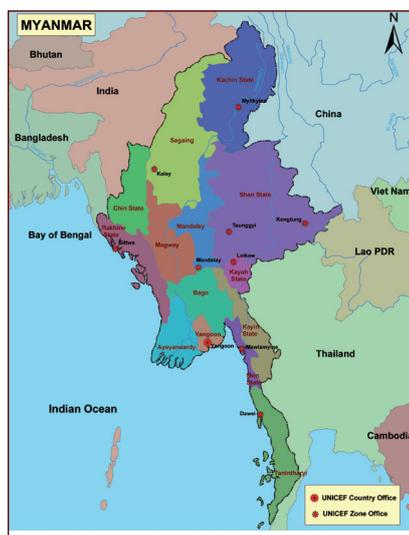


UNICEF HUMANITARIAN ACTION MYANMAR IN 2009



| Core Country Data | |
|---|--------|
| Population under 18 (thousands) | 15,617 |
| U5 mortality rate | 103 |
| Infant mortality rate | 74 |
| Maternal mortality ratio (2000–2007, reported) | 320 |
| Primary school enrolment ratio (2000–2007, net male/female) | 99/100 |
| % U1 fully immunized (DPT3) | 86 |
| % population using improved drinking-water sources | 80 |
| Estimated adult HIV prevalence rate (aged 15–49), 2007 | 0,7 |
| % U% suffering moderate and severe wasting/stunting | 9/32 |

Sources: *The State of the World's Children 2009*

In 2009, UNICEF will pursue programmatic interventions in the fields of health and nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, education and child protection to the benefit of women and children in the areas worst-affected by Cyclone Nargis. It is estimated that the 2009 programme will reach out to some 1.5 million people, including 450,000 children. The programme will focus on a combination of support to the early recovery efforts at community level and to the provision of limited relief materials.

| Summary of UNICEF Emergency Needs for 2009* | |
|---|----------------------|
| Sector | US\$ |
| Health and Nutrition | 7,000,000 |
| Water, Sanitation and Hygiene | 4,000,000 |
| Education | 4,000,000 |
| Child Protection | 3,000,000 |
| Non-Food Items | 1,700,000 |
| Telecommunications | 300,000 |
| Total** | 20,000,000*** |

* 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 requirements for this emergency, UNICEF will use those funds to support other underfunded emergencies.

** The total includes a maximum recovery rate of 7 per cent. The actual recovery rate on contributions will be calculated in accordance with UNICEF Executive Board Decision 2006/7 dated 9 June 2006.

*** The emergency needs reflected in the HAR are in addition to UNICEF's needs of US\$ 25.57 million outlined in the UN flash appeal.

1. CRITICAL ISSUES FOR CHILDREN AND WOMEN

Cyclone Nargis affected an estimated 2.4 million people, with the Government estimating that around 140,000 people either died or are missing. More than 4,000 schools (over 50 per cent) in the affected areas were destroyed or badly damaged, with many more schools losing learning materials, latrines and furniture. An estimated 75 per cent of health facilities were also destroyed or badly damaged, with the loss of essential medicines and equipment even more widespread. The cyclone also had a devastating impact on the main water sources in the affected areas, with more than 70 per cent of ponds salinated in the four worst-hit townships. The homes of a huge number of families were washed away, along with their possessions and livelihoods. Many children were separated from their parents and families.

In the months following the cyclone considerable progress was achieved, with the Government relaxing its restrictions on the movements of aid workers, enabling UNICEF and other relief agencies to intensify and expand relief activities. Nonetheless, the need for humanitarian assistance remains huge. Access to basic health services is still of critical concern and, although immunization has resumed in all of the affected areas, significant improvements are required if all children are to be covered. Also of special concern are the possibility of future water shortages and the outbreak of waterborne diseases during the dry season, which would seriously impact on children's well-being and nutritional status.

In education, the rehabilitation and construction of schools along with the strengthening of basic curricula is progressing very slowly, with few actors involved apart from UNICEF. It is estimated that over 100,000 children affected by the cyclone need psychosocial support. As of September 2008, child protection agencies have registered approximately 3,000 unaccompanied and separated children. There is also an increasing risk of the institutionalization of children in monasteries and other residential facilities. A larger number of children work to support their families than before the cyclone, with adolescent boys and girls moving to urban centres in search of jobs. Girls and women are also increasingly vulnerable to sexual abuse, exploitation, trafficking and violence.

2. KEY ACTIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2008

UNICEF has focused on its priority areas – health and nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), education and child protection – but has also played an active role in the provision of shelter and non-food items, providing over 87,000 tarpaulins and 60,000 family kits for an estimated 400,000 affected persons. In the area of telecommunications, UNICEF in partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP) ensured internet connectivity to the benefit of all UN agencies and 20 NGOs.

In health, UNICEF has taken the lead in revitalizing the maternal, neonatal and child health services, through the extensive provision of supplies to health facilities; the training and deployment of over 130 midwives and health assistants; the rehabilitation of collapsed and damaged health centres and the revitalization of expanded programme on immunization (EPI) services and the introduction of EPI Plus, which provided an integrated programme of outreach services that combines the reactivation of routine immunization with high-impact maternal and child health interventions, such as antenatal care, deworming, health education, and vitamin and iron supplementation. UNICEF also strongly advocated for and supported an emergency immunization campaign, which provided 25,000 children in temporary settlements and high-risk villages with measles vaccination and vitamin A supplementation. UNICEF also supported the first ever large-scale larviciding campaign in Myanmar, along with providing over 200,000 long-lasting insecticidal nets, diagnostic kits and drugs, which prevented any outbreak of dengue fever and malaria. UNICEF has taken the lead in supporting a nutritional surveillance system in 12 high-risk townships with a combined population of 196,000 children aged 6–59 months, which has achieved very high screening levels, with more than 260,000 screenings recorded by UNICEF's implementing partners. UNICEF has supported community and hospital-based feeding programmes to treat acute malnutrition, along with micronutrient supplementation campaigns. Over 12,000 children have received supplementary (BP5) rations and more than 1,300 have benefited from therapeutic treatment.

UNICEF's efforts to provide safe water and adequate sanitation in the cyclone-affected areas includes the cleaning of more than 500 ponds and 250 dug wells; the installation and maintenance of eight water purification plants, along with the provision of more than 40,000 sets of latrine pans and pipes, 40,000 jerrycans and 45,000 hygiene kits. UNICEF has also assisted more than 2,500 schools, which has benefited an estimated 390,000 children, with support ranging from the provision of learning materials (books, chairs, desks etc.) to the construction of 1,000 temporary safe learning spaces and the repair of more than 800 schools, using over 103,000 roofing sheets. More than 290,000 children have already received essential learning packs, while teachers have been trained in psychosocial support. Over 18,500 children have benefited

from community-based psychosocial assistance through 104 UNICEF-supported child-friendly spaces. UNICEF has set up over 150 community-based child protection support groups and worked with the Government to assign new social workers in selected locations.

3. PLANNED HUMANITARIAN ACTION FOR 2009

Coordination and Partnership

UNICEF will continue playing a leading role in its priority areas of health and nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), education and child protection through leading or participating in cluster coordination meetings at national and subnational levels. Efforts will also be made to increase partnerships with national and international NGOs to strengthen programmatic interventions.

Linkages of HAR with the Regular Programme

Throughout the emergency UNICEF made substantive efforts to create linkages with the Country Programme. In 2009, UNICEF will seek to incorporate five out of the nine emergency focus townships into its regular programme, focusing on education and WASH activities in schools.

In 2009, UNICEF's programmatic interventions in the fields of health and nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene, education and child protection will benefit an estimated 1.5 million people, including 450,000 children in the areas most affected by Cyclone Nargis. The programme will focus on a combination of support to the early recovery efforts at community level and the provision of limited relief materials.

Health and Nutrition (US\$ 7,000,000)

For 2009, the overall goal is to minimize the impact of the ongoing crisis on the health and nutritional status of children under age five. Approximately 210,000 children under age five and 100,000 pregnant/lactating women will benefit from the following key activities:

- Provide essential drugs and supplies to basic health facilities in the nine worst-affected townships;
- Provide training to basic health staff and community health workers;
- Support the reconstruction/rehabilitation of 100 damaged and collapsed basic health facilities;
- Provide continued support for community-based therapeutic and targeted feeding programmes aiming to benefit all acutely malnourished children (estimated at 20,000) in the 12 townships at highest risk;
- Continue supporting micronutrient supplementation through the provision of supplies;
- Continue supporting and improving the nutritional surveillance system.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (US\$ 4,000,000)

For 2009, the overall goal is to rehabilitate the destroyed water and sanitation infrastructure in the affected areas. Efforts will be made to strengthen traditional coping mechanisms by introducing simple household water technologies and latrine designs. Key activities will include:

- Construct/rehabilitate ponds and traditional open wells, along with 200 boreholes equipped with handpumps benefiting 100,000 people;
- Construct adequate sanitary facilities for 600 schools and provide hygiene education;
- Train government staff on the development of a 'WASH Emergency Preparedness Plan'.

Education (US\$ 4,000,000)

For 2009, the overall goal is to integrate schools in severely affected areas into UNICEF's regular education programme. Key activities will include:

- Implement the child-friendly school (CFS) initiative in more than 1,000 schools, benefiting some 150,000 children;
- Train approximately 4,500 teachers in CFS and child-centred methodologies;
- Reconstruct approximately 10 schools and 5 early childhood development (ECD) centres;
- Distribute essential learning packages to 150,000 students; 1,000 school kits to schools; 5,000 teachers' kits to primary and preschool teachers; and implement the life skills programme for in- and out-of-school children.

Child Protection (US\$ 3,000,000)

For 2009, the overall goal is to provide care, support and protection to some 70,000 affected vulnerable children and women. Key activities will include:

- Provide psychosocial support to over 30,000 children and support 104 child-friendly spaces;
- Support prevention, identification, documentation, tracing, care and reunification for all of the estimated 3,000 separated and unaccompanied children;
- Provide support to vulnerable children and families through income-generating activities;
- Strengthen 200 community-based child protection support groups in affected villages.

Non-Food Items (US\$ 1,700,000)

For 2009, the overall goal is to provide non-food items to targeted vulnerable groups and preposition limited quantities of supplies as contingency preparedness.

Telecommunications (US\$ 300,000)

For 2009, the overall goal is to ensure that all UN agencies and NGOs have access to internet connectivity in accord with UNICEF's role as co-lead of the telecommunications cluster.