



WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME MYANMAR September 2015 Operational Report

Emergency Flood Response: In late July and August, more than 1.7 million people in 13 states/regions were affected by the widespread floods and landslides, as a result of the tropical Cyclone Komen. WFP prompted an emergency flood response on 2 August, within 48 hours after the declaration of Chin, Magway, Rakhine and Sagaing as Disaster Zones by the President of Myanmar. One month after, WFP and its cooperating partner have reached 100 percent of 455,269 targeted beneficiaries with 3,241 tons of food in the states/regions of Bago, Chin, Kachin, Kayin, Magway, Mon, Rakhine and Sagaing. In support of the Government-led flood response, WFP has seconded a senior staff to the National Natural Disaster Management Committee (NNDMC) to provide technical assistance and as a cluster lead of Logistics and Emergency Telecommunication assisting the NNDMC, WFP is coordinating with relevant ministries in Nay Pyi Taw to provide necessary assistance.

Early Recovery Plan: WFP's emergency response will now gradually shift to early recovery efforts, including relief, nutrition and community asset creation activities. In September, WFP plans to continue its response through relief activities, providing cash or food transfers to 212,000 people in eight townships of Ayeyarwaddy, Magway, Rakhine and Sagaing. WFP aims to implement nutrition support for 14,000 pregnant and lactating women (PLW) and children in Chin, Rakhine and Sagaing from October onwards and cash or food transfers for community asset creation for more than 50,000 people in Ayeyarwaddy, Chin, Bago, Magway, Rakhine and Sagaing. As Kale is currently a main entry point to northern Chin, WFP will provide logistical support to other humanitarian actors where needed from November. WFP is also assessing storage capacity available in Kale and if needed, WFP might open a small hub with two mobile storage units to support the humanitarian community. Due to the severe damages caused by the floods, WFP plans to extend its food assistance to the worst affected flood victims till mid-2016. In light of this, WFP has opened a small sub-office in Kale township of Sagaing Region, one of the worst affected areas to continue its flood response.

Food Security Sector's Assessment: The Food Security Sector (FSS), co-led by FAO and WFP, is conducting a joint-assessment in close coordination with the Government of Myanmar on the impact of the cyclone and floods on agricultural livelihoods and food security in the most affected areas in the states/regions of Bago, Ayeyarwady, Magway, Rakhine, Chin and Sagaing. The assessment is also conducted in coordination with CARE, CESVI, JICA, LIFT, NRC, OXFAM and UN Women. The objectives of the assessment are to obtain a realistic picture of the impact of the flood on the agricultural sector and its sub-sectors including crop production, livestock, forestry, aquaculture; to assess the food security situation including the coping mechanism adopted by the population and their degree of vulnerability in the aftermath of the disaster; to estimate the flood impact on the functionality of the local markets; and to identify priorities for recovery for the communities dependant upon agriculture for their livelihood. The report is expected to be finalised by the end of September.

Logistics Assessment in Chin State: Humanitarian organisations, responding to the floods in Myanmar, indicated the need for an assessment on access conditions to Hakha, the capital of Chin State. In late August, WFP and the Asian Development Bank conducted a joint assessment from Kale town in Sagaing Region to Falam and Hakha in Chin State. The mission assessed the ongoing road repairs and access conditions, as well as explored possibilities for establishment of an interagency logistics platform. The assessment results indicated that the main access roads from Kale and Gangaw to Hakha sustained extensive damage. Engineering work to reopen Gangaw-Hakha road was hampered by the magnitude of the landslides, whereas, the Kale-Falam-Hakha road reopened due the local authorities' effort. However, the repair works on Kale-Hakha road triggered further landslides, demonstrating a need for integration of retaining structures. In addition, WFP assessed the feasibility of its proposed cash for community asset creation project for renovation of a road that links between the Falam-Hakha main road and Khawlai village in Falam Township and examined locations for its warehouses.



Schoolchildren eating high energy biscuits in Pakkoku, Magway Region. ©WFP/ Ayuka Ibe.

Resumption of School Feeding: WFP and the Ministry of Education (MoE) have officially resumed its school feeding programme, previously suspended between November 2014 and February 2015 due to funding shortfalls. The programme aims to reach more than 227,000 schoolchildren at 2,300 pre- and primary schools in the most food insecure areas of Chin, Kachin, Rakhine and Shan States as well as Magway and Wa Region. From this academic year, WFP will expand the number of schools, including 168 new schools in Magway and Rakhine as well as poorest monastic schools. In Kachin, school feeding will also partially resume at 30 primary schools in Myitkyina Township. This will be the first time that schoolchildren will receive WFP food assistance since the suspension in 2011 due to the conflict. With a view to nationalise the school feeding programme, the MoE will lead the implementation from 2015 onwards.

Post-Conflict in Kokang: On 18 August, a further 90-day extension of the state of emergency and subsequent martial law measures were revalidated for the Kokang Self-administered Zone. WFP conducted a post-conflict rapid assessment in Laukkai and Chin Shwe Haw Townships in Kokang in August. A total of 21,000 people were estimated to have returned to Kokang and 6,000 people, including 600 refugees in China, remained displaced. The assessment results demonstrated that as farmers missed cropping and growing seasons, communities' livelihoods will be impacted significantly even after 2015. With major loss of food stocks, standing crops and livestock, more than 80 percent of people interviewed relied heavily on external food assistance. Twenty-six percent of the people used reduced intake or frequency of meals as a coping mechanism. WFP aims to provide monthly relief assistance to more than 10,000 people from September to December and continue with livelihoods support activities in 2016.

In-kind Donation of WFP staff: In early September, WFP staff made private donations of clothing and ready-to-eat food, valued at approximately 200,000 MMK, to an estimated 800 flood affected people in Hinthada, Nyaungdon and Thabaung Townships of Ayeyarwaddy Region.

Prioritization of Resources: To cover immediate food needs and protection of the flood affected people, WFP was obliged to reallocate existing in-country stocks. In August, rations had to be adjusted for population targeted in WFP's regular non-flood programmes across the country. While mobilizing resources for the flood response and other programmes, WFP anticipates continued suspension or reduction of its food ration for some activities. In September, WFP will suspend food assistance for ongoing/outstanding food for asset activities, nutrition support for PLW and HIV/TB patients. WFP will also reduce ration of pulses and oil to flood affected beneficiaries and protracted relief beneficiaries. However, WFP will resume provision of full ration to all IDPs and full ration of blended food to children and Multi Drug Resistance-TB patients. Similarly, WFP will continue provision of cash for relief in flood response and regular programmes as well as ongoing/outstanding cash for assets activities. Food distribution for PLW and HIV/TB patients is expected to resume in October.

Resource Situation:

The flood emergency response has been made possible so far thanks to the previous and recent contributions from Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, EU, Germany, Italy, Japan, Japan Association for WFP, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, UNCFER, United States and United Kingdom, as well as the logistical support from the Government of Myanmar, Air Bagan, Air KBZ, Golden Myanmar Airlines and Myanmar National Airlines.

WFP recently received a total of US\$9.8 million from Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, UNCFER and USA for flood response. WFP urgently requires US\$12 million to meet the food needs of flood affected people, in addition to the US\$15 million funding shortfall for regular activities under the current operation till end of December 2015, i.e. US\$27 million total shortfall.

The top five funding sources to WFP in Myanmar are Japan, USA, Australia, Switzerland and EU.



Road parts damaged by the landslides and surface water as a result of heavy rainfalls in Chin State. ©WFP/ Hien Adjemian.



An ongoing road renovation in Chin State. In late August, WFP conducted an assessment on access conditions in Chin State. ©WFP/ Hien Adjemian.



Community volunteers cooking meals, which include WFP's food, to provide to the people displaced by the landslides in Hakha of Chin State. ©WFP/ Hien Adjemian



Children carrying their families' rations to homes in Kokang. From September, WFP intends to provide relief food transfers to the people affected by the armed conflict. ©WFP/ Aung Min Min.



A schoolgirl eating high energy biscuits in Pakkoku, Magway Region. WFP has officially resumed its school feeding in September. ©WFP/ Ayuka Ibe.



A schoolboy eating high energy biscuit (HEB) in Pakkoku, Magway Region. WFP aims to reach more than 227,000 schoolchildren across the country. ©WFP/ Ayuka Ibe.



A staff of NCV, WFP's cooperating partner, and a community volunteer helping WFP with distribution of food assistance to the flood victims in Moenyo, Bago Region. ©WFP/ May.



A female community volunteer helping WFP with distribution of food assistance to the flood victims in Yaenangyaung, Magway Region. ©WFP/ Soe Thet Nyo.



A mother feeding high energy biscuit (HEB) to her child in Kalay, Sagaing Region. WFP's life-saving food assistance for the flood victims includes rice, pulses, oil and salt as well as HEB. ©WFP/ Johnny.



A young boy eating high energy biscuit (HEB) in Ponnagyun, Rakhine State. WFP's life-saving food assistance also includes HEB. ©WFP



A girl with ready-to-eat food donated by WFP staff in Thabaung, Ayeyarwaddy Region. ©WFP/ Nan Soe.



A staff of World Vision, WFP's cooperating partner, helping with private donations of WFP staff in Thabaung, Ayeyarwaddy Region. ©WFP/ Nan Soe.