

Annual progress update 2018

Business Area: **Myanmar - 0600** Outcome/Output: **WATER SANITATION AND HYGIENE**

Output: WASH IN EMERGENCIES	Status: Finalized
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Assessment Date: 31.12.2018

Rating: On-track

Headline Statement:

UNICEF has reached 321,233 people with humanitarian WASH response through CSOs, GoM counterparts and direct implementation across 7 states and regions covering protracted IDP emergencies and monsoon floods. UNICEF continues to lead the WASH Cluster and support multiple activities to enhance coordination, preparedness, advocacy, capacity development and knowledge management.

Analytical Statement of Progress:

Preparedness capacity has been supported through trainings, in collaboration with other UNICEF sections and the WASH Cluster, covering a number of technical topics. Six contingency stock warehouses have been constructed in high disaster risk locations. Through UNICEF support, Department for Disaster Management (DDM) has been supported to review its human resource (HR) scale up planning and develop trainings on contingency warehouse management. Hygiene kit LTAs have been updated to more effectively cover both short and long-term emergencies. Due to fragmentation of WASH sector challenges remain in definition of clear preparedness roles and responsibilities between ministries, between national and state/regional government and between agencies supporting the GoM.

Coordination has been led by WASH Cluster nationally and in Kachin, Northern Shan and Rakhine State. The focus is on core WASH Cluster deliverables around supporting service delivery, advocacy, preparedness, monitoring, reporting capacity development and knowledge management. Specifically; Advocacy on need for improved living conditions in Rakhine IDP camps, camp closure guidelines and improved menstrual hygiene management support needs. Extensive work has been done to strengthen capacity through technical working groups on desludging with government co-leadership. Preparedness has been supported through timely IM products, regular meetings and maintaining a comprehensive cluster website. Studies have been identified to deepen WASH knowledge and evidence in specific areas. Outside of HRP areas humanitarian coordination is led by government. There are challenges with limited GoM human resources at state/regional level and functionality. During monsoon floods the Cluster was informally activated to provide data management support and 3W development for responding agencies.

Response: As part of the ongoing humanitarian response UNICEF continues to fulfil its cluster role as provider of last resort and support WASH partners in some of the hardest to reach IDP camps in Myanmar.

UNICEF supported 8 CSO partnerships & an MoU with WFP in Rakhine and 4 CSO partnerships in Kachin/Northern Shan. Response was also delivered through government of Myanmar and direct implementation to reach 260,747 people with humanitarian WASH activities in areas covered by the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). Widespread monsoon flooding had a heavy impact in the south east of the Government and UNICEF together with partners was able to provide a significant immediate response to 60,496 people with lifesaving WASH supplies and services. Overall UNICEF response has been constrained by lack of humanitarian access, funding gaps and a complex transition processes to streamline some partnership arrangements in both Kachin and Rakhine.

Recovery: Due to the ongoing nature of the protracted crisis in three states recovery activities have been limited in 2018. Ongoing work and advocacy for humanitarian-development orientated programming has helped UNICEF and WASH Cluster to maintain sectorial working relationships in conflict affected locations. An innovative partnership was put in place with WFP to deliver joint multipurpose cash programming as part of flood recovery process. An evaluation planned to understand better how effective cash based approaches can be for addressing WASH as part of multipurpose cash grants in the future.