



Myanmar/Burma*



Fast Facts

Population:	50.4 million
Life expectancy:	62.7 years
Under 5 mortality rate:	98/ 1,000 live births
Maternal mortality rate:	240/ 100,000 live births
Adult literacy rate:	89.9%
HIV prevalence:	0.6%
Access to improved water:	75% (urban) 69% (rural)**

Source: International Human Development Indicators, United Nations Development Programme, 2010.
*HIV and AIDS Estimate, UNAIDS, 2009
**Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply, WHO/UNICEF, 2008

Program Overview

CARE has worked in Myanmar since 1995 with the aim to improve the living standards of rural communities through health intervention programs, including HIV/AIDS prevention and care, as well as nutritional support for pregnant mothers and children; food security and livelihoods programs, comprised of support for agriculture, fisheries, and livestock; and water, sanitation and hygiene. As cross-cutting measures, CARE Myanmar is addressing disaster risk reduction, climate change and gender. CARE has offices in 10 out of 14 states and regions in Myanmar, with over 350 staff members plus many local NGO partners working on projects in hundreds of villages and towns across the country.

Public health and hygiene

CARE is working to improve people's health by building the capacity of community health services and aims to reduce the transmission of tuberculosis and malaria in highly prevalent areas. CARE also works with women to improve their sexual and reproductive health. Together with village health committees and peer educators, CARE aims to prevent diseases and malnutrition, with a focus on women and children, by providing information on staying healthy and encouraging the early use of formal health services.

HIV prevention and care

CARE works to prevent HIV transmission while also aiming to improve the quality of life for People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) and the children orphaned or vulnerable as a result of the virus, including reducing stigma and discrimination. CARE is enabling people, especially those in high risk groups, to identify and address behaviours that put them at risk of HIV infection. Activities include awareness raising among peers, establishing self help groups, condom distribution, clean needle and syringe exchange programs, ensuring access to affordable treatment, and support.

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Food and livelihood security

CARE is working to improve and diversify livelihood options to ensure food security for vulnerable people in Myanmar. CARE promotes an integrated and holistic approach and targets women, poor farmers, PLWHA, and marginalized people. CARE is involved in income generation through agriculture, fisheries and livestock activities, natural resources management, revolving funds for water systems, installation of irrigation systems for increasing food production, community forestry, and home gardening activities. CARE has expanded its operations to Ayeyarwady Division where it is focusing on restoration of livelihoods to fishermen, farmers and migrant workers. CARE is facilitating improvements to the overall health and well being of families.

Responding to emergencies

In 2008, CARE supported the relief and recovery efforts in the aftermath of Cyclone Nargis. The affected communities are now being rehabilitated with support for livelihoods (agriculture, fisheries and livestock), semi permanent shelters, disaster risk reduction (DRR) measures, and water, sanitation and hygiene practices. In June 2010, floods hit the Northern Rakhine State and CARE responded by providing water and sanitation related support to nearly 7800 affected families. In October 2010 Cyclone Giri struck western Myanmar. CARE, in partnership with a local NGO, was the first to begin the reconstruction of 600 damaged houses in 15 villages.

Water and Sanitation

CARE has been implementing a water and sanitation programme country wide as part of an integrated livelihood security approach since the start of CARE operations in Myanmar. Much of this work has concentrated on providing safe drinking water, water for irrigation, sanitation, including fly proof latrine construction, and hygiene promotion. CARE's water and

sanitation projects are located in some of the most inaccessible and remote parts of the country. CARE provides technical training to communities to ensure sustainability of all activities.

Shelter and Disaster Risk Reduction

CARE is currently implementing a shelter project for landless and vulnerable households in the Cyclone Nargis affected Delta region, and continues to support communities to develop disaster action plans and increase preparedness against future natural disasters. During 2012, CARE will be implementing a program to build the capacity of local NGOs to improve their preparedness, systems and procedures for better emergency response and recovery activities across several geographical areas of Myanmar.

Major Donors

The Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)
 European Union (EU)
 Norwegian Agency for Development (NORAD)
 Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
 European Commission for Humanitarian Aid (ECHO)
 Three-Disease Fund
 Global Fund
 Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund (LIFT)
 World Food Programme (WFP)
 Botstiber Foundation
 Glaxo Smith Klein and various other private and corporate donors

CARE International members supporting current programs:

CARE Australia, CARE Norway, CARE Deutschland & Luxembourg, CARE USA and CARE UK

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