

Alert

Myanmar – No. 39/2010

Cyclone Giri

Geneva, 5 November 2010

1. Brief description of the emergency

Cyclone Giri made landfall in Rakhine State on the afternoon of 22 October. It inflicted damage to seven townships in Rakine State, eight townships in Magaway and five townships in Sagaing Townships. The most affected townships are reported to be Kyauk Phyu, Mye Bone, Minbya, Manaung and Pauktaw located on the Western Coast of Rakine State.

2. Impact

According to the information released by the Red Cross which was updated by the UNOCHA on 26 October, the number of effected persons is confirmed to be at least 176, 823. The number of homeless according to the local authorities is 70,7951. 25 deaths have been reported in Myae Bone township, eight in Pauk Taw township and one death in Min Bya township².

3. National and/or International Response

UN OCHA is coordinating relief efforts and many NGOs are mobilizing resources to assess and deliver relief. The government is doing its best to help people. But, because of the forth-coming elections on 7 November, there is not as much attention to this emergency as might otherwise be expected. Relief materials from local philanthropic people are arriving but it is still not enough to cover the needs.

4. ACT Alliance Response

ACT Alliance members present in Yangon have met three times since Giri struck. However, since most members had sufficient funds for the responses a joint response was not organized. Information sharing and general coordination among members is taking place through the ACT Myanmar Forum.

On 4 November, the Lutheran World Federation (LWF) local member – the Lutheran Church of Myanmar (LCM) requested help for communities that are in urgent need of help and who have not received any assistance so far. LWF is therefore submitting this alert with the expectation that it might partner with LCM to assist with the most urgent needs in the LCM proposed target area.

1 Myanmar Cyclonic Storm GIRI, Situation Report # 3, 26 October, 2010 by UNOCHA

2 Initial Rapid Assessment Report by UNICEF Myanmar, October 2010

Any funding indication or pledge should be communicated to Jean Daniel Birmele, ACT Chief Finance Officer (jbi@actalliance.org).

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Thank you for your attention.