

# MYANMAR RESPONSE PLAN

## OPENING STATEMENT



People travel past the rubble of collapsed buildings in Mandalay in Myanmar on March 31, 2025

This document outlines the emergency response carried out over the past two weeks by ChildFund Myanmar, the legal office of ChildFund Australia, since the devastating earthquakes that hit the country on 28.03.2025. It also outlines ChildFund Myanmar's strategy and operational framework to further guide and coordinate the next phases' interventions.

The scale of the disaster has been devastating and will be felt for years to come. Given the immediate emergency needs, and the upcoming hot season and cyclone season, the response is currently prioritizing rapid humanitarian scale-up, focusing on life-saving assistance, including food, NFI, water, shelter and protection services. The strategy includes also a medium and long-term response, adapting it to evolving scenarios, ensuring that aid reaches those in greatest need while access remains possible.

## SITUATION OVERVIEW

Two weeks on from the devastating 7.7 and 6.4 magnitude earthquakes that hit central Myanmar on 28 March 2025, a series of nearly 500 aftershocks continue to impact the affected areas. Over 3,600 people have died and over 4,800 were injured, 134 remain missing, while 199 thousand have been displaced (AHA Centre, 12.04). According to OCHA, over 17.2 million people live in the affected area, with over 9.1 million exposed to the strongest quakes in the 58 most earthquake-affected townships, as shown in the map (HNRP Flash Addendum Myanmar Earthquake, 12.04, OCHA). Buildings were heavily damaged or destroyed, including at least 41,000 houses, 3,300 religious facilities and 1,800 schools. Entire communities have been displaced, forcing people to seek shelter in makeshift conditions, disrupting markets, worsening psychosocial distress and bringing essential services—including running water, sanitation and health—to the verge of collapse. Of these, 6.3 million people are estimated to be in urgent need of assistance and protection, an increase of 2 million people due to the earthquake (HNRP Flash Addendum, Myanmar Earthquake, 11.04).

Initial rapid needs assessments covering 857,000 people across 40 townships in seven states and regions have identified people's urgent priorities: cash assistance, emergency shelter, food, safe drinking water and water sources for domestic use, healthcare, and sanitation support. Among those assessed, 40 per cent have yet to receive any form of assistance (OCHA, 12.04).

According to Myanmar 2025 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan, prior to the earthquakes, people were already facing an alarming humanitarian crisis, with an estimated 19.9 million people in need of assistance, one third of its population. Since the 2021 military coup, conflict has escalated across 96% of the country's townships, displacing 3.5 million people internally (of which 1.6 million are in the hardest-hit regions). Food security has deteriorated dramatically, with some 15.2 million people facing acute food insecurity, with approximately 2 million at risk of famine. The crisis is fuelled by ongoing conflict, displacement, economic hardship and other extreme climatic events.

More than 10 million women and girls were estimated to need humanitarian assistance even before the disaster, due to the compounded impacts of conflict, political instability, and economic collapse. Now, their situation has become even more precarious. Women and girls are disproportionately affected in crises—facing increased risks of gender-based violence, insecurity, and serious barriers to accessing essential services, healthcare, and protection (HNRP Flash Addendum, Myanmar Earthquake, 11.04).

The priority needs identified by OCHA (Myanmar Earthquake Humanitarian Snapshot, 07.04) include, among others, urgent need for ready-to-eat food and basic commodities, mental health and psychosocial support, rehabilitation and reactivation of schools usually used to shelter displaced people, and provision of emergency shelter.

The earthquake has compounded already severe access challenges across Myanmar, with damage to roads, airports, and key infrastructure further limiting the ability of humanitarian actors to respond effectively. According to OCHA's Access Severity monitoring at the end 2024, of the 58 townships located in the highest-intensity earthquake zones, 14 face extreme access difficulties, 26 townships are reported to have moderate access restrictions, while 9 townships are perceived to be fully accessible. Working with CSOs well connected to the local environment might ease access restrictions.

In the aftermath of the shock ChildFund Myanmar collaborated with its partners to carry out a rapid field assessment in seven townships affected by the earthquake. The gaps and needs assessment have been conducted in coordination and cooperation with OCHA and the ICCG (inter cluster coordination group), to ensure coordination and avoid duplications of effort. The applied methodology included quantitative and qualitative data collection through focus group discussions, key informant interviews, and direct observations. The first findings confirm the widespread devastation, including some 50% of buildings destroyed or damaged in Amarapura and Mahaangmyay townships. The assessed most urgent needs include distribution of NFI such as core relief items, hygiene kits, emergency shelter items, but also distribution of food parcels, and educational and protection support especially for children.

**CHILDFUND IN MYANMAR**

ChildFund began working in Myanmar in 2012 and works on child protection, youth resilience, education, disaster risk reduction, and emergency response. It currently works across 4 Regions and States, Yangon, Bago, Mandalay, and Kachin, including several townships affected by the earthquake. It has 3 active partnerships with local organizations ensuring presence and operativity at the field level. ChildFund Myanmar and its partners have capacity to respond to the immediate emergencies, as well as develop a medium-long term recovery phase response.

On April 7<sup>th</sup> We World Humanitarian Specialist has been deployed in Myanmar to support ChildFund in the coordination and strengthening of the emergency response. Scope of the deployment is also to foster ChildFund Alliance’s positioning as emergency actor within the humanitarian landscape.

Thanks to the rapid need assessment phase, ChildFund Myanmar was already able to roll out an emergency response, thanks to the prompt support from Alliance partners. 660 most affected households were supported with the provision of core relief items and parcel foods for one month, and 12 rescue teams were supported with personal protective equipment.



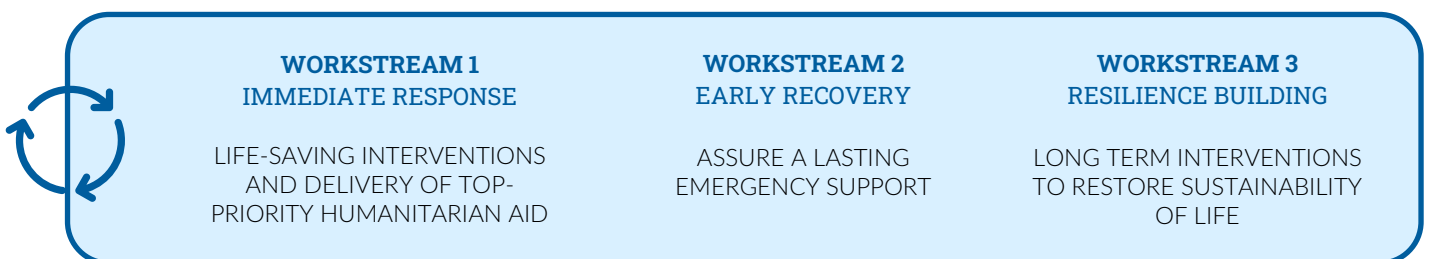
**FUTURE RESPONSE**

The response has been designed through three sequential phases related to different scenarios, lasting in total 12 months with indicative budget outlined below.

A first 2-months immediate response will be followed by a 4-months early recovery phase, and a last 6-months resilience building intervention. Programmatic priorities and activities are detailed below. The geographical priority has been identified in several townships in Mandalay. The planned response aims at assisting vulnerable people, and gradually scale up and increase sustainability of operations.

The response will be directly implemented by ChildFund Myanmar and its local partners. The approach involves gap and needs assessments to design the program response, which is developed in line with AAP principles, and involving beneficiaries in the whole project cycle process where possible.

A close coordination with OCHA, the sectorial clusters and other relevant national and international actors is assured throughout the entire action. International and national standards will therefore be followed, as per the indications from the UN-led sectorial clusters. Coordination with authorities is also done to assure smooth access to the affected areas and people of concern.



<b>Workstream 1: Immediate Response, provision of life-saving interventions and delivery of top-priority humanitarian aid</b> Timeframe: 2 months Target: 16,000 beneficiaries Resources: 970,000 USD	
Shelter-NFI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of emergency response kits to local rescue teams, inclusive of PPE, ready-to-eat food, water, etc.</li> <li>Provision of temporary emergency shelter NFI (tarpaulin sheets, etc.)</li> <li>Distribution of core relief NFI</li> </ul>
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of children kits for affected children, including IEC (information, education and communication) for child protection and care messages for caretakers</li> </ul>
Food Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Emergency food assistance through the distribution of food baskets</li> </ul>
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision and distribution of individual, gender and child- sensitive family hygiene kits, main WASH NFI (soap, diapers, sanitary pads, etc.)</li> <li>Distribution of bottled drinkable water</li> </ul>

<b>Workstream 2: Early recovery to assure a lasting emergency support</b> Timeframe: 4 months Target: 24,000 beneficiaries Resources: 310,000 USD	
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision of MHPSS and child protection support through establishing 10 temporary child safe centers for the affected children</li> <li>Education support to student, including children with disability</li> <li>Distribution of kit learning material to children and schools</li> </ul>
Food Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued provision of emergency food assistance through the distribution of food baskets in alignment with the international standards and the Food Security Cluster</li> </ul>
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision and distribution of individual, gender and child- sensitive family hygiene kits, main WASH NFI</li> </ul>

<b>Workstream 3: Resilience building providing long lasting interventions to restore sustainability of life</b> Timeframe: 6 months Target: 16,000 beneficiaries Resources: 880,000 USD	
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renovation of 20 school facilities</li> <li>Provision of NFE to displaced out-of-school children through 10 centers</li> <li>Disaster risk awareness for communities</li> <li>Provision of MHPSS and child protection support through establishing 10 temporary child safe centers for the affected children</li> </ul>
WASH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provision and distribution of individual, gender and child- sensitive family hygiene kits, main WASH NFI</li> </ul>
Livelihood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Income generation activities for families and vocational training support for working children and youths</li> <li>Youth empowerment to foster the communities' development</li> </ul>

Enabling conditions:

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Access of humanitarian staff and supplies, to affected areas and people of concern, is maintained and improved. Freedom of movements of people and humanitarian agencies is granted. Working banking system and financial procedures allowing international and national bank transfers. Liquidity is sufficient to support payments. Local markets and national/ international chain supply are operational. Currency inflation does not jeopardize the program response so far. Political situation allows for increased support and flexible funding in the country. Capacity of local organization and community structures supports localization efforts and population self-reliance processes.

## APPEAL

**Total Beneficiaries:** 24,000 unique beneficiaries

**Total resources needed:** 2,160,000 USD (of which about 148,000 USD have been already secured by fundraising effort from Alliance partners as well as ChildFund Australia's public appeal and Emergency Action Alliance)

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### Emergency Response in Myanmar as of April 2025

*ChildFund Myanmar response will continue to adapt to the evolving situation and people's needs.*