

BURMA AND BANGLADESH

REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE

FACT SHEET #4, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2019

JUNE 13, 2019

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

941,351

People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance in Burma
UN – December 2018

106,401

IDPs in Burma's Kachin and Northern Shan
UN – March 2019

127,987

IDPs in Burma's Central Rakhine IDP Sites
UN – January 2019

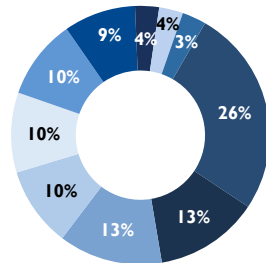
910,908

Total Number of Refugees in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar
UNHCR – June 13, 2019

741,792

People Displaced from Burma to Bangladesh Since August 25, 2017
UNHCR – June 13, 2019

USAID/OFDA¹ FUNDING BY SECTOR IN FY 2018–2019



- Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (26%)
- Economic Recovery & Market Systems (13%)
- Risk Management Policy & Practice (13%)
- Health (10%)
- Protection (10%)
- Shelter & Settlements (10%)
- Humanitarian Coordination & Information Management (9%)
- Agriculture and Food Security (3%)
- Nutrition (3%)
- Other (3%)

USAID/FFP² FUNDING BY MODALITY IN FY 2018–2019²



- Local and Regional Food Procurement (55%)
- Food Vouchers (28%)
- Cash Transfers for Food (11%)
- U.S. In-Kind Food Aid (4%)
- Complementary Services (2%)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Government of Burma extends ceasefire in Kachin and Shan until June 30 while clashes with AA forces in Rakhine escalate
- USAID/FFP partner WFP pre-positions food supplies in Cox's Bazar for rapid distribution in the event of a cyclone
- USAID provides more than \$86 million in FY 2019 funding for humanitarian response activities in Burma and Bangladesh

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA AND BANGLADESH RESPONSE IN FY 2018–2019

USAID/OFDA	\$50,386,643
USAID/FFP ²	\$183,264,149
State/PRM ³	\$309,763,648
Total	\$543,414,440

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- Clashes between Government of Burma forces and the Arakan Army (AA)—a non-state, ethnic Rakhine armed group—have continued in Rakhine State and parts of Chin State, while the Government of Burma has extended the unilateral ceasefire in Kachin and Shan states through June 30. The conflict between government forces and the AA—which began escalating in November—has displaced between 33,000 and 38,000 civilians in Rakhine and Chin, according to estimates by humanitarian agencies. The number of displaced civilians remains fluid amid ongoing conflict.
- USAID/Bangladesh Mission Director Derrick Brown and USAID/FFP Director Trey Hicks visited refugee settlements and host communities in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazar District from April 29–May 2. The delegation met with U.S. Government implementing partners—including the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), and the UN World Food Program (WFP)—and observed food assistance distribution sites and malnutrition treatment centers, as well as cyclone and monsoon preparedness activities and other disaster risk reduction efforts.

¹ USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

² USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

³ U.S. Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) funding includes additional regional contributions to UN and international organization partners supporting those most in need in the region, including ongoing programs for Burmese refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs), while USAID funding includes new and ongoing activities in Burma's Kachin, Rakhine, and Shan states, as well as in Bangladesh.

BURMA

Conflict, Displacement, and Humanitarian Access

- The Government of Burma extended the unilateral ceasefire in Kachin and Shan—previously set to expire on April 30—to the end of June. However, clashes between ethnic armed organizations have continued in Shan, resulting in multiple instances of short-term civilian displacement. The ceasefire, which began in December, does not apply to Rakhine, where Government of Burma forces have increased armed engagement with the AA, according to a May 13 Armed Conflict Location and Event Data project report.
- Conflict between the AA and Government of Burma forces in Rakhine and parts of Chin has displaced between 33,000 and 38,000 people since November, according to estimates by humanitarian agencies. The government has maintained travel restrictions for humanitarian and development actors in rural areas of Rakhine’s Buthidaung, Kyauktaw, Maungdaw, Ponnagyun, and Rathedaung townships since January 10, which continue to limit the delivery of humanitarian assistance to newly displaced populations. Relief actors also report that the access restrictions have disrupted delivery of essential services—including safe drinking water, health care, protection and livelihoods support, and education—to an estimated 95,000 people, most of whom are Rohingya.
- UN Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator Ursula Mueller visited Rakhine and other sites in Burma in early May, calling on all parties to the conflict to uphold their obligations under international humanitarian law to ensure the protection of civilians and allow access for humanitarian actors.
- UN High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi visited Burma from May 20–24 to address numerous issues raised by refugees from Burma—including citizenship rights, freedom of movement, and education and livelihoods access in Burma—and to discuss the Government of Burma’s efforts for a comprehensive and durable solution to the crisis in Rakhine. The High Commissioner also met with Rohingya IDPs and villagers in Rakhine, who conveyed their desires to return to places of origin upon receiving citizenship rights and equal treatment under the law.
- In Kachin and northern Shan, conflict between Government of Burma forces and the Kachin Independence Army (KIA) temporarily displaced nearly 47,000 people between January 2018 and May 2019, according to the UN. Approximately 106,000 additional people have remained displaced in nearly 170 camps in Kachin and Shan since conflict between Government of Burma forces and the KIA began in June 2011, including more than 38,000 people in areas beyond government control, primarily along the southern Kachin State–China border. A Government of Burma prohibition on UN assistance in areas beyond government control has remained in place since June 2016. As of March, humanitarian agencies also lacked access to nearly 20,000 IDPs within government-controlled areas due to travel authorization denials by the Government of Burma.

Food Security

- USAID/FFP continues to support WFP to provide emergency food and nutrition assistance to conflict-affected and food-insecure populations in Burma. In April, WFP provided food and nutrition assistance to nearly 325,000 people across the country, including assistance to nearly 130,000 individuals in central Rakhine, as well as emergency nutrition assistance for nearly 25,000 children ages five years and younger and more than 4,800 pregnant and lactating women. In April, the UN agency also continued to assist more than 92,500 conflict-affected individuals across more than 170 villages in Buthidaung and Maungdaw, as well as nearly 44,000 displaced people in Kachin and more than 15,000 people in northern Shan.
- USAID/FFP’s recent contribution of more than \$14 million has enabled WFP to provide locally and regionally procured food assistance and cash transfers to approximately 278,000 food-insecure people in Kachin, Shan, and Rakhine, as well as high energy biscuits (HEB) to nearly 290,000 students in approximately 4,000 schools across 11 states in the country. Additionally, with USAID/FFP support, WFP has provided nutritional assistance to nearly 20,000 children younger than five years of age and approximately 8,800 pregnant and lactating women experiencing or at risk of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM).
- In 2018, WFP provided food assistance to more than 950,000 people, including approximately 138,000 conflict-affected individuals in northern Rakhine, more than 115,000 IDPs in central Rakhine, and an estimated 55,000 food-insecure people in Kachin and Shan. The assistance included the distribution of in-kind food aid, as well as approximately \$7

million in cash-based transfers for food. WFP provided uninterrupted food assistance in central and northern Rakhine throughout 2018, despite ongoing conflict and humanitarian access restrictions.

Health, Nutrition, and WASH

- Humanitarian agencies reported water shortages in Buthidaung, Pauktaw, and Rathedaung townships prior to the onset of the monsoon season, which typically begins in late May or early June. In response, relief actors are providing safe drinking water to affected populations in Buthidaung and Pauktaw while coordinating with local authorities regarding potential requests to meet drinking water needs.
- USAID/FFP recently contributed more than \$1 million to UNICEF to provide nutritional assistance—including an estimated 140 metric tons of ready-to-use therapeutic foods—to approximately 9,000 children younger than five years of age experiencing severe acute malnutrition (SAM) in Rakhine and more than 1,000 children experiencing SAM in poor urban areas of Yangon Region’s Yangon city.
- With ongoing USAID/FFP support, UNICEF admitted nearly 570 children ages five years and younger experiencing SAM to treatment centers in Rakhine in March and more than 320 children ages five years and younger to treatment centers in April. Although nutritional screening and treatment is limited in northern Rakhine due to ongoing clashes and travel restrictions, UNICEF continues to support emergency nutrition activities at two outpatient therapeutic feeding program sites in northern Rakhine.
- With support from USAID/OFDA, UNICEF delivered hygiene kits and water containers in April to more than 4,000 people displaced by fighting between the AA and Government of Burma forces. UNICEF and partners also provided deworming treatment for approximately 18,500 children ages five years and younger, micronutrient supplements for nearly 16,500 children, and Vitamin A supplements for nearly 21,000 children.

BANGLADESH

Cyclone and Monsoon Season Preparedness

- The Government of Bangladesh and humanitarian partners have developed a 72-hour response plan for potential extreme weather events in Cox’s Bazar. Under the plan, relief actors will pre-position minimum assistance packages—including one-week rations of HEB, soap, temporary shelter items, water purification tablets, and water containers—to be distributed to refugee households should such an event occur. The response plan also specifies communications and access procedures during an extreme weather event. The UN is coordinating with the Government of Bangladesh to develop a plan on refugee evacuation protocols, including clear guidance and communication with refugees on evacuation sites in the event of a cyclone.
- In preparation for the May-to-September cyclone and monsoon season, Food Security Sector partners—including USAID/FFP partner WFP—pre-positioned food stocks in strategic areas of refugee camps in Cox’s Bazar to facilitate the rapid distribution of food assistance to cyclone- or flood-affected populations. The organizations also stocked HEB in Cox’s Bazar’s Uttaran and Zhilongha warehouses—enough to support 162,000 individuals for one week. Additionally, 22,500 ready-to-eat meals remain available in the event of a cyclone following WFP pre-positioning in preparation for Cyclone Fani in early May, which weakened to a tropical depression prior to passing from India into Bangladesh on May 4 and did not result in a humanitarian response in Cox’s Bazar. Additionally, humanitarian partners have pre-positioned 105,000 tarps and ropes and more than 77,000 Emergency Shelter Kits (ESK) in and near refugee camps, with nearly 20,000 additional ESK in Cox’s Bazar city and Chittagong.
- State/PRM partner UNHCR, in collaboration with the Danish Refugee Council, completed a first drill of a camp-level emergency response simulation as part of preparedness measures. The simulation targeted individual camps and tested the readiness of community volunteers. The exercise aimed to better understand how a response would unfold, identify potential challenges, and provide important lessons on communication. It further provided practice for refugee volunteers on conducting assessments and reporting on damage caused by incidents. UNHCR and other agencies have been training volunteer teams dedicated to critical response activities for the monsoon and cyclone seasons.

- State/PRM partner IOM responded to the threat of Tropical Cyclone Fani in April with preparedness programming, including tie-down kit distribution, shelter strengthening, awareness raising sessions, and capacity building of Mobile Medical Teams.

Food Security and Nutrition

- In April, relief organizations, including WFP, provided food assistance to more than 835,000 refugees in Cox’s Bazar, according to the Inter Sector Coordination Group (ISCG)—a humanitarian coordinating body comprising UN agencies, international non-governmental organizations (INGOs), and other stakeholders. With support from USAID/FFP, WFP distributed electronic vouchers (e-vouchers) to more than one-third of the refugee population in Cox’s Bazar—an estimated 320,000 people—during the month. E-vouchers allow beneficiaries to purchase nutritious foods at more than 20 markets. In the coming months, the UN agency plans to transition all refugee food assistance activities from in-kind food distributions to e-vouchers, which help improve dietary diversity while bolstering the local economy. Additionally, more than 228,000 children received HEB in April as part of a WFP school feeding program.
- Humanitarian agencies—including U.S. Government partner UNICEF—screened nearly 30,400 host community children ages five years and younger for acute malnutrition in March, identifying and treating nearly 1,690 children experiencing MAM and 330 children experiencing SAM, ISCG reports. Nutrition organizations also treated more than 780 pregnant and lactating Bangladeshi women experiencing MAM and provided infant and young child feeding counseling sessions to approximately 2,250 women during the month.
- On May 12, the UN released its final report for the 2018 Joint Response Plan (JRP) for the Rohingya Humanitarian Crisis, outlining JRP achievements and challenges from March–December 2018. During this period, Food Security Sector partners provided sustained food assistance to more than 945,000 Rohingya refugees residing in Bangladesh. Partners also provided complementary food assistance through in-kind food distributions and food vouchers—which beneficiaries could redeem at six e-voucher outlets—to nearly 212,000 individuals. Additionally, sector partners established communal kitchens to provide cooked food to more than 35,000 individuals daily, including new arrivals, displaced persons, and individuals with special needs. The report cited logistical constraints, flooding and landslide risks, and lack of cooking fuel as challenges to emergency food assistance activities.
- The JRP final report also indicated that global acute malnutrition prevalence among the refugee population has significantly declined since the early months of the crisis and is now below the UN World Health Organization (WHO) emergency threshold of 15 percent. Nutrition Sector partners scaled up blanket supplementary feeding programs, trained implementing partners in child feeding best practices, implemented a nutrition campaign, and conducted other preventive measures—including messaging and counseling services—to achieve these outcomes. The JRP report identified partner staff retention, inter-sector coordination, integration of nutrition services and facilities, lack of contextual understanding, and coverage of vulnerable groups as challenges to nutrition response activities.

Health

- State/PRM partner WHO manages an Early Warning, Alert and Response System (EWARS) across more than 150 health facilities in Cox’s Bazar. From March 3–May 11, EWARS facilities reported nearly 641,000 patient consultations, including for clinically defined syndromes of communicable diseases, vaccine preventable conditions, and vector-borne and waterborne diseases. The most commonly reported cases in 2019 have been for acute respiratory infections, followed by acute watery diarrhea, suspected varicella, and unexplained fever. As of May 4, health actors had recorded nearly 270 suspected or confirmed diphtheria cases in 2019, including three confirmed cases, 20 probable cases, and more than 240 suspected cases. A total of 45 people have died from diphtheria since September 2017, with the most recent death reported on January 15.
- Additionally, WHO’s mental health and psychosocial support team is conducting a series of five training sessions for health workers—primarily doctors, psychiatric specialists, and nurses—from Cox’s Bazar’s Sadar Hospital and health complexes in the sub-districts of Moheskhali, Ramu, and Ukhiya.

Livelihoods, WASH, and Disaster Preparedness

- USAID/OFDA is supporting Action Against Hunger (AAH) with \$3.7 million in FY 2019 to integrate an early recovery support program with emergency humanitarian response activities in five sub-districts of Cox's Bazar. The program will support the restoration of household livelihoods and improve resilience to shocks among refugees and host communities through cash-for-work opportunities, through which residents will be employed to improve general living conditions in host villages, including by improving drainage systems and replanting for hill stabilization. The USAID/OFDA-supported program will also work with local communities to improve disaster preparedness, increase access to disaster-resilient water sources, and improve hygiene and sanitation practices.
- With \$1.2 million in FY 2019 funding from USAID/OFDA, Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is working with communities in Cox's Bazar and Bandarban districts to improve disaster preparedness and resilience to shocks. The program will work with households in areas highly vulnerable to shocks to improve awareness of hazards and prepare them to respond to potential disaster events. CRS will also work with local disaster management committees, the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, and cyclone preparedness volunteers to improve community resilience in the event of hazards such as cyclones or flooding, and will support communities to rehabilitate environmental protective infrastructure through cash-for-work programs.

CONTEXT

- In early June 2011, a ceasefire between the Government of Burma and the KIA broke down when fighting between Government of Burma security forces and the KIA erupted in southeastern Kachin, resulting in population displacement. Conflict in Kachin and northern Shan among armed groups and Government of Burma security forces continues to generate additional displacement and humanitarian needs. As of March 2019, an estimated 106,000 people remained displaced in Kachin and northern Shan, with many IDPs residing in areas outside of Government of Burma control with limited humanitarian access. The Government of Burma announced a unilateral ceasefire with the KIA in December 2018, which remains in effect.
- Since November 2018, escalated clashes between Government of Burma forces and the AA have displaced between 33,000 and 38,000 civilians, mostly ethnic Rakhine, in Rakhine and Chin. Government of Burma-imposed access restrictions beginning in January 2019 in affected townships are hindering efforts to provide assistance to newly displaced populations and interrupting ongoing programs that aim to continue delivering services to approximately 95,000 people in need.
- Intercommunal violence in 2012 displaced tens of thousands of people in Rakhine, according to the UN. As of January 2019, approximately 128,000 people affected by the 2012 clashes remained displaced. These displaced populations, as well as other vulnerable individuals, continue to lack access to basic services and livelihood opportunities due to ongoing tensions and movement restrictions. Many IDPs in Rakhine are Rohingya, a minority group not formally recognized by the Government of Burma and denied rights to citizenship, freedom of movement, and public services. As of December 2018, nearly 600,000 ethnic Rohingya remained in Rakhine.
- Following attacks by the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army on northern Rakhine checkpoints and police posts in October 2016 and August 2017, Government of Burma security forces launched military operations in northern Rakhine's Buthidaung, Maungdaw, and Rathedaung townships. Since August 25, 2017, insecurity and violence have prompted more than 741,000 people to flee from Burma to Bangladesh. UNHCR estimates that the total number of Burmese refugees in Cox's Bazar is approximately 910,900 people as of June 2019.
- On December 27, 2018, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires George Sibley re-declared a disaster for Burma due to the ongoing complex emergency.
- USAID/OFDA, USAID/FFP, and State/PRM staff are coordinating with humanitarian partners in Burma and Bangladesh to assess humanitarian conditions, identify response gaps, and recommend response priorities.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA–BANGLADESH RESPONSE IN FY 2019¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA²			
American Refugee Committee (ARC)	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Rakhine	\$1,342,810
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Protection	Kachin, Rakhine, Shan	\$1,000,000
IRC	Health, Protection	Kachin, Rakhine, Shan	\$1,200,000
SC/US	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Rakhine	\$2,200,000
Solidarités International	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Kachin, Rakhine	\$2,000,000
OCHA	HCIM	Burma	\$400,000
UNICEF	Health, Protection, WASH	Kachin, Rakhine, Shan	\$4,503,114
	Program Support		\$73,210
TOTAL USAID/OFDA RESPONSE FUNDING FOR THE BURMA COMPLEX EMERGENCY			\$12,719,134
AAH	ERMS, Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	Bangladesh	\$3,700,000
CARE	Protection, Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Bangladesh	\$2,600,000
CRS	Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements	Bangladesh	\$1,200,000
IOM	ERMS, Risk Management Policy and Practice	Bangladesh	\$4,300,000
WFP	Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements	Bangladesh	\$1,000,000
	Program Support		\$74,630
TOTAL USAID/OFDA DRR FUNDING IN BANGLADESH			\$12,874,630
USAID/FFP³			
UNICEF	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Burma	\$1,105,507
WFP	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Burma	\$9,199,614
	Cash Transfers for Food	Burma	\$5,023,124
	Complementary Services	Burma	\$520,258
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE BURMA COMPLEX EMERGENCY			\$15,848,503
WFP	Food Vouchers	Bangladesh	\$22,000,000
	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Bangladesh	\$23,002,742
	Complementary Services	Bangladesh	\$500,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING IN BANGLADESH			\$45,502,742
STATE/PRM			
IOM	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$14,000,000
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$31,000,000
UNICEF	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$15,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$60,000,000
TOTAL USG FUNDING IN FY 2019⁴			\$146,945,009

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE BURMA-BANGLADESH RESPONSE IN FY 2018

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA			
American Refugee Committee (ARC)	Health, Nutrition, WASH	Rakhine	\$817,486
Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	Economic Recovery and Market Systems (ERMS), Protection	Kachin, Rakhine, Shan	\$1,000,000
IOM	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Health, Nutrition, Shelter and Settlements	Rakhine	\$1,800,000
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health, Protection	Kachin, Rakhine, Shan	\$600,000
Metta Foundation	Agriculture and Food Security, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Kachin, Shan	\$1,000,000
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	ERMS, Multipurpose Cash Assistance	Rakhine	\$580,267
Save the Children/U.S. (SC/US)	Health, Logistics Support and Relief Commodities, Nutrition, WASH	Rakhine	\$1,434,292
Solidarités International	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, WASH	Kachin, Rakhine	\$1,500,000
OCHA	HCIM	Burma	\$4,250,000
UNICEF	Health, Protection, WASH	Kachin, Rakhine, Shan	\$4,503,916
World Vision	Agriculture and Food Security, ERMS, Protection, WASH	Rakhine	\$747,112
TOTAL USAID/OFDA RESPONSE FUNDING FOR THE BURMA COMPLEX EMERGENCY			\$18,233,073
CARE	Risk Management Policy and Practice, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Bangladesh	\$1,700,000
IOM	ERMS, Risk Management Policy and Practice	Bangladesh	\$1,260,000
Relief International	Risk Management Policy and Practice, WASH	Bangladesh	\$1,750,000
WFP	Shelter and Settlements	Bangladesh	\$1,000,000
	Logistics Support: Provision of Rolls of Plastic Sheeting	Bangladesh	\$823,167
	Program Support		\$26,639
TOTAL USAID/OFDA DRR FUNDING IN BANGLADESH			\$6,559,806
USAID/FFP³			
WFP	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Burma	\$8,260,275
	Cash Transfers for Food	Burma	\$5,239,725
	Complementary Services	Burma	\$500,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE BURMA COMPLEX EMERGENCY			\$14,000,000
UNICEF	U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Bangladesh	\$6,323,904
	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Bangladesh	\$189,000
WFP	Cash Transfers for Food	Bangladesh	\$9,654,542
	Food Vouchers	Bangladesh	\$29,447,883

	Local and Regional Food Procurement	Bangladesh	\$60,622,720
	Complementary Services	Bangladesh	\$1,674,855
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING IN BANGLADESH			\$107,912,904
STATE/PRM			
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$2,800,000
ICRC	Humanitarian Assistance	Burma	\$14,500,000
International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$5,000,000
Implementing Partners	Humanitarian Assistance	Malaysia, Thailand	\$20,648,548
IOM	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$86,165,100
IOM	Humanitarian Assistance	Thailand	\$350,000
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$61,600,000
UNHCR	Humanitarian Assistance	Regional	\$19,400,000
UNICEF	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$37,300,000
WHO	Humanitarian Assistance	Bangladesh	\$2,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING			\$249,763,648
TOTAL USG FUNDING IN FY 2018			\$396,469,431

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. USAID/FFP and State/PRM funding includes funding for both Burmese refugees and asylum seekers in the region, as well as IDPs inside Burma.

² USG funding represents publicly announced funding as of June 13, 2019.

³ Estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement; subject to change once purchased.

⁴ Funding for populations in Burma and Bangladesh affected by the violence in Rakhine State totals nearly \$542 million since the outbreak of violence in August 2017. This includes more than \$303 million in State/PRM funding, more than \$189 million in USAID/FFP funding, and more than \$49 million in USAID/OFDA funding for populations affected by the violence in Rakhine State and other vulnerable populations. The fact sheet total includes funding from October 1, 2017, through June 13, 2019.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at www.interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.661.7710.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int.

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>