The ICRC has been providing humanitarian support in Myanmar for more than 30 years. We’ve been working in Rakhine State since 2012, where ICRC continues to deliver a large scale response to displaced and affected communities in urban and rural areas. We have continued to adapt our response to reflect changing humanitarian needs, working with all communities in rural and urban areas of the state.

Clashes leading to the displacement of close to a million people in 2017, outbreaks of conflict in late 2018 and the onset of COVID-19 in 2020 are just some examples of how our work has had to adapt to the needs of communities. Within Rakhine and beyond, thousands of people remain displaced due to a decade of conflict, with the capacity of many to return home safely and with dignity remaining unclear.

The humanitarian access required by our operational teams to deliver aid remains challenging, especially in rural areas. The ICRC remains concerned about the compounding negative impacts of conflict and violence on all communities in Rakhine, and we continue to share these concerns with relevant authorities. To form an effective and comprehensive response, we frame our humanitarian work through the lens of both emergencies and long-term crises.

At all times, we monitor the humanitarian outlook and, as part of the Red Cross Movement (RCM), alongside the Myanmar Red Cross Society (MRCS), remain committed to a humanitarian response that helps communities live in safety and with dignity.
To help farmers improve their yields, we provided paddy seeds for 1,800 farmers from Mrauk Oo and Min Bya townships in central Rakhine.

Multi-disciplinary first aid trainings conducted for 29 Community Health Volunteers in Mrauk Oo and Min Bya townships focusing on the safe access to healthcare, weapon contamination risks awareness and stabilization of common emergency cases.

We met with more than 12,000 students and teachers from 13 schools in Maungdaw and Buthidaung townships to deliver potentially life-saving information about COVID-19. In these sessions we discussed ways of preventing the spread of COVID-19, including the proper use of PPE. We also distributed over 125,000 masks and 250 bottles of hand sanitizer.
To improve safe and sustainable access to food, the ICRC recently provided nine varieties of vegetable seeds to 6,500 families from 50 villages living in Maungdaw and Buthidaung townships.

With the support of ICRC, Daw Thandar Oo, a diabetic patient from Maungdaw was able to work again. She runs a market stall in Maungdaw and sells fried noodles and vermicelli salads.

We manufactured 105 prosthetics and supplied 126 Mobility aids, 9 wheelchairs to support 111 people living with disabilities at our Sittwe Orthopaedic workshop.
Working with over 2,000 people across 9 different townships – Sittwe, Ponnagyun, Kyauktaw, Mrauk-U, Minbya, Myebon, Rathedaung, we ran sessions to raise awareness risks posed by landmines and other explosive hazards.

ICRC teams in Maungdaw and Buthidaung joined the Myanmar Red Cross Society to run awareness sessions on landmines and other explosive hazards for the community on International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action.

We supported 37 released detainees who are returning to Northern Rakhine with financial assistance for transport to make sure they return to their home safely.
construction of latrines for over 3,000 people from 500 families and oversaw the renovation of six water-conserving ponds in four village tracts across Maungdaw and Buthidaung. We also repaired handpumps in these villages so that people have easier access to water.

In central Rakhine, we helped build and renovate homes across 37 temporary sites for some 25,168 people in Rathedaung township, helping to improve their living conditions.

81 families were supported with transportation cost to deliver food parcels or letter to their loved ones in prisons.
ENCOURAGING THE ABILITY OF PEOPLE TO MEET THEIR NEEDS

- 194,906 people received essential household items such as blankets, mosquito nets and kitchen sets.
- 110,009 people provided with food or cash to buy food.
- 50,673 people received fuel sticks for cooking.
- 45,175 people received seeds, farm tools and fertilizers to cultivate staple crops.
- 4,534 people earned incomes through the Cash for Work programme.
- 3,262 people were supported financially to start a small business or maintain the existing one.
- 64 people were trained for systematic emergency response, operating project, and data collection.

HELPING TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO WATER, SANITATION AND SHELTER

- 227,343 people improved their access to water, sanitation, shelter and received hygiene materials through ICRC’s emergency response.
- 63,853 people living in Maungdaw and Sittwe Towns’ areas including areas, the IDPs are living had better access to clean water.
- 41,581 people living in rural area including IDP and host communities had better access to clean water and sanitation system.

With support of ICRC 2 stations hospitals (Myaung Bwe and Ah Pauk Wa) provided 100 consultations per day.

Sittwe General Hospital has been upgraded with 500 new beds.

Infrastructure support in 3 primary health centres in Mrauk-U township.
55,063 people including 14,580 children under age five were immunized as part of an ICRC supported immunization programme.

ICRC supported 16 health facilities in Rakhine provided 4,484 antenatal care consultation and 21,727 curative consultations.

992 patients were transferred or transported for urgent and immediate medical care.

11,276 patients including 8 weapon wounded patients and 3 surgical patients were admitted to ICRC supported 5 hospitals (Minbya Township Hospital, Mrauk-U District Hospital, Buthidaung Township Hospital, Maungdaw District Hospital and Sittwe General Hospital).

6 first aid trainings were conducted in Rakhine.

111 people living with disabilities including 60 people affected by mines or other explosive hazards were supported through our physical rehabilitation programme.

728 services provided including:

105 Prostheses

488 Physiotherapy sessions

9 Wheelchairs

126 Mobility aids
SUPPORTING DETAINEES AND THEIR FAMILIES

- **19,000 detainees** in prisons supported with COVID-19 prevention materials.
- **362 people** supported financially upon release from prison, allowing them to return home safely to their families.
- **110 families** were supported with transportation cost to deliver food parcels or letters to their loved ones in the prisons.
- ICRC helped **6 families** identify whereabouts of their loved ones.
- **15 family news** were shared between separated families through Red Cross Messages.

RAISING MINE RISK AWARENESS AND ENCOURAGING SAFE PRACTICES

- **5,903 people** learned more about the risks associated with weapon contamination or other explosive hazards and safe practices through **232 sessions** conducted in line with International Mine Action Standards and guidelines.
- We helped **8 landmine victims** with their medical costs.
- **55 community volunteers** and **42 Red Cross Volunteers** were trained as trainers on risk awareness and safer practices.
- Risk related to Landmine and explosive remnants of war and safe practices were promoted during **5 campaigns**.
106 Red Cross Volunteers trained on Safer Access in 6 training sessions.

Red Cross Volunteers working alongside the ICRC distributed assistance items such as food, fuel sticks, other household items and cash in 189 operations in Rakhine State.

6 coordination meetings for field operations and emergency responses were facilitated as well as a Movement strategic positioning meeting with authorities and other stakeholders.

856,995 views of ICRC operational and thematic posts on Facebook with an engagement of 95,601 likes/shares/comments.

61 people from different entities such as academic or legal circles, as well as community leaders and religious leaders participated in 5 meetings to discuss IHL/IHRL issues.

11 news articles focused on or mentioned ICRC in local media outlets.
RAISING AWARENESS OF RISK RELATED TO LANDMINE AND OTHER EXPLOSIVE REMNANT OF WAR AND PROMOTING SAFE PRACTICES

In Rakhine State, women, children, and men of all ages continue to be exposed to different challenges as a consequence of conflict, especially landmines, which continue to disrupt lives and livelihoods. To help mitigate these risks on communities, we facilitated 232 risk awareness sessions in Mrauk Oo, Kyauktaw, Ponnagyun, Rathedaung, Myaybon, Kan Htaung Gyi, Min Bya, Buthidaung and Maungdaw townships. 5,903 people learned more about the risk of mines & other explosive hazards and safe behavior from these sessions. Beyond the trainings, we also provide medical and financial assistance to landmine incident survivors and their families. We also work on preventive measures, identifying and labeling hazardous areas near villages in cooperation with village tract leaders.
HELPING PEOPLE TO SUPPORT THEMSELVES THROUGH OUR LIVELIHOOD PROGRAMME

Since 2017, the ICRC has been supporting the community in Mee Taik village with essential rations like rice, sugar, salt, peas, oil, and soap. “Most of the families here farm for their livelihood – I do the same as well. In my small garden, I am cultivating chili, okra, pumpkin, eggplant, cucumber, and tomato,” U Rawi, a local farmer from Mee Taik Village, Maungdaw Township explained. “All these seeds came from the ICRC. I received them last year in December and now they are fully grown. We eat some of the vegetables ourselves the rest, we sell in the market.”

Our teams visited seven village tracts and three displacement sites across Buthidaung and Maungdaw townships, providing some 400 families with financial support to help them sustain themselves. Beyond supporting livelihoods, the ICRC team in Maungdaw also provided food items to more than 9,000 families across 65 villages in Maungdaw and Buthidaung townships – to help ensure communities don’t go hungry.