Situation Update

- According to official data released by the government, 437,000 people have been affected by recent torrential floods in 8 states/regions of Myanmar - Ayeyarwady, Bago, Kachin, Mandalay, Magway, Rakhine, Sagaing and Yangon.

- Magway and Mandalay are the worst hit regions with 274,000 flood victims displaced. Major portion of the affected populations managed to save their food stocks when evacuating to safer places.

- The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, UN agencies, international and national NGOs have been providing emergency food and non-food assistance, cash-based transfers, water and sanitation, and shelter materials to flood affected populations.

WFP Response

- In early August, WFP in partnership with cooperating partners and in coordination with relevant government bodies launched emergency flood response with relief food rations in the worst hit areas of Magway, Mandalay and Rakhine, following rapid needs assessments coordinated with the relevant government counterparts.

- As geography of flooding expanded, WFP and partners continued needs assessments in Magway as well as extended them to Ayeyarwaddy and Bago Regions.

- The preliminary results from Ayeyarwaddy Region have so far indicated 28,540 displaced people in six townships in need of immediate food assistance for ten days. Almost half of the displaced people, who are mostly casual labour, have reliable access to functioning markets, where WFP is exploring the feasibility of deploying relief cash-based transfers instead of food rations.

Highlights

- Continuous torrential floods have struck Myanmar, displacing hundreds thousands of people and leaving an estimated 180,000 people in need of food.

- WFP and its partners have already reached 56,080 flood victims in Mandalay and Rakhine and distributions are ongoing. WFP is also assisting 104,800 people in Ayeyarwaddy, Bago and Magway.

- WFP intends to launch relief cash-based transfers for 13,200 people in Ayeyarwaddy with access to functioning markets, enabling them to make choices over food consumed and assistance received.

In Numbers

437,000 people affected
8 states and regions affected
180,000 people in need of food assistance
US$ 4 million urgently needed
1,600 mt of relief food and
US$ 1.5 million for cash transfers needed

Flood victims assisted so far

56,080
Food and Nutrition Assistance

- WFP monthly relief food basket for flood victims consists of 13.5 kg of rice, 1.8 kg of pulses, 0.9 l of cooking oil and 150 g of salt per person. In some areas, WFP also distributes three-day rations of fortified high energy biscuits (HEBs), containing 675 g per person.
- Distributions of food baskets have been completed for 7,880 flood victims from 14 villages in Amarapura Township of Mandalay Region. In Rakhine’s Minbya Township, 48,200 flood affected people also received similar food assistance.
- In Ayeyarwaddy, 15,340 people displaced by floods in Athote, Ngathinechaung, Pantanaw and Tharbaung Townships are being assisted with food baskets and HEBs. In addition, 13,200 displaced people in Kangyidaung and Pathein Townships will receive relief in cash.
- In Bago, WFP is providing 26,310 people in Moe Nyo Township with food baskets and HEB rations.
- In Magway, WFP has started distributing food baskets for 63,150 people in Chauk, Pakkoku, Pwint Phyu, Salin and Yaynanchaung Townships.

Supply Chain

- WFP has contracted with private transporters, pre-selected through comparative bid analysis, for dispatching food to flood affected areas.
- Government’s General Administrative Divisions (GAD) at Township level will render delivery service and warehousing facility for WFP’s food in Ayeyarwaddy Region.
- Relief and Resettlement Department and GAD have assisted WFP’s food distribution in Mandalay.
- In Mandalay Region and Rakhine State, WFP dispatched and distributed 310 mt of mixed food.
- In Ayeyarwaddy, Bago and Magway Regions, 790 mt of food have been dispatched to and are being currently distributed to flood victims.

Food Security Sector

- WFP has been undertaking initial food needs assessments in the most affected areas in coordination with its local and international cooperating partners and food security sector members, such as Advancing Life and Regenerating Motherland (ALARM), Myanmar Heart Development Organization (MHDO), Noble Compassionate Volunteer Group (NCV), Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement (OISCA), Plan International and Progetto Contintenti (PC).

Resourcing Update

- WFP’s estimated funding requirements for the emergency flood response, currently planned until end-September, amount to US$ 4 million. The urgently appealed funds will enable WFP to continue uninterrupted provision of life-saving food assistance as well as to launch cash activities in the affected communities. This comes on top of the immediate shortfall of US$ 7 million for WFP’s regular non-flood operations through 2016.
- WFP is currently distributing available food in stock procured with the 2016 flexible contributions from Canada and Switzerland as well as small carryovers from the 2015 flood response supported by multiple donors.

Contacts

- Dom Scalpelli
  Country Director & Resident Representative
- Arsen Sahakyan
  Partnerships Officer
  arsen.sahakyan@wfp.org
- May Myat Swe
  Reports & Communications Officer
  maymyat.swe@wfp.org

Photo: Flood affected communities in Ayeyarwaddy using boats to navigate through inundated streets ©WFP/Lwin Naing Oo