

Identifying immediate barriers and challenges of rural small-scale farmers: a pilot survey by FAO SLM-GEF project



Sustainable Cropland and Forest Management in Priority
Agro-ecosystems of Myanmar
(GCP/MYA/017/GFF)

27th May 2020

Acknowledgment

The FAO SLM-GEF project team would like to express their deepest gratitude to all interviewees; farmers, fishermen, and the members of CFUG (Community Forestry User Group) in three agro-ecological zones for giving informed consent, active participation and answering to the questions frankly.

Executive Summary

The FAO SLM-GEF project conducted a rapid assessment to identify immediate barriers and challenges of rural smallholder farmers amid COVID-19 pandemic in three priority agro-ecological zones such as Hilly Region, Central Dry Zone and Delta/Costal Region in Myanmar.

171 responses received, interviewer-led telephone interview was conducted from 11 to 22 May, 2020 using online survey form and the interviewees included farmers residing in Mindat, Kanpetlet, Kyaukpadaung, Nyaung-U and Labutta.

60 % of respondents believed that COVID-19 can be transmitted from eating food bought from markets/outside indicating that risk communication of COVID-19 transmission is crucial.

72% of farmers have taken agriculture loan before the COVID-19 crisis, however, there is a very limited access to microfinance in Mindat (19%) and Kanpetlet (9%). **58% of respondents** in Labutta faced hardships in loan reimbursement in the past 12 months.

Key barriers to take loan for coming monsoon season are farmers need to pay back the existing loan (27%), not sure if the microfinance organizations operates (22%), nobody want to lend money during COVID-19 (18%), require Form-7 as a document (10%).

96% of farmers are largely rely on agriculture income alone and **34% of respondents** emphasized that 70-100% of their income was spent on food.

20% of the farmers reported that they have difficulties in selling harvest (from the last season) at the moment due to **reduced demand, no transportation available or allowed, and decreased price**.

92% of participants have never received formal transfers such as relief food, cash assistance, livestock, safety net programs, pension schemes in the past 12 months.

51% of participants expressed that they have several difficulties in from nursery establishment to the selling of the harvests for coming planting season.

15% of households faced with a situation wherein household **did not have enough food to feed family members** during the last 7 days. **60% of households** in study villages anticipated that they may need relief food, cash assistance, livestock, and emergency agriculture assistance in 1-3 month time.

47% participants had asked questions/ provided recommendations to the Government or relevant stakeholders to help with Health Support (15%), Loan (13%), Food/Cash assistance (27%), and Agri-support (15%) in order to deal with the impact.

81% of respondents think that “Kitchen/home gardening program” can be helpful to save household cost and provide family consumption.

56% of respondents said the impact is moderate but 22% said it is severe on **fishery sector in Labutta** mainly due to price decreased due to restrictions (50%) and no job/no income (32%) for the time being.

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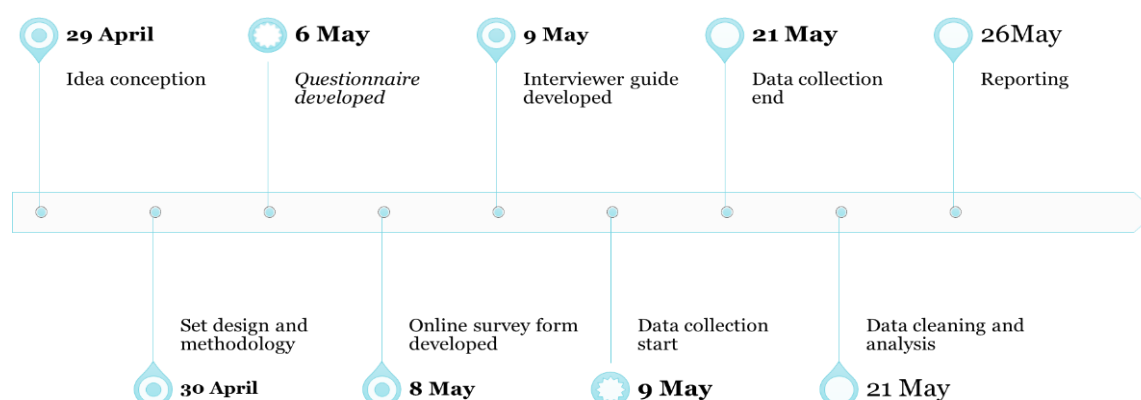
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Report

- | | | |
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Study Timeline



Overall management by Sustainable Land Management (SLM) project's Senior Technical Advisor, Xavier Bouan, and the whole SLM team contributed, even working during weekends, to complete data collection and finalize report in an orchestrated manner. The reported would not be completed without the constructive feedbacks and comments provided by SLM team's Climate Smart Agriculture and Sustainable Forest Management technical experts, Jitendra Jaiswal, Khin San Nwe and Thiha. Last but not least, the contribution from Knowledge Management and Land Use Land Cover specialist, Soe Moe Naing and Paing Phyto for producing informative maps is highly appreciated.

Rationale

Generally, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is assisting Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MoALI) in formulation and implementation of coping strategies for COVID-19 at national level. FAO's Sustainable cropland and forest management in priority agro-ecosystems of Myanmar supported by the Global Environment Facility (SLM-GEF) project is contributing to FAO's country rapid assessment to mitigate impact of COVID-19 pandemic on food systems, food security and nutrition and livelihoods. In addition to regular activities of SLM-GEF, the project has already operationalized kitchen/home gardening program in collaboration with respective Department of Agriculture (DoA) in project's townships in three priority agro-ecological zones (Hilly Region, Central dry Zone and Delta/Coastal area) to ensure food security, nutrition and livelihoods.

As of 26th May 2020, there are 206 COVID-19 laboratory confirmed cases in Myanmar with six fatalities and 124 recovered cases. The disease containment measures such as physical and social distancing, prohibiting gathering of 5 or more people, imposing travel restrictions and night curfew between 10pm – 4am have forced people to stop performing routine socio-economic activities.

Considering the movement and transportation restrictions, especially for small scale farmers in rural area, the availability and accessibility of the inputs in the markets and affordability to buy those inputs are also likely to be affected. Therefore, there is foreseeable impact on planting of crops in the coming monsoon season which will have possible impact on food security. Despite the fact that essential crops including staple rice is enough for domestic consumptions at the moment, food security might be on threat if the monsoon cropping is impacted as nearly 80% of rice production rely on monsoon planting season.

To understand the ground situations regarding access to market, access to microfinance, access to social safety nets, and access to modern payments system, ensure food security and nutrition, and livelihoods, this pilot survey was conducted in five project townships. Early identification of barriers and challenges will enable SLM-GEF to take early actions and hence, contribute to improve food security and livelihoods.

Last but not least, the analysis of this pilot study is to inform "FAO COVID-19 country assessments of impacts and response options on food systems, food security and nutrition, and livelihoods." (Phase-2) Since this is the first study to be completed by telephone interview, the SLM team will share its first-hand experiences with other UN agencies including FAO so that they can further refine designs and structures of their surveys.

Background

Myanmar Government's [COVID-19 Economic Relief Plan](#) (CERP) was released on 27th April. FAO is working closely with Department of Planning of MoALI in order to implement section 2.1.7 of the CERP where by supporting farmers, small agriculture processors, seed farmers and agriculture businesses. In the section, the four focus areas are described as below:

1. Support COVID-19 communication campaigns
2. Cash or lending support to smallholder farmers who have lost sales revenue or remittance income to support input purchases in time for monsoon planting
3. Complement support with advice on productivity enhancement and market connectivity
4. Following the lifting of movement restrictions, establish rural cash-for work programs

Objective

The overall objectives of this pilot study are to

1. Identify immediate barriers and challenges of rural smallholders farmers due to restrictions imposed by COVID-19
2. Inform mitigation plan of FAO by underscoring four thematic areas of Myanmar Government's CERP, section 2.1.7
3. Share lesson learnt of this pilot survey with other agencies who are going to start telephone interview as data collection method

Methodology

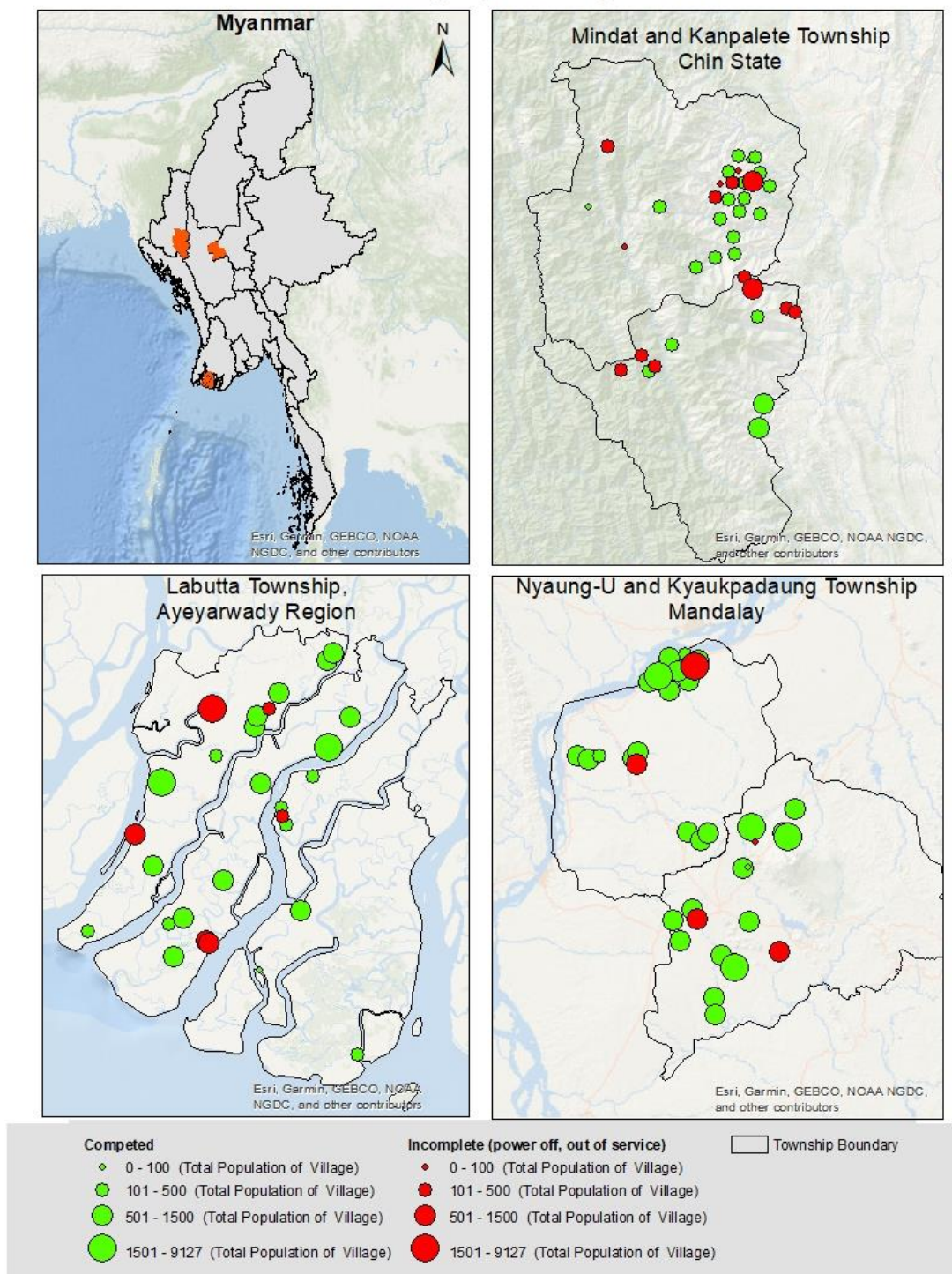
The study area involved members of approximately 100 FFS and CFUG villages in five townships located in three priority agro-ecosystems of Myanmar. The Mindat and Kanpetlet Townships are located in Chin State in western part of Myanmar with a population of 42,600 (1) and 21,493 (1) respectively. Another two townships, Nyaung U and Kyaukpadaung are located in Mandalay Region where the population are 198,185 (2) and 261,908 (2) respectively. The fifth township, Labutta is located in Ayeyarwaddy region with a population of 229,929 (3). The survey targeted to interview around 200 households in FFS and non-FFS villages. Data collection period was set from 11 – 22 May 2020.

FAO-SLM-GEF project staff served as interviewer to interview two key informants per village. Interviewer led, anonymous, telephone interview by using an online survey form (see in annex) to identify immediate barriers and challenges of local farmers in the face of COVID-19 epidemic. Farmers who gave informed consent verbally were recruited and the interview took 15-25 minutes. In this analysis, a good proportion of 85% (171/200) of invited farmers responded to the interview questions.

Main findings

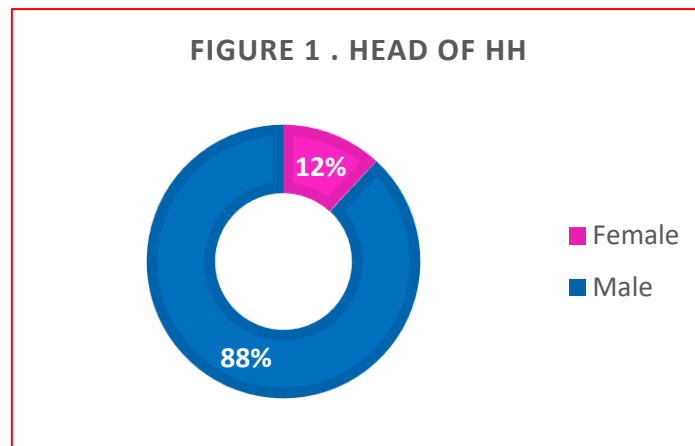
The following map shows geographical distribution of respondents in three priority agro-ecological zones such as Hilly Region, Central Dry Zone and Delta/Costal Region. Bubble size corresponds to size of Population and Color correspond to Interview Status such as “green for completed interview” and “red for incomplete interview” due to the reasons that contacts numbers were power-off, not answering or located in out-of-service area.

**Geographical Distribution of Respondents
in Three Priority Agro-ecological Zones**



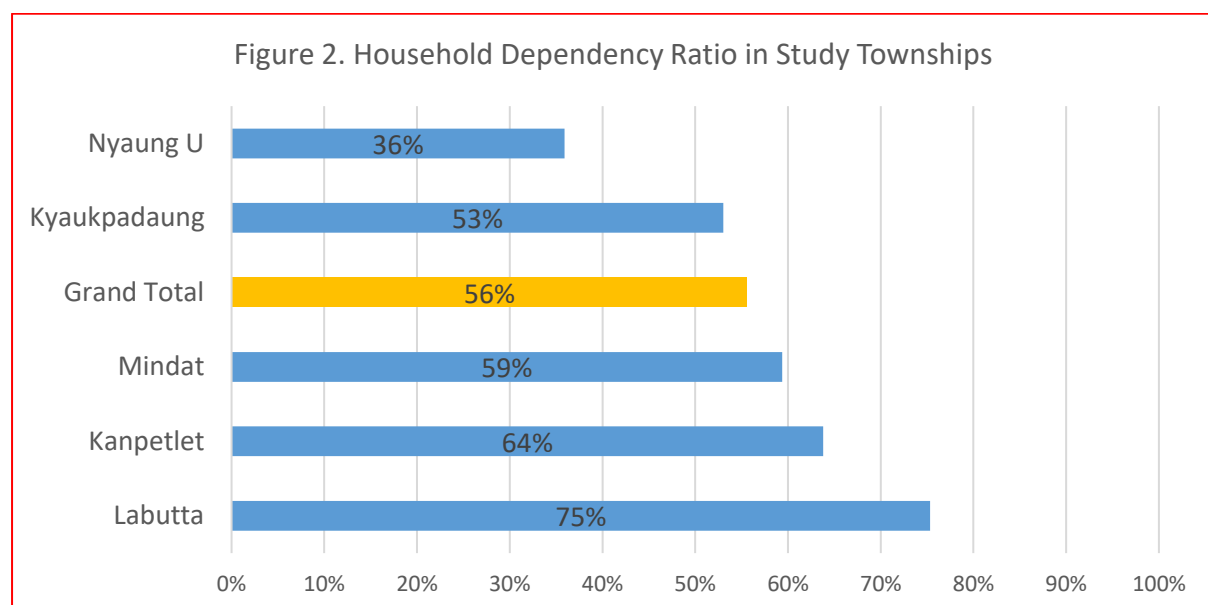
I. Household demographic characteristics

The result showed that 88% of households were headed by male participants and only 12% female. It can be concluded that female representation is minimal by quantitative means in this survey (Figure 1).



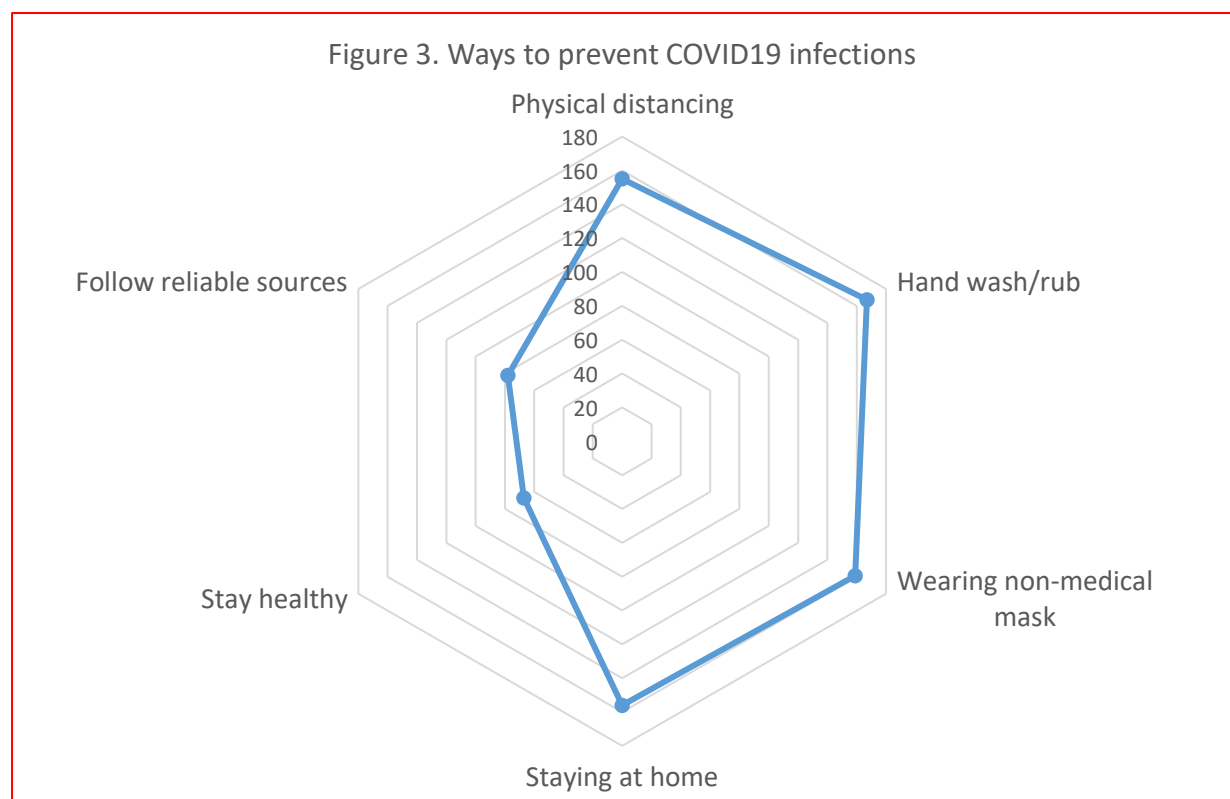
The average household size is 6 in all study townships. The results demonstrated that Hilly Region (Chin State) has the highest family size (7.6) followed by Dry Zone (5.4) and Delta (5.26).

Household dependency ratio was calculated to assess burden on working age group (14-65 years) members of family. Overall age dependency ratio is 56% and it is the highest in Labutta where both young and old dependents have to rely on working age-group members to sustain livelihoods (Figure 2).



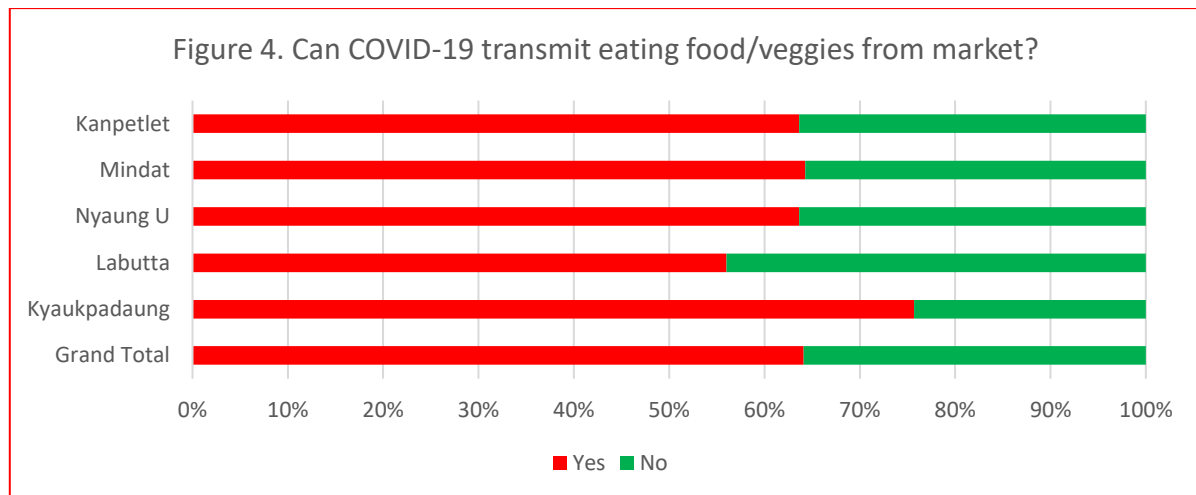
II. Knowledge on COVID-19 disease and food safety measures

In the survey, questions related to knowledge on COVID-19 disease and five key food safety measures instructed by “World Health Organization” (WHO) were asked. Almost all interviewees have knowledge about the preventive measures of COVID-19. The spider graph showing below that a majority of respondents were practicing physical and social distancing (at least 1 meter apart, frequent handwashing/rubbing, wearing mask whenever going outside and staying at home. However, survey results found lower proportion of response on following reliable information sources such as government news agencies (46%) and trusted media outlets and staying healthy such as exercising, sleeping well and eating healthy foods (39%) respectively (Figure 3). Apart from that 18% of answers were related to auxiliary ways of preventing transmission of SARS-CoV-2 virus at home and at community level such as checking people at village entry, cough etiquette, following quarantine instructions and going out less frequently.

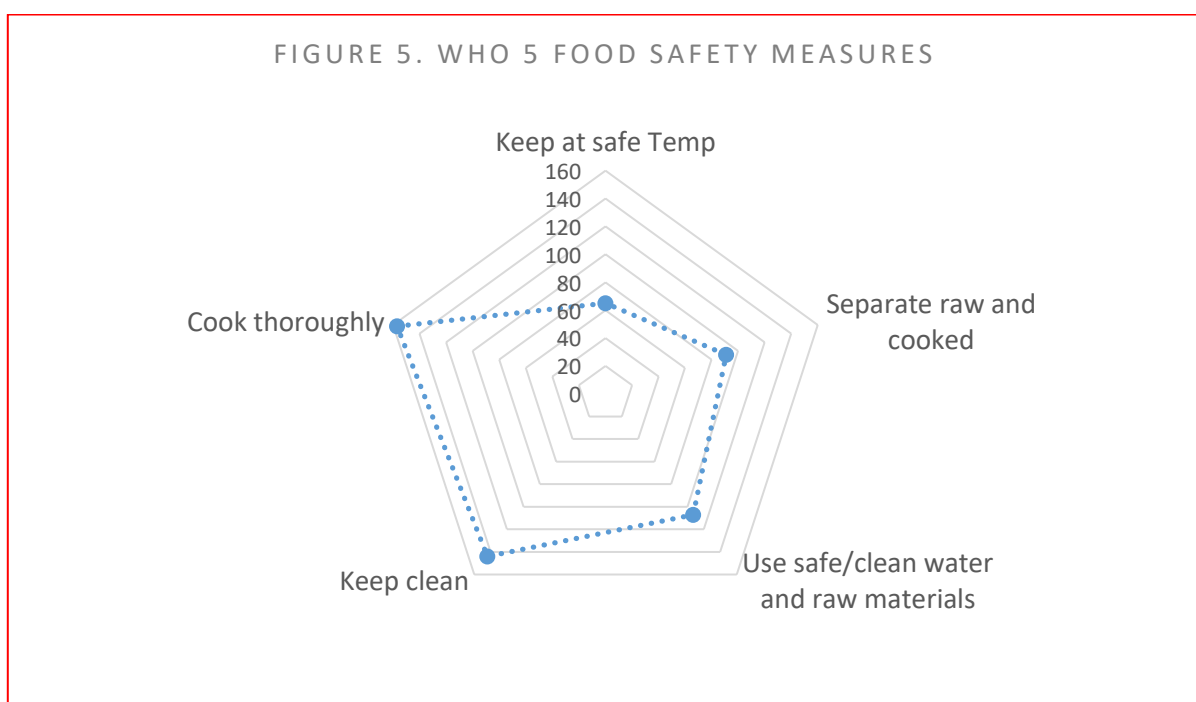


Note: COVID-19 is Coronavirus Disease and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is a virus that cause COVID-19 disease. ([WHO, 2019](#))

Around 60 % of respondents believe that COVID-19 can be transmitted from eating vegetables/ fruits/ meat/ food bought from markets/ outside (Figure 4). Since, there is no scientific evidence that the virus can transmit by eating foods from markets to date, implying that the majority of respondent have a limited knowledge about how COVID-19 is transmitted. However, it is very important to follow WHO five food safety measures at every household.

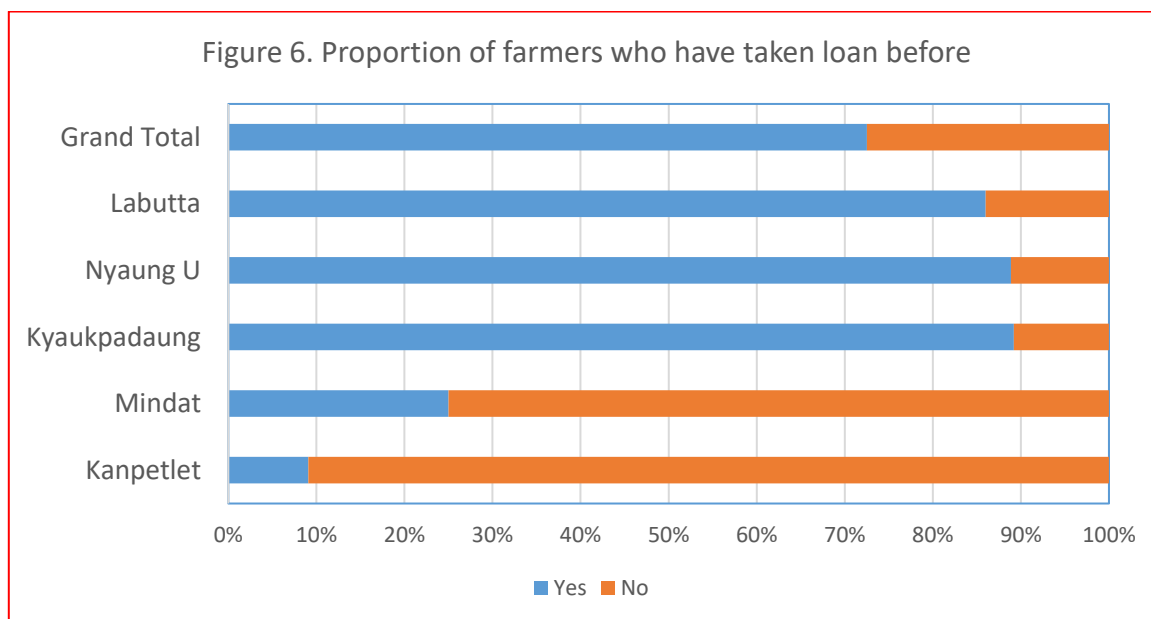


In this pilot, we formulated questions based on WHO five food safety measures which can be accessed [here](#). Only two measures such as “keeping clean” and “cook thoroughly” were answered correctly by more than 80% of participants. The remaining three practices were keeping food at safe temperature (<5 or >60 degrees Celsius) in order to stop microorganisms from growing easily (38%), separate raw and cooked (53%) and used safe/clean water and raw materials such as using water and food that are free from toxic chemicals and presence of microbes at harmful level to humans (63%) respectively. (Figure 5)



III. Access to microfinance

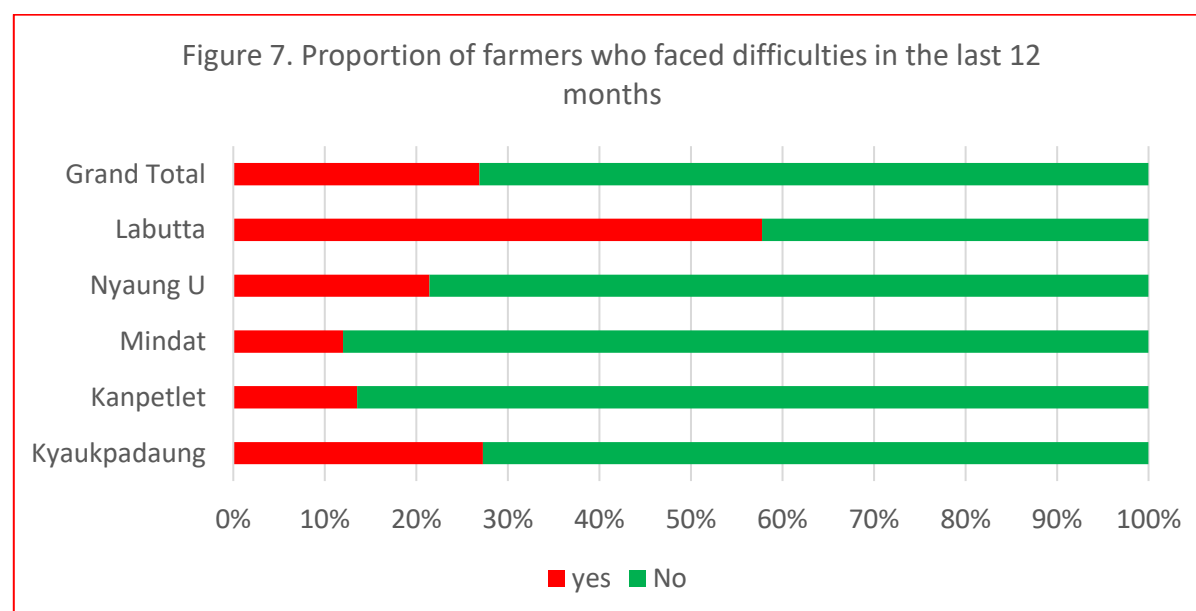
Overall, 72% of farmers have taken agriculture loan before the *COVID-19* crisis to buy agricultural inputs of which some farmers responded that they bought fertilizers (34%), seeds (32%), pesticides/insecticides (18%), and others (16%). The analysis pointed out that a certain percentages of agricultural loan was also used for other reasons. When we look into the other reasons, money was spent for labor charges, fuel charges, machine rental charges (33%), education expenses for children (26%), health care expenditures for family members (30%) and household expenses such as buying food (11%) respectively. Similarly, the area wise accessibility of microfinance revealed that a good proportion of rural farmers i.e. more than 80% acquired loan each in Labutta, Nyaung-U and Kyaukpadaung. Whereas, the result indicates a very limited accessibility of farmers to microfinance in Chin State i.e. Mindat (19%) and Kanpetlet (9%) (Figure 6). This could be because of the fact that there is limited presence of microfinance institutions in those areas as compared to delta (Labutta Township) and Central Dry Zone (Nyaung-U and Kanpetlet). Moreover, it should also be noted that the proportion of completed interviews in Kanpetlet is only 28% (11/40) and Mindat 64% (28/44) in this pilot survey since majority of villages were located out-of-service area for conducting telephone interview. The above results indicate that it is very important to maintain the accessibility to financial services for the farmers as they largely depend on credit for buying agricultural input as explained above.



With regards to the source of agricultural loan, the result revealed that the majority of respondents acquired loan from MADB (63%), apart from that the remaining were from MoALI Cooperative Department (10%), PGMF (6%), Private money lenders (11%), Mya Sein Yaung village committee loan (8%) and other (2%). The loan size and interest rate were varied depending on type of money issuers. The following table show the interest rate (per annum) for different types of loan sources (Table 1).

Table 1.	Type	Interest
	• MADB	5%-8% (per annum)
	• MOALI- Co-op Department	18% (per annum)
	• Pact Global Microfinance Fund (PGMF))	28% (per annum)
	• Local money lenders	Varies (28% - 120% per annum)
	• Mya Sein Yaung	18% (per annum)

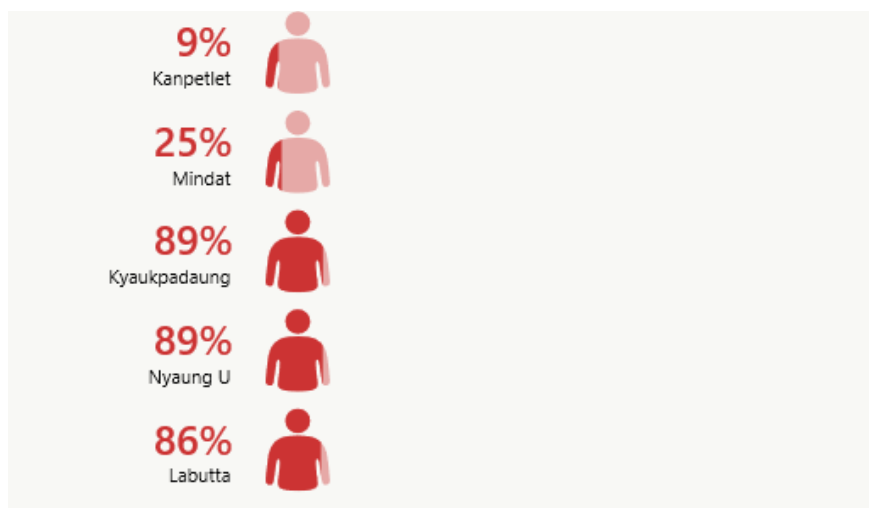
When interviewers explored if there were any difficulties for repayment of loan (s) in the last 12 months by the members of the household, in general 27% of farmers encountered difficulties in repayment of loan (s) in the last 12 months. However, considering area wise, 58% of respondents in Labutta faced hardship in loan reimbursement when compared to other townships such as Nyaung U (21%), Kyaukpadaung (27%), Mindat (12%) and Kanpetlet (14%) (Figure 7). The pilot analysis showed that although accessibility to microfinance is better in Central Dry Zone and Delta region, almost 6 out of 10 people who took loan in Labutta have some kinds of difficulties.



Regarding addressing the problems of repayment which might have been worsened by COVID-19, the results showed that some farmers are adopting short-term solutions by taking another loan (34%) and paying at least the interest of previous loan but they still face the problems to repay the debt (22%). The remaining manage by selling out some property, making apologies and requesting deferment by lenders, proactive deferment by lending organizations and repaying by selling harvest.

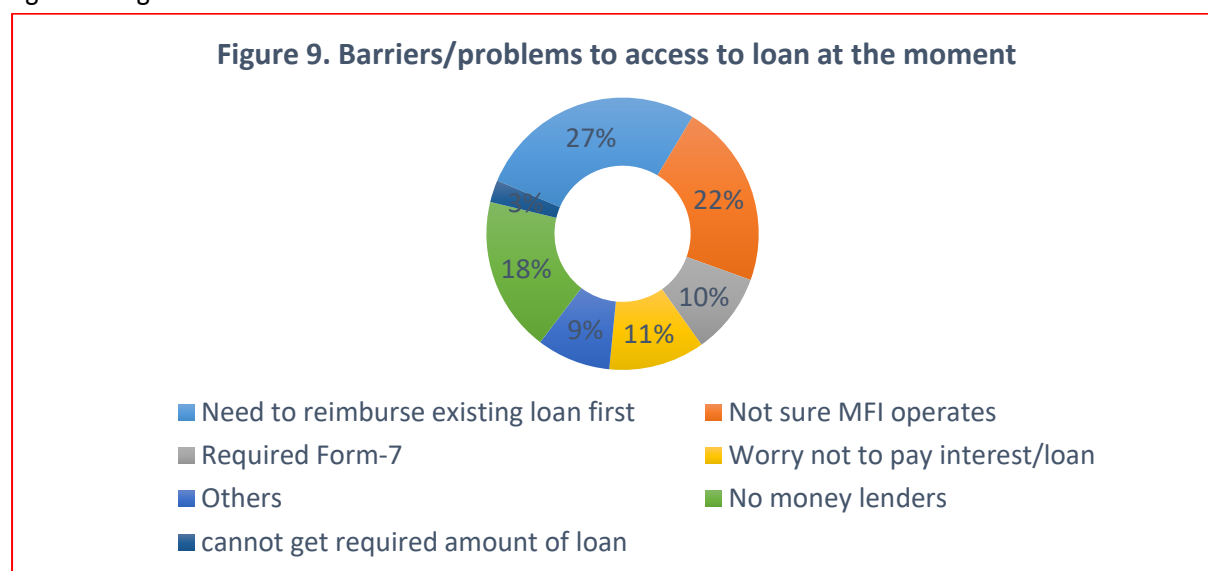
The study also inquired whether farmers have any plan to take agricultural loan for coming cropping season. Overall, more than 70% of the participants have plan to take loan in monsoon season. (Figure 8) However, 41% of respondents replied that they have some barriers in accessing to the loan which are explained below.

Figure 8. Proportion of farmers who has a plan to take loan for monsoon season

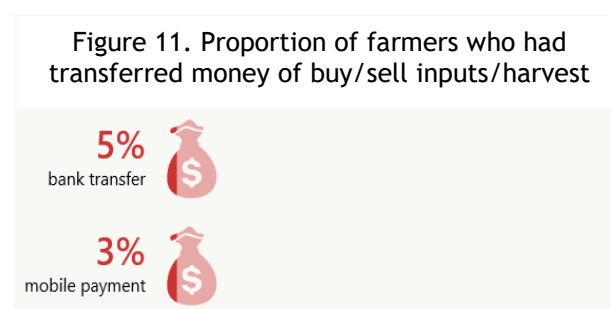
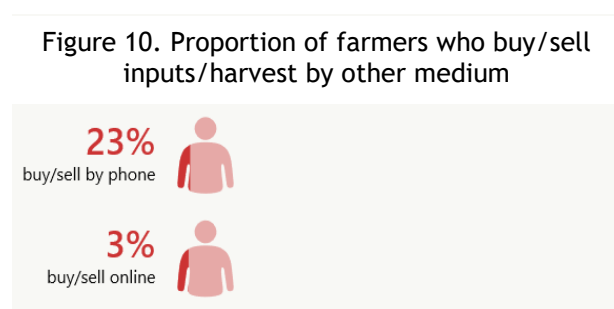


Accessing to microfinance for monsoon planting season is critical to ensure sustainable production since majority of farmers rely on rainwater to grow crop and approximately 80% of paddy is grown during monsoon season.

The study tried to explore the immediate barriers in accessing microfinance amid COVID-19 pandemic. The following chart describes the barricades such as need to pay back the existing loan (27%), not sure if the microfinance organizations operates (22%) under such COVID-19 crisis situation, nobody want to lend money during COVID-19 (18%), require Form-7 as a document (10%), worried about not being able to repay loan/interest (11%), cannot get required amount of loan (3%) and others (9%) (Figure 9). The result of the study highlighted above are the common hindrances to accessing loan in three agro-ecological zones.



Taking timely action is crucial to meet the financial requirement of smallholder farmers for the coming monsoon season. It is advised to use innovative ways to transact money to the hand of farmers as quickly as possible to meet the season. Therefore, the study team also explored the buying/selling behavior of farmers and transaction practices apart from traditional way of money transfer by using bank notes. The results showed that a significant portion of farmers have never used online (97%) or phone (77%) as a medium to buy/sell inputs/harvest. (Figure 10). The media such as using Viber/messengers/similar App as “online” and calling or using SMS as “phone” were specified in the questionnaire as the possible options.



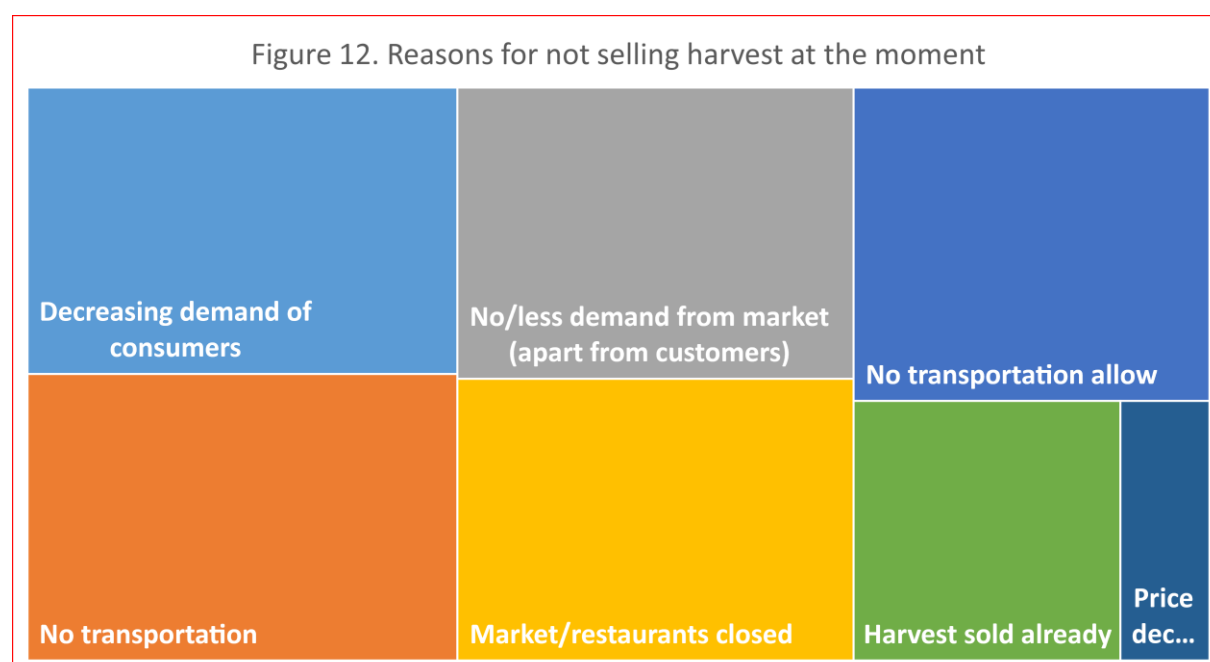
Moreover, the results revealed that almost all the farmers have never used bank transfer (95%) or mobile payment (97%) to settle payments for agri-related inputs/harvest (Figure 11). Furthermore, we have recognized that 32% of farmers do not have bank account among respondents who answered “No” to the question. The actual figure could be more as there was some data loses when asking question about whether do they have bank account or not by different interviewers.

IV. Productivity enhancement and market connectivity

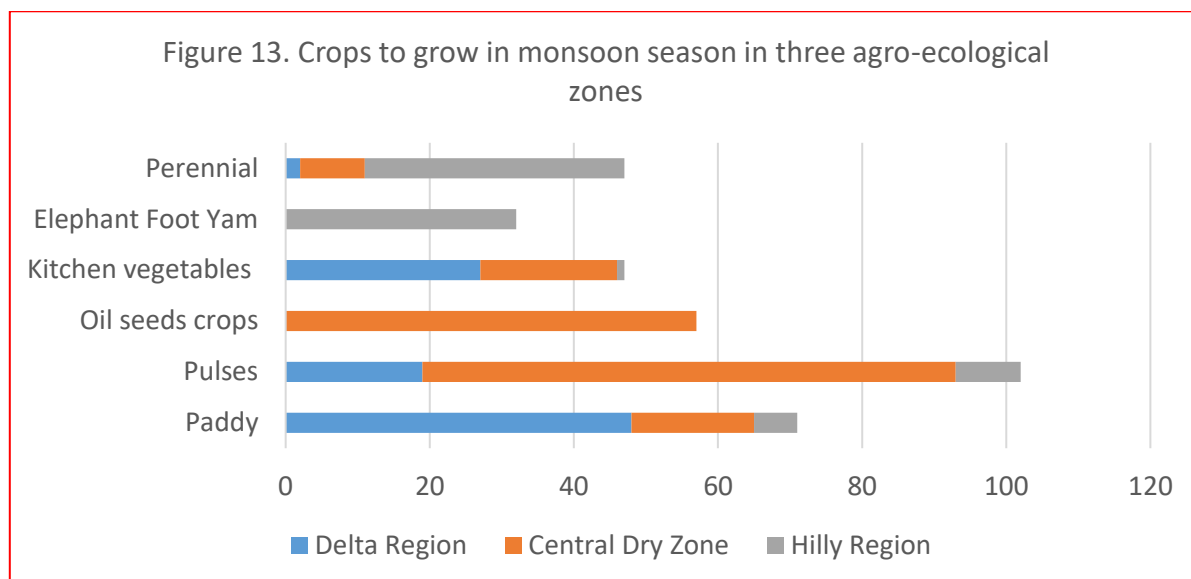
The analysis outputs showed that many farmers have a total of 10 acres of (owned, leased or used) land on average. However, the land ownership quite varied from minimum 2 acres to maximum 80 acres. The details output table with a category of land ownership is shown below. The study also found out that 18 (11%) households are landless.

Total acre of land (owned, used or leased)	
Category	Acre
Landless	18 (11%)
<5	25 (15%)
5 to 10	54 (32%)
>10	74 (43%)

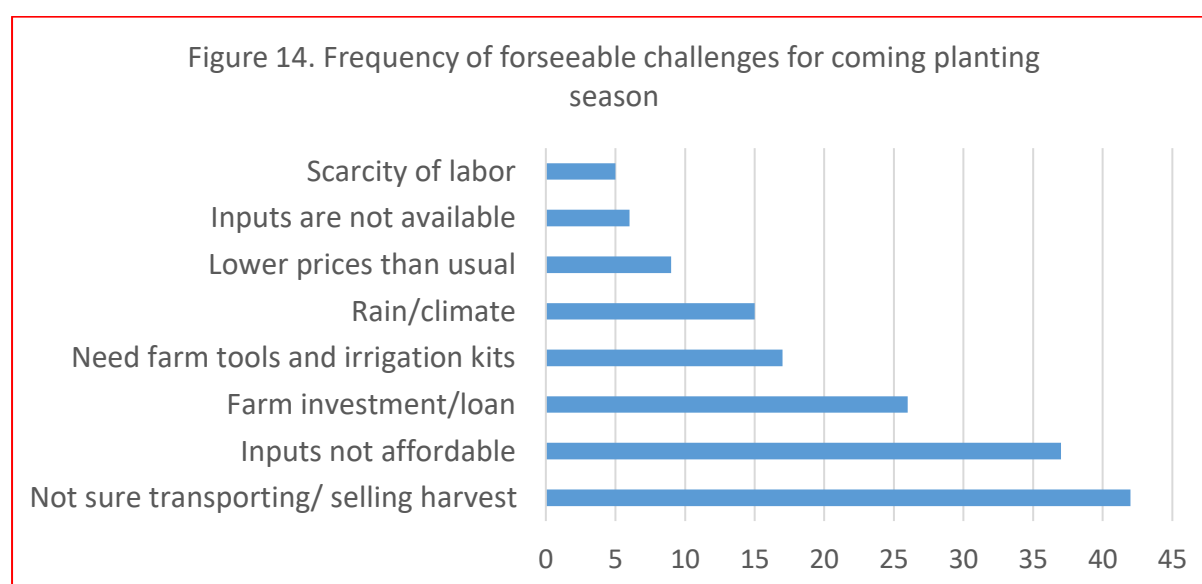
In the pilot survey, the possible reasons were explored that may affect access to market and supply chain during COVID-19 era. 20% of the farmers reported that they have difficulties in selling harvest (from the last season) at the moment. The result can be concluded that there is limited demand from both customers and wholesale market (including export), no transportation available or allowed in-out of village or township and price of the product is decreasing (Figure 12). However, nearly 80% of farmers in Chin State who grew elephant foot yam reported that they had already sold the harvest since December 2019.



The study also identified what farmers are planning to grow in coming cropping season. The following figure shows the disaggregate data based on type of crops. (Figure 13)



As a follow up question, it was also asked whether farmers have any challenges on coming monsoon planting season for their planned crops. A total of 51% of participants expressed that they have several difficulties in from nursery establishment to the selling of the harvests for coming season. The impacts of COVID-19 have superimposed the existing cross cutting issues such as the impacts of climate change, lack of farm investment and uncertainty of market accessibility. The following table shows the frequency of potential challenges the farmers may face in near future (Figure 14). Farmers are worried about continuity of transporting produces and lowering of prices due to COVID-19. The results proved that farm investment including access to agriculture loan, affordability and availability of basic farming inputs including labor and mitigating impact of climate change pay very crucial roles in overcoming difficulties.



V. Adaptive Capacity

In this study, the income diversification of farming households in rural area were also assessed. The results revealed that 96% of household identified agriculture, animal breeding and fishing as their primary source of income followed by 16% of household with private sector wage and salary as their main source of household income. Regarding the private sector income, these include part-time or full-time jobs such as carpenter, local guide, selling herbs, casual labor and weaving. The detail distribution can be seen in below table (Table 2).

Table 2. Source of Household Income

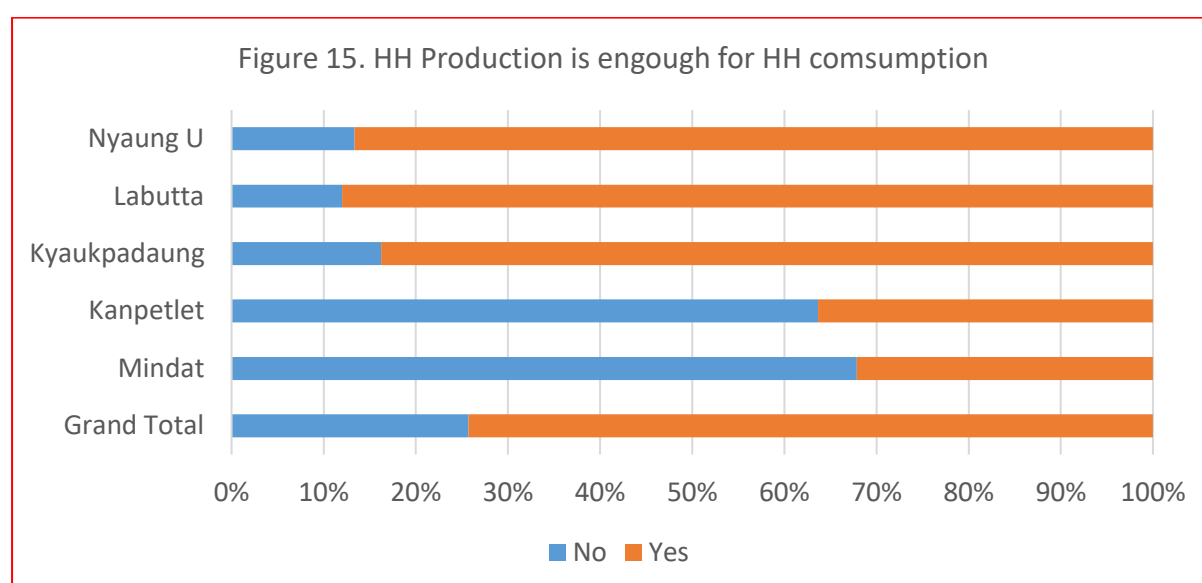
Agriculture, animal breeding, fishing	96%
Family business (other than agriculture)	5%
Government wage and salary	4%
Private sector wage and salary	16%
Transfers and social assistance	1%
Remittance	2%

The longer the period of COIVD19, the more negative will be the consequences on food security, nutrition and livelihood of rural farmers who have to rely fully on agricultural income along with no/little income diversification.

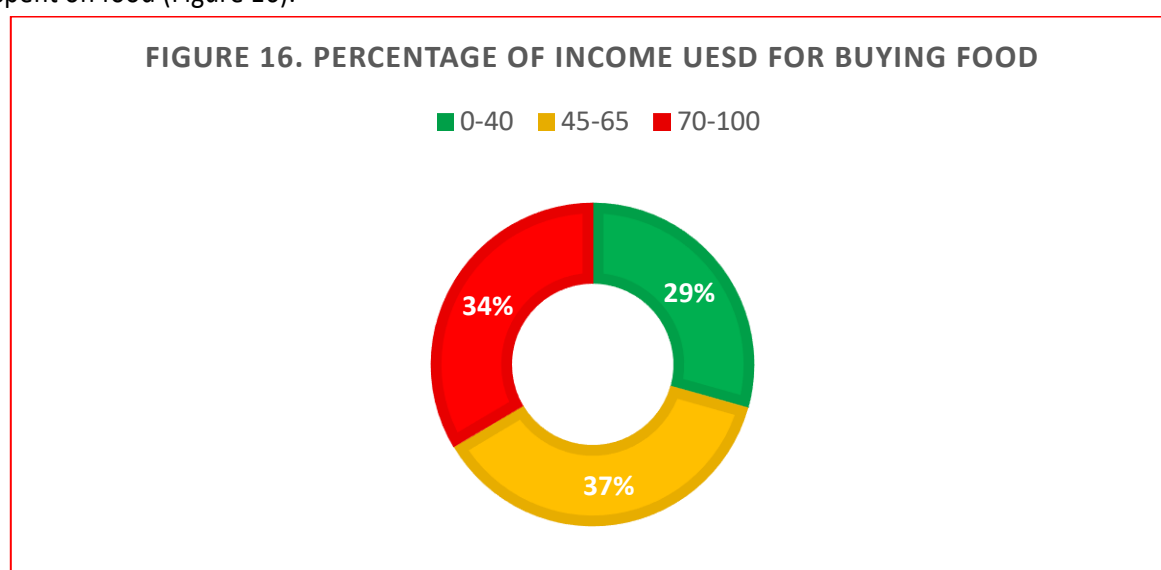
The longer the period of COIVD19, the more negative will be the consequences on food security, nutrition and livelihood of rural farmers who have to rely fully on agricultural income along with no/little income diversification.

VI. Foodsecurity

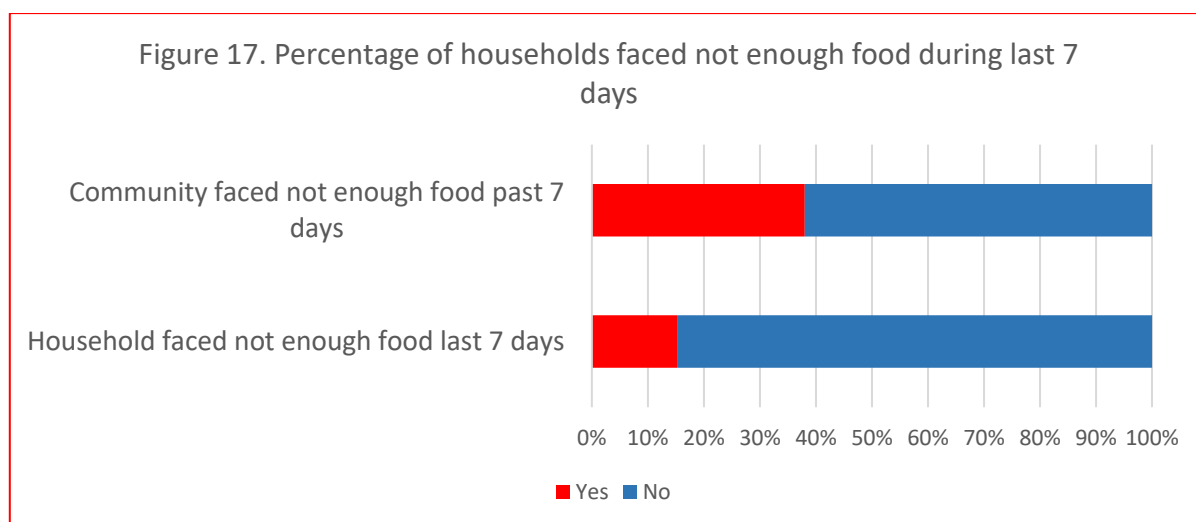
Overall, 26% of the respondents replied that their household productions (including rice, veggies, pulses, oil, and livestock) was not enough for household consumption. In this study, more than 60% participants from Chin State responded that their household production is not enough for family consumption (Figure 15). In Chin state farmers have to rely on perennial, including EFY, along with traditional slash and burn agriculture. This is time of the year when they need to buy rice from other townships. In the time of COIVD19, trade/movement is restricted. So, when they are running out of food, they have less chance to buy food. We found that some households borrowed rice from neighboring households to feed the family.



As a follow up question, the study inquired the proportion of household expense incurred for food excluding own productions. Overall, 37% of respondents stated that 45-65% of their income was utilized for buying food. However, 34% of respondents emphasized that 70-100% of their income was spent on food (Figure 16).



Furthermore, the survey also assessed the perceptions of interviewee on food security. The results showed that 15% of households faced with a situation wherein household did not have enough food to feed family members during the last 7 days. Similarly, 38% of respondents claimed that they have seen a certain number of household in their respective village who were also facing “not enough food situation” in the past 7 days (Figure 17).



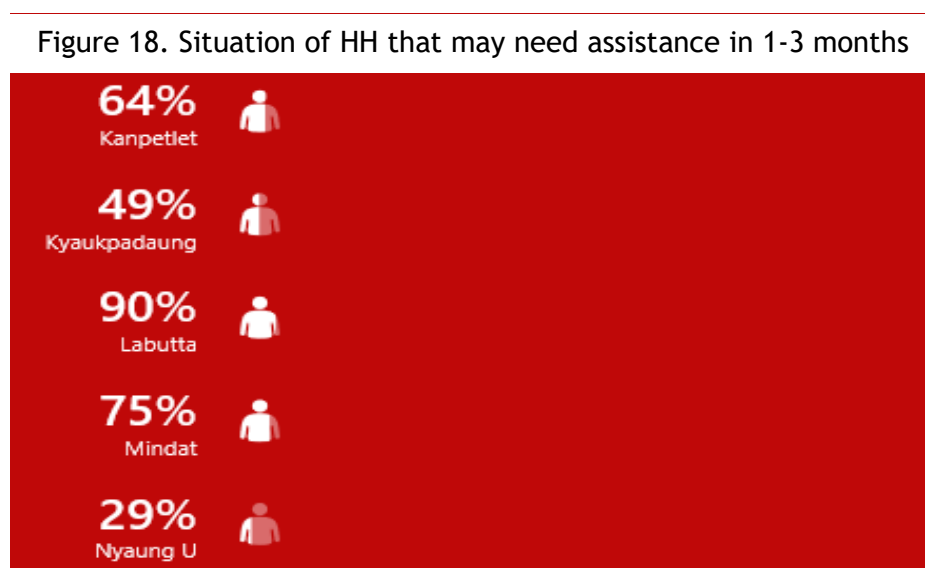
The following table shows the number of villages with the number of food insecure household in study villages (Table 3). Labutta has by far higher # of food insecure villages & households

Table 3.

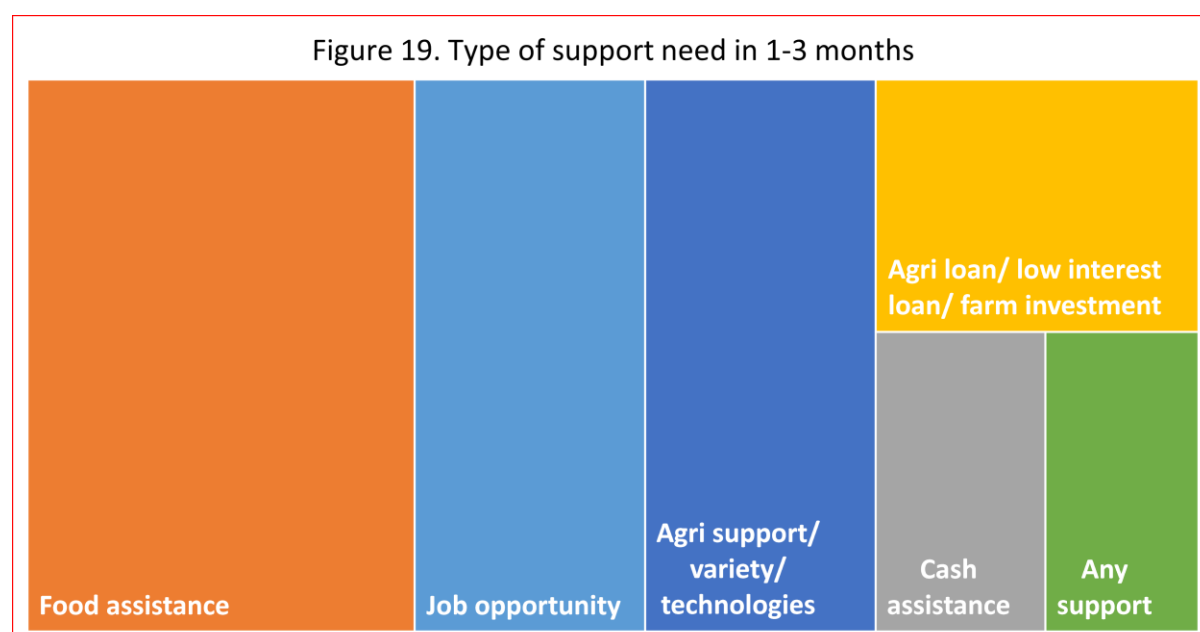
Township	Number of village	Estimated number of households
Kanpetlet	5	89
Kyaukpadaung	2	110
Labutta	23	3 170
Mindat	12	285
Nyaung U	2	63
Grand Total	44	3 716

VII. Social Safety Nets

Overall, 92% of participants have never received formal transfers such as relief food, cash assistance, livestock, safety net programs, pension schemes, etc. in the last 12 months by the any members of the household. The remaining 8% of household received on average of transfer worth 13,166 MMK in the last year. Generally, 60% of households in study villages anticipated that they may need relief food/ cash relief food, cash assistance, livestock, emergency agriculture assistance in 1-3 month time. Township wise distribution figure can be seen as below (Figure 18).



As a follow up question, the following tree map showed required type of support in 1-3 month time (Figure 19).



Similarly, the study showed that more than 80% of household in study villages subjectively anticipated that community may need relief food, cash assistance, livestock, emergency agriculture assistance in 1-3 month time if COVID-19 situation is getting longer (Figure 20).

Figure 20. Community need support in 1-3 months



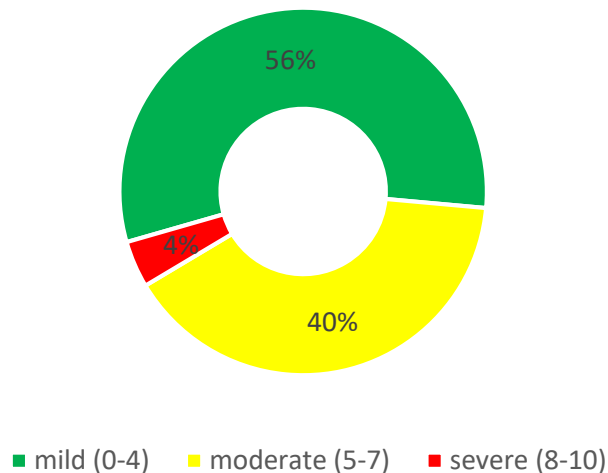
The respondents were asked to estimate number of households in their social circles which may be needing some kind of supports in 1-3 month time because of COVID-19. The results indicated that 7.5% (687/9208), 6.6% (2005/30537) and 13.8% (4400/31670) of households in study villages in Hilly region, Central dry zone and Delta region anticipating to receive relief assistance (Table 4).

Table 4.	
Agro-ecological zones	Estimated number of HH in community in need of support in 1-3 month time
Hilly Region (Kanpetlet+ MIndat)	687
Central Dry Zone (Kyaukpadaung + Nyaung-U)	2 005
Delta Region (Labutta)	4 400
Grand Total	7 092

VII. Recommendation of respondents

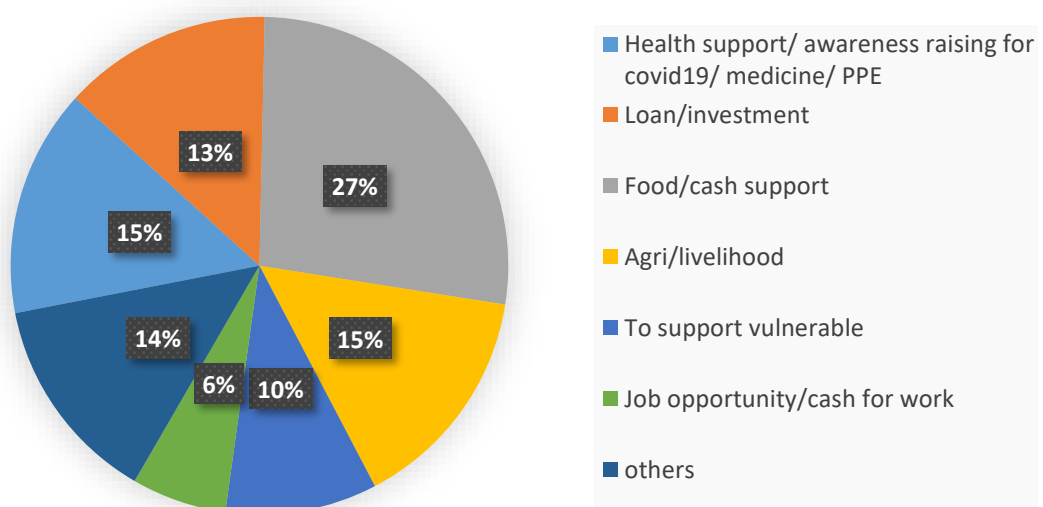
In this survey, perceptions of farmers regarding the immediate impact of COVID-19 on respective community were inquired. Farmers rated the intensity of impact from zero to ten (Figure 21). (0 – no impact at all, 10 – hardest impact)

Figure 21. Immediate impact of COVID-19 on community

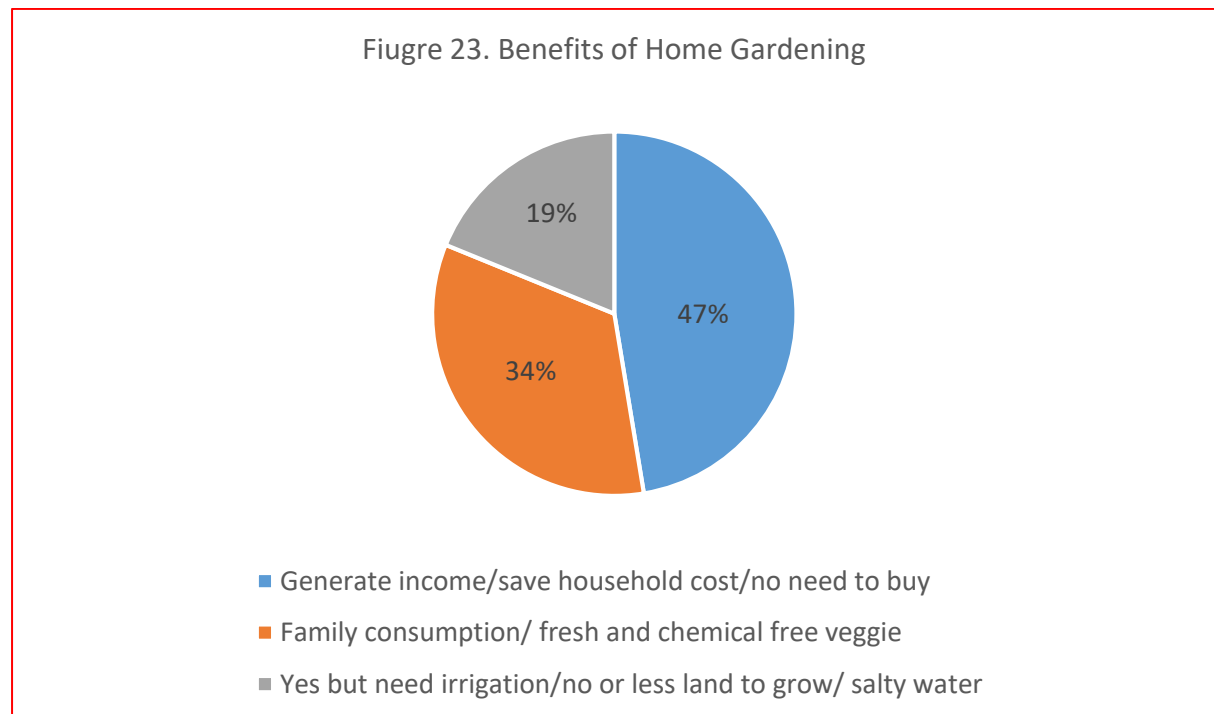


47% participants had questions/ recommendations to the Government or relevant stakeholders to ask for help when dealing with the impact (Figure 22).

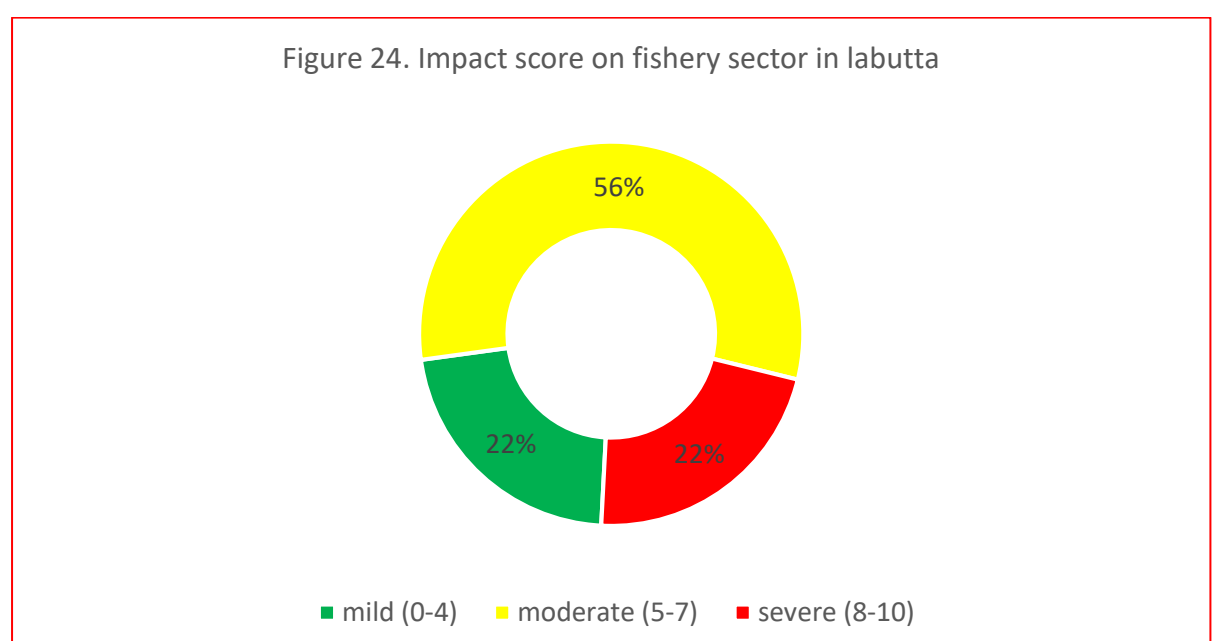
Figure 22. Questions/ recommendations to government or relevant stakeholders



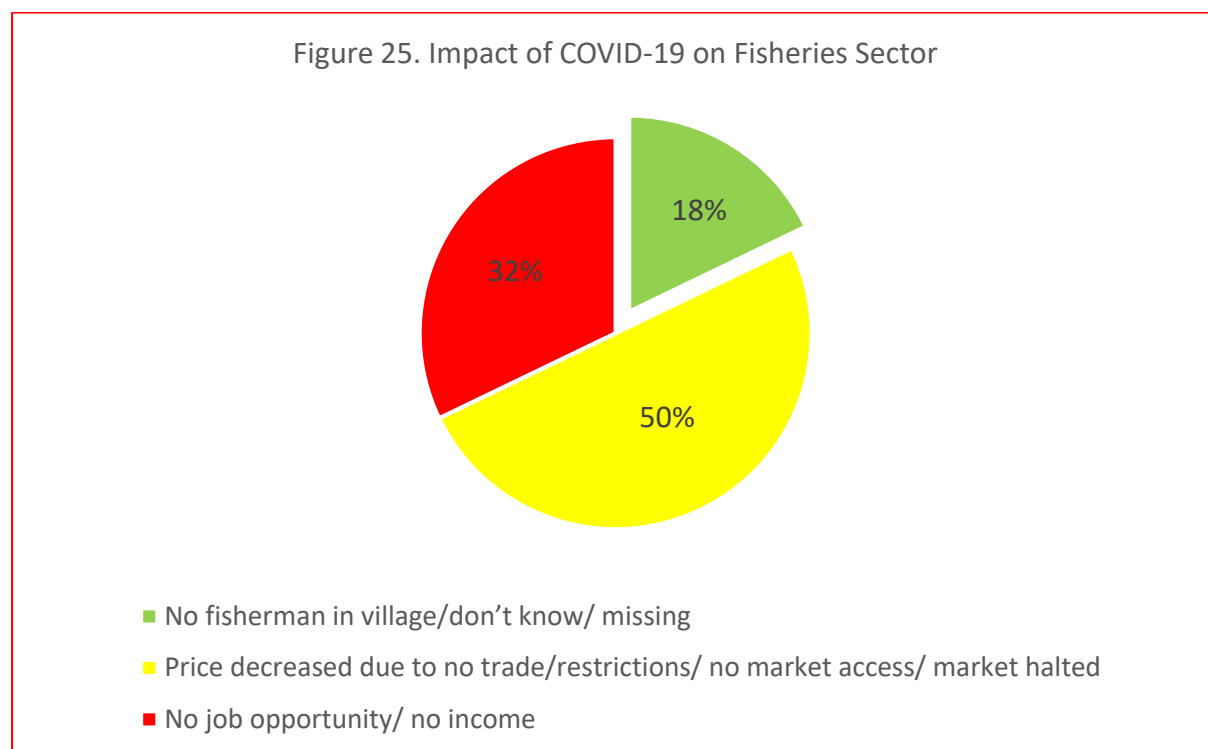
81% of respondents think that “Kitchen/home gardening program” can be helpful to compensate household expenditure/ improve resilience and food and nutrition security” in short term. The following chart summarize the reasons by the respondents on why they think home gardening can be beneficial in absolute term or with a condition (Figure 23).



Regarding the fish/crab industry in Labutta, the study addressed damage of COVID-19 on fishers and fish farmers’ livelihood. (0 – no impact at all, 10 – hardest impact) The results showed that 22% and 56% of respondents saying the impact is mild or moderate for the time being. However, the remaining 22% of participants said their lives were severely affected by COVID-19 (Figure 24).



As a follow up question, participants were asked about their local experience on how COVID-19 can impact on fish/crab industry in Labutta. The results explained that two main reasons such as no income due to lack of job opportunities at the moment particularly for casual labors and market price were also decreasing due to movement restrictions or reducing access to market (Figure 25).



Discussion

Almost all interviewees know the preventive measures of COVID-19 and WHO five food safety measures. However, risk of communication and management regarding COVID-19 transmission is very important because more than 60% of respondents perceived that SARS-CoV-2 virus can be transmitted from eating outside food despite strong scientific evidence.

Regarding access to microfinance, the majority of farmers (72%) have experience of taking agriculture loan before, however, 27% of respondents reported that they faced difficulties in repayment of the loan (s) in the last 12 months but not always due to COVID-19. The study showed that the farmers happened to use only short term solution to settle the debt by taking another loan or just paying the interest of previous loan first. Moreover, the results showed that 16% of respondents spent the agricultural loan for labor, health, education and food. The vulnerability of these farmers may become higher if they face longer economic hardship due to COVID19, even may end up in debt traps. It is obvious that only few the farmers in Mindat (19%) and Kanpetlet (9%) have taken loan before due to scarcity of money lenders especially in time of uncertainty. To summarize, farmers are facing the common barriers in accessing microfinance such as they still need to repay existing loan first, there is no money lenders or no trusted microfinance organizations operating and they do not have land tenure certificate to access loan.

Traditional ways of selling/buying of harvest or inputs involved people mobility and transferring physical bank notes. The results showed that only 23% of respondents have experience in using phone to sell/buy goods and less than 5% used bank or mobile payment for transactions. There is an obvious information gap which need to be identified to understand the challenges of transferring cash assistance to rural farmers by mobile payment.

Market linkages were also affected severely in this challenging time. Farmers cannot sell their harvest due to decreasing demand from both domestic consumption and export market. The price was decreased and the participants also reported that the restricted transportation and public mobility may undermine regular economic activities of local community.

Regarding food security, it is important to note that 60% of households in Chin State reported that their household production is not enough for family consumption and have to buy food from others. Overall, 34% of respondents reported that 70-100 percent of their income was spent to buy food. Also, 92% of respondents have never received any formal transfer under social safety nets program in the past 12 months. Moreover, the results showed that 15% of households faced with a situation wherein household did not have enough food to feed family members during the last 7 days. Similarly, 38% of respondents stated that they know approximately 3716 households in their community have do not have enough food in the last 7 days in study townships. It is important to take quick actions to ensure food security because 60% of households in study villages anticipated that they may need some kinds of assistance in 1-3-month time. Similarly, the respondents also subjectively anticipated that 7092 households in their respective community may need some supports such as relief food/ cash relief food, cash assistance, livestock, emergency agriculture assistance if COVID-19 situation is getting longer.

The SLM-GEF project operationalized home gardening program in project townships in order to support MoALI coping strategy and as a response to COVID-19. The study showed that 84% of participants think that the “Kitchen/home gardening program” can be helpful to compensate household expenditure/improve resilience. However, even if farmers are interested to grow home gardening, there is an operational challenge, especially in Chin State, in establishing a proper irrigation system due to limited availability of water.

Regarding the fish/crab industry in Labutta, 22% of respondents reported that the industry is severely affected by COVID-19. One possible explanation is that the crab industry in Labutta usually reduced or even stopped in March when spawning starts for crabs as it is regulated by ban on collecting for 1 month. The ban for fishing is for three months, May, June and July. This emphasize that COVID-19 is impacting much more on crab industry than on fishing for current months. There is however emerging challenges such as declining of the price (lower than half price that of normal), no market access and travel restrictions. Consequently, no job opportunity accompanied by no/little income will severely affect food security, nutrition and livelihoods of local community.

Strengths

There are some strengths concerning with this rapid assessment; the interviewees, the FFS and CFUG participants can be regarded as the key informers since they know their local community very well. When the interviewers introduced themselves and explained about the survey, they are willing to participate and answered openly. The existences of Technical Filed Officers and service providers in the areas are also very much supportive to help in interviewing and collecting contact numbers. This survey results can be helpful to estimate the real magnitude of the impact of COVID-19 in rural area.

Limitations

Despite desk reviews were processed in-parallel by various agencies based on publicly available information and reliable media updates, there is no first-hand information in order to comprehend the on-ground situations. Therefore, this rapid assessment was conducted to fill some of the data gaps. According to the nature of this rapid survey / assessment, the selected study population included only villages where SLM-GEF project area is involved even though the impact of COVID-19 is widespread the country. In addition to that, survey practiced convenience sampling rather than randomization.

Surveyors aimed to interview two key informants per village with a targeted sample size of 200 households. Interviewees were taken from some of the 100 “Farmer Field School” and “Community Forestry” villages which were geographically heterogeneous. However, this survey could only completed interview for 171 households due to the following constraints: The interviewer team was set up by assigning current project staff, therefore, data collection time took longer time since project staff were occupied with their regular, sometimes urgent tasks. Before survey started all interviewers involved shared by phone/via email on the draft survey questionnaires since conception stage in English

and in Myanmar to ensure questions were well understood and could be asked clearly in Myanmar or even in Chin Language. This resulted in producing an interviewer guide which could be used by interviewers along with “online data collection form.”

Since social distancing is in practice, survey chose interviewer led “telephone interview” by using online survey form as data collection method rather than “face-to-face” interview. When surveyors started interviewing, they found three important issues which were: existing telephone numbers were not updated, contact was not available and out-of-service area. For the first and second points, surveyors put effort to overcome by communicating with Technical Field Officers and/or service providers present in townships, or by reviewing the attendance sheets and project reports indicating contacts # of villagers or finally practicing snowball sampling in asking participants to collect more contacts in order to get the valid contact numbers.

Regarding the third point, particularly to this pilot study, despite above difficulties survey achieved a good level of representation with 100 % respondents in Labutta (50/50), 77% in Kyaukpadaung (37/48) and 100% Nyaung-U (45/45), but only for 64% (28/44) in Mindat and 28% (11/40) in Kanpetlet mainly due to limited service availability. In this case, we try to interview the third respondent and/or explore nearby villages in order to get better household representation.

Recommendations

The following should be considered while FAO is supporting COVID-19 communication campaign of MOALI. (CERP section 2.1.7) This survey address the knowledge of rural farmers about COVID-19 and food safety in FAO-SLM pilot areas. As a follow up study, it is recommended to explore the attitude and practices of farmers over next months. Meanwhile, the study result underscore the importance of risk communication and management regarding COVID-19 transmission since more than 60% of respondents replied “Yes” to the question that SARS-CoV-2 virus can be transmitted from eating outside food. The promotion of WHO five food safety measures should be followed by conducting extensive behavior communication campaign in agriculture sector.

The majority of farmers rely on a microfinance/loan support for planting the crops. The accessibility to the financial services for the upcoming monsoon season has been affected by the COVID-19 crisis. Therefore, there is a need to take timely actions to ensure accessibility of credit for the farmers for planting monsoon season crops to avoid possible shortage of food supply and to improve food security.

As the human movement is restricted due to COVID-19 crisis and could be affected even more by the rainy season, there is a need to introduce mobile banking/payment mechanism as far as possible to ensure continued financial services.

The supply of necessary inputs and accessibility to input-output market have been affected by the overall impact of COVID-19 crisis. This might effect on food security seriously if the planting of crops in the coming seasons is affected. Therefore, it would be very important for the Government to take necessary actions to make the market channel functioning for increasing food production by imposing restrictions only in the areas where COVID-19 incidence is critical.

Household production is not enough for family consumption, especially in Chin State, thus farmers may face food shortage soon if COVID-19 period is longer and promotion of kitchen gardens will help improve food security and subsistence livelihood. Moreover, Small-holder farmers may need relief food/cash relief food, cash assistance, livestock, emergency agri-assistance in 1-3 months. Therefore, Kitchen/home gardening program should be promoted in wider scale to support food and nutrition security of the rural population affected by COVID-19. This is also in line with one of the priority actions by the Government to respond to the impact of COVID-19. More importantly, emergency food/cash assistance should be provided to order to alleviate the impact of COVID-19 and ensure food security.

COVID-19 has also affected fishery sector and community as a whole in Labutta, therefore, priority should be given to create job opportunities by establishing cash-for-work programs, especially aiming to recruit manual labor who lost their jobs.

Conclusion

The study identified immediate barriers and challenges of rural small-holder farmers with regard to the access to microfinance, access to market and market connectivity, sustainable production, food safety and security and access to social safety nets in the time of COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the study results will inform mitigation plan of FAO and other relevant organizations by underscoring four thematic areas such as supporting COVID-19 communication campaigns, cash or lending supports to farmers, enhancing productivity and market connectivity and creating job opportunities including cash-for-work programs of Myanmar Government's CERP, section 2.1.7. However, since this is a pilot study, sporadic assessment might be needed to better understand the long term impact of COVID-19 to small scales farmers in rural area. To conclude, the findings will be shared with other agencies who are going to start telephone interview as data collection method.

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www.slmmyanmar.info/download/impact-of-covid-19

Pilot Survey to Identify Immediate Barriers and Challenges of Small Scale Farmers during COVID-19

Short Introduction

Hello, I am (interviewer name) from FAO SLM-GEF project based in (name of project township). I am calling you to ask your opinions on impact of COVID-19 on your socio-economic life. Since COVID-19 cases were first announced in Myanmar, FAO is working closely with Department of Planning of MoALI for policy formulation, drawing methodology for rapid country assessments and drafting action plans. However, before we are going to implement COVID-19 mitigation plan, it is very important to know what is happening on ground regarding movement restrictions, access to market and agriculture-loans, crop production and maintaining food security and livelihoods. Therefore, we are going to conduct this pilot survey to help us to identify what are “immediate barriers and challenges” that farmers facing due to COVID-19 disease and its containment measures. We’d like to invite you to participate in this interview. As there is no right or wrong answer, you can answer freely, can skip or stop any time you want while answering and your name will not be recorded. We are going to interview approximately 30 farmers from multiple villages (max 2 farmers/village) in each project township and it will take about 15-25 minutes. The collected information will be stored securely at SLM-GEF NayPyiTaw office. The analysis of this survey result will be used to inform not only SLM-GEF project but also other UN agencies (including FAO) to formulate mitigation plan. Do you have any questions? If not, let’s start the interview.

Tip: Read out the questions as written to participants and wait for reply during phone interview. Please explain introductory statement above in brief.

Household Questionnaires

I. Support COVID-19 communication campaigns

1. COVID-19 can be prevented by doing following?	
• Social distancing (e.g. staying at least 1 meter away)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• Hand washing/ hand rubbing frequently	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• Wearing non-medical mask (when going out for essential things)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• Staying at home	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• Stay healthy to boost immune system (e.g. minor exercises, sleep well, eating nutritious foods)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• Follow instructions from reliable sources (MOHS & Trusted New Agencies)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• If known Others, (Please specify)	[open answer]
2. Can COVID-19 be transmitted from food/eating vegetables, fruits /meat bought from markets?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
3. Food safety measures published by WHO include?	
• keep clean	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• separate raw and cooked	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• cook thoroughly	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• keep food at safe temperatures (<5 or >60 degrees Celsius) (Danger zone: The temperature range 5 °C to 60 °C, in which microorganisms grow and multiply very fast.)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• use safe/clean water and safe/clean raw materials ("Safe" means that water and food is free from dangerous microorganisms and toxic chemicals at levels that could cause illness and/or disease.)	[1 = yes 0 = no]

II. Cash or lending support to smallholder farmers who have lost sales revenue or remittance income to support input purchases in time for monsoon planting

4. Have you ever taken agriculture loan before? If yes, for what inputs?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• to buy fertilizers (organic or chemical)	
• to buy seeds	
• to buy pesticides/insecticides (organic or chemical)	
• others (specify)	
5. If yes, where do you usually get loan?	
• MADB	
• MoALI cooperative department	
• Pact Global Microfinance Fund (PGMF)-Ma Mya May group	
• Sathapana Limited	
• LOLC Myanmar Micro-Finance	
• Private/individual money lenders	
• others (specify)	
6. If yes, what is size of loan and interest rate (per annum)	[open answer]

7. Have you ever faced any difficulties for repayment of loan (s) in the last 12 months by the members of the HH?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
7.1 If yes, how do seek resolutions at time of repayment?	[Open answer]
8. Do you have plan to take loan for coming planting season?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
9. Do you have any barriers/problems to access to loan at the moment? If yes, reasons are?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• need to reimburse existing loan first	
• not sure MFI operates due to the restrictions of COVID-19 (ordered to close)	
• required collateral (do not have Form-7)	
• cannot afford to pay interest/ interest is too high	
• others (specify)	

III. Complement support with advice on productivity enhancement and market connectivity

10. Can you sell your harvest (from the last season) at the market now? If not, what are reasons? (Meaning, do you have any difficulties on your production at present?)	[1 = yes 0 = no] [multiple choice]
• Market/restaurants closed	
• Decreasing demand of consumers	
• Cannot wholesale, no demand from warehouse	
• Harvest sold already	
• No transportation is available	
• No transportation for trade is allowed	
• Others	
11. Have you/HH member ever buy/sell your agri-related inputs/harvest by phone? (calling or using sms)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
12. Have you/HH member ever buy/sell your agri-related inputs/harvest online? (Viber/messengers/App as such)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
13. Have you/HH member ever use bank transfer to transact money of giving/receiving agri-related inputs/products?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
14. Have you/HH member ever use mobile payment to transact money of giving/receiving agri-related inputs/products?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
15. What is the total area of land (owned, leased or used) that the household owns/ uses in acres? (if landless- fill zero)	[] acres
16. What do you plan to grow for monsoon season?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• Paddy	
• Pulses (green gram, pigeon peas, chickpeas, lentils, cowpeas etc.)	
• Oil seeds crops (sesame, groundnuts)	
• Kitchen vegetables (easily perishable crops)	
• Others (please specify)	

17. Do you have any difficulties on coming monsoon planting season for your planned crop? (nursery to selling harvest) If yes, what are reasons?	[1 = yes 0 = no] [multiple choice]
• Do not afford to buy inputs (seeds/fertilizers)	
• Inputs are not available in the market (/not easy to get inputs)	
• Export market is uncertain/	
• Input-output market linkages were broken	
• Low prices than usual	
• Need farm tools and irrigation kits,	
• No/decreasing domestic demand/	
• worries for not able to sell harvest	
• Not sure about transporting harvest due to COVID-19	
• Others (please specify)	

IV. Adaptive Capacity

18. In the past 12 months, What was the source of household income?	[1 = yes 0 = no] [multiple choice]
• Agriculture, animal breeding, fishing	
• Family business (other than agriculture)	
• Government wage and salary	
• Private sector wage and salary	
• Transfers and social assistance	
• Remittance from family members working abroad	
• Other	
19. What is considered as the main income source of the household? (maximum 2 sources)	[open answer]

V. Food security

20. Is your HH production (including rice, veggies, pulses, oil, livestock) enough for your HH consumption?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
21. What percentage of your income is used for buying food? (excluding your own productions, either week/month average is ok)	[%]
22. During the last 7 days, have you faced with a situation wherein you did not have enough food to feed the household?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
23. During the last 7 days, do you know anyone in your community faced with a situation wherein that did not have enough food to feed the household?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
24. If yes, can you estimate how many HH?	[number]

VI. Social Safety Nets

25. What is the total amount of formal transfers (relief food, cash assistance, livestock, safety net programs, pension schemes, etc.) received in the last 12 months by the members of the household? (Free distribution of 5 food commodity for Thingyan Holidays, the cost/HH estimated to be 12,000 MMK)	[monetary value in local currency] 1 = Not received at all.
26. Do you think are you in need of relief food/ cash relief food, cash assistance, livestock, emergency agri assistance in 1-3 month time?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
27. If yes, what and why do you need? (please repeat above types of assistance, if required)	[open answer]
28. Do you think anyone in your community in need of relief food/ cash relief food, cash assistance, livestock, emergency agri assistance in 1-3 month time?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
29. If yes can you estimate how many HH?	[number]

VII. Recommendation of respondents

30. Overall, how do you score the impact of COVID-19 on your community? (0 - no impact at all, 10 - hardest impact)	[score 1 to 10]
31. What are your questions/ recommendations to the Government or relevance stakeholders to help you dealing with the impact?	[open answer]
32. If feasible, Do you think “Kitchen/home gardening program” will help you to be compensate your income/improve resilience?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
33. Follow up on question #23, why or why not?	[open answer]
The following question is “Specific to Delta Region”	
1. If known, how would you rate the damage of COVID-19 on fishers and fish farmers’ livelihood? (0 - no impact at all, 10 - hardest impact)	[score 1 to 10] {if don’t know-skip}
2. If so, What is changing in their livelihoods in terms of Changing consumer demands, Market access and fall prices, Logistics problems, Loss of job/less job opportunities, impact on Food security and nutrition, any others	[open answer] {if don’t know-skip}

Household demographic characteristics

34. Gender of household head (please count de facto head)	[1=male 2=female]
35. Total number of members of the household (Adults and children)	[number]
36. Total number of household members of working age (>14 and <64 years old)	[number]
37. Name of interviewer	[open answer]
38. Village Name	[open answer]
38.1 # of HH	
38.2 # of Population	
39. Township Name	[open answer]

End of Survey

You have reached to the end of survey. Please say thanks to participants. You may ask the interviewee to refer to anyone whom he/she know the contact phone number in their village/nearby village to participate in this survey.

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Pilot Survey to Identify Immediate Barriers and Challenges of Small Scale Farmers

မိတ်ဆက်ခြင်း

ဟယ်လို။ ကျွန်တော်/ကျွန်မက (**name of project township**) မှာ တာဝန်ကျနေတဲ့ **FAO SLM-GEF project** မှ (**interviewer name**) ဖြစ်ပါတယ်။ သင့်ရဲ့ လူမှုစီးပွားဘဝတွေအပေါ် **COVID-19** ရောဂါရဲ့ ထိခိုက်မှုနဲ့ပတ်သတ်ပြီး သင့်ရဲ့သဘောထားကို မေးမြန်းချင်လို့ ဖုန်းဆက်လိုက်တာပါ။ **COVID-19** လူနာတွေ မြန်မာမှာစတွေ့တဲ့အချိန်ကတည်းက မူဝါဒရေးဆွဲနိုင်ဖို့၊ နိုင်ငံအခြေအနေကို သိရှိအောင် အမြန်စစ်တမ်းကောက်နိုင်မယ့်နည်းလမ်းတွေ ချမှတ်ဖို့နဲ့ အကောင်အထည်ဖော်ဖို့ အစီအစဉ်တွေဆွဲဖို့ **FAO** အနေနဲ့ စိုက်/မွေး/ဆည်ဝန်ကြီးဌာန (**MoALI**) စီမံကိန်းဌာနနဲ့ လက်တွဲလုပ်ဆောင်လျက်ရှိပါတယ်။ ဒါပေမဲ့ **COVID-19** ဖြစ်တဲ့ထိခိုက်မှုတွေကို လျော့ချနိုင်ဖို့အစီအစဉ်တွေ အကောင်အထည်ဖော်တဲ့အခါ ဥပမာ။ ။ သွားလာကန့်သတ်ထားတာ၊ ဈေးကွက်ချိတ်ဆက်တာ၊ စိုက်ပျိုးချေးငွေရယူတာ၊ သီးနှံစိုက်ပျိုးထုတ်လုပ်တာ၊ စားနပ်ရိက္ခာဖူလုံမှုနဲ့ လူမှုဘဝအခြေအနေစတဲ့ အချက်တွေနဲ့ ပတ်သတ်လို့ မြေပြင်အခြေအနေမှာ ဘာတွေဖြစ်နေသလဲဆိုတာကို သိရဖို့ အလွန်အရေးကြီးပါတယ်။ ဒါကြောင့် **COVID-19** ရောဂါနဲ့ ရောဂါထိန်းချုပ်ရေးအစီအမံတွေကြောင့် တစ်ပိုင်တစ်နိုင် တောင်သူတွေ လက်ငင်းကြုံတွေ့နေရတဲ့ အတားအဆီးများနှင့် စိန်ခေါ်မှုတွေကို သိရှိနိုင်ဖို့ ကနဦးစစ်တမ်း ကောက်ယူရခြင်း ဖြစ်ပါတယ်။ ဒီအင်တာဗျူးမှာ ပါဝင်ဖို့ ဖိတ်ခေါ်ချင်ပါတယ်။ အဖြေ မှားတယ်/မှန်တယ်ဆိုတာမျိုးမရှိလို့ မေးခွန်းတွေကို လွတ်လွတ်လပ်လပ် ဖြေနိုင်ပါတယ်။ ဖြေနေစဉ်မှာလည်း မဖြေချင်တဲ့မေးခွန်းရှိရင် ကျော်လိုက်တာ/ မဖြေတော့ဘဲ ရပ်လိုက်တာမျိုးလည်း ရပါတယ်။ ကျွန်တော်တို့အနေနဲ့ စီမံချက်မှာပါတဲ့ မြို့နယ်မှာရှိတဲ့ ကျေးရွာပေါင်းစုံက (တစ်ရွာကို အများဆုံး ၂ ယောက်နှုန်းနဲ့) တောင်သူအယောက် ၃၀ လောက်ကို မေးမြန်းသွားမှာပါ။ မေးမြန်းချိန် ၁၅-၂၅ မိနစ် ကြာမြင့်နိုင်ပါတယ်။ ရရှိလာတဲ့ အချက်အလက်တွေကို **SLM-GEF** စီမံချက် နေပြည်တော်ရုံးမှာ လုံခြုံစွာ သိမ်းဆည်းထားမှာ ဖြစ်ပါတယ်။ ရရှိလာတဲ့အချက်အလက်တွေကို ခွဲခြမ်းစိတ်ဖြာပြီး **COVID-19** ဖြစ်တဲ့ထိခိုက်မှုတွေကို လျော့ချနိုင်ဖို့အစီအစဉ်ရေးဆွဲနေတဲ့ **SLM-GEF project** ကိုသာမက **FAO** အပါအဝင် အခြားသော ကမ္ဘာ့ကုလသမဂ္ဂ အဖွဲ့အစည်း (**UN agencies**) တွေကိုပါ အထောက်အကူဖြစ်စေဖို့ အသုံးပြုသွားမှာ ဖြစ်ပါတယ်။ မေးစရာမေးခွန်းရှိပါသလား? မေးစရာ မေးခွန်းမရှိတော့ဘူးဆိုရင် အင်တာဗျူးကို စလိုက်ကြရအောင်။

Tip: ဖုန်းဖြင့်အင်တာဗျူးရာတွင် မေးခွန်းတွေကို ရေးထားတဲ့အတိုင်း ဖတ်ပြပေးပါ။ ထို့နောက် ပြန်ဖြေကြားတာကို စောင့်ပါ။ အထက်ပါ မိတ်ဆက်စာကို အကျဉ်းချုပ်ရှင်းပြပေးပါ။

အိမ်ထောင်စုဆိုင်ရာ မေးခွန်းများ

I. ကိုဗစ်နိုင်ငံတင်းရောဂါ COVID-19 နှင့်ပတ်သတ်သော အသိပညာပေးကမ်ပိန်းဆိုင်ရာတွင်

အထောက်အပံ့ပေးခြင်း

1. အောက်ပါတို့ကို လိုက်နာပါက ကိုဗစ်နိုင်ငံတင်းရောဂါ COVID-19 ရောဂါကို ကာကွယ်နိုင်ပါသည်။ (မှန်/မှား)	
• ခပ်ခွာခွာနေခြင်း (ဥပမာ။ ။ လူတစ်ဦးနှင့်တစ်ဦး အနည်းဆုံး ၃ ပေ ခွာနေခြင်း)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• မကြာခဏ လက်ဆေးခြင်း (ဆပ်ပြာဖြင့် သို့ လက်သန့်ဆေးရည်ဖြင့်)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• Mask တပ်ထားခြင်း (မဖြစ်မနေ အပြင်ထွက်ရပါက)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• အိမ်မှာနေခြင်း (Staying at home)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• ကိုယ်ခံအားကောင်းစေရန် ပြုမူနေထိုင်ခြင်း (ဥပမာ။ ။ ကိုယ်လက်လှုပ်ရှားအားကစားလုပ်ခြင်း/ အိပ်ရေးဝအောင်အိပ်ခြင်း/အာဟာရပြည့်အောင် စားသုံးခြင်း။)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့် အားကစားဝန်ကြီးဌာနနှင့် ယုံကြည်စိတ်ချရသော သတင်းဌာနတို့၏ လမ်းညွှန်ချက်များကိုသာ ယုံကြည်လိုက်နာခြင်း။	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• အခြားရှိပါက (အသေးစိတ်ဖော်ပြပေးပါ။)	[open answer)
2. ဈေးမှဝယ်ယူခဲ့သော သား/ငါး/သီး/ရွက်များကို စားသုံးမီပါက ကိုဗစ်နိုင်ငံတင်းရောဂါ COVID-19 ရောဂါကူးစက်ခံရနိုင်ပါသလား? (မှန်/မှား)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
3. ကမ္ဘာ့ကျန်းမာရေးအဖွဲ့ (WHO) မှ လမ်းညွှန်ထားသော အစားအသောက် ဘေးအန္တရာယ်ကင်းရှင်းရေး အချက် ၅ ချက်တွင် အောက်ပါတို့ပါဝင်သည်။ (မှန်/မှား)	
• သန့်ရှင်းစွာထားပါ။ (မိမိ၏ လက်၊ အိုးခွက်များနှင့် အသုံးအဆောင်များကို သန့်ရှင်းစင်ကြယ်စွာထားပါ။ ဆေးကြောထားပါ။)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• အစိမ်းနှင့် အကျက်ကို ခွဲထားပါ။ (မချက် ရသေးသော အသားစိမ်း၊ ငါးစိမ်းနဲ့ ချက်ပြီးသားဟင်းလျာတွေ/ အခြား အသီးအရွက်များကို သီးခြားစီ သိမ်းဆည်းပါ / ရောမထားပါနှင့်။)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• အစားအစာတွေကို ကျက်အောင်ချက်ပြုတ်ပါ။ (သင့်တင့်လုံလောက်သော အပူချိန်၊ ကြာမြင့်ချိန်ကို အသုံးပြုပြီး ချက်ပြုတ်ပါ။)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• သင့်တင့်သောအပူချိန်တွင် သိမ်းဆည်းပါ။ (အစားအစာများကို အမျိုးအစားအလိုက် သင့်တင့်မျှတသော အပူချိန်တွင် သိမ်းဆည်းထားပါ။ ဘတ်တီးရီးယားပိုးများ ပေါက်ပွားတက်သောကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည်။)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• သန့်ရှင်းသောရေနဲ့ လတ်ဆတ်တဲ့ကုန်ကြမ်း ပစ္စည်းတွေကိုပဲ အသုံးပြုပါ။ (သန့်ရှင်းသောရေကို ဥပမာ၊ အစိမ်းစားမည့် သစ်သီးဝလံများကို ဆေးကြောရာတွင် အသုံးပြုသင့်ပါတယ်။)	[1 = yes 0 = no]

II. တစ်ပိုင်တစ်နိုင်တောင်သူများအား ငွေသား သို့ ချေးငွေအထောက်အပံ့ဆိုင်ရာ

4. အရင်က စိုက်ပျိုးစားရိတ်ချေးငွေ ချေးဖူးပါသလား။ ချေးဖူးပါက၊ ဘာအတွက်လဲ?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• ဓာတ်မြေသြဇာများ ဝယ်ယူရန် (သြဂဲနစ် သို့ ဓာတု)	
• မျိုးစေ့များဝယ်ယူရန်	
• ပိုးသတ်ဆေး/ ပေါင်းသတ်ဆေးများ ဝယ်ယူရန် (သြဂဲနစ် သို့ ဓာတု)	
• အခြား (အသေးစိတ်ဖော်ပြပေးပါ)	
5. အကယ်၍ ချေးခဲ့ပါက မည်သည့်နေရာ/အဖွဲ့ထံမှ ချေးခဲ့ပါသလဲ?	
• စိုက်ဘဏ်	
• သမအသင်း	
• မမြမေအဖွဲ့ (Pact Global Microfinance Fund (PGMF))	
• စထာပါနာ အဖွဲ့ (Sathapana Limited)	
• အယ်အိုအယ်စီ မြန်မာမိုက်ခရိုဖိုင်းနန့်စ် (LOLC Myanmar Micro-Finance)	
• အရပ်ထဲရှိ ငွေချေးသူထံမှ	
• အခြား (အသေးစိတ်ဖော်ပြပေးပါ)	
6. အကယ်၍ ချေးယူခဲ့ပါက ဘယ်လောက်ချေးခဲ့ပါသလဲ။ တစ်နှစ်ကို အတိုးနှုန်းဘယ်လောက်နဲ့လဲ။	[open answer)
7. လွန်ခဲ့သော ၁၂ လအတွင်း (သင်အပါအဝင်) အိမ်ရှိမိသားစုဝင်တစ်ဦးဦးမှ ချေးငွေပြန်မဆပ်နိုင်တာမျိုး ကြုံခဲ့ဖူးလား?	[1 = yes 0 = no] If yes, go to 7.1
7.1 အကယ်၍ ရှိခဲ့ပါက၊ ပြန်ဆပ်ချိန် မှာ ဘယ်လို အခက်အခဲတွေ ရှိခဲ့ပြီး ဘယ်လိုဖြေရှင်းခဲ့ပါသလဲ?	[Open answer]
8. အခုလာမယ့်စိုက်ရာသီအတွက် ချေးငွေယူဖို့ အစီအစဉ်ရှိပါသလား?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
9. ခုချိန်မှာ ငွေချေးဖို့ အခက်အခဲ/ပြဿနာတစ်ခုတစ်ရာ ရှိပါသလား? ရှိပါက ဘာကြောင့်လဲ?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• အရင်အကြွေးကို အရင်ပြန်ဆပ်ရဦးမယ်။	If yes, multiple choice
• COVID-19 ကြောင့် ငွေချေးတဲ့အဖွဲ့တွေ လုပ်ငန်းလည်ပတ်နေသလား/ပိတ်ထားလား မသေချာလို့။	
• အပေါင်ပစ္စည်းလိုအပ်လို့ မချေးနိုင်။ (ဥပမာ။ ။ ပုံစံ ၇ မရှိလို့)	
• အတိုးမပေးနိုင်လို့/ အတိုးနှုန်းအရမ်းများလို့	
• အခြား (အသေးစိတ်ဖော်ပြပေးပါ)	[Open answer]

III. ဈေးကွက်ချိတ်ဆက်ခြင်းနှင့် စိုက်ပျိုးထုတ်လုပ်မှု တိုးတက်စေရန် အထောက်အကူပြုခြင်းဆိုင်ရာ

10. (ယခင်စိုက်ရာသီမှ) စိုက်ပျိုးသီးနှံတွေကို အခုချိန်ဈေးမှာ ရောင်းလို့ရလား? ရောင်းလို့မရပါက၊ ဘာကြောင့်လဲ? (ဆိုလိုသည်မှာ သီးနှံထုတ်ကုန်တွေရောင်းချတာနဲ့ ပတ်သတ်ပြီး ဘာအခက်အခဲတွေ ကြုံတွေ့နေရလဲ?)	[1 = yes 0 = no] [multiple choice]
• ဈေး/ စားသောက်ဆိုင်တွေ ပတ်ထားလို့	
• စားသုံးသူတွေရဲ့ ဝယ်လိုအားကျလာလို့	
• လက်ကားရောင်းလို့မရတော့လို့ (ပွဲရုံတွေက မဝယ်တော့ဘူး။)	
• သီးနှံတွေက ရောင်းလို့ပြီးသွားပြီမို့လို့	
• သယ်ပို့တဲ့ယာဉ်တွေမရှိလို့	
• ကုန်ကူးသန်းသွားလာခွင့်မပေးလို့	
• အခြား (အသေးစိတ်ဖော်ပြပေးပါ)	
11. သင်/သင်၏မိသားစုဝင်တစ်ဦးဦးက စိုက်ပျိုးရေးသွင်းအားစု/သီးနှံထွက်ကုန်ကို ဖုန်းအသုံးပြုပြီး ရောင်း/ဝယ်ခဲ့ဖူးပါသလား။ (ဖုန်းခေါ်၍ သို့ sms ပို့၍)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
12. သင်/သင်၏မိသားစုဝင်တစ်ဦးဦးက စိုက်ပျိုးရေးသွင်းအားစု/သီးနှံထွက်ကုန်ကို အွန်လိုင်းအသုံးပြုပြီး ရောင်း/ဝယ်ခဲ့ဖူးပါသလား။ (Viber/messengers/App စသည့်တို့သုံး၍)	[1 = yes 0 = no]
13. သင်/သင်၏မိသားစုဝင်တစ်ဦးဦးက စိုက်ပျိုးရေးသွင်းအားစု/ သီးနှံထွက်ကုန်ရောင်းရငွေကို ဘဏ်အသုံးပြု၍ ငွေလွှဲခဲ့/ငွေလက်ခံခဲ့ ဖူးပါသလား?	[1 = yes 0 = no, 2 = I don't have bank account]
14. သင်/သင်၏မိသားစုဝင်တစ်ဦးဦးက စိုက်ပျိုးရေးသွင်းအားစု/ သီးနှံထွက်ကုန်ရောင်းရငွေကို မိုဘိုင်းငွေပေးချေမှုအသုံးပြု၍ ငွေပေးခဲ့/ငွေလက်ခံခဲ့ ဖူးပါသလား?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
15. သင့်မိသားစု ပိုင်ဆိုင်ထား/ အသုံးပြုနေသည့် စုစုပေါင်းစိုက်ပျိုးမြေ (ပိုင်ဆိုင်/ငှားရမ်း/အသုံးပြု) အကျယ်အဝန်းကို ဖော်ပြပါ။ [ဧကဖြင့်ပြရန်] (မြေပိုင်ဆိုင်မှုမရှိပါက - သုညဟုဖြည့်ပါ။)	[] acres
16. လာမယ့်မိုးမှာ ဘာတွေစိုက်ဖို့ ပြင်ဆင်ထားလဲ? [multiple choice]	[1 = yes 0 = no]
• စပါး	
• ပဲအမျိုးမျိုး (green gram, pigeon peas, chickpeas, lentils, cowpeas etc.)	
• ဆီထွက်သီးနှံ (sesame, groundnuts)	
• မီးဖိုချောင်သုံး ဟင်းရွက်သီးနှံများ (easily perishable crops)	
• အခြား (အသေးစိတ်ဖော်ပြပေးပါ)	
17. လာမယ့်မိုးတွင်း စိုက်ရာသီမှာ စိုက်ဖို့ပြင်ဆင်ထားတဲ့ သီးနှံတွေစိုက်ဖို့ အခက်အခဲတွေရှိလား? (ပျိုးထောင်တာကနေ ရောင်းချတဲ့အတွင်း) အကယ်၍ အခက်အခဲရှိတယ်ဆိုရင် ဘာတွေလဲ?	[1 = yes 0 = no] [multiple choice]
• စိုက်ပျိုးရေးသွင်းအားစုတွေဝယ်ဖို့ မတတ်နိုင်လို့ (seeds/fertilizers)	
• ဈေးကွက်ထဲမှာ သွင်းအားစုတွေ မရနိုင်တော့လို့ (/not easy to get inputs)	

• ပြည်ပဈေးကွက် (Export market) ကမသေချာတော့လို့	
• သွင်း-ထုတ် ဈေးကွက်ချိတ်ဆက်မှုတွေ ပျက်ကုန်လို့ (Input-output market linkages were broken)	
• ခါတိုင်းထက် ဈေးကျလာနိုင်လို့	
• စိုက်ပျိုးဖို့ ကိရိယာတွေ၊ ရေသွယ်/ရေပေးဖို့စနစ်တွေ လိုအပ်နေလို့	
• ပြည်တွင်းဝယ်လိုအားမရှိ/ကျလာလို့	
• သီးနှံထွက်လာပြီးမှ မရောင်းရတော့မှာကို စိတ်ပူလို့	
• COVID-19 ကြောင့် ကုန်ကူးသန်းသွားလာရေးတွေ မသေချာတော့လို့	
• အခြား (အသေးစိတ်ဖော်ပြပေးပါ)	

IV. ပြောင်းလဲလာသောအခြေအနေနဲ့ လိုက်လျောညီထွေဖြစ်အောင်နေထိုင်နိုင်စွမ်း

18. လွန်ခဲ့သော ၁၂လ အတွင်း အိမ်ထောင်စု၏ ဝင်ငွေအရင်းအမြစ်က ဘာဖြစ်ပါသလဲ?	[1 = yes 0 = no] [multiple choice]
• စိုက်ပျိုးရေး မွေးမြူရေးနှင့် ငါးလုပ်ငန်း	
• မိသားစုစီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်း (စိုက်ပျိုးရေးလုပ်ငန်းမှလွဲ၍)	
• အစိုးရဝန်ထမ်းလစာနှင့် လုပ်အားခ	
• ပုဂ္ဂလိကဝန်ထမ်းလစာနှင့် လုပ်အားခ	
• လူမှုဖူလုံရေးအထောက်အပံ့များ	
• နိုင်ငံရပ်ခြားတွင်အလုပ်လုပ်နေသော မိသားစုတစ်ဦးဦးမှ ငွေလွှဲခြင်း	
• အခြား (အသေးစိတ်ဖော်ပြပေးပါ)	
19. အထက်ဖော်ပြပါအချက်ထဲက ဘယ်အရာက အိမ်ထောင်စု၏ အဓိကဝင်ငွေအရင်းအမြစ် ဖြစ်ပါသလဲ? (အများဆုံး ၂ ခုရွေးချယ်ပါ။)	[open answer]

V. စားနပ်ရိက္ခာဖူလုံမှု

20. ယေဘုယျအားဖြင့် မိသားစုလယ်/ယာကထွက်တဲ့ (စပါး/ဟင်းသီးဟင်းရွက်/ပဲအမျိုးမျိုး၊ ဆီ၊ အသား) မိသားစုစားဖို့ လုံလောက်ပါသလား?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
21. (မိသားစုလယ်/ယာက ထွက်တာကိုဖယ်လိုက်ပြီး) လိုအပ်တဲ့ အစားအစာဝယ်ယူဖို့ ဝင်ငွေရဲ့ ရာခိုင်နှုန်းဘယ်လောက်ကို သုံးစွဲရပါသလဲ? (တစ်ပတ်စာ သို့ တစ်လစာ ပျမ်းမျှတွက်ကြည့်ရန်ပြောပါ။)	[%]
22. လွန်ခဲ့သော ခုနှစ်ရက်အတွင်း သင်ရဲ့မိသားစုဝင်များအတွက် အစားအသောက်မလုံလောက်မှု ကြုံတွေ့ခဲ့ရပါသလား?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
23. လွန်ခဲ့သော ခုနှစ်ရက်အတွင်း သင်ရဲ့ကျေးရွာအတွင်းရှိ အိမ်ထောင်စုတစ်စုစုမှာ အစားအသောက်မလုံလောက်မှု ကြုံတွေ့ခဲ့ရတာကို သိပါသလား?	[1 = yes 0 = no] If yes, ask Q.24
24. အကယ်၍သိပါက ခန့်မှန်းခြေ အိမ်ထောင်စုဘယ်နှစ်စုလောက်ရှိလဲ?	[number]

VI. လူမှုဖူလုံရေးအထောက်အပံ့

25. သင့်မိသားစုဝင်တစ်ဦးဦးမှ လွန်ခဲ့သော ၁၂လအတွင်း လူမှုဖူလုံရေးအထောက်အပံ့များအဖြစ် (အစားအစာ၊ ထောက်ပံ့ငွေ၊ မွေးမြူရန်ပေးသောတိရစ္ဆာန်များ၊ သမဝါယမလူမှုဖူလုံရေး၊ ပင်စင် စသည်ဖြင့်) စုစုပေါင်း မည်မျှရခဲ့ပါသလဲ? (ကျပ်ငွေဖြင့်ပြရန်)	[monetary value in local currency] If not received at all, fill zero.
26. လာမယ့် ၁ လ-၃ လတာကာလအတွင်းမှာ သင့်အနေနဲ့ (အစားအစာ/ ငွေသားအထောက်အပံ့၊ မွေးမြူဖို့တိရစ္ဆာန်အထောက်အပံ့၊ အရေးပေါ် စိုက်ပျိုးရေးအထောက်အပံ့ စသဖြင့် လိုအပ်လာနိုင်ပါသလား?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
27. လိုအပ်လာနိုင်ရင် ဘာလိုအပ်လဲ? ဘာကြောင့်လဲ? (please repeat above types of assistance, if required)	[open answer]
28. လာမယ့် ၁ လ-၃ လတာကာလအတွင်းမှာ သင့်ကျေးရွာထဲက တစ်စုံတစ်ယောက်က (အစားအစာ/ ငွေသားအထောက်အပံ့၊ မွေးမြူဖို့တိရစ္ဆာန်အထောက်အပံ့၊ အရေးပေါ် စိုက်ပျိုးရေးအထောက်အပံ့ စသဖြင့် လိုအပ်လာနိုင်ပါသလား?	[1 = yes 0 = no] If yes, estimate how many HH?
29. အကယ်၍ လိုအပ်လာနိုင်ပါက ခန့်မှန်းခြေ အိမ်ထောင်စုဘယ်နှစ်စုလောက်ရှိလဲ?	[number]

VII. ပါဝင်ဖြေဆိုသူတို့၏ အကြံပြုချက်များ

30. ခြုံကြည့်လိုက်ရင် သင့်ရဲ့လူမှုအသိုက်အဝိုင်းကို COVID-19 ရောဂါရဲ့ ထိခိုက်မှု ဘယ်လောက်ရှိနိုင်လဲ? (0 - ထိခိုက်မှုလုံးဝမရှိ၊ 10 - အပြင်းထန်ဆုံးထိခိုက်မှုရှိ)	[score 1 to 10]
31. ထိခိုက်မှုကို ရင်ဆိုင်ဖြေရှင်းရာမှာ အစိုးရ/ သက်ဆိုင်တဲ့အဖွဲ့အစည်းတွေကို မေးချင်တဲ့မေးခွန်း/ ပေးချင်တဲ့အကြံ ရှိလား?	[open answer]
32. အကယ်၍ “မီးဖိုချောင်/အိမ်နောက်ဖေးစိုက်ခင်း စီမံချက်” မျိုးရှိခဲ့မယ်ဆိုရင် ဝင်ငွေနည်းလားတာကို ကုစားပေးဖို့/ ထိခိုက်မှုခံနိုင်စွမ်း မြင့်လာစေဖို့ အကူအညီဖြစ်စေနိုင်ပါသလား?	[1 = yes 0 = no]
33. မေးခွန်း ၃၂ ၏ နောက်ဆက်တွဲမေးခွန်း၊ ဘာကြောင့်ဖြစ်နိုင်တာလဲ။ သို့မဟုတ် ဘာကြောင့်မဖြစ်နိုင်တာလဲ?	[open answer]
အောက်ပါမေးခွန်းတို့မှာ “မြစ်ဝကျွန်းပေါ်ဒေသနှင့်အဓိက” သက်ဆိုင်ပါသည်။	
1. အကယ်၍သိပါက ငါးပုစွန်ဂဏန်း ဖမ်းသူ/မွေးသူ/လုပ်ငန်းလုပ်သူတွေရဲ့ဘဝတွေကို COVID-19 က ဘယ်လောက်ထိခိုက်စေနိုင်လဲ။ (0 - ထိခိုက်မှုလုံးဝမရှိ၊ 10 - အပြင်းထန်ဆုံးထိခိုက်မှုရှိ)	[score 1 to 10] မသိပါက ကျော်လိုက်ပါ။

2. ထိခိုက်မှုရှိတယ်ဆိုရင် ဘယ်လိုမျိုးထိခိုက်စေနိုင်လဲ။ (ဥပမာ။ စားသုံးသူဝယ်လိုအား ပြောင်းလဲသွားတာလား၊ ဈေးကွက်မရှိတော့တာ၊ ဈေးကျလာတာလား၊ သယ်ယူပို့ဆောင်ရေးခက်နေတာလား၊ အလုပ်ပြုတ်တာလား၊ အလုပ်အကိုင်အခွင့်အလမ်းနည်းလာတာလား၊ စားနပ်ရိက္ခာဖူလုံမှုကို ထိခိုက်စေတာလား၊ အခြားအရာများကောရှိလား။ သိပါရစေ။	[open answer] မသိပါက ကျော်လိုက်ပါ။
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VIII. အိမ်ထောင်စုအကြောင်းအရာ

34. အိမ်ထောင်ဦးစီး၏ လိင် (၁။ ကျား/ ၂။ မ) [အမှန်တကယ်ဆုံးဖြတ်ဦးဆောင်သူကိုသာ ထည့်ရန်]	[1=male 2=female]
35. အိမ်ထောင်စုရှိ လူဦးရေစုစုပေါင်း (လူကြီး နှင့်ကလေးအားလုံးပေါင်း)	[number]
36. အလုပ်လုပ်နိုင်သော လူဦးရေစုစုပေါင်း (အသက် ၁၄ နှစ် နှင့် ၆၅ နှစ်ကြား)	[number]
37. အင်တာဗျူးသူ၏ အမည်	[open answer]
38. ရွာအမည်/ အိမ်ထောင်စုပေါင်း/ လူဦးရေစုစုပေါင်း	[open answer]
38.1 အိမ်ထောင်စုပေါင်း	[open answer]
38.2 လူဦးရေစုစုပေါင်း	[open answer]
39. မြို့နယ်အမည်	[open answer]

စစ်တမ်းပြီးပါပြီ။

မေးမြန်းမှုပြီးမြောက်သွားပါပြီ။ ပါဝင်ဖြေဆိုသူများကို ကျေးဇူးတင်စကား ပြောပါ။ အင်တာဗျူးသူများကို သူတို့ရွာ/ အနီးရှိရွာမှ နောက်ထပ်ပါဝင်ဖြေဆိုနိုင်မည့် ၎င်းတို့အသိမိတ်ဆွေတို့၏ ဖုန်းနံပါတ်များရရန် မေးမြန်းပါ။