

REVISED EMERGENCY APPEAL

Myanmar, Asia Pacific | Complex Emergency



A Myanmar Red Cross Society Mobile Medical Team providing medical care in internally displaced persons' (IDP) camps in Taunggyi, Shan state, 1 March 2022. Source: MRCS

Appeal No: MDRMM016	IFRC Secretariat Funding requirements: CHF 4.5 million	
DREF allocation: CHF 181,395	<i>The current funding gap is CHF 2.4 million (as of 15 March 2022)</i> Federation-wide Funding requirements: 2021-2022: CHF 5.5 million¹	
Glide No: OT-2021-000042-MMR	People [affected/at risk]: Nationwide, 14.4 million² people	People to be assisted: 202,000 people
Appeal Revision #1 Date: 02/04/2022	Appeal launched: 10/05/2021	Appeal ends: 31/03/2023

¹ This figure will be updated as some fundings are about to end and extension/additional contributions from Movement partners are being explored and/or processed.

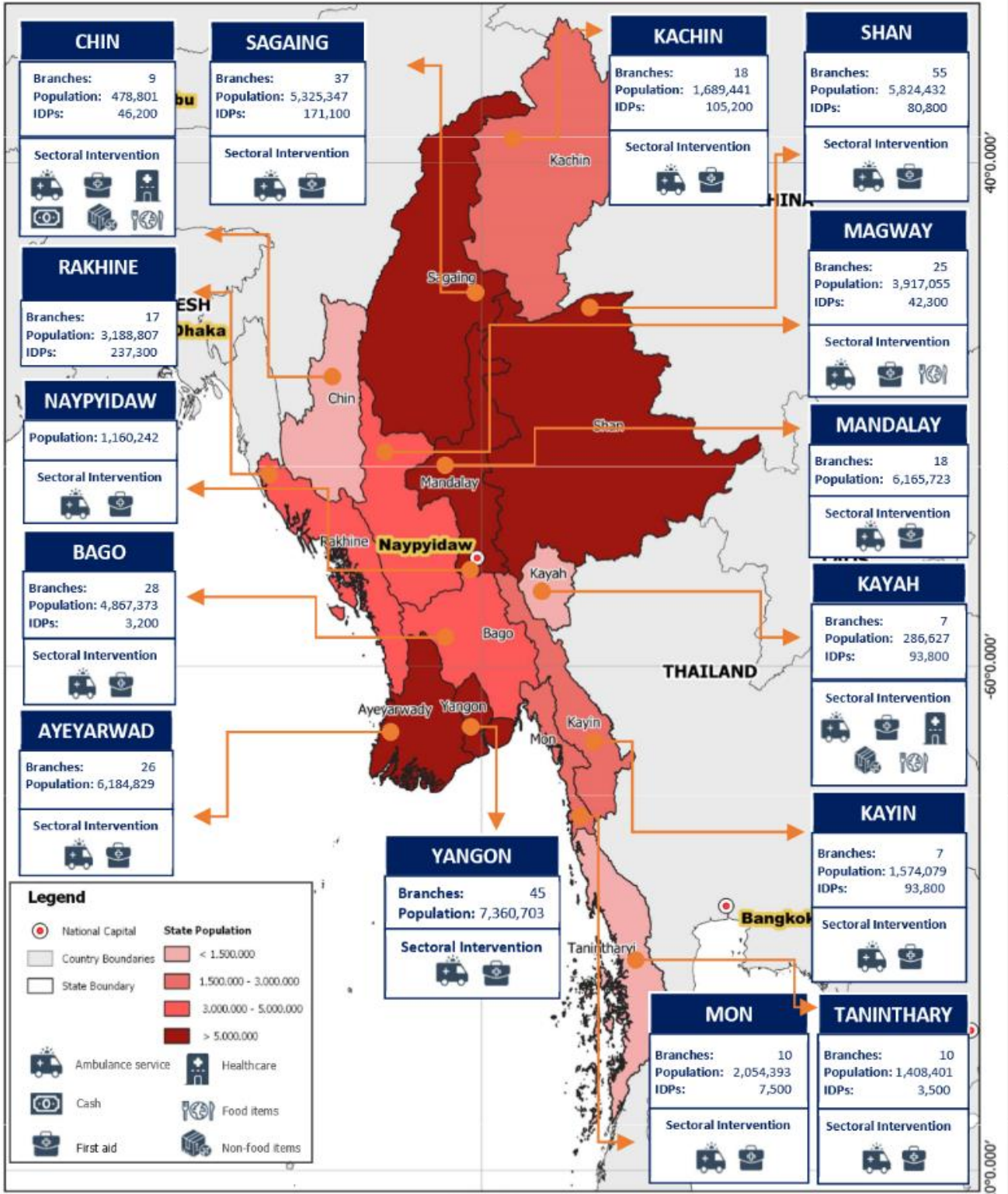
² The projection due to the compounding vulnerabilities following the intense civil unrest since Feb 2021 in [Humanitarian Needs Overview 2022](#) has shown about 14.4 million people in need (PIN) in Myanmar in 2022. The crisis is nationwide with increasing numbers of townships affected as the situation unfolds.

SITUATION OVERVIEW

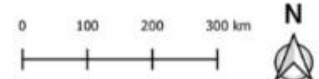


Myanmar Civil Unrest Operations

1 March 2022



The maps used do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies or National Societies concerning the legal status of territory or its authorities. Map data sources: OCHA, OSM Contributors, ICRC, IFRC.



The people of Myanmar are dealing with an evolving humanitarian crisis where humanitarian needs have continued to escalate since the third wave of COVID-19 in 2021 and the ongoing political unrest since Myanmar's military intervention on 1 February 2021.

The country is now entering the second year of this crisis, where ongoing inter-factional tensions have fueled its complexity and multi-dimensional characteristics. The Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM) continues to be supported by many in Myanmar, impacting public services, including health, schools, and government administrations in states and regions across the country.

Clashes and targeted attacks between various armed actors, including the People's Defence Forces (PDFs), ethnic armed organizations (EAOs), and the Myanmar Armed Forces (MAF), continue and have intensified in several states/regions. Simmering historical tensions exist across certain key states, and, in some locations, these tensions have become exacerbated as a consequence of military intervention. Numerous new forces have emerged, and several ethnic armed groups, established many years before the military intervention, have become increasingly recommitted to the insurgency resulting in fighting occurring in areas that have been without conflict for decades.³

Some sources have recorded nearly 13,000 political violence and protest events throughout 2021⁴. The degree of violence against civilians has been severe. The number of casualties has increased, while thousands of houses and the properties of other civilians have been burnt down or destroyed.⁵ This has triggered multiple large scale population displacements. As of 28 February 2022,⁶ roughly 873,000 people have been internally displaced in Myanmar. About 502,600 people have been displaced by insecurity and the increased vulnerability of host and resident communities in affected areas since 1 February 2021. The northwest part of Myanmar (Sagaing, Magway and Chin) has recorded the highest level of new internal displacements, with 246,600 internally displaced persons (IDPs) (49 per cent), followed by the southeast part of Myanmar (Kayah, Kayah, and Shan) with 233,600 IDPs contributing 46.5 per cent. Displaced populations face significant challenges in access to basic needs and services, specifically, food, healthcare, shelter materials, clean water, and sanitation facilities.

Myanmar is also experiencing a socio-economic crisis exacerbated by the protracted COVID-19 epidemic. The local currency, the Kyat, has fluctuated with a significant drop in value by 60 per cent⁷ in the month of September 2021, while costs for food items, fuel, and other essential goods have soared. In September 2021, inflation increased to 7.3 per cent.⁸ The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that in 2021, some 1.6 million jobs were lost, leaving only 18.9 million women and men employed.⁹ The farming, construction, garment, tourism, and hospitality industries are among the hardest hit. The economic and political volatility is projected to have driven almost half of the population into poverty in 2022.

The 2022 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) for Myanmar¹⁰, which was published on 31 December 2021, predicts that approximately a quarter of the population (14.4 million people – 4.9 million women and five million children) will be classified as requiring humanitarian support during 2022, up from

³ International Crisis Group: www.crisisgroup.org/asia/south-east-asia/myanmar/319-myanmars-coup-shakes-its-ethnic-conflicts

⁴ ACLED: <https://acleddata.com/10-conflicts-to-worry-about-in-2022/myanmar/#1644926943076-5c436261-03808979-7ffe>

⁵ OCHA Humanitarian update No. 14 as of 17 January 2022 recorded more than 2,200 civilians' houses and properties that were destroyed and burnt down.

(<https://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar/myanmar-humanitarian-update-no-14-17-january-2022>)

⁶ The displacement rate fluctuates and rapidly changes, this is the estimated figure as per UNHCR's emergency overview map and statistics as of 28 February 2022.

(<https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/Myanmar%20Emergency%20Update%20-%201%20March%202022.pdf>)

⁷ Reuters: <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/myanmars-junta-powerless-currency-drops-60-four-weeks-economy-tanks-2021-09-29/>

⁸ World Bank, Myanmar Economic Monitor: <https://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/525471627057268984/Myanmar-Economic-Monitor-July-2021.pdf>

⁹ ILO Brief: https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-yangon/documents/publication/wcms_835900.pdf

¹⁰ Humanitarian Needs Overview Myanmar 2022, issued in December 2021:

https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/mmr_humanitarian_needs_overview_2022.pdf

about one million people in need before February 2021. This increase is driven by the social, economic and health impacts of COVID-19, worsening food insecurity, and the mass movement of the population since the events of 1 February 2021 and subsequent need for protection. These factors have generated an array of new needs and exacerbated the vulnerability of specific groups.

The HNO analysis estimated that 14 out of 15 states and regions in Myanmar are now within the critical threshold for acute malnutrition. Prices for key commodities in some states and regions have increased significantly, resulting in some food items no longer being affordable to many families. At the beginning of 2022, fuel prices increased by 14-18 per cent from the previous month. Compared to the pre-crisis period through to March 2022, fuel prices skyrocketed by 82-150 per cent¹¹, impacting transportation costs and contributing to unpredictable commodity prices.

Humanitarian access to reach conflict-affected populations remains a major challenge for the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) and other humanitarian organizations. Travel restrictions are currently in place due to the security context, military checkpoints, stringent administrative authorization requirements, and COVID-19 regulations.

This has impacted the distribution of humanitarian resources, direct support from personnel and disrupted monitoring and evaluation activities, including data collection and verification. Several private companies have withdrawn and/or halted services in Myanmar, which has impacted transportation, the supply chain, and costs, eventually delaying humanitarian assistance from reaching those most in need.

With continuous dialogue and advocacy efforts with all stakeholders and state administrators, the MRCS gradually secured safe access to wider vulnerable populations. This engagement is based on autonomous Red Cross Red Crescent-led needs assessments and a decision-making process that supports independent humanitarian action. The MRCS collaborates with both International Red Cross Red Crescent Movement (the Movement) and non-Movement partners, such as UN agencies, to deliver assistance to broader geographic areas. The National Society remains flexible and adaptive to the dynamic operational context to reach the most vulnerable and affected populations whilst ensuring compliance with security protocols for mobilizing personnel.

EMERGENCY APPEAL REVISION

This revision of the IFRC Emergency Appeal addresses the rapidly evolving operational context and the resulting increase in humanitarian needs across Myanmar. Accordingly, it also extends the timeframe of the appeal by one year. This revised Emergency Appeal endeavours to maintain operational relevance and responsiveness for the provision of humanitarian assistance, including preparedness, to the affected populations. Note that the title of this revised emergency appeal has subsequently been changed from 'civil unrest' to 'complex emergency', reflecting the evolving humanitarian situation. Information describing the accomplishments achieved under the Emergency Appeal, up until 30 November 2021, is accessible in [Operations Update No. 2](#).

¹¹ <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/fuel-shortages-hit-parts-of-myanmar-due-to-road-closures-global-price-hikes.html>, <https://www.thehindwin.com/soaring-food-and-fuel-prices-a-looming-threat-to-millions-in-myanmar/>, https://www.globalpetrolprices.com/Burma-Myanmar/gasoline_prices/

TARGETING

Through the revised Emergency Appeal, at least **202,000¹² people** deemed the most vulnerable, will be provided with essential humanitarian support provided by the MRCS in **14 states and regions**. This support will encompass **emergency first aid and ambulance services, expanded basic health care services, livelihood support, and in-kind assistance to address basic needs**. The geographic focus was initially on states and regions where civil unrest, clashes and protests took place, with humanitarian support primarily consisting of emergency first aid and ambulance services. The interventions are now further prioritized for Kayah, Kayin, Shan, and Chin states and the regions of Magway and Sagaing. These areas have been most affected by the crisis and are currently where the needs remain unmet. Given the dynamic nature of this emergency, the MRCS has pre-empted the likelihood of needing to broaden the geographic scope of the response to other states and will therefore remain prepared for and responsive to meeting emerging humanitarian needs in close coordination with Movement partners active in these areas, such as the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

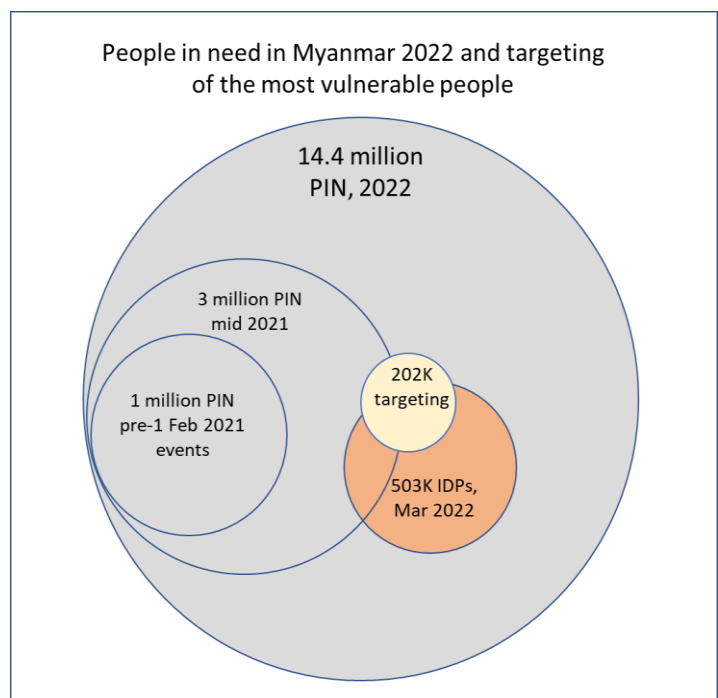
Targeting will prioritize groups in the most vulnerable locations and includes the following categories:

- Peri-urban areas with socio-economic challenges with relief needs focused on major cities.
- Regions/states with existing vulnerabilities with populations at risk of increased displacement.
- Hard-to-reach areas where the MRCS has managed to secure access to deliver humanitarian assistance.

At the district/local level, further prioritization will be given to the following groups:

- People directly affected physically, psychologically, or socio-economically by violence in hot spots.
- People affected by the emerging violence and who are newly displaced.
- Vulnerable and affected people in peri-urban areas with socio-economic challenges.
- People in regions/states with existing vulnerabilities and at risk of increased displacement.
- Displaced people deciding to return to their homes, safely and voluntarily.

Within this geographic focus, household targeting will include additional vulnerability criteria. The vulnerability criteria will focus on women/child-headed households, pregnant or lactating women, persons with disabilities, the elderly, those suffering from chronic illnesses and families with children under five years old.






This diagram illustrates the people in need (PIN) based on HNO 2022 and the targeting of this appeal. However, it is unclear if the one million PIN in 2021 were included in the PIN projection for 2022.

¹² This target includes additional outreach through prepositioned stocks in the Mobilisation Table to increase MRCS disaster preparedness measures. The revised target is slightly reduced based on the changes at the activity level and targeting beneficiaries (i.e., livelihoods/vocational trainings have been taken out due to the continuous movement of the initially targeted people, and due to changing priority needs).

PLANNED OPERATIONS



Through this Emergency Appeal, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) aims to support the MRCS in its response to the ongoing complex emergency in the country. The strategy of the response is to continue to provide emergency first aid and medical assistance, address gaps in primary healthcare access, and deliver immediate relief assistance and early recovery support to reduce socio-economic vulnerabilities. This appeal also aims to enhance the MRCS in its response capacity as a contingency measure for a deteriorating political scenario, including increasing the buffer of disaster prepositioned stocks in states and regions.

Based on the priority needs of the affected population and learnings gained throughout the response thus far, the revised emergency appeal is specific in the range of sectors to be included to avoid overreach of the MRCS, while ensuring that the strategies are within its capacity for effective delivery. The selected sectors include:

-  **Health and Care including Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)**
Mental Health and Psychosocial Support/Community Health/Medical Services
-  **Integrated Assistance**
Shelter, Livelihoods, and Multi-purpose Cash
-  **Protection and Prevention**
Protection, Gender and Inclusion (PGI), Migration, Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA), Environmental Sustainability

Enabling approaches

The sectors outlined above will be supported and enhanced by the following enabling approaches:

-  **Coordination and partnerships**
-  **IFRC Secretariat services**
-  **National Society Strengthening**

The planned response reflects the current situation and is based on the information available at the launch of this Revised Emergency Appeal. Details of the operation will be updated through the Operational Strategy to be released shortly.

RED CROSS RED CRESCENT FOOTPRINT IN COUNTRY




MYANMAR RED CROSS SOCIETY


With a comprehensive network of 330 branches in the 15 states/regions and immediate access to over 7,000 active trained volunteers, the MRCS has extensive coverage as the largest humanitarian organization in Myanmar with over 600 departmental and field-based staff with technical capacity including:

- Disaster Management Department, skilled in leading on complex emergencies, working alongside the Operation Management Unit (OMU) for disaster response.
- First Aid and Safety Services Department, supporting branches with first aid skills and equipment.
- Logistics Department with strong procurement, transportation, and stock management systems.
- Humanitarian Values and Communications Department to support messaging, focusing on MRCS operations according to the Fundamental principles.
- Health Department, providing ongoing COVID-19 response assistance.
- Organisational Development Department, supporting branch development and youth and volunteer development.

Myanmar Red Cross Society

Core areas of operation



Number of staff:	600
Number of volunteers:	7,000
Number of local branches:	330

The MRCS, with 28 warehouses across the country with current stock levels capable of reaching up to 21,000 people, has strong cash readiness capacity, with standard operating procedures (SOPs) for cash and voucher assistance (CVA). In 2020, the MRCS reached 6,952 households with cash grant assistance and is well placed to rapidly scale up CVA once cash access at scale becomes feasible. The MRCS is also highly experienced in designing and delivering conditional cash grant assistance through long-term engagement in protracted crisis contexts such as in Rakhine. As co-chair of the Cash Working Group (CWG), the MRCS is ideally suited to monitor changing trends in the operating context and identify the scope for various cash and voucher assistance forms.

Since the beginning of the operation, more than 16,000 people – 45 per cent female and 55 per cent male – have received MRCS emergency first aid (FA) and ambulance referral services across 202 townships. At the same time, 623 FA camps were established by mobilizing 2,002 Red Cross volunteers (RCVs). With emergency health services, 9,362 referrals were provided, 188 birth patients were assisted for urgent medical help using 173 regular ambulances and almost 170 localized transport arrangements at the township level, including boats and motorbikes. The MRCS deployed its Mobile Health Clinic (MHC) team three times to five urban displacement sites in Mindat, Chin state, which

operated six days a week during the second half of 2021. Up to 5,672 people were medically treated, while another batch of ongoing MHC deployment continues to assist more patients.

IFRC Membership Coordination

The IFRC is closely supporting the MRCS with planning and coordination. This included assistance with preparing the consolidated Emergency Response Plan at the beginning of the civil unrest in February 2021 to facilitate coordinated partner support. The revised Emergency Appeal, complemented by the revised Operational Strategy, is part of a Federation-wide approach utilized to support the MRCS in its response to the Myanmar emergency operation. The IFRC and six partner National Societies are present in-country to support the MRCS with ongoing programme delivery and assist through modalities of both multilateral (appeal) and bilateral support to the MRCS National Response Plan. Additional Federation members provide support and are actively engaged in coordination. This includes National Societies in the Asia-Pacific Region that maintain close linkages to the MRCS.

The IFRC Myanmar Country Delegation, with the support of the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO), has continued to work closely with the MRCS since the onset of the crisis. The IFRC secretariat works with MRCS to plan, coordinate and activate the DREF and subsequent expansion into an Emergency Appeal to ensure sustained delivery of humanitarian assistance. IFRC maintains its support for the MRCS COVID-19 response, which commenced in March 2020, and supports flood response and increasing MRCS disaster preparedness through the DREF mechanism.

International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement Coordination

The ICRC conducts operations in Myanmar and also supports MRCS. The MRCS leads in-country Movement Coordination Meetings, held on a monthly basis. Tripartite leadership meetings with the MRCS, ICRC and IFRC are frequently held, supporting Movement coordination in key response areas, and guiding strategic engagement in a highly complex operating environment. Additional tripartite coordination mechanisms are in place for security and communications.

In 2022, the ICRC is increasing its operational footprint in Myanmar. It continues large-scale humanitarian programmes in Rakhine, Kachin and Shan as part of the pre-existing operations. On the other hand, the ICRC is increasing its response to the humanitarian needs in Chin, Southern Shan, Kayah and Kayin states. In these states, ICRC mainly focuses on health and COVID-19 response, shelter, food security, water and sanitation, mine risk education awareness, and the re-establishment of family links services. The ICRC is also scaling up discussions with the MRCS on emergency response in the Magway, Sagaing and Mandalay regions. The ICRC encourages joint operations with the MRCS, wherever pertinent, and complementary actions, providing direct assistance to the population affected by armed conflict and other violent situations.

External Coordination

The IFRC continues to closely support the MRCS with planning and coordination to maximize response capabilities, including assistance to prepare the consolidated Emergency Response Plan to facilitate coordinated partner support. The IFRC's support is being provided through external partner dialogue, ongoing consultations and briefings with embassies and UN agencies, and resource mobilization discussions with donor agencies.

At the country level, the IFRC, ICRC and MRCS participate as observers in meetings of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) chaired by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

held both during disasters and non-emergency periods. The MRCS and IFRC are also observers at the UN Myanmar Humanitarian Fund (MHF) Advisory Board and regularly coordinate with humanitarian partners in key clusters such as health and the cash working group, where the MRCS acts as the co-lead.

External agencies, including the UN, have existing operational capacity in intervention areas set out in the 2021 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), focused on areas of protracted crisis. These agencies are now implementing response initiatives to extend their reach to affected people throughout Myanmar. Partnership discussions with key UN actors, including OCHA, WFP, WHO and UNOPS continue to identify areas of cooperative engagement to reach the affected communities with timely support at scale.

Contact information

For further information, specifically related to this operation, please contact:

At the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS)

- **Secretary General:** Prof. Dr. Htin Zaw Soe, email: htinzawsoe@redcross.org.mm, phone: (+95) 973101474
- **Operational Coordination:** Daw San San Maw, Director, DM Department, phone: (+95) 977115665, email: sansanmaw@redcross.org.mm

At the IFRC

- **IFRC Country Delegation for Myanmar:** Nadia Khoury, Head of Delegation, email: nadia.khoury@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Country Delegation for Myanmar:** Christie Samosir, Operations Manager, email: christie.samosir@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Regional Office for Asia Pacific:** Alexander Matheou, Regional Director, email: alexander.matheou@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Regional Office for Asia Pacific:** Joy Singhal, Head of the Health, Disaster, Climate and Crisis Unit, email: joy.singhal@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Regional Office for Asia Pacific:** Ahmad Ali Rezaie, Operations Coordinator - Southeast Asia, email: opscoord.southeastasia@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Regional Office for Asia Pacific:** Antony Balmain, Communications Manager, email: antony.balmain@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Regional Office for Asia Pacific:** Fadzli Saari, Acting PMER Manager, email: fadzli.saari@ifrc.org
- **IFRC Geneva:** Christina Duschl, Senior Officer Operations Coordination, email: christina.duschl@ifrc.org

For IFRC Resource Mobilisation and Pledges Support:

- **IFRC Regional Office for Asia Pacific:** Alice Ho, Partnership in Emergencies Coordinator, email: PartnershipsEA.AP@ifrc.org

For In-Kind Donations and Mobilisation Table Support:

- **IFRC Regional Office for Asia Pacific:** Siokkun Jang, Logistics Manager; email: siokkun.jang@ifrc.org

Reference



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