



SITUATION REPORT

The Floods Response Regional Shelter Cluster Coordination Team has prepared this situation report

Version: Sunday 16 August 2015

Because the needs, responses and gaps are constantly evolving this situation report will be updated each Monday

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this report

- To identify current needs, responses and gaps as well as emerging constraints and opportunities
- To brief stakeholders on the status and activities of the Floods Response Shelter Cluster
- To record the activities of the Shelter Cluster (SC) and Shelter Cluster Coordination Team (SCT)

1.2 Cluster arrangements

There is a standing shelter cluster in Myanmar supported by UNHCR. The primary focus has been on the states of Kachin and Rakhine with particular emphasis on camp coordination.

The recent floods have heavily affected Rakhine and many areas beyond these two states. IFRC has deployed two cluster coordinators for up to four months to assist with the floods response and they will restrict their activities to areas outside Rakhine and Kachin.

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This coordination response will harmonize with the standing cluster. Decisions on whether to insert this into regular cluster meetings or add a working group specific to flood response will be decided in next days.

A full cluster activation for the floods emergency has not been implemented and as such the SCT will work with existing structures.

2 Summary of current needs, (as perceived by the SCT)

2.1 Assessments results

Both government and agencies are conducting assessments and there are wide variations in the summaries of damages (to shelter). UN OCHA IM is currently attempting to consolidate and cross reference assessment results as they are available.

Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU) has a dedicated flood response page and this has extensive mapping of the flooding but no dedicated shelter component, although this is underway.

Data from governmental sources suggest that there are 16,578 “houses” collapsed or destroyed in all the country as of 12 of August 2015. Excluding Rakhine (10,872 houses), Kachin (50 houses) and Shan (107), 7 others States/Regions of concern for the SCT have been affected: Magway (2710), Chin (2,296), Ayeyarwady (245), Bago (137), Mandalay



(99), Sagaing (35) and Yangon (27). According to these figures Magway and Chin should be prioritized but other sources suggest that figures in Sagaing are underestimated.

As of 13th August 2015, assessments conducted by the MRCS indicated 2,595 houses destroyed/collapsed in Magway and 2,005 in Chin, which is a bit lower than the governmental figures but still in the same range. Figures for Sagaing will have to be crosschecked.

2.2 Extent of impact

Anecdotal reports suggest that the impact of floods has been more severe where water was moving faster. There are also reports of significant landslide damage, which may lead to permanent displacement. These may include:

- Chin state (very mountainous with significant road damage)
- Kale (Western Sagaing)
- Western Magway

Current figures of houses collapsed or destroyed by States/Regions indicate that these mountainous areas where landslides or acceleration of water occurred are the most affected in the area of concern for the SC

2.3 Movement of flood waters

Floodwaters have moved as far south as Yangon district and the Ayeyarwady delta but damage reports in these areas are not confirmed.

2.4 Shelter needs

The SCT is contacting partners to identify shelter needs.

2.5 Other sector needs

Anecdotal reports indicate significant and predictable wash needs. Food security is of particular concern as farmland has been inundated during the critical wet season planting period.

3 Summary of current shelter response, (as perceived by the SCT)

3.1 Clusters in Myanmar

There are some established (standing) clusters established and other sector working groups. These will be detailed in the next Sit Rep

3.2 Shelter partners response

Shelter partner activities are not yet clear however MRCS has reached 1,780 households in Sagaing, 1,100 in Magway and 722 in Chin. Repairs tool kits have been distributed to 192 HH in Sagaing. Tarpaulins: 510 in Sagaing, 120 in Magway and 277 in Chin.

It is understood that other INGO, and NGO, and in particular civil society have been responding but the extent of this is unknown at this point.



3.3 Government response

Data from government sources as of 12th of August indicates that 150,000 US\$ (149,850,000 kyats) have been provided/delivered for Shelter and approximately 300,000 US\$ for NFI in all country.

Magway has received 100,000 US\$ for Shelter and 57,000 US\$ for NFI. Sagaing has received 1,750 US\$ for Shelter and 34,000 US\$ for NFI. No figures of any distribution for Chin at this stage.

It is not clear at this point if this is all government expenditure

It is understood that there has been a very active government response including extensive evacuations and assessments by relevant departments including GAD and RRD. The somewhat new Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Naypyidaw has been activated.

3.4 Other actors

As mentioned above and in line with Myanmar culture there has been a substantial civil response with for example buses travelling from Yangon with supplies. Tragically there have been some floodwater deaths in these groups. It is probable that most of this support will have been NFI.

4 Gaps

4.1 Assessment and response

Without assessment and response analysis it is difficult to identify gaps but initial target groups include:

- Households displaced by landslide
- Areas affected by damage to access
- Those whose livelihoods and food security have been deeply affected and so will have challenges effecting recovery

4.2 Reporting

As the current cluster arrangements are focused in the two states of Kachin and Rakhine there is no obvious shelter cluster reporting mechanism. This will be urgently addressed. MIMU has issued a template direct to implementing partners that includes shelter and these results may be available in next days/weeks

5 Shelter Cluster Flood Coordination Team initial activities

5.1 Integration with existing cluster arrangements

As indicated above the SCT team will harmonize with the standing Myanmar shelter cluster. As well as this the team will work closely with key clusters or working groups (in particular Wash, Food security, and Protection) and contribute to inter cluster coordination.



5.2 Cluster partners

The SCT is compiling a contact list of all stakeholders who are expected to engage in the floods response and will email situation reports and other key information to these parties. Stakeholders at this point include:

- Government (National, State, Region and Township) including: General administration Department (GAD), Relief and Resettlement Department (RRD), Naypyidaw Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)
- UN Agencies including: UNOCHA, UNICEF, UN Habitat, UNICEF, MIMU
- INGO
- NGO

5.3 Regional coordination

As most INGO and UN agencies are headquartered in Yangon the initial plan is to base the team in the IFRC secretariat leaving one coordinator in Yangon whilst the other (in rotation) travels to the field. As soon as the floods cluster is up and running (within next 2 -3 days) and there is clearer understanding of most affected areas a regional coordination plan will be established. Initial thinking is to seek partners to act as focal points in key areas and also to consider regional cluster coordination meetings. A regional hub has been considered but opinions from stakeholders as to where this would be usefully located vary. This discussion will be revisited in the next weeks.

5.4 Information management

IM capacity within shelter partners is very limited. IFRC is currently providing remote support and attempting to locate additional capacity. It is not clear whether the existing shelter cluster reporting template will suit the floods response. This to be discussed ASAP. The consolidation of assessments and design of additional assessment may also require strong IM input.

5.5 Field visits

The regional coordinator (1) plans to travel this coming week to Kale and potentially Chin. The coordinators will probably take alternate field trips with the next target area being Western Magway.

5.6 Strategy

The team intends to establish a strategic advisory group as quickly as possible and in the mean time is developing a list of key points for inclusion as well as reviewing recent shelter cluster strategies (e.g. Nepal)

5.7 Assessments

Assessments of several types are currently being conducted for example DALA by MRCS and a modified MIRA by others. A high priority is to as much as possible consolidate these and identify gaps. This sit rep has been produced several weeks after the flooding began and so recovery assessment will be a high priority. However it is worth noting that floodwaters are still moving and so the affected areas are unfolding.

5.8 Technical Standards

A technical working group (TWIG) will be established if required but there is considerable existing knowledge and assets so this will be reviewed by the SAG.



5.9 Training/EIC/DRR

TBA

5.10 Cross-cutting issues

Immediate cross cutting/multi sector concerns are as follows

- Wash: Need for drinking water due to well and pond inundation and for adequate sanitation facilities. The shelter cluster can advocate for and include wash in shelter responses
- Food security: Floodwaters have extensively damaged farmland right in the critical planting period and there is a very short window of opportunity for useful input. There are strong suggestions that cash programming may assist this and the shelter cluster may be able to insert cash into some recovery programs

5.11 Early recovery

Previous experience in Myanmar suggests that households have strong resilience and capacity for shelter reconstruction. Recovery needs will be established by future assessment and general information gathering.

5.12 Drawing on lessons learned

There is extensive material from cyclone Nargis and more recently from the Nepal response in particular. The SCT is working to draw on these resources

5.13 Additional coordination resources required

IM support is certainly required and deeper experience on cash programming might be called for.

6 Conclusion/summary

6.1 Immediate impressions

- Flood waters have moved from north to south and as they recede many households are returning
- New areas in the south may need support
- Some areas have suffered greater damage due to flood speed, landslides etc.
- Government is making a strong response
- There are a limited number of INGO
- There has been a large civil and NGO response
- The extent of damage and impact is very unclear with widely varying assessment data
- Livelihoods (planting season) is a significant concern
- Shelter programming should integrate with other key sectors: Food security, Wash, Protection

6.2 Immediate actions

- Identify and connect with partners
- Establish cluster structure
- Travel to key affected areas



- Review assessments
- Develop a simple damage/needs summary
- Determine resources available
- Link to damage areas/gaps
- Develop applicable standards: Cash, emergency shelter, repair kits
- Assemble technical guidance
- Review applicable lessons learned
- Discuss IM harmonization with existing shelter cluster