



Red Cross Volunteers support the search and rescue and evacuation process for affected community in Bago region (Photo: MRCS)

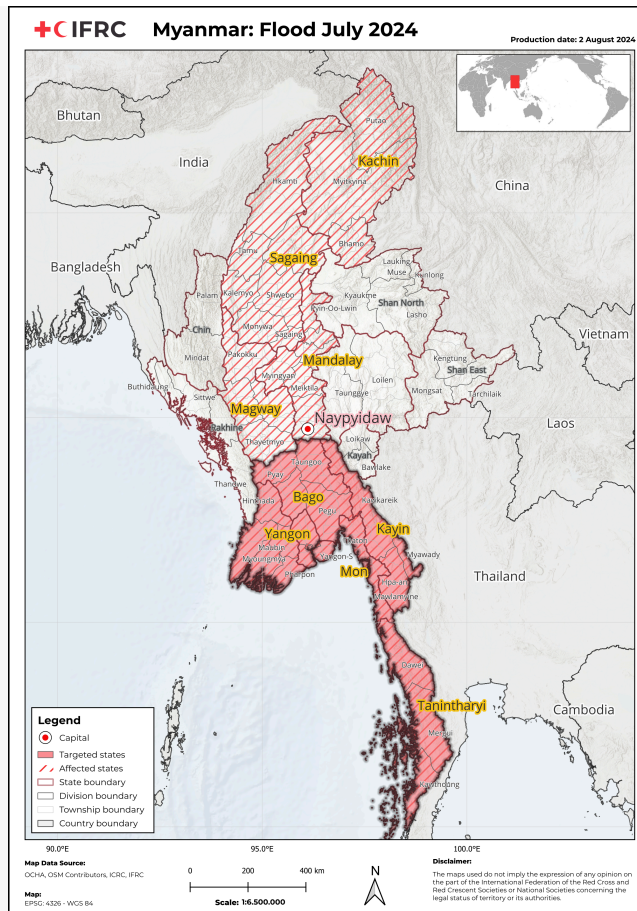
Appeal: MDRMM020	Country: Myanmar	Hazard: Flood	Type of DREF: Response
Crisis Category: Orange	Event Onset: Sudden	DREF Allocation: CHF 825,215	
Glide Number: FL-2024-000104-MMR	People Affected: 106,792 people	People Targeted: 15,000 people	
Operation Start Date: 09-08-2024	Operation Timeframe: 9 months	Operation End Date: 31-05-2025	DREF Published: 10-08-2024

Targeted Areas: **Ayeyarwady, Bago Region (East), Kayin, Mon, Tanintharyi, Yangon, Bago Region (West)**

Description of the Event

Date of event

29-07-2024



What happened, where and when?

The monsoon rains in Myanmar have led to severe flooding in multiple rivers and waterways throughout the country. The Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) has been responding since the start of the floods in the northern part of the country on 30 June 2024. Due to the ongoing flooding in all of the main rivers and several smaller waterways and tributaries throughout the country, the MRCS's capacities have been overwhelmed and now require additional support.

On 30 June 2024, heavy rainfall began affecting northern Myanmar, particularly Kachin State, leading to floods and river overflows, notably in the Ayeyarwady River. This resulted in population displacement and damage, impacting an estimated 45 wards and 29 villages in Kachin State.

On 1 July 2024, the MRCS national Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) received limited information from the MRCS Kachin branch. That day's report (9:30 AM) indicated that the Ayeyarwady River water level in Myitkyina had risen above the danger level by more than four feet (about 122 cm) and continued to rise at about three inches (7.6 cm) per hour. The water level reached 1.3 metres (4.2 feet) above the danger mark within 12 hours. Low-lying areas in Myitkyina were flooded, and displaced families from the Lekon neighbourhood, who had relocated due to violence and conflict, faced compounded challenges.

On 7 July 2024, the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) reported significant rises in the water levels in additional locations in the country. This included ongoing increases of water levels in the Ayeyarwady and Chindwin Rivers and the Nant Yin Chaung and Nant Kaung Chaung Rivers at critical levels. Residents of several townships in Kachin, Mandalay, and Sagaing regions were advised to take extra precautions.

By 11 July 2024, floods affected several townships in the Magway region, Mandalay region, and townships in northern Shan State. The Department of Disaster Management (DDM) of the Ministry of Social Welfare reported that at least 31,000 people were evacuated due to floods in Kachin State and the Sagaing, Magway, and Mandalay regions. The floods led to the death of at least one child in Hkamti,



Sagaing, and five people in Myitkyina, Kachin. However, another source reported no flood-related deaths and injuries. Discrepancies in reporting may be due to significant access challenges caused by ongoing flooding, rainfall, and pre-existing violence and conflict.

On 25 July 2024, the DMH issued flood advisories for several regions in lower Myanmar in response to rising water levels moving downstream. The affected areas include Kayin state, Mon state, Bago state, and Ayeyarwady region.

As of late July 2024, Sagaing and Magway regions are experiencing severe flooding due to the overflow of the Chindwin and Ayeyarwady Rivers. Heavy rainfall in central Myanmar has exacerbated the situation, causing widespread damage to agricultural lands and displacing residents. As of 1 August, river levels were still on the rise, posing a significant threat to communities living along the banks of multiple waterways in central and lower Myanmar.

The water levels in major rivers such as the Ayeyarwady, Sittoung, Thanlwin, Bilin, Shwegyin, Ngawun, and Bago have surpassed danger thresholds and causing extensive flooding across multiple regions in lower Myanmar.

On 29 July 2024, surges of the Hlaing and Bawlae Rivers in the Yangon region caused significant flooding in Taikkyi and Kungyangon townships, which are located in the far north and south, respectively of the region. Approximately 3,000 residents from 640 households in three village tracts in Taikkyi township have been affected. In Kungyangon township, over 9,000 people from 29 villages have been evacuated to the Sasana Hitakayi Monastery, according to reports from MITV.

Due to ongoing monsoon rains, widespread flooding continues to be reported at different locations along the main rivers, affecting the Ayeyarwady delta, Rakhine, Mon, Tanintharyi coastal areas, and regions including Yangon and Bago. This situation is exacerbated by Typhoon Gaemi, which struck Taiwan with wind speeds of 127 mph on 25 July. The residual clouds from the typhoon moved towards Myanmar, Thailand, and China, potentially generating further flooding and heavy rainfall in these regions.



Red Cross Volunteers evacuating flood-affected communities to safe place in Tanintharyi Region, 30 July 2024 (Photo: MRCS)



Red Cross Volunteers evacuating flood-affected communities to safe place in Myintkyina, Kachin State, 1 July 2024 (Photo: MRCS)

Scope and Scale

The MRCS national Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) on 2 August 2024, reported 106,792 affected people or approximately 33,130 households (HHs) from Kachin, Magway, Mandalay, Kayin, Bago (East & West), Yangon, Ayeyarwady, Mon and Tanintharyi states/ regions due to the monsoon-caused floods. Both rural and urban populations in these states and regions are affected by flooding.

In Upper Myanmar, encompassing Kachin, Magway, and Mandalay, water levels have subsided as these areas were affected by flooding earlier than other regions. The MRCS promptly mobilized resources to these areas during the initial flooding.

However, by 29 July, central and lower Myanmar, including this IFRC-DREF operation's target areas, Kayin, Bago (East & West), Yangon, Ayeyarwady, Mon and Tanintharyi, continue to experience significant flooding. There are 77,129 people reported to be affected by the flood in these 6 regions. Looking at the flood water level and population density in the affected areas combined with pre-existing data, MRCS projects that the affected populations in these target areas will need essential household items (includes emergency shelter support), food, drinking water, essential WASH items and health support, including health and hygiene promotion. More detailed impact and needs will be available with rapid needs assessments.

Populations affected by this monsoon flooding faced prior situations of vulnerability. A July 2024 World Bank report, done prior to the current flooding, indicates that poverty levels for all of the currently affected states and region, except Magway, have increased since 2017.

Source Information

Source Name	Source Link
1. MIMU Report Vulnerability in Myanmar 2018	https://themimu.info/node/70635
2. Myanmar Economic Monitor June 2024: Livelihoods Under Threat	https://documents1.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/099061124195517221

Previous Operations

Has a similar event affected the same area(s) in the last 3 years?	Yes
Did it affect the same population group?	No
Did the National Society respond?	-
Did the National Society request funding form DREF for that event(s)	-
If yes, please specify which operation	-

If you have answered yes to all questions above, justify why the use of DREF for a recurrent event, or how this event should not be considered recurrent:

-

Lessons learned:

Following the 2023 IFRC-DREF operation for floods affecting two townships in the Bago and Yangon regions, MRCS identified several challenges. Firstly, MRCS Red Cross Volunteers (RCVs) lacked training in sectors such as Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH), which hindered an effective response. Additionally, MRCS branch-level rescue and evacuation equipment, such as boats, were insufficient to meet the need. Some townships also faced challenges with local coordination.

Some potential target populations were not identified in the final selection process because they were not at home when the assessments were conducted. To address this, mitigation actions such as allocating more time for thorough assessments are recommended.

Although MRCS established a feedback mechanism, feedback was frequently directed to the branch instead of the dedicated Community Engagement and Accountability (CEA) hotline at the national headquarters. It was identified that branch-level CEA focal points require more space for action, such as receiving feedback, effectively communicating it to HQ, and sharing responses with the community in a feedback loop.



To mitigate these issues, several recommendations were proposed. These include creating a checklist and inventory for equipment based on disaster type to improve branch preparedness. The annual Pre-Disaster meeting, held in May 2024, collected and mapped these needs and updated the inventory that MRCS maintains of its warehouse network. This inventory was promptly used when MRCS decided to mobilize items from its central warehouse in Thanlwin (Yangon region) to branches during this current flood event.

It was also recommended that MRCS continuously implement cyclical training opportunities for RCVs to ensure they are better prepared for responses. Other recommendations included increasing community awareness on disaster response and management and creating and using Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) products. These recommendations are integrated into the actions of the current IFRC-DREF operation for the 2024 flood response.

Current National Society Actions

Start date of National Society actions

30-06-2024

<p>Shelter, Housing And Settlements</p>	<p>The MRCS has recent experience in providing emergency shelter guidance and items to people affected by disasters. As of 2 August, MRCS Kayin and Magway Supervisory Committees have distributed essential shelter items, including family kits, shelter tool kits, and tarpaulins, to support affected communities.</p> <p>As part of Cyclone Mocha operation, IFRC has remotely deployed technical expert to support shelter cluster coordination and to train MRCS for PASSA (Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness) that is scheduled for mid-August 2024. This support and training will be leveraged to strengthen MRCS capacity in shelter programming as well will also ensure strong community engagement in safe shelter practices.</p>
<p>Livelihoods And Basic Needs</p>	<p>MRCS has been participating in the distribution of food and clean water from local / domestic donations at all regions that were affected by the flood.</p>
<p>Health</p>	<p>MRCS has been actively providing First Aid services and referrals to hospitals for injuries, pregnant women, and patients in Mon, Kayin, Yangon, Bago, Tanintharyi and Ayeyarwady. As of 2 August, MRCS has distributed 2,100 Oral Rehydration Solutions (ORS) in Magway and 150 small First Aid kits in Kachin to support the health needs of the impacted communities.</p>
<p>Water, Sanitation And Hygiene</p>	<p>MRCS conducted hygiene awareness sessions and demonstrated proper hand-washing techniques in Mon, Kayin, Yangon, Bago, Tanintharyi and Ayeyarwady. In addition, MRCS participated in mud cleaning and the purification of water resources in area mentioned above. As of 2 August, in the Magway region, MRCS had distributed 62 hygiene parcels, 3 hygiene kits, and 50 individual kits. MRCS also continued its efforts in hygiene education by holding further awareness sessions and demonstrating proper hand-washing techniques.</p>
<p>Protection, Gender And Inclusion</p>	<p>MRCS had distributed 50 dignity kits in Magway region.</p>
<p>Migration And Displacement</p>	<p>While this sector is not a focus of this emergency response operation, MRCS is reaching internally displaced people (IDPs) who have been affected by floods.</p>
<p>Community Engagement And Accountability</p>	<p>MRCS is experience in CEA in its operations, including the recent Cyclone Mocha response. The preparedness, and now response, actions in Magway region built on the community trust established via CEA actions as recently as Q1 of 2024.</p>
<p>Coordination</p>	<p>MRCS convened a coordination meeting with all Movement partners in country initially on 5 July 2024 and continued as the development and impact of floods escalated and spread wider to the southern part of the country. MRCS presented an initial plan for immediate response during the early stage of operation. The early recovery and recovery activities were being developed at that time. MRCS also shared the</p>



preparedness measures as the floods and heavy monsoon rains were forecast to affect populations in states and regions downstream in the central and southern parts of the country.

Since then, in-country IFRC network partners and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) offered support.

MRCS coordinates with local authorities and the Department of Disaster Management (DDM) to ensure alignment on rapid needs assessments and accurate collection of displacement and damage data. As the Co-lead of the Emergency Response Preparedness (ERP) Working Group, MRCS coordinates with UN agencies and other humanitarian actors and regularly shares information at the national and local levels through MRCS situation reports and specific meetings.

MRCS is a national member of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) and participates in national and area-level cluster coordinate. MRCS is active in the national CVA working group. IFRC as the observer to HCT and INGO forum supports MRCS in the overall coordination platform, including participating in national and area-specific coordination fora.

Additionally, MRCS has experience in joint assessments and coordinated relief actions with local and international agencies and partners.

At the start of the monsoon floods on 30 June 2024, a GO field report was published, with a second report issued on the recent floods in central and lower Myanmar published on 3 August 2024. Field reports on GO platform were published to allow widely dissemination of disaster update to partners with the support of IFRC Asia Pacific regional office.

National Society Readiness

MRCS has updated its inventory of warehouse stocks across central locations, affected areas, nearby regions/states, and branches. MRCS has prepositioned relief stocks in six states/regions, including the Nay Pyi Taw warehouse, to cover at least 4,226 HHs with emergency shelter assistance and WASH items. In response to the ongoing situation, MRCS has dispatched additional emergency shelter stocks to Kayin, Mon, Bago, and Ayeyarwady, and emergency WASH items to Kayin and Ayeyarwady for the initial response. More essential relief items are planned for dispatch to these areas in the coming weeks.

MRCS has activated its national Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) to monitor forecasts and daily weather updates, which are linked with the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) in Myanmar. These updates are circulated to branches for further dissemination to Red Cross Volunteers (RCVs) on the ground and the community. They are also shared with senior leadership and departments at HQ, along with information on MRCS's readiness for response.

In May 2024, MRCS conducted its annual monsoon pre-disaster meeting, which identified and highlighted gaps in branch readiness and the support required from national HQ. The meeting agreed on readiness activities, including partner support and contributions for preparedness and initial response modalities.

Additionally, MRCS is in the process of finalizing service agreements with several Financial Service Providers (FSPs) as part of its institutional cash readiness.

Assessment

At the start of the monsoon floods, MRCS, as the Co-lead of the Emergency Response Preparedness Working Group (ERP-WG), joined the Rapid Needs Assessment in Kachin with OCHA. This partnership allows MRCS to leverage combined expertise and resources, resulting in thorough and accurate data collection on the ground.

MRCS is planning to conduct needs assessment in other affected regions in the coming weeks to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the situation and to address the needs effectively.



	<p>MRCS continues receiving updated damage and impact data from branches from their rapid assessment and field observation that is used as the basis of developing their response plan and this IFRC-DREF operational strategy.</p>
Resource Mobilization	<p>As of 31 July 2024, 236 Red Cross Volunteers (RCVs) across 17 townships have been mobilized to support search and rescue, evacuation, and response activities.</p> <p>MRCS has completed dispatching priority non-food items to its warehouses in the affected areas, with the exception of Kachin and Kayin States that is still ongoing. At least 236 Red Cross Volunteers (RCVs) across 17 townships in all affected branches have been mobilized to support search and rescue, evacuation, and response activities as of 31 July 2024. MRCS deployed Emergency Management Fund (EMF) to be utilized by the responding branches for initial response activities. National HQ has been dispatching relief items for emergency shelter and WASH-related items to branches, including for Kachin and Kayin States that are still ongoing.</p> <p>MRCS has been receiving supports both from domestic partners and in-country Movement partners. Cash assistance is planned to assist at least 5,500 affected HHS, of which 3,000 HHS will be funded through this IFRC-DREF and the remaining to be supported by the Danish Red Cross and German Red Cross.</p>
National Society EOC	<p>MRCS has EOC in its national HQ and regional offices. From the beginning of monsoon season in June 2024, the national EOC was activated, followed by the EOC in Kachin state and other states and regions affected by the monsoon floods to enhance coordination and response efforts.</p> <p>The EOC actively monitors the daily weather situation and collects data from the field (Region/State Red Cross Supervisory Committees and township branches). This data is entered into the Daily Disaster Meta Data system. Based on this information, the EOC prepares situational reports through comprehensive information management and data analysis.</p> <p>The national EOC also disseminates daily flood situation updates from the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) to MRCS leadership, management and technical departments, as well as to the MRCS States/ Regions EOCs and Supervisory Committees and township branches.</p> <p>MRCS also activated its regional/ state EOCs in the flood affected areas to enhance coordination and response efforts at the state/ region level.</p> <p>The national EOC also disseminates updates on daily flood situation from the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) and MRCS response to MRCS leadership, management and technical departments, Movement Partners, as well as to the MRCS States/Regions EOCs and Supervisory Committees and township branches.</p>
Other	<p>MRCS has been actively involved in search and rescue and evacuation operations in the affected areas. In most locations, this has involved the use of MRCS branch-level equipment (boats, buoys and lifejackets) to reach people in situations of vulnerability.</p>

IFRC Network Actions Related To The Current Event

Secretariat	<p>The IFRC Myanmar country delegation (CD) maintains regular coordination with the MRCS, closely monitoring the weather forecast and development of the situation in case response needs to be escalated. IFRC is engaged in initial discussions with MRCS to develop its response plan, of which this DREF operation forms part. Additionally, IFRC CD update on the evolving situation with the IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) in Kuala Lumpur, supports MRCS with GO field reports and disseminates IFRC-network information.</p>
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Participating National Societies

The partner National Societies in country have offered immediate support to the MRCS since the start of the monsoon flooding in Kachin state. The Danish Red Cross confirmed with MRCS to repurpose project resources from the Kachin Special Operations (KSO) to the flood response in Kachin state. Finnish Red Cross and German Red Cross, with IFRC, are supporting MRCS to develop its response plan. As water-borne diseases increase with floods, MRCS counts on the technical input that has recently been provided by Finnish Red Cross, Norwegian Red Cross and Swedish Red Cross to support response efforts related to acute watery diarrhoea. Lastly, MRCS has in-country technical support in Disaster Management, Health, WASH with all in-country partners (National Societies of Denmark, Finland, Germany, Norway and Sweden).

ICRC Actions Related To The Current Event

ICRC sub-delegations in flood-affected areas, in coordination with MRCS HQ, provide support to local MRCS State/Region supervisory committees. Since late June 2024, ICRC supported MRCS flood response in Kachin, in coordination with the Kachin State Supervisory Committee, Kachin Special Operation (KSO) unit and MRCS HQ. In Kachin, in the immediate aftermath of flooding, ICRC donated raincoats, lifejackets, tarpaulins and fuel for the MRCS boat. In July 2024, ICRC donated aqua tablets for MRCS flood response in Kayin, Mon, Tanintharyi, East Bago. Furthermore, ICRC supported MRCS Communication in public awareness messages linked to risks of explosives and flooding. ICRC also offered support towards MRCS focusing on the risks of separation of families during flooding emergency.

Other Actors Actions Related To The Current Event

Government has requested international assistance	No
National authorities	Local authorities lead the response efforts. This includes actions by the Ministry of Social Welfare and its Disaster Management Committee, as well as the Fire and Rescue Department
UN or other actors	<p>UN agencies are active in flood response support actions in different locations in the country. OCHA continues to share information through the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), as well as through the clusters, including area clusters. As mentioned above, OCHA Emergency Response Preparedness Working Group (ERP- WG) and MRCS worked together on a rapid assessment in Kachin state</p> <p>The Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement has provided over 155 million Kyats in cash assistance to over 18,000 flood victims in Magway Region. Additionally, the Bago Region Chief Minister has inspected flood-hit areas and provided aid to over 25,000 people.</p> <p>Bago Region Chief Minister U Myo Swe Win conducted a field inspection in Bago Township to assess the flood situation. He coordinated relief efforts, providing essential items like food, cooking oil, and cash to over 25,000 flood victims in temporary shelters. The Chief Minister also inspected damaged infrastructure and instructed relevant authorities to take necessary actions.</p>

Are there major coordination mechanism in place?

MRCS has established response mechanisms that include strategies for engagement with local stakeholders, including authorities and organisations. In this response and as part of the implementation of its auxiliary role to public authorities in the humanitarian field, MRCS coordinates with the Department of Disaster Management (DDM), the Department of Meteorology and Hydrology (DMH) and local authorities. Additionally, MRCS and IFRC engage on ongoing disaster preparedness coordination as active members of the OCHA and MRCS co-lead Emergency Response Preparedness Working Group.



Needs (Gaps) Identified



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Approximately 74,913 people (14,983 HHs) have been affected by the 2024 monsoon floods in Kayin, Bago (East & West), Yangon, Ayeyarwady, Mon, and Tanintharyi since 26 July 2024. These figures are in addition to those impacted by floods in Kachin, Sagaing, and Magway since as early as 30 June 2024. As of this document's publication, a unified figure on the number of houses damaged or destroyed by the floods, nor the extent of the damages, is not yet available due to challenges in reaching some locations. However, it is expected that many houses have sustained small to medium damages from floodwaters, mud, and debris.

To accommodate displaced families, local authorities have opened 546 temporary shelter centers, including 18 in Bago, 42 in Mon, 477 in Kayin, 7 in Tanintharyi, 1 in Yangon, and 1 in Ayeyarwady. Essential items such as tarpaulins, blankets, hygiene supplies, and solar lamps are urgently needed. Additionally, cleaning services and supplies will be crucial once families return to their homes, as floodwaters often leave behind mud and debris that require extensive cleaning.

MRCS is currently distributing relief items from existing stocks, which will be replenished by this IFRC-DREF operation. The procurement of shelter items for replenishment is regularly sourced internationally, which could take up to six months due to the fluid situation and challenges related to customs and clearance.

Some of the affected areas experience flooding every monsoon season, underscoring the need for strengthened community resilience, particularly in safe shelter awareness. To address this, MRCS has trained trainers among its staff and volunteers to implement the Participatory Approach for Safe Shelter Awareness (PASSA), a participatory disaster risk reduction method focused on shelter safety. This initiative will empower the affected communities with the knowledge and skills necessary to enhance their resilience to future disasters, ensuring they are better prepared to protect their homes and livelihoods.



Livelihoods And Basic Needs

The high-water levels in the affected areas have caused extensive damage to areas used for agricultural production. Although, water has receded in some farm and agricultural areas, crop loss is probable. There is limited precision on the scope of damage to agriculture and crops and particularly on the subsequent humanitarian needs related to the impacts on food security. The widespread floods have already disrupted the planting and harvest seasons: May to September for rice and June to September for maize.

The floods have negatively impacted livelihoods in a country where most people rely on agriculture as their main source of income. This may lead affected individuals to adopt negative coping mechanisms, such as diverting their savings from income-generating activities (like farming), taking high-interest loans, or selling their income-generating assets to meet immediate basic needs, such as food and shelter repair.

Some affected areas are situated in urban settings and/or rural and urban locations where markets remain functional and accessible. MRCS will prioritize providing humanitarian assistance through Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) to support the targeted population to meet their basic needs and contribute to early recovery.



Health

Based on currently available primary and secondary data, evacuated adults and children are currently housed in evacuation centers that are often overcrowded and lack sufficient water and sanitation facilities. MRCS is collaborating with local health authorities to provide basic health services and referrals to hospitals. Currently, MRCS has over 550 volunteers who are highly specialized in First Aid services across the six targeted states/regions; however, only a few are specialized in health and/or emergency WASH.

The affected households are exposed to adverse weather conditions and have insufficient access to health and care services. Floods increase the risk of vector-borne and water-borne diseases such as dengue, malaria, diarrhea, and cholera. Therefore, it is crucial to conduct risk awareness sessions on flood-related health risks to prevent communities from being further burdened by health issues during this time. Concurrently, there has been an increase in cases of Acute Watery Diarrhea (AWD) in the Yangon Region, with 500 cases reported in 41 townships in July 2024, according to the Yangon Regional Health Department. The flooding exacerbates the risk of AWD spreading even more widely.



To address these needs effectively, MRCS requires non-food items (NFIs) to support the health, including Psychosocial Support (PSS), of affected communities and MRCS responders. Additionally, RCVs will need training and refreshers on epidemic preparedness and response to manage the increasing health risks.



Water, Sanitation And Hygiene

Given the nature of the disaster and the potential development of water-borne illnesses, MRCS has identified the need to support affected people's immediate needs, particularly ensuring access to safe and clean water, improving hygiene practices, and distributing hygiene items. While there is no information available on the extent of damage on WASH infrastructure, it is likely that rain and river overflow have flooded and damaged sewers, water sources, latrines and other infrastructure, aggravating existing WASH needs.

The community in Bago region area had requested MRCS Bago branch to activate a Water Purification Unit. This Water Purification Unit was previously used during Cyclone Nargis and provided clean water to surrounding community. At the moment, only two branches (Bago and Mon) equipped with branch-level volunteers who are trained to use the unit. There is a need to enhance RCVs capacity in emergency WASH that will include how to maintain and use this unit.



Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Protection needs remain a concern as many of the affected areas are locations where populations were in prior situations of vulnerability due to the impacts of conflict and violence and/or economic hardship. MRCS regularly uses vulnerability criteria when determining target populations. Additionally, gender- and age-specific actions are incorporated into other sectors, such as health: distribution of dignity kits (that support menstrual hygiene management) and PSS for children.



Migration And Displacement

While MRCS does not plan to implement specific actions in the area of migration, the target population for this IFRC-DREF operation are people who have been evacuated from their place of residence and/or returnees. In some cases, this includes IDPs who were previously displaced prior to the floods. Actions in this area are incorporated into the other sectors. Additionally, MRCS has a Migration Strategy that provides guidelines, aligned with IFRC standards, to implement an approach that is based on rights and bound to the Movement's Fundamental Principles.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Learning from previous operations, close coordination with communities is essential to ensure the success of interventions. Implementing a systematic and effective feedback mechanism, along with appropriate information sharing methods, are crucial.

MRCS will activate its hotline for all branches involved in this response operation, ensuring that information is appropriately shared with the communities they serve. The branches will be trained in soliciting, receiving and acting on community feedback through in-person, telephone and community suggestion boxes. This approach will facilitate clear communication and enhance the effectiveness of the response efforts.



Environment Sustainability

The MRCS has diverse experiences in making its operations more climate smart. MRCS aims to distribute household NFIs and hygiene and dignity kits' items in reusable containers. Additionally, MRCS's recent experience in the Cyclone Mocha response contained actions to support communities to implement nature-based solutions, such as fortifying riverbanks from erosion by planting bamboo. MRCS will use its newly created and updated climate-smart shelter guidance.

Operational Strategy

Overall objective of the operation

The overall objective of this IFRC-DREF Operation is to meet the immediate humanitarian needs of 15,000 people (3,000 HHs) affected by floods in the Kayin, Bago (East & West), Yangon, Ayeyarwady, Mon, and Tanintharyi states/regions. The operation aims to provide appropriate assistance, including essential household items, multi-purpose cash grants, and actions in WASH and health. The operation is planned for a nine-month period to support both immediate response activities and early recovery.

Operation strategy rationale

The findings from the MRCS selected branch-level Damage Assessment and Needs Assessment (DANA) and reports from local authorities have highlighted the immediate needs for drinking water, food, hygiene items, kitchen sets, weather-appropriate clothing, and healthcare services. Floods have impacted multiple regions, including Kachin, Magway, Mandalay, Kayin, Bago (East & West), Yangon, Ayeyarwady, Mon, and Tanintharyi. While flooding in the upper regions such as Kachin, Magway, and Mandalay began in late June, water levels had subsided by the end of July, allowing MRCS and other actors to mobilize resources quickly to assist these regions.

MRCS will now focus its efforts on the central and lower regions, where flooding persists, particularly in Kayin, Bago (East & West), Yangon, Ayeyarwady, Mon, and Tanintharyi. Continued flooding in these areas has led to widespread displacement and disruption of essential services. In some locations, water levels have reached the roofs of houses, emphasizing the urgent need for emergency shelter assistance, including shelter toolkits, family kits, kitchen sets, blankets, and tarpaulins to help the affected communities rebuild and restore their homes once the water subsides. Further needs and damage assessments will be conducted to ensure that the immediate and most critical needs are identified and met through this humanitarian response. For instance, MRCS will distribute two tarpaulins and two blankets for each of the targeted HHs.

Priority will be given to communities along riverbanks and in low-lying areas prone to flooding. MRCS will conduct integrated awareness sessions on flood-related risks, focusing on safer and healthier housing/shelter, health, and hygiene behavior. IEC materials for safe shelter awareness and flood risks, developed under the TC Mocha operation, will be replicated and used for awareness-raising in this operation.

The floods have disrupted access to markets, with some remaining closed, which may disturb the local supply chain and lead to increased food prices. As water levels recede and roads become accessible, the recovery of local markets is expected. The Myanmar Cash Working Group recommends a transfer value of 310,000 Myanmar Kyat (MMK) as of 31 July 2024. MRCS plans to provide Multipurpose Cash Assistance of 330,000 MMK (approximately 135 Swiss Francs) per household to 3,000 HHs. This financial support will help the targeted population address their basic needs, contribute to early recovery, and avoid negative coping mechanisms. The cash intervention may also serve as a means of livelihood protection.

Given the current situation in the country, cash transfers using Financial Service Providers (FSPs) remain challenging. Therefore, MRCS plans to implement a cash-in-envelope mechanism with mitigation measures outlined in the risk register. MRCS will follow the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) under Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) for cash in envelope mechanism.

In any flooding situation, access to basic healthcare services is crucial. MRCS has approximately 563 Red Cross Volunteers (RCVs) trained in First Aid and health across the targeted areas, ready to be mobilized to support the local health response. Health awareness and hygiene promotion activities are essential to ensure the affected communities are aware of health risks associated with flooding and know how to mitigate them.

Provision of immediate assistance, including essential household and WASH items, such as hygiene parcels and dignity kits, is crucial for those staying in evacuation centers and returning to their homes. Dignity kits will be distributed with a focus on reaching women and girls with gender-specific items, including support for menstrual hygiene management.

Ensuring access to safe and clean water, basic hygiene kits, hygiene parcels, and dignity kits, while promoting proper hygiene practices, is crucial. MRCS plans to activate its Water Purification Unit in the branches to supply clean water to affected individuals, alongside distributing hygiene items. The unit will be activated in the Bago Region and Mon State, the only two locations currently with branch-level volunteers trained to use the unit. MRCS also plans to roll out emergency WASH training for RCVs in other branches involved in the response to increase branch-level capacity in this area. To complement the Water Purification Unit activation, MRCS will distribute two 10-liter jerry cans to each targeted household to ensure the safe management of clean water.

Regular monitoring and coordination between MRCS, IFRC, Participating National Societies (PNSs), and the ICRC will be maintained to assess the situation and access affected areas. Any necessary adjustments due to changing conditions or other local factors will be made in consultation with MRCS and the IFRC-DREF management team to ensure the response continues to align with the needs of the affected



populations.

This IFRC-DREF operation is planned for nine months, considering the wide geographical target areas, potential lengthy administrative processes to obtain approval for planned actions, and the movement of people and resources, as well as the timeframe for international procurement and transporting items into the country. The operation will ensure agility and flexibility to respond to the fluid situation and evolving humanitarian needs on the ground, which may affect the intervention and targeting. Detailed targeting of communities by sectoral intervention will be determined upon further assessment, coordination with stakeholders, and as access to deliver principled humanitarian aid and services is gradually secured by MRCS.

Targeting Strategy

Who will be targeted through this operation?

MRCS seeks to reach 15,000 people (3,000 HHs) affected by the monsoon floods in Kayin, Bago (East & West), Yangon, Ayeyarwady, Mon and Tanintharyi states/regions. MRCS is leading the response in close coordination with IFRC network members. MRCS is committed to enabling the affected populations to be represented and meaningfully participate in decisions that affect them; continuously analysing the specific needs, preferences, capacities, barriers to access, and safety risks for each group; revising and adjusting activities, focusing on “doing no harm”; and leaving no-one behind.

The target groups will include:

1. Households with a fully or partially damaged house without reaching their basic needs and/or living in unsafe conditions / environment.
2. Households with destroyed water and sanitation facilities that pose an increased risk of diseases.
3. Those whose livelihoods are severely impacted and could potentially adopt negative coping mechanisms that hinders their recovery.
4. Displaced individuals living in temporary shelters/ camps or other settlements that are often overpopulated and congested with insufficient ventilation, with limited access to safe and dignified WASH facilities, which could lead to increased risk of health and protection issues.
5. Families with people in situations of vulnerability (children, people with disabilities, pregnant women, lactating mothers, elderly, among others).

Explain the selection criteria for the targeted population

This IFRC-DREF operation will target people in the highest level of vulnerability, whose houses have been destroyed or damaged, have been evacuated and/or displaced, and who have not yet received substantial support from other actors. Priority will be given to those with pre-existing vulnerabilities before the flood, taking into account the various dimensions of vulnerability. This includes women-headed households, single-parent households with children under five, displaced individuals, minor-headed households, unaccompanied children, households with widows, the elderly, people with disabilities, pregnant or lactating women, and those with chronic illnesses.

MRCS will determine the selection criteria in each location based on consultation and collaboration with local stakeholders, including community leaders and institutions, ensuring adherence to the aforementioned vulnerability factors and upholding the Fundamental Principles, particularly impartiality.

Total Targeted Population

Women	7,950	Rural	95%
Girls (under 18)	-	Urban	5%
Men	7,050	People with disabilities (estimated)	-
Boys (under 18)	-		
Total targeted population	15,000		



Risk and Security Considerations

Please indicate about potential operation risk for this operations and mitigation actions

Risk	Mitigation action
Safety and security of staffs and volunteers	<p>MRCS continues to strengthen its safety and security management. Since 2023, MRCS, with IFRC and ICRC support, has conducted several security trainings and dissemination sessions. Every MRCS state/ regional committee has an identified security focal point who actively monitors the security situation and liaise with MRCS's national security focal point in HQ. IFRC continues to provide support on safety and security management, in coordination with ICRC and IFRC network members.</p> <p>MRCS volunteers are covered by the IFRC Global Accident Insurance policy. MRCS staff has health and life insurance. As all of the current insurance policies do not include conflict-related injuries, MRCS will need to complete the last step to activate a safety net to fill the coverage gap via an already codified Solidarity Fund.</p>
Escalation of the situation in the areas that could impact the implementation of the operation under this DREF operation or hinder access by MRCS and IFRC personnel	MRCS and IFRC conduct constant monitoring of the external context in the areas of operation and nationally. Contingency plans that can address changes in circumstances should be developed, so that the operational strategy could be revised as needed. MRCS conducts continued advocacy for access to specific locations and communities.
Operational disruptions related to access (including access to services, security, and acceptance) and administrative processes (including access to funds)	IFRC and MRCS conduct frequent reviews of administrative and operational processes, as well as engage in continued humanitarian diplomacy and community engagement to obtain increases humanitarian access and make visible their principled humanitarian actions. Additionally, ensure regular market monitoring to check for item shortages/price fluctuations, close monitoring of fund transfers and managing donor expectations accordingly.
Distribution of cash in envelope pose potential risks: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safety and security to RC personnel and beneficiaries 2. Fraud and corruption 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure distribution points are secure and near to the residential areas. • Beneficiaries to attend distribution sites in turn to avoid over crowd. • MRCS will work closely with community and leaders to ensure transparency and coordination with community committees. • Strengthen community engagement and communication, ensuring beneficiaries understand the program, the objective, the process and what their rights are. • Establish CEA mechanism and regular information to community on raising concerns and feedback. • Exit interviews and post distribution monitoring are scheduled. • MRCS to follow the CVA SOP and the segregation of duties between functions.

Please indicate any security and safety concerns for this operation

Security and safety concerns for this operation are medium level. The current situation in the targeted locations is closely monitored by MRCS national security focal point and in coordination with the targeted state/ regional supervisory committees and township branches. As of early August 2024, the local branches have access to the planned targeted areas. The National Society's safety and security



regulations apply throughout the duration of the operation to its staff and volunteers.

The IFRC Myanmar country delegation's security focal point will support and work with the MRCS to monitor the security situation and will provide safety and security-related inputs regarding the operation. All personnel under IFRC security responsibility will operate in accordance with the existing IFRC Minimum Security Requirements. All IFRC staff must complete the IFRC Stay Safe 2.0 e-learning courses, with MRCS staff and volunteers encouraged to also complete these. As needed, IFRC will support MRCS-led security briefings for all MRCS staff and volunteers involved in the operation.

Has the child safeguarding risk analysis assessment been completed?

Yes

Planned Intervention



Shelter Housing And Settlements

Budget: CHF 176,630

Targeted Persons: 15,000

Indicators

Title	Target
# of people provided with emergency shelter assistance	15,000
# of people in affected community provided with safe shelter awareness	500

Priority Actions

1. Provide emergency shelter assistance, including tarpaulins, blankets, and solar lamps, to 3,000 HHs.
2. Conduct needs and damage assessments and continue with ongoing assessments.
3. Provide technical assistance and safe shelter awareness for the community.
4. Support evacuation efforts and distribution activities.
5. Provide support to branches for cleaning of houses and public areas.
6. Carry out post-distribution monitoring (PDM) activities.



Multi Purpose Cash

Budget: CHF 413,753

Targeted Persons: 15,000

Indicators

Title	Target
# of households provided with multi-purpose cash assistance to meet their basic needs	3,000

Priority Actions

1. Provide Multi-purpose Cash Assistance to 3,000 HHs.
2. Conduct market monitoring.

3. Select and register target populations.
4. Prepare and distribute IEC materials and conduct community engagement activities.
5. Carry out PDM activities.



Budget: CHF 6,923
Targeted Persons: 3,000

Indicators

Title	Target
# of people reach through health interventions	100
# of people reached with health promotion activity	3,000
# of volunteers and staff provided with health intervention training	120

Priority Actions

1. Provision of emergency medical services, including First Aid, and Psychological First Aid.
2. Facilitate community referrals to health facilities - ambulance services.
3. Conduct trainings for RCVs including in Epidemic Control for Volunteer, MHPSS, Risk Communication and Community Engagement.
4. Organize health awareness session for community, covering topics in Health and WASH.



Budget: CHF 92,549
Targeted Persons: 15,000

Indicators

Title	Target
# of people provided with WASH assistance	15,000
# of people (and households) reached by hygiene promotion activities in the response period	15,000
# of volunteers provided with WASH/emergency WASH training	120
# of people who have been supplied by RCRC with an improved protected source of drinking water (according to WHO and Sphere standards)	3,000

Priority Actions

1. Distribute WASH items, including hygiene parcels and 10-liter jerry cans (2 per household), to 3,000 households.
2. Mobilize water purification units in two branches to provide safe drinking water.
3. Conduct hygiene promotion activities in communities, schools, riverside areas, and informal settlements.
4. Provide training and refresher training for RCVs on WASH and emergency WASH.





Protection, Gender And Inclusion

Budget: CHF 41,535

Targeted Persons: 3,000

Indicators

Title	Target
# of people received dignity kits	3,000

Priority Actions

1. Mainstream PGI across technical sectors.
2. Collect and utilize gender and age-disaggregated data.
3. Ensure diversity in gender, age, and other characteristics among staff and volunteers.
4. Conduct a safeguarding risk assessment and implement the associated action points.
5. Distribute 3,000 dignity kits to those in need.



Community Engagement And Accountability

Budget: CHF 3,728

Targeted Persons: 15,000

Indicators

Title	Target
% of complaints and feedback received, responded by MRCS	100
# of volunteers and staff provided with CEA orientation	50
# of community members that receive information and updates on channels that the communities have chosen.	15,000

Priority Actions

1. Activate CEA hotline at the branch level.
2. Incorporate a feedback section into Post-Distribution Monitoring (PDM) and other data collection activities, linking it to actions such as hygiene promotion.
3. Provide CEA orientation for RCVs in branches.
4. Share regular and timely updates on the operation with communities through their preferred channels and formats.



Secretariat Services

Budget: CHF 38,234

Targeted Persons: -

Indicators

Title	Target
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# of financial reports in compliance with IFRC procedures	2
# of communication materials and videos produced and disseminated	2
# of IFRC monitoring and support missions	5

Priority Actions

1. Produce and share communication materials, including exposure stories.
2. Provide membership services and foster Movement coordination.
3. Deliver technical finance support to ensure adherence to IFRC procedures.
4. Provide IFRC technical support in procurement, logistics, supply chain management, security, and Planning, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting (PMER).
5. Conduct technical monitoring missions to support operational implementation and recommend necessary adjustments.



National Society Strengthening

Budget: CHF 51,866

Targeted Persons: 200

Indicators

Title	Target
# of EOCs activated	6
# of volunteers covered by health insurance and provided with necessary PPE	200
# of lessons learned workshop conducted	1

Priority Actions

1. Activate Emergency Operation Centres (EOC).
2. Provide personal protective equipment (PPE), visibility gear, and emergency kits for RCVs involved in operations, including life jackets, life buoys, ropes, helmets, raincoats, and rubber boots.
3. Ensure provision of volunteer health insurance and required protection and safety measures.
4. Conduct monitoring trips by HQ staff.
5. Organize a review and lessons learned workshop.
6. Cover communication costs for NHQ and branches.
7. Manage fleet repair and maintenance, including boats, ambulances, and other vehicles.
8. Hold a recognition ceremony for RCVs.

About Support Services

How many staff and volunteers will be involved in this operation. Briefly describe their role.

All MRCS response activities will be implemented by utilizing existing staff under the MRCS Disaster Management department and Red Cross volunteers and Emergency Response Team (ERT) members from targeted and other branches. To implement this IFRC-DREF operation, MRCS will have two full-time operation support officer whose costs are covered under this IFRC-DREF operation budget. Approximately 200 RCVs will be mobilized during this operation timeframe, which will require support for transportation costs and volunteer stipends.

To ensure a successful implementation of the operation, the IFRC Country Delegation will employ one National Operations Support Officer. This role is essential in providing in-person support to the MRCS within the country. Given the country situation and IFRC-DREF



timeframe, surge deployment is not feasible and obtaining travel authorization for international delegate to the field is highly challenging. It is important to have extensive field monitoring in coordination with MRCS HQ throughout the operation and national staff will address this gap. The IFRC Country Delegation will continue to support MRCS in providing technical and support service staff as required to ensure accountability and compliance with regard to the operation.

As needed, IFRC Country Delegation will deploy staff for operational support, including staff specialised in PMER-CEA, communication and/or finance.

If there is procurement, will it be done by National Society or IFRC?

MRCS will seek to locally replenish most of the NFIs used for this operation. MRCS has a strong logistics and supply chain (LSCM) department and will adhere to its internal procurement procedures with the support of IFRC Country Delegation. Shelter items such as tarpaulins and blankets are likely to be internationally sourced. The IFRC Asia Pacific Regional Office (APRO) will support the procurement and transportation of items into Myanmar.

How will this operation be monitored?

MRCS with IFRC aim to conduct PDM for all items distributed and services rendered to ensure that the target populations are satisfied with the distribution modality and with the quantity and quality of items and services.

CEA actions will be implemented prior to distributions and/or other activities to consult and disseminate operational objectives and activities. IFRC will provide technical support for developing / adjusting tools, conducting and analysis for assessments, PDM and data collection for monitoring and reporting.

Reporting on the operation will be carried out as per the IFRC-DREF reporting standards. Operation update(s) will be issued during the operation's timeframe as necessary, with a final report issued within three months after the end of the operation. MRCS operation team will have PMER capacity, supported by IFRC Country Delegation; additional technical support can be provided through the IFRC APRO PMER team.

IFRC Country Delegation team will join MRCS with field monitoring visits to promote accountability. A lesson-learned workshop will be conducted at the end of the IFRC-DREF operation to capture recommendations for MRCS to consider and/or incorporate in future emergency operations.

Please briefly explain the National Societies communication strategy for this operation

IFRC will continue to support the MRCS ensuring strong positioning of the results of their work, with a communications strategy that includes social media visibility and materials such as key messages and documentation of the response action. Since the onset of the flood, the IFRC Country Delegation Communications team is providing support to create products that can inform the public, and other target audiences, including the national and international media of the situation, needs on the ground, and the MRCS-led humanitarian response.

IFRC and MRCS teams will work closely to produce and distribute communication material and resources, as well as using social media (e.g., Facebook, b-roll video and others) to promote advocacy messages through national, regional and global platforms.



Budget Overview



DREF OPERATION

MDRMM020 - Myanmar Red Cross Society Monsoon Flood Operation 2024

Operating Budget

Planned Operations	735,116
Shelter and Basic Household Items	176,630
Livelihoods	0
Multi-purpose Cash	413,753
Health	6,923
Water, Sanitation & Hygiene	92,549
Protection, Gender and Inclusion	41,535
Education	0
Migration	0
Risk Reduction, Climate Adaptation and Recovery	0
Community Engagement and Accountability	3,728
Environmental Sustainability	0
Enabling Approaches	90,099
Coordination and Partnerships	0
Secretariat Services	38,234
National Society Strengthening	51,866
TOTAL BUDGET	825,215

all amounts in Swiss Francs (CHF)



Contact Information

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

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IFRC Project Manager: Christie Samosir, Operations Manager - Country Delegation - Myanmar, christie.samosir@ifrc.org

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[Click here for the reference](#)

