



World Food
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The Food Aid Organization of the United Nations

WFP Video News Release

Myanmar

Htaw Paing village, Bogale region

Shot 20th of June 2008

TRT 02.35

0-00:15

GV village

00:15-00:33

WFP rice off loaded from Helicopter

00:33-00:39

GV villagers

00:39-00:48 SOT (English) Jo So Myint WFP Programme assistant Bogale

" almost all the houses collapsed during the night of Nargis and people lost their homes, their farms and they are facing food insecurit[y]"

00:48-01:15

WFP food distribution

01:15-01:27

Naing Naing getting rice

01:27-01:31 SOT (Myanmar) Naing Naing

" my father has not been able to go cut tree to rebuilt our house maybe soon"

01:31-02:01

GV WFP rice distribution

02:01-02:35

GV village

END

General info

The village of Htaw Piang Village stands at the forks of the Bogale and Pathi River, both important waterways in the Bogale area.

It's location and ability to produce export quality rice made it an important market place for dozens of smaller nearby

Via Cesare Giulio Viola 68/70, Parco de' Medici 00148 Rome, Italy

Telephone: +39-06-65131 Fax: +39-06-6590632/6590637

E-Mail: firstname.lastname@wfp.org Website: www.wfp.org



villages. But all that is lost now. The village economy is at a standstill.

Cyclone Nargis took a terrible toll on this village. Forty five people died, almost all the villagers' homes were destroyed.

Cattle owners lost their beasts, fishermen their nets and boats, and farmers their crops. Almost all the villagers have been left without their tradition livelihood.

Most of 1100 residents are casual labourers, who rely on the landowners to supply them with the buffalos and seeds needed to grow the rice crops. But the devastation is so extensive that even the land owners uable to resupply their workers.

The people will require support to rebuild their lives.

Recognizing the village's importance, WFP has chosen Htaw Paing as a regional hub for the distribution of rice and other supplies.

Last week WFP helicopters made five drops, to bring just over 8 tons of rice to village, their first since the cyclone hit.

This supply will provide 6 kilos of rice to just over 1000 people, enough to feed them for two weeks.

Some villagers built makeshift huts with whatever materials they could salvage. Others like Naing Naing's father have not started yet. "My father has not been able to go cut wood to rebuild yet, but maybe soon," explains Naing as he picks up the family's ration of rice. Until then, Naing and his family of six is living with an aunt.

In the Bogale region, WFP has distributed rice and other food supplies to over 400,000 people since May 9th. Further afield in the remote and difficult to reach areas, WFO helicopters have delivered approx 107 mt to 10,000 beneficiaries.