

# CYCLONE NARGIS

## RELIEF AND REHABILITATION UPDATE REPORT March 2009

### The Disaster

Cyclone Nargis struck Myanmar's Ayeyarwaddy Delta region and Yangon township on the May 2, 2008. At last count, 138,000 people were left dead or missing; official statistics report 84,537 dead, 53,836 missing. A further 2.4 million were severely affected (UN).

### Programme Summary

#### Emergency Phase:

May 2 - December 31, 2008

#### Recovery Phase:

January 1 – December 31, 2009

**Total Budget from May 2008 to December 2009:** US\$ 29million

**Number of beneficiaries reached during emergency phase:** 375,000 children and families

**Target beneficiaries for recovery phase:** 100,000

**Response Programme staff:** 235

**International staff:** 4



Homes were destroyed after the Cyclone, and many people became homeless as a result. Photo by Joy Hla Gyaw, World Vision.

### Response overview

On May 5, World Vision declared a Category III Emergency in response to Cyclone Nargis - the organisation's highest alert level. Within days of the disaster, World Vision Myanmar was responding with essential relief supplies and support for thousands of those affected.

World Vision Singapore received and contributed **US\$750,000** to the relief and rehabilitation of Cyclone Nargis, and in partnership with Procter & Gamble, provided PUR water purification sachets to the Nargis beneficiaries.

The following are highlights of the respective sector achievements as of December 2008 for the Emergency phase and its plan in the Recovery phase:

## Food security

World Vision has been distributing emergency food aid and monthly food aid packages in partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP).

By December 2008, approximately 314,241 people were reached with some 9078.38MT of rice and pulses.

Food intervention is planned until April 2009.

## Shelter & household items

World Vision distributed temporary shelter kits including tarpaulins across the Delta and Yangon Division. Locally designed kits were distributed in Yangon, and International Federation of Red Cross (IFRC) standard kits were distributed in the Delta. Approximately 56,793 households received temporary shelter provision in Yangon and in the Delta. Distributions of blankets have also taken place to 48612 households, clothing packs to over 49,097 households and cooking sets to 32,334 households.

World Vision will not continue shelter and household items distribution during the recovery phase.

## Water, sanitation and hygiene

Activities include the distribution of hygiene and sanitation kits, and hygiene workshops. A total of 53,175 households were reached through these different activities for the Emergency phase period up to December 2008.



**In the initial days after Cyclone Nargis hit, families badly needed clean water. The water purification satchets PUR donated by Proctor and Gamble let them have clean water for consumption and use. Photo by Khaing Min Htoo, World Vision.**

Different types of water containers have been distributed to over 135,000 affected households. Households have also benefitted from greater access to safe and potable water. World Vision has also cleaned up 313 drinking water ponds and wells in the Delta, removing saline and contaminated water.

Portable treatment plants have been installed, providing clean drinking water. The construction of latrines and provision of latrine materials will continue in the recovery phase. Other

related activities such as the improvement on access to water, increase of quality of water, and raising awareness on sanitation and hygiene are being carried out.

## Child protection and education

At the peak of response, 108 Child-Friendly Spaces (CFS) were operating across Yangon and Ayeyarwaddy, serving almost 17,000 children till the end of December 2008. In the recovery stage, World Vision will hand over the Child-Friendly Spaces to communities. Approximately 50,000 children will benefit from on-going child programming such as early childhood care and development centres which will be set up by April 2009.

In the Emergency phase, World Vision, UNICEF and other partners worked together to reunite approximately 1,776 children separated from their families. While only 196 children have been reunited with relatives, other children are being cared for within their communities. World Vision continues its protection activities to guard against potential threats such as trafficking.

The construction of sixteen schools – including the provision of furniture, materials, and back-to-school kits - is ongoing in the Delta area in the current recovery phase. Child protection training is also ongoing alongside advocacy to prevent the institutionalisation of separated and abandoned children.

## Health

During the emergency phase, medicines were distributed in 11 townships across Yangon and Ayeyarwaddy. Four sub-regional health centres in the Delta are under construction and due to finish in early March, 2009. In Yangon Division, an additional 11 health structures have been renovated and repaired. Furniture and equipment have also been provided to the repaired health structures.

Health accessories such as ultrasoundnographies, ECG machines, oxygen cylinders, Infant Incubators, examination beds, suction machines have been provided to five district and township hospitals in Yangon and the Ayeyarwaddy.

World Vision has been providing basic health education, covering topics such as prevention of diarrhoea, personal hygiene, safe drinking water, and sanitary latrines to cyclone-affected families.

World Vision will not continue health interventions in the recovery phase.

## Where we work

### Recovery Phase

- Bogale
- Pyapon
- Hainggyi (Ngapudaw sub-township)

### Emergency Phase Yangon Division

- Hlang Thar Yar (ADP)
- South Dagon (ADP)
- Dagon Seikkan (Seed ADP)
- Thanlyin (Seed ADP)
- Hlegu (ADP)
- Hmawbi (ADP)
- Kyimyintaing (Child Development Projects)

### Ayeyarwaddy Division

- Bogale
- Pyapon
- Hainggyi(Ngapudaw sub-township)
- Dedaye
- Kyaiklatt

## Livelihoods

In June 2008, when farmers started their planting season, 30 hand tractors and fuel were distributed in Bogale Township to serve 357 farmers. Fuel has also been provided where needed. In December 2008, 4700 households from the hardest-hit delta areas of Hainggyi, Bogle and Pyapon received livelihood assistances including 247 fishing boats, 150 threads to weave fishing nets, 75 threshers, 60 tractors and hundreds of gardening seed packets.

Livelihood will be the main focus for the recovery phase with interventions around agriculture, fishery and livestock recovery with a special focus on assisting marginalised families.



**To help farmers regain livelihoods and recover from the disaster, Hand tractors were provided by World Vision.**

*Photo by World Vision.*

## Accountability

Community feedback and participation mechanisms have been set up, providing communities with avenues and opportunities for regular programme engagement.

Key activities will focus on information provision to communities, information gathering on programme quality, and maintaining regular dialogue with target communities.

Coordination and capacity-building with non-beneficiary programme stakeholders is also taking place.

## Advocacy

Priority areas for Nargis-related advocacy that have been identified are livelihoods, Disaster Risk Reduction, and child protection.

Child protection advocacy is currently taking place around family unity and institutionalisation. World Vision participated in a Department of Social Welfare workshop on 'Alternative Care' for local NGOs and religious institutions.

## Rehabilitation and recovery

Given the ongoing threats facing the people of Myanmar as a result of Cyclone Nargis, World Vision has started the implementation of a one-year response programme for recovery purpose, beginning in January 2009.

The areas of focus will be on livelihood recovery – consisting primarily of agriculture, fishery and livestock extension to improve food availability and income generation. Activities will continue



around integrated child protection; water, sanitation, and hygiene programmes. World Vision will also focus on disaster risk reduction activities including early warning, disaster preparedness and disaster mitigation.

The target areas for the current Recovery phase are in the Bogale, Pyapon and Haingyi townships within the Delta area.

World Vision Singapore would like to extend their gratitude on behalf of the beneficiaries to everyone who has contributed to help the people whose lives have been affected by Cyclone Nargis, because your gift makes a difference!