

Reserve Allocation Strategy

Allocation Details	
Allocation Title	<i>Reinforcing the humanitarian footprint to effectively pre-position and scale-up aid to new IDPs in Rakhine and the Northwest</i>
Allocation Type and Round	<i>First Reserve Allocation</i>
Allocation Amount	<i>US\$ 3,000,000</i>
Emergency Type	Conflict-related Crisis
Emergency Sub-types	<i>Violence/Clashes</i>
Emergency Triggered Date (optional)	<i>n/a</i>
Special Initiative (optional)	<i>Not applicable</i>
Allocation Launch Date	<i>29 April 2024</i>
Proposal Submission Deadline	<i>2 May 2024</i>
Section 1: Strategic Statement	
<p>Since October 2023, conflict has expanded and intensified across vast swathes of the country, driving new displacement and worsening humanitarian needs. With very little carryover of funds into quarter one of 2024, UN agencies and humanitarian partners are strapped for resources, limiting their capacity to deliver a conflict response at scale or prepare for the disaster season ahead.</p> <p>Capitalizing on the agility and flexibility of the 48-hour response window, this allocation will enable pre-selected MHF partners to quickly assist people recently displaced by intensified clashes in Sagaing and Magway and support the procurement and pre-positioning of lifesaving aid in Rakhine to facilitate a rapid scale-up once access and security conditions permit. Amid chronic underfunding, many newly displaced people in these locations have yet to receive assistance, making this allocation timely and urgent to help stave off an accumulation of unmet needs that will leave affected people even more vulnerable during the fast-approaching monsoon season. Projects will use a strategic combination of cash assistance and in-kind support to overcome access and logistics challenges where they arise and provide a flexible package of aid tailored to the local response landscape.</p> <p>Through this timely injection of funding, the MHF will help sustain or potentially expand operational presence in these geographical areas, strengthen area-based coordination structures and improve response preparedness ahead of the monsoon season, adding value by bolstering response coordination and facilitating early action. In line with the Humanitarian Coordinator’s Vision Paper, this allocation will mainstream protection, including awareness-raising on unsafe migration and explosive ordnance risk education, to ensure an accessible and safe response in areas which face high levels of explosive ordnance contamination and displacement.</p>	
Section 2: Humanitarian Context	
<p>Across Myanmar 18.6 million people are in need of humanitarian assistance in 2024. Conflict spans various parts of the country with a deteriorating situation in Rakhine, as well as the Northwest and Southeast, driving new displacement and needs. More than 2.8 million people remain internally displaced across the country, with the vast majority (more than 2.5 million) fleeing their homes due to conflict and insecurity since the military takeover. Active fighting, administrative restrictions being imposed by all sides, and violence and harassment of humanitarian personnel remain key barriers to accessing affected people and providing lifesaving assistance.</p> <p>Sagaing and Magway have seen increased fighting including clearance operations, multiple airstrikes, arson and ambush attacks in numerous townships for months. The Northwest hosts nearly 1.5 million IDPs, which is 59 per cent of total displacement countrywide since the military takeover, with almost 1.2 million IDPs in Sagaing alone.</p>	

Since the start of 2024, tens of thousands of people have been newly displaced in Magway and Sagaing, many of whom have yet to receive assistance as humanitarian partners operating in affected areas face severe underfunding.

In Rakhine, ongoing armed clashes are now affecting 15 of the State's 17 townships with displacement surging. An estimated 157,000 people have fled their homes since the ceasefire broke down between the Arakan Army and the Myanmar Armed Forces in November 2023, bringing the total IDP population in Rakhine to well over 300,000 people. The conflict has severely impacted the daily lives of all communities in Rakhine, compounding challenges for people still recovering from Cyclone Mocha in mid-May 2023. Closure of roads and waterways since the renewed conflict has led to shortages and increased prices of essential goods and food scarcity. Internet connectivity and telecommunication networks remain disrupted or unavailable, severely impacting humanitarian operations.

Additional funding is urgently required to replenish stocks of essential supplies so that current work can continue and wider scale distributions of assistance can proceed when access is possible. In Rakhine, the pre-positioning of survival supplies ahead of the fast-approaching wet season will be critical to bolstering response preparedness and ensuring the rapid delivery of assistance to affected people when the wet season arrives.

Section 3. Allocation Priority/(ies)

3.1 Overview:

<i>Partner name¹</i>	<i>Priority description</i>	<i>Prioritized activities</i>	<i>Amount allocated</i>	<i>Maximum project duration</i>	<i>Geographic location</i>
<i>Consortium of Dutch NGOs</i>	<i>Delivery of lifesaving food, shelter/NFI and WASH support</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Provision of critical food and shelter/NFI support through CVA and/or in-kind distributions</i> <i>Procurement, pre-positioning and distribution of hygiene and water quality items, including dignity kits</i> <i>Provision of mental health and psychosocial support and dissemination of key messages and IEC materials on protection, including community level awareness raising on unsafe migration, forced recruitment, Child Protection, GBV and EORE</i> 	<i>\$860,000</i> <i>Food Security:</i> <i>\$350,000</i> <i>WASH:</i> <i>\$210,000</i> <i>Shelter/NFI:</i> <i>\$300,000</i>	<i>9 months</i>	<i>Rakhine: TBC</i>
<i>Mercy Malaysia</i>	<i>Procurement of critical health supplies and continuation of lifesaving health services</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Procurement of essential medicines as well as medical equipment and supplies to scale-up community-level health response</i> <i>Continuation of lifesaving health services at Mercy Malaysia's health centre</i> <i>Provision of mental health and psychosocial support and dissemination of key messages and IEC materials on protection, including community level awareness raising on unsafe migration, forced recruitment, Child Protection, GBV and EORE</i> 	<i>\$500,000</i> <i>Health:</i> <i>\$500,000</i>	<i>9 months</i>	<i>Rakhine: TBC</i>
<i>People in Needs</i>	<i>Delivery of critical</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Provision of critical shelter/NFI support through CVA and/or in-kind distributions</i> 	<i>\$340,000</i> <i>Northwest:</i>	<i>9 months</i>	<i>Magway: Pakokku, Seikphyu (TBC)</i>

¹ In situations where the application of the criteria to identify partners for invitation to submit proposals results in more than one partner being invited to submit a proposal for the same scope of work, a limited competitive process may be conducted.

	shelter/NFI and WASH support	<p>2. Procurement and distribution of hygiene and water quality items, including dignity kits, as well as maintenance of critical WASH infrastructure, including water points and latrines</p> <p>3. Provision of mental health and psychosocial support and dissemination of key messages and IEC materials on protection, including community level awareness raising on unsafe migration, forced recruitment, Child Protection, GBV and EORE</p>	<p>Shelter/NFI: \$200,000</p> <p>***</p> <p>Rakhine: WASH: \$140,000</p>		<p>Sagaing: Indaw, Kale, Katha, Myaung, Taze (TBC)</p> <p>Rakhine (TBC)</p>
Action Aid Myanmar	Provision of critical support to improve access to food and WASH support	<p>1. Provision of critical food support through CVA and/or in-kind distributions</p> <p>2. Procurement and distribution of hygiene and water quality items, including dignity kits, as well as maintenance of critical WASH infrastructure, including water points and latrines</p> <p>3. Provision of mental health and psychosocial support and dissemination of key messages and IEC materials on protection, including community level awareness raising on unsafe migration, forced recruitment, Child Protection, GBV and EORE</p>	<p>\$600,000</p> <p>Food Security: \$400,000</p> <p>WASH: \$200,000</p>	9 months	<p>Magway: Pakokku, Seikphyu (TBC)</p> <p>Sagaing: Indaw, Kale, Katha, Myaung, Taze (TBC)</p>
Karuna Mission Social Solidarity	Provision of complementary shelter/NFI and WASH support	<p>1. Provision of critical shelter/NFI support through CVA and/or in-kind distributions</p> <p>2. Procurement and distribution of hygiene and water quality items, including dignity kits, as well as maintenance of critical WASH infrastructure, including water points and latrines</p> <p>3. Provision of mental health and psychosocial support and dissemination of key messages and IEC materials on protection, including community level awareness raising on unsafe migration, forced recruitment, Child Protection, GBV and EORE</p>	<p>\$700,000</p> <p>Shelter/NFI: \$300,000</p> <p>WASH: \$400,000</p>	9 months	<p>Magway: Pakokku, Seikphyu (TBC)</p> <p>Sagaing: Indaw, Kale, Katha, Myaung, Taze (TBC)</p>
Total			US\$ 3 million		

Section 4.1 CERF Complementarity (when applicable)

This allocation will strategically complement the CERF \$9 million Underfunded Emergencies grant from September 2023, as well as the \$7 million Rapid Response allocation from November 2023. The latter was granted by the Emergency Relief Coordinator to respond to new displacement and needs arising from the intensification of clashes countrywide in October 2023, which this allocation also aims to address through a multi-sectoral approach in Rakhine, Sagaing and Magway. This allocation will help scale-up assistance in the states/regions targeted by ongoing CERF-funded projects, deepening the provision of aid to help keep pace with the growing scale and severity of needs amid ongoing clashes, as surging displacement continues to outstrip resources previously channeled to Rakhine and

Sagaing. In Rakhine, this injection of funding from the MHF will help replenish pre-positioned stocks procured through previous CERF allocations, increasing the capacity of humanitarian partners to respond to new conflict-related needs and bolster preparedness ahead of the monsoon season.

Section 4.2 Other Complementarity

In 2023, the MHF channeled significant funding to Rakhine (\$8 million), Sagaing (\$7.5 million) and Magway (\$3.1 million), totaling \$18.6 million, through its standard allocations as well as the First and Second reserve allocations for Cyclone Mocha. This represents about 54 per cent of all funding allocated by the MHF in 2023 (\$34.2 million). Despite significant support from OCHA-managed pooled funds, the scale and severity of needs in Rakhine, Sagaing and Magway still requires additional funding to help partners reach those who are most in need with the most complete package of assistance possible. This allocation will provide much-needed funding to reach newly displaced people in Magway and Sagaing not directly targeted by ongoing MHF allocations and in Rakhine, it will support the critical pre-positioning of aid to deepen the assistance provided through ongoing MHF projects when access and security permit operations at an increased pace and scale.

Additionally, this allocation will complement projects currently funded by other in-country pooled funds in Rakhine, Sagaing and Magway, including the ECHO-funded First Line Emergency Response (FLER) and the UNOPS-managed Access to Health (A2H) and Livelihood and Food Security Fund (LIFT), to help expand the collective reach and impact of these mechanisms across geographic locations and clusters that can only be sufficiently covered through multiple sources of funding given the rapidly growing scale and severity of needs.

Section 5. Selection Criteria

This allocation is only open to pre-selected partners. Projects will be selected against the following criteria:

- Sustained access and a proven ability to deliver timely aid in townships recently affected by the intensification of conflict.
- Technical capacity to provide an integrated, multi-sector response.
- Proven capacity to locally procure, transport and distribute emergency relief supplies in target locations.
- Projects that sub-grant to local and national partners will be given preference.
- Proven capacity to deliver CVA in a way that promotes the safety and dignity of affected people and is aligned with their preferences.

Section 6: Process and Timeline

6.1 Allocation Strategy Development Process

In early March, the MHF began consultations with the ICCG, OCHA sub-offices and other stakeholders to prioritize locations where an injection of MHF funding could have the greatest impact and added value for the response. Through these consultations, Rakhine, Sagaing and Magway were identified as key locations to be prioritized considering the scale and intensity of clashes in these areas since October 2023, which have triggered significant displacement and needs that cannot be sufficiently covered by partners on the ground due to severe underfunding.

Building on best practices from 2023, the HC a.i. decided to use the 48-hour response window as a tried-and-tested modality to rapidly disburse funds to enable a swift response to emerging needs. The HFU worked closely with OCHA's sub-offices in Mandalay (covering the Northwest) and Sittwe (Rakhine), as well as national and sub-national Cluster/AoR coordinators, to pre-identify partners best positioned to deliver on the priorities outlined in this Strategy and to ensure that the most affected townships in these states/regions were targeted. On 21 March, the MHF convened a meeting with the ICCG to elicit the feedback and inputs of Cluster/AoR coordinators on priority activities and geographical locations for this Strategy.

On 27 March, the MHF presented the overarching objectives and priorities of the Allocation to the Advisory Board. Following the Board's preliminary endorsement of the Allocation Strategy, the MHF worked closely with cluster coordinators and OCHA sub-offices to finalize the Allocation Strategy, which was then shared with the Advisory Board for endorsement. The Board endorsed the strategy on 29 April 2024. The MHF then proceeded to launch the call for proposals from pre-selected partners in the Northwest and Rakhine.

6.2 Allocation Timeline

Reserve Allocation Workflow ²	Start Date	End Date	Responsible body
Step 1. Allocation Strategy development <i>including consultations with the AB, OCHA sub-offices, sectors/clusters and/or other coordination mechanism and other stakeholders</i>	18 March	26 April	OCHA/HFU
Step 2. Submission of project proposal(s)	29 April	2 May	Partners
Step 3. Final technical and financial review	3 May	7 May	OCHA/HFU, technical experts, Partners, CBPF Section
Step 4. Final approval by HC and Grant Agreement	8 May	10 May	OCHA/HFU, HC
Step 5. Disbursement	11 May onwards		OCHA/CBPF Section

Section 7: HFU Contacts and Complaints

7.1 Key Contacts

Name	Position	E-mail
Thomas Onsare Nyambane	MHF Manager	nyambanet@un.org
Anthony Prassoulis	Associate Humanitarian Affairs Officer	anthony.prassoulis@un.org
Anna Pelkonen	Localization Funding Specialist	anna.pelkonen@un.org
Poe Ei Phyu	Sr. Humanitarian Programme Officer	poe.phyu@un.org
Yin Min Htike	Grants Management and Programme Officer	yin.htike@un.org
Zoe Zoe	Grants Management and Programme Officer	zoe.zoe@un.org
Thaw Nay Phaw	Grants Management and Programme Officer	naw.phaw@un.org
Ei Kalayar Lwin	Grants Management and Programme Officer	lwine@un.org
Su Myat	Grants Management and Programme Officer	su.myat@un.org
Elizabeth	Risk and Compliance Officer	ms.elizabeth@un.org

7.2 Complaints and Feedback Mechanism:

MHF implementing partners with insufficiently addressed concerns or complaints regarding MHF processes or decisions can at any point in time send an email to MHFComplaints@un.org. Communications can also include reports on fraud and malfeasance. Complaints will be compiled, reviewed and raised to the HC, who will then take a decision on necessary action(s). When relevant, the HC will share with the Advisory Board any concerns or complaints and actions taken thereof.

Section 8: List of Annexes

Myanmar Humanitarian Update No. 37: <https://shorturl.at/fJX17>

The United Nations does not charge fees for any CBPF processes (incl. for funding eligibility reviews and assessments, applications, selections and proposals, partner strategic and technical reviews, any approvals incl. grant agreements, trainings and capacity building initiatives, waivers, certifications, etc.).

² In situations where the application of the criteria to identify partners to invite to submit proposals may result in more than one partner being invited to submit a proposal to complete the same scope of work, a limited competitive process with a rapid strategic review may be required.