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Information bulletin

Myanmar: Monsoon floods

 International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Glide n° FL-2017-000091-MMR	Date of issue: 26 June 2018
Date of disaster: 19 June 2018	Point of contact: Daw Shwe Sin Kyaw Soe, Director, Humanitarian Values and Communication
Operation start date: 19 June 2018	Expected timeframe: N/A
Host National Society: Myanmar Red Cross Society	
Number of people affected: 40,234	Number of people to be assisted:
N° of National Societies currently involved in the operation: American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross Danish Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent, Norwegian Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross	
N° of other partner organizations involved in the operation: Government of Myanmar and UNOCHA	

This bulletin is being issued for information only and reflects the current situation and details available at this time. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation. The Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) will, however, accept direct assistance to provide support to the affected population.

[<click here for detailed contact information>](#)

The situation

The start of the monsoon has brought strong winds and heavy rains across large parts of Myanmar since last week of May 2018. Monsoon rains and increased water levels in major rivers have caused landslides, flash floods and seasonal floods in Myanmar. As of 19 June 2018, Ayeyawaddy, Magway, Bago, Sagaing regions and Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine and Shan states/regions have been affected by flooding.

Mon State, Rakhine State and Magway Region are the most affected areas. In Mon State, heavy rains have caused floods in Paung, Mottama, Mawlamyine, Mudon, Kyeikmayaw, Yay and Thanphyuzayat. The Department of Disaster Management (DDM) reported that over 7,916 people have been temporarily evacuated in these six townships and are being housed in 11 temporary sites. Minor damages to infrastructure in the most affected areas have been reported including schools and Mottama hospital in Mon State. According to reports, the water level is residing and most families have returned to their homes.



MRCS staff and volunteers, Minbu Township, Magway region.
(Photo: MRCS)

According to DDM, as of 19 June 2018, 40,234 people (10,539 households) have been affected and 23,500 people have been temporarily evacuated, 12,000 acres of farmland have been damaged, and 18 people have died due to floods and landslides in 54 townships of 10 states and regions. The government's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Nay Pyi Taw is closely monitoring the situation and coordinating with MRCS' EOC and the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.



MRCS volunteers evacuating a child in flood affected in Mawlamyine, Mon State. (Photo: MRCS)

The Government of Myanmar is issuing early warning messages and taking preparedness actions in the affected areas. Helpline numbers and messages on preparedness measures and information on potential evacuations are being broadcasted on MRTV and radio.

MRCS volunteers are supporting the Armed Forces, Police Force and Fire Services Department for sharing early warning information with people in affected areas, and with communities along the projected path of the flood. Search and rescue teams are on standby to be deployed if required.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

MRCS has been monitoring the situation from the beginning. Based on early warning, MRCS mobilized some 230 staff and volunteers from the onset of the heavy rains. The National Society is responding in ten states and regions where its volunteers have been providing early warning messages, assisting evacuations to safe places, supporting and opening temporary evacuation sites, rendering first aid and emergency health care services. MRCS has distributed food and non-food items (such as hygiene kits, tarpaulins, kitchen set, shelter tool kits, water purification tablets and oral rehydration salt) to affected people from prepositioned stocks in regional warehouses in coordination with Township Disaster Management Committees. In Minbya township, Rakhine State MRCS with the support of ICRC has provided 10 water pumps to clean flooded ponds, and 4,000 purified drinking water bottles. In total, MRCS has reached approximately 23,500 people with different forms of assistance. Red Cross volunteers involved in rescue and evacuations have been equipped with lifebuoys, life jackets and other protective equipment.



MRCS distribution of hygiene kits and other relief items. (Photo: MRCS)

MRCS EOC is actively monitoring the situation and liaising with the Department of Disaster Management for information sharing and coordination of assistance. In addition, UNOCHA is in close contact with both DDM and MRCS. The government has not made a formal request for support. MRCS is coordinating with the Township Disaster Management Board for further support to the affected people.

MRCS has initiated coordination with in-country partners including American Red Cross, Australian Red Cross, Danish Red Cross, Qatar Red Crescent, Norwegian Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross. Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement partners, IFRC and in-country partners stand ready to support the response and recovery operation upon MRCS request. The Red Cross Movement floods and cyclone contingency plan for Rakhine State was recently updated with the support from IFRC and ICRC. IFRC's Myanmar country office is closely monitoring the situation. No international assistance is requested from the National Society at this moment.



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Contact information

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How we work

All IFRC assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct](#) for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in Disaster Relief and the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable. The IFRC's vision is to inspire, **encourage, facilitate and promote at all times all forms of humanitarian activities** by National Societies, with a view to **preventing and alleviating human suffering**, and thereby contributing to the maintenance and promotion of human dignity and peace in the world.

The IFRC's work is guided by Strategy 2020 which puts forward three strategic aims:



Save lives,
protect livelihoods,
and strengthen recovery
from disaster and crises.



Enable **healthy**
and **safe** living.



Promote **social inclusion**
and a culture of
non-violence and **peace**.