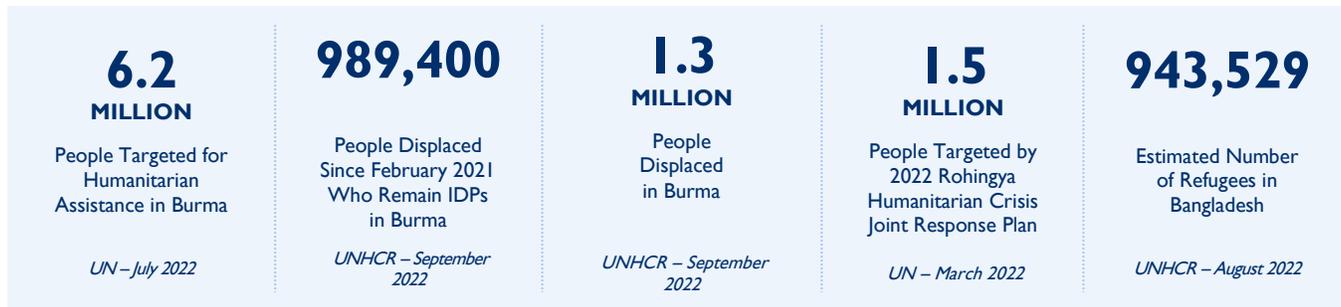


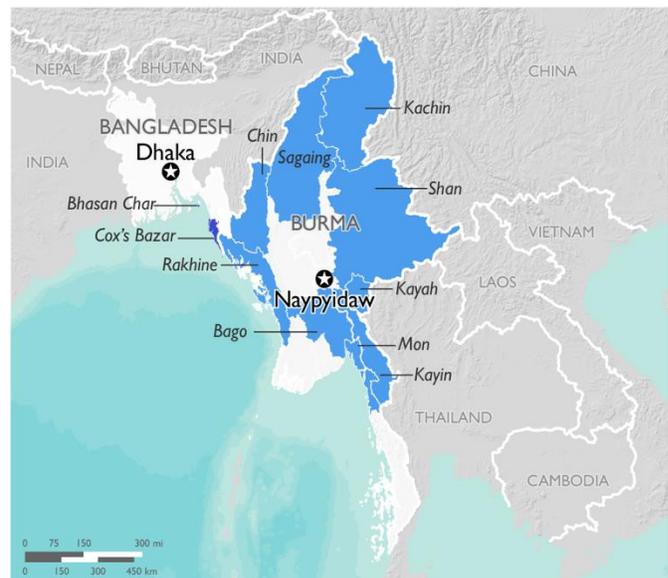
Burma and Bangladesh – Regional Crisis Response

SEPTEMBER 29, 2022

SITUATION AT A GLANCE



- USAID Deputy Administrator Isobel Coleman announced an additional \$170 million in USG funding for the Burma and Bangladesh regional crisis response, including more than \$77 million from USAID/BHA and more than \$93 million from State/PRM at a high-level UN General Assembly event on the Rohingya refugee crisis on September 22.
- Hostilities between the MAF and AA have escalated since mid-June, ending a ceasefire that had been in place since November 2020. Nearly 8,800 people have been newly displaced by the renewed fighting as of September 21, according to the UN.
- Conflict, increased prices, and supply chain disruptions continue to challenge food security conditions and livelihood opportunities throughout Burma.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING For the Burma and Bangladesh Response in FY 2022	USAID/BHA ¹	\$193,908,223
	State/PRM ²	\$169,219,112
Total		\$363,127,335

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 7

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

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

US Announces \$170 Million in Funding for the Burma and Bangladesh Regional Crisis Response

During a high-level UN General Assembly event on the Rohingya refugee crisis on September 22, USAID Deputy Administrator Coleman announced an additional \$170 million in U.S. Government (USG) funding for the response, including more than \$77 million from USAID/BHA and more than \$93 million from State/PRM. The \$77 million in new USAID/BHA funding will support partner organizations to continue providing disaster risk reduction policy and practice (DRRPP), economic recovery and market systems (ERMS), food, health, humanitarian coordination, information management, and assessments (HCIMA), nutrition, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support to internally displaced persons (IDPs) throughout Burma, as well as to Rohingya refugees and host communities in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar District. The \$93 million in new State/PRM funding supports partner organizations in all sectors of the Rohingya refugee response in Bangladesh, including education, food security, health, humanitarian coordination, logistics, nutrition, protection, shelter and non-food items, site management and site development, risk management, and WASH. State/PRM funding also supports refugees from Burma in India, Indonesia, and Thailand. Since 2017, the USG has provided nearly \$1.9 billion in humanitarian assistance for the Burma and Bangladesh Regional Response.

Renewed MAF and AA Hostilities Displace 8,800 in Chin and Rakhine States

Fighting between the Myanmar Armed Forces (MAF) and the Arakan Army (AA) in Chin and Rakhine states has escalated since mid-June, displacing nearly 8,800 people as of September 21, according to the UN. The renewed fighting brings the total number of IDPs in Chin and Rakhine to approximately 83,000 people and ends a temporary ceasefire in Rakhine that had been in place since November 2020. Recent clashes have been most severe in Buthidaung, Maungdaw, Mrauk-U, and Rathedaung townships in Rakhine, as well as Paletwa township in Chin.

Since the resumption of hostilities, both the MAF and AA have closed roads, established and increased scrutiny at military checkpoints, and implemented curfews in IDP camps in Rakhine, restricting humanitarian operations throughout the state. Additionally, on September 15, MAF authorities notified humanitarian partners that access to six townships in Rakhine would be blocked until further notice. Despite these restrictions, international and local non-governmental organizations (NGOs)—including USAID/BHA partner organizations—continue to provide humanitarian assistance to displaced people, such as cash transfers for food and in-kind food assistance, hygiene supplies, multipurpose cash assistance (MPCA), shelter materials, and other relief items.

Conflict, Increased Prices, and Supply Chain Disruptions Challenge Food Security and Livelihoods Throughout Burma

An estimated 13.2 million people in Burma are experiencing food insecurity as of mid-June, according to the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The devaluation of Burma's currency, ongoing fighting, rising prices, and shortages of food, fuel, and other essential items due to supply chain disruptions have exacerbated humanitarian needs and worsened food security throughout the country. Rice prices increased by 50 percent between June and August due to currency devaluation and shortages, acutely impacting low-income households, the UN World Food Program (WFP) reports. In response to rising prices and food insecurity, vulnerable households have resorted to negative coping strategies, such as the premature sale of livestock and other assets, according to a July FAO and WFP joint food security and livelihoods assessment.

Additionally, 61 percent of assessed households reported experiencing at least one shock—such as employment loss, high fuel and food prices, lack of access to agricultural land due to insecurity, sickness or death, and violence—during the assessment period, and 59 percent of surveyed households experienced a reduction in income compared with 2021. In response to the ongoing humanitarian needs throughout Burma, USG partners continue to provide cash transfers for food, health, in-kind food, MPCA, nutrition, protection, shelter, and WASH assistance.

Monsoon Rains Damage or Destroy Nearly 15,800 Shelters in Cox’s Bazar

Monsoon rains, storms, and winds, including more than 32 inches of rain between early June and early September, have affected more than 70,000 refugees in Cox’s Bazar. The monsoon weather has resulted in one fatality, secondary displacement for approximately 350 refugees, and more than 17,000 refugee shelters damaged or destroyed in Cox’s Bazar between mid-May and early September, according to the UN Inter-Sector Coordination Group. In response, relief actors, including USG partner organizations, have provided more than 17,000 affected households with humanitarian assistance, including distributing shelter materials—such as bamboo, jute bags, tarpaulins, and rope—and providing individuals with shelter repair and WASH services. Additionally, USAID/BHA partner WFP is working to mitigate the impacts of monsoon conditions through DRRPP programming, including through the construction of pedestrian pathways, roads, and stairs throughout Cox’s Bazar.

USG Partners Provide Multi-Sector Support to Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh

In response to the acute need for health care services for populations in and around Cox’s Bazar, State/PRM partner the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) completed the construction of and provided equipment to the Ukhiya Specialized Hospital, located in Ukhiya *upazila*—or sub-district—in early July. Since the hospital’s opening, medical staff have treated approximately 100 patients daily.

Additionally, cases of dengue fever among Rohingya refugees in Cox’s Bazar have increased significantly compared with 2021. Health care providers in Cox’s Bazar treated approximately 7,700 cases of dengue fever from January to July 2022, according to UNHCR. In comparison, there were approximately 1,500 reported cases of dengue fever among Rohingya refugees in Cox’s Bazar over a similar time period in 2021, according to the UN World Health Organization (WHO). In efforts to prevent further dengue cases, UNHCR has led camp cleaning and dengue prevention campaigns, including household visits, hygiene promotion activities, and public messaging on dengue fever prevention throughout Cox’s Bazar.

USG partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) has also partnered with members of the Rohingya community in Cox’s Bazar to launch the Rohingya Cultural Memory Center (RCMC). The RCMC plans to comprehensively document and preserve the heritage of Rohingya through a digital archive, interactive gallery, online community space, and web-based exhibition. According to IOM, three-quarters of Rohingya refugees have named identity crisis as a contributing factor to their loss of well-being. By launching the RCMC, IOM and its Rohingya community partners aim to preserve and strengthen Rohingya culture and identity.

With USAID/BHA support, WFP has begun to provide nutrition assistance to refugees on Bhasan Char, a silt island in the Bay of Bengal. WFP has admitted several pregnant and lactating women (PLW) experiencing wasting—the deadliest form of malnutrition—to its targeted supplementary feeding

program from mid-to-late July. Additionally, WFP has reached more than 1,100 PLW and 5,100 children ages five years and younger with its general supplementary feeding program on Bhasan Char during the same time period and will continue the general supplementary feeding program with USAID support.

KEY FIGURES



**\$140.4
Million**

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



12

USG partners
implementing stand-
alone protection
interventions in FY 2022



70,000

Households received tie-
down kits from USG
partners for cyclone and
monsoon prevention

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports WFP to provide emergency food assistance—including cash transfers for food; food vouchers; and in-kind food assistance through local, regional, and international procurement (LRIP)—to populations in Burma and Bangladesh. In addition, USAID/BHA supports coordination and capacity-building activities among food security agencies in the two countries to strengthen response efforts. Meanwhile, State/PRM supports IOM, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), UNHCR, and NGO partners to deliver complementary livelihood and nutrition services to vulnerable individuals in Bangladesh.

PROTECTION

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support 12 partners to address protection concerns among displaced and violence-affected populations throughout Burma; 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 gender-based violence prevention and response, 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.

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 and infrastructure rehabilitation in host communities in Bandarban and Cox’s Bazar 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 resilience of shelters to natural disasters. In coordination with local partners, UNHCR continues to implement protection-sensitive shelter reconstruction in Rakhine by considering IDPs’ specific needs.



13

USG partners
implementing critical
WASH programming in
FY 2022

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 among vulnerable children and mothers. With State/PRM funding, BRAC USA, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), IOM, Terre des Hommes Foundation, 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 coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and other communicable diseases.

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 2021, clashes between the MAF, ethnic armed organizations, 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 USG 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 943,000 people had fled Burma since August 2017 into neighboring Bangladesh and taken shelter in Cox's Bazar's 34 refugee camps as of August 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. Additionally, the Government of Bangladesh relocated more than 26,900 refugees from Cox's Bazar to Bhasan Char—a silt island in the Bay of Bengal—between November 2020 and June 2022.
- 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 2022. In addition, approximately 78,000 civilians, mostly ethnic Rakhine, remained displaced in Rakhine and Chin states as mid-March 2022 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. Ambassador Thomas L. Vajda re-issued a declaration of humanitarian need/disaster declaration for Burma due to the ongoing complex emergency.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA–BANGLADESH RESPONSE IN FY 2022^{3,4}

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
FUNDING IN BURMA FOR THE REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE			
USAID/BHA			
IOM	HCIMA, Health, MPCA, Protection; Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Chin, Magway, Sagaing	\$3,600,000
UNICEF	Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Chin, Kayah, Kayin, Magway, Rakhine, Sagaing, Shan, Tanintharyi	\$4,000,000
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
WFP	Food Assistance–Cash Transfers, LRIP, Nutrition	Chin, Kayah, Kayin, Rakhine, Magway, Rakhine, Sagaing, Shan	\$44,000,000
Implementing Partners	ERMS, Food Assistance–LRIP, HCIMA, Health, MPCA, Nutrition, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Bago, Chin, Kachin, Kayah, Kayin, Magaway, Mon, Sagaing, Shan, Rakhine, Tanintharyi	\$17,699,317
	Program Support	Countrywide	\$57,212
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN BURMA			\$70,556,529
STATE/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Humanitarian Assistance - Multi-Sector	Countrywide	\$11,200,000
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance - Multi-Sector	Countrywide	\$9,100,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN Burma			\$20,300,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING IN BURMA			\$90,856,529
FUNDING IN BANGLADESH FOR THE REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE			
USAID/BHA			
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	DRRPP	Cox's Bazar	\$313,219
IRC	DRRPP, Protection	Cox's Bazar	\$1,000,000
UNICEF	Nutrition	Cox's Bazar	\$2,000,000
WFP	DRRPP, ERMS, Food Assistance–International Procurement and Food Vouchers, HCIMA, Nutrition	Cox's Bazar	\$120,000,000
	Program Support	Countrywide	\$38,475
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING IN BANGLADESH			\$123,351,694
STATE/PRM			
BRAC USA	HCIMA, Nutrition, WASH	Cox's Bazar	\$2,010,000
Humanity & Inclusion	Health, Protection	Cox's Bazar	\$4,500,000
ICRC	Humanitarian Assistance - Multi-Sector	Cox's Bazar	\$4,000,000
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), COVID-19 Response, ERMS, HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support, Monitoring and Evaluation, Protection, RMPP, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Cox's Bazar	\$25,600,000
IRC	HCIMA, Health, Nutrition, Protection	Cox's Bazar	\$6,893,434
Terre des Hommes Foundation	Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Cox's Bazar	\$3,970,678
UNDP	DRPPP, HCIMA, Protection	Cox's Bazar	\$1,650,000
UNICEF	COVID-19 Response, Education, HCIMA, Health, Monitoring and Evaluation, Nutrition, Protection, RMPP, WASH	Cox's Bazar	\$30,200,000
UN Population Fund (UNFPA)	COVID-19 Response, Health, Protection	Cox's Bazar	\$5,700,000
UNHCR	CCCM, COVID-19 Response, Education, Food Assistance, HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support, Monitoring and Evaluation, Nutrition, Protection, RMPP, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Cox's Bazar	\$45,600,000
WHO	COVID-19 Response, HCIMA, Health, Logistics Support	Cox's Bazar	\$2,500,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN BANGLADESH			\$142,624,112
TOTAL USG FUNDING IN BANGLADESH			\$265,975,806
REGIONAL FUNDING FOR THE BURMA AND BANGLADESH REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE⁵			
STATE/PRM			
The Ara Trust	Humanitarian Assistance - Multi-Sector	India	\$175,000
IOM	Humanitarian Assistance - Multi-Sector	Indonesia	\$500,000
	Humanitarian Assistance - Multi-Sector	Thailand	\$600,000
Jesuit Refugee Service USA	Humanitarian Assistance - Multi-Sector	Thailand	\$120,000
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance - Multi-Sector	Regional	\$4,900,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM REGIONAL FUNDING			\$6,295,000
TOTAL USG REGIONAL FUNDING			\$6,295,000
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING FOR BURMA AND BANGLADESH IN FY 2022			\$193,908,223
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR BURMA AND BANGLADESH IN FY 2022			\$169,219,112
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA AND BANGLADESH RESPONSE IN FY 2022⁶			\$363,127,335

³Year 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.

⁴Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change.

⁵Figures include Ukraine second 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 September 22, 2022.

⁶USG funding for populations in Burma and Bangladesh affected by the violence in Rakhine totals nearly \$1.9 billion—including more than \$1.5 billion in Bangladesh and more than \$353 million in Burma—since the outbreak of violence in August 2017. This includes more than \$983 million in State/PRM funding and more than \$905 million in USAID/BHA funding for populations affected by the violence in Rakhine and other vulnerable populations. USG funding represents publicly announced funding as of September 22, 2022.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- 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://www.interaction.org).
- 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.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://www.cidi.org)
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://www.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)