
- Persistent funding shortfalls continue to impede WFP's ability to resume its school feeding program. Distribution of take-home rice rations for students in food-insecure areas of Magway, Rakhine, Shan, and Wa states were suspended in November 2014, affecting approximately 174,000 students and their families. In January, the program's in-school feeding component was also suspended due to a lack of funding.
- In FY 2015, USAID/FFP has contributed \$5.5 million to WFP to support food assistance activities benefiting IDPs in Kachin, Rakhine, and northern Shan. In FY 2014, USAID/FFP provided \$9.5 million to support the local and regional procurement of more than 10,000 metric tons (MT) of food through WFP's Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation.

WASH

- Like Nget Chaung camp, Pauktaw's Ah Nauk Ywe camp is located on a low-lying and exposed area and is highly vulnerable to tropical cyclones and storms. At least 4,000 people residing in Ah Nauk Ywe lack adequate access to safe drinking water during the dry season which peaks in March, the UN reports. In coordination with the Rakhine State Government, Solidarités International plans to supply safe drinking water to camp residents from late-March to May.
- With approximately \$1 million in USAID/OFDA FY 2015 funding, UNICEF continues to provide WASH assistance, including ensuring access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities, as well as conducting hygiene promotion activities, to benefit an estimated 30,000 IDPs in Rakhine.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On March 19, the Government of Japan (GoJ) provided approximately \$19.5 million to four UN agencies to support humanitarian and development activities in Kachin, northern Shan, and Rakhine states, according to the UN. GoJ funding will enable UNICEF to improve access and quality of maternal and child health care; UNHCR to support the GoB in responding to the needs of displaced populations; and WFP to provide emergency food assistance to IDPs. GoJ funding will also support UN Human Settlements Program (UN-Habitat) efforts to prepare vulnerable groups, including women and children, to more effectively respond to natural and man-made disasters.
- Since the HCT—comprising representatives from the UN, international organizations, and NGOs—launched the 2015 Burma Strategic Response Plan (SRP) in December, donors have contributed \$12.4 million toward the \$190 million

appeal. The SRP aims to respond to the multi-sectoral humanitarian needs of approximately 536,400 people in Kachin, Rakhine, and northern Shan during 2015.

CONTEXT

- In early June 2011, a ceasefire between the GoB and the Kachin Independence Organization (KIO) broke down when fighting between GoB forces and the KIA erupted in southeastern Kachin State. As of February 2015, an estimated 98,500 people remained displaced in Kachin and northern Shan—more than half of whom resided 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 Rakhine, an outbreak of inter-communal violence in June and October 2012 between ethnic Rakhine Buddhists and Rohingya and non-Rohingya Muslims displaced tens of thousands of people, according to OCHA. As of January 2015, approximately 146,500 people remained displaced in Rakhine, while other conflict-affected populations continued to lack access to basic services and livelihoods opportunities due to ongoing tensions and movement restrictions.
- As of December 2014, an estimated 4,300 people remained displaced due to inter-communal violence in the Meikhtila area of Mandalay Region.
- Approximately 400,000 of the 940,700 conflict-affected people identified by the UN 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 January 30, 2015, 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 2015¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
UNICEF	WASH	Rakhine	\$1,000,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$1,000,000
USAID/FFP³			
WFP	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Kachin, Rakhine, and Shan	\$5,500,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$5,500,000
STATE/PRM			
International Organization (IO)/NGO Implementing Partners	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh, Malaysia, and Thailand	\$3,004,446
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$3,004,446
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BURMA IN FY 2015			\$9,504,446

USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BURMA PROVIDED IN FY 2014

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA			

International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Shelter and Settlements	Kachin and Rakhine	\$260,352
Metta Foundation	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Kachin	\$498,945
Save the Children U.S. (SC/US)	Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Kachin and Rakhine	\$1,024,808
Solidarités International	ERMS, WASH	Kachin and Rakhine	\$1,000,000
UNICEF	Nutrition, WASH	Rakhine	\$1,000,000
ZOA	WASH	Rakhine	\$276,504
TOTAL USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			\$4,060,609
USAID/FFP			
WFP	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Countrywide	\$9,500,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE			\$9,500,000
STATE/PRM			
IO)/NGO Implementing Partners	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh, Malaysia, and Thailand	\$24,002,374
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance	Kachin, Rakhine, and Southeastern Burma	\$12,300,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			\$36,302,374
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BURMA IN FY 2014			\$49,862,983

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

² USAID/OFDA funding represents obligated amounts as of March 30, 2015.

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.