



MYANMAR



UNHCR's presence in 2012	
Number of offices	4
Total staff	130
International staff	12
National staff	55
Others	63

Partners

Implementing partners

Government agencies:
Ministry of Immigration and Population

NGOs:
Action contre la Faim, Bridge Asia Japan, Community and Family Services International, Kachin Baptist Convention, Karuna Banmaw Social Services, Karuna Myanmar Social Services Myiktyina, Malteser International, Myanmar Red Cross Society, *Première Urgence-Aide Médicale Internationale*, Save the Children, Shalom (Nyein) Foundation

Operational partners

Government agencies:
Ministry for the Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs; Department of Relief and Resettlement, Ministry of Social Welfare

NGOs:
CARE, Consortium of Dutch NGOs, *Médecins Sans Frontières*, Norwegian Refugee Council, *Solidarités International*, World Vision, Danish Refugee Council

Others:
FAO, ICRC, ILO, IOM, OCHA, MIMU, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNOPS, WFP

| Overview |

Operational highlights

- Joint inter-agency assessments of the situations in Kachin and Rakhine States led to the launching of two UN response plans. UNHCR leads the protection sector in the two States as well as the shelter, non-food items (NFIs) and camp coordination and camp management (CCCM) clusters.
- UNHCR assisted more than 50,000 people displaced by conflict in Kachin State, providing them with NFIs, shelter, community-based camp management structures, and focusing on extremely vulnerable individuals.
- In Rakhine State, UNHCR assisted more than 75,000 displaced people by providing shelter and NFIs.
- In south-eastern Myanmar, the Office responded to the needs of some 65,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs), including extremely vulnerable individuals, by providing them with safe water, basic health care, sanitation, vocational training, NFIs and civil documentation.
- UNHCR began preparing for potential voluntary repatriation to Myanmar and established cross-border coordination and collaboration procedures with UNHCR offices in Thailand and other countries in the region.
- Advocacy to improve the situation of people without citizenship in Rakhine State was pursued.

People of concern

The main populations of concern to UNHCR in 2012 were: IDPs in several areas of the country; and people considered to be without citizenship, mainly in northern Rakhine State.

Type of Population	Origin	Total	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Per cent female	Per cent under 18
IDPs	Myanmar	430,400	190,000	51	42
Stateless	Stateless people	808,100	250,000	53	56
Total		1,238,400	440,000		

| Report on 2012 results |

Achievements and impact

Favourable protection environment

- UNHCR maintained a constant dialogue with the Myanmar authorities to identify solutions for people without citizenship. It also conducted training for Government officials on the importance of civil status and the challenges associated with internal displacement. The two statelessness conventions were translated for use in Myanmar. Advocacy around the planned 2014 census in Myanmar aimed to ensure all people in the country would be counted.

Fair protection processes and documentation

- UNHCR provided technical and material support to Myanmar's immigration authorities to help them issue documentation in Yangon and Kachin and Mon States to more than 400 individuals, including children. Work with the authorities in northern Rakhine State (NRS) resulted in bringing some 2,000 "unregistered" children into a formal registration process in early 2012.
- In areas where the Government was present in Kachin State, UNHCR provided material support for the issuance of civil documentation through a special operation with the authorities.

Security from violence and exploitation

- There was a significant increase in the number of reports of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in Rakhine State following inter-communal violence in 2012. UNHCR engaged additional partners to help with referral efforts and prevention and response activities, including awareness raising of SGBV among communities and authorities in the State. The environment proved to be a difficult one in which to pursue legal redress in 2012.
- In Kachin State, the development of a referral mechanism for extremely vulnerable individuals improved case identification and management. UNHCR was also able to procure 30,000 sanitary kits for women, which were distributed as part of the emergency response in Rakhine (15,000) and Kachin (15,000) States.

- Programmes to raise awareness on SGBV reached more than 9,000 individuals in the south-east.

Basic needs and essential services

- UNHCR distributed over 14,000 NFI kits to IDP families in Rakhine State in response to the emergency in 2012, including kitchen sets, mosquito nets, plastic tarpulins, blankets and floor mats. Additionally, UNHCR distributed some 3,750 complementary kits, 500 hygiene kits and 15,000 sanitary kits for women. In south-eastern Myanmar, some 2,500 individuals benefited from the distribution of NFIs.
- UNHCR also constructed 80 permanent shelters to assist families returning to their villages of origin in Maungdaw and 365 longhouses for temporary use for some 18,000 IDPs in rural and urban Sittwe. A total of 1,680 family tents were distributed by UNHCR in Sittwe, while another 425 tents have been delivered in Maungdaw.
- In NRS, school closures following the violence in June and October limited achievements in post-primary education. However, more than 1,000 people benefited from local language classes, to support their applications for citizenship. A children's language training programme attracted 1,600 participants for a two-month summer course which enabled children to enter the formal education system. In addition 735 children were enrolled in an early childhood development programme.
- In Kachin State, UNHCR concentrated on the construction of temporary shelters for more than 4,000 families. NFIs (including basic and complementary kits) were provided to 7,200 households (approximately 35,000 IDPs) in Kachin and northern Shan States.
- More than 1,700 extremely vulnerable cases were assisted in 2012 with psychosocial support, NFIs, legal aid and referrals to health services. UNHCR also responded to the needs of displaced people in areas not accessible to international humanitarian actors by working with local implementing partners.
- In Kachin State, the Office engaged in camp coordination and camp management as well as identification of extremely vulnerable individuals, which supported ongoing monitoring and protection assessments. UNHCR and its implementing partners conducted monitoring and assessment activities in a total of 84 of the estimated 130 IDP camps in Kachin.

- In south-eastern Myanmar, UNHCR was able to improve access to safe water for people living within communities affected by displacement. The provision of 28 new water points and rehabilitation of 45 well increased water supply to 22 litres per person per day. This is expected to improve living standards and reduce morbidity.
- In south-eastern Myanmar, UNHCR supported the distribution of stationery to more than 13,000 children in Mon and Karen States and the Tanintharyi region.

Community participation and self-management

- In NRS, UNHCR continued to support the community services development centres, some of which provided venues for Muslim and Rakhine communities to continue dialogue, despite the outbreak of violence in other parts of the State.
- In south-eastern Myanmar, more than 160 local committees focusing on education and health were supported by UNHCR. This helped to build the capacity of community structures.

Durable solutions

- In NRS, UNHCR advocated for the voluntary return of IDPs where feasible, as well as reconciliation, to prevent a protracted displacement situation.
- UNHCR began implementing a newly designed return monitoring assessment tool for both IDPs and spontaneously returning refugees in selected areas. The information gathered on the concerns of returnees has informed UNHCR's planning for 2013-2014.

Assessment of results

In south-eastern Myanmar, there was tangible progress towards meeting objectives. The authorities' pursuit of peace through ceasefires and dialogue was accompanied by more open discussion of forced displacement in Myanmar. This provided UNHCR with greater scope to engage the Government and other stakeholders on addressing IDP situations. UNHCR undertook IDP protection training and distributed the *UN Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement* in the local language. UNHCR collaborated on capacity building and training for officials in international law. Limited human resources hindered progress on comprehensive profiling and solutions for IDPs, as well as planning for potential refugee returns. UNHCR will enhance its presence in the country given the increased access to IDP areas.

Constraints on movements around Rakhine and Kachin States reduced UNHCR's capacity to access certain IDP populations and hindered its ability to conduct early recovery and livelihood activities in many cases.

The new displacement situation in Rakhine State placed significant demands on UNHCR's resources, requiring a shift of focus towards the emergency needs of newly displaced families. The environment in NRS also grew more restrictive, and elements of the planned programme were suspended. The inter-communal violence increased tensions between

communities that had already, in some cases, developed coexistence mechanisms. Some communities maintained a peaceful coexistence, thanks to work carried out in recent years. However, there was also a greater need for protection interventions and advocacy to promote basic rights and access to local services. UNHCR is enhancing synergies in its protection response, particularly around advocacy for persons without any citizenship, throughout the Rakhine State.

In 2012, UNHCR continued to support the emergency response in Kachin and northern Shan States. UNHCR was able to access most areas where the Government was present and worked through local partners to deliver assistance in other areas. The capacity of local partners will need to be developed to reach a wider number of displaced persons in the future.

Constraints

One constraint for the Office has been the lack of reliable and disaggregated data, reducing its ability to assess immediate needs and plan for solutions. This remains a challenge in the three main geographic areas of concern in the country. Insecure conditions affected UNHCR's ability to reach and assist many displaced persons, particularly in Rakhine and Kachin States.

The emergency in Rakhine State resulted in a redirection of many planned activities, as a result of the suspension or curtailment of certain activities or the need to increase basic assistance and protection-related activities in others. The identification of suitable land for IDP sites posed a major challenge, affecting planning for shelter interventions and increasing costs.

The opening up of access to areas in the south-east provided greater opportunities for intervention, though the lack of established partners slowed progress in some cases.

Unmet needs

- The ongoing political transition in Myanmar, in addition to displacement in Kachin and Rakhine States in 2012, required the mobilization of additional resources in 2012 to expand UNHCR's staffing and activities.
- In Kachin State, at least 3,500 households remained in need of shelter at the end of 2012. Approximately 8,000 households (40,000 IDPs) did not receive basic relief items.
- In Rakhine State, only some 59 per cent of IDPs could be accommodated in newly built temporary shelters, housing or tents. More than 20,000 IDPs continued to live in makeshift camps. UNHCR was also only able to support the first round of NFI distributions to IDPs.
- UNHCR was unable to expand its presence in the south-east in 2012 to begin preparing the ground for potential returns by IDPs and refugees. Protection monitoring needed to be reinforced in IDP sites scattered across the area. Mine-awareness and medical assistance activities in the south-east were limited.

Working with others

UNHCR worked with 14 implementing partners, including four new implementing partners in Kachin State. Local partners in Kachin State were instrumental in allowing UNHCR to reach areas not otherwise accessible to international agencies.

In addition to being the designated lead for the protection sector, UNHCR leads the shelter, NFIs, and camp coordination and camp management clusters. UNHCR collaborated with UN and humanitarian country team partners to present a consolidated plan for the response to the Kachin and Rakhine emergencies.

UNHCR chairs the National Protection Working Group and contributes to sub-groups on issues related to land mines, child soldiers, human rights and other protection concerns. UNHCR's protection sector response has been strengthened through the setting up of working groups on field protection in all regions. This has increased coordination amongst the humanitarian community, donors and with the Government.

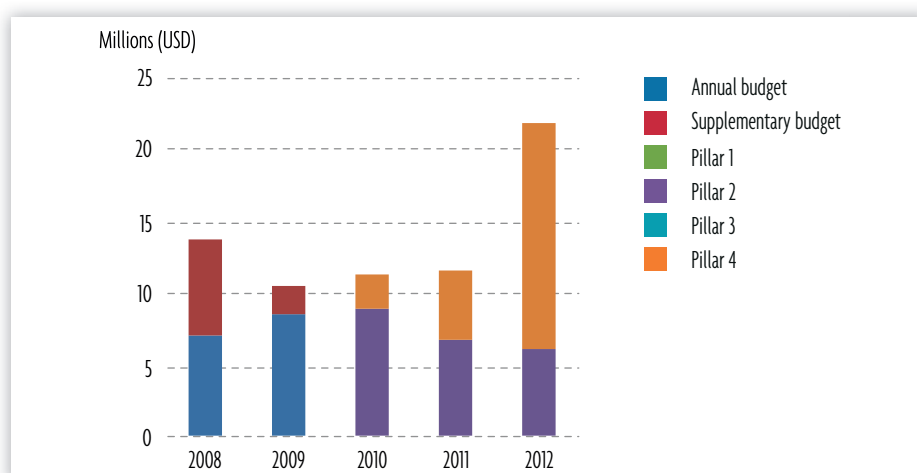
| Financial information |

The financial requirements for UNHCR's operation in Myanmar, which focused predominantly on the emergency situation in Rakhine State, amounted to some USD 34.8 million in 2012; and the level of funding allowed the operation to expend USD 21.9 million.

Donor interest in Myanmar remained high as a result of the positive developments in the country as well as the high-profile emergency situations in Rakhine and Kachin States and the emerging possibility of refugee returns from Thailand to south-eastern Myanmar.

The emergency in Rakhine State began in mid-2012, when expenditure of available funds was already advanced. The need to draw on resources to meet life-saving needs had an impact on other activities.

Expenditures in Myanmar | 2008 to 2012



Budget, income and expenditure in Myanmar | USD

	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	Total
FINAL BUDGET	40,000	9,952,586	24,764,418	34,757,004
Income from contributions ¹	3,339,470	3,891,323	14,442,794	21,673,587
Other funds available / adjustments / transfers	(3,307,405)	2,172,326	1,375,456	240,377
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE	32,065	6,063,649	15,818,250	21,913,964

EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN

Favourable Protection Environment

Law and policy	0	82,938	108,240	191,178
Administrative institutions and practice	0	261,740	106,670	368,410
Access to legal assistance and remedies	0	28,534	122,364	150,899
Public attitude towards persons of concern	0	63,721	0	63,721
Subtotal	0	436,932	337,275	774,207

	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 2 Stateless programme	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	Total
<i>Fair Protection Processes and Documentation</i>				
Identification of statelessness	0	73,708	0	73,708
Registration and profiling	0	98	246,614	246,711
Civil registration and status documentation	0	91,591	120,166	211,757
Subtotal	0	165,396	366,780	532,176
<i>Security from Violence and Exploitation</i>				
Protection from effects of armed conflict	0	0	230,939	230,939
Prevention and response to SGBV	0	57,769	81,313	139,082
Freedom of movement and detention risk reduced	0	56,772	0	56,772
Protection of children	0	87,591	0	87,591
Subtotal	0	202,133	312,252	514,385
<i>Basic Needs and Essential Services</i>				
Health	0	204,435	218,035	422,470
Reproductive health and HIV services	0	174,323	189,708	364,030
Nutrition	0	297,521	0	297,521
Water	0	57,471	570,018	627,489
Sanitation and hygiene	0	173,060	330,500	503,560
Shelter and infrastructure	0	148,620	5,540,370	5,688,990
Basic and domestic items	0	978,805	4,305,050	5,283,855
Services for people with specific needs	0	0	465,835	465,835
Education	0	675,183	133,941	809,124
Subtotal	0	2,709,416	11,753,457	14,462,873
<i>Community Empowerment and Self-Reliance</i>				
Community mobilization	0	277,645	91,227	368,872
Coexistence with local communities	0	91,405	0	91,405
Natural resources and shared environment	0	28,346	0	28,346
Self-reliance and livelihoods	0	0	84,999	84,999
Subtotal	0	397,397	176,225	573,622
<i>Leadership, Coordination and Partnerships</i>				
Camp management and coordination	0	0	57,021	57,021
Subtotal	0	0	57,021	57,021
<i>Logistics and Operations Support</i>				
Logistics and supply	0	869,934	542,704	1,412,638
Operations management, coordination and support	0	335,292	387,164	722,456
Subtotal	0	1,205,226	929,868	2,135,095
Balance of instalments with implementing partners	0	947,149	1,885,371	2,832,520
Total	0	6,063,649	15,818,250	21,881,899

Income from contributions includes indirect support costs that are recovered from contributions to Pillars 3 and 4, supplementary budgets and the "New or additional activities – mandate-related" (NAM) Reserve. Contributions towards all pillars are included under Pillar 1.