**THE DANISH EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND**

**ALERT NOTE**

**Section A: Basic information**

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| Organisation: | *Myanmar Action Group Denmark*  *International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs*  *Danish Baptist Chiurch (in partnership with Myanmar Baptist Convention)* |
| Title of alert: | Emergency Earthquake Response |
| Type of crisis: | * *rapid onset humanitarian crisis (please fill out section B)* |

**Section B: Rapid onset humanitarian crisis:**

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| **b.1 Where is the crisis?**  Central Myanmar(Burma) -Kyaukse, Pyawbwe, Yamethin, Tatkon, Naypyidaw, Lewe, Yedashe, Taungoo, Phyu. The incident covered Some parts of Sagaing Region, Mandalay Region, Naypyidaw Region, Bago Region, Shan state, and Yangon region. [Mapping the Myanmar earthquake (reuters.com)](https://www.reuters.com/graphics/MYANMAR-QUAKE/gkvljjmwyvb/). However, the whole country is affected as the available limited resources will be used in the disaster response, and even less will be available for the already vulnerable people in other regions, such as Chin state, Kachin state, Karen State etc.  **b.2 What is the nature of the crisis?**  On the 28th March, a 7.7-magnitude earthquake and a 6.4-magnitude aftershock hit central Myanmar. More aftershocks were registered in the following days. [As of April 1st the death toll in Myanmar stood at over 3034, 3517 reported injured and 479 missing](https://english.dvb.no/myanmar-earthquake-death-toll-surpasses-3000-with-1807-bodies-recovered-from-collapsed-buildings-in-mandalay/). Protracted conflict has also contributed to a breakdown in communication from groups inside the country, therefore the genuine death toll is likely to increase drastically. Extensive damage across Burma is being reported; several mosques in Sagaing, Mandalay, and Phyu have collapsed, trapping people inside. 15 church buildings collapsed, 10 are partly damaged. The main roads (highways) and railways are damaged; the electrical posts, overhead wires, and transformers collapsed; the fiber cables and internet service centers are damaged; the cellular towers and transmission services collapsed; meaning that communication is very limited. The underground water sources are contaminated, leaving millions without access to drinking water.  Millions of people are in urgent need of help, requiring support in the form of search and rescue teams; emergency medical care; safe shelter for families left homeless; clean water, food, and basic sanitation; and restoration of lifesaving essential services. [Yet relief workers struggle to provide assistance due to lack of equipment and supplies](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/3/29/lack-of-equipment-stalls-race-to-save-earthquake-survivors-in-myanmar) and damaged infrastructure. The full extent of the damage in some parts of the country remains unknown [as access to information from the country is limited, partly due to the Junta’s restrictions and partly due to the damage to the already outdated technical equipment.](https://www.bbc.com/news/live/c4gex01m7n5t?post=asset%3Ac0a766d0-96a2-4e28-908f-e469fb964f75#post)  As stated by the UN Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator in Myanmar: [“Even before this earthquake, nearly 20 million people in Myanmar were in need of humanitarian assistance. This latest tragedy compounds an already dire crisis and risks further eroding the resilience of communities already battered by conflict, displacement, and past disasters.”](https://myanmar.un.org/en/291876-statement-earthquake-response-un-resident-coordinator-and-humanitarian-coordinator-ai-behalf) Moreover, past experiences of Myanmar military handling disaster relief ([here](https://www.france24.com/en/20080603-month-after-nargis-junta-still-under-fire-burma-cyclone-nargis) and [here](https://www.hrw.org/the-day-in-human-rights/2023/06/20?story=paragraph-5950)) suggest that priority will be given not to providing necessary relief to the suffering civil population, but to implementing military agenda, including with the use of relief. The complexity of the context and priorities of the military government could be illustrated by the fact that l[ess than an hour after the quake Myanmar military launched airstrikes, including in areas affected by the disaster.](https://www.bbc.com/news/live/c04z4wzgq5qt?post=asset%3A04987b74-b93d-45b8-be50-de7711afa40d#post)    b.3 What information do you have about the situation? What is the source of that information?  Affected populations:[Civilian population and especially, children](https://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar/millions-children-grave-risk-following-myanmars-deadliest-earthquake-decades-enar), rural communities cut off from the critical infrastructure and service.  Urgent emergency and/or protection needs: healthcare, water, funds to repair/replace damaged houses and property  Communities get trauma to live in the buildings (as their houses are cracked) that they came together in the church compounds, brought what they have and sharing together.  Other actors responding and coordinating (including government, community structures, the UN, INGOs): Myanmar military, international governments (China, India, Russia etc.), UN agencies, International organizations and NGOs, including Medecins sans Frontiers, IFRC etc. Due to the sensitive security and political situation, it is likely that many communities will refuse to accept assistance from the military junta and some foreign governments  *References:.*  <https://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar/situation-report-1-myanmar-earthquake>  <https://www.savethechildren.net/news/after-strongest-earthquake-century-children-myanmar-and-thai-myanmar-border-need-urgent>  <https://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar/myanmar-earthquake-there-must-be-no-obstruction-aid>  Information from Local partners  **b.3.1. Describe as specific as possible when the crisis has started.**  ***Mention specific dates if possible.* P*rovide documentation for this.***  28th March, now ongoing.  A 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck central Myanmar on March 28, 2025, at 12:50 PM local time, with its epicenter 16 km north-northwest of Sagaing, near Mandalay, at a shallow depth of 10 km. This was followed by a 6.4-magnitude aftershock 12 minutes later. As of the afternoon of March 29, 2025 (approximately 1:00 PM Myanmar time, or 11:30 PM PDT March 28), the situation has escalated, with significant casualties and damage reported across multiple regions.  **b.3.2. How could DERF grants make a difference for the crisis affected population?**  The DERF team has previously worked with Danish CSOs and NGOs who have long term and trusted partnerships with CSOs on the ground, particularly those operating in ethnic areas and active conflict zones. It is crucial that international aid reaches the people directly and not through channels controlled by the corrupt military junta. The junta has proven time and time again that they cannot be trusted to deliver aid effectively and indiscriminately. In 2024 in the wake of Cyclone Mocha, the junta [blocked](https://url1005.email.actionnetwork.org/ss/c/u001.XaF8mXqsA6b2dSPmhsleMQ41Qa-kr0GA7wrUz8fuWQAeSjUFdluVBXn00xYNYD2R0Be1wfuPxyQnV0elu0i29BNoMLSJln81tajk0hZ6TijAmmgMpfvNEDqRguAYe6j2y4oKnBjCV7wgSkrxt4B5z6Tv5V5jXnx_60u6XBO2PirqE3VEiqft_mEUSpOZcdzZyaLicLV522BmGS2E7bL8JweeN79DljLb200-EYQ2AgdVECSqLMw1pbAJYb-bKX0K4u7ZsU9DoED8RiTw0jDsbANMoMHyIpCYEumliuOBLSrLbRGynDdvkorx2AKbEGP4c6qFd3bqd35JIw2bNl-6robhO9i2zBBI4IS0-QuRj3Y/4f6/acXkml-_T9uyoXfXK32iNw/h1/h001.g1SCRHnTVXBNnEG1o0KY-gvI6BHG71jrSq_ywbXCmys) lifesaving assistance. They placed an [aid suspension](https://url1005.email.actionnetwork.org/ss/c/u001.qUXRBnqZ7T8nxbpAcIVwoU8Xp6oMyQiRDFEfN9x6EPQ7l5bl0aASRWhfsfl2qeQUMTRCMGVtwFlBTVlafNKEr0Tk2rA-MB3Fexm6_OxXJvGflEynIrR4396oJQX-cz84m955NIoNeQQlhB4MMx0Ns8O6CcvMZ3-QdEa9BB7QVlsuqwoebWrk42p3fE5UPcfxzzpBPu22YZkLJUMVPaPHeETEZHV12QB4h7KZuIKoooEKsw6rHJTH4vPELUHt0OGDqGFu80BFWnT0rK0yHpjaF4YSku1G-ZNEXAHmIS8rPSIQaiuBh3e3V_D6HVwpkPyPav8YZgIx95IMSxpvbo1rzyaBO1tqSvEN-uMNPZReui7LKdc_r0ypHV1fnjevhTUB/4f6/acXkml-_T9uyoXfXK32iNw/h2/h001.xYSJCTO-e_ovOeJ7VpTiHmB1EfOBy_WxgFsmw3Ycz5I) on Rakhine State, one of the main states impacted by the cyclone, as an act of revenge on ethnic armed groups involved in the conflict. Millions of people were left vulnerable, without water, food, or medical help. A DERF grant would enable support to reach those who need it, without allowing the junta to use this natural disaster as an opportunity to create more devastation. Due to the earthquake, the limited resources available for emergency relief is likely to be centered in towns and cities in or near the epicenter, leaving the rest of the population in more remote areas even more vulnerable. We urge DERF to open a nation-wide call for applications to support vulnerable population groups. |