



Mainstreaming Environment in into Recovery: Myanmar

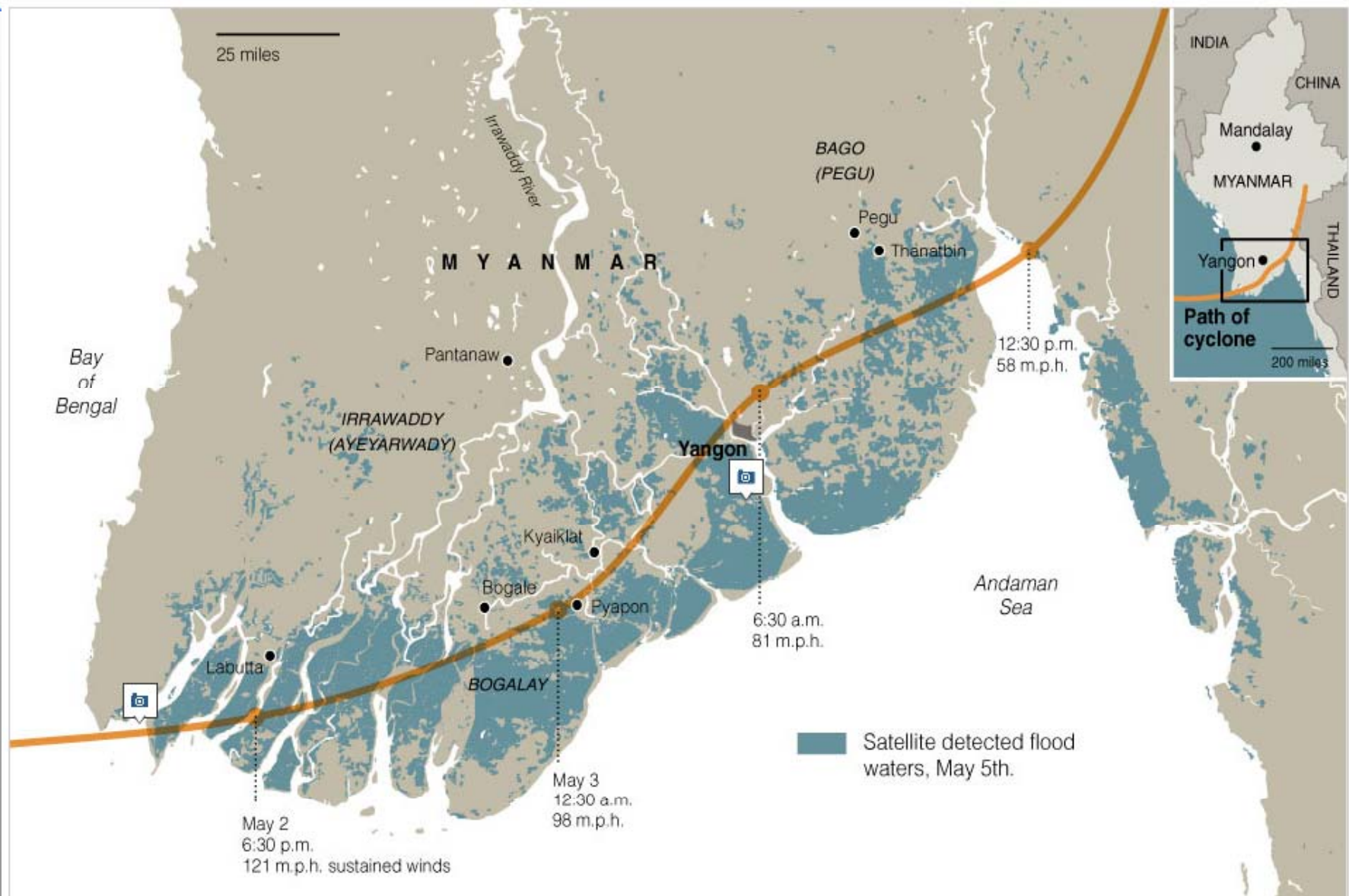
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Cyclone Nargis – Flooded Areas







Myanmar: Key Environmental Issues

- Salt water intrusion of agricultural land
- Salt intrusion into drinking water
- Sedimentation
- Disaster waste related issues
- Environmental footprint of recovery



Environmental Damages

- ❖ Damaged some 35,000 ha of natural and planted mangroves;
- ❖ Pollution of surface and groundwater sources - 43% of ponds damaged;
- ❖ Salination and erosion of agricultural lands - 63% of paddy flooded;
- ❖ Impact on fisheries by winds & storm surge;
- ❖ Sedimentation;
- ❖ Waste generation - debris from shelters, jetties





Myanmar Key Processes

- Formation of TCG
- PONJA (Post Nargis Joint Needs Assessment)
- UNEP involved in the PONJA process and contributed to the output





Myanmar: Environment is Life

The environment and natural resources underpin the livelihoods of the people of the Ayeyarwady Delta and Yangon Divisions:

- ✓ Agriculture - paddy and other cash crops;
- ✓ Subsistence crops and home gardens;
- ✓ Fisheries - commercial and subsistence;
- ✓ Secondary Natural resources-based industries such as fish processing;
- ✓ Salt production;
- ✓ Forest resources - timber, fuel and incomes.



Already Stressed Environment

Impacts of Nargis made worse by pre-existing environment degradation:

- ✓ Loss of 80% of original mangroves through cutting for fuelwood, charcoal, and conversion to paddy or shrimp farming;
- ✓ Shelter - over-exploitation of timber and thatching resources;
- ✓ Farming systems based on low-yielding cultivars;
- ✓ Fisheries - over-exploitation of resources;
- ✓ Inadequate maintenance of embankments;
- ✓ Sea water intrusion into groundwater as a result of climate change.



PONJA Recommendations

- ❖ Direct environmental damage of Nargis;
- ❖ Environmental footprint of recovery;
- ❖ Policy constraints and capacity gaps at community, local and national levels;
- ❖ Capacity for long-term disaster and risk-reduction strategic planning.



Environment Interfaces of Govt Plans

- ❖ Shelter - building back better;
- ❖ Water - access to safe drinking water;
- ❖ Agriculture - restoration of livelihoods and food security;
- ❖ fisheries - restoration of incomes from fishing and subsistence fisheries;
- ❖ Forestry - rehabilitation of forests and mangroves.



Environmental Interfaces of PONREP

Main emphasis is on “Productive, Healthy and Protected lives” for communities.

- ❖ Shelter - safer and durable housing;
- ❖ Water - access to safe drinking water;
- ❖ Agriculture - restoration of livelihoods and food security;
- ❖ fisheries - restoration of incomes from fishing and subsistence fisheries;
- ❖ Forestry - rehabilitation of forests and mangroves;
- ❖ DRR - systems for disaster risk reduction.



Myanmar Follow up

