

# MYANMAR: 2015 FLOODS IOM RESPONSE



- 1,000 shelter kits have been procured locally, with 200 distributed to Mrauk-U, Rakhine State and an additional 800 to be distributed in Rakhine through local partners within the next week.
- IOM procured an additional 9,825 shelter kits internationally, 5,212 of which have already been sent to Rakhine State. The remainder will be distributed in Ayeryarwady Region, Sagaing Region, Chin State and Magway Region.
- €1 million in funding from ECHO has been confirmed to support IOM's flood response. The focus of the project will be building back better in flood and cycloneaffected areas of Myanmar, especially Rakhine State.

## **Situation Overview**

The most recent figures from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (MOSWRR) estimate over 1.6 million people have been affected across Sagaing, Kachin, Shan, Mandalay, Chin, Rakhine, Kayin, Mon, Bago, Magway, Ayeyarwady, Tanintharyi and Yangon as of 21/8. Almost 400,000 households have been displaced, 16,784 houses completely damaged and 117 people have died. Ayeyarwady (504,208), Sagaing (399,526) and Magway (308,046) have been identified as the states/regions with the largest number of affected people.

Flood waters have receded in many areas, but many roads and bridges in the affected areas were substantially damaged or covered with mud and debris and present a challenge for ongoing relief and recovery operations. In some areas, people have started to return home, however some remain in evacuation centres as their homes and roads are covered in mud after the floodwater has receded.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation estimates more that 1.4 million acres of farmland have been flooded from June to August, with more than 658,000 acres destroyed, one third of which is in Rakhine State.

Multi-sectoral Initial Rapid Assessments (MIRA) have been conducted in 850 locations of 34 townships in Ayeyarwady, Bago, Chin, Magway, Rakhine and Sagaing, covering almost 200,000 people. Preliminary findings indicate of these people, 128,000 have been or remain displaced. Food, drinking water and seed for cultivation were reported as priority needs.

#### **CONTACTS**

**NFI** and Shelter

#### **IOM RESPONSE**

One thousand shelter kits were procured locally and funded by CERF (UN's Central Emergency Relief Fund). Of these, 200 shelter kits were distributed in Mrauk-U through the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and 800 shelter kits are at IOM's Sittwe warehouse. The distribution plan for the latter are being finalised based on needs in Rakhine State, with distribution locations being Rathedaung, Buthidaung, Maungdaw, Ponnagyun, Mrauk-U, Kyauktaw, Minbya.



IOM has procured internationally an additional 9,825 shelter kits which arrived on 26th August at Yangon International Airport. As per discussions with Shelter Cluster, IOM's own assessment and data from the Relief and Resettlement Department, planned distribution of the kits is as follows:

- 130 to Ayeyarwady Region;
- 2,475 to Sagaing Region;
- 164 to Chin State:
- 1,844 to Magway Region; and
- 5,212 to Rakhine State.

IOM is in discussions with ECHO and EU Civil Protection about being the consignee for a contribution from Austria including 2,000 tarps and 10,000 mosquito nets.

EHCO have confirmed funding to IOM of  $\leq$  1 million for the "Building back safer communities in flood and cyclone-affected areas of Myanmar" in line with <u>IOM's appeal</u>.

#### **Camp Coordination and Camp Management**

A second round of DTM assessments for Maungdaw and Buthidaung in Rakhine State is almost finalized. Teams for a third round of DTM assessments in Chin State

Teams for a third round of DTM assessments in Chin State are currently being mobilized.

IOM in collaboration with REACH, Swanyee Development Foundation and UNDP completed an <u>rapid early recovery assessment</u> in northern Rakhine State. The assessment took a snapshot of one village tract (VT) per township in <u>Kyauktaw</u>, <u>Poonagyun</u>, <u>Mrauk-U</u> and <u>Minbya</u> townships. A total of 334 household interviews were conducted across 17 villages, along with 17 key informant interviews. Key findings include:

- Kyauktaw and Ponnagyun VTs were both largely dependent on farming, but with a high diversification of secondary income. Mrauk-U and Minbya VTs were dependent on a mix of farming and casual labour but with less income diversification;
- In all villages assessed, almost all paddy land had been flooded and crops destroyed. Re-planting is taking place, but with poorer quality seed and yields and expected to be lower than pre-flood levels;
- Food stocks were low particularly in Mrauk-U and Minbya VTs where only 11% and 14% of HHs respectively had food stocks;
- The most common coping strategies were taking loans, buying food on credit and reducing spending on basic goods.
- In all VTs, the proportion of HHs reporting access to no sanitation facilities increased by at least 13%.
- The most commonly reported immediate need was for food, followed by access to clean water access to health care and repairing farmland.



Food security and livelihoods are already, and likely to remain, the most urgent needs. Sanitation is an important and potentially overlooked need. Finally the differences between Kyauktaw/Ponnagyun and Mrauk-U/ Minbya VTs underscore the need for detailed data collection at the township level, to inform prioritization of early recovery activities.

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