

General Overview

Representation in Myanmar

Fact Sheet | August 2021



About UNHCR

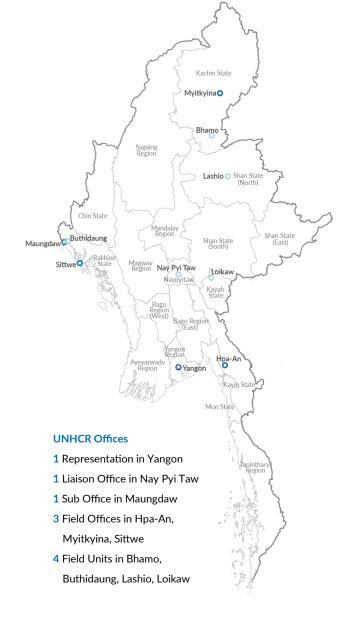
Since 1950, UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, has led international action to protect people forced to flee because of violence, persecution, war or disaster at home.

Our primary purpose is to safeguard the rights and well-being of people who have been forced to flee. Together with partners and communities, we work to ensure that everybody has the right to seek asylum and find safe refuge in another country. UNHCR also protects and assists internally displaced people (IDPs) as well stateless persons. These groups are collectively known as our persons of concern.

In more than seven decades of existence, the organization has helped tens of millions of people globally restart their lives. In Myanmar, UNHCR has been present since 1993 and maintains an operational presence of 142 national staff and 34 international staff at 10 locations nationwide. Today, we care for the needs of over one million persons of concern in Kachin, Shan, Rakhine and Chin states as well as southeastern Myanmar.

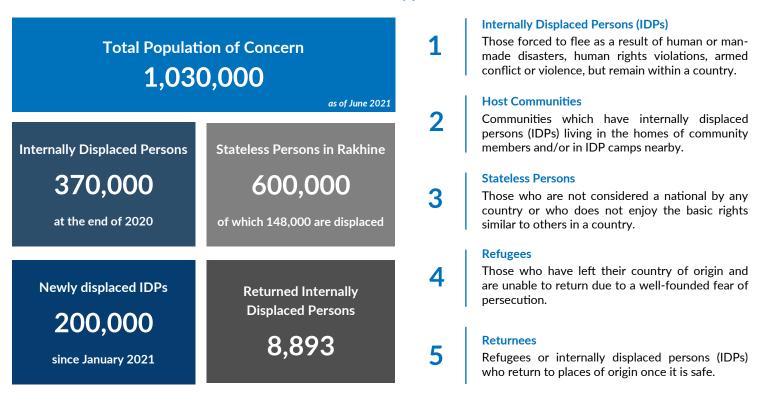
By collaborating closely with partners such as sister UN agencies, international and local NGOs as well as local communities, UNHCR plays a key role in the provision of life-saving interventions, particularly in the areas of assistance coordination, services to mitigate protection risks and delivery of emergency relief in the form of non-food items such as shelter, blankets and household goods.

We also advocate for the fundamental human rights of persons of concern and host communities, and work towards sustainable solutions that ensure people have a safe place to call home and build a better future in cohesive and resilient communities.





Who We Support



Protection

UNHCR works to amplify the voices of stateless and displaced populations, supporting efforts to protect those most at risk and build resilience. We partner with communities, local, national and international actors to ensure safety, security and wellbeing of the people we serve. In tandem, UNHCR contributes to improving the enjoyment of fundamental rights, in line with its mandates on preventing and reducing statelessness, and protecting displaced people.

Our Main Activities

Emergency Response

Providing emergency help to those forced to flee is often the first step towards longterm protection and rehabilitation. In Myanmar, UNHCR sends emergency teams to the scenes of a crises to provide lifesaving emergency assistance. By coordinating closely with partners, we distribute shelter materials like emergency tents and tarpaulins as well as core relief items such as mosquito nets, kitchen sets, jerry cans, clothing items, soap bars, sleeping mats, blankets and solar lights.

Durable Solutions

For displaced and stateless people, their goal is to rebuild their lives in safety, dignity and peace. UNHCR works to understand the aspirations of those who may wish to return to places of origin, reintegrate within the communities they reside in, or relocate safely elsewhere. We therefore collaborate with stakeholders to achieve lasting solutions for communities, through continuous and inclusive dialogue and provide appropriate support to ensure that no one is left behind.



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