



Myanmar Earthquake

Situation Report #1

March 28, 2025

Project HOPE is mobilizing an emergency response to the 7.7-magnitude earthquake in Myanmar, which is anticipated to cause catastrophic damage, a significant loss of life, and create urgent humanitarian needs.

Situation Overview

On Friday, March 28, 2025, a 7.7-magnitude earthquake shook Myanmar, and was followed by strong aftershocks measuring 6.4-magnitude. This marks the strongest earthquake experienced in Myanmar in over 100 years. The current official death count is at least 153 people killed, and 732 injured. However, this is likely to increase in the coming days and does not include official reports from Mandalay, Myanmar's second largest city, which is located near the epicenter. The United States Geological Survey estimates the likely death toll to exceed 1,000 individuals, if not more.

Reports of extensive damage are starting to come out of Myanmar, though the full extent is not yet known due to the lack of working communication systems and electricity. In Mandalay, multiple buildings, a bridge, and a monastery have collapsed. The disaster may be compounded in lowland areas after reports of a dam having burst near Mandalay.

Mandalay General Hospital is operational and has been receiving such a high influx of

Key Updates

- A deadly 7.7 earthquake has struck Myanmar this morning, with **early reports pointing to catastrophic damage** and a significant loss of life.
- Prior to the earthquake, nearly **20 million people** were in need of humanitarian assistance and over **3 million people** were internally displaced.
- As more is reported, we expect to see **disruptions to the food, water, medication supply chain**.
- The United States Geological Survey is **forecasting a death toll over 1,000** and warning of the potential for landslides.
- **The mental health impacts of earthquakes can be severe for children**, with some going mute, wetting the bed, or just enduring separation anxiety, while struggling to maintain normal sleeping and eating patterns.

patients that dozens are being treated in the parking lot in over 100-degree temperatures. A shortage of supplies has been reported at hospitals near the epicenter of the earthquake. A state of emergency has been put in place across six central states of Myanmar including Sagaing, Mandalay, Bago, Easter Shan, Mayway, and Naypyidaw.

The local government has requested assistance from the international community and the U.N. system has already activated a response. The earthquake was felt as far as China and Thailand, where assessments of potentially damaged buildings are being conducted. In Bangkok, an apartment tower collapsed, trapping over 100 construction workers below. Rescue efforts in Bangkok continued through the night.

Project HOPE is Mobilizing

Project HOPE is mobilizing staff across the region for immediate deployment to arrive in the coming days while simultaneously identifying supply chain routes for immediate supplies and connecting with local organizations for a collaborative response.

Project HOPE's partner, SAMU, is on standby to deploy mobile medical teams as a certified WHO Emergency Medical Team and a search-and-rescue team, if specifically requested by the government of Myanmar. Project HOPE has deployed SAMU in prior earthquake responses to provide search and rescue capabilities, including to Türkiye and Morocco.

Project HOPE's Emergency Response Team is preparing to rapidly implement health-supporting activities, including but not limited to the deployment of health workers and the delivery of essential medicines, medical supplies, and other critical resources.

Project HOPE has responded to several earthquake disasters in recent years including the 2023 Earthquake in Türkiye and Syria, the 2023 earthquake in Morocco, and the 2022 earthquake in Indonesia.

“This is a historic earthquake in a country that has long had a history of adversity – where millions were already displaced and tens of millions were already in need of humanitarian aid – making the consequences of this disaster even more catastrophic.”

— Arlan Fuller, Director of Emergency Preparedness and Response

For further information, contact media@projecthope.org

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