Overview

In response to recent floods and landslides, IOM provided support in CCCM, shelter, NFIs, food, protection, WASH and early recovery assistance.

- IOM worked with 9 partners to provide emergency assistance to affected communities in 7 States and Regions. Over 115,000 beneficiaries were supported during the flood response.

- IOM distributed 10,825 shelter kits, 11,300 mosquito nets, 2,000 tarpaulins, 500 family kits, 200 dignity kits and 11,400 blankets to the floods and landslides affected communities.

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Myanmar was highly affected by the flooding, flash floods and landslides in several parts of the country after the heavy monsoon rains following Cyclone Komen in late July 2015. On 31 July, ‘natural disaster zones’ were declared in Chin and Rakhine States and in the Sagaing and Magway Regions. Transportation, electricity and communication were disrupted across the affected areas. On 3 August 2015, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement (MSWRR) officially requested support and provision of humanitarian items such as food, non-food items (NFIs) and shelter equipment from agencies for the flood response.

IOM responded by mobilizing 150 staff across Myanmar and focused on providing support to the affected communities in the areas of shelter and NFI, Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), food, protection, and WASH in seven of the most affected States and Regions. As the emergency response phase has concluded, IOM is now focusing efforts on reconstruction of damaged infrastructure including schools, assisting displaced communities build back better, and improved management of the camps housing displaced communities.

*Across: Sagaing, Kachin, Shan, Mandalay, Chin, Rakhine, Kayin, Mon, Bago, Magway, Ayeyawaddy, Tanintharyi and Yangon

National Natural Disaster Management Committee (NNDMC), 2015.
Flood and Landslide response by States and Regions

CHIN STATE
- Shelter
- Emergency NFI
- DRR
- DTM Roll-out
- Protection
- CCCM

RAKHINE STATE
- Emergency NFI
- CCCM
- Recovery
- DRR
- DTM Roll-out
- Protection
- WASH

Ayeyarwaddy Region
- Emergency NFI
- Maternal and Child Health
- Migration and Development
- Shelter

Yangon Region
- TB Programme
- Protection
- Advocacy

KACHIN STATE
- CCCM
- Protection

Sagaing Region
- Emergency NFI
- CCCM Trainings
- DTM Roll-out
- Shelter

Magway Region
- Protection
- Shelter

KAYAH STATE
- NFI Support
- Maternal and Child Health

KAYIN STATE
- Skill training
- DRR
- TB, HIV/AIDS, Malaria
- Protection
- Shelter

MON STATE
- Skill training
- DRR
- TB, HIV/AIDS, Malaria
- Protection
- Shelter

REGULAR PROGRAMMES
- Migration and Development
- Maternal and Child Health
- Shelter

EMERGENCY RESPONSE
- Shelter
- DRR
- WASH
- Protection
- Advocacy

IOM OFFICES
Overview

Over 150 IOM staff were mobilized and staff from non-affected areas were deployed to the affected areas in Rakhine and Chin States, Magway and Sagaing Regions to assist national authorities to define needs and gaps for those displaced by floods.

Chin State

Landslides in parts of Chin State due to heavy rain caused many families to relocate to evacuation centers, religious buildings, and other public buildings. Many of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) within the displacement sites wanted to rebuild their homes as soon as possible. Access to materials to rebuild their houses and restore their livelihoods were a major concern. NFIs for winterization were urgently needed for the people residing in camps and the surrounding communities. Regular monitoring was needed to ensure basic minimum requirements for drinking water and food availability for IDPs.

Rakhine State

Rakhine State was the most affected region with more than 13,000 houses being destroyed and over 96,000 individuals displaced. From IOM’s initial assessments in Rakhine State, a majority of communities affected by the flood and cyclone sought refuge in monasteries, school buildings and the houses of neighbors that they deemed more able to handle the floods.

After the flood waters receded, and after spending nearly two weeks in the collective centers, many went back to their homes while others left for nearby villages. The primary impact to the communities was the loss of crops and fields or paddies which were affected by mud intrusion. This has impacted the income of the communities which is primarily from paddy farming or from farming crops and vegetables. The main challenge faced by the community was the task of rebuilding houses due to the lack of funds and building materials, and ensuring enough food and water.

Magway Region

More than 62,000 individuals were displaced due to the flood in Magway Region with people’s livelihoods affected and houses destroyed. From the assessment, many families returned to their villages after a few weeks but others were still displaced, and living in religious buildings, public buildings and on higher ground due to the presence of mud, water and debris in the village. The livelihood of the community was highly affected as farmland was covered by mud during the flood.

Sagaing Region

Many townships in Sagaing Regions were affected by the flood but most families had made some degree of flood preparations as flood were an annual occurrence and they therefore did not need to leave their homes. The majority of people who needed to leave their homes stayed with family/ friends or at the local monastery. Some families lived in temporary shelters (ox carts covered with tarpaulin) on the main roads and were in need of permanent shelter, NFI and WASH facilities. The communities also needed livelihood support, mud removal and shelter assistance.
Non-Food Items (NFI) and Shelter

Due to the flood and landslides across Myanmar, over 21,000 houses were destroyed or collapsed. IOM received 500 ‘family kits’ including clothes, cooking utensils and mosquito nets from the Australian Government, and 10,000 mosquito nets and 2,000 tarpaulins from the Austrian Government. IOM procured 10,825 emergency temporary shelter kits under the United National Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF). The relief items were distributed by partner agencies in Rakhine, Kayin and Chin States, Sagaing, Ayeyarwaddy and Magway Regions.

Kayin State: IOM distributed 1,300 mosquito nets and 200 ‘dignity kits’ from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in the collective centers housing displaced communities.

Rakhine State: 500 ‘family kits’ including clothes, cooking utensils, and mosquito nets were transported to Rakhine State of which 200 kits were distributed in Mrauk U by Danish Refugee Council (DRC) on 10 August, 50 in Kyauk Taw by Wan-Lark Foundation, another 50 in Kyauk Taw by the Rakhine Women Union, and 200 in Minbya by Action Contre La Faim (ACF) on the second week of August 2015.

IO distributed 1,300 mosquito nets to the flood affected people in Kayin State. © IOM 2015 (Photo: IOM)

500 family kits were distributed to the affected communities in Rakhine State. © IOM 2015 (Photo: IOM)

Ayeyarwaddy Region: 130 shelter kits were distributed in Kyangin and 2,495 mosquito nets were distributed in Thabaung by WVI.

Chin State: IOM distributed 533 shelter kits in Chin State, of which 100 were distributed in Hakha and 64 in Falam by WVI. An additional 200 were distributed in Tedim and 169 in Tonzang by Karuna Myanmar Social Services (KMSS). 4,905 mosquito nets were distributed in Hakha by KMSS. With the support of UNFPA, IOM distributed 11,400 blankets to affected communities in Chin State through IOM’s partners.

Magway Region: IOM distributed 1,844 shelter kits in Magway, of which 65 were distributed in Chauk and 100 in Seikphyu by World Vision International (WVI) and 1,679 in Pakokku by ActionAid Myanmar (AAM). 100 mosquito nets were also distributed by WVI in Seikphyu.

Sagaing Region: 2,588 shelter kits were distributed in Sagaing, of which 1,100 were distributed in Salingyi by AAM and 1,488 in Kalay by Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) and WVI.

IOM distributed 4,700 shelter kits in Rakhine State to affected communities. 200 kits were distributed in Mrauk U by DRC, 2,150 in Kyauktaw by Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED) and another 850 in Ponnagyun by ACTED in early September 2015. 300 shelter kits in Mrauk U and 200 in Minbya were distributed by the Wan-Lark Foundation and 1,000 kits in Maungdaw by Malteser International.

IOM distributed 11,400 blankets supported by UNFPA to the affected people in Chin. © IOM 2015 (Photo: IOM)
**Food**

Many people lost their houses and farmlands and were temporarily resettled in the collective centers by the government. As food and clean drinking water were the priority needs for flood affected people, IOM distributed 31,800 water bottles, 9,200 dry noodle packs and 7,000 biscuits to the flood affected people in the collective centers in Mon State in cooperation with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

**Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)**

After the flooding and landslides following Cyclone Komen many IDP camps were established and IOM conducted Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) in the camps to assist national authorities and partners to define needs and gaps for those displaced by floods. IOM deployed 10 Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) teams to the evacuation sites in the most affected townships in order to assess the needs of those displaced.

A total number of 4 DTM assessments were conducted by IOM in Rakhine and Chin States. In Rakhine State, IOM conducted DTM assessment in 89 villages from Kyauk Taw, Minbya, Mrauk-U, Maungdaw, Buthidaung, Ann Townships. In Chin State, IOM conducted two rounds of DTM assessment in 6 temporary shelter sites in Hakha. The results and findings from the DTM assessments were shared with the government and partner organizations for further assistance to the cyclone and flood affected population.

**Protection**

The government of Myanmar identified an increased risk of human trafficking as a priority as the people in the affected areas would be migrating to another place to find a job for their livelihoods.

In recognition of this, IOM printed 10,000 anti-trafficking brochures and distributed them with the shelter kits. An additional 14,000 brochures were distributed with the Dignity kits distributed by UNFPA.

**Supporting Displaced Communities**

Due to the landslides in Chin State, many households were forced to leave their villages to reside in displacement camps or elsewhere with little or no personal belongings. Warm clothes and blankets were needed for the communities as the area is quite cold during the winter months with the temperature dropping as low as minus two degree Celsius. With the support of UNFPA, IOM distributed 11,400 blankets to the displaced households living in collective centers and temporary camps in Hakha, Chin State, as well as in remote communities in both Chin State and Sagaing Region.

As many communities from Chin State and Sagaing Region are residing in the displacement camps due to the floods and landslides, IOM deployed CCCM specialists from Kachin and Rakhine States to train 122 camp committee members on CCCM concepts from September to October in Hakha and Kalay. IOM continues to provide winterization materials and livelihoods support for the IDPs and surrounding communities in Chin State and Sagaing Region.
Early Recovery

While emergency response activities continue, IOM’s focus is shifting to early recovery. With funding from ECHO, IOM is working to building back safer communities in flood and cyclone-affected communities in Rakhine State.

Shelter Assistance

IOM is assisting 600 vulnerable households (woman-headed, child-headed, headed by the elderly or people with disabilities) to receive a full shelter assistance including material and labour support. These beneficiaries have been identified together with the communities based on their ability to rebuild their homes by themselves.

Another 1000 households (5000 individuals) will receive building back better safe shelter improvement kits based on the ability of families to afford the building materials needed to construct safe houses. They also receive safe construction trainings and inputs to improve their homes to be resilient against future natural disasters.

Reconstruction assistance for Cyclone and Flood affected schools in Rakhine State

Funded by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), IOM will reconstruct schools from Rathedaung, Maungdaw and Ponnagyun Township in Rakhine State. The objective of the project is to provide safer and improved educational environment in flood affected areas for both communities in Rakhine State and to promote the reconstruction of the schools and mainstream disaster preparedness and safe construction standard.

WASH

ACF will also work together with IOM in the area of WASH to assist up to 50 villages (25,000 individuals) with direct WASH assistance. The rehabilitation of the water supply is a priority to ensure that the communities have access to drinkable water both immediately and at the time of the future dry season.