

Cyclone Nargis caused unprecedented devastation in five affected areas of southern Myanmar on 3 May 2008. Homes and buildings (including schools and hospitals) and infrastructure have been severely damaged. Flooding is widespread.

The authorities have declared five states and divisions (Yangon, Ayeyarwady, Bago, Mon and Kayin) to be disaster zones. The combined total population of the declared disaster areas is around 24 million.

Critical emergency needs include clothing, shoes, plastic sheeting, water purification tablets, cooking sets mosquito nets, emergency health kits and food.

UNICEF is requesting an initial amount of US\$8.2 million for the immediate response (to be adjusted following more detailed assessments and analyses.)

Estimated funding requirement (May – July 2008):**

Health and nutrition	\$1,900,000
Water, sanitation and hygiene	\$1,500,000
Education	\$2,500,000
Child protection	\$1,500,000
Non-food items	\$1,500,000

**Funds received against this appeal will be used to respond to both the immediate and medium-term needs of children and women as outlined above. If UNICEF should receive funds in excess of the medium-term funding requirement for this emergency, UNICEF will use those funds to support other, under-funded emergencies.

UNICEF is collaborating with the government, UN Country Team and international NGOS to meet the basic needs of children and their families. UNICEF has an agreement with the Myanmar Red Cross Society for the distribution of supplies in all of the affected areas.

UNICEF has distributed the following relief items:

16,000 oral rehydration salts, 11,500 kits for purifying water, 31 essential drug kit A (to cover 5,000 people per kit), 70 first aid kits, 1,370 tarpaulins, 4 bleaching drums and 300 family kits containing soap, kitchen utensils and shelter material.

Further information on the UNICEF emergency programme in the Myanmar can be obtained from

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