



Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund



Government of the Netherlands



Flood Response as of September 18, 2015



LIFT spending to bolster the livelihoods of flood-affected people has now reached **US \$1,308,000**



LIFT support to reach at least

286,000 people

As soon as flood damage reports came in, LIFT donors allocated USD 1 million of new funding to support the livelihoods recovery of people affected by the floods. To date, the fund allocation has reached \$1,308,000. \$988,000 of this is new funding, the remainder has been reallocated from the budgets of existing LIFT-funded projects.

LIFT has worked carefully with partners to allocate this funding, to achieve these main objectives:

- to get key livelihood activities restarted as quickly as possible
- to minimise the increase in household indebtedness caused by the floods
- to minimise the impact of loan defaults on the long-term sustainability of our microfinance partners - and the future access of poor households to affordable financial services.

LIFT is working with

10 partners



LIFT's donors are Australia, Denmark, the European Union, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. From the private sector, the Mitsubishi Corporation is a donor. LIFT is managed by UNOPS, who administer the funds and provide oversight and monitoring.



LIFT provide assistance in

10 States/Regions

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Fund Allocation

Access to credit: 68 per cent of the total USD 1.3 million is dedicated to microfinance, in a mixture of debt relief, debt restructuring and new finance. LIFT is supporting five microfinance partners: Pact PGMF, Proximity Finance, Ar Yone Oo, Ratana Metta and Border Areas Association, in Sagaing, Bago, the Dry Zone and the Delta. The support will reach an estimated 286,000 flood-affected families.

The remaining 32 per cent has been allocated to the replanting of crops, and small scale infrastructure repairs that are important to livelihoods recovery. Agricultural terraces are being rebuilt, water sources are being cleared of sea water, and embankments that protect agricultural land are resecured. These activities involve cash-for-work to provide much-needed immediate income, and also to encourage local communities to feel ownership for the infrastructure.

Most activities are taking place in Chin and Rakhine States - 23 per cent of LIFT total flood assistance has been allocated to projects under LIFT's Tat Lan Programme in central Rakhine.

Actions in Review



4 Aug

The LIFT Fund Board approves reallocation of funds within existing budgets and approves \$1 million of additional funding to re-establish livelihoods and food security

Funds are allocated to GEN, Tag and the Tat Lan Programme for

- replanting monsoon crops
- infrastructure repairs
- conducting a gender needs assessment
- support to commercial beekeepers

5-17
Aug



21
Aug



Funds are allocated to Ar Yone Oo, Ratana Metta & Border Areas Association through PACT and Proximity Finance, mainly for debt relief, debt re-structuring and new finance. CORAD reallocates project funds to rebuild farming livelihoods in Chin State

Main flood response by LIFT implementing partners

Tat Lan teams in Rakhine State are delivering recovery assistance to Cyclone Komen affected villages in Myebone, Kyaukpyu, Minbya and Pauktaw townships. From its core funding of USD 22 million, \$214,000 has been re-allocated from existing budget towards recovery activities, mainly for renovating and repairing contaminated water sources, rebuilding the damaged embankments and

distribution of fast maturing paddy seeds to replant the monsoon crop.

While flood waters destroyed a total of 36,086 acres of paddy throughout Tat Lan villages, there is good news in the resilience of some new breeds of paddy seed, has been proven.



Four days after the floods receded, U Hla Win, a Tat Lan beneficiary, took fellow farmers into his Minbya paddy field to show them the resilience of his Sin Thwe Latt variety of seedlings. Fourteen days after being transplanted, these seedlings had survived six days of devastating rain, waist deep flooding and silt mud in the aftermath of the cyclone. "I am so happy my plants survived six days under water. Our traditional seeds are not so strong," he said, with amazement.

Ar Yone Oo is a local microfinance organisation, supported by **PACT**, working in one of the hardest hit townships, Kalay. About 50% of their total loan portfolio - or 2,326 clients - have suffered devastating loss. LIFT will support Ar Yone Oo to write off the outstanding loans for all of these clients. LIFT will also support them to provide a cash grant in relief assistance to each client's microfinance institution savings account.

Ratana Metta & Border Areas Association are also local microfinance institutions supported by **PACT**. They work in Monywa (Sagaing) and Shwekyin (Bago) respectively, both of which have been hard hit. Together they have 4,512 clients that are severely affected. LIFT will provide those clients with debt service relief. LIFT will also support Ratana Metta and the Border Areas Association to provide a cash grants into each client's microfinance institution savings account.

PACT (PGMF) works in 23 flood-affected townships. Because of its size and maturity, PGMF is able to use its own resources to write off all outstanding loans in the two hardest hit townships, Ayardaw in Sagaing and Pwint Phyu in Magway. PGMF will also provide debt service relief to all affected clients in the other 21 townships. PGMF has a beneficiary welfare fund that will be used to provide relief assistance to the MFI savings accounts of 36,540 clients that are severely-affected. LIFT will contribute to partially recapitalize the beneficiary welfare fund.

Proximity Finance works in twelve flood-affected townships in the Delta and the Dry Zone. LIFT will support debt service for 2,169 clients that have been moderately or severely affected by the floods.

CORAD works in Chin, particularly with farmer groups in about 20 flood-affected villages. LIFT will support 2,500 households with the rehabilitation of terraces and irrigation facilities to ensure that land is prepared for the winter season. This involves cash-for-work, materials for irrigation (pipes), and seeds for sunflower, garden pea, sesame, corn, vegetables and paddy.

On top of the new funding, LIFT has also agreed with a number of partners to reallocate portions of existing project budgets to flood-related activities. These include:

- The **International Rescue Committee**, working with the Tat Lan Programme in Rakhine State, has reallocated budget to procure short-duration and/or salt tolerant rice seed varieties to replant the monsoon crop; secure fresh water supplies; and repair damaged embankments that protect agricultural land.
- **Gender Equality Network** has reallocated funds for an assessment study of women and children's specific needs after a natural disaster.
- **TAG International** has reallocated budget to replace damaged beehives and equipment in Magway Region.

Geographic Coverage

IP	Ar Yone Oo (Local MFI supported by Pact)
State/Region	Sagaing
Township	Kale
Amount	\$328,000

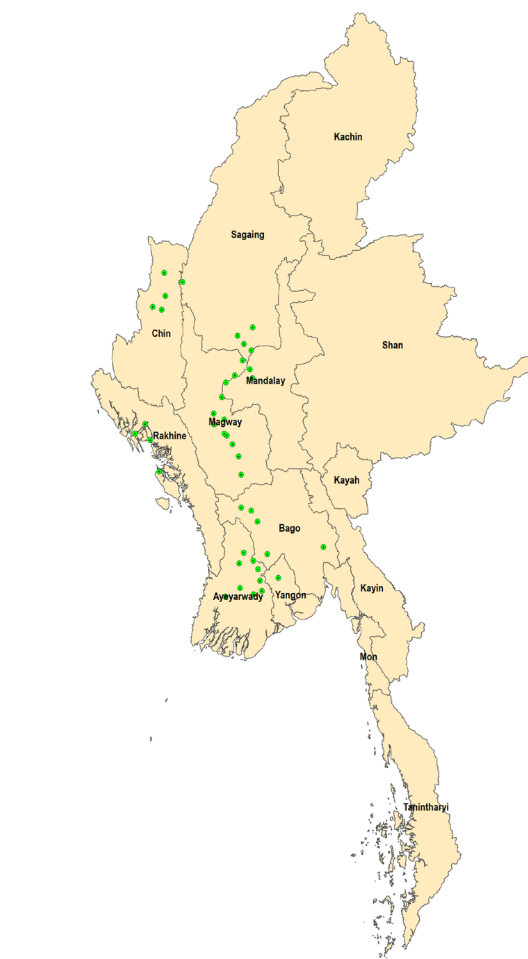
IP	PACT (PGMF)
State/Region	Ayeyarwady, Mandalay, Magway, Sagaing
Township	Danuphyu, Ingapu, Kangyidaunt, Kyaunggon, Lemyethna, Nyaungdon, Pantanaw, Zalun, Nyaung-U, Taungtha, Yesagyo, Aunglan, Chauk, Magway, Minbu, Myaung, Pakokku, Pwintbyu, Salin, Sinbaungwe, Yenangyaung, Ayadaw, Chaung-U
Amount	\$288,000

IP	Ratana Metta & Border Areas Association (both local MFIs supported by PACT)
State/Region	Bago, Sagaing
Township	Shwekyin, Monywa
Amount	\$218,000

IP	Tat Lan Programme
State/Region	Rakhine
Township	Myebon, Kyaukpyu, Minbya, Pyauktaw
Amount	\$306,000

IP	Proximity Finance
State/Region	Ayeyarwady, Bago, Magway, Mandalay, Yangon
Township	Hinthada, Ingapu, Nyaungdon, Letpadan, Minhla, Nattalin, Shwedaung, Theagon, Aunglan, Minbu, Myingyan, Taikkyi
Amount	\$58,000

IP	CORAD
State/Region	Chin
Township	Falam, Hakha, Tedim, Thantlang
Amount	\$96,000



IP	Gender Equality Network
State/Region	Flood needs assessment
Amount	\$5,000

IP	Tag International
State/Region	Magway
Amount	\$8700

LIFT flood response media coverage

The media coverage for LIFT flood response includes :

National Press

7 Days, 3 September
Farmers, 7 September

National Radio

"Helping Hands for Flood Survival" programme by MRTV /BBC Media Action

- U Nay Myo, Agri culture & Livestocks Officer advised best practice for planting a second crop
- U Myint Kyaw Microfinance and Business Development Officer provided general advice on microfinance options for flood-affected people



National TV

MRTV-4, 26 August
Flood farming talk show featuring Steve Dowall, Lead Technical Officer, LIFT