



Food insecurity is worsening in Myanmar, where more than a quarter of the population, **15.2 million people, are experiencing moderate or severe food insecurity.** The combined impacts of conflict, political instability, economic crisis and longstanding poverty leave millions unable to access basic services and struggling to meet their families' food needs. With three in four people dependent on agriculture for their livelihoods, **humanitarian support to restore rural households' production is critical.**



TO ASSIST  
**533 480 people**



FAO REQUIRES  
**USD 21.6 million**



JANUARY–DECEMBER  
**2023**

What investments in agriculture can achieve

**USD 185**



Providing 150 kg of animal feed protects a vital food asset that would cost USD 476 to replace if the animal died. A healthy milking cow provides a family with around 10 litres of milk each day.



**Keep productive animals alive and feeding families, especially milk for children**

**USD 263.5**



With an agricultural production package, each family can cultivate 0.4 ha of land and produce an estimated 1.2 tonnes of rice and up to 680 kg of vegetables, worth USD 381 on the local market.



**Support a family of 5 to produce nutritious vegetables and enough staple food for 7 months**

**USD 150**

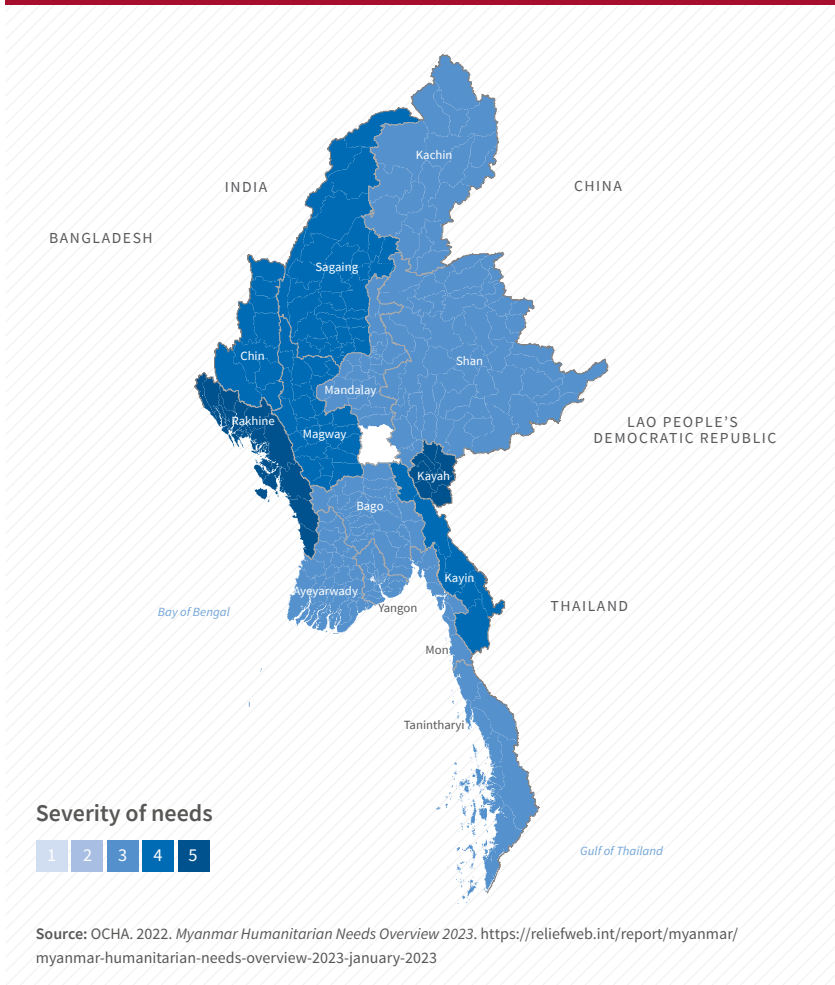


A one-time unconditional cash transfer enables a family to meet their immediate needs such as food, agricultural inputs ahead of the planting season and labour for land preparation.



**Provide cash relief to families, safeguarding their livelihoods**

## People in food insecurity by region (2022)



## Urgency of humanitarian agricultural assistance

The food security situation in Myanmar is declining rapidly. Following another year of conflict and political and economic turmoil, the number of people facing moderate to severe food insecurity has increased by 2 million since 2021. Displacement has also risen from 907 500 to 1.8 million since last year, mainly out of rural areas.

Around 70 percent of people in Myanmar rely on agriculture for their livelihood. Farmers are facing significant production deficits due to the combined impacts of the escalating conflict, climatic shocks, the sharp rise in the prices of inputs and international market disruptions. Around 56 percent of farmers reported decreasing the size of their planted areas compared with the previous year.

Supporting agricultural livelihoods is necessary to address food insecurity in Myanmar. Household production is the main direct food source for the majority of families affected by hunger. They most urgently need production inputs to protect and restore their access to food and related income. Timely delivery of vital supplies, such as paddy seed and animal feed, will determine people's ability to secure access to nutritious and staple food this year.

## Coordination

As co-leads of the Myanmar Food Security Cluster, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme work closely with 85 local and international partners, in collaboration with institutional counterparts, to ensure a needs-based, coordinated and effective response.



## Drivers of food insecurity

Conflict

Economic crisis

Political instability

Food price increase

Agricultural input price increase

Internal displacement

Climatic shocks

## Key facts

Country population: **56 million**



**15.2 million** people face moderate or severe food insecurity



**1.8 million** internally displaced people



**2.2 million** people in need of humanitarian nutrition assistance

In 2022, FAO assisted 19 945 families (99 725 people) in seven conflict-affected regions of Myanmar. This included 15 000 households that received support to produce an estimated 11 900 tonnes of nutrition-rich vegetables. Among them, 13 495 families also received more than USD 1.2 million in unconditional and conditional cash transfers to support essential household expenditures, such as food, as well as renting land for cultivation, hiring labourers and purchasing agricultural inputs. FAO further supported 3 200 farmers with paddy rice production inputs, enabling the production of an estimated 3 840 tonnes of rice worth more than USD 1.3 million at the local market.



## FAO priorities

| Priority   | Type of assistance to be provided/content of assistance package  | Cost per beneficiary household (USD) | Number of beneficiary households | Total cost (USD) | Funds needed by  | Planned implementation period |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Improve access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food through cash assistance | One-time unconditional cash transfer to enable families to meet immediate needs  | 150                                  | 57 256                           | 8 588 400        | Year-round   | Year-round                    |
|  | Cash for work to rehabilitate irrigation structures, engaging up to 110 workers per site, improving water access and production on 160 ha of agricultural land | 1 029                                | 1 000                            | 1 029 000        | August   | October–May                   |
| Restore and enhance crop and vegetable production                              | 42 kg of paddy seeds, 100 g of vegetable seeds (20 g each of bitter melon, bok choy, long beans, okra and spinach), 100 kg of fertilizer                       | 263.50                               | 38 838                           | 10 233 813       | March (monsoon season crops)<br>August (winter season crops) | May–October                   |
| Protect livestock and related food assets                                      | 150 kg animal feed   | 185                                  | 9 602                            | 1 776 370        | Year-round   | Year-round                    |

### REQUIRED CITATION

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