

Summary Note on Cash Working Group (CWG) Meeting

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Date/ Time & Venue | 12 May 2022, 10.00 – 12.00 (via MS Teams) | |
| Chair / Co-chair | Mercy Corps (John Nelson), WFP (Ria Lewis, Thin Thin Aye) and MRCS (Moe Thida Win) | |
| Participants | AVSI, CARE, Cordaid, CRS, DCA, DFID, DRC, ECHO, FCA, FCDO, INGO Forum, IOM, JICA, LIFT, Malteser International, Mercy Corps, MRCS, NRC, OCHA, Oxfam, Protection Sector, Save the Children, Tearfund, TGH, UNHCR, UNDP, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNICEF – WASH, UNWOMEN, WFP, WFP – FSS, WFP – Sittwe, WFP-Myitkyina, WVI | |
| Agenda items and summary of discussion | Action Points | |
| <p>1. Sub-National CWG updates</p> <p>Kachin</p> <p>In Kachin, new cash transfer value has been identified and will be applied starting from May 2022 distribution cycle. The new transfer value document will be finalized and shared with CWG members in coming days.</p> <p>Rakhine</p> <p>The central Rakhine CWG meeting will cover the Chin, Sagaing and Magway areas for cash-related activities and updates. Partners are encouraged to indicate the focal points who would like to join the the Chin, Sagaing, Magway cash coordination by reaching out to prabesh.paudyal@undp.org.</p> | <p>#Kachin CWG to share new transfer value with CWG members</p> | |
| <p>2. CWG member updates</p> <p>CARE: has completed the Market Mapping Analysis Report of the GRO Myanmar project in Mon and Kayin State, and the Rapid Needs Assessment Report which will later be shared with CWG members. CARE will distribute livelihood and food security assistance to over 5,000 HHs in Mon and Kayin. Cash transfer programme for Northern Shan IDP camps is still under discussion and aimed to kick off in July 2022. Please follow this link to access CARE’s market analysis report and RNA report for Kayah, and GRO RNA report for Mon and Kayin states.</p> <p>DRC: In April, DRC distributed multi-purpose cash assistance (MPCA) of 167000MMK per beneficiary to 61 beneficiaries in Sittwe and 221 in Maungdaw.</p> <p>IOM: IOM distributed small scale MPCA in Northwest, for HHs in Chin around Hakka, Falam, Thantlang (for cash), and some non-cash work in Mindat because families reported this preference (approx 2000HHs over a few months), including targeting of fire affected HHs. Small scale MPCA was also delivered in Pauk township, Magway for 800HHs.</p> <p>Mercy Corps: concluded cash in envelope in Maung Daw and Buthi Daung Townships in first week of May. Cash delivery process to beneficiaries were smooth using 3rd party financial service provider to source cash. Post-distribution monitoring (PDM) reports were collected and are now in analysis. The reports involving key information will be shared later with CWG. Mercy Corps also delivered first round MPCA in Southeast and</p> | | |

arranging for second round. The situation in Southeast is fluid, but assistance will be able to deliver to targeted areas.

MRCS: MRCS started working on feasibility study for FSP and will later share the report with CWG. MRCS has been working with Ongo in Magway Region, Shan (South), Yangon which are ongoing activities.

Save the Children: MPCG Kayin- 170,000 MMK to 300 beneficiary, MPCG Kayah- 170,000 MMK to 1500 beneficiary. Food Security- 291,260,880 MMK planned to disburse in May 2022 across 3 regions (Rakhine, Kayah, NSS) from 15,000 to 19,000 to each HH depending on location. Nutrition related for U2 and U5 HHs -185,340,000 MMK for U5 and MCCT cash transfer in peri Urban Yangon for 30,000 per child. 39,210,000 MMK for PLW cash transfer in Rakhine for 15,000 per HH. 51,252,750 MMK for UCT cash transfer to PLWs in Northern Shan State for 15,000 per HH. Lastly, Cash for Education 56,646,000 MMK for over 2000 HHs in Rakhine for May 2022 for 25,000 per HH.

WFP: is looking at e-cash resumption in Kachin and Rakhine states.

3. Market price updates

Mercy Corps and WFP provided market updates for April 2022 respectively on geographical areas, global and nationwide market price updates. According to global food prices indices, FAO Vegetable Oil Price Index dropped 14.3 points (5.7%) from record high in March, although still much higher than one year ago. International palm oil prices dropped moderately in April due to subdued global import purchases amid high costs as well as a weakening demand outlook in China. International soy and sunflower oil fell due to demand-rationing following the record high last month. Following peaks in fuel prices in late February and mid-March, April saw some reprieve in petrol prices, albeit short-lived, rising again by the end of the month. With the conflict in Ukraine and ongoing concerns over supply, oil prices projected to remain well over 2021 prices.

In Myanmar, fuel prices increased by +6% in April resulting in the price more than doubled (+138%) compared to pre-crisis. Fuel prices are expected to continue to rise according to global context and it will continue to be a major factor affecting retail prices. Edible oil prices stabilized briefly in April-May2022, except in areas with intensification of conflict and disruption in transportation such as Chin, Kayin and Sagaing. Retail prices rose in Wa region due to the lockdown of MongPaw market. Egg prices saw increases in all areas except Mandalay, due to rising costs of poultry feed. Insecurity continues to deteriorate in the Northwest and Southeast, affecting access to markets, transport costs, and ability of shops to re-stock the commodities.

For any further exchanges on WFP market price monitoring, please reach out to marie.enlund@wfp.org . Please visit [here](#) for WFP market monitoring dashboard and follow this [link](#) for Mercy Corps MAU dashboards and reports.

4. CWG Workstream Updates

CVA TOT: The Co-facilitators from the 2021 Cohort has been identified for the refresher TOT trainings. The invitation has been sent to the selected co-facilitators and provided information regarding TOT. Tentatively, the training will be delivered face-to-face in Yangon during the third week of June 2022, should the resource mobilization allow for the organization of the training.

CWG Information Management and Teams Site: OCHA navigated the members through MS Teams site and the features in it. Members should have received the email invitation to join the MS Teams site. Members who have not yet received the invitation and experience any technical difficulties, please reach out to Chantal Zimmermann at Chantal.zimmermann@un.org. Members will be asked to switch to MRCS profile once they access to CWT MS Teams site. Different channels can be accessible in the site such as General, 4Ws data, CVA TOT, FSP, Market and MEB channels. Members are encouraged to regularly switch to MRCS profile to check on updates as well as upload any market and CVA related updates on MS Teams site, as the site does not send the automatic notifications for any recent uploads and updates.

4Ws: After substantial 4Ws data collection for CVA activities implemented during 2021, the datasets have now been released and shared with CWG partners and agencies who submitted the information. Due to sensitivity around data, two different datasets (public and limited versions) have been created and circulated to relevant audience. Infographic 4Ws will be published at the end of May 2022, while the dashboards and Power BI are aimed to be rolled out in June 2022.

Survival MEB: The SMEB presentation, together with the Excel calculation sheet has been shared with members to provide written feedback. SMEB summary note has also been developed which summarizes proposed methodology, its advantages and disadvantages, key consideration as well as outcomes from different consultation organized around SMEB. Partners are encouraged to provide feedback, either written or during the meeting for SMEB. SMEB is to be considered complementary with the Myanmar MEB and the other broad consumption sectors, however, the overall SMEB is significantly reduced compared to MEB due to reduced food calculation.

FSP Mapping: Following up from the conversation from last CWG around the presence and coverage of financial service providers, co-chair presented questions around regulation, preparedness (geographical coverage and ability to scale up), mechanisms, Know Your Customer standards, ID and previous experiences operating in humanitarian setting. It was discussed what type of information would be required for data collection to better inform the FSP selection in different geographical areas. Members commented that FSP mapping is a basic important coordination and time saving tool for those expanding to new areas, however, noted that the mapping and analysis shouldn't supersede individual agency and organizations evaluation to avoid confusion and misinformation among members, donors and implementing agencies. Co-chair will arrange a separate discussion and follow up with IM to check the available information which can potentially be extracted for mapping exercise.

5. Other Quick Updates

Humanitarian Access Working Group (HAWG): HAWG is collecting information on access constraints in Myanmar which will be used in developing a dashboard and advocacy around improving access. The KOBO form together with the information on reporting has previously been share with CWG members. Partners are encouraged to report any CVA specific and/or CVA related access constraints such as difficulties accessing to markets, checkpoints extortion etc. at this [link](#).

| | |
|---|--|
| <p>Assessment Working Group and Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA): CWG co-chairs has been participating in assessment working group in order to support planning and providing feedback to upcoming assessments. Co-chairs has been working with REACH to provide feedback and advising on cash-related indicators for the MSNA. REACH is currently working on the final assessment form and finalizing data collection approaches. Data collection is expected to happen in coming months and finalization of MSNA will be around October 2022. The data within the humanitarian community will be shared for analysis and likewise with CWG.</p> <p>MHF allocation: MHF first allocation will focus on improving access in the areas that were constrained for humanitarian services and operations. It was informed that after a series of consultation, MHF will communicate in the coming week more information on the type of allocation to be made and the approaches to be taken to partner organizations.</p> | |
| <p>6. AOB</p> <p>HARP-F is organizing a webinar to deliver recent review on Rakhine/Kachin and Northern Shan cash transfer programmes on 12 May 2022. CWG members who are interested can join the webinar through registration in the link here. The CVA review report can be found here.</p> | |
| <p>Useful links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Myanmar CWG Microsoft Teams site ● Cash Programming page on MIMU Website ● Mercy Corps MAU market price report dashboard ● Myanmar: Cash Working Group (CWG) on MIMU Page ● Myanmar CWG final Terms of Reference (June 2020) | |

Next CWG meeting: Thursday, 10:00 – 12:00, 9 June 2022 (TBC)