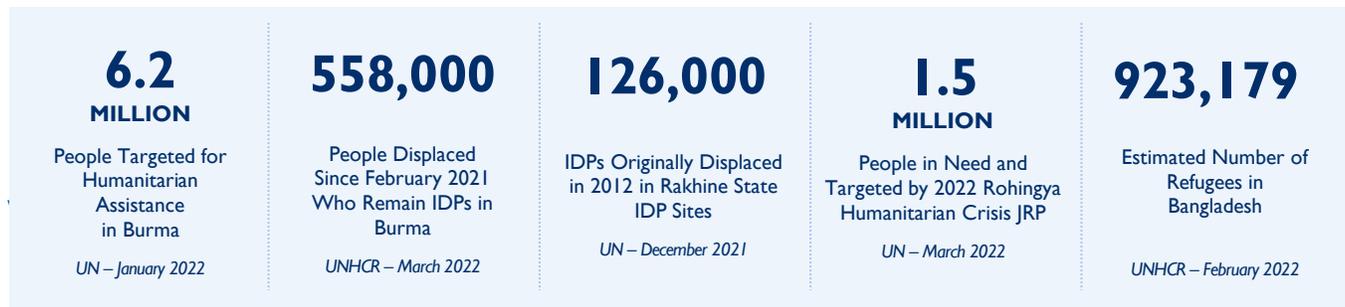


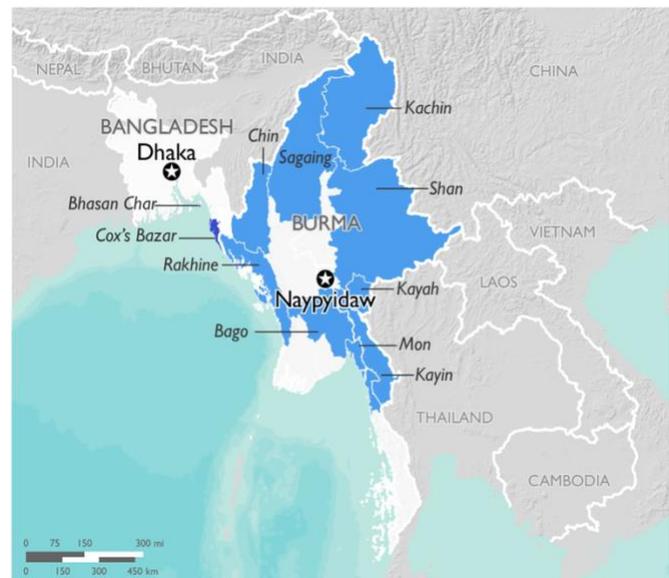
# Burma and Bangladesh – Regional Crisis Response

April 1, 2022

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- More than 558,000 people remain displaced throughout Burma as of March 28 due to escalating violence since February 2021, representing the greatest level of displacement since the coup d'état in the country to date.
- The UN releases the 2022 Bangladesh JRP on March 29, requesting \$881 million to reach nearly 1.5 million individuals with humanitarian assistance during the year.
- The USG announces more than \$152 million in additional funding to support the Burma and Bangladesh regional humanitarian response.



<b>TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING</b> For the Burma and Bangladesh Response in FY 2022	USAID/BHA <sup>1</sup>	<b>\$101,393,307</b>
	State/PRM <sup>2</sup>	<b>\$50,700,000</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$152,093,307</b>

*For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6*

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)  
<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### Violence Continues to Drive Displacement Following Coup in Burma

Throughout Burma, armed clashes between the Myanmar Armed Forces (MAF) against ethnic armed organizations (EAOs) and People's Defense Forces (PDFs) continue to result in civilian casualties, destruction of property, and widespread displacement, according to the UN. As of March 19, insecurity—including airstrikes, heavy artillery use, landmines, and explosive remnants of war—had resulted in at least 1,600 civilian deaths, as well as injury to thousands of people, since the February 2021 coup d'état, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. Meanwhile, more than 558,000 individuals remained displaced due to violence since February 2021 as of March 28, 2022, with an estimated 347,000 IDPs remaining in protracted displacement since before the coup, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Of those who remain displaced since the coup d'état, more than 50 percent—nearly 309,000 people—are sheltering in northwestern Burma, comprising Chin State and Magway and Sagaing Regions. Additionally, more than 5,600 houses—as well as other critical infrastructure, such as telecommunications systems, roads, and public facilities—have been damaged or destroyed countrywide since February 2021, including 4,600 structures in northwestern Burma, the UN reports.

In response, U.S. Government (USG) non-governmental organization (NGO) and UN partners continue to provide life-saving assistance to displaced and other violence-affected populations in Burma. Through local partners, alternative routes, or other adaptations to ongoing access constraints, USAID/BHA partners continue to respond to humanitarian needs exacerbated by ongoing clashes between the MAF and EAOs and PDFs in southeastern Burma, comprising Kayah, Kayin, Mon, and southern Shan states, as well as Bago and Tanintharyi regions. USAID/BHA partner the UN World Food Program (WFP) reached approximately 30,000 violence-affected individuals in Kayin with emergency food assistance from February to mid-March, distributing more than 180 metric tons of emergency food assistance to 14,800 individuals across two townships in early March. The UN agency also distributed emergency food assistance to 11,700 people in Tanintharyi and 5,900 people in Mon from early to mid-March. In addition, a USAID/BHA NGO partner reached more than 1,500 IDPs and approximately 1,000 other violence-affected persons with health consultations via mobile medical units and distributed water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) kits to 800 households and water filters to 70 IDP households in Kayin throughout February. During the month, another USAID/BHA NGO partner also distributed shelter kits to nearly 830 IDP households in Kayin and more than 110 IDP households in eastern Bago.

### Checkpoints, Insecurity Disrupt Supply Routes in Chin, Restricting Access to Basic Goods

Insecurity and an increase in checkpoints along key trade routes in Chin have decreased transport volume on the majority of major supply routes across the state since February 2021, hampering access to basic goods, according to a February market analysis. Individuals at checkpoints along at least 14 supply routes throughout Chin were delaying, re-routing, or preventing the passage of basic commodities as of February, especially around major towns. In southern Chin in particular, primary supply routes connecting the violence-affected towns of Kanpetlet, Mindat, and Matupi were largely non-operational, with traders using alternative routes from other areas of the state or from neighboring Magway to reach area markets. In central Chin, the violence-affected town of Thantlang remained inaccessible by any major supply route due to checkpoints as of late March.

Similar access challenges throughout the country, compounded by insecurity and increased fuel costs, have led to a nearly 30 percent increase in the average price of the WFP standard food basket—the cost for a group of essential food commodities—between January 2021 and January 2022, WFP reports.

Violence-affected areas continue to face volatile prices and shortages of basic goods, as insecurity prevents reliable transport along major supply routes and widespread clashes throughout Burma diminish consumers' access to markets.

### **USG Announces More Than \$152 Million in Additional Funding to the Burma and Bangladesh Regional Response, as UN Launches 2022 Bangladesh JRP**

On March 29, the USG announced more than \$152 million in additional funding to humanitarian partners—including more than \$101 million from USAID/BHA and nearly \$51 million from State/PRM—to support the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Rohingya refugees and host communities in Bangladesh, as well as people affected by ongoing violence throughout Burma. The new funding will help provide emergency food and nutrition assistance, humanitarian coordination, shelter, safe drinking water, and sanitation and hygiene services to targeted individuals in Burma and Bangladesh.

Meanwhile, the UN released the 2022 Bangladesh Joint Response Plan (JRP) for the Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis on March 29, requesting approximately \$881 million in 2022 to continue providing multi-sector humanitarian assistance to approximately 1.5 million people—including more than 900,000 Rohingya refugees and approximately 540,000 host community members—in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar District and Bhasan Char Island. According to a recent WFP assessment, an estimated 95 percent of refugees in Cox's Bazar remain entirely dependent on humanitarian assistance due to the socioeconomic effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and limited livelihood opportunities, among other factors. Additionally, an estimated 45 percent of refugee households face inadequate food consumption, and more than half of all surveyed refugees indicated that they cannot afford the price of basic commodities. Food assistance, health and WASH support, as well as shelter, non-food items, and access to education and capacity building activities remain priority needs among Rohingya households, according to the JRP.

### **Fire Results in One Death, Damages or Destroys Nearly 470 Shelters in Rohingya Refugee Camp in Cox's Bazar's**

A fire of unknown origin erupted in a Cox's Bazar's camp hosting Rohingya refugees during the afternoon of March 8, resulting in the death of one child, damaging or destroying approximately 470 refugee shelters, and affecting approximately 2,200 people, relief actors report. The fire also damaged or destroyed five learning centers, three child-friendly spaces, and one primary health care facility. Rohingya volunteers responded to the blaze until the local fire brigade joined efforts and contained the fire within hours. In response to increased humanitarian needs among those negatively affected by the incident, USAID/BHA partner WFP distributed hot meals and high-energy biscuits to refugees and first responders. In addition, as of March 15, shelter actors—including State/PRM partner UNHCR—had distributed emergency relief items to 450 households and begun reconstruction and repairs to damaged shelters in the camp. Protection actors also established two temporary help desks to provide critical services to affected individuals, such as psychosocial support, child protection and household reunification services, as well as gender-based violence (GBV) support. The March 8 incident follows a series of fires in the Cox's Bazar camps in January that affected approximately 4,000 people. In total, six significant fires have affected the Cox's Bazar Rohingya refugee camps to date in 2022.

## KEY FIGURES



**\$76.3 Million**

in dedicated USAID/BHA  
FY 2022 support for  
food security activities



**13**

USG partners  
implementing stand-alone  
protection interventions

## U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports WFP to provide emergency food assistance—including cash transfers, food vouchers, and in-kind food assistance from local, regional, and international procurement (LRIP)—to populations in Burma and Bangladesh. In Burma, WFP reached more than 1.3 million people with in-kind and cash-based food assistance in November 2021, including nearly 334,000 people in Rakhine State and nearly 122,000 people in Kachin and northern Shan states with USAID/BHA and other donor support. This assistance is in addition to WFP emergency response operations reaching violence-affected communities in northwestern and southeastern Burma. Meanwhile, in Cox's Bazar, the UN agency provided food assistance to approximately 892,000 refugees through e-vouchers and distributed voucher top-ups to approximately 196,000 individuals to access additional fresh food in the camps during February. The UN agency also continued malnutrition prevention and treatment services in the district, reaching more than 157,000 children ages five years and younger and approximately 44,000 pregnant and lactating women in refugee and host communities.

In addition, USAID/BHA supports coordination and capacity-building activities among food security agencies in the two countries to strengthen response efforts. USAID/BHA assistance to the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), WFP, and two NGO partners supports food and nutrition assistance, as well as complementary nutrition support, in Burma and Bangladesh, while State/PRM assistance to the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNICEF, UNHCR, and NGO partners supports the delivery of complementary livelihoods and nutrition services to vulnerable individuals in Bangladesh.

### PROTECTION

The USG supports 13 partners to address protection concerns among displaced and violence-affected populations in Burma's Chin, Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Rakhine, and Shan states; host communities and Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar; and Rohingya refugees across Southeast Asia. USG-supported protection activities in Burma and Bangladesh focus on increasing access to protection services, including GBV prevention and response services, child-friendly spaces, community-based mental health and psychosocial support, and legal assistance. USG partners also work with the broader humanitarian community in Burma to advocate for access to life-saving humanitarian assistance and to promote the delivery of protection services in areas with significant humanitarian access constraints. A USAID/BHA NGO partner reached nearly 300 people in Kachin and northern Shan with GBV risk mitigation activities during January and an estimated 900 people with GBV risk mitigation messaging in Rakhine during February. The same partner provided primary health care services to 1,500

people, nutrition interventions reaching 205 people, and GBV prevention and response services reaching 1,100 people in Kachin, Rakhine, and northern Shan in February.



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USG partners implementing critical shelter and settlements programming

## SHELTER AND SETTLEMENTS

USAID/BHA works with partners in Bangladesh to enhance community resilience to cyclones and other natural disasters by conducting disaster risk reduction activities in host communities in Cox’s Bazar and Bandarban districts. State/PRM-supported shelter assistance in Bangladesh includes emergency shelter repairs and distribution of shelter materials such as plastic sheeting to prevent roof leaks, complemented by site coordination capacity-building activities. USG partners are also providing cash assistance for host community members and refugees to purchase local shelter materials to improve the ability of shelters to withstand natural disasters. State/PRM partner UNHCR continued to respond to humanitarian needs across Burma, reaching 500 IDP households in southern Shan with tarpaulins and mats during February 2022, bringing the total number of IDPs assisted in southern Shan to more than 13,000 since the coup. The UN agency also distributed kitchen sets, winterization kits, and surgical masks to approximately 3,000 IDPs residing in Rakhine State during February. In Burma, USAID/BHA partners continue to construct and repair durable shelters and distribute essential household items for vulnerable IDPs in Kachin, Kayin, Rakhine, and Shan.



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USG partners implementing critical WASH programming

## WASH

The USG supports WASH programming in Cox’s Bazar and across Burma to ensure access to safe drinking water and sanitation facilities, prevent communicable disease outbreaks, and mitigate the risk of wasting—the deadliest form of malnutrition—among vulnerable children and mothers. With State/PRM funding, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), IOM, Terre des Hommes, UNHCR, and UNICEF are addressing critical WASH needs in Cox’s Bazar by improving drainage and waste removal systems, installing handwashing stations and latrines, providing hygiene supplies and safe drinking water, and strengthening community awareness of proper WASH practices to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases. In Rakhine, USAID/BHA partner Save the Children (SCF) reached nearly 24,000 people with WASH interventions, nearly 16,500 individuals with nutrition programming, and more than 5,500 people with health care services between June 2021 and January 2022. These services included conducting screenings and referrals for wasting for children younger than five years of age, providing primary health care services in IDP camps, and distributing WASH items to vulnerable households in the state.

## CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- On February 1, 2021, Burma's military staged a coup d'état against the civilian government during which soldiers detained senior civilian government officials, including State Counselor Aung San Suu Kyi and President Win Myint and announced a one-year state of emergency. In August 2021, military authorities extended the initial one-year state of emergency to August 2023. Since February, clashes between the MAF, EAOs, and other local non-state armed groups across Burma have escalated, resulting in increased displacement and humanitarian needs, particularly in southeastern and northwestern Burma, as well as in Kachin, and Shan. Coup-related instability has also resulted in access challenges, restricted banking operations, and limited cash availability, challenging the provision of humanitarian assistance by relief actors.
- Burma's military forces launched large-scale and indiscriminate military operations—which the U.S. Government has since characterized as genocide—in Rakhine's Buthidaung, Maungdaw, and Rathedaung townships following Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army attacks on northern Rakhine checkpoints and police posts in October 2016 and August 2017. More than 769,000 people had fled Burma since August 2017 into neighboring Bangladesh and taken shelter in Cox's Bazar's 33 refugee camps as of January 2022, while other refugees are sheltering in host communities, UNHCR reports. Refugee populations largely rely on humanitarian assistance to meet basic needs, including food, shelter, and WASH services. The Government of Bangladesh limits refugees' access to basic education services, capacity to engage in income-earning activities, and freedom of movement. Refugees and host communities in Cox's Bazar are also vulnerable to natural hazards, such as cyclones and flooding.
- As of January 2021, an estimated 600,000 ethnic Rohingya—a minority group not recognized by Burma's military forces and denied rights to citizenship, freedom of movement, and public services—remained in Rakhine. Many IDPs in Rakhine are Rohingya, including approximately 126,000 people affected by the 2012 clashes who remained displaced as of May. In addition, approximately 78,000 civilians, mostly ethnic Rakhine, remained displaced in Rakhine and Chin states as mid-March due to clashes between the Arakan Army and the MAF that erupted in 2018. Displaced populations, as well as other vulnerable individuals, continue to lack access to basic services and livelihood opportunities due to ongoing tensions and movement restrictions.
- On December 28, 2021, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Thomas L. Vajda re-issued a disaster declaration for Burma due to the ongoing complex emergency.

**USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA–BANGLADESH RESPONSE IN FY 2022<sup>1</sup>**

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>FUNDING IN BURMA FOR THE REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE</b>			
USAID/BHA			
Implementing Partner	Multipurpose Cash Assistance (MPCA); Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)	Chin	\$1,193,307
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA)	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
WFP	Food Assistance–Cash Transfers, LRIP; Nutrition	Chin, Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Rakhine, Magway, Rakhine, Sagaing, Shan	\$24,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN BURMA</b>			<b>\$26,393,307</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING IN BURMA</b>			<b>\$26,393,307</b>
<b>FUNDING IN BANGLADESH FOR THE REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE</b>			
USAID/BHA			
WFP	Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Practice (DRRPP), Economic Recovery and Market Services (ERMS), Food Assistance–International Procurement and Vouchers, HCIMA, Nutrition	Cox's Bazar	\$75,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN BANGLADESH</b>			<b>\$75,000,000</b>
STATE/PRM			
IFRC	ERMS, Health, MPCA, Protection, Risk Management Policy and Practice (RMPP), WASH	Cox's Bazar	\$10,000,000
IOM	Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM), RMPP, ERMS, Health, HCIMA, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH, COVID-19 Response, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Monitoring and Evaluation	Cox's Bazar	\$9,600,000
UNICEF	Education, HCIMA, Monitoring and Evaluation, Nutrition, Protection, WASH, COVID-19 Response, Health, RMPP, CCCM	Cox's Bazar	\$11,300,000
UN Population Fund (UNFPA)	COVID-19 Response, Health, Protection	Cox's Bazar	\$2,200,000
	COVID-19 Response	Cox's Bazar	\$2,800,000
UNHCR	CCCM, Education, HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Monitoring and Evaluation, Food Assistance, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH, RMPP	Cox's Bazar	\$14,300,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN BANGLADESH</b>			<b>\$50,200,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG FUNDING IN BANGLADESH</b>			<b>\$125,200,000</b>
<b>REGIONAL FUNDING FOR THE BURMA AND BANGLADESH REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE<sup>2</sup></b>			
STATE/PRM			
IOM	Humanitarian Assistance - Multi-Sector	Indonesia	\$500,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM REGIONAL FUNDING</b>			<b>\$500,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG REGIONAL FUNDING</b>			<b>\$500,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR BURMA AND BANGLADESH IN FY 2022</b>			<b>\$101,393,307</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR BURMA AND BANGLADESH IN FY 2022 2</b>			<b>\$50,700,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA AND BANGLADESH REGIONAL CRISIS IN FY 2021<sup>3</sup></b>			<b>\$152,093,307</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. USAID/BHA and State/PRM funding includes funding for both refugees from Burma

and asylum-seekers in the region, as well as IDPs inside Burma. Funding does not include USAID/BHA support for activities in Bangladesh that are not related to the Rohingya refugee response.

<sup>2</sup> Figures include supplemental International Disaster Assistance (IDA), Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA), and American Rescue Plan Act—Migration and Refugee Assistance (ARPA-MRA) funding committed for COVID-19 preparedness and response as of March 29, 2022.

<sup>3</sup> Funding for populations in Burma and Bangladesh affected by the violence in Rakhine State totals more than \$1.7 billion—including nearly \$1.4 billion in Bangladesh and more than \$309 million in Burma—since the outbreak of violence in August 2017. This includes more than \$890 million in State/PRM funding and nearly \$813 million in USAID/BHA funding for populations affected by the violence in Rakhine State and other vulnerable populations. USG funding represents publicly announced funding as of March 29, 2022.

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## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

1. The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://interaction.org).
2. USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
3. More information can be found at:
  1. USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://cidi.org)
  2. Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)