



# Humanitarian Aid in Burma/Myanmar

*Burma/ remains among the poorest nations in Asia and also one of the least assisted countries in the world where humanitarian aid plays an important role to reduce suffering and provides basic services. The European Commission, through its Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO), has been funding relief programmes in Burma/Myanmar since 1994. An ECHO country office was opened in Yangon in 2005 to facilitate the delivery of European humanitarian aid.*

## Assisting those affected by Cyclone Giri

In 2011, the European Commission is committing €5 million to meet the humanitarian needs of the communities affected by Cyclone Giri. This is in addition to €3 million already allocated in 2010 which enabled implementing partners such as WFP, MSF-Holland, Save the Children UK, the International Federation of the Red Cross and the Internal Rescue Committee (IRC) to provide assistance in the sectors of shelter, food, water and sanitation, health and early recovery for approximately 250,000 people. In 2011 there are still significant needs for livelihood support, shelter rehabilitation and rehabilitation of water points.

## Assisting the most vulnerable people

The European Commission is also allocating over €9 million to address basic humanitarian needs of other vulnerable people in Burma/Myanmar. The focus is on assisting the civilian victims of the protracted low-intensity conflict between the central government and armed groups of ethnic minorities living in the country's frontier areas such as Shan, Mon, Kayin and Kayah states, and Thanintaryi division. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is running an orthopaedic centre in Kayin state which also treats a number of victims of anti-personnel mines.

In the western border regions of Northern Rakhine State, ECHO is also continuing to provide assistance to isolated communities who have little or no access to social services and where malnutrition and lack of health facilities are affecting children in particular. Some one million people will benefit from the assistance being provided in the sectors of protection, water/sanitation, food aid and nutrition.

### EC humanitarian aid since 1994

In response to natural disasters	€47 million
In response to conflict	€85 million



*ECHO provides relief items to ease the suffering of people living in the country's frontier areas.*

*Photo credit: ECHO Bangkok*

## Reducing the impacts of natural disaster

DIPECHO (which stands for Disaster Preparedness ECHO) is a program set up by DG ECHO in 1996 to improve the capacities of communities at risk to better prepare and protect themselves in response to disasters. In 2010 some €1 million will be allocated under DIPECHO to support two projects implemented by specialised partners in the western coastal areas of the country. The funds are being made available under DIPECHO's €10 million 7th Action Plan for South East Asia.

The Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection department (ECHO) is part of the European Commission, the European Union's executive arm. It comes under direct responsibility of Kristalina Georgieva, European Commissioner for International Co-operation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response. Through ECHO funding, nearly 150 million people are helped each year in more than 70 countries outside the country through approximately 200 partners (International non-governmental organisations, the Red Cross/Red Crescent movement, and UN agencies).

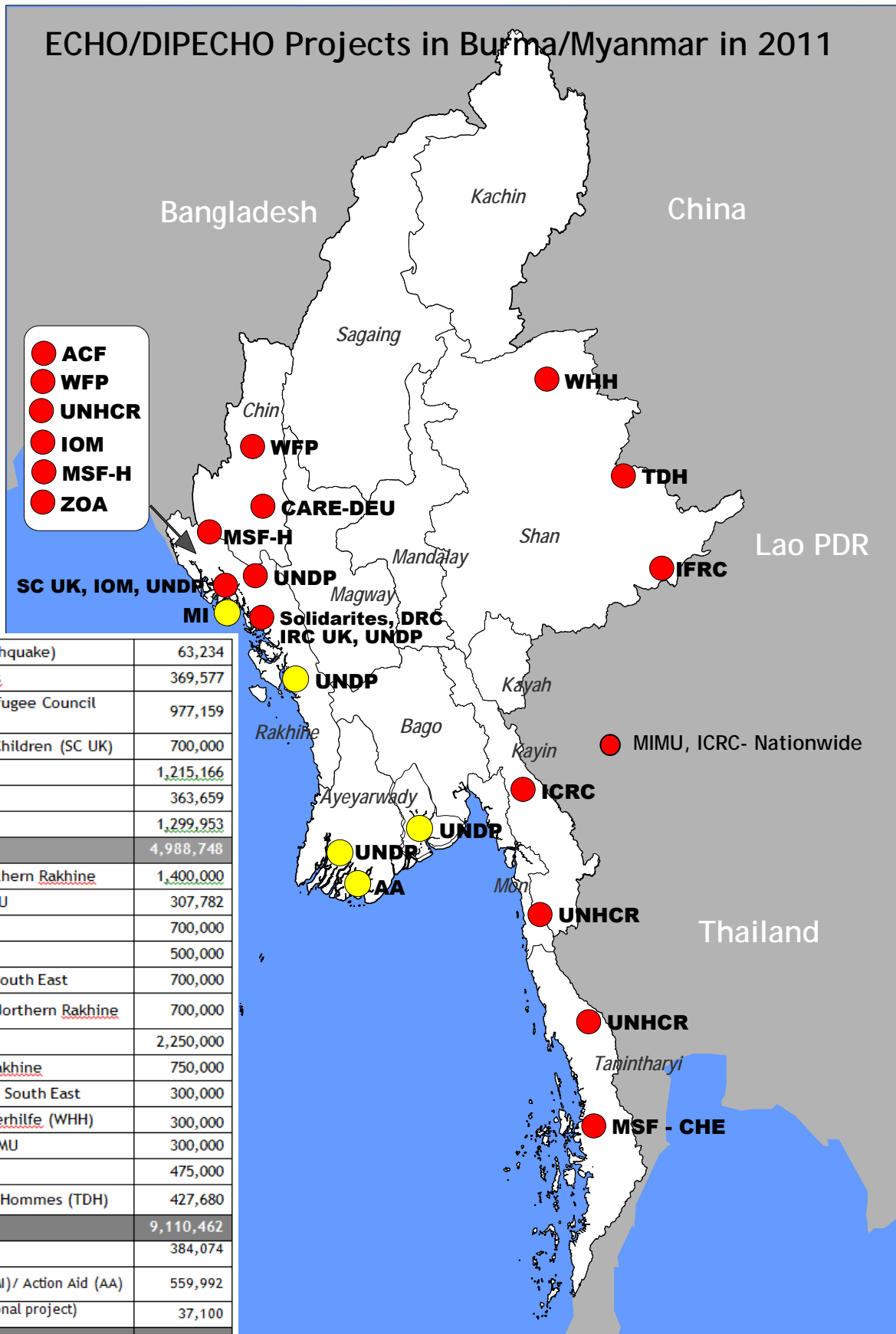
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## ECHO/DIPECHO Projects in Burma/Myanmar in 2011



EMERGENCIES		
	IFRC (earthquake)	63,234
	<u>Solidarites</u>	369,577
	Danish Refugee Council (DRC)	977,159
	Save the Children (SC UK)	700,000
	IOM	1,215,166
	IRC UK	363,659
	UNDP	1,299,953
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,988,748</b>
HUMANITARIAN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (HIP)		
	ACF - Northern Rakhine	1,400,000
	CARE - DEU	307,782
	IOM	700,000
	ICRC	500,000
	UNHCR - South East	700,000
	UNHCR - Northern Rakhine	700,000
	WFP	2,250,000
	MSF-H - Rakhine	750,000
	MSF-CHE - South East	300,000
	<u>Welthungerhilfe (WHH)</u>	300,000
	UNDP - MIMU	300,000
	ZOA	475,000
	Terre Des Hommes (TDH)	427,680
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9,110,462</b>
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS		
	UNDP	384,074
	<u>Malteser (MI) / Action Aid (AA)</u>	559,992
	IFRC (Regional project)	37,100
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>981,166</b>