

MYANMAR

EARTHQUAKE RESPONSE - ONE YEAR ON

28 MARCH 2025 - 28 MARCH 2026



One year ago, a powerful 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck central Myanmar, devastating communities across Sagaing, Mandalay, Naypyitaw, Southern Shan and parts of Bago. The disaster compounded the hardship already faced by millions of people living through years of armed conflict, displacement and economic uncertainty.

With a long presence in Myanmar of 40 years and a wide operational footprint across the country, working to protect and assist communities affected by armed conflicts and other situations of violence, the ICRC scaled up its operations to respond to the needs of the communities affected by the earthquake. It joined forces with Myanmar Red Cross society (MRCS) and supported MRCS in its role of coordinating the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement response.

Over the past twelve months, the ICRC and its partners have assisted more than 300,000 people across earthquake-affected areas. The response ranging from immediate life-saving support to recovery and resilience building, consisted in the provision of shelter, essential household items, food and economic assistance, access to safe water and sanitation, and health services. Willing to provide an efficient and sustainable response, the ICRC has enhanced local emergency capacities by strengthening local partners, local authorities and health facilities.

Many families have made important strides toward recovery – finding shelter, repairing homes, restoring livelihoods and regaining access to essential services. The solidarity of local communities, first responders, Red Cross volunteers and international partners has been central to this progress.

However, the path to recovery remains long and hampered by armed conflicts. Many people continue to live in fragile conditions, and essential services remain under strain – particularly in communities already affected by armed conflict and displacement.



Normally, when the planting season begins, I have to borrow from brokers, and sometimes I can't afford to repay all the debt within a year. Because of the support from ICRC, this year I didn't need to go to brokers and was able to repay all my debts.

That's why I am profoundly grateful to the ICRC.

– Ma Moh Moh Lwin, Sagaing Township

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

The ICRC and its partners supported hundreds of thousands of people across earthquake-affected areas. Key areas of support include:

ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO SUPPORT RECOVERY

- Around 46,000 people received essential household items to support their daily living needs.
- Around 36,000 people were supported with multipurpose cash grants to help meet a range of urgent expenses.
- Around 34,000 people received food assistance to cover immediate nutritional needs.
- Nearly 12,000 people benefited from agricultural support, including seeds, tools, or inputs to improve food security ahead of the planting season.

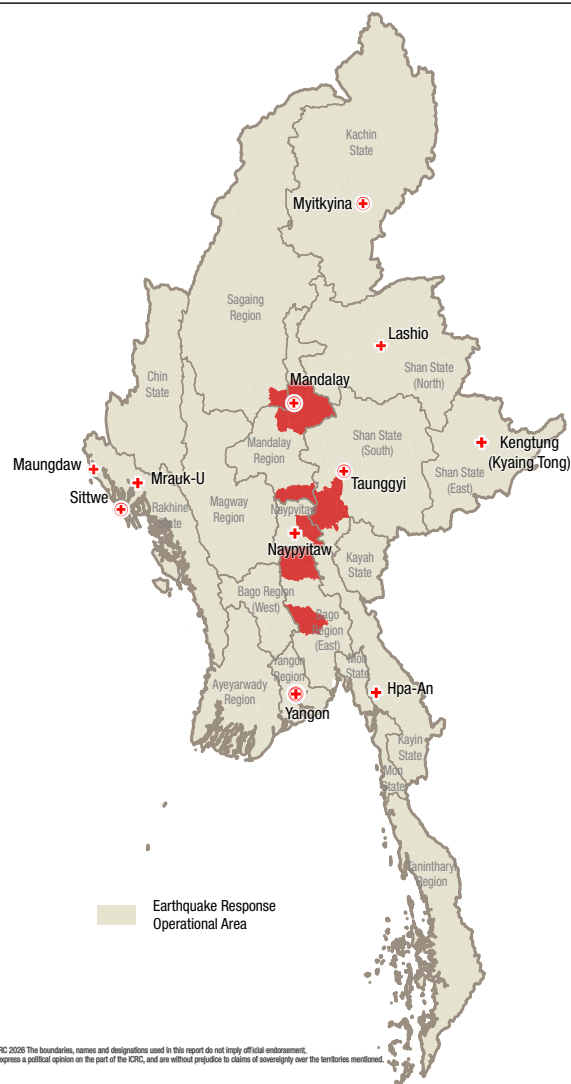
WATER, SHELTER AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- Over 151,000 people were supported with improved access to water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services, through water trucking, borehole rehabilitation, and hygiene kit distribution.
- Over 58,000 people received shelter support, including tarpaulins, toolkits and essential household items, to improve their living conditions with dignity.
- 285 structures/institutions – such as clinics, monasteries and temporary shelters – equipped with improved water and sanitation systems.

HEALTH SUPPORT AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND PHYSICAL REHABILITATION

- 11 hospitals and 28 primary health care facilities supported with medical supplies, equipment and non-medical items.
- Over 15,500 people reached with primary health care services or referred to public health institutions.
- 1,249 patients treated or transported through emergency health support.
- 70 civil society organizations equipped to provide first aid and ambulance services.
- Around 1,200 local responders mobilized for emergency health operations with ICRC support.
- 1,153 deceased individuals recovered and managed with dignity.
- Mobility devices — including wheelchairs, crutches and physiotherapy kits — and materials for the manufacturing of assistive devices donated to the National Rehabilitation Hospital and Mandalay Orthopaedic Hospital to support people injured in the earthquake.
- 10 physiotherapists trained on pre- and post-prosthetic management to strengthen local rehabilitation capacity across three hospitals.
- 2 ortho-prosthetists deployed to Mandalay, supporting 60 people with assistive devices — reflecting the ICRC's continued commitment to physical rehabilitation beyond the earthquake response.

The ICRC's Earthquake Response Operations Area



RISK AWARENESS AND SAFER BEHAVIOUR

- Around 4,000 people reached through 101 awareness sessions.
- 33 local volunteer trained to help spread life-saving messages in their communities.

COOPERATION AND PARTNERSHIP

From the outset of the emergency, the ICRC supported the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS) in coordinating the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement's collective action, which included the donation of medical and protective equipment, chemicals for water treatment, financial support for the rapid deployment of staff, ambulances, and water trucks, as well as training for volunteers. This collective effort and close coordination enabled the swift deployment of life-saving assistance and emergency teams to the most affected areas.

- 248 MRCS volunteer were trained to strengthen emergency response and first aid capacity.
- 3 MRCS branches supported to sustain operations and community-level response, including the renovation of offices in Sagaing and Patheingyi and the establishment of a new office in Mandalay.
- Over 1,800 patients were assisted through a MRCS mobile team supported by ICRC.
- 539,300 CHF disbursed to support MRCS operational capacity and earthquake response.
- 26 transitional shelters constructed jointly with the MRCS, providing safe and dignified housing to earthquake-affected families.

LOOKING AHEAD

While significant progress has been made, recovery remains fragile. Many families continue to face challenges accessing stable shelter, safe water, healthcare, and sustainable livelihoods – and the situation is further compounded by ongoing armed conflict, displacement, and economic deterioration, which leave many communities who barely manage to make ends meet with little capacity to absorb further shocks.

In a context where natural disasters and protracted conflict intersect and reinforce one another, sustained humanitarian support remains essential. The ICRC will continue working alongside communities across Myanmar — helping people rebuild their lives with dignity, for as long as they need us.

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