

# Information Management Network Meeting – 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Chair: Shon Campbell (MIMU)

Participants: NRC Myanmar, ICRC, UNDSS, UNRCO, UNDP, IFPRI, UNICEF, Jhpiego, CDE Myanmar, DAI, MCC, WFP, MIMU

## 1 Myanmar: Analysis of the Economic Fallout and Food Insecurity (after Feb 1<sup>st</sup> events) – *Marie Enlund, WFP*

WFP conducted [an analysis](#) of available data in early April 2021 on the Impact of economy and food security following the events of February 1<sup>st</sup>. No new data collection was done for this and the results are based on secondary data. The World Bank forecasts Myanmar's GDP could contract by 10% in 2021 with various disruptions in economy and other areas such as transportation limitations, banking disruptions, closure of factories and businesses, cash transfer and remittance challenges. Remittances are an important source of income for millions of people. COVID-19 already has impacted the economy resulting in significant job losses. Even prior to COVID-19, UNDP's Household Vulnerability Survey indicated that a quarter of Myanmar's population lives in poverty, and a further one-third of the population was considered highly vulnerable to falling into poverty. As for the background on food security situation, prior to Feb 1<sup>st</sup>, WFP estimated 2.8 million people to be food insecure based on the combined baseline and COVID impact.

Shorter term food security is caused mainly by loss of income which limits household economic access to food, as well as factors such as inflationary pressure (average price of basic food items increased and will hit the lowest income households that spend most of their income on food), weakening local currency, disruption in trade and population displacement (especially in border and ethnic minority areas due to increased conflict). From the end of March, loss of income through lost jobs and lost remittances could lead to an estimated 1.5 million people becoming food-insecure in 3 months; 3.4 million in 6 months. This effect is expected to be more severe in urban areas.

Longer term economic impact is caused by factors such as challenges faced by smallholder farmers and in agriculture systems (limited access to credit, difficulty to hire labourer, etc.), decreased foreign investment, and looming economic recession. Further analysis is planned: WFP monthly market monitoring is continuing along with collection of information on how the current situation is affecting household food security in peri-urban areas of Yangon. A joint survey is also planned with UNICEF in those areas, and another joint assessment on the impact on food security with FAO will start very soon in 8 states and regions. Once more household data becomes available, the analysis will be updated with more results based on more comprehensive remote modelling approach. Data is mainly collected through phone surveys using statistical measures such as weighing to mitigate biases inherent with this approach.

## 2 Disability in Myanmar (2014-2019) – *Stephanie Kauv, MIMU*

This is the second MIMU Analytical Brief, the first which was released earlier this year focused on Changes to Drinking Water countrywide between 2014 and 2019. MIMU's analysis of Disability in Myanmar analyses the disability prevalence rate between 2014 and 2019 as a resource for more inclusive initiatives and policies. The raw data used in this analysis and main products such as report, infographic (in English and Myanmar languages) and dashboard will be released soon along with the methodology guide.

People with disability are considered one of the most vulnerable and marginalized groups. As of 2019, an estimated 5.9 million people or 13% of the population in Myanmar were living with disabilities, and this figure is expected to rise. (there are estimated 650 million people with disabilities in the Asia-Pacific.)

There are several ways to measure disability including the Washington Group (WG) Questionnaire which was used in 2014 Census and 2019 Intercensal Survey, though the 2014 census did not cover all questions and so did not include some disability types that were included in 2019. The WG questions are based on self-reported difficulties to perform six different core domains: seeing, hearing, walking/climbing steps (mobility), remembering/concentrating (cognition), communicating, and self-care. The word “disability” is not used in the questionnaire to prevent under-reporting. The WG questions have several limitations such as not covering some types of disabilities, not being adapted for use with children, and the need to be asked by professionals.

Key concepts considered in the Analytical Brief include Disability Prevalence (the *number* of people with one or more disabilities) and Disability Prevalence Rate (the *percentage* of the population with one or more disabilities). A person can have one or more disabilities at any given time but would be considered as one individual in the disability prevalence rate or DPR.

Two countrywide datasets are used for this brief: the 2014 Census and the 2019 Intercensal Survey. The level of collected data differs between these two datasets such that some calculation was required to harmonize the data for analysis. The 2014 Census included the whole population for example, whereas the 2019 Intercensal Survey only included population of age 5 and over. Data limitations include inconsistent levels of available information (urban/rural divide and any level lower than district level are not available in the 2019 Intercensal Survey), the DPR of combined disabilities not available at the township level, data not being collected on some disability types in the 2014 Census, the inability to compare the DPRs of combined disabilities between 2014 and 2019, and possible data collection issues due to an unexpected high increase the DPRs of individual disabilities between 2014 and 2019.

The following are some of the key findings: As of 2019, almost six million people in Myanmar have one or more disabilities, Myanmar has a higher percentage of population with disabilities (13%) than other Asian countries, and this is expected to rise given the rapid growth in Myanmar’s aged population, the increase of growing incidence of diseases such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease, and a limited healthcare infrastructure. Myanmar’s western states/regions (Chin, Ayeyarwady, Rakhine and Magway) as well as Kayin have the highest percentage of population with disabilities – while the percentage is highest in Chin and Ayeyarwady, the overall number of persons with disability is highest in Ayeyarwady (1 in 6 person with disability comes from Ayeyarwady). There is an unexpected and unexplained high increase in the percentage of people with disabilities for each disability type between 2014 and 2019 suggesting a gap in data collection process in those two years. This means that the difference between the two DPRs with combined disabilities between 2014 and 2019 is not only due to the two additional types of disability in the 2019 Intercensal Survey. The data also shows that children with disabilities are more likely to be excluded from the formal education system, and people with disabilities are less likely to be employed. Lack of healthcare infrastructure and a growing aged population are the leading causes of high disability prevalence. Analyses based on interesting case studies by H&I and HelpAge International are included in the brief (e.g. on IDPs, effect of cash transfer). The Analytical Brief underlines the importance of providing the right support and an inclusive approach so that people with disabilities can experience a higher quality of life.

### 3 MapX: Basic concepts – Javier Manrique, MIMU

MIMU recently released a [web mapping platform](#) through the MIMU website, in collaboration with Geneva-based MapX. Web mapping / online mapping is the process of using the maps delivered by Geographic Information Systems (GIS) on the Internet – it allows easy selection of different base layers to compile maps with the information required for different purposes. There are several platforms for web mapping such as Google My Maps, Bing Maps, ESRI Arc GIS and MapX. MapX is an online open-source application for spatial data visualization – as such it is free to use, does not require programming ability to work with most features, and has the ability to host your own projects inside because of the compliance to interoperability standards. MapX has the ability to work in low bandwidth situations and can work with various data formats such as raster and data from offline and online sources. MapX can also work with custom user code for flexibility. A standout feature is the ability to create **story maps** that can be used for story telling based on spatial data, text, images, videos and whatever other content is needed.

MapX also has dedicated environments called projects where users can find geospatial information related to a theme or is compiled an organisation for a specific purpose – the MIMU-MapX Project is one of these projects that has now been integrated into the MIMU website. It can be found under the GIS Resources tab as MIMU Web Mapping Page. Users must be registered to log-in for full use of the platform including the ability to download certain layers (that allows downloading) but the login process is easy and straightforward. The MIMU-MapX Project has several layers based on categories such as Transport, Administrative boundaries collated by MIMU, Environment, the MIMU 3W etc. Accompanying those are some powerful tools that can be used to create maps, manipulate the view, filter the data and various other options. Layers have their own attribute tables that users can explore in detail to know more of the available information. Note that the administrative layers used in the project are provided by MIMU as there has been no official versions of them and detailed boundaries cannot be guaranteed as indicated in the disclaimers.

Users can create their own customized maps with selected layers, adding markers using the built-in Map Composer. One of the disadvantages of MapX is that the Map Composer takes some time getting used to. Another minor drawback is that users cannot upload their own data into the MapX. IM Network members are encouraged to try the MIMU-MapX webmapping platform to explore the layers and create their own maps.

### 3 Updates on National Initiatives

**Rapid need assessment of the impact of COVID-19 and military takeover and recent conflict on household level basic needs, particularly children and women:** This assessment is for UNICEF to provide humanitarian assistance and advocate, coordinate on humanitarian response.

- Chin State (Mindat township) - 21st-23rd May 2021 - 94 respondents (74 of these respondents' families had children)
- Kayah State (Bawlakhe, Demoso, Loikaw and Phruso townships) - 30th May-1st June 2021 - 200 respondents (156 of these respondents' families had children)
- Kayin State (Thandaunggyi, Hpapun and Myawaddy townships) - 10th-14th June 2021 - 50 respondents (122 of these respondents' families had children)

**Review on cascade of Prevention of Mother-To-Child Transmission (PMTCT) services received by HIV positive mothers during 2015 to 2017 in Myanmar:** UNICEF is developing a review on cascade of Prevention of Mother-To-Child Transmission (PMTCT) services received by HIV positive mothers during 2015 to 2017 in Myanmar will be conducted to assess the situation of PMTCT programme in Myanmar. The study findings will be very useful to develop a strong case-based recording system to

	<p>meet the targets of Elimination of Mother-To-Child Transmission (EMTCT) in Myanmar. Indeed, Myanmar's government has committed to achieve the EMTCT of HIV and syphilis by 2025 and sub-national validation of EMTCT in some districts by 2020.</p> <p><b>Myanmar Development Observatory:</b> UNDP is developing the Myanmar Development Observatory, an initiative to provide open access to data, analysis and insights about Myanmar, using a range of data sources to meet the needs for information about the country in the current context with limited reliable and official data. It will be UNDP's engine of research, data analysis, and policy advice for Myanmar, informing the international community, UNCT, development partners and Myanmar civil society with up-to-date insights on Myanmar's trajectory as the crises in governance, human rights, and socio-economic development evolve. It will be constructed around three interconnected pillars: Economy, SDGs, and Conflict. UNDP will work closely with partners to avoid duplication and instead identify gaps in existing data, knowledge and analysis and work to address them.</p> <p><b>Household Vulnerability Survey (HVS):</b> UNDP is preparing to implement a second survey analysing the impact of the events of February 2021, this time building on the entrepreneurs' survey carried out in 2020. This will support analysis to understand the compound impact of COVID-19 and these events on entrepreneurs in Myanmar.</p> <p><b>Gender Based Violence Service (GBV) provision rapid assessment (with UNDP):</b> UNFPA is working on a Gender Based Violence (GBV) Service provision rapid assessment with UNDP to assess the impact of COVID-19 and political crisis on GBV essential service provision. Data collection, verification of the findings and incorporation of feedback are done. A final report will be disseminated in July.</p> <p><b>Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) situation assessment:</b> UNFPA is developing a Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) situation assessment that is to assess: the availability and accessibility to SRHR services, what is available, how the population is able to access care, what are the challenges, and opportunities for adaptation in the current context. This situation assessment will focus from the qualitative perspective on the demand for SRHR services with some strands of the supply side in selected states/regions of the country. The inception report and data collection tools are finalized. The data collection is in progress. The report will be completed by the end of July 2021 and findings and recommendations will be shared with key stakeholders to put in place response plans and strategies for improvements at service delivery points and other levels.</p>
4	<p><b>Updates on Sector/Cluster/Agency Initiatives</b></p> <p><b>IM Network Meeting in Myanmar Language:</b> MIMU has established a Myanmar language IM Network group with two meetings held so far in May and June. The current plan is to conduct monthly meetings which will be scheduled for the last Wednesday of the month. This meeting is not much different from the main IM Network meetings in that topics on IM and other related technical matters are discussed as well as presentations albeit in Myanmar Language, however the topics may differ depending on the interests of the group. Being able to discuss matters in local language makes the conversations a lot smoother and particularly in technical discussions, the topics can go deeper. That is one of the qualities of these meetings. In the most recent meeting, MapX, Nightlights and the MIMU 3W were presented. IM Network members have also been invited to present at every meeting and we are looking forward to that in the next meeting. Separate google groups have been created for Myanmar and English (main) groups for the sake of convenience but information sharing will happen between them. Terms of Reference are also the same as this still falls under the umbrella IM Network.</p>

	<p><b>UNHCR:</b> 1st half of 2021 Protection 4W interactive dashboard will be available end of July. Q2 of 2021 - Protection Incident Morning System (PIMS) report will be accessible end of July for PWG members. Monthly Kachin, Northern Shan Shelter/CCCM/NFI Cluster Analysis Report (May-2021) is uploaded on various websites (MIMU, Shelter, CCCM) and quarterly Rakhine Shelter/CCCM/NFI Cluster Analysis Report (June-2021) is under data collection. CRS camp profile quarterly dashboards (static and online interactive) for 21 IDP camps will be published on websites in the third week of July. Kachin, Northern Shan Round 11 camp profile dashboard will be published on websites in the fourth week of July.</p> <p><b>UNICEF:</b> For WASH cluster, currently collecting quarter 2 4W data for reporting in HRP Mid-term. Also collected the data for funding information. Starting this year, funding information will be collected twice a year compared to quarterly collection in previous years. WASH cluster snapshot and dashboard will be updated at the end of July.</p> <p><b>UNDSS (Regional Threat &amp; Risk Assessment Service):</b> UNDSS will continue working on identifying key security issues that might impact the UN and other partners in Myanmar. Relevant information will be shared with the network.</p> <p><b>UNOCHA:</b> Regular products such as humanitarian snapshots are available on MIMU website.</p> <p><b>NRC Myanmar:</b> Norwegian Refugee Council Myanmar is currently working in Education, Information, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA), Livelihoods, Shelter and Camp Management, and Protection. As part of the protection activities, a community hotline for complaint feedback has been established for over a year. As M&amp;E, a power BI dashboard on hotline data will be produced. Another M&amp;E activity is contextualization to understand and fit with current situations. There is plan for Better Learning Program with guidelines for teachers, students and parents.</p> <p><b>Accountability to Affected Population Group:</b> Developed an online PSEA course in Myanmar language with the support of UNICEF. This is the mandatory course for all UN staff but it is now available to the public through MIMU website.</p> <p><b>MIMU:</b> MIMU 3W products (Data, Maps, Dashboards, Overview reports etc.) will be released progressively throughout July. In this round, 159 agencies provided input. Agencies' names will not be made public but those who provided 3W input and donors can request this information for coordination purposes. Village Maps have also been updated with additional commonly used local names, additional disclaimers, and a pop-up form to asking user agreement and acknowledgement of the limitations and the terms of use etc. MIMU conducted a training of trainers for UN colleagues on Digital Data Protection. This is also be made available through INGO forum in the future. MIMU is currently piloting a new Data Analysis training for staff of MIMU partner agencies (those contributing to MIMU products) – the focus is building analytical skills using Excel as a readily available software. The first Data Analysis training will be conducted for partners at the end of July - seats will be limited and applicants must have completed the IM Workshop to be eligible for this new training course.</p>
5	<p><b>AOB and other updates</b></p> <p>The Draft Survey Law has been shared by MCRB and feedback is being prepared by agencies working in relevant sectors.</p>

## IM Network Meeting Minutes

The next IM Network meeting (English) will be the first Wednesday of September – 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021. Members are encouraged to share their own presentations. Dedicated presentations on web mapping in Myanmar and English languages can be arranged.

	Name	Agency Name	Position
1	Su Yin Win	NRC Myanmar	M&E Manager
2	Wuit Yi Thaw	ICRC	GIS Officer
3	Navneet Kalsi	UNDSS	Senior Regional Security Information Analyst
4	Mra Chaw Su Aye	UNRCO	Development Coordination Officer
5	Sa Si Thu Htike San	UNDP	Data for Development Specialist
6	Bart Minten	IFPRI	Program leader
7	Mee Mee Thaw	UNICEF	Information Management Officer (WASH, Nutrition)
8	Thura Kyaw	Jhpiego	Senior KM Manager
9	Kyaw Naing Win	CDE Myanmar	GIS Program Manager
10	Chaw Pyae Sone Aung	DAI	MEL officer
11	Henrik H	MCC	Adviser
12	Danae Friedrichs	UNDSS	Security Info Analyst
13	VU MANH HONG	UNICEF MYANMAR	CHILD RIGHTS MONITORING SPECIALIST
14	BASUDEB GUHA-KHASNOBIS	UNDP	Country Economist
15	Lucia	WFP	RAM Consultant
16	Zun Nu Yi Hlaing	WFP	Programme Policy Officer
17	Aung Kyaw Lwin	UNICEF	Monitoring Officer (Data)
18	Marie Enlund	WFP	Head of Research, Assessment and Monitoring
19	Shon Campbell	MIMU	MIMU Manager
20	Pedro Javier Manrique	MIMU	IM Specialist
21	Ei Ei Thein	MIMU	Data Manager
22	Stephanie Kauv	MIMU	Data Analyst
23	Naing Lin Kyaw	MIMU	PR, Design and Reporting Officer