

This report was issued by OCHA Myanmar. It covers the period from 24 to 26 October. The next report will be issued on or around 28 October.

I. HIGHLIGHTS/KEY PRIORITIES

- The most affected areas are reported to be Kyaukpyu, Myebon, Minbya, Munaung and Pauktaw. According to assessments conducted by the Red Cross, the number of affected persons is confirmed to be at least 176,823. According to local authorities, 70,795 people remain homeless.
- Although there is severe damage to infrastructure, it is reported that major loss of life has been avoided, due to early warning and the evacuation of people in coastal areas carried out by the authorities and the Red Cross in advance of the cyclone reaching the shores.
- Official State media today report a total of 27 confirmed deaths so far in Kyaukpyu and Myebon townships, while 15 remain missing in Kyaukpyu.
- The most important needs are in the shelter, WASH, food and health sectors. Early recovery needs should also be taken into consideration.

II. Situation Overview

Cyclone Giri made landfall in Rakhine State on the afternoon of 22 October, close to the town of Kyaukpyu. The cyclone reached category 4 of the Saffir-Simpson scale, entailing winds reaching up to an estimated 170 kilometers per hour and a storm surge in coastal areas of up to several meters, before weakening to a category 2 cyclone and subsequently a tropical depression on 23 October. The storm surge, strong winds and heavy rainfall caused severe damage to houses and infrastructure including roads and bridges in coastal areas. Severe damage to infrastructure was also reported due to heavy rains in areas further inland, in Magway Region. Communications to most of the affected areas were severed and remain difficult.

The most affected townships are reported to be Kyaukpyu, Myebon, Minbya, Munaung and Pauktaw, situated on the western coast of Rakhine State. The total population of the area is estimated at 1.2 million. Several international and national NGOs and UN agencies are currently on the ground to conduct assessments. Although only preliminary information is available to date, assessments conducted by the Red Cross to date indicate the number of affected persons to be at least 176,823. Local authorities report that 70,975 remain homeless.

Ahead of the cyclone reaching the coastal areas, the Government of the Union of Myanmar in collaboration with the Red Cross issued public announcements to warn the population living in areas likely to be affected by the heavy rains and powerful winds and organized the evacuation of people in coastal areas to higher areas or safe locations. The Red Cross, United Nations and Non-Governmental Organisations have mobilized their staff and resources to respond. Partners have deployed assessment teams to the affected townships to assess the damage.

The Government of the Union of Myanmar (GoUM) immediately mobilized its National Disaster Preparedness Coordination Committee (NDPCC). On Friday 22 October, the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement made contact with the humanitarian community and the UN Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator and welcomed support. The GoUM sent a mission to the affected areas on 23 October, to assess the situation. The mission was composed of the Minister for Transport U Thein Swe, Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Maung Maung Swe and Deputy Minister for Home Affairs U Phone Swe. They are reported to have visited Kyaukpyu town and met with local officials to discuss relief efforts.

Local authorities and local communities have been providing assistance to the population through distribution of relief items and the establishment of temporary reception facilities. International and local NGOs as well as the United Nations have dispatched teams to the area and have started the distribution of relief items in close consultation with the local authorities.

The Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator is currently continuing to advocate for facilitated access to the affected area for international organisations, in support of the GoUM relief efforts.

III. Humanitarian Needs and Response

Organizations responding to the emergency and conducting assessments are encouraged to contact OCHA and the Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU) to share information in order to ensure a coordinated response. OCHA encourages organisations on the ground to use the Inter Agency Rapid Assessment Form (IRA) available as part of the Myanmar Contingency Plan.

Needs Assessments

The Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) is currently collecting assessment data in 20 townships (seven (7) in Rakhine State, seven (7) in Magway Region and four (4) in Sagaing Region). Three assessment teams have been sent from Yangon to support the data collection. To date, a total of 71 villages of those assessed are reported to have been affected, to various degrees. Although this information remains partial, 10,094 households have so far been identified as having been severely affected, with a total of at least 176,823 people affected. In Kyaukpyu Township, MRCS reports that 126,883 people have been affected, while at least 15,245 were affected in Myebon Township and 20,432 in Pauktaw Township.

Save the Children (SC) has dispatched teams to the three areas in Kyaukpyu and Myebon Townships. An initial assessment in 20 villages indicated that more than 1,200 houses were destroyed in the area. Three temporary reception facilities with up to 5,000 people remain operational in Kyaukpyu, while 10-15 smaller facilities are being supported by local charities. The hospital in Kyaukpyu has reportedly been damaged, but remains operational. A certain number of children are reported to show signs of diarrhea. Initial reports indicate that the islands off Myebon have been more severely affected. Residents on these islands are suffering from injuries which cannot be treated due to the limited access to health facilities. SC estimates that several thousand households may require assistance on the islands off Kyaukpyu. In Myebon Township, SC reports that up to 90% of buildings have been damaged to various degrees. The local authorities continue to support one temporary reception facility in Myebon with various relief items, although additional needs remain.

Medecins Sans Frontieres Netherlands (MSF-NL), Action Contre la Faim (ACF) and Malteser International have deployed two joint assessment teams to Myebon and Minbya from Sittwe. Although one team has arrived in Myebon, they have so far not been able to secure permission to go to the surrounding villages.

The World Food Programme (WFP) has sent three assessment teams to Ann, Myebon and Minbya, while one additional team is en route for the area.

Two UNICEF teams (covering health, education, WASH, child protection and logistics) were dispatched to Rakhine on 25 October to undertake a rapid assessment in the most affected townships, and provide immediate relief supplies. One team is currently in Myebon and Minbya, and a second team is expected to reach Kyaukpyu on 26 October. The Emergency Coordinator from the Ministry of Health (MoH) has joined the first team, which will also coordinate its assessment with WFP. The second team will coordinate with WHO and the MoH officials in Kyaukpyu.

UNDP has deployed three additional support teams comprising programme and technical specialists on 26th October to support coordination and relief efforts and to conduct assessments in the affected areas including Sittwe, Kyaukphyu, Minbya, Myebon, Ann and Ramree towns. One FAO staff is also joining the mission.

Local NGOs report that Kyun Thar Yar island has been severely affected, and approximately 70 people remain missing. According to Metta Development Foundation, 1,502 out of 1,717 houses have been damaged in one village tract of Pauktaw Township alone.

Response by Sector

The GoUM continues to respond to the emergency through the provision of relief items and the establishment of temporary reception centers. Additional relief supplies are being sent to the area by plane as well as by boat. These include, among others, 60,000 zinc roofing sheets (of which 40,000 will be provided for private houses and 20,000 for schools) and 5,000 bags of rice. The Ministry of Forestry has also provided 200 mt of

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timber for reconstruction efforts. A boat was made available by the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement for the dispatching of relief supplies and was scheduled to leave Yangon on 25 October.

Various local NGOs continue to respond to the needs on the ground. Mingalar Myanmar, Metta Development Foundation and Laruna Metta Social Services (KMSS) are also present in Sittwe, Pauktaw, Myebon and Minbya Townships to carry out assessments and distribute relief items. Additional teams from the latter organisations have left for Kyaukpyu on 24 October.

Food

WFP has deployed four field monitors to Sittwe and to Ann, with additional food monitors ready to be released from Maungdaw. As of 24 October, there are 900 mt of rice available in Sittwe, while another 300 mt were in the pipeline to arrive in Sittwe over the coming days.

Save the Children is planning to provide food to 1,500 households affected in Kyaukpyu township. Rice stocks have reportedly been exhausted in Kyaukpyu itself, but rice remains available on markets in surrounding areas, including Toungup.

Six Myanmar NGO representatives (Myanmar Health Assistant Association, Rakhine Conservation Association, Social Vision Services, Network Action Group, Myanmar Heart Development Organisation, Swe Tha Ha) left for Kyaukpyu and Myebon and are planning to provide emergency food assistance (rice, oil, salt and pulses) to approximately 5,000 affected people for one week, in collaboration with the Relief and Resettlement Department (RRD) of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement.

Metta Development Foundation has distributed 200 bags of rice and pulses to 1,700 households in Pauktaw Township. The Network Action Group (NAG) will distribute rice bags to three villages in Kyaukpyu Township.

Action Aid Myanmar has delivered food items (noodles, rice and cooking oil) to 1,000 families in Kyaukpyu and Myebon Townships. The supplies are intended to last for a minimum of five days. Action Aid works through local fellows based in Ramree and Kyaukpyu and works in close coordination with the Relief and Resettlement Department.

The International Rescue Committee (IRC) has offered to support in the food and shelter sectors, among others.

Health

Medical equipment, family kits and WASH items supplied by UNICEF are currently being provided by the State health authorities to households and relief camps in the worst-affected townships. UNICEF is sending additional supplies on 27 October to both Sittwe and Kyaukpyu. These include Oral Rehydration Salts (ORS), family kits, high-energy biscuits, tarpaulins, waterguard, bleaching powder and medical supplies.

The Ministry of Health (MoH) in collaboration with WHO has sent two teams to Kyaukpyu and Myebon to support health staff on the ground. They have also taken with them some emergency supplies.

The Myanmar Medical Association (MMA) in cooperation with UNFPA sent a medical team to Sittwe on 25 October. The team is composed of five (5) medical doctors, one nurse, three (3) midwives and four (4) clinic assistants (total 13). The team left for Myebon on 26 October. MMA will hire one boat to transport relief items to the area. A temporary base will be established in Myebon, while mobile clinics will be deployed to the surrounding villages in coordination with the State Health Director. The team is equipped with medical supplies and kits (clean delivery kits, dignity kits and baby kits) and is also planning to conduct an assessment in Myebon.

Livelihoods

UNDP has dispatched a support team led by a senior programme analyst on 24th October to Sittwe, to support the existing township project teams of UNDP in assessing damages and losses caused by the cyclone, and to help coordinate other UN agencies, NGOs and the local authorities in response to the cyclone. UNDP's area coordination office has been operational in Sittwe for over 14 years implementing the Human Development Initiative projects in the area. UNDP's office and transportation facilities in Sittwe are being utilized to facilitate inter-agency coordination and recovery activities. UNDP's project offices are located in Sittwe, Minbya and Kyauktaw, among other locations.

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Non-Food Items

MRCS has been providing relief assistance in the form of family kits (which include Non-Food Items such as tarpaulins, mosquito nets, etc.) to the various areas. A total of 1,600 kits are being deployed from warehouses in Sittwe, Kyaukpyu and Thandwe. Five hundred (500) kits have been distributed in Kyaukpyu, and 1,200 additional kits are being dispatched to the area on 27 October. MRCS is also managing several evacuation centres established in schools and monasteries, including 9 schools and 6 monasteries in Munaung. It is being reported that the families evacuated to these centres have started returning to their houses. In Kyaukpyu, fifteen (15) temporary reception facilities are still in place for those displaced by the cyclone.

Metta Development Foundation has distributed 3,400 cooking pots and tarpaulins to 1,700 households in Pauktaw Township.

Logistics

UNHCR and UNDP have made two boats each and WFP one boat available to the authorities for the relief efforts, upon their request.

WASH

MRCS is deploying two water purification units to the area. The location of deployment is to be determined according to assessment results.

Organisations report that there is a need for contaminated ponds to be cleaned as soon as possible, so as to allow them to refill before the end of the rainy season.

IV. Coordination

Inter-agency coordination meetings have been held daily in Yangon and in the field to coordinate the response and assessments in the affected areas. Meetings in the field are taking place regularly in Sittwe and Maungdaw. The next coordination meeting will be held in Yangon on Wednesday, 27 October.

OCHA with support from the Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU) has deployed personnel temporarily to Sittwe to support coordination efforts with local authorities, local and international NGOs, UN agencies on the ground.

The Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator remains in contact with the GoUM at all levels to ensure appropriate coordination. UNDP and OCHA met with the Director General of the Relief and Resettlement Department (RRD), Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement on 25 October to discuss coordination in Rakhine State and the deployment of additional capacity.

In anticipation of a possible cluster activation, sector leads have been identified/confirmed at the Yangon and Rakhine levels in order to strengthen the coordinated response. These include the food, health and nutrition, shelter and WASH sectors.

The MIMU is currently collecting information on which organisations are conducting assessments in which areas, as well as 3W (Who-What-Where) information on the response. Please send any updates to vognild@un.org and ei.ei.thein@undp.org. The MIMU has also uploaded new Township planning maps for Rakhine State, which can be found on www.themimu.info/html/maps/rakhine.html. The attached map reflects initial assessment results received from the Red Cross and will be updated as further information becomes available.

OCHA has compiled information on stockpiles which organisations are ready to deploy to the affected regions. A summary table is attached to this Situation Report. A more detailed table is also available.

V. Funding

Additional resources will be required to respond to the humanitarian needs in the wake of Cyclone GIRI. Detailed funding needs will be assessed in the coming days as the priority is on mobilizing existing supplies to support the affected populations. A meeting of the Myanmar Humanitarian Partnership Group, which includes all major donors to humanitarian activities in Myanmar, took place on 26 October. Some donors have

indicated their readiness to contribute to the relief efforts, while expressing the need for more detailed assessment data.

The Red Cross will request CHF 250,000 of funding from its Disaster Emergency Response Fund (DERF).

Subject to further assessment results, the Humanitarian Coordinator and OCHA are considering an application to the Central Emergency Response Fund for an allocation from the Rapid Response window.

VI. Contact

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Summary Table of Available Stockpiles

Sector	Item	Location	Total Number	Units	Contact Agencies
Shelter	Tarpaulins (4x5 m)	Maungdaw	110	pcs	MRCS, UNICEF, UNHCR
		Buthidaung	580	pcs	
		Yangon	4,300	pcs	
		Kyaukphyu	480	pcs	
		Sittwe	600	pcs	
		Thandwe	400	pcs	
	Shelter Kits	Kyaukphyu	285	pcs	MRCS
		Sittwe	490	pcs	
		Thandwe	200	pcs	
		Yangon	1,000	pcs	
WatSan	Bleaching Power	Sittwe	15	bags	UNICEF
		Yangon	95	bags	
		Yangon	183	bags	
	Waterguards	Yangon	30,000	pcs	UNICEF
	Miscellaneous WASH items	Bogale	860	pcs	Solidarites
Food	High energy biscuits	Yangon	2,500	pcs	UNICEF
	Rice	NRS	1,251	MT	WFP
	Pulses	NRS	196	MT	
	Veg Oil	NRS	115	MT	
	Salt	NRS	11	MT	
NFIs	Family Kits	Sittwe	500	kits	
		Yangon	1,500	kits	
	Family Kit Items (clothes, plates, soaps, etc)	Kyaukphyu	11,555	pcs	MRCS
		Sittwe	7,056	pcs	
		Thandwe	7,500	pcs	
		Yangon	7,500	pcs	
	Blankets	Maungdaw	1,612	pcs	MRCS, UNHCR, ACF, CARE
		Buthidaung	470		
		Kyaukphyu	565	pcs	MRCS
		Sittwe	744	pcs	
		Thandwe	400	pcs	
		Yangon	2,000	pcs	
	Mosquito Nets	Maungdaw	1,184		MRCS, UNHCR, ACF, CARE
		Buthidaung	527		
		Kyaukphyu	270	pcs	MRCS
		Sittwe	200	pcs	
		Thandwe	500	pcs	
		Yangon	1,000	pcs	

Sector	Item	Location	Total Number	Units	Contact Agencies
	Kitchen Sets	Kyaukphyu	290	pcs	MRCS
		Sittwe	411	pcs	
		Thandwe	200	pcs	
		Yangon	1,000	pcs	
	<i>Bowls and culinaries</i>	Maungdaw	6,026		CARE, UNHCR, MRCS
		Buthidaung	13,780		UNHCR
	Jerrycan, foldable, 10L	Kyaukphyu	500	pcs	MRCS
		Sittwe	744	pcs	
		Thandwe	400	pcs	
		Yangon	2,000	pcs	
	Hygienic Parcel for 5 persons	Kyaukphyu	290	pcs	MRCS
		Sittwe	411	pcs	
		Thandwe	200	pcs	
		Yangon	1010	pcs	
Health	IEHK, Basic Unit	Yangon	173		UNICEF
	First Aid Kit	Yangon	13		
	ORS, 1000 sachet /Ctn	Yangon	227		
		Sittwe	4		
	B P 5	Yangon	2,544		
	IEHK, Basic Unit	Sittwe	40		
	Dignity Kits	Rathedaung	700	Kit	UNFPA
	Clean Delivery Kits	Rathedaung	500	Kit	

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