Highlights

- Flash floods during the last week of August have again affected localized communities. Flood risks will continue until the end of the monsoon season in mid-October.
- A Government-led assessment has begun to assess the full scale of secondary social and economic impact of the disaster.
- Many areas continue to be unreachable as a result of obstructed or collapsed roads and bridges.

Situation Overview

At least 1.6 million people, including 550,000 children, have been displaced by flooding and landslides across Myanmar over the course of July and August. In most areas, floodwaters have subsided, and some families have been able to return home. The Government continues to operate evacuation centres throughout affected areas for those who are unable to return because their homes or villages have been completely destroyed. Others are residing in temporary shelters along the sides of roadways. Many communities remain unreachable as a result of obstructed or collapsed roads and bridges. School and health, water and sanitation facilities continue to need to be rebuilt and rehabilitated to re-establish access to basic services. Flash floods have again affected areas in Chin, Sagaing, and Kachin, with risks to vulnerable communities continuing until the monsoon season ends in mid-October, compounded by the cyclone season with a high probability of storms in October. The ongoing Government-led Damage and Needs assessment will likely increase the number of people who have been affected by the floods through the incorporation of direct and indirect impacts on livelihoods and markets.

Over 550,000 children affected out of over 1.6 million total people affected.
(Government, Relief and Resettlement Department, 24 August 2015)

This includes all known populations displaced at any point between July and August, as of 24 August.

UNICEF Flood Appeal
US$ 23.3 million*

*Funding needs are likely to increase as new assessment data comes in.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Affected Population</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Affected Population</td>
<td>1,614,494</td>
<td>778,025</td>
<td>836,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Affected (Under 18)</td>
<td>550,865</td>
<td>265,462</td>
<td>285,403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Under Five</td>
<td>143,529</td>
<td>69,166</td>
<td>74,362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School-Aged Children</td>
<td>407,337</td>
<td>196,296</td>
<td>211,041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant Women</td>
<td>30,675</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lactating Women</td>
<td>29,061</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Humanitarian Needs
The flooding in July and August across 12 of Myanmar’s 14 states and regions has proven to be the largest humanitarian disaster to impact the country since Cyclone Nargis struck the delta in 2008. 1.6 million people have been displaced at some point since the beginning of the floods, and many remain in evacuation centres or temporary shelters along roadsides. Access to clean water, sanitation, health, education and psychosocial support services remains limited in the hardest hit areas. Access to food is also a major concern as over 1.4 million acres of farmland have been inundated, 70 per cent of which have been destroyed. The window to replant crops, especially in the central dry zone, is rapidly closing. The impact of lower food availability will likely drive costs up, putting nutritious foods further out of reach for those whose livelihoods have been impacted by the floods. The nutritional situation of young children will need to be closely monitored to ensure that rates of acute malnutrition do not rise, particularly in hard-to-reach areas. Protection risks remain high for children and women as a result of disrupted social and economic structures. The Government has identified the increased risk of trafficking as a key protection issue.

Humanitarian leadership and coordination
The Government of Myanmar is continuing to lead the flood response through its Emergency Operations Centre in the capital, Nay Pyi Taw, and support for the initialisation of recovery efforts through the Recovery Coordination Committee. In support of the Government’s request, the recently completed inter-agency Multiple Inter-Cluster/Sector Rapid Assessment is being finalised, and preliminary data is helping define and focus the response. Assessments were conducted in 850 locations in 34 townships. UNICEF deployed staff to support assessments in each of the surveyed states/regions, and led the assessment teams in Chin – one of the most devastated and inaccessible areas, and the poorest state in Myanmar. UNICEF is also providing technical support in the development of the Government’s Early Recovery plan. UNICEF continues to lead the WASH Cluster, Nutrition Sector and Child Protection Sub-Sector, as well as co-lead the Education Sector with Save the Children.

Humanitarian Strategy
The Government continues to lead the humanitarian response and planning for the initiation of early recovery efforts. Due to logistical constraints and the vastness of the area affected, the needs of people in many hard-to-reach areas have still not been fully assessed. The Government is continuing to clean and rebuild road and bridge infrastructure to reach these areas, and with UNICEF’s support, is beginning the rehabilitation of basic facilities in flood-affected villages. Health centres, schools and basic water and sanitation facilities that were damaged or destroyed in the floods will need to be rebuilt or repaired to ensure people have access to basic services, and psycho-social support systems will need to be re-established to help children and families cope with the effects of the disaster. Long-term economic and social effects of the floods and landslides will impact affected populations for several months. Without early recovery support, the vulnerability of children...
and their families will increase, while the provision of livelihoods support will enable them to build up resilience and better withstand future hazards.

UNICEF’s response to date
In support of existing Government structures and plans, UNICEF has continued to play a key role in the coordination and initiation of emergency assistance to people displaced and affected by the floods and landslides. On the request of the Emergency Coordination Centre (EOC), a UNICEF staff-member is providing technical assistance to support the EOC in its coordination efforts. UNICEF is engaging new partners and existing partners to expand coverage to flood-affected areas, and to ensure that children and their families receive support for both immediate relief and early recovery from the disaster. UNICEF is continuing to monitor the flood response through its existing Humanitarian Performance Monitoring system.

Health
UNICEF has expanded a partnership with the Myanmar Health Assistants Association to deploy staff to flood-affected and under-served areas. MHAA has already sent staff to Rakhine, Sagaing and Magway townships to ensure treatment and prevention of disease and illness while damaged health facilities are still not back to full capacity. In Maungdaw Township in Rakhine State UNICEF is providing logistics assistance to partners to improve immunisation activities and relief support to affected communities.

Nutrition
Nutrition monitoring activities are continuing across flood-affected areas, including distribution of multi-micronutrients, deworming tablets and Vitamin A, and screening of children for signs of acute malnutrition. In Chin State, UNICEF has disseminated health promotion materials to all evacuation centres with recommendations on healthy infant and young child feeding practices, and promoting exclusive breastfeeding as the most nutritious and healthy way to feed young children. Vitamin A, deworming tablets, and nutrition information materials with nutrition information were also distributed in all evacuation shelters. Across the country, UNICEF is supporting the State Health Department to resume Nutrition Promotion Month activities as part of the regular development programme, which were postponed as a result of the floods.

WASH
UNICEF has supported State Health Departments to identify the WASH needs of populations still relocated to evacuation centres. In coastal Rakhine State, where many ponds were contaminated with salt water, UNICEF has supported the Department of Rural Development to drain over 150 ponds in Buthidaung Township to allow for clean water replenishment from the continuing monsoon rains in time to sustain local communities during the approaching dry season (from mid-October). Additionally, 165,000 litres of water have been provided to approximately 6,500 people in areas of Ponnagyun Township in Rakhine State where water sources have been contaminated. UNICEF is also working in close coordination with authorities and other WASH actors in Kale Township, Sagaing Region, to ensure adequate coverage in one of the most affected townships in the country. 500 hygiene kits have been delivered in Kale Township for approximately 2,500 of the most severely affected people.

Education
While most undamaged schools have reopened, not all children are back to school. Timetables at schools have been adjusted and expanded to several shifts in order to accommodate children whose schools are still too damaged to reopen. As a result of some very early or late shifts, not all children are able to attend classes at the open schools because the shifts conflict with times when children may need to support familial responsibilities. In addition to around 2,500 essential learning supplies and 22 school/recreational kits, UNICEF is dispatching five school tents to ensure the continuation of education for at least 400 children whose schools were destroyed in Chin State. UNICEF is monitoring the situation closely and coordinating with the Department of Basic Education and State Education Departments
to ensure that all affected children are able to re-access education, school facilities are rebuilt or rehabilitated, and lost materials replaced.

**Child Protection**

The Department of Social Welfare, supported by UNICEF with child protection surge training and on-the-job support, is continuing to coordinate on responding to child protection concerns and psychosocial needs for children and families from nine coordination hubs across the disaster-affected areas. In Sagaing, Magway, Rakhine and Chin states, 18 UNICEF-supported child friendly spaces and 18 mobile psycho-social teams for hard-to-reach areas are continuing to provide vital psycho-social support to affected children. Last week in Chin State, UNICEF supported the Department of Social Welfare, in partnership with the Tedim Baptist Convention, to provide psychosocial support to flood-affected boys and girls in two hard-to-reach townships of Tedim and Tonzang. The Myanmar Police Anti-Trafficking Task Force, which had been trained by UNICEF, continues to conduct awareness raising on trafficking risks to children at the community level, particularly in areas with minimal access to social and economic resources in some of the flood-affected areas.

**Funding***

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Funds received (not incl. pledges)</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
<th>$</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>6,687,000</td>
<td>478,515</td>
<td>6,208,485</td>
<td>93%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>1,473,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,473,000</td>
<td>100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
<td>2,746,587</td>
<td>7,253,413</td>
<td>73%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>1,920,000</td>
<td>308,407</td>
<td>1,611,593</td>
<td>84%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>1,100,000</td>
<td>391,493</td>
<td>708,507</td>
<td>64%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cross-Sectorial Technical Assistance</td>
<td>2,120,000</td>
<td>34,969</td>
<td>2,085,031</td>
<td>98%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>23,300,000</td>
<td>3,959,971</td>
<td>19,340,029</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Funding requirements are subject to change as the situation is evolving and more comprehensive assessments of the needs of affected populations become available. The UNICEF Myanmar Flood Appeal of US$23.3 million is part of the total UNICEF Myanmar Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal of $46.6 million for 2015, and incorporated into the inter-agency Initial Flood Response Plan Appeal of US$75.5 million. An additional amount of US$6,665 from the UK National Committee for Child Protection and Cross-Sectorial Technical Assistance was not reported in the previous SitRep.*

**Next SitRep: 10 September 2015**

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