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Myanmar

Humanitarian Situation Report No. 9

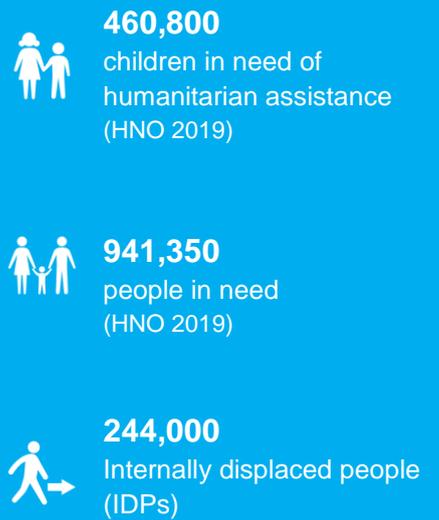


Reporting Period: 1 to 30 September 2019

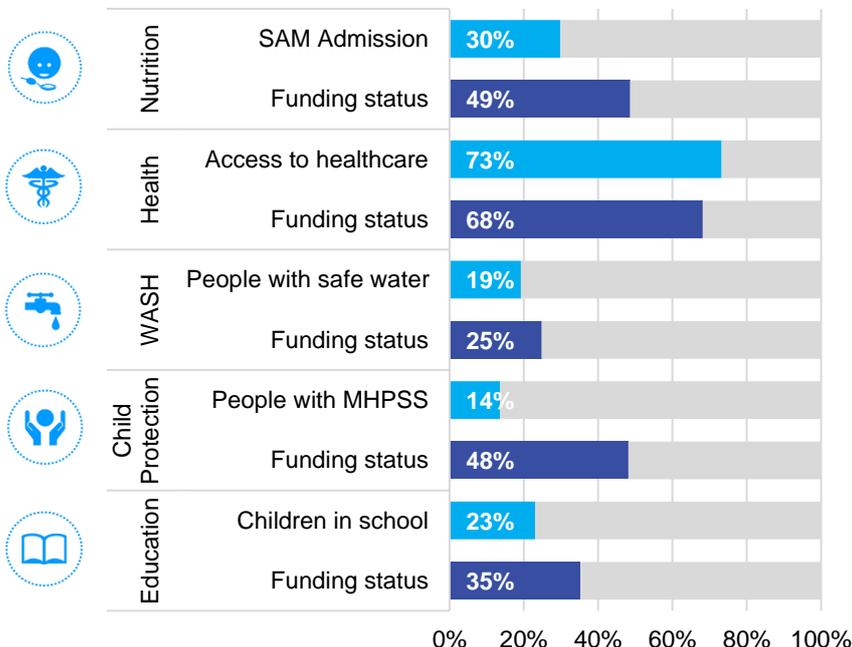
Highlights

- Coverage of basic health services and measles immunization significantly increased in both Kachin and Shan States in September. A total of 10,360 people (5,201 females; 5,159 males) accessed basic health care services, 614 per cent of the monthly target, and 601 children 9-18 months (282 girls; 319 boys) or 178 per cent of the target were vaccinated against measles through UNICEF support.
- Child Protection and Education sections in Rakhine State provided a “training of trainers” to 30 Township Education Officers and four Township Social Welfare Officers in 10 townships, which will be further “cascaded” to a total of 600 teachers in October. Each teacher will then provide psycho-social and explosive ordinance risk awareness sessions in their schools reaching an estimated 64,000 children.
- The WASH Cluster, supported by UNICEF, supported Training in Data Management and Analysis through Excel in Myitkyina, Kachin to 35 participants including Government staff and local NGOs as part of a national programme to build the capacity of all WASH stakeholders.
- UNICEF and our partner trained 45 child protection staff in Rakhine State on the reporting and monitoring mechanism for the six Grave Violations.

Situation in Numbers

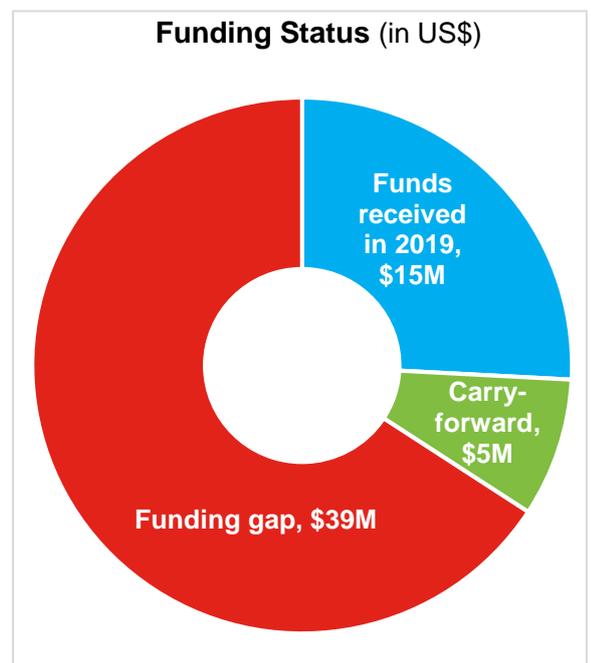


UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



UNICEF Appeal 2019

US\$ 59 million



* Due to change in planning from the development of the 2019 HAC, MCO is not including C4D as a separate indicator/activity and this has been removed.

Funding Overview and Partnerships

UNICEF appeals for US\$59M to sustain provision of life-saving and life-sustaining services for children and their caregivers in Myanmar. In 2019, United States Agency for International Development, the Governments of Japan and Denmark, the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations directorate, the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund, and the Czech Committee for UNICEF have generously contributed to UNICEF Myanmar humanitarian response. UNICEF expresses its sincere gratitude to all public and private donors for the contributions received. However, the 2019 HAC still has a funding gap of 66%. Without sufficient funding over 460,000 people will not have access to adequate water services, and nearly 111,000 adolescents will not receive the education and life skills support they need. To meet the immediate response needs, UNICEF received an internal loan of US\$2.4M from the UNICEF Emergency Programme.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Fighting continues in central and northern Rakhine between the Myanmar military and Arakan Army resulting in the displacement of over 30,000 people with the most significant dislocation in Mrauk-U, Rathedaung and Buthidaung



townships. The Arakan Army is part of the Northern Alliance of three military groups in Shan State which has declared a unilateral ceasefire until 31 December, however fighting continues. The unilateral ceasefire declared by the Myanmar military in December 2018 which was extended three times, ended on 21 September 2019. This loosely coincides with the start of the dry season when fighting generally increases. Kachin State, however, remains calm with very little fighting or displacement in 2019. Access to affected populations in all three states remains difficult with significant bureaucratic impediments, and delayed and restrictive processes, which hamper UNICEF's ability to reach those most in need.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

In September, UNICEF's partner Myanmar Health Assistant Association (MHAA) continued provision of integrated health and nutrition activities, supporting township health care services in 20 villages in Maungdaw, four villages in Buthidaung, and three IDP camps and one village in Rathedaung. Services reached ethnic Rakhine, Rohingya, Dinet, Mro, and Thet populations. Integrated health and nutrition activities were also delivered to communities in Kyauktaw, Mrauk-U, Minbya, Myebon, Pauktaw and Sittwe townships. UNICEF's partner Action Contra La Faim (ACF) continued delivering nutrition treatment activities at Outpatient Therapeutic Programs (OTP) in Sittwe, Buthidaung and Maungdaw townships and has received approval to operate a new OTP in Shwe Zar Kat Pa Kaung village in Maungdaw township. UNICEF has been supporting MHAA and ACF with essential nutrition supplies, Ready to Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF), multi-micronutrient sprinkles, and Vitamin A. UNICEF partner Health Poverty Action (HPA) continued providing integrated health and nutrition activities in Kachin and northern Shan States.

Health

Access and coverage of basic health services and measles immunisation significantly increased in both Kachin and Shan States in September due to subsiding rains allowing better road accessibility. In September, a total of 10,360 people (5,201 females; 5,159 males) accessed basic health care services through UNICEF-supported activities, 614 per cent of the monthly target. A total of 601 children 9-18 months (282 girls; 319 boys) or 178 percent of the monthly target were vaccinated against measles. Although access to basic health services increased in Rakhine, coverage of measles immunization was hampered by fighting between the Myanmar Military and Arakan Army. UNICEF and our partners reached 9,436 people in Rakhine State, 162 percent of the monthly target (female: 6,510;



male: 2,926) with healthcare services, while 756 children (female: 383; male: 373) were vaccinated against measles; 91 percent of the monthly target; this includes 424 children in northern Rakhine State.

WASH

In Kachin State, UNICEF is engaging in new partnerships to increase support for appropriate water and sanitation facilities in schools and temporary learning spaces. In northern Shan State, in light of the deteriorating security situation, UNICEF supported the provision of emergency hygiene items to newly displaced and negotiated an increase in warehouse space for contingency supplies. Longer-term support continues in other areas for those IDPs in situations of protracted displacement. In Rakhine State, the situation remains uncertain with very limited access to newly displaced conflict-affected communities where initial short-term support needs upgrading. UNICEF continues to provide hygiene kits and/or soap to conflict-affected populations in the state and has reached nearly 390,000 people this year. Future funding uncertainty and short-term grants inhibit UNICEF's ability to plan effectively and respond to all in need.

Education

To mitigate effects of recent displacements on children in Rakhine State, UNICEF provided training on psychosocial support and well-being of children to 30 township education officials and four township social welfare officials. The training was conducted with technical assistance of Save the Children reaching 600 teachers from 60 schools. Those trained will now be able to use their training skills to further cascade the training in 10 affected townships benefiting an estimated 64,000 children. In Kachin State, a total of 4,200 students received education supplies while 66 schools received school-in-a-box kits and 47 schools received recreation kits. In the south-eastern states where monsoon flooding impacted Kayah and Mon States, UNICEF provided essential learning package kits and school-in-a-box kits to over 2,800 students in five townships. Additional emergency funding would enable UNICEF to procure educational supplies to further support needs in these states as well as preposition supplies for conflict-related displacement in Shan and Rakhine States.



Child Protection

The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict (OPAC) was ratified by the Government of Myanmar and deposited with the UN in September. The ratification, which follows the enactment of the Child Rights Law, demonstrates Myanmar's efforts to align national policies and regulatory frameworks with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and to provide a legal basis to protect children affected by armed conflict and confirms the minimum age for voluntary recruitment into military service is 18. UNICEF has entered into a partnership with Kachin Baptist Convention and renewed the partnership with Relief International in September to cover the child protection services in 22 IDP camps in Kachin and Rakhine States. Child Protection activities were suspended for two weeks in northern Shan State due to the conflict.

Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination and Strategy

UNICEF continues to lead national and sub-national coordination for the Nutrition in Emergencies Sector, WASH Cluster, Education in Emergencies Sector (co-lead with Save the Children), and the child protection sub-sector. The inter-cluster coordination group is finalizing the 2020 Humanitarian Needs Overview and developing the 2020 Humanitarian Response Plan. The Nutrition in Emergencies Sector, supported by UNICEF, rolled out trainings on community-based infant and young child feeding programmes reaching 115 basic health care staff in Rakhine State. This complements the work of nutrition partners developing multi-sectoral nutrition-sensitive activities which include screening for acute malnutrition among recently displaced populations. Similarly, WASH cluster partners are using the "WASH 'Em" rapid assessment tools to identify the most efficient approaches for behaviour change and communication when developing evidence-based hygiene promotion programmes. In Kachin state, Child Protection working group (CPWG) members are following up on increasing reports of 'warning letters' and rumours regarding possible recruitment into armed groups. The CPWG is also looking for a way to cover recently identified gaps in service provision identified in 47 of the 139 Kachin IDP camps.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

UNICEF Myanmar Press Release: <https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/press-releases/unicef-statement-reports-disproportionately-high-numbers-child-causalities-rakhine>

Human Interest Story: <https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/stories/overcoming-challenges-building-supportive-environments-nutrition>

Facebook Posts: <https://bit.ly/33bVjrl> and <https://bit.ly/2OqAwNh>

Next SitRep: 15 November 2019

UNICEF Myanmar: <https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/>

UNICEF Myanmar Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/unicefmyanmar/>

UNICEF Myanmar Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal:

https://www.unicef.org/myanmar/2019_HAC_Myanmar.pdf

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Annex A: Summary of Programme Results

Sector	Overall Needs*	UNICEF and IPs			Cluster Response (Reported Quarterly)		
		2019 Target	Total Results	Change Since Last Report ▲ ▼	2019 Target	Total Results Q3	Change Since Last Report ▲ ▼
NUTRITION							
# of children aged 6 to 59 months with SAM admitted to therapeutic care	10,781	10,401	3,106	▲ 394	5,202	3,106	▲ 394
# of children aged 6 to 59 months that receive micronutrient supplementation		73,052	21,274	▲ 803			
# of PLW that receive micronutrient supplementation		18,940	7,251	▲ 656			
# of PLW that access IYCF counselling	58,692	25,482	12,643	▲ 1,224	39,179	13,234	▲ 1,416
HEALTH							
# children 9 to 18 months vaccinated against measles		15,000	8,443	▲ 1,357			
# children/women with access to health care services	931,051**	105,000	76,903	▲ 19,796			
WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE PROMOTION							
# of targeted people benefitting from safe drinking and domestic water	915,603	573,384	110,306	▲ 1,312	487,648	243,149	▲ 14,725
# of targeted people benefitting from a functional excreta disposal system	915,603	573,384	88,463	0	487,648	229,715	▲ 28,340
Targeted population provided with hygiene kits or items		573,384	438,021	▲ 96,818	487,648	459,675	▲ 261,156
Targeted population accessing appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene education in schools, TLS/CFS		573,384	77,521	0	91,782	115,613	▲ 93,815
CHILD PROTECTION							
# people (children/adults) with access to psychosocial support		287,160	38,929	▲ 2,246	267,596	73,192	▲ 22,492
# children accessing appropriate case management services		n/a	645	▲ 69			
# people with access to landlines/UXO information***		111,500	89,080	▲ 12,912	164,150	163,340	▲ 80,094
# adolescents provided with life skills		26,500	3,043	▲ 409	26,500	7,380	▲ 1,922
EDUCATION							
# of targeted children (3-10 years) accessing pre- primary or primary learning opportunities.	146,610	105,409	39,648	▲ 5,364	95,062	51,845	▲ 12,530
# of targeted adolescents (11-17 years) old accessing post primary education opportunities	124,890	89,793	5,307	-	37,837	7,643	▲ 2,268
# of teachers/facilitators who have completed trainings	6,700	4,400	-	-	2,699	2,528	▲ 1,323

*Overall needs match indicators and targets stated in the 2019 Humanitarian Response Plan. UNICEF tracks additional indicators which may not have an HRP target.

**The Health Cluster figure for overall needs reflects men, women, boys and girls while the 2019 UNICEF HAC indicator tracks only women and children.

***The target for landmines/UXO was increased between the finalization of the HAC and the start of 2019 as a result of increased fighting and reported mine usage.

Due to a change in planning for accountability to affected populations, the target and indicator for C4D has been removed and AAP will continue within each sector rather than as a standalone activity.

Annex B: Funding Status*

Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Received Current Year	Carry-Over	\$	%
Nutrition	4,083,586	1,674,199	307,786	2,101,600	51%
Health	4,260,000	2,048,687	853,139	1,358,174	32%
WASH	28,117,920	5,326,051	1,636,079	21,154,832	75%
Child Protection	9,743,920	3,933,283	750,731	5,058,180	52%
Education	10,464,523	2,291,172	1,393,012	6,780,339	65%
C4D	2,444,830	-	-	2,444,830	100%
Total	59,114,779	15,276,077	4,940,747	38,897,955	66%

* As defined in Humanitarian Appeal of 28/01/2019 for a period of 12 months