

UNITED NATIONS



OFFICE FOR THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS

Myanmar Cyclone Nargis OCHA Situation Report No. 39 14 July 2008

SITUATION OVERVIEW

1. An estimated 2.4 million people were severely affected by Cyclone Nargis, equivalent to more than one third of the 7.3 million population in the affected townships. Nearly 140,000 are dead or missing, among which an estimated 55% were female.
2. On 10 July, the United Nations launched a Revised Appeal to address the remaining important relief needs as well as early recovery needs of the cyclone affected communities. Through the Revised Appeal, 13 UN agencies and 23 non-governmental organizations have requested US\$ 481.8 million in total, i.e., US\$ 280 million beyond the initial US\$ 201 million in the Flash Appeal on 9 May. Given the contributions received so far, an additional US\$ 303.6 million is urgently required.
3. On 11 July, an informal donor meeting was organized in Yangon to present needs, strategic priorities and response plans as elaborated by the clusters in the Revised Appeal.

UPDATE ON ACCESS

4. As of 13 July, 329 visas have been issued to United Nations staff working on the emergency response. Visas are issued through the Tripartite Core Group mechanism and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the process for visa issuance takes less than 48 hours in most cases. Visas for international NGOs who are registered in Myanmar are also going through this mechanism.
5. As of 13 July, 308 travel authorizations from the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement had been issued to UN staff. The number for international NGOs is believed to be at least as high. Obtaining travel authorizations usually takes 4-5 days.

NATIONAL RESPONSE – LABUTTA

6. As of 13 July, there are 2,213 families in three camps in Labutta (including Football Stadium – 231; 3-Mile Camp – 1,463; and, 5-Mile Camp – 519) who are being encouraged by the government to return to their place of origin. The government's return program includes the registration of returning families, a registration book handed to the head of the family that will record all assistance given by the village relief committee, a food package for two weeks and tarpaulins to be given at the jetty prior to their boat's departure. The government estimates that about 60 to 100 internally displaced persons (IDPs) are returning to their place of origin everyday, depending on the availability of transport.
7. Government housing and livelihood programs are planning 16,739 permanent houses to be constructed in the 30 most severely affected locations/villages which include two new relocation sites (5-mile and 7-mile sites).

INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

6. The following information is provided by the clusters, which meet regularly to coordinate the humanitarian response of national and international NGOs, the Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement and UN agencies. More detailed information on cluster activities is available at: <http://myanmar.humanitarianinfo.org>.

7. FOOD

Needs Assessment and Analysis

- The first draft of the 'Market Assessment Survey' report covering 35 markets across 21 Townships of the Ayeyarwady and Yangon Divisions is complete and due to be released on 17 July. This exercise will be followed by regular commodity price monitoring by WFP and its Cluster partners.
- The WFP/UNICEF Food and Nutrition Survey is in its final stages of planning and will be jointly carried out with the National Nutrition Centre of the Ministry of Health.

Overall Achievements

- As of 13 July, a total of 20,924 tons of food assistance was delivered to the affected areas, of which 15,659 tons were distributed.
- 500 tons of rice (of a total 3,125 tons contract) arrived from India on 11 July. The second tranche is expected to be delivered on 25 July.
- Arrangements are ongoing for the procurement of an additional 5,000 tons of rice from Thailand.
- Following recent pipeline breaks experienced at Pyapon, rice continues to be delivered to the Sub-Office (including another 100 tons that arrived on 12 July).
- Further quantities of rice, pulses and oil arrived in Mawlamyngyun, Labutta and Bogale on 13 and 14 July.
- Distribution and Post-Distribution Monitoring training will continue to be available periodically to staff in the field. Partners interested in having their staff participate should contact Jedda.Constantine@wfp.org.

Challenges

- Pipeline breaks due to prohibition of local rice purchases and lack of new financial contributions remain key challenges.

Funding

- The Food cluster is 29% funded in the Revised Appeal, according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

8. AGRICULTURE

Needs Assessment and Analysis

- Over 2,000 off/in-shore boats/vessels (out of 34,686) were lost because of the cyclone. On an average, more than 1,000 small boats of other categories were also destroyed in each affected township.
- A total of 55 cold storages were damaged.
- Over 27,000 fishery workers are missing or dead.

Achievements

- 3,815 households are being provided with fishing gears by various NGOs and FAO. The Government is building boats and distributing fishing gear to affected fishery workers.

Challenges and Future Planning

- Appropriate technical specifications should be determined by qualified agencies and the Department of Fisheries is to restore the fishery sector.
- Number and quality of boats and accessories need to be coordinated so that over-exploitation is avoided. Leaflets with such information on fishing gear are being circulated.

Funding

- The Agriculture cluster is 13% funded in the Revised Appeal, according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

9. EMERGENCY SHELTER

Needs Assessment and Analysis

- Assessments show that thatch, bamboo and timber are the most needed repair/rebuilding material, with 79% of the surveyed households stating the need for further assistance.
- Plastic sheeting still remains a priority.

Overall Achievements

- Over 448,000 plastic sheets have been distributed by the cluster, covering 46% of the estimated affected households.
- 26,000 tool kits have been distributed, along with 219,000 blankets, 647,000 mosquito nets, 286,000 jerry cans and 68,000 kitchen sets.
- Bamboo Tool Kit has been ratified by the Strategic Advisory Group.

Challenges

- Overlaps in planned coverage have become very high for some townships in Ayeyarwady as more agencies submit their data. Coordination needs to be established at the township/hub level in order to avoid overlapping between agencies in the future.

Gaps and Future Planning

- Maps for distribution coverage and projected coverage for all 3 kits are being created with the support of Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU).
- More detailed assessment data is required to confirm affected household estimates.

Funding

- The Shelter cluster is 53% funded in the Revised Appeal, according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

10. WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Overall Achievements

- 15 water purification plants were installed in Bogale, Dala, Dedaye, Labutta, Mawlamyngyun, Ngapudaw and Pyapon townships. Water purification experts are visiting the Delta area to select new location sites.
- 10 fibre water tanks were placed in schools in Pyapon township which will serve 2,331 primary school students.
- 308 new latrines were constructed and 814 latrines renovated in Pyapon township.
- 4,860 bags of lime powder have been distributed for hygiene promotion in affected areas.

Coordination

- A coordination meeting held in Labutta township on 12 July identified UNICEF as the WASH cluster lead.

Funding

- The WASH cluster is 35% funded in the Revised Appeal, according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

11. PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND WOMEN

Overall Coordination and Achievements

- An adviser has arrived in Myanmar to provide support to partners on information management, and to assist with the cases of unaccompanied and separated children. A three-day workshop is being held during 14-17 July for relevant partners.
- Cluster meetings at the field level are very much focused on family tracing to assist unaccompanied and separated children, and other activities including Child Friendly Spaces.
- UNFPA and UNAIDS will be organizing workshops/training on gender based violence for partners in the field, and for "non-protection" cluster actors.
- The Women's Protection Technical Working Group has developed a one-page document on gender considerations in the Nargis-affected areas. It is in the process of being shared with various clusters and cluster leads, and will be posted on the HIC website (<http://myanmar.humanitarianinfo.org>).

Funding

- The Protection for Women and Children cluster is 23% funded in the Revised Appeal, according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

12. HEALTH

Overall Achievements

- With regard to Malaria and Dengue, larvaciding control measures of the Government with support from the health cluster is ongoing.
- Psychosocial support concerning breast feeding has been offered in the field and related training of basic health staff is ongoing.
- The Health cluster has opened two maternity waiting homes in Bogale and Labutta.

Gaps and Future Planning

- Inter-cluster coordination needs to be strengthened for an effective response.

Funding

- The Health cluster is 35% funded in the Revised Appeal, according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

13. EDUCATION

Needs Assessment and Analysis

- Teachers emphasize the need for psychosocial and reintegration support for children.

Overall Achievements

- In Yangon (11 townships) 459 schools have benefited from supplies and 169 schools have been repaired using 16,271 roofing sheets.
- In Ayeyarwady (10 townships) 918 schools have benefited from supplies and 271 school roofs have been repaired using 38,100 roofing sheets and tarpaulins.

Gaps and Future Planning

- There are significant gaps in coverage, mostly due to the limited number of actors in the Education sector. The Revised Appeal plans to rehabilitate 1,640 out of 3,761 damaged schools, leaving around 2,100 damaged schools unattended. Of these, up to 1,351 schools can be provided with Temporary Safe Learning Spaces. However, this still leaves a gap of around 800 schools without any kind of support.

Funding

- The Education cluster is 32% funded in the Revised Appeal, according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

14. EARLY RECOVERY

Overall Achievements

- As of July 10, UNDP has delivered 220 water pumps, 425 two-wheel power tillers and 146 one-wheel power tillers to affected areas of the delta, which together will help farmers to crop more than 20,000 acres, giving food security to over 6,500 households for one year. Also in the power tiller package, UNDP is providing diesel, maintenance and tools, as well as facilitating seed supplied by partner UN Agency FAO.

Coordination

- The second Non-Agricultural Livelihoods meeting was held on 11 July. Issues raised included some concerns about overlap with Agriculture Cluster and the need to harmonize issues of common interest. A 3 W matrix was discussed with a view to updating information on what activities are planned and/or ongoing.

Funding

- The Early Recovery cluster is 16% funded in the Revised Appeal, according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

15. LOGISTICS

Overall Achievements

- As of 13 July, the Logistics cluster has facilitated 145 flights from Bangkok.
- As of 13 July, cargo dispatched inside Myanmar by road and sea is 6,830.6 mt.
- As of 13 July, helicopter operations have been able to reach 101 remote locations with 739.9 MT of food and non-food items through 634 rotations.

Future Planning

- Existing warehouse facilities at the hub locations will remain at the disposal of organisations after 10 August (when the Logistics cluster will cease to operate) for an as yet undefined period. The Cluster should be kept updated as to the volume and duration of ongoing requirements so as to ensure full utilization.
- To date, the Logistics Cluster has been facilitating humanitarian cargo into Myanmar. Once Cluster operations end on 10 August, organizations will need to facilitate their own arrangements in order to bring humanitarian goods into the country. To assist organizations which need to apply for their own FOC (Free of Charge) permits, the Logistics Cluster is collating official Guidelines, which will be disseminated to the humanitarian community. These will have to be followed precisely in order to ensure an expedited clearance process. It will also be essential that organisations apply for a letter of recommendation from the Ministry of Social Welfare prior to undertaking the clearance process.
- As of 14 July: A) The Cluster will no longer be able to accept cargo deliveries to Don Muang. B) No further Cargo Movement Requests (CMRs) will be accepted for movement of cargo by air or sea. C) Cargo for which the Cluster has a current CMR (Cargo Movement Request) and which is available at suppliers in Bangkok, but not yet delivered to the Staging Area warehouse, arrangements will be

made to load cargo into containers for sea shipment. Organisations have been notified that they should now be bringing cargo directly into Yangon via their own means.

- Sea transport is being organized from Bangkok to Yangon for all cargo currently awaiting transport that cannot be moved by air. Multiple vessels will likely be required. Space has now been secured on the first, which is scheduled to depart Thailand on 17 July. The dates for the following shipments will be communicated upon confirmation.

Funding

- The Logistics cluster is 56% funded in the Revised Appeal, according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

16. EMERGENCY TELE-COMMUNICATIONS

Overall Achievements

- ETC data connectivity speed in all field sites has been upgraded with faster and always-on Internet connectivity. These services are available to all UN agencies and NGOs and are located in the UNICEF field offices.
- Short distance communications have been provided to the Logistics Cluster warehouses in Pyapon and Mawlamyngyun.
- Short distance communications have been installed in vehicles.

Future Planning

- Installation of ETC COMCEN equipment in Mawlamyngyun.
- Arrival of ETC trainer to train all users on short and long distance communications.
- Discussion with NGOs on ETC meeting participation and information sharing.
- LAN cabling and installation of additional access point for AirOps at the airport.
- Registration of CDMA phones purchased for EMOP and Logistics Cluster.
- Preparation of satellite system base in Pyapon.
- Planning installation and preparing construction of base for WFP data satellite communication in Bogale.

Funding

- The Emergency Telecommunications cluster is 61% funded in the Revised Appeal, according to the OCHA Financial Tracking Service (FTS).

This Situation Report on Myanmar Cyclone Nargis is now issued every Monday and Thursday. Please send updated information at the following address: ochamyanmar@undp.org

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