

Situation report #3 | 5 August 2021

Country Overview

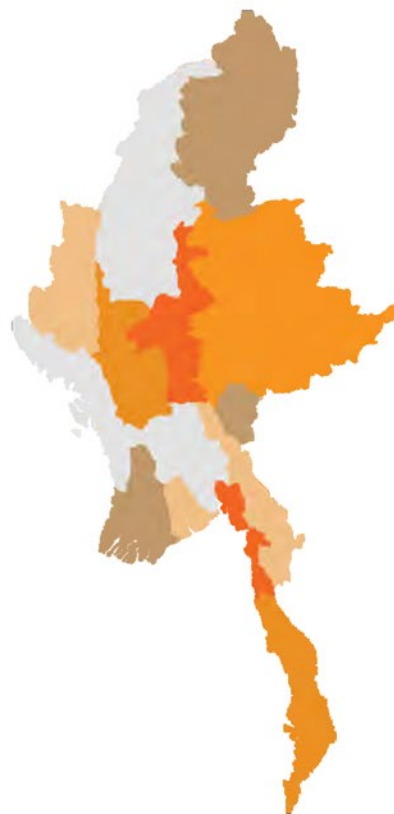
The surge in COVID-19 cases across Myanmar during the reporting period is alarming, with very high daily confirmed cases and fatalities. On 1 August 2021, the Ministry of Health and Sports reported cumulative 302,665 COVID-19 positive cases and 9,731 deaths, and 3,480 new daily cases. It is likely cases and deaths are significantly underreported, as home deaths are not included in released statistics. Despite this, the MoHS reported 3,921 deaths between June 1 and July 25 from COVID-19 related complications, with the Delta variant, becoming the dominant driver of COVID-19 cases. National oxygen shortages have become a serious challenge for COVID-19 patients, who are receiving care at home, as the public weakened healthcare system is overwhelmed by the uptick in COVID-19 positive cases. The fragile public healthcare system, rising pharmaceuticals prices, shortages of medicines and other essentials goods, including personal protective equipment (PPE) and oxygen, is putting a considerable strain on the Myanmar population, especially the most vulnerable who have been struggling to survive for the past 15 months, in the face of COVID-19 pandemic induced economic closures, military takeover, civil unrest and recent floods. Crematoriums in Yangon are reported to be working at full capacity. A recent EU Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (ECHO) daily flash noted that the military's seizure of medical facilities and equipment, the overall state of unrest in Myanmar, the collapse of the economy and the isolation of the country has led to one of the worst humanitarian catastrophes in the world, now compounded by COVID-19 pandemic. In response, the European Commission has mobilised an additional €2 million in emergency assistance to actions helping to fight the pandemic in the country.

The World Bank has warned in a recently published report that Myanmar's economy is expected to shrink by 18 percent this year with damaging implications for lives, livelihoods, poverty and future growth due to the dual crises of the February 1 military takeover and the third wave of COVID-19.

The report also warned that one million jobs could be lost this year and the number of Myanmar people living in poverty is expected to more than double by the beginning of 2022 compared to 2019 levels.

As of 16 July, 2021 there are 220,000 people displaced internally due to the armed clashes and insecurity since 1 February 2021. Myanmar's humanitarian situation is in a downward spiral with three million people in need of humanitarian assistance and protection services across the country.

Response Myanmar



World Vision is responding to the humanitarian crisis in 40 townships and is appealing USD 2 million to reach 1,115,000 people including 262,000 children and 162,500 IDPs

Key concerns

- 1 million** potential job losses
- 3 million** People in need of humanitarian assistance
- 25 million** people, half of the country's population, risks falling into poverty by 2022.
- 220,000** Internally displaced people since 1 February 2021
- 22,000** Estimated refugee movements to neighbouring countries since 1 February 2021
- 302,665** COVID-19 confirmed cases as of 1 August 2021

Source: UNHCR, UNOCHA, UNDP, WFP, MOHS, World Bank, ECHO, EU



Goal: To provide life-saving services and goods to crisis-affected children, households and communities in Myanmar in order to reduce the impact of the deteriorating living conditions.

Strategic objectives



Life-saving interventions
(food, cash, water, nutrition support)



Child protection in emergencies
(child protection, education kits)



Recovery interventions
(agriculture kits, livestock, loans)



COVID prevention / response
(Awareness and kit distributions)

Program Updates



Child Protection

1,299

people including 678 vulnerable children received awareness on child protection, child rights, mental health and psychosocial support

2,544

people including 850 children and youths received trainings on reporting and responding to child cases, human trafficking and parenting education

609

families received child protection kits, case support and psychosocial support benefitting 3066 people including 1,535 children



Education

280

parents/caregivers including 106 vulnerable children received education awareness and trainings on home schooling and reading

179

most vulnerable children (MVC) able to continue home-based learning through the provision of educational kits



Food Security

12,267

vulnerable households supported to feed and care for 51,551 family members including 20,745 MVC through food assistance



Health, Nutrition and WASH

2,194

vulnerable household representatives received health education awareness on COVID- 19, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, Nutrition and General Health Care

51,755

individuals including 18,276 MVC received health support (iron tablets, COVID-19 prevention equipments like masks, gloves and hand sanitizers)

28,824

people including 12,623 vulnerable children from 6,184 target village and temporary IDP places in Demoso, Kayah State received basic medicine.



Livelihoods

827

vulnerable households supported to sustain livelihoods for 4,444 vulnerable people including 1,475 MVC through the provision of agricultural inputs (crop kits, vegetable kits, fishing kits)

53

vulnerable families covering 162 household members able to sustain their livelihood and maintain food security through the provision of livestock (chicken, pigs, goats, etc.)

134

members from 94 vulnerable households received saving training



Security Challenges

- Myanmar country context is still very challenging in the social, political, security, conflict, and humanitarian spaces.
- Humanitarian agencies are unable to adequately assist the conflict-affected and displaced people due to security and access restrictions.
- The compounded effect of the coup and COVID-19 pandemic has turned up into a complex disaster.

Operational Challenges

- All INGOs operating in Tanintharyi Region have been ordered by the authorities to suspend their operations. WV Myanmar together with other INGOs were affected and
- The fighting between the military and civilian armed group continues in Kayah State and our operations have been disrupted.
- Cash shortage remains one of the biggest challenges in all operations across the country.
- Due to the rapid rise COVID-19 positive cases and restrictions by township authorities, our Area Programmes have had to slow down or temporarily suspend most program implementations including response activities.

We would like to thank our generous child sponsors, donors, partners, and supporters whose contributions make this work possible.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Grenville Hopkinson
National Director | World Vision Myanmar
E: Grenville_Hopkinson@wvi.org | P: + 44 7454 741909
Skype: Grenville.hopkinson

Win Zaw Khin
Response Manager | World Vision Myanmar
E: Win_Zaw_Khin@wvi.org | P: + 959 253 279 737
Skype: winzawkhin

Nyein Thaw Htoo
Communications Manager | World Vision Myanmar
E: nyein_thaw_htoo@wvi.org | P: +959 976 259 587
Skype: nyeinthawhtoo