

Myanmar

Global Appeal 2026 situation overview

Countries affected: Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand



In conflict-affected Rakhine State, Myanmar, displaced women like Aye Kyawt San face growing challenges in meeting basic needs. Blocked humanitarian access and funding shortages leave communities without food, clean water, and healthcare. UNHCR continues working to reach those most at risk. © UNHCR/Yin Yin Myint

2026 Population planning figures

7.5 million forcibly displaced and stateless people



*This only refers to non-displaced stateless people in Myanmar. The stateless people who are also internally displaced are reflected in the IDP figure.

Conflict in Myanmar continues to intensify, driving new internal displacement and cross border movements, while placing enormous strain on protection and humanitarian systems. With needs far exceeding available funding, UNHCR will begin 2026 with a carefully prioritized response focused on the most urgent gaps, while recognizing that many needs will remain unmet. Coordinated, 'whole-of-society' approaches and strengthened partnerships will be essential to maximize impact within available resources, including through the Joint Response Plan, which provides a framework for prioritizing assistance and mobilizing support across actors.

Amid escalating conflict and widespread violence, UNHCR will call on States to provide access to territory, uphold the right

to seek asylum, and respect the principle of non-refoulement, in line with the [Guidance Note on the international protection needs of people fleeing Myanmar](#). At the same time, UNHCR will work with regional and international partners to promote comprehensive solutions and sustainable outcomes for Rohingya and other refugees from Myanmar. Partnerships with local NGOs, civil society, and faith-based organizations will remain central to delivering conflict-sensitive, life-saving assistance within resource constraints, alongside basic needs assistance, helping meet critical needs and maintain stability amid ongoing displacement.

Across the region, UNHCR will advocate for sustainable solutions and greater self-reliance for those displaced from Myanmar, including for Rohingya refugees, eight years after their arrival in Bangladesh, emphasizing that voluntary and safe return in conditions of dignity remains the most desirable outcome for this group. UNHCR will sustain support for the over 1.1 million refugees in Cox's Bazar and on Bhasan Char, focusing on essential services such as protection, shelter, healthcare, and education, while programmes promoting resilience and livelihoods will help reduce long-term dependency. Building on regional progress, including in Thailand where the Royal Thai Government has granted long-staying refugees from Myanmar the right to work.

Across the region, UNHCR will seek to expand resettlement opportunities and access to complementary pathways, while pursuing innovative approaches with development actors and the private sector to support refugees in maintaining an active role and accessing sustainable solutions where conditions for return are not yet in place.

Rising irregular maritime movements continue to put refugees and asylum-seekers at severe risk. In collaboration with the Bali Process, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, and the inter-agency Regional Protection Group, UNHCR will advocate for stronger regional



Budget needs for
Myanmar and neighbouring
countries in 2026:
\$329 M

coordination and responsibility-sharing to address these dangerous journeys. UNHCR will operationalize a Panoramic/Route-Based Approach that prioritizes protection at sea, predictable disembarkation arrangements and safe, legal pathways, ensuring those in distress can reach safety without delay.

UNHCR will advance commitments made under the [Rohingya multi-stakeholder pledge](#) at the 2023 Global Refugee Forum, focusing on sustainable programmes and supportive policy environments through a 'whole-of-government' approach. Efforts will focus on promoting access to legal identity for all Rohingya, supporting States across countries of origin, transit and destination to achieve universal birth registration and registration of other vital events. UNHCR will also advocate for the removal of barriers to civil registration and identity documentation to ensure access to legal identity for all forcibly displaced and stateless people in the region, while supporting targeted initiatives to prevent and reduce statelessness, including legislative reform, facilitated naturalization and accession to the Statelessness Conventions.



A community health volunteer administers medicine against cholera to a young boy in the Rohingya refugee camps near Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.
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