



Emergency Disaster Appeal for Cyclone Victims

IRFF is partnering with, **ABITSU (<http://abitsu.org>)**, a Burmese NGO to help the victims of Cyclone Negrin in Myanmar. By working with Burmese and Thai relief workers, this joint effort guarantees that all disaster assistance will go directly to the victims in the affected . Relief stations have already been set up in four key regions (Rangoon, Pegu Township, Kandawglay Township and Hlaing Tharyar Township) and ten supply trucks have been donated so far to transport all relief goods. The relief effort is based in the Thai/Burma border region of Mae Sot with all disaster supplies driven directly to the relief stations by Burmese citizens. The ground relief effort will be organized and carried out exclusively by ABITSU and its local networks, and supervised by ABITSU's executive director – Mr. Stanley Akzeya.



How will your contributions be used? All financial contributions will be used to provide clean drinking water, food, clothing, and basic medical supplies as well as offer monetary support for the affected families. For the tens of thousands of people impacted by the cyclone, most have not had access to clean drinking water for the last seven days, let alone access to basic food staples such as rice and protein sources. Hunger and deprivation are a way of life now for each one of them. The current death toll hovers around 22,500 but may easily rise to over 100,000 men, women and children as access to those areas still under water becomes available. In addition to suffering the effects of the cyclone itself, the disaster victims may also become victims of epidemics of cholera, dysentery and malaria – a danger of all such disasters. Early reports from ABITSU's relief stations in the country indicate that

cholera is already evident in some of the villages. For the youngest and oldest victims, this can be especially devastating as they are most susceptible to such diseases.

Myanmar needs your help NOW! Through your generosity, you will be able to directly impact the lives of these Burmese families. We are one of the few organizations that can provide disaster help directly to the victims because of our partnership with an on-the-ground Thai-Burmese organization. Your donations will be used only by local Burmese villagers, some of whom live in some of the more isolated and hard-to-reach areas. Please donate whatever you can today, so that these innocent victims of cyclone Negrís can live to see another tomorrow and have hope for the future.

Please donate at www.irff.org today and pass this email on to other people, list serves and websites that can help.

Richard Sapp
International Director of Disaster Service