**Myanmar Cash Working Group**

**Weekly Update #2 (3 -9 October 2020)**

| **Recently published:** **Articles/Blogs/Research/Guidance/Discussion threads/Policy briefs** |
| --- |
| **In Myanmar:****Snapshot:** WFP Myanmar has released the [snapshot on the supply chain in Rakhine - COVID-19 Response](https://web.kamihq.com/web/viewer.html?state=%7B%22ids%22:%5B%221VsZKQdaclqnYnAIDfvoqk835t9vb739W%22%5D,%22action%22:%22open%22,%22userId%22:%22114142602097260620093%22%7D). National supply chain system remains challenging under the current 2nd wave of COVID-19 with a sharp increase of positive cases in Myanmar, especially in Yangon and Rakhine. Despite these challenges, WFP commodities are managed to deliver tardily from Yangon to the operation area by following the new regulations related to COVID-19 set by respective authorities and government departments. No panic buying of food commodities and significant price changes found in the local market. However, with limited access to labour and transport, some commodity prices such as chickpea and palm oil are observed slightly going up in some local markets. Myanmar border trade resumes after a closure of a week or two both at Tachileik (border with Thailand) and Ruili (border with China) in Shan State. Reshuffle of drivers and vehicles still apply for both borders.**In General:****Publications: Monitoring / outcomes of multipurpose cash**. The Grand Bargain cash sub-workstream (thanks to CRS, USAID, IRC and CaLP) did the work on **agreed outcome indicators** for multipurpose cash here: [multipurpose cash outcome indicators](https://www.calpnetwork.org/publication/multipurpose-cash-outcome-indicators-final-draft-for-testing/)* SPACE has released its second edition of [social protection resources](https://socialprotection.org/sites/default/files/publications_files/SPACEU~3.PDF) which includes a section on resources related to linking humanitarian cash and social protection.

**Research:** Supported by USAID, IDEAL convened expert consultations, which brought together stakeholders, donors, and practitioners from humanitarian and development implementing organisations in order to promote a common understanding of the key issues regarding vulnerability and targeting in the context of COVID-19. The summary report can be accessed [here](https://www.fsnnetwork.org/resource/summary-expert-consultation-vulnerability-and-participant-targeting-context-covid-19?mc_cid=e0ee5b4039&mc_eid=7b2fdb4783). It recognises that the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in both vertical and horizontal expansion of social protection systems to provide cash or food assistance to approximately 1.8 billion additional people. The report highlights the need for governments to expand emergency food assistance and social protection programmes to ensure families’ basic food needs are met while the pandemic and its economic impacts play out. The report also stresses the need for targeting of expanded social protection programmes to ensure inclusion of workers in the informal sector and consider the specific vulnerabilities and roles of women as well as youths, the elderly, persons with disabilities, refugees/IDPs, returning migrants and those not normally reached with social protection initiatives. Assistance should be provided early, with no-regrets, and through delivery mechanisms that minimise person-to-person contact.**Guidance:** The Global Protection Cluster’s tip sheet on the COVID-19 Pandemic - [CVA for Protection Considerations](https://www.womensrefugeecommission.org/research-resources/cash-for-protection-outcomes/) is now available.**News articles, press releases, and media publications:** * The UN Secretary General has warned that countries need to act now in order to ensure that the pandemic doesn’t erase the fragile progress made towards gender equality. At a high level meeting to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, he went on to advise that money should be put “..directly into women’s hands through cash transfers and credits. Governments should expand social safety nets to women in the informal economy, and recognize the value of unpaid care work.”. Read more [here](https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/10/1074452?utm_source=UN+News+-+Newsletter&utm_campaign=6a01ed8fc2-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_10_02_12_15&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_fdbf1af606-6a01ed8fc2-107524258).
* As part of the UN’s 75th General Assembly the [High-Level Meeting on Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond](https://www.un.org/en/coronavirus/financing-development), reminded us that the pandemic is expected to drive close to 100 million to extreme poverty, the first such increase since 1998. An estimated additional 265 million people could face acute food shortages by the end of 2020. By the end of this year, 12 000 people could die from COVID-19 related hunger. The International Labour Organization estimates the equivalent of 500 million jobs have been lost so far this year. World leaders have agreed to focus on a set of key actions and policy recommendations to assist countries affected by the financial crisis the pandemic has caused including, “Investing in jobs for all—immediately in gender-sensitive, equitable and sustainable jobs by supporting the ILO’s 100% decent work initiative and strengthening social protection systems and mechanisms.”
 |
| **Myanmar Situation Updates**  |
| * **Payroll Processing QR Pass is going to issue in Yangon during Stay-At-Home period.** [**ရန်ကုန်တွင် Stay at Home ကာလ လစာပေးခြင်းဆိုင်ရာလုပ်ငန်းများ ဆောင်ရွက်နိုင်ရန် Payroll Processing QR Pass များ ထုတ်ပေးမည်**](https://web.facebook.com/onenewsmyan/photos/pcb.2661529997494863/2661529274161602/) ရန်ကုန်တိုင်းဒေသကြီး (Stay at Home) ကာလအတွင်းလစာပေးခြင်းဆိုင်ရာလုပ်ငန်းတွေ ဆောင်ရွက်နိုင်ဖို့ Payroll Processing QR Pass တွေထုတ်ပေးသွားမယ်လို့ ကုန်သည်စက်မှုအသင်းချုပ် (UMFCCI) ကထုတ်ပြန် အောက်တိုဘာ (၃) ရက်မှာထုတ်ပြန်ပါတယ်။ မှတ်ပုံတင်ရာမှာ [https://QRpass.SawSawShar.gov.mm](https://qrpass.sawsawshar.gov.mm/?fbclid=IwAR2UvrXmUxlzSur_JgRLRDhSCQXDlL0NcRY9Z3rigZTabllrU2Jmvb2P6iA) သို့ ဝင်ရောက်မှတ်ပုံတင်ရ မှာဖြစ်ပြီး ယခင် QR Pass ရရှိပြီးထားသူတွေအနေနဲ့ ထပ်မံလျှောက်ထားဖို့ မလိုအပ်ဘူးလို့ ထုတ်ပြန်ချက်မှာ ဖော်ပြပါရှိပါတယ်။
* **The closure of the Indo-Burmese border in Tamu after the Covid-19 outbreak has hit the region's economy badly.** [တမူးနယ်စပ်ဂိတ်ပိတ်ထားမှုကြောင့်ဒေသတွင်း စီးပွားရေးထိခိုက်မှုများနှင့်ကြုံတွေ့နေရ](https://web.facebook.com/onenewsmyan/photos/pcb.2660603040920892/2660602307587632/)ကိုဗစ်-၁၉ ရောဂါပွားပြီး တမူးမြို့က အိန္ဒိယ-မြန်မာ နယ်စပ်ဂိတ်တွေကို ပိတ်ထားရတာကြောင့် ဒေသတွင်း စီးပွားရေး ထိခိုက်နစ်နာမှုတွေနဲ့ ကြုံတွေ့နေရတယ်လို့ တမူးနယ်စပ်ကုန်သွယ်ရေး ကုန်သည်များအသင်း အတွင်းရေးမှူး ဦးခင်မောင်တင် ကပြောသည်။
* **Due to the extension of Stay-At-Home, there will be difficulties for laborers especially from the CMP industry.** [**စက်ရုံအလုပ်ရုံပိတ်ရန် ရက်တိုးသတ်မှတ်မှုကြောင့် အလုပ်သမားများအခက်အခဲပိုဖြစ်နိုင်**](https://web.facebook.com/watch/?ref=search&v=2789287884636742&external_log_id=7678a6c2-56b0-4fef-8e5b-01e500796b50&q=myanmar%20now) - ကုန်ကြမ်းယူ ကုန်ချောပေးဆောင်ရွက်လျက်ရှိသည့် လက်ခစားလုပ်ငန်း (CMP) စက်ရုံ၊ အလုပ်ရုံများမှ လုပ်သားများကို အောက်တိုဘာ ၇ ရက်နေ့အထိ အိမ်မှာနေရန် သတ်မှတ်ထားသော်လည်း ကိုဗစ်နိုင်တင်းရောဂါ ကူးစက်မှု မြင့်မားနေဆဲဖြစ်သဖြင့် ၂ ပတ် ထပ်တိုးပြီး အောက်တိုဘာလ ၂၁ ရက်အထိ အိမ်မှာနေရန် အမိန့်ထုတ်ပြန်လိုက်သောကြောင့် အလုပ်သမားများ အခက်အခဲပိုဖြစ်လာနိုင်ပါသည်။ **Myanmar Now Youtube Channel:** [https://youtu.be/CsQTJQ\_wNxs](https://youtu.be/CsQTJQ_wNxs?fbclid=IwAR193taJ3Q2P9ABJjlbOfNoSBHHA9Wrs4Gx5Enaqv8l5pwOpSD_NN-dCHnQ)
* **Truck drivers and their followers entering Rakhine State will be tested for the Covid-19.** [ရခိုင်ပြည်နယ်ကိုဝင်ရောက်မည့် ကုန်တင်ယာဉ်မောင်းနှင့်ယာဉ်နောက်လိုက်များအား ကိုဗစ်-၁၉ ရောဂါပိုး ရှိမရှိစစ်ဆေးမည်](https://web.facebook.com/onenewsmyan/photos/pcb.2664383767209486/2664383137209549/) ရခိုင်ပြည်နယ်ကို ဝင်ရောက်မယ့် ကုန်တင်ယာဉ်မောင်းနဲ့ ယာဉ်နောက်လိုက်တွေကို ကိုဗစ်-၁၉ ရောဂါပိုးရှိမရှိ Test Kit နဲ့ စစ်ဆေးမှု ပြုလုပ်သွားမယ်လို့ ရခိုင်ပြည်နယ် ပြည်သူ့ကျန်းမာရေးဦးစီးဌာနရုံးကသိရပါတယ်။
 |
| **Mapping Updates** |
| * **SP/humanitarian cash links mapping (GB cash sub group initiative):** This can be [accessed here.](https://drive.google.com/file/d/14fd9FMcm9ueDsfnLLJPyPOrNk9Ml0KpC/view) The purpose of this live, shareable mapping is to support humanitarian actors in the field. It is light touch and the initial focus is countries/regions that have Humanitarian Response Plans. The mapping has been developed in coordination with other mapping initiatives.
* The [IMF Policy Responses to COVID-19 Tracker](https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19) provides a summary of the key economic responses that governments are taking to limit the human and economic impact of the pandemic providing information which is of relevance to humanitarian and development actors, particularly in the design and modification of their COVID-19-related responses.
* The [Oxford COVID-19 Supertracker](https://supertracker.spi.ox.ac.uk/) is an online platform established to help policy-makers around the world to navigate the policy responses to tackling the pandemic, and its aftermath around the world. The Oxford ‘Supertracker’ project has compiled data from over 100 sources and made it freely available within one tool.
* The [COVID-19 Global Gender Response Tracker](https://data.undp.org/gendertracker/) monitors policy measures enacted by governments worldwide to tackle the COVID-19 crisis, and highlights responses that have integrated a gender lens. It includes national measures that are directly addressing women’s economic and social security, including unpaid care work, the labour market and violence against women. The tracker is coordinated by UNDP with substantive leadership and technical contributions from UN Women.
 |
| **Webinars and Events** |
| **Upcoming webinars and events**: The **presentation of the results of a RAFT-NRC conflict sensitivity assessment carried out in two central Rakhine IDP camps will be on 15th October 13.00 -15.00 Myanmar time via zoom.** NRC is the camp management agency for both Thet Kae Pyin (TKP – approximate population: 6,500 people) and Maw Ti Ngar (MTN - approximate population: 3,500 people) where the assessment has been undertaken. These camps see higher than average residence of people with specific needs, as they are closer to medical and other services, compared to the other central Rakhine IDP camps. Join Zoom Meeting:  <https://nrc.zoom.us/j/92341876901?pwd=RE40TWtSSXM3L052dFgwUHA0T1Rwdz09> Meeting ID: 923 4187 6901; Passcode: 405037 * **Series of webinars - Organizational Cash Readiness Tool (OCRT)**: for CVA practitioners and staff responsible for designing, implementing and monitoring cash transfer programmes. This group might include Programme Managers; Programme Officers; Technical Specialists from any sector (e.g.food security, livelihoods, WASH, Health, Shelter), MEAL Specialists and from around the globe for the first and second webinars, whilst the third webinar will have a focus on the context of the MENA Region.Follow this link to apply now: <https://www.calpnetwork.org/event/webinar-series-organisational-cash-readiness-tool-ocrt/> **Deadline for submitting applications is 15 October 2020**. For more information and inquiries, please contact CaLP MENA Capacity Building Lead, **Mourad Khawaja** at mourad.khawaja@calpnetwork.org
 |
| **Resources and Trainings** |
| * Scenario based e-learning enables you as the learner to explore a CVA programme, here you will play the role of a key decision maker and then experience the consequences of your choices. **CaLP and HLA** partnered to create two scenario-based courses:
	+ - [Coordinating multi-sector cash and voucher assistance](https://kayaconnect.org/course/info.php?id=755)
	+ - [Monitoring and Adapting cash and voucher assistance](https://kayaconnect.org/course/info.php?id=742)
* [**Socialprotection.org**](https://socialprotection.org/)continues to host a space on [social protection responses to #COVID19](https://socialprotection.org/connect/communities/social-protection-responses-covid-19-task-force) which provides access to a series of events, newsletters, mappings etc. In addition, the website hosts a number of online communities including one specifically focused on social protection in crisis contexts. Here, as one of the community resources, you can find a page dedicated to the Grand Bargain cash workstream sub-group on linking HCT and SP which will give you links to this newsletter and more.
* **CaLP** has a dedicated space on [CVA and COVID-19: resources, guidance, events and questions](https://www.calpnetwork.org/themes/cva-and-covid-19-resources-guidance-events-and-questions/) and [CaLP-produced guidance on CVA considerations for COVID](https://www.calpnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/CaLP-summary-guidance-version-5-16-April-2020_.pdf). (including a section specific to SP/HCTs).
* The [Cash Hub](https://www.cash-hub.org/) (hosted by the British Red Cross) has developed a number of tip sheets on delivering CVA and advocating for the use of CVA in response to COVID-19. Whilst targeted towards Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, the resources can be adapted to the needs and approaches of other organisations. They can be found here: [here](https://cash-hub.org/resources/cash-and-covid-19).
* The Cash Hub platform also provides quarterly updates which provide a useful consolidation of CVA-related topics. Subscribe by [clicking on this link](https://r1.dotmailer-surveys.com/4952l7ad-074f9u4b).
* [REACH COVID-19 Information Thread](https://www.reach-initiative.org/what-we-do/news/updates-on-ongoing-research-and-activities-linked-to-covid-19-pandemic/?utm_source=IMPACT+Initiatives+Website+Network&utm_campaign=d0c64bf0d3-REACH+Quarterly+Newsletter+-+April-June_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f5ca271862-d0c64bf0d3-379787611) – provides data and analysis, primarily for humanitarians (but also of relevance for other actors), on the impact of COVID-19 on affected populations.
* Click the link to access Ugo Gentilini’s [Weekly Social Protection Links newsletter](https://www.ugogentilini.net/). Packed with valuable information, focusing on social protection developments and action across the globe but also referencing humanitarian action where relevant, the newsletter is a helpful resource for practitioners and policymakers alike.
 |
| **We welcome your feedback. It is important to allow us to tailor the newsletter to your needs and to make decisions on what is useful.** |