

Summary Note on Cash Working Group (CWG) Meeting

Date/ Time & Venue	11 May 2023, 10:00AM – 12:00 PM (via Zoom)	
Chair	John Nelson (Mercy Corps)	
Participants	40 participants. Attendance record stored by OCHA.	
Agenda items and summary of discussion	Action Points	
<p>1. Sub-national CWG updates</p> <p>Rakhine</p> <p>Partners operating in Rakhine have been affected by the travel authorization and MoU issues. As a result, there is a significant reduction in the response capacity. Partners has been working towards Cyclone MOCHA preparedness and response.</p> <p>Southeast</p> <p>Southeast CWG meeting discussed the next Training of Trainer (ToT) event. Survey indicated that nearly 60% of cash actors in SE can attend the in-person meeting in Maw La Myaing. The rest indicated difficulty to travel and security reasons. Based on the survey results, SE CWG will discuss with the CWG training team and inform the training plan in due course.</p>		
<p>2. Market price monitoring</p> <p>Mercy Corps presented market price monitoring updates for May 2023 with the data collected from 14 markets across Northwest and Southeast areas. 29 products were monitored across 210 vendors. In Central and Northern Rakhine, rice prices increased by 6-12% while meat and fish prices saw significant increase in April, registering their largest increases in five months. Kyawktaw, Rathedaung and Minbya were among the townships that saw steep hikes of prices in April. However, the prices of hygiene products were very stable in many townships except Kyauktaw.</p> <p>It was noted that for Chin State, Paletwa was included in the market monitoring due to its more integrated geographical location. Save the Children is conducting market analysis in some townships and collaboration is welcomed. WFP market analysis also complements the MAU. For more details and full report, please visit Mercy Corps Market Analysis Unit dashboard at https://themimu.info/market-analysis-unit.</p>		
<p>3. MAU Household Survey</p> <p>Mercy Corps shared the results of household surveys conducted in Chin and Magway. In late-February / early-March the MAU conducted a third-round survey of displaced households in Chin State to understand challenges they face. The study is based on a probability sample representing 1900 households currently or previously enrolled in cash assistance programs. Similarly, the MAU conducted a third-round survey of displaced households in Sagaing Region to understand challenges they face. The study is based on a probability sample representing 2700 households currently or previously enrolled in cash assistance programs. MAU reports are available online at www.themimu.info/market-analysis-unit.</p>		
<p>4. Cyclone Preparedness</p> <p>The CWG co-chair presented the latest development of Cyclone MOCHA, and the joint Minimum Preparedness Action (MPA) taken to date. Members were informed to closely monitor weather alerts as well as to familiarize themselves with the ERP Plan 2023 Cash Feasibility Checklist, and assessments such as RNA and MIRA. During and after the meeting, CWG deployed the Cyclone</p>		

<p>Preparedness survey for cash actors and requested partners' input to the survey in preparation for the coordination of cash assistance during the emergency. The information received through the survey will be used by the CWG and Inter-cluster Coordination Group (ICCG) to coordinate with the cash actors that have the capacity and willingness to respond to the affected communities across Myanmar. The survey can be accessed through this link.</p>	
<p>5. Cash flow analysis</p> <p>In an effort to better understand the challenges and constraints partners have been facing in terms of cash flow, CWG also conducted interactive survey session during the meeting whereby partners provided anonymous inputs regarding cash flow, mechanisms for cash transfers, as well as restrictions and nature of challenges for cash transfer to remote areas. The information provided will enhance the understanding of cash flow mechanisms and help CWG in identifying solutions and approaches to further support partners in this area.</p>	
<p>6. CWG workstream updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The CWG annual 5W data dashboard will be ready for publication by week commencing 15 May. - MPCA task team meeting #5 was conducted prior to the monthly CWG meeting and discussed referral pathways and reporting. If MPCA is included in the 2024 Humanitarian Response Plan the CWG will need to collect MPCA data on a regular basis. Additional task team meeting will be organized further with the aim to finalize the MPCA guidance around July 2023. - The CWG work planning session was conducted on Friday 5 May for members to collectively review the draft workplan. The summary note from the session as well as the final workplan will be shared with members in due course. - OCHA updated that the revised Coordination architecture resulted from the Peer-to-Peer mission to Myanmar has been endorsed by the Humanitarian Country Team and has been rolled out at the national and sub-national level. The recent P2P mission was conducted in October 2022 to assess whether the existing coordination structure is still fit-for-purpose. The P2P mission produced 42 recommendations, of which 7 are prioritized. The development of Localization Strategy and Revised Coordination Architecture are the two main workstreams working towards achieving the recommended outcomes. OCHA has started Roadshow to introduce new and revised coordination structure at both national and sub-national levels. Further discussion will be arranged to discuss the potential linkage and effect of revised structure to the CWGs. 	
<p>Useful links</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cash Programming page on MIMU Website ● Mercy Corps MAU market price report dashboard ● WFP market monitoring dashboard ● Myanmar: Cash Working Group (CWG) on MIMU Page 	

Next CWG meeting: Thursday 10:00 – 12:00, 8 June 2023