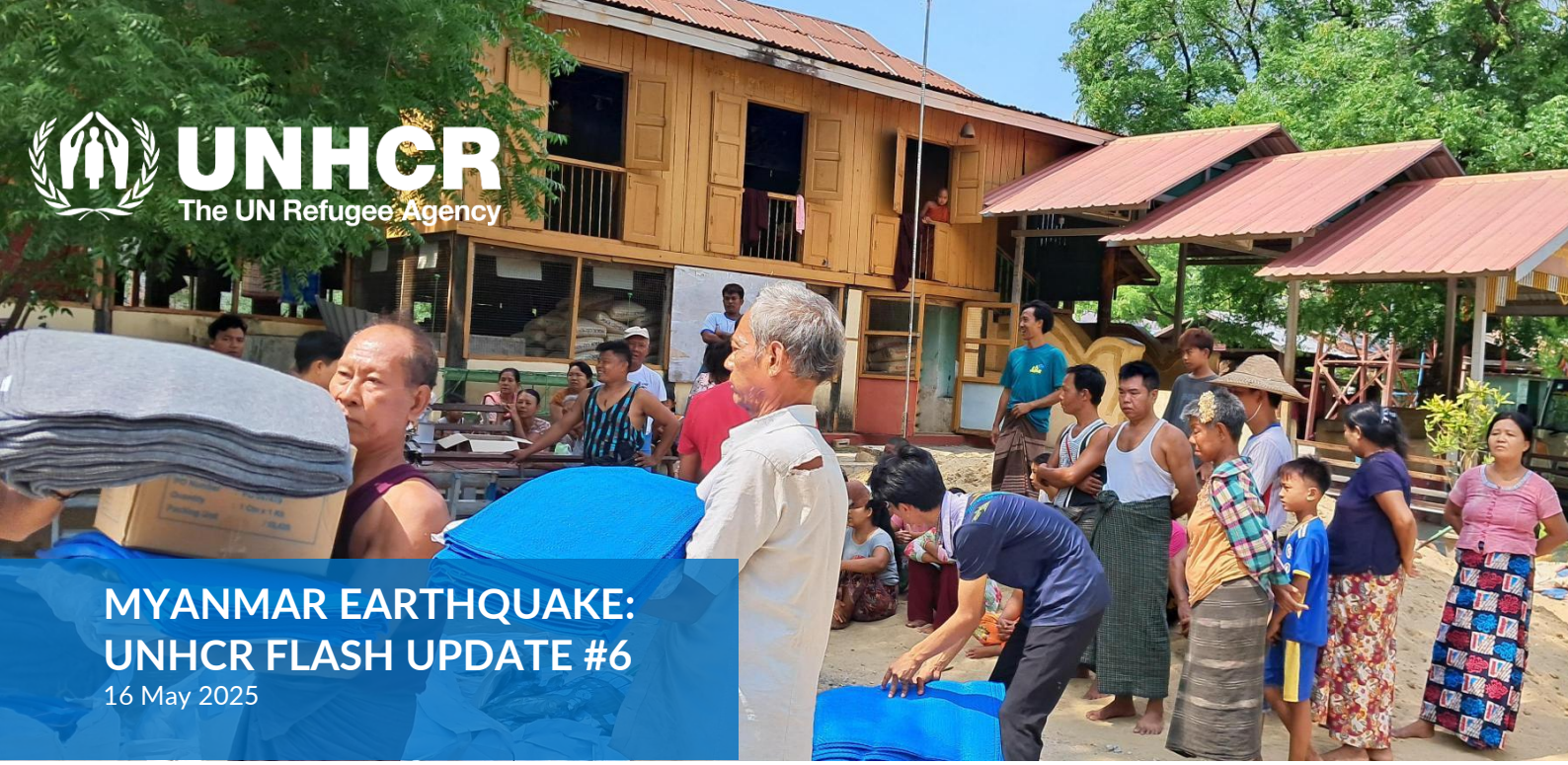


MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE: UNHCR FLASH UPDATE #6

16 May 2025

Distribution of core relief items for earthquake-affected communities in Mandalay Region © UNHCR

KEY FIGURES*

6.3 million
TOTAL PEOPLE IN NEED IN WORST EARTHQUAKE-AFFECTED AREAS

2.1 million
CONFLICT-AFFECTED IDPs IMPACTED BY THE EARTHQUAKE

LEVEL 2 EMERGENCY
DECLARED BY UNHCR FOR 6 MONTHS

Delivery Summary

94,651
People assisted with core relief items, shelter kits or multi-purpose assistance.

103,473
People assessed for assistance

Note: Assessments are ongoing, and not all earthquake-affected population have been identified yet.

Highlights

Seven weeks after the powerful earthquake struck multiple regions in Myanmar, a significant number of people are still residing in temporary and makeshift shelters. UNHCR continues to provide support to those affected in Mandalay, Sagaing, Nay Pyi Taw, Kayin State, Shan State (South), and Bago Region (East).

To date, over 94,000 individuals have received assistance from UNHCR and its partners, while more than 103,000 people have already been assessed through Protection Monitoring and Assessment Tools, with ongoing assessments continuing to support the targeting of impacted communities with a focus on identifying most vulnerable and persons with specific needs.

Protection mainstreaming is underway through the distribution of information, education and communication materials on child protection, civil documentation, Explosive Ordinance Risk Education (EORE), Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), earthquake safety and UNHCR's Helpline. UNHCR Staff and partners accompanying each distribution identify persons with specific needs for referrals to additional services. Mapping of service providers by Protection Cluster is strengthening referral pathways for child protection, gender-based violence and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS).

**Data source: UNHCR, USGS, OSM, UNOCHA, WorldPop & UNOSAT. "People Impacted" consists of people living in areas with shake intensity V or higher, "People Living in the Worst Affected Areas" cons of people living in areas with shake intensity VII or higher in the data source. Myanmar: HNRP Earthquake Flash Addendum .*

UNHCR Response

- **In Mandalay and Sagaing**, UNHCR reached 62,010 people (13,278 families) to date, including 13,235 people (3,430 families) who received multi-purpose assistance. Since the earthquake, UNHCR and partners have conducted 41 rapid protection assessments (as of April 2025) in Sagaing and Mandalay, covering 57,721 individuals.
- **In Nay Pyi Taw,** UNHCR has assisted 7,599 people (1,656 families).
- **In the South-East**, 25,042 people (5,189 families) in Kayin State, Shan State (South), and Bago Region (East) have received assistance, including 2,271 people (556 families) who received multi-purpose assistance.
- Together with other humanitarian partners, UNHCR continues to **advocate for an end to conflict and for safe, unimpeded humanitarian access** to ensure life-saving assistance reaches communities in need.

Immediate Needs

UNHCR is urgently seeking USD 16 million to provide life-saving assistance to those affected by the devastating earthquake in Myanmar. Learn more about the appeal and how you can support: Myanmar Earthquake Emergency Appeal | Global Focus

Shelter

Provide emergency shelter kits (including plastic tarpaulin, ropes, and other essential materials) to enable people to live in safe and dignified shelters, particularly in light of the upcoming monsoon season.

CRIs and multi-purpose assistance

Deliver immediate emergency CRIs, including sleeping mats, blankets, kitchen sets, mosquito nets, buckets, and solar lamps, as well as multi-purpose assistance to support earthquake-affected populations.

Protection

Strengthen access to protection services, including communication with communities, legal assistance, psychosocial support, and targeted interventions for Persons with Specific Needs, including children, women, Elderly People, and Persons with Disabilities.

Protection Mainstreaming

Mandalay and Sagaing

- UNHCR has developed criteria for providing family tents and emergency shelter kits, detailing eligibility for household and multi-purpose use, site requirements, land issues and safety.
- Main concerns for earthquake-affected populations in Mandalay and Sagaing include the following. Based on the identified needs, UNHCR either integrates them into its protection and assistance responses and assistance services or refers them to other actors for a multi-sectoral response.
    - **Shelter and site safety**: Issues identified by the Mandalay field unit include the potential damage of tents located under large trees or collapsed buildings, posing dangers from falling debris during strong winds or aftershocks.
    - **Site Closure and Relocation**: Seven weeks since the earthquake happened, some temporary accommodation sites are starting to be closed or relocated. Frequent relocations could pose protection, health, livelihood, safety and security concerns for the affected populations.

- **WASH**: Wash facilities in most sites are insufficient and there are access issues for the elderly and people with disabilities. No gender segregation of WASH facilities and lack of lighting at night increases protection risks including gender-based violence concerns.
- **Debris Removal**: Many site residents face financial constraints in repairing or demolishing damaged houses. There have been reports of fatalities during debris clearing in Mandalay.
- **Damaged Drainage Systems**: Damaged drainage systems are observed in some Mandalay locations, causing floods and posing health risks to nearby communities. Immediate action is needed to repair the drainage system and prevent further damage.

South-East

- UNHCR has been raising awareness amongst the affected communities about key protection issues as well as providing information, education and communication materials. Those services are provided alongside core relief items distribution, reaching over 14,000 people.
- UNHCR has also provided awareness-raising messages on dengue fever and malaria to those affected by the earthquake. During the distribution of core relief items in Shan South, UNHCR distributed AAP/hotline flyers after conducting awareness sessions in 10 villages.

Coordination and Partnerships

- UNHCR co-leads the **Protection Cluster** with the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), and jointly leads the **Shelter/Non-Food Item (NFI) and Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) Cluster** with the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC).

Financial Information

UNHCR's total funding requirements for Myanmar in 2025 stand at **USD 88.3 million**. As of the end of April, only **25%** of funding had been secured. UNHCR is grateful for the generosity of donors who have stepped forward with earmarked contributions for Myanmar, as well as those providing flexible funding globally ensuring life-saving assistance reaches those most in need.

Australia | Belgium | Denmark | European Union | Germany | Ireland | Japan | Norway | Netherlands (Kingdom of the) | Republic of Korea | Switzerland | Sweden | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | United States of America | CERF

With the support of the following private donors from:
Australia | China | Germany | Italy | Singapore | Thailand | UK

To make an individual donation, please click on this link: **Donate Now**

To learn more about UNHCR's response in Myanmar, please visit the Operational Data Portal and Global Focus Reporting.

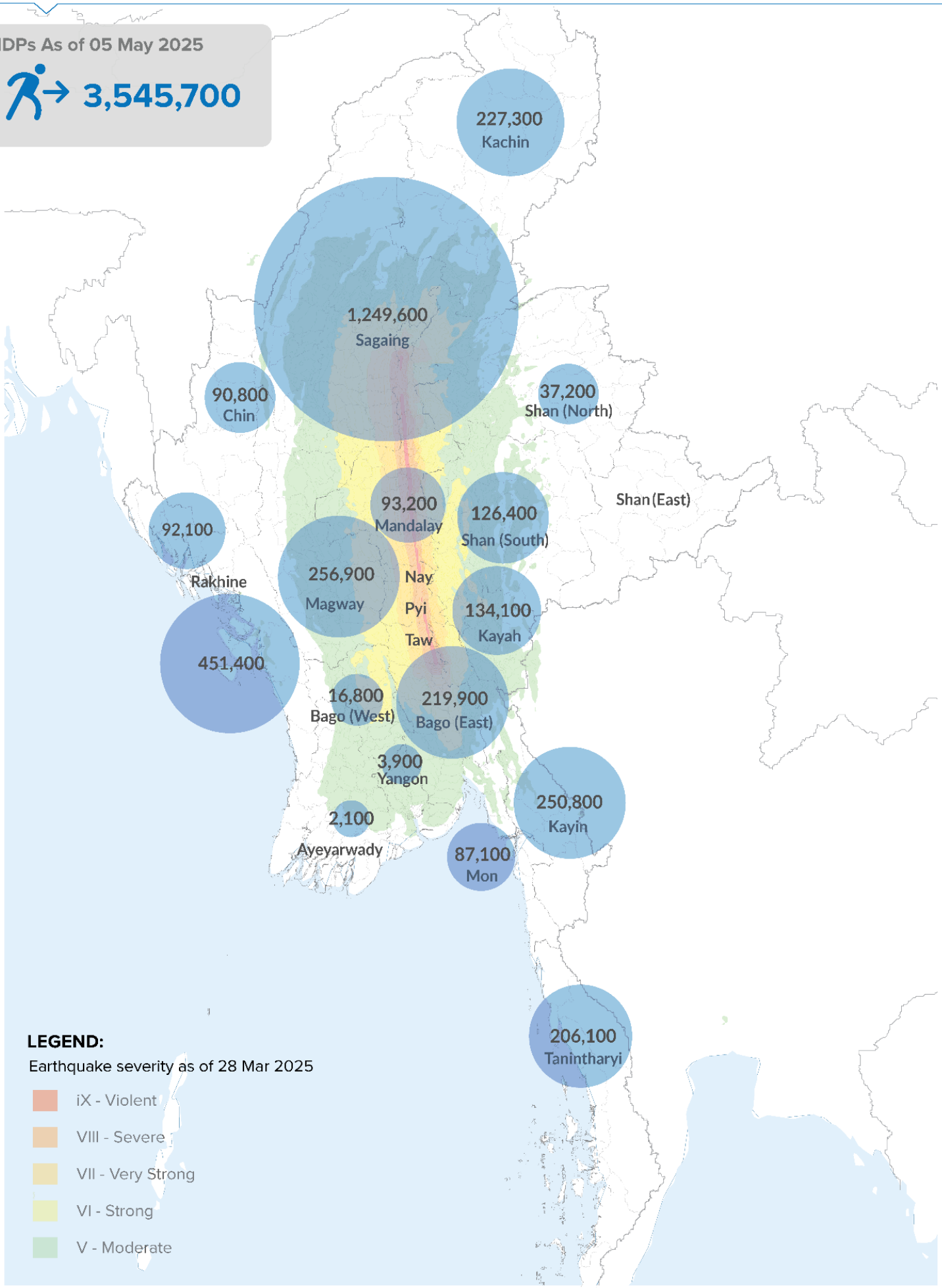
For more information, please contact:

Delphine Crespin, Reporting Officer: crespin@unhcr.org

Diogo Alcantara, Communications/PI Officer: alcantad@unhcr.org

UNHCR MYANMAR

EARTHQUAKE SEVERITY AND CURRENT DISPLACEMENT



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

Date of creation: 09.05.2025 | Data sources: UNHCR, OCHA, UNOSAT, USGS

Contact: myayaim@unhcr.org