**Myanmar Cash Working Group**

**Weekly Update #8 (21 November - 27 November 2020)**

| **Recently published:** **Articles/Blogs/Research/Guidance/Discussion threads/Policy briefs** |
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| **In Myanmar:** News Articles: LIFT Myanmar has published **Myanmar - Waves Of Disease, Waves Of Poverty** on November 20 and highlighted about “poverty and Food insecurity in 2020” and “what to expect in 2021”. *The article builds upon IFPRI’s paper ‘*[*Poverty, food insecurity, and social protection during COVID-19 in Myanmar*](https://www.lift-fund.org/en/poverty-food-insecurity-and-social-protection-during-covid-19-myanmar)*’* . [Here](https://www.lift-fund.org/en/stories/myanmar-waves-disease-waves-poverty), both english and Myanmar are available on LIFT website.**In General:** **Media, News Articles and Op Eds:** Published by the Joint SDG Fund, this article highlights how cash top-ups, through the extension of the government’s social protection programmes in St Lucia have been a lifeline for families affected by the pandemic. The SDG Fund Joint Programme in Social Protection in the Eastern Caribbean has allocated US$4.75 million to assist governments of Saint Lucia, Barbados and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) in strengthening their social protection systems, ensuring access to people in need during times of crisis. This initiative is part of wider reform efforts by the UN Sub-regional Team for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator, to increase inter-agency collaboration for a more efficient joint response to the emerging needs of vulnerable persons. Read more [here](https://www.jointsdgfund.org/article/cash-top-ups-lifeline-families-during-covid-19-crisis).**Blogs:** Back in September the Grand Bargain Sub-Group on Linking HCT and SP held a remote conversation between Oxfam, UNFPA, UNICEF and Adan Guhad (independent) who shared their insights on linking HCT and SP in Gaza, the Philippines, Syria and Somalia. You can read Marina Brunale’s blog of the event [here](https://socialprotection.org/discover/blog/conversation-linking-humanitarian-cash-and-social-protection-response-covid-19)* Bu Wilson, Iram Saeed, Laura Afonso de Jesus, Caitlin Leahy, Pauline Tweedie, writing for DevPolicy.org, highlight that the government’s pandemic-related [cash transfer top-ups in Timor Leste](https://devpolicy.org/timor-lestes-covid-19-cash-transfer-good-if-you-got-it-20201113-2/) was able to meet the needs of smaller families but most large households of more than nine were not able to meet their needs with the payment. Research into who missed out on the payment and why was also considered, revealing inconsistencies in the application of the household registration system used which resulted in the exclusion of LGBTI people as well as women living in crisis accommodation.
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| **Myanmar Situation Updates**  |
| ကိုဗစ်ပိုးကူးစက်ခံရသည့် ကုန်တင်ယာဉ်မောင်းများနှင့် ယာဉ်နောက်လိုက်များသည် ဆေးရုံဆင်းသည်နှင့် ဆေးရုံဆင်းလက်မှတ်ဓာတ်ပုံ၊ ပိုးတွေ့အတည်ပြုအဖြေထွက်စဉ် မောင်းနှင်ခဲ့သောကားနံပါတ်၊ ကားလိုင်းစင်(ရှေ့နောက်)ဓာတ်ပုံ၊ကားလုပ်ငန်းလိုင်စင် ဓာတ်ပုံ၊ ယာဉ်မောင်း(သို့)ယာဉ်နောက်လိုက်၏ လိုင်စင်ဓာတ်ပုံ၊ မိမိနေထိုင်ရာ ရပ်ကွက်ကျေးရွာ အုပ်ချုပ်ရေးမှူးထောက်ခံစာ၊ ပိုးတွေ့အတည်ပြုအဖြေထွက်စဉ်စစ်ဆေးခဲ့သောနေရာ စသည်တို့ကို ဖုန်း-ဝ၉-၂ဝ၄၃၇၇၅၊ ဖုန်း-ဝ၉၅၁၇၃၉၇၈၊ ဖုန်း-ဝ၉-၂ဝဝ၆၃၂၈တို့ သို့ Viber မှ တစ်ဆင့်ဆက်သွယ်ပေးပို့ခြင်းအားဖြင့် ထောက်ပံ့ငွေ ကျပ်တစ်သိန်းကိုရယူနိုင်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။ Truck drivers and attendants will be able to receive a 100,000 kyat allowance upon discharge due to Covid positive. [Link here](https://myanmar.mmtimes.com/news/147019.html?fbclid=IwAR3mCo1FuX2oSKEocnA2XAtf_pWoWR32E86GJL4-PO91JiOw4YdknmubuVQ)* အစိုးရ ၏ ဒုတိယအကြိမ် ကိုဗစ်-19 ချေးငွေအစီအစဉ် တတိယအချီတွင် ကမ်းလွန်ငါးဖမ်းလုပ်ငန်း အများစုက ငွေပေးချေမှုကို လက်ခံရရှိ Myanmar Governemnt gives out third batch of Covid-19 loans. [Read Here](https://www.mmtimes.com/news/myanmar-govt-gives-out-third-batch-covid-19-loans.html?fbclid=IwAR2r_B4dtWycKA3mS2_47k9bXIRzDCO2XI8quHT-NuOUIjto0uF7s_MjFkQ)
* Many people in the country have complained that they didn’t get the government’s K40,000 Covid-19 payment, while others said they only get part of the money. လူအများစုကအစိုးရ၏ ကိုဗစ်ထောက်ပံ့ကြေး ၄၀,၀၀၀ ကျပ်မရရှိကြောင်းတိုင်တန်းခဲ့ကြသည်။ [Read here](https://www.mmtimes.com/news/many-myanmar-say-they-didnt-get-govt-covid-19-payments.html)

**Second COVID-19 Fund to disburse over K22 bln to 698 enterprises in third batch**: A total of 698 enterprises have been approved to take out over K22.768 billion from the second COVID-19 Fund in its third batch, according to a committee to remedy the economic impacts caused by the COVID-19. Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) ကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပေါ်လာနိုင်သည့် စီးပွားရေး သက်ရောက်မှုများအပေါ် ကုစားရေးလုပ်ငန်းကော်မတီ အစည်းအဝေး (၁၀/၂၀၂၀) ဆုံးဖြတ်ချက် အရ ချေးငွေလျှောက်ထားသည့် လုပ်ငန်းများအနက် ပူးတွဲပါ လုပ်ငန်း (၆၉၈) ခုသို့ ခွင့်ပြုငွေ ပမာဏ ကျပ် (၂၂.၇၆၈၅) ဘီလီယံကို ဒုတိယအကြိမ် COVID-19 Fund မှ ချေးငွေ ထုတ်ယူခွင့်ပြု လိုက်ပါသည်။ [English here](https://www.gnlm.com.mm/second-covid-19-fund-to-disburse-over-k22-bln-to-698-enterprises-in-third-batch/); [Burmese here](https://web.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=2968378890040233&id=1597134087164727); You can find [the list here.](https://www.msme.gov.mm/en/news/886) |
| **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. Contact Lois Austin (KML consultant for the GB Cash Workstream sub group on Linking Humanitarian Cash and Social Protection) for info/to set up a call. And please do go ahead and add missing information from your country/region into the mapping in order to ensure that it is a helpful tool for practitioners.
* 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.
* CalP shares with actors responding to ETA that OCHA has integrated CVA into the 345Ws. Click [here](https://rolac345w.humanitarianresponse.info/) to register and upload information to the dashboards and [here](https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/latin-america-and-caribbean/hurricane-eta-nov-2020#honduras3w) to view dashboards on [humanitarianresponse.info](http://humanitarianresponse.info/). 345Ws are an important coordination tools to share information about activities by sectors that are being implemented in the field.

**Survey:** * **SURVEY ON THE USE OF THE GRAND BARGAIN MULTIPURPOSE OUTCOME INDICATORS:** Has your organisation used the [Multipurpose Cash Outcome Indicators](https://www.calpnetwork.org/publication/multipurpose-cash-outcome-indicators-final-draft-for-testing/) developed under the Grand Bargain Cash workstream and published in July 2019? Do you have feedback you want to share on the indicators, including ideas for how they could be improved? If so, we’d be grateful if you could complete our survey looking at how the indicators have been used in practice. The survey is a core element of a review that will be used to inform a revised version of the indicators, and to contribute to related collective learning (e.g. webinars). You can access the survey [here](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=3b7_wRbLqkOekwdP02-HR5ACYBAw1vNBshMS3P3krYVUQTBZSlBROEsyS0dWVE83RkNaUk5DU0dQRC4u). The survey will be open for responses until **December 31st 2020.**
* The CaLP community cash working group (DCA, NRC, Oxfam, ActionAid, CRS, WRC) has contracted Key Aid Consulting to lead a study to collect evidence and learnings on cash grants to groups / community cash grants as a response modality. Which will feed into the development of guidelines and tools on group cash grants to be part of the CVA toolbox. If you are interested send a mail on chl@dca.dk with a short narrative on why you want to join and justify your experience/contribution and/or interest in this theme.
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| **Webinars and Events** |
| **Recent webinars and events:** * The last of CaLP’s five webinars was about “Identifying the trigger points for MEB review and update: a peer-to-peer learning conversation” – [Recording available here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HL_aA5Qo_gA&feature=youtu.be). There is no Q&A document for the last webinar, but you can find the Q&A document of fourth webinar [here](https://calpnetwork.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=74f7b2471e270255e5194abb9&id=27052b00d8&e=f67ab7fbb7). Also, all recordings and Q&A documents are available [here](https://calpnetwork.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=74f7b2471e270255e5194abb9&id=e250efe095&e=f67ab7fbb7) on the CaLP's website.

**Upcoming webinars and events:*** On Tuesday 1 December CaLP is hosting a webinar targeting practitioners with an interest in CVA in East Africa. This will focus on quality in CVA, considering what quality programming means to different people, and how we can continue to collectively make progress. [Register here](https://calpnetwork-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_j-sPdnkPRmCGJDHsM-jQ5A)
* The [Global WASH Cluster,](https://washcluster.net/) [PRO-WASH](https://www.fsnnetwork.org/pro-wash) and [CaLP](https://www.calpnetwork.org/) are organizing an upcoming webinar on the ***Effectiveness of cash, vouchers and market support activities in achieving WASH Outcomes***. The webinar will take place on: **Tuesday, December 8th at 9 a.m. Eastern Time (US) / 3 p.m. Paris**. This webinar will be held in English with simultaneous interpretation in French, Arabic and Spanish. More details and registration here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/webinar-effectiveness-of-cva-and-market-support-activities-in-wash-tickets-129358074483>
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| **Resources and Trainings** |
| * [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](https://socialprotection.org/connect/communities/social-protection-crisis-contexts). Here, as one of the community resources, you can find a page dedicated to th[e Grand Bargain cash workstream sub-group on linking HCT and SP](https://www.calpnetwork.org/themes/cva-and-covid-19-resources-guidance-events-and-questions/) 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 (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).
* A multi-country cash transfer research initiative – the Transfer Project – provides a quick-access round-up of COVID-19 related resources [click here](https://transfer.cpc.unc.edu/cash-transfers-covid-19/?utm_source=Transfer+Project+Newsletter&utm_campaign=df0f757bb9-)
* The interactive e-Learning Course on Humanitarian Cash Transfer ( HCT) is now available on AGORA.This 2 hour course covers the fundamentals on Humanitarian Cash Transfers (HCT). It provides a first introduction to what are HCT, and how UNICEF uses them in a humanitarian response as an implementation modality across sectors. It includes considerations on UNICEF comparative advantage and its strategic positioning on HCT, as well as showcase examples of programmes and two case studies. UNICEF colleagues can access it [HERE](https://agora.unicef.org/course/info.php?id=28525). Humanitarian partners can access it on the following link on [AGORA platform](https://agora.unicef.org/course/info.php?id=28525). Partners just need to register / create an account, and then log in to access the course.For any queries, please contact Claire Mariani, Humanitarian Cash Transfer Coordinator, Office of Emergency Programmes, cmariani@unicef.org.

**Resources:** * CCD has a page on [Social Protection and Humanitarian Cash](https://www.collaborativecash.org/social-protection-working-group) which includes country case studies and guidance.
* **Foundational webinars**: The [first webinar](https://socialprotection.org/linking-cash-and-voucher-assistance-and-social-protection-demystifying-entry-points-humanitarians) from GB cash sub group series to demystify the concept of linking social protection and HCT; good introduction and primer to the topic. Second: How can SP Systems respond to the COVID 19 crisis? sets the scene on how SP systems can respond and the challenges governments are facing; [recording here](https://socialprotection.org/how-can-social-protection-systems-respond-covid-19-crisis). And thirdly, [Lessons learned and Opportunities: Linking SP systems to humanitarian cash in a pandemic](https://socialprotection.org/discover/blog/lessons-learned-and-opportunities-linking-social-protection-systems-humanitarian-cash). Includes examples within the context of COVID for measures to link SP/HCT.
* 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.
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| **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.** |