

INFORMATION BULLETIN



International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
Fédération internationale des Sociétés de la Croix-Rouge et du Croissant-Rouge
Federación Internacional de Sociedades de la Cruz Roja y de la Media Luna Roja
الاتحاد الدولي لجمعيات الصليب الأحمر والهلال الأحمر

MYANMAR : FLOODS

Information Bulletin

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The Federation's mission is to improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity. It is the world's largest humanitarian organization and its millions of volunteers are active in 185 countries.

In Brief

This Bulletin is being issued for information only, and reflects the situation and the information available at this time. The Federation is not seeking funding or other assistance from donors for this operation at this time.

The Situation

Unusually heavy rains in Myanmar from beginning of July to mid-August have caused localized flooding along the Ayeyarwady River. Areas especially affected include the northern state of Kachin, the central Mandalay Division and the southern Ayeyarwady Division.

In Kachin State, floods have affected 5,743 families (approx. 35,429 people) with 55 people reported sick or injured. A total of 62 families have been forced to move to safer areas. In total, seven evacuation centres have been established as temporary shelters to accommodate displaced people.

At the beginning of August, torrential rains moved toward central Myanmar (commonly known as the Dry Zone). Localized flooding has been experienced in the Magwe Division (five townships) and the Mandalay Division (two townships). In the Mandalay Division, 102 families have been affected with one person reported dead.



Floods have wreaked devastation in Ayeyarwady Division.



Family kits which were distributed to the affected families.

In the Ayeyarwady Division, a total of 13,479 families (approx. 61,689 people) have been affected, and 3,927 people forced to move safer areas. A total of 64 centres have been established to assist the displaced population.

Red Cross and Red Crescent action

Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) branches situated in flood-affected areas have responded, together with local authorities, to flood conditions through the dispatching of teams to provide relief and to conduct assessments of the situation.

In Kachin State, the local Red Cross branch has distributed food

items (i.e. ready-made food packs, drinking water, and rice bags) and non-food items (i.e. towels, blankets and clothing) to 50 families. Local Red Cross volunteers also provided first aid services, and accompanied those who required further health assistance to referral services and local hospitals.

Local volunteers also supported the local health care centres by monitoring the situation, and are on permanent stand-by should the need arise, as temporary shelters in affected areas have been closed since 4 August 2007.

In the Mandalay Division, the local branch, together with local authorities, evacuated affected families and livestock. Ready-made food packs, drinking water, plastic sheets, and first aid kits were also distributed by the local branch to affected families at the evacuation centres.

In the Ayeyarwady Division, the local Red Cross branch distributed ready-made food packs. In addition to the support provided by the MRCS, the local assessment team reported that the needs of the affected population includes rice, family hygiene items, safe drinking water and oral re-hydration salts (ORS). In total, the MRCS has provided MMK 4.5 million (CHF 4,297)¹ in aid to villagers in the Ayeyarwady Division (i.e. the Ayeyarwady River delta region), who have been affected by flooding in recent weeks.

The programme officer of the disaster management division of MRCS has informed local media that they will continue to monitor the situation across the country should the need for additional humanitarian assistance arise.

Areas being monitored include Sagaing in Sagaing Division; Mandalay Amarapura, Singu and Mogok in Mandalay Division Minbu and Pakokku in Magwe Division and Pyay in Bago division.



Ready-made food distribution at a monastery acting as a collection centre in the Ayeyarwady Division.

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How we work

All International Federation assistance seeks to adhere to the [Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and Non-Governmental Organizations \(NGO's\) in Disaster Relief](#) and is committed to the [Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response \(Sphere\)](#) in delivering assistance to the most vulnerable.

The Federation's Global Agenda

The International Federation's activities are aligned with under a Global Agenda, which sets out **four broad goals** to meet the Federation's mission to "improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity".

Global Agenda Goals:

- Reduce the numbers of deaths, injuries and impact from disasters.
- Reduce the number of deaths, illnesses and impact from diseases and public health emergencies.
- Increase local community, civil society and Red Cross Red Crescent capacity to address the most urgent situations of vulnerability.
- Reduce intolerance, discrimination and social exclusion and promote respect for diversity and human dignity.

Contact information

For further information specifically related to this operation please contact:

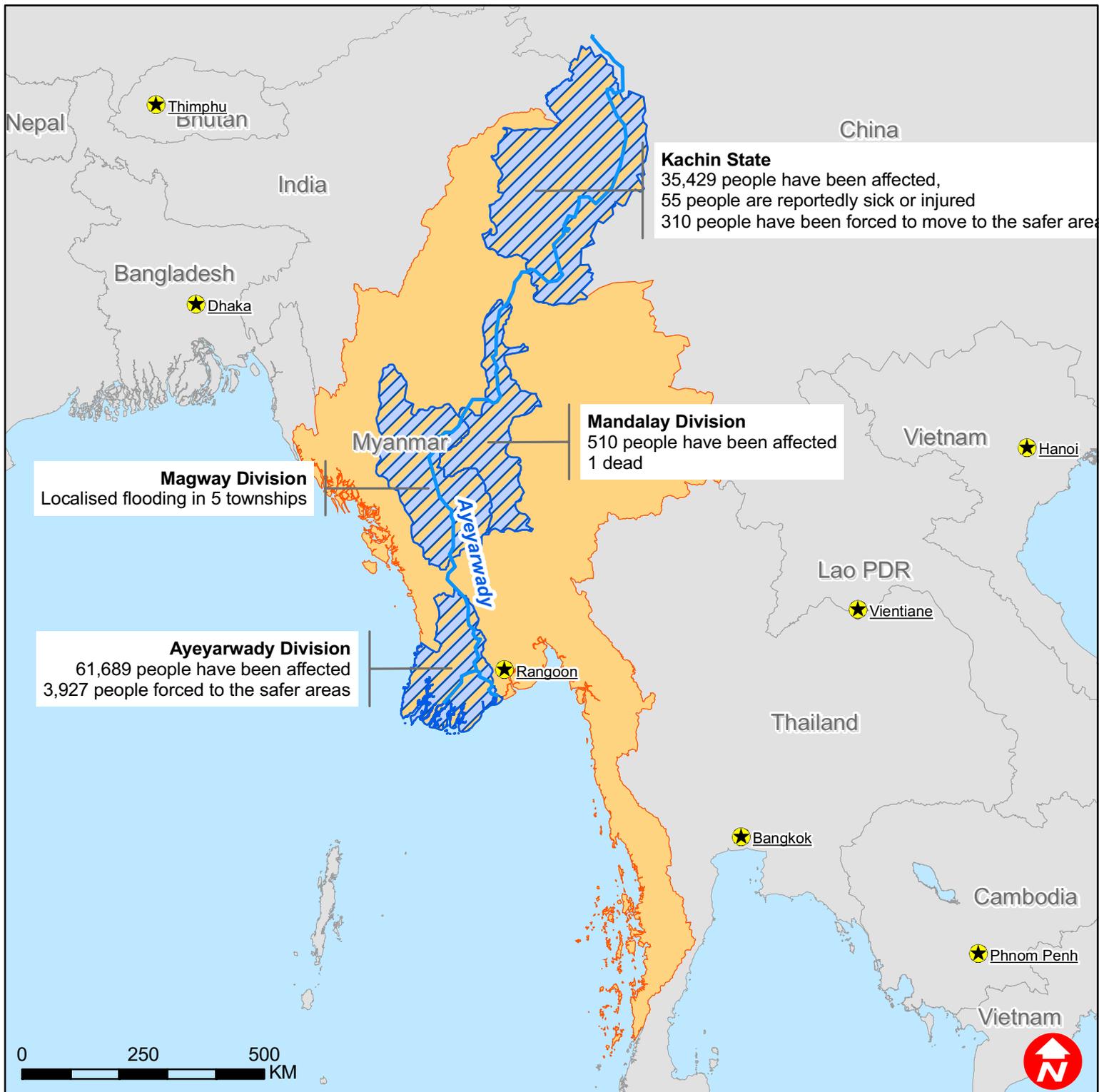
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¹ Federation foreign exchange rates, August 2007

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Myanmar: Floods



Unusual heavy rains in Myanmar since beginning of July until mid-August have caused localised flooding along the Ayeyarwady River

- ★ Capitals
- ▨ Affected divisions