



DRC Myanmar | Poverty and Hunger Alleviation through Support, Empowerment, and Increased Networking (PHASE IN II) **via the European Union**

PROJECT SNAPSHOT | **Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance in Rakhine State**

As conflict and Covid-19 have exhausted all resources and there are no means left for people in conflict-affected areas to buy medicine, food, or pay for health services, DRC can step in with emergency cash grants. This is an emergency situation increasingly seen in Myanmar's Rakhine State, where DRC has been working to help people in need since 2009.

Multipurpose cash assistance offers people affected by crises the flexibility and dignity to choose how to cover their needs. As noted in [DRC's Rapid Needs Assessment \(July 2020\)](#), this type of assistance was identified by communities and DRC partners as a key modality helping conflict and Covid-19 affected communities in Rakhine State to meet their basic needs.

Emergency cash grants can be distributed by DRC remotely with less clustering at distribution sites and reduced transmission risk. The grants support households who have lost access to their main income due to the pandemic. It is aimed to immediately enable them to act and to strengthen their resilience to adapt to shocks without further loss of essential assets.

DRC has completed a [youth labour market assessment](#) and [remote market assessment](#) in Rakhine State published in 2019 to identify long term constraints and opportunities to build future resilience in market systems. Shocks like disease outbreaks can have the biggest negative impact on sectors and actors that are historically weak. DRC is using market analysis and programming to address these issues in addition to emergency response to short term needs.

DRC has also completed a [Rapid Needs Assessment \(July 2020\)](#), as part of building a robust network in the targeted locations where cash grant will be distributed in Rakhine state.

***PHASE IN II** is funded by the European Union and implemented by DRC in Myanmar between 2017 and 2021 in Maungdaw, Mrauk-U, Kyauktaw, Sittwe, and Pauktaw townships of Rakhine State through seven main project components:*

*Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) ● Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) ● Cash for Work (CfW) ● Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA) ● Community-driven Development (CDD) ● Business start-up Support ● **Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA)***

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