UNICEF Humanitarian Response for Children in Myanmar with funding contribution from the Government of Denmark

**Background**

In 2018, the Government of Denmark contributed US$1.5 million to UNICEF/Myanmar’s Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal. This funding, with a grant duration of three years, will allow UNICEF to address some of the core needs of children affected by conflict in Kachin, Shan and Rakhine States. The following are the key results achieved as of February 2019 in the areas of Health and Nutrition, Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), Education, and Child Protection as well as planned activities to be carried out in 2019 through the generous support of the people of Denmark.

**Health and Nutrition**

- Provided access to integrated health and nutrition services for 14,197 children and 632 pregnant women and health, nutrition and hygiene education to 8,609 community members in northern Rakhine through a partnership with Myanmar Heart Development Organization (MHDO)
- Supported programme delivery through Myanmar Health Assistant Association (MHAA) in central Rakhine IDP camps and affected villages with the supplies to cover more than 35,000 people
- Integrated health and nutrition services in non-government-controlled areas of Kachin and Shan states in partnership with Health Poverty Action (HPA)
- Developed Communication for Development Strategies for health emergencies
- Support for the roll-out of Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition in all 17 townships of Rakhine State
- Procured and distributed nutrition supplies (Vitamin A) for partners supporting children under the age of five, including freight and inspection, in Rakhine, Kachin and Shan states

**Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**

In partnership with Health Poverty Action, provided humanitarian assistance in Kachin and Shan states with a focus on:
- Community-led total sanitation approaches in hard to reach villages
- Improvements to WASH in remote healthcare facilities
- Upgrading of water supply systems in remote communities
**Education**

- Procured Education in Emergency (EiE) supplies for children in Rakhine State including 138 ‘school in a carton’ kits which will benefit approximately 5,200 children and 180 school recreation kits to reach almost 16,000 children.
- These items were distributed to State Education Departments and Township Education Offices to be further provided to targeted government schools in Maungdaw, Buthidaung, Myebon, Pauktaw and Mrauk U townships

**Planned Activities:**
- EiE support to 13 Temporary Learning Classrooms (TLCs) in camps for the internally displaced persons (IDPs) in central Rakhine through a partnership with Plan International. Support includes teaching training and stipends, improvement of WASH facilities and general infrastructure. These 13 TLCs support approximately 5,000 children at a cost of roughly US$100,000 per year
- Adolescent EiE activities and salary support for EiE coordinator position which is jointly funded by Save the Children and UNICEF (the global co-leads for Education in Emergency)

**Child Protection**

- In partnerships with Save the Children International, supported integrated case management programming including support to over 3,000 children in humanitarian settings who are survivors of abuse or violence. UNICEF as a Child Protection sub-sector lead progressively applied the ‘localization’ approach wherever appropriate, in order to expand the reach to remote hard-to-access areas as well as contribute to the sustainability of child protection response in emergency. These activities contributed to the overall result of supporting over 116,000 children in 2018.

**Planned Activities:**
- Strengthen systems and activities on mental health and psychosocial support for boys, girls and families and agency staff
- Strengthen case management services for children who are survivors of abuse including gender-based violence
- Strengthen case management and support for separated children/unaccompanied children through piloting emergency foster care
- Support to the capacity building of eyes and ears for the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) on Grave Child Rights Violations
- Provide children and adolescents affected by the current crisis with access to life skills training, information on grave violations against children, violence against children, unsafe migration, trafficking and negative coping mechanisms

In addition to the sector specific activities mentioned above, a portion of the funds received from the Government of Denmark was used to support programme effectiveness and operational costs both in the Country Office in Yangon and at the field offices level.

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