Myanmar
Interim Humanitarian Response Plan 2018

In Rakhine State, the situation deteriorated dramatically in late 2017. After a series of armed attacks on border guard police posts in northern Rakhine, violence led to mass displacement, including 688,000 people who have sought refuge in Bangladesh since 25 August. Since 2012, violence has resulted in the internal displacement of 241,000 people across the country.

Objectives

FAO is working with partners in the Food Security Sector to:

- Ensure the targeted population has equitable access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food in-kind and/or through cash assistance all year round.
- Enhance the resilience of affected communities through restoring, protecting and improving livelihood opportunities.
- Improve the timeliness, appropriateness and effectiveness of the Food Security Sector response through high quality food security data and analysis.

Activities

- **Rebuild agricultural livelihoods affected by human-induced crises and natural disasters**
  - agricultural inputs
  - livestock feed
  - training on good agricultural and nutritional practices, and animal husbandry
  - conditional cash transfers for assets
  - community-level disaster risk reduction

- **Support food security information and analysis, and improve coordination mechanisms to strengthen response capacity and increase impact**
  - evidence-based decision making
  - food security and livelihood data and analysis
  - sector coordination
  - food security monitoring and information management systems
  - resilience action plans

The humanitarian situation is characterized by a complex combination of vulnerability to natural disasters, food insecurity, poor nutrition, armed conflict, inter-communal tensions, statelessness, displacement, trafficking and risky migration.
Impact on food security

Myanmar is at very high risk of continuing severe humanitarian needs in 2018, according to the OCHA-managed Index for Risk Management (INFORM) system. Inter-communal tensions, violence and natural disasters have displaced large numbers of people in Rakhine, Kachin and Shan States, threatening the agricultural livelihoods of hundreds of thousands of people. Across the country, some 241,000 displaced people – of which 77 percent are women and children – remain in camps or camp-like settings.

Myanmar is one of the most disaster-prone countries in Asia and remains highly vulnerable to natural disasters, including cyclones, storms, floods and earthquakes. Promotion of disaster risk reduction approaches that help increase resilience of the most vulnerable populations remains critical. Some 778,815 people need food security support. They face limited access to sufficient, safe and nutritious foods and inadequate availability of diversified foods all year round. Populations in need include displaced people, returnees, vulnerable people in non-displaced communities and host communities.

Small-scale farmers, livestock owners and fishers require agricultural assistance including crop, livestock and fishery inputs, support for vegetable gardening and infrastructure rehabilitation to enhance agricultural production and productivity.

To enhance the resilience and promote the self-reliance of affected communities, it is necessary to restore, protect and improve livelihood opportunities to complement family income, improve economic access, reduce the use of negative coping mechanisms and increase availability of quality and diversified foods at community and household levels.