COVID-19



Impact on Myanmar Export Sectors

Supporting the Comprehensive Economic Relief Plan (CERP) action 2.4.3. – "Facilitate Exportation Processes"

မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်ကဏ္ဍများအပေါ် ကိုဗစ် – ၁၉ ၏ အကျိုးသက်ရောက်မှု



This impact assessment was developed by the International Trade Centre (ITC) as part of its support to the Government of Myanmar in the design of its National Export Strategy 2020–2025.

ITC is a joint agency of the World Trade Organization and the United Nations. As part of the ITC mandate of fostering sustainable development through increased trade opportunities, the Research and Strategies for Exports section offers a suite of trade-related strategy solutions to maximize the development payoffs from trade.

Technical support was provided by Victor Deleplancque, Olga Khomula, Anushka Wijesinha, Carlos Griffin, Ruatpuii Cira, Floriana Borino and Charles Roberge.

This document has been developed as part of the Myanmar Trade and Investment Project funded by the Government of the United Kingdom and implemented by ITC. The project aims to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and decent work for Myanmar citizens through increased trade and investment.

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This document has been produced with the financial support of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. The contents of this document can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the Government of the United Kingdom.





The Impact of COVID-19 on Myanmar Export Sectors

Supporting the Comprehensive Economic Relief Plan (CERP) action 2.4.3. – «Facilitate Exportation Processes»

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စီးပွားရေးကုစားမှုအစီအစဉ် (CERP) မှ လုပ်ဆောင်ချက်၂.၄.၃ – "ပြည်ပပို့ကုန် တင်ပို့ရေး လုပ်ငန်းစဉ်များကို လွယ်ကူချောမောအောင် လုပ်ဆောင်ရန်" အား အထောက်အပံ့ပေးခြင်း

အမှာစကား

Covid-19 ကူးစက်ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားမှုသည် ကမ္ဘာ့စီးပွားရေးကို ထိခိုက်ယိုယွင်းစေပြီး မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ စီးပွားရေးဆောင်ရွက်မှုများ တွင်လည်း လျင်မြန်စွာ တိုးဝင်တိုက်ခိုက်လျက် ရှိပါသည်။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် Covid-19 ကူးစက်ရောဂါ၏ ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှု အပြည့်အဝမရှိသေးဟု ဆိုနိုင် သော်လည်း ဤအခြေအနေတွင် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ စီးပွားရေးတိုးတက်မှုအတွက် အကျိုးဆက်များကိုမူ ကြုံတွေ့ခံစားရမည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ လတ်တလောတွင် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ ပို့ကုန် လုပ်ငန်းများသည် စိုးရိမ်ဖွယ်ရှိသည့် ဝယ်လိုအားကျဆင်းမှုကို ရင်ဆိုင်နေရပါသည်။ သို့ဖြစ်ပါ၍ ဤအချိန်တွင် လက်ရှိအကျပ်အတည်းကို ရင်ဆိုင်ရန် လျင်မြန်သည့်ဖြေရှင်းမှုများကို အဆိုပြုရန်နှင့် နိုင်ငံ၏ စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းများအား ပုံမှန်လည်ပတ်စေနိုင်သည့် အထောက်အပံ့များရရှိရန်မှာ လိုအပ်ပါသည်။

မကြာမီတွင် စတင်တော့မည့် အမျိုးသားပို့ကုန်မဟာဗျူဟာ (NES) ၂၀၂၀–၂၀၂၅ သည် ပို့ကုန်လုပ်ငန်းများအတွက် အပြည့်အဝအထောက်အကူ ဖြစ်စေမည်ဖြစ်ရာ Covid–19 ကူးစက် ရောဂါကြောင့် ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှုများအား ရင်ဆိုင်နေရသည့် ပို့ကုန်လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များ၏ လိုအပ် ချက်များကို ဖြည့်ဆည်းနိုင်ရန် လိုအပ်ပါသည်။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ ပြီးပြည့်စုံသော စီးပွားရေးကုစားမှု အစီအစဉ် (CERP) နှင့် အပြည့်အဝ ကိုက်ညီမှုရှိသည့် အမျိုးသားပို့ကုန်မဟာဗျူဟာ (NES) သည် Covid–19 ကပ်ရောဂါမှ ပို့ကုန်လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များ စီးပွားရေးပြန်လည် နလန်ထူလာစေရန်အတွက် ဦးစားပေး လိုအပ်ချက်များနှင့် ဈေးကွက်အသစ် ရှာဖွေခြင်းများစသည့် ရေရှည်ရည်မှန်းချက်များကိုပါ ပြည့်ပြည့်ဝဝထည့်သွင်းထားပါသည်။

ဤအစီရင်ခံစာသည် NES ဒီဇိုင်းရေးဆွဲခြင်းလုပ်ငန်းစဉ်၏ အစိတ်အပိုင်းတစ်ခုဖြစ်ပြီး ကမ္ဘာလုံးဆိုင်ရာ စီးပွားရေးပြောင်းလဲမှုများနှင့် ကပ်ရောဂါစတင်ဖြစ်ပွားစဉ်ကတည်းက ပို့ကုန်လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များ ကြုံတွေ့နေရသော အဓိကစိန်ခေါ်မှုများကို ခြုံငုံတင်ပြထားပါသည်။ များ စွာသော ကုမ္ပဏီ လုပ်ငန်းတို့တွင် အမှာစာ (အော်ဒါ) များ လျော့ကျသွားခြင်း၊ ရပ်ဆိုင်းခံရခြင်း နှင့်အတူ နောင်လအနည်းငယ်ကြာအထိ မသေချာမရေရာမှုများစွာကို ကြုံတွေ့နေရမည် ဖြစ်ပါသည်။

စီးပွားရေးပြန်လည်ကုစားမှု လုပ်ငန်းစဉ်သည် အချိန်ကာလတစ်ခုထိ ကြာမြင့်နိုင်ပါသည်။ သို့သော်လည်း ဤအခြေအနေထဲကပင် မြန်မာ့စီးပွားရေးအတွက် အခွင့်အရေးအသစ်များ ပေါ်ပေါက်လာလိမ့်မည်ဟု ယုံကြည်ပါသည်။ ထို့အပြင် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံသည် အနာဂတ်တွင် တောင့်တင်းခိုင်မာ သော နိုင်ငံတစ်ခုအဖြစ် လျင်မြန်စွာ ပြောင်းလဲတိုးတက်လာသော ကမ္ဘာကြီးနှင့် လိုက်လျောညီထွေ ဖြစ်လာမည်ဟု ယုံကြည်ပါသည်။

ဤ အစီရင်ခံစာ ဖြစ်မြောက်စေရန် ပါဝင်ခဲ့ကြသော ပြည်ထောင်စုမြန်မာနိုင်ငံ ကုန်သည်များ နှင့် စက်မှုလက်မှုလုပ်ငန်းရှင် များအသင်းချုပ် (UMFCCI)၊ အဖွဲ့အစည်းများအားလုံး၊ ကုမ္ပဏီများနှင့် ပုဂ္ဂိုလ်တစ်ဦးတစ်ယောက်ချင်းစီအား ကျေးဇူးတင်ကြောင်း ပြောကြားလိုပါသည်။ ထို့အပြင် ဗြိတိန် နိုင်ငံအစိုးရမှ ရန်ပုံငွေမတည်ပြီး နိုင်ငံတကာကုန်သွယ်မှုဗဟိုဌာန (ITC) မှ အကောင်အထည် ဖော်သည့် ပြီးပြည့်စုံသော ကုန်သွယ်မှုဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေး စီမံကိန်းဖြစ်သည့် ကုန်သွယ်မှုနှင့် ရင်းနှီး မြှုပ်နှံမှုစီမံကိန်း (TIP) ကိုလည်း ကျေးဇူးအထူးတင်ရှိကြောင်း ပြောကြားလိုပါသည်။

ဤ "ပို့ကုန်ကဏ္ဍများအပေါ် Covid–19 ၏ အကျိုးသက်ရောက်မှု" အစီရင်ခံစာ၏ ဒစ်ဂျစ်တယ်ဖြန့်ဝေမှုသည် နိုင်ငံ၏ အမျိုးသား စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းများကို အထောက်အပံ့ပေးရန်နှင့် စဉ်ဆက်မပြတ် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးမှုအား စီမံဆောင်ရွက်ရာတွင် သတင်းအချက်အလက်များနှင့် လမ်းညွှန်မှုများ ကို အချိန်နှင့်တစ်ပြေးညီပေးနိုင်ရန်အတွက် မြန်မာ့ကုန်သွယ်မှုမြှင့်တင်ရေးအဖွဲ့ (Myantrade)၊ စီးပွားရေးနှင့် ကူးသန်းရောင်းဝယ်ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာနနှင့် နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရအနေဖြင့် ထားရှိသော ကတိကဝတ်ကို ပိုမိုလေးနက် အတည်ပြုစေကြောင်း ဖော်ပြအပ်ပါသည်။

> နော်မူတာကပေါ ညွှန်ကြားရေးမှူးချုပ် မြန်မာ့ကုန်သွယ်မှုမြှင့်တင်ရေးအဖွဲ့ (MYANTRADE) စီးပွားရေးနှင့်ကူးသန်းရောင်းဝယ်ရေးဝန်ကြီးဌာန ပြည်ထောင်စုသမ္မတမြန်မာနိုင်ငံ

FOREWORD – DIRECTOR GENERAL MYANTRADE

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has hampered the global economy and it has rapidly penetrated Myanmar's economic activities. However, Myanmar has not yet seen the full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This situation is resulting in real economic consequences for our country. Myanmar's export industries are facing a drastic drop in demand. At this stage, it is crucial to propose rapid solutions to face the crisis and provide support to national industries to keep them on their feet.

The upcoming National Export Strategy 2020-2025 (NES) provides a comprehensive roadmap support to export industries, and it provides priority activities on addressing needs of exporters facing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The NES, in full alignment to the Comprehensive Economic Relief Plan (CERP), now takes into consideration our exporters' priorities in terms of recovering from COVID-19 pandemic, as well as their longer-term objectives for reaching new markets.

This report emerging from the NES design process presents the key global dynamics, and summary of exporters' challenges since the beginning of the outbreak. Many companies have faced decreased orders, rejection of orders, and many face various uncertainties about the next few months.

The economic recovery will take time but we strongly believe that this situation will open up new opportunities for Myanmar economy and that we will recover and become a stronger and more resilient state better able to adapt to a fast-changing and evolving world.

I sincerely appreciate the effort of UMFCCI and all the associations, companies, and individuals involved in making this report available. I would like to express my gratitude to Trade and

Investment project (TIP) – a comprehensive trade development initiative funded by the Government of the United Kingdom and implemented by the International Trade Centre (ITC).

This digital publication of the COVID-19 impact on export sectors confirms the commitment of MYANTRADE, the Ministry of Commerce, and the Government of Myanmar to support national industries, provide timely information and guidance on the way forward for our country's sustainable growth.

Naw Mutakapaw

Director General Myanmar Trade Promotion Organization (MYANTRADE) Ministry of Commerce The Republic of the Union of Myanmar



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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ANRPC	Association of Natural Rubber Producing	ITC	International Trade Centre
	Countries	MoHS	Ministry of Health and Sports
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations	MSMEs	micro, small and medium-sized enterprises
EEM	electronics and electrical machinery	NES	National Export Strategy
EU	European Union	SMEs	small and medium-sized enterprises
FDI	foreign direct investment	T&G	textile and garments
GDP	gross domestic product	TIR	International Road Transports
GVC	global value chain	WT0	World Trade Organization
HS	Harmonized System		Ü
IMF	International Monetary Fund		
IT	information technology		



နိုဒါန်း

ကိုဗစ်-၁၉ ကမ္ဘာ့ကပ်ရောဂါ၏ အဆုံးစွန် စီးပွားရေးအကျိုးသက်ရောက်မှုများသည် အလွန်ပင် မရေမရာရှိနေဆဲဖြစ်သည်။ လူအချင်းချင်း ခပ်ခွာခွာနေရမည်ဟူသော သတ်မှတ်ချက်များ (social distancing measures) ကြောင့် ဗိုင်းရပ်ပျံ့ပွားမှုကို အောင်မြင်စွာကန့်သတ်နိုင်သည့် နေရာဒေသများ၌ပင်လျှင် ပုံမှန်စီးပွားရေးဆောင်ရွက်ချက်များ ပြန်လည်စတင်နိုင်မှုသည် အခြေအနေအတော်များများပေါ်တွင် မူတည်နေသည်။ ထိုအခြေအနေများ၏ မည်သည့်အချက်မဆို လပေါင်းများစွာ ၊သို့မဟုတ်၊ နှစ်များစွာ ကြာသည်အထိပင် နှောင့်နှေးကြန့်ကြာနိုင်သည့် အလားအလာရှိသည်။¹ ဤအခြေအနေများတွင် ရောဂါရရှိပြီးပြန်လည်ကောင်းမွန်လာသူများအတွက် အကယ်၍ ရောဂါဒဏ်ခံနိုင်သည့် ကိုယ်ခံအားစနစ် ဖြစ်ပေါ်ခဲ့လျှင် ထိုကိုယ်ခံအားစနစ်၏ ကြာမြင့်သည့်ကာလ၊ ရောဂါကာကွယ်သော ပဋိပစ္စည်းအား စမ်းသပ်မှု များ၊ ကုသနည်းများနှင့် ကာကွယ်ဆေးများအား တီထွင်ထုတ်လုပ်ရန်နှင့် ကျယ်ပြန့်စွာဖြန့်ချီရန် လိုအပ်သည့် အချိန်ကာလ၊ ဆေးပစ္စည်းကိရိယာများ၊ ဆေးဝန်ထမ်းများနှင့် အထောက်အကူပြုပစ္စည်းများအား ရရှိနိုင်သည့် အဆင့်များကို တိုးမြှင့်ရန်နှင့် ရေရှည်ဆက်လက်ထိန်းသိမ်းထားရန် ထောက်ပံ့ပို့ဆောင်ရေးနှင့် ဘဏ္ဍာရေးဆိုင်ရာ လိုအပ်ချက်များ၏ရရှိနိုင်မှု နှင့် ရောဂါကူးစက်ခြင်းခံရသူများအား ခြေရာခံခြင်း၊ သီးခြားခွဲထားခြင်းနှင့် ယင်းနှင့် ထိတွေ့ခဲ့သူများအား ခြေရာခံရှာဖွေခြင်းတို့ပြုလုပ်ရန်အတွက် လိုအပ်သော လုပ်ထုံးလုပ်နည်းနှင့်ကျင့်ဝတ်များ၊ ပစ္စည်းကိရိယာများ၊ နည်းပညာများနှင့် ဥပဒေ/ စည်းမျဉ်းထိန်းသိမ်းရေးဆိုင်ရာ မူဘောင်များ စသည်တို့ ပါဝင်သည်။

တစ်ချိန်တည်းမှာပင် ဗိုင်းရပ်ပျံ့ပွားမှုမှ အစပျိုးပေးလိုက်သော ကန့်သတ်ထိန်းချုပ်မှု အစီအမံများသည် ကြီးမားသည့် စီးပွားရေးထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှုကို ဖြစ်စေသည်။ ဤအစီအမံများတွင် သယ်ယူပို့ဆောင်ရေးနှင့် လုပ်သားရွှေ့ပြောင်းမှုအပေါ် ကျယ်ကျယ်ပြန့်ပြန့် ထိန်းချုပ်ကန့်သတ်မှုများနှင့်တကွ စက်ရုံအလုပ်ရုံများပိတ် ခြင်းနှင့် အဘက်ဘက်မှလျှော့ချလိုက်ရသည့် လုပ်ငန်းဆောင်ရွက်မှုများ ပါဝင်သည်။ ၎င်းတို့သည် လမ်းကြောင်းပုံစံအမျိုးမျိုးမှတစ်ဆင့် ကမ္ဘာလုံးဆိုင်ရာနှင့် ဒေသဆိုင်ရာ ကုန်ပစ္စည်းထုတ်လုပ်မှု ကွင်းဆက်များ (supply chains) အတွင်းသို့ ကူးစက်ထိခိုက်လာခဲ့သည်။ ဤထိခိုက်မှုများတွင် ကဏ္ဍာများစွာ၌ ကုန်ပစ္စည်း ထုတ်လုပ်မှုကွင်းဆက် (supply chains) များ သိသိသာသာ ပြတ်တောက်မှုနှင့် လျှော့ချမှုများကြောင့် ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်မှုကျဆင်း၍ ရောင်းလိုအား ပြင်းထန်စွာထိခိုက်မှု (supply shock) နှင့် စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းများနှင့် အိမ်ထောင်စုများ နှစ်ခုစလုံးမှ ၎င်းတို့၏ဝယ်ယူမှုများကို လျှော့ချခြင်းနှင့် ရနိုင်သောဝင်ငွေ ကျုံ့သွားမှုကြောင့် ပို၍အခြေအနေဆိုးသွားခြင်းကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပေါ်လာသည့် ဝယ်လိုအားထိခိုက်မှု (demand shock) တို့ ပါဝင်သည်။ ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ဖြစ်ပွားမှုက ဖြစ်ပေါ်စေသည့် စီးပွားရေးမရေရာမှုသည် ကုန်ပစ္စည်းများနှင့် ဝန်ဆောင်မှုများ သုံးစွဲမှုအား လျှော့ချခြင်း ၊သို့မဟုတ်၊ အချိန်ရွှေ့ဆိုင်းခြင်းနှင့် ရင်းခြင်းနှင့် ရင်းမြှုပ်နှံမှုအား အချိန်ရွှေ့ဆိုင်းခြင်း ၊သို့မဟုတ်၊ အပြီးအပိုင်ရပ်နားခြင်းတို့ ဖြစ်ပေါ်စေရန် ဦးတည်နေသည်။

ဤမရေရာမှုများကြောင့် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံရှိ စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းများအတွက် ထိခိုက်လာမည့် ကမ္ဘာ့ကပ် ရောဂါ၏ အကျိုးဆက်များသည် သေချာပေါက် မည်သို့ဖြစ်မည်ဟု မဆိုနိုင်သော်လည်း

- ဖြစ်ပေါ်လာသည့် အကျိုးဆက်များနှင့် ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်သည့် ဆိုးကျိုးများကို သက်သာ လျော့ပါးစေရန် ရွေ:ချယ်စရာနည်းလမ်းများကို စိစစ်သတ်မှတ်ခြင်း။
- အရေးပေါ်စီမံချက်များ ရေးဆွဲချမှတ်ရာတွင် လိုအပ်လာနိုင်သည့် အနာဂတ်တွင် ဖြစ်လာနိုင်သော အကျိုးဆက်အမျိုးမျိုးကို စိစစ်သတ်မှတ်ခြင်း။

စသည်တို့ကို ဆောင်ရွက်လာနိုင်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ နည်းပါးသော ဘဏ္ဍာရေးအင်အား (fiscal space) ကို ထည့်သွင်းစဉ်းစားလျှင် ကမ္ဘာ့ကပ်ရောဂါအပေါ်သို့ စီးပွားရေး အရတုံ့ပြန်ဆောင်ရွက်မှုကို အောင်မြင်စွာ စီမံခန့်ခွဲနိုင်ရန် တစ်မှုထူးခြား သော ကြုံတင်စီမံဆောင်ရွက်မှု၊ တီထွင်ဖန်တီးမှုနှင့် ပူးပေါင်းညှိနှိုင်း ဆောင်ရွက်မှုတို့ လိုအပ်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။ လုပ်ငန်းများအတွက် ပေါ်ပေါက်လာသည့်လိုအပ်ချက်များနှင့် အခွင့်အလမ်းသစ်များအပေါ်တွင် အခြေခံ၍ စီးပွားရေးကုစားမှုအစီအစဉ်ကို အလိုက်သင့်ပြုပြင်ပြောင်းလဲသင့်ပြီး အရင်းအမြစ်များကို ခွဲဝေသုံးစွဲရာ တွင် အလေးပေးမှုများကို ပြန်လည်ပြင်ဆင်သင့်သည်။ ကုန်သည်ကြီးများအသင်း၊ ကဏ္ဍာအလိုက် အစည်းအရုံးများ၊ ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များနှင့် ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံသူများနှင့် ဆွေးနွေးတိုင်ပင်ခြင်းအားဖြင့် နိုင်ငံတော်အစိုးရသည် ဤသို့တုံ့ပြန်ဆောင်ရွက်မှုကို အလိုက်သင့်ပြုပြင်ပြောင်းလဲရန် လိုအပ်သည့် သတင်းအချက်အလက်များ ရယူနိုင်လိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။

^{1.–} Harvard T.H. chan school of Public Health မှ အောက်ပါလေ့လာချက်အရ ကျန်းမာရေးစောင့်ရောက်မှု စွမ်းဆောင်ရည်များ အလွန်အမင်းအကြပ်အတည်းဖြစ်မှုမှ ရှောင်ရှားရန်အတွက် လူချင်းခွာနေခြင်း (social distancing) သည် ၂၀၂၂ ခုနှစ်အထိ လိုအပ်ကောင်းလိုအပ်နိုင်သည်။ Kissler, Stephen M. and others ––(2020)။ ကမ္ဘာ့ကပ်ရောဂါ ဖြစ်ပွားမှု နောက်ပိုင်းကာလတစ်လျောက်တွင် SARS–COV–2 ရောဂါကူးစက်မှုအင်အားကို ခန့်မှန်းခြင်း။ Science, vol.368, No. 6493 (May), PP.860 – 868. မှရရှိနိုင်သည်။



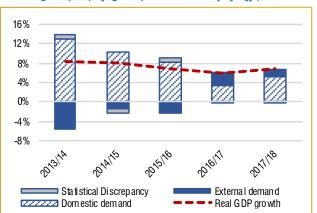
ကမ္ဘာ့စီးပွားရေးနှင့် ကမ္ဘာ့ကုန်သွယ်ရေးအပေါ် ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ၏ အကျိုးသက်ရောက်မှု

ကမ္ဘာကြီးသည် မဟာစီးပွားရေးပျက်ကပ် (Great Depression) ထက်ပိုမိုဆိုးဝါးသည့် စီးပွားရေး ထိုင်းမှိုင်းကျဆင်းမှုကို ရင်ဆိုင်ရလိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။

နိုင်ငံများသည် ဗိုင်းရပ်ပျံ့ပွားမှုကိုထိန်းချုပ်ရန် သီးခြားခွဲခြားထားခြင်း (quarantines) နှင့် လူအချင်းချင်းခပ်ခွာခွာနေခြင်း (social distancing) ကျင့်စဉ်များကို အကောင်အထည်ဖော် ကျင့်သုံးလျက်ရှိသောကြောင့် ကမ္ဘာတစ်ဝှမ်းရှိ မြို့များစွာနှင့် နိုင်ငံများစွာသည် အဝင်အထွက်ပိတ်ပင်မှုများ (lockdown) အား ပြုလုပ်ကြသည်။ ယင်း၏ အကျိုးဆက်အဖြစ် စီးပွားရေးဆောင်ရွက်မှု ပြုလဲကျဆင်းခြင်းသည် ယခင်က မကြုံစဖူးသော အရှိန်အဟုန်ဖြင့် စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းများကို ထိခိုက်စေသည်။ အပြည်ပြည်ဆိုင်ရာ ငွေကြေးရန်ပုံငွေအဖွဲ့ (IMF)၏ ဧပြီ၊ ၂၀၂၀ ကမ္ဘာ့စီးပွားရေးခန့်မှန်းချက် (World Economic Outlook) တွင် ၂၀၂၀ ခုနှစ်၌ ကမ္ဘာ့စီးပွားရေးတိုးတက်မှုသည် –၃ % သို့ ကျဆင်းသွားလိမ့်မည်ဟု ခန့်မှန်းခဲ့သည်။ ဧန်ဝါရီ၊ ၂၀၂၀ မှ စတင်ပြီး ၆.၃ ရာခိုင်နှုန်း ကျဆင်းသွားခြင်းဖြစ်သည် (IMF, 2020)။ ဖွံ့ဖြိုးပြီးစီးပွားရေးများတွင် တိုးတက်မှုသည် –၆.၁ % ရှိမည်ဟု ခန့်မှန်းပြီး ထွန်းသစ်စနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးဆဲ စီးပွားရေးများတွင် ပုံမှန်တိုးတက်မှုအဆင့်မှာ အဆင့်မြင့် စီးပွားရေးများထက် များစွာကျော်လွန်သည် – ၂၀၂၀ ခုနှစ်၌ အနှုတ်တိုးတက်မှုနှုန်း –1.0% ရှိမည်ဟု ခန့်မှန်းထားသည် (တရုတ်နိုင်ငံမှလွဲ၍ –၂.၂%) (IMF, 2020)။ အကြပ်အတည်း၏ ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှုကို သက်သာစေရန် ကမ္ဘာတစ်ဝှမ်း၌ မူဝါဒဆိုင်ရာ ဆောင်ရွက်ချက်များဖြင့် အထောက်အကူပြုမှုကြောင့် ကမ္ဘာ့ စီးပွားရေးတိုးတက်မှုသည် ၂၀၂၁ ခုနှစ်တွင် ၅.၈% သို့ ပြန်လည်ခုန်တက်လာဝန်ဟု ခန့်မှန်းရသည်။ သို့ရာတွင် စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ကိုင် ဆောင်ရွက်မှုသည် ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ မဖြစ်ပွားမီ ကနဦးခန့်မှန်းထားခဲ့သော အဆင့်အောက်၌ ရှိနေလိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။

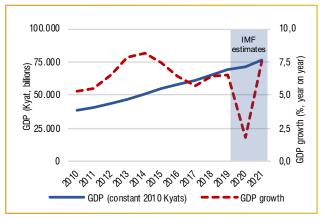
မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအပေါ် ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ အကျိုးသက်ရောက်မှု၏ အတိုင်းအဆ အပြည့်အဝကို မတွေ့မြင်ရ သေးသော်လည်း မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအနေဖြင့် ပြည်တွင်းစားသုံးမှုလျော့ကျခြင်းနှင့် အရောင်းအဝယ် ကျဆင်းခြင်း၏ ရလဒ်အဖြစ် စီးပွားရေးအရ ထိခိုက်နှစ်နာမှုခံစားရမည်ဟု မျှော်လင့်ရသည်။ စီးပွားရေးဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်မှုသည် ၂၀၂၀ခုနှစ်တွင် ၁.၈% သို့ ကျဆင်းလိမ့်မည်ဟု မျှော်လင့်ရသည် (IMF ခန့်မှန်းချက် – ပုံ ၁ ကို ကြည့်ပါ)။ အထူးသဖြင့် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံသည် ရုတ်တရက် စီးပွားရေးနှေးကွေးမှုများ၏ ထိခိုက်မှုကို ခံရဖွယ်ရှိပြီး – ယင်းနှင့်ဆက်စပ်၍ နိုင်ငံခြားတိုက်ရိုက် ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) ကျဆင်းမှုကိုလည်း ခံရမည်ဖြစ်သည်။ ဤသို့ စီးပွားရေးနှေးကွေးမှုများကို စီးပွားရေးအခြေခံပုံစံ အသွင်ပြောင်းလဲရေးကို တွန်းအားပေးနေသော ဝန်ဆောင်မှုများနှင့် လုပ်ငန်းကဏ္ဍများတွင် တွေ့မြင်ရမည်ဖြစ်သည်။ စီးပွားရေးထိုင်းမှိုင်း ကျဆင်းမှုသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ စီးပွားရေးဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်မှု၏ အဓိကမောင်းနှင့်အား ဖြစ်သော ပြည်တွင်းစားသုံးမှု လျော့ကျခြင်းကို ဖြစ်စေရန်လည်း မလွဲမသွေ အကြောင်းဖန်လိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်သည် (ပုံ–၂)။ မျှော်မှန်းထားသည့် အလုပ်လက်မဲ့ဖြစ်မှု တိုးတက်များပြားလာမှုနှင့် နောက်ဆက်တွဲ အကျိုးဆက်အဖြစ် ရရှိနိုင်သောဝင်ငွေကျုံ့သွားမှုသည်လည်း အိမ်ထောင်စုများ၏စားသုံးမှု နိမ့်ကျခြင်းကို ဖြစ်ပေါ်စေမည်ဖြစ်သည်။ IMF သည် ၂၀၂၁ ခုနှစ်၌ စုစုပေါင်းပြည်တွင်းထုတ်လုပ်မှု (GDP) တိုးတက်မှုသည် ၇.၅% သို့ ပြန်လည်ခုန်တက်ရန် မျှော်လင့်ရသဖြင့် ကာလလတ်တွင် လျင်မြန်စွာ စီးပွားရေး နာလန်ထူမှုဖြစ်လာမည်ဟု မျှော်မှန်းထားသည်။

ပုံ ၂။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် အမှန်တကယ် GDP တိုးတက်မှုသို့ ပါဝင်ဖြည့်ဆည်းမှု (တစ်နှစ်ပြီးတစ်နှစ် တိုးတက်မှု)၊ ၂၀၁၃/၁၄ မှ ၂၀၁၇/၁၈ အထိ (ရာခိုင်နှုန်း)



ရင်းမြစ်။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ စီမံကိန်းရေးဆွဲရေးဦးစီးဌာန အချက်အလက်များ အပေါ်တွင်အခြေခံ၍ ITC တွက်ချက်မှုများ

ပုံ ၁။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် GDP နှင့် GDP တိုးတက်မှု (ပုံသေ ဈေးနှုန်းများ)၊ ၂၀၁၀–၂၀၂၁ (ရာခိုင်နှုန်း)



ရင်းမြစ်။ IMF, ကမ္ဘာ့စီးပွားရေးခန့်မှန်းချက်၊ အောက်တိုဘာ ၂၀၁၀ နှင့် ဧပြီ ၂၀၂၀

လုပ်ငန်းကဏ္ဍများအားလုံး ထိခိုက်မှုခံနေရသော်လည်း ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်ရေးကဏ္ဍသည် အထူးသဖြင့် အဝင်အထွက်ပိတ်ပင်မှု (lockdown) အစီအမံများကြောင့် ပိုမိုပြင်းထန်စွာ ထိခိုက်ခဲ့ရသည်။ ကုလသမဂ္ဂ စက်မှုဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေးအဖွဲ့ (UNIDO) အရ ကမ္ဘာ့ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်မှုပမာဏ တိုးတက်မှုသည် ၂၀၂၀ ခုနှစ် ပထမသုံးလပတ်ကာလတွင် ၆.၀ % ထိုးကျသွားခဲ့သည်ဟု မှတ်တမ်းတင်ခဲ့သည်။ ၎င်းမှာ ၂၀၀၈/၀၉ ဘဏ္ဍာရေးအကြပ် အတည်းဖြစ်ပြီးကတည်းက ပထမဆုံးအကြိမ် ဤကဲ့သို့သောပမာဏအထိ ကျဆင်းမှု ဖြစ်သည်။ ၁၂၀၁ ခုနှစ် ၏ ပထမသုံးလပတ်ကာလအတွင်း ကမ္ဘာ့အကြီးမားဆုံးကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်သူဖြစ်သော တရုတ်နိုင်ငံ၏ ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်ရေးပမာဏတွင် ၁၄.၁% အထိ မကြုံစဖူး ကျဆင်းမှုကို မှတ်တမ်းတင်ခဲ့သည် (ကုလသမဂ္ဂ စက်မှုဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေးအဖွဲ့၊ ၂၀၂၀)။ နိုင်ငံအများစုသည် မတ်၊ ၂၀၂၀ မှစ၍ ၎င်းတို့၏ စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ကိုင် ဆောင်ရွက်မှုများကို ရပ်နားထားခဲ့သဖြင့် (တရုတ်နိုင်ငံသည် ယင်းနောက်သိပ်မကြာမီ အဝင်အထွက်ပိတ်ပင်မှု (lockdown) ပြုလုပ်ခဲ့သည်) ၂၀၂၀ခုနှစ်၏ ဒုတိယသုံးလပတ်ကာလတွင် စက်မှုဖွံ့ဖြိုးပြီးစီးပွားရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးဆဲနိုင်ငံအများစုတို့၌ ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်မှုပမာဏ အကြီးအကျယ်ကျဆင်းမှု ဖြစ်မည်ဟု မျှော်လင့်ရသည်။ (ကုလသမဂ္ဂ စက်မှုဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေးအဖွဲ့၊ ၂၀၂၀)။

စက်မှုဖွံ့ဖြိုးပြီးနိုင်ငံများတွင် ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်မှုပမာဏ ထိုးကျမှုသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ ပြည်တွင်းကုန် ထုတ်လုပ်မှုကဏ္ဍတွင် ပြင်းထန်သော ကုန်စ္စည်းပေးပို့မှုအပိုင်း၌ပြတ်တောက်မှုများ (supply–side disruptions) ကို ဖြစ်ပေါ်စေသည်။ ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ဖြစ်ပွားမှုသည် တရုတ်၊ အမေရိကန် နှင့် ဥရောပသမဂ္ဂ (EU) အဖွဲ့ဝင်နိုင်ငံများအပါအဝင် အဓိကစက်မှုဖွံ့ဖြိုးပြီးနိုင်ငံများအား ထိခိုက်လျက်ရှိခြင်းကြောင့် တိုက်ရိုက် ကုန်ပစ္စည်းပေးပို့မှု ပြတ်တောက်ခြင်းများ (direct supply disruptions) သည် ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်မှုကို ဟန့်တား လျက်ရှိသည်။ ကုန်ပစ္စည်း ပေးပို့မှုကွင်းဆက်ပြတ်တောက်ခြင်း၏ ဆင့်ကဲကူးစက်မှု (supply chain contagion effect) သည် ဤတိုက်ရိုက်ကုန်ပစ္စည်းပေးပို့မှုအား ပြင်းထန်စွာထိခိုက်မှု (direct supply shock) ကို ပိုမိုကြီးမားစေသည်။ အဘယ့်ကြောင့်ဆိုသော် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံကဲ့သို့သော ထိခိုက်မှုနည်းပါး သည့်နိုင်ငံများရှိ ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်ရေးကဏ္ဍများအနေဖြင့် ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်ပစ္စည်းများကိုထုတ်လုပ်ရန်အတွက် လိုအပ်သော စက်မှုသွင်းကုန်ပမာဏကို ရရှိရန် ပို၍ခက်ခဲလာသော ကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည်။ အထူးသဖြင့် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ အထည်အလိပ်နှင့် အဝတ်အထည် (T & G) လုပ်ငန်းအပေါ် ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှု ရှိသည်။ အဘယ့်ကြောင့်ဆိုသော် ဖြတ်တောက် – ချုပ်လုပ် – ထုပ်ပိုးသည့် အဝတ်အထည် အလုပ်အကိုင်များ အတွက် ကုန်ကြမ်းပစ္စည်း ၉၀% ကျော်ကို တရုတ်နိုင်ငံမှ တင်သွင်းရသောကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည်။

^{2.– (}ကုလသမဂ္ဂ စက်မှုဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေးအဖွဲ့၊ ၂၀၂၀)။ ကမ္ဘာ့ ကုန်ပစ္စည်းထုတ်လုပ်မှု၊ ပထမသုံးလပတ်ကာလအတွက် စာရင်းအင်းများ ၊ ၂၀၂၀။ https://stat.unido.org/content/publications/world–manufacturing–production#:~:text=Global%20manufacturing%20output%20growth%20has,motivated%20by%20COVID%2D19%20 pandemic.&text=The%20global%20outbreak%20of%20COVID,the%20first%20quarter%20of%202020.. မှ ရရှိနိုင်သည်။

ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ကမ္ဘာ့ကပ်ရောဂါသည် ကမ္ဘာ့ကုန်သွယ်ရေးအား မကြုံစဖူးသော ပြတ်တောက်မှုများကို ဖြစ်စေသည်။

နိုင်ငံတကာကုန်သွယ်ရေးသည် ဦးဆောင်ယန္တရားစနစ်များအနက်မှ တစ်ခုဖြစ်ပြီး ယင်းမှတစ်ဆင့် ဗိုင်းရပ်က ပြည်တွင်းစီးပွားရေးများကို ထိခိုက်ပျက်စီးစေပြီး ကမ္ဘာနှင့်အဝန်း ပျံ့ပွားသွားသည် (Baldwin and Tomiura)။³ ကုန်သွယ်ရေးစီးဆင်းမှုများသည် ယင်းတို့၏ သဘောသဘာဝအားဖြင့် ဝယ်လိုအားနှင့် ရောင်းလိုအားကို ပြင်းထန်စွာထိခိုက်မှု (demand and supply shock) ကို ခံနိုင်ရည်မရှိပေ။ အဘယ့်ကြောင့်ဆိုသော် နိုင်ငံတစ်နိုင်ငံတွင် ဝယ်ယူမှုများနှင့် အခြားနိုင်ငံတစ်နိုင်ငံတွင် ထုတ်လုပ်မှုများ အတက်အကျသည် သိသိသာသာ မတည်မငြိမ် ဖြစ်နိုင်သောကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည်။ ဤပြင်းထန်စွာထိခိုက်မှုများ(shocks) အပြင် ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ဖြစ်ပွားမှုသည် ကမ္ဘာ့စီးပွာရေးမရေရာမှုကို ဖြစ်ပေါ်စေပြီး ကမ္ဘာ့လုံးဆိုင်ရာဝယ်လိုအား လျော့နည်းမှုကို ဖြစ်ပေါ်စေခဲ့သည့်။ ဤသို့ဖြင့် ကမ္ဘာ့စီးပွာရေးကျဆင်းမှုဖြစ်နိုင်သည့် အလားအလာကို မြင့်မားစေခဲ့သည်။

ထုတ်လုပ်မှုနှင့်စားသုံးမှုသည် ကမ္ဘာတစ်ဝှမ်း၌ အချိုးကျ ကျုံ့သွားသဖြင့် ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ဖြစ်ပွားမှုသည် ၂၀၂၀ ခုနှစ်၏ ပထမသုံးလပတ်ကာလတွင် ကမ္ဘာ့ကုန်သွယ်မှုတန်ဖိုးများ၌ 3% ကျဆင်းမှုကို ဖြစ်စေခဲ့သည် (ကုန်သွယ်ရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်ရေးဆိုင်ရာ ကုလသမဂ္ဂညီလာခံ၊ ၂၀၂၀)။ ဤစီးပွားရေးထိုင်းမှိုင်းကျဆင်းမှု သည် ၂၀၂၀ ခုနှစ်၏ ဒုတိယသုံးလပတ်ကာလအတွင်း အရှိန်အဟုန်မြင့်လာမည်ဟု မျှော်လင့်ရသည်။ အဘယ့်ကြောင့်ဆိုသော် ကမ္ဘာ့ကပ်ရောဂါပျံ့နှံ့မှုကိုဟန့်တားရန် ချမှတ်သောအစီအမံများ၏ ထိခိုက်သက် ရောက်မှုအများစုသည် ကမ္ဘာ့ကုန်သွယ်ရေးအပေါ် အကျိုးသက်ရောက်ထိခိုက်မှု ရှိလိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်ပြီး ခန့်မှန်းခြေ သုံးလပတ်တစ်ခုမှ သုံးလပတ်တစ်ခုအထိ ၂၆.၉% ကျဆင်းမှုရှိလိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်သည် (ကုန်သွယ်ရေးနှင့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုး တက်မှုဆိုင်ရာ ကုလသမဂ္ဂညီလာခံ၊ ၂၀၂၀)။ ၂၀၂၀ ခုနှစ်တွင် ကမ္ဘာ့ကုန်စည် ကူးသန်းရောင်းဝယ်မှုသည် ၁၃% နှင့် ၃၂% အကြား ထိုးကျသွားရန်ရှိသည် (ကမ္ဘာ့ကုန်သွယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့ (WTO)၊ ၂၀၂၀)။ ဤကျယ်ပြန့်သည့် အတိုင်းအတာသည် ကမ္ဘာ့ကပ်ရောဂါ၏ ကြာမြင့်ချိန်၊ ပြင်းထန်မှုနှင့်စပ်လျဉ်း၍ မရေရာမှုမြင့်မားခြင်းကို ထင်ဟပ်နေသည်။ ၂၀၂၁ ခုနှစ်၌ မျှော်မှန်းထားသည့် စီးပွားရေးနာလန်ထုမှု ခန့်မှန်းချက်များသည်လည်း အလားအတူပင် မရေရာပဲ ရလဒ်များသည် ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားမှု၏ ကြာမြင့်ချိန်နှင့် မူဝါဒဆိုင်ရာတုံ့ပြန် ဆောင်ရွက်မှုအပေါ်တွင် ကြီးမားစွာမူတည်လျက်ရှိသည် (WTO၊၂၀၂၀)။ ၁

တရုတ်နိုင်ငံတွင် စီးပွားရေးနှေးကွေးမှုများ၏ ဂယက်ကို မြန်မာနိုင်ငံမှ ထိခိုက်ခံစားရမှုကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပေါ်လာသော ဤစီးပွားရေးထိုင်းမှိုင်းကျဆင်းမှုသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏စီးပွားရေးအပေါ် ကြီးမား၍ ကြာရှည်သော ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှုရှိစေရန် အလားအလာရှိသည်။

ပို၍အားနည်းသော ဒေသတွင်းနှင့် ကမ္ဘာ့ဝယ်လိုအားသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်ဖွံ့ဖြိုး တိုးတက်မှု အရှိန်လျော့ကျမှုကို ဖြစ်စေမည်ဖြစ်သည်။ ကိုဗစ်-၁၉ ကြောင့် ပြင်းပြင်းထန်ထန် ထိခိုက်နေသည့် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးပြီးစီးပွားရေးများသည် လုံးဝကျဆင်းသွားသဖြင့် ကမ္ဘာ့ဝယ်လိုအား လျော့ကျမှုသည် မလွဲမရောင်သာ ဖြစ်လာခဲ့သည် (အပြင်းထန်ဆုံး ထိခိုက်သည့်နိုင်ငံများတွင် ဂျီ - ၇ (G7) + တရုတ်နိုင်ငံတို့ ပါဝင်သည်)။ ဤစီးပွားရေးများ၊ အထူးသဖြင့် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ အကြီးမားဆုံး ကုန်သွယ်ဖက် နိုင်ငံဖြစ်သည့် တရုတ်နိုင်ငံတွင် ဝယ်လိုအား ပြင်းထန်စွာထိခိုက်မှုများ (demand–side shocks) သည် သွင်းကုန်များကျဆင်းမှုများကို ဖြစ်ပေါ်လာစေသည်။ ထိုသို့သွင်းကုန်များကျဆင်းမှု သည် ကုန်သွယ်ရေးနှင့်ထုတ်လုပ်ရေးကွင်းဆက်များ မှတစ်ဆင့် မြန်မာ့စီးပွားရေးအပေါ်ထိခိုက်မှုများ ဖြစ်စေလိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။ သို့ဖြစ်သောကြောင့် သဘာဝဓာတ်ငွေ့၊ ကမ္ဘာလှည့်ခရီး သွားလုပ်ငန်း၊ အထည်အလိပ်နှင့် အဝတ်အထည်လုပ်ငန်း (T & G) နှင့် လယ်ယာထွက်ကုန်များ အပါအဝင် အဓိကမဟာဗျူဟာကျသောကဏ္ဍများ၌ ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်ဝင်ငွေရရှိမှုသည် ကာလတိုမှ ကာလလတ် အချိန်ကာလ အတွင်း ပြင်းထန်စွာထိခိုက်ရန် အလားအလာရှိသည်။

^{3.–} Baldwin , Richard E and Eiichi Tomiura (၂၀၂၀)၊ ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ၏ ကုန်သွယ်ရေးအပေါ် ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှုများကို ကြိုတင်တွေးဆခြင်း။ ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ကာလအတွင်းစီးပွားရေး တွင်၊ Richard E Baldwin and Beatric Weder Di Mauro, eds. Geneva : vox EU.

^{4.–} ဧပြီ၊ ၂၀၂၀ တွင် IMF က ထုတ်ဝေသည့် ကမ္ဘာ့စီးပွားရေးခန့်မှန်းချက်က ၂၀၂၀ ခုနှစ်တွင် ကမ္ဘာ့စီးပွားရေးဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက် မှုသည် –3% သို့ ကျဆင်းသွားမည်ဟု ခန့်မှန်းထားသည်။ 5.– ကမ္ဘာ့ကုန်သွယ်ရေးအဖွဲ့ (၂၀၂၀)။ ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ကမ္ဘာ့ကပ်ရောဂါသည် ကမ္ဘာ့ကပ်ရောဂါသည် ကမ္ဘာ့စီးပွားရေးကို ပြောင်းပြန်ဇောက်ထိုးဖြစ်စေသောကြောင့် ကုန်သွယ်ရေးသည် ထိုးကျသွားရန် ရှိသည်၊ ၈ ဧပြီ ။ www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres20_e/pr855_e.htm. မှ ရရှိနိုင်သည်။

အသွားအလာကန့် သတ်မှုများနှင့် နယ်စပ်ပိတ်ပင်မှုများသည် အထူးသဖြင့် လယ်ယာထွက်ကုန် ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်များ၏ နယ်စပ်ကုန်သွယ်ရေး လှုပ်ရှားမှုအား ကျဆင်းမှုစေခဲ့သည်။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ အကြီးမားဆုံး ကုန်သွယ်ဖက်နိုင်ငံဖြစ်သည့် (လယ်ယာထွက်ကုန် ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်များအားလုံး၏ တစ်ဝက်ခန့်ကို ဝယ်ယူသည့်) တရုတ်နိုင်ငံနှင့် ခိုင်မာသော နယ်စပ်ဖြတ်ကျော်ဆက်သွယ်မှုများသည် အထူးသဖြင့် လူသုံးကုန်ပစ္စည်း ပြည်ပ ပို့ကုန်လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များအတွက် ရေတိုကာလတွင် ဆိုးကျိုးများ သိသိသာသာ ဖြစ်ပေါ်စေလိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။ လတ်ဆတ်သည့်သစ်သီးဝလံများနှင့် ဟင်းသီးဟင်းရွက်များနှင့် ခြံမွေးတိရစ္ဆာန်များ ကဲ့သို့သော ပျက်စီးပုပ်သိုး လွယ်သည့်ကုန်ကြမ်းပစ္စည်းများကို တင်ပို့သည့် မြန်မာပြည်ပပို့ကုန် လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များသည် ဤထိခိုက်မှုကို အထူးသဖြင့် ခံစားရသည်။ ထို့အပြင် နယ်စပ်ဖြတ်ကျော်ကုန်သွယ်ရေးကို တဖြည်းဖြည်း ပြန်လည်ပြုလုပ်ချိန်တွင် ကုန်ပစ္စည်းတင်သွင်းသည့်နိုင်ငံများထံမှ ပို၍တင်းကြပ်သည့် စားသောက်ကုန် ဘေးကင်းရေးဆိုင်ရာ သတ်မှတ်ပြဋ္ဌာန်းချက်များအား ချမှတ်လာမည်ကို မျှော်လင့်ထားသင့်သည်။ တရုတ်နိုင်ငံသည် ပို၍တင်းကျပ်သော အပင်ရောဂါကင်းသည့် သွင်း ကုန်သတ်မှတ်ပြဋ္ဌာန်းချက်များနှင့် ထိန်းချုပ်မှုများကို စတင်ကျင့်သုံးနေပြီဖြစ်ပြီး ၎င်းက တရားမဝင်ကုန်သွယ်ရေးအပါအဝင် ကုန်သွယ်ရေးအပေါ် ပြင်းထန်စွာထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှု ရှိနိုင် သည်။ အရှေ့တောင်အာရှနိုင်ငံများအဖွဲ့ (ASEAN) ဒေသတွင်းရှိ အခြား အဓိကကုန်သွယ်ဖက်နိုင်ငံများ သည်လည်း ဤကဲ့သို့သော စံသတ်မှတ်ချက်များနှင့် စစ်ဆေးမှုများကို တင်းကျပ်လိမ့်မည်ဟု မျှော်လင့်ရသည်။

ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်များ ကျဆင်းမှုသည် ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များအတွက် ငွေရေးကြေးရေးအခက်အခဲ ဒုက္ခများကို ဖြစ်စေသည်။ ငွေပေးချေမှုများရရှိရန် နှောင့်နှေးကြန့်ကြာခြင်း၊ ဝယ်ယူသူများက အကြွေးဆပ်ရ မည့်အချိန်ကာလကို တိုးပွားပေးရန်တောင်းဆိုခြင်း၊ နှင့် ကုန်အမှာစာများကို ပယ်ဖျက်ရန်၊ သို့မဟုတ်၊ ဝယ်ယူ သူများဘက်မှပျက်ကွက်ရန် အလားအလာများသည် ကြီးမားသော ငွေရေးကြေးရေးပြဿနာများကို ဖြစ်စေသည်။ ကုမ္ပဏီများသည် အလုပ်သမားများနှင့် ဝန်ဆောင်မှုကြွေးမြီများကို ပေးရန်ရှိနေစဉ် ဝယ်လိုအားမရှိခြင်း ကြောင့် ပိတ်ကောင်းပိတ်ပစ်နိုင်ပြီး ယင်း၏အကျိုးဆက်အဖြစ် အိမ်ထောင်စုများနှင့် စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းများ အကြား၌ အစုလိုက်အပြုံလိုက် ဒေဝါလီခံမှုများ ဖြစ်လာနိုင်သည်။

ဟိုက်ဒရိုကာဗွန်ဈေးနှုန်းများကျဆင်းမှုသည် အသွားနှစ်ဖက်ရှိသော စားသွားတစ်ခုကဲ့သို့ပင် ဖြစ်သည်။ ၎င်းသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ ပြည်ပမှရေနံဝယ်ယူမှုအတွက် ကုန်ကျငွေကို လျှော့ချပေးကာ သဘာဝဓာတ်ငွေ့ ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်မှရရှိသော အခွန်ဘဏ္ဍာငွေကို လျော့နည်းစေသည်။ ဘရင့် (Brent) ရေနံဈေးနှုန်းသည် ကမ္ဘာ့ ဝယ်လိုအား ကျုံ့သွားပြီးနောက်ပိုင်းတွင် ရုတ်တရက်ထိုးကျသွားခဲ့ပြီး ၂၀၂၀ ခုနှစ် ဇန်နဝါရီလ အစောပိုင်း၌ တစ်စည်လျှင် ၆၅ US\$ ခန့်မှ ၂၀၂၀ ခုနှစ် ဧပြီလတွင် ၂၀ US\$ အထိ ယင်း၏သမိုင်းတလျောက် အနိမ့်ဆုံး အဆင့်သို့ ကျဆင်းသွားခဲ့သည်။ ၂၀၂၀ ခုနှစ် ဇွန်လ အစောပိုင်းတွင် ကြိုရောင်းကြိုဝယ်သည့် ဘရင့်ရေနံရှယ်ရာများ (Brent oil futures) သည် ၄၀ US\$ သို့ ပြန်ရောက်ရှိလာခဲ့သည်။ အဘယ့်ကြောင့်ဆိုသော် ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံသူများက နိုင်ငံအများစုတွင် အဝင်အထွက်ပိတ်ပင်မှုများ (lockdowns) ကို ဖြေလျှော့ပေးရန်ရှိပြီး ယင်း၏အကျိုးဆက်အဖြစ် ရေနံဝယ်လိုအား ပို၍မြင့်မားလာလိမ့်မည်ဟူသော မျှော်မှန်းချက်များကို ထည့်တွက်သောကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည်။ ထို့အတူပင် သဘာဝဓာတ်ငွေ့ ဈေးနှုန်းများသည် စံချိန်တင်နိမ့်ကျသွားပြီး ဝယ်လိုအား၏ အထောက်အပံ့ပြုမှုမှာ အလားအလာအနည်းငယ်သာရှိသည်။ ဟိုက်ဒရိုကာဗွန်ဈေးနှုန်းများ ကျဆင်းမှုသည် စီးပွားရေးအား အနည်းငယ်ပြန်လည်နလန်ထူလာနိုင်စေပြီး နိုင်ငံ၏ ရေနံအတွက်အသုံးစရိတ်ကို လျှော့ချကာ ငွေဖောင်းပွမှုကို အလွန်အကျွံမြာစ်သည်။ (ပုံ ၃)

ပုံ ၃။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် သဘာဝဓာတ်ငွေ့ဈေးနှုန်းများနှင့် ဟိုက်ဒရိုကာဗွန်ပြည်ပသို့တင်ပို့မှု ၂၀၁၀–၂၀၂၀ (US\$ ဘီလီယံ)





@ITC

လေးထောင့်ကွက် ၁ ။ ရေနံနှင့်ဓာတ်ငွေ့ နိုင်ငံခြားတိုက်ရိက်ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) အပေါ် အကျိုးသက်ရောက်မှု

ရေနံနှင့် ဓာတ်ငွေ့ဈေးနှုန်းများ နိမ့်ကျမှုသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် အသစ်နှင့်လက်ရှိ နိုင်ငံခြား တိုက်ရိုက်ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) စီမံချက်များကိုလည်းကောင်း၊ သဘာဝဓာတ်ငွေ့ ရောင်းချမှုများနှင့် လုပ်ကွက်အသစ်များအား တင်ဒါပေးခြင်းမှရရှိသော ပြည်သူ့ဘဏ္ဍာငွေကိုလည်းကောင်း ခြိမ်းခြောက်နေသည်။ ရေနံနှင့်ဓာတ်ငွေ့ကဏ္ဍာသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ တန်ဖိုးအားဖြင့် ဆွဲဆောင်မှုအရှိဆုံး ဖြစ်ပြီး၂၀၁၁ နှင့် ၂၀၁၈ ခုနှစ် အကြား စုစုပေါင်း နိုင်ငံခြားတိုက်ရိုက်ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) စီးဝင်မှု၏ ၃၇% ရှိသည်။ ကမ္ဘာ့ရေနံစိမ်းဈေးနှုန်းများ ကျဆင်းမှုသည် လက်ရိုစီမံချက်များ၏ ထုတ်လုပ်မှုကို အားလျော့စေပြီး သဘာဝဓာတ်ငွေ့ ပြည်ပသို့ တင်ပို့ခြင်းမှရရှိသည့် အစိုးရဘဏ္ဍာတွေကို လျှော့ချကာ ကဏ္ဍဆိုင်ရာလုပ်ဆောင်ချက်အသစ် ရှာဖွေမှုများကို ဆိုင်းငံ့စေသည်။ ဤဖြစ်ရပ်သည် အစိုးရကို သင့်လျော်သောလျှော့ဈေးဖြင့် လုပ်ကွက်အသစ် ၃၃ ခုအား စီမံကိန်းချထားသည့် တင်ဒါဖြင့် ဆက်လက်ဆောင်ရွက်ရမည်လား ၊သို့မဟုတ်၊ စောင့်ဆိုင်း၍ အခွန်ဘဏ္ဍာငွေရရှိမှုကို ရွေ့ဆိုင်းရမည်လား စသည်တို့အား ရွေးချယ်ရန် တွန်းအားပေးလိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။ ဤကဏ္ဍာ၏ ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှုနှင့် ထုတ်လုဝ်မှုတွင် အကျဘက်သို့ရောက်နေစဉ်တွင် အစိုးရအနေဖြင့် နိုင်ငံခြားတိုက်ရိုက်ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) ရရှိရေးအတွက် ဤကဏ္ဍကို ခိုင်မာအားကောင်းစေရန်နှင့် ပြည်သူ့ဘတ်ဂျက်အတွက် အခွန်ဘဏ္ဍာငွေရရှိစေရန် ဆောင်ရွက်နိုင်ပါသည်။

မြန်မာကျပ်ငွေ တန်ဖိုးတက်ခြင်းသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံမှပြည်ပပို့ကုန်များ၏ ယှဉ်ပြိုင်နိုင်စွမ်းရှိမှုအပေါ် ဆိုးကျိုးသက်ရောက်စေသည်။ ကမ္ဘာ့ ဘဏ္ဍာရေးဈေးကွက်ပတ်ဝန်းကျင်တွင် မရေရာမှုကြောင့် ပြည်တွင်းသုံး ငွေကြေးသည် အမေရိကန်ဒေါ်လာနှင့် ယူရိုတို့နှင့် နှိုင်းယှဉ်လျှင် ခိုင်မာအားကောင်းလာခဲ့သည်။ ကျပ်ငွေတန်ဖိုးတက်ခြင်းသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံမှပြည်ပပို့ကုန်များကို ယှဉ်ပြိုင်နိုင်စွမ်း အတော်အတန်နည်းပါးစေပြီး ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်မှရရှိငွေကို လျော့ကျစေနိုင်သည်။ သို့ရာတွင် ဤထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှုကို ပြည်တွင်းသို့တင်သွင်း သည့် ကုန်ပစ္စည်းများနှင့် ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်ရေးအတွက် ကုန်ကြမ်းပစ္စည်းများ၏ အမှန်တကယ်ကုန်ကျငွေ လျော့နည်းသွားခြင်းက တစ်စိတ်တစ်ဒေသအားဖြင့် ပြန်လည်ထေမိဖွယ်ရှိသည်။ ပို၍ယေဘုယျကျကျ ပြောရလျှင် ငွေကြေးမတည်ငြိမ်မှု တိုးမြင့်လာခြင်းသည် ရင်းနှီးငွေ (စတော့ရှယ်ရာ (equity) နှင့် ငွေတိုက်စာချုပ် (bond) ဈေးကွက်နှစ်ခုစလုံး)၊ ချေးငွေ (credit) နှင့် နိုင်ငံခြားငွေလဲလှယ်ရေး လမ်းကြောင်းများမှတစ်ဆင့် ဒေသ၏စီးပွားရေးများအပေါ် အကျိုးသက်ရောက်ထိခိုက်စေနိုင်သည်။ ဤသို့ဆုံးရှုံးနိုင်မည့်အလားအလာရှိမှုကို မနှစ်လိုသောကြောင့် ကုန်သွယ် ရေးအရောင်းအဝယ်ကိစ္စများအတွက် ဒေါ်လာဖြင့် အကြွေးရရှိရန်မှာ ရေတိုကာလတွင် ပို၍ခက်ခဲလာနိုင်သည်။ ပြည်ပမှ လုပ်ငန်းတူဘဏ်များသည် ၎င်းတို့၏ ဆုံးရှုံးနိုင်ခြေရှိမှုအား ဖော်ထုတ်မှုစနစ် (risk radar) ကို မြှင့်တင်ကာ အချို့သော မြန်မာဘဏ်များသို့ လုပ်ငန်းတူ အထောက်အကူများ (counterpart facilities) ပံ့ပိုးမှုကို ပိတ်ပစ်လိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။

^{1.–} ဇန်နဝါရီ၂၀၁၁ မှ စက်တင်ဘာ ၂၀၁၈ အထိ ကာလအတွက် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှုနှင့် ကုမ္ပဏီများ ညွှန်ကြားမှုဦးစီး ဌာနနှင့် fDi ဈေးကွက်အချက်အလက်များအပေါ်တွင် အခြေခံ၍ ITC တွက်ချက်မှုများ။

လေးထောင့်ကွက် ၂ ။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံတွင် နိုင်ငံခြားတိုက်ရိုက်ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) အပေါ် ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ၏ ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှု။

ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားမှုက အနာဂတ်စီးပွားရေး လုပ်ငန်းဆောင်ရွက်မှုဆိုင်ရာ သဘောထားအမြင်များ အပေါ် သက်ရောက်မှုရှိသောကြောင့် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအတွင်းသို့ နိုင်ငံခြားတိုက်ရိုက်ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) ဝင်ရောက်မှုများ ကြီးမားစွာပြတ်တောက်မှုများဖြစ်မည်ဟု မျှော်လင့်ရသည်။ စီးပွားရေးမရေရာမှုက ဝယ်လို အားကျဆင်းမှုကို ပို၍ကျယ်ပြန့်စေပြီး စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းများ၏ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) စီမံချက်အတော်များများကို တို့ဖြစ်ပေါ်ကာ စုစုပေါင်းဝယ်လိုအားကျဆင်းမှု၏အကျိုးဆက်အဖြစ် နိုင်ငံခြားတိုက်ရိုက်ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) စီမံချက်အတော်များများကို ဆိုင်းငံ့ခြင်း ၊သို့မဟုတ်၊ ရွေ့ဆိုင်းခြင်းတို့ ဖြစ်မည်ဟုမျှော်လင့်ရသည်။ ခရီးသွား လာမှုကန့်သတ်ခြင်းများ၏ ယခုလောလောဆယ်နှင့် နောင်အခါပေါ်ပေါက်လာမည်ဟု မျှော်မှန်းရသည့် ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှုကြောင့် ကမ္ဘာလှည့်ခရီးသွားကဏ္ဍတွင် ကြီးမားစွာ ကျဆင်းဖွယ်ရှိသည်။ ဟိုက်ဒရိုကာဗွန်ဈေးနှုန်းများကျဆင်းမှုသည် ကာလတိုမှ ကာလလတ်အထိ ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှုကို မလွဲမသွေ အားနည်းစေလိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်သောကြောင့် သဘာဝဓာတ်ငွေ့ ကဏ္ဍတွင် ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှုစီမံချက်များသည်လည်း လျော့နည်းနိုင်ဖွယ်ရှိသည်။ တရုတ်နိုင်ငံမှ အဓိကအားဖြင့် ဝင်ရောက်လာသော အထည်အလိပ်နှင့်အဝတ်အထည် (T & G) လုပ်ငန်းတွင် ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှုများသည်လည်း အနည်းဆုံးအားဖြင့် ရေတိုကာလတွင် ရပ်တန့်သွားဖွယ်ရာရှိ သည်။

နိုင်ငံခြားတိုက်ရိုက်ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) အတွက် မြန်မာနိူင်ငံ၏ ဆွဲဆောင်မှုအရှိဆုံးကဏ္ဍ (စီမံချက် အရေအတွက်အရ) ဖြစ်သော အထည်အလိပ်နှင့် အဝတ်အထည် (T&G) လုပ်ငန်းသည် ပြိုလဲရန်အန္တရာယ် ကြီးမားစွာရှိနေပြီး အလုပ်အကိုင်ပေါင်း ၃၅၀,၀၀၀ ကို ခြိမ်းခြောက်လျက်ရှိသည်။၂၀၁၁ နှင့်၂၀၁၈ ခုနှစ်အတွင်း မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ ကြေညာထားသော နိုင်ငံခြားတိုက်ရိုက်ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) စီမံချက်များ၏ ၃၀% တိတိသည် အထည်ချုပ်လုပ်ငန်းတွင် ဖြစ်သည်။ အထည်အလိပ်နှင့် အဝတ်အထည်လုပ်ငန်း (T & G) သည် ကမ္ဘာအနှံ့ ပျံ့နှံ့နေသည့်ကဏ္ဍတစ်ရပ်ဖြစ်ပြီး အချိန်နှင့် ငွေကုန်ကျခံရကျိုးနပ်မှု (တွက်ခြေကိုက်မှု) ရှိစေရန်အတွက် အထိအခိုက်မခံနိုင်သော (အကဲဆတ်သော) လုပ်ငန်းဖြစ်သည်။ အထူးသဖြင့် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ တွင် လုပ်ကိုင်လျက်ရှိသော အမြတ်အစွန်းနည်းပါးသည့်လုပ်ငန်းဖြစ်သည်။

ကမ္ဘာလှည့်ခရီးသွားလုပ်ငန်း ရပ်တန့်သွားခြင်းသည် ဟိုတယ်လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များကိုဆွဲဆောင်ရန် အနီးဆုံးကာလအတွက် အလားအလာကို ပျောက်ကွယ်လုနီးပါးဖြစ်စေပြီး စားသောက်ကုန်လုပ်ငန်းများ အတွက် ဝယ်လိုအားကင်းမဲ့သွားစေကာ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအတွက် အရေးပါသော ပုံရိပ်မြှင့်တင်ရေးနည်းလမ်း တစ်ခု ဆုံးရှုံးသွားစေသည်။ အာရှဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးဘဏ်က မြန်မာနိုင်ငံသည် အနည်းဆုံး စက်တင်ဘာ ၊ ၂၀၂၀ အထိ ကမ္ဘာလှည့်ခရီးသွားကဏ္ဍမှရရှိသော အခွန်ဘဏ္ဍာငွေ တစ်လလျှင် US\$ ၃၅ သန်း လျော့နည်းမှုကို ကြုံတွေ့ရ လိမ့်မည်ဟု ခန့်မှန်းထားသည်။² စားသောက်ကုန်နှင့် လယ်ယာစီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းသည် နိုင်ငံခြားတိုက်ရိုက်ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) ရရှိရန်အတွက် အကောင်းဆုံး အခွင့်အလမ်းများရှိသော်လည်း အစိုးရ၏ကြားဝင်ဆောင်ရွက်မှုကို လိုအပ်သည်။ စားသောက်ကုန်သည် ကမ္ဘာ့ကပ်ရောဂါဖြစ်ပွားသည့် ကာလအတွင်း မည်သည့် ကုန်ပစ္စည်းထက်မဆို ဝယ်လိုအားအတည်ငြိမ်ဆုံးရှိသည့်ကုန်ပစ္စည်း ဖြစ်ဖွယ်ရှိသည်။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံအတွင်း နှင့် အိမ်နီးချင်းနိုင်ငံဒေသတွင်း၌ စားသုံးသူ ဝယ်လိုအားသည် ဆက်လက်ရှိမြဲရှိနေသည်။ အထူးသဖြင့် တရုတ်နိုင်ငံ၏ အနောက်တောင်ဒေသတွင် ဆန်၊ သစ်သီးဝလံ၊ ဟင်းသီးဟင်းရွက်နှင့် ဆီစေ့များ၊ ထိုင်းနိုင်ငံတွင် ကောက်ပဲသီးနှံများနှင့် ပင်လယ်အစားအစာများ၊ အိန္ဒိယနိုင်ငံတွင် ဟင်းသီးဟင်းရွက်များ စသည့် ဝယ်လိုအားများသည် ဆက်လက်တည်မြဲနေသည်။ လက်ရှိနှင့် စီမံကိန်းချထားသော မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ စားသောက်ကုန်နှင့် လယ်ယာစီးပွားရေးကဏ္ဍရှိ နိုင်ငံခြားတိုက်ရိုက်ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) စီမံချက်များသည် ယေဘုယျအားဖြင့် ဆက်လက်၍ ဆွဲဆောင်မှုရှိနေဆဲဖြစ်သည်။ သို့ရာတွင် စီမံချက်တစ်ခုကို ဆက်လက်လုပ်ဆောင်ရမည်လား၊ သို့မဟုတ်၊ ၎င်းတို့၏အရင်းအမြစ်များကို အခြားနေရာသို့ လွှဲပြောင်းရမည်လားဟု ဆုံးဖြတ်ချက်ချရမည့် ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံသူများအနေဖြင့် ကုန်ပစ္စည်းထုတ်လုပ်မှု ကွင်းဆက်များ (supply chains)၊ ဖြန့်မြူးရေးလမ်းကြောင်းများနှင့် ကုန်သွယ်မှုအတွက် ထောက်ပဲ့ ပို့ဆောင်ရေ၊ စသည်တိုလုတ်သတ်ပြီး ကြိုတင်ခန့်မိုးနိုင်စွားရဲ

မှုအပေါ် အဓိကအလေးထား၍ စဉ်းစားလိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။ မရှိမဖြစ်လိုအပ်သော အခြေခံအဆောက်အအုံတွင် နိုင်ငံခြားတိုက်ရိုက်ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) သည် ကြာမြင့်စွာ နှောင်နှေးကြန့်ကြာမှုနှင့် ဖျက်သိမ်းမည့်အလားအလာရှိမှု အန္တရာယ်ရှိနေသည်။ တရုတ်– မြန်မာ စီးပွားရေးစင်္ကြံလမ်း၏အစိတ်အပိုင်းအဖြစ် လုပ်ဆောင်လျက်ရှိသော အခြေခံအဆောက်အအုံစီမံချက်များ သည် လများစွာမှ နှစ်များစွာအထိ ဆိုင်းငံ့ကောင်းဆိုင်းငံ့နိုင်သလို စွန့်လွှတ်ခြင်းပင် ဖြစ်ကောင်းဖြစ်နိုင်သည်။ လတ်တလောအကျဆုံး မျှော်မှန်းထားသည့် စီမံချက်များတွင် ကျောက်ဖြူရေနက်ဆိတ်ကမ်း၊ မူဆယ်– မန္တလေး ရထားလမ်း၊ ရန်ကုန်မြို့သစ် ဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးစီမံချက်၊ ကချင်နှင့် ရှမ်းပြည်နယ်များတွင် နယ်စပ်စီးပွားရေး ဇုန် ၃ ခု၊ မြစ်ဆုံရေအားလျှပ်စစ်စီမံကိန်းနှင့် ကျောက်ဖြူ – ကူမင်း ရထားလမ်းကြောင်း တို့ပါဝင်သည်။ ဤစီမံချက်အများစုသည် ပြည်တွင်းထောက်ခံအားပေးမှု၊ သဘာဝပတ်ဝန်းကျင်ဆိုင်ရာ စိုးရိမ်ပူပန်မှုနှင့် ဒေသတွင်းတင်းမာမှုများ ပိုမိုဆိုးဝါးလာမည့်အလားအလာ စသည့် ကြီးမားသော စိန်ခေါ်မှုများကို ရင်ဆိုင်နေ ရသည်။

နိုင်ငံခြားတိုက်ရိုက်ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှု (FDI) သည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံမှ အလျင်အမြန် ထွက်ခွာသွားသကဲ့သို့ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံသို့ အလျင်အမြန်ပြန်လာလိမ့်မည် မဟုတ်ပေ။ စီးပွားရေး ပြန်လည်နာလန်ထူကာစ အချိန်ကာလအတွင်း၌ ငွေကြေးချမ်းသာသော ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံသူများပင်လျှင် ကမ္ဘာ့ကပ်ရောဂါ မတိုင်မီကထက်ပို၍ သတိထား၍ လုပ်ငန်းဆောင်ရွက်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။ ထို့ပြင် ကမ္ဘာ့ကပ်ရောဂါ ပြန်လည်ဖြစ်ပွားလာပါက ပို၍ခိုင်မာသော လုံခြုံရေးပိုက်ကွန်များကို တည်ဆောက်ခြင်းနှင့် စီးပွားရေး နာလန်ထူမှုသည် စစ်မှန်ပြီး ရေရှည်တည်တံ့ခိုင်မြဲမှုရှိကြောင်း လက္ခဏာများကို စောင့်ကြည့်ဦးမည် ဖြစ်သည်။

မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ ပြည်ထောင်စုအစိုးရသည်၊ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှုကော်မရှင်၏ ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ စီးပွားရေးထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှုများအား စောင့်ကြည့်ရေးနှင့် လုပ်ငန်းအဖွဲ့မှတစ်ဆင့် ကမ္ဘာ့စီးပွားရေးတွင် ဦးဆောင်နေသော ပို့ကုန်ဈေးကွက်များနှင့် FDI ရင်းမြစ်နိုင်ငံများတွင် တိုးတက်မှုများနှင့်အတူ ရင်ပေါင်တန်း လိုက်နိုင်ရန် ရည်ရွယ်ထားသင့်သည်။

^{1.–} ဇန်နဝါရီ ၂၀၁၁ မှ စက်တင်ဘာ ၂၀၁၈ အထိ ကာလအတွက် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ ရင်းနှီးမြှုပ်နှံမှုနှင့် ကုမ္ပဏီများ ညွှန်ကြားမှုဦးစီး ဌာနနှင့် fDi ဈေးကွက်အချက်အလက်များအပေါ်တွင် အခြေခံ၍ ITC တွက်ချက်မှုများ။

^{2.–} အာရှဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးဘဏ် (၂၀၂၀)။ 'ဖွံ့ဖြိုးဆဲအာရှအပေါ် ကိုဗစ် –၁၉ ဖြစ်ပွားမှု၏ စီးပွားရေးဆိုင်ရာ ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှု' ADB အကျဉ်းချုပ်အစီရင်ခံစာ၊ အမှတ် ၁၂၈၊ ၆ မတ်၊ မန်လာ၊ အာရှဖွံ့ဖြိုးရေးဘဏ်။ www.adb.org/sites/default/ files/publication/571536/adb-brief-128-economic-impact-covid19-developing-asia.pdf. မှ ရယူနိုင်သည်။

မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ အဓိကစီးပွားရေးကဏ္ဍများနှင့် ကုန်သွယ်ရေးအထောက်အကူပြု လုပ်ဆောင်ချက်များတွင် လက်ရှိအခြေအနေ

အလုံးစုံ အကျိုးသက်ရောက်မှု

ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်ကဏ္ဍာအများစုသည် ကိုဗစ်-၁၉ အကျပ်အတည်းနှင့် နာလန်ထူပြီးနောက်ပိုင်းကာလတွင် အကျိုးသက်ရောက်ထိခိုက်မှုခံရသလို ဆက်လက်၍လည်း ခံရလိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။ ဝယ်ယူခြင်း၊ စားသုံးခြင်းနှင့် ခရီးသွားလာခြင်းစသည်တို့၌ ပြောင်းလဲသွားသော စားသုံးသူအပြုအမူ၊ ကုမ္ပဏီများအတွက် ပို၍စိန်ခေါ်မှုရှိသော ဈေးကွက်ဝင်ရောက်မှု၊ ပို၍တင်းကျပ်သော စားသောက်ကုန်ဘေးကင်းရေးနှင့် ရောဂါကင်းစင်သန့် ရှင်းရေးဆိုင်ရာ သတ်မှတ်ပြဋ္ဌာန်းချက်များကို လိုက်နာရမည့်အခက်အခဲများ၊ သယ်ယူပို့ဆောင်ရေးနှင့် နယ်စပ်ကန့်သတ်ချက်များကြောင့် ထောက်ပံ့ပို့ဆောင်ရေးဆိုင်ရာ ပြဿနာများ ၊ ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်ရေးလုပ်နည်းကိုင်နည်းများအား ဒစ်ဂျစ်တယ်ပုံစံဖြင့် ကွန်ပျူတာဖြင့်လုပ်ကိုင်ခြင်းနှင့် ပြောင်းလဲခြင်း စသည်တို့တွင် ကမ္ဘာ့ကပ်ရောဂါ၏ သွယ်ဝိုက်ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှုအား တွေ့မြင်ရလိမ့်မည် ဖြစ်သည်။ ယခုဖော်ပြထားသည်မှာ အနည်းငယ်မျှသာ ဖြစ်သည်။

ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့် အားကစားဝန်ကြီးဌာနက ၃၀၊ မတ် နှင့် ၁၉ ဧပြီ ၂၀၂၀ တွင် ထုတ်ပြန်ခဲ့သော စက်ရုံအလုပ်ရုံများနှင့် အလုပ်ခွင်နေရာများအတွက် လမ်းညွှန်ချက်များနှင့် ကာကွယ်ရေးအစီအမံများ သည် ကဏ္ဍအများစုအပေါ် ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်လျက်ရှိသည်။ ဤအစီအမံများက ကုမ္ပဏီများအနေဖြင့် အလုပ်ချိန် အဆိုင်းများကိုစီစဉ်ရန်၊ လူချင်းခွာနေသည့်သတ်မှတ်ချက်များကို ကျင့်သုံးရန်နှင့် ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်ရေး အစီအမံများ (မျက်နှာဖုံးများ၊ လက်အိတ်များ၊ လက်ဆေးရန်နေရာများ၊ အပူချိန်တိုင်းခြင်းနှင့် သယ်ယူ ပို့ဆောင်ရေးအစီအစဉ်များ) အတွက် ကုန်ကျစရိတ်ခွဲဝေသတ်မှတ်ရန် စသည်တို့ကို ပြုလုပ်ရန် လိုအပ်စေသည်။

အလုပ်သမား၊ လူဝင်မှုကြီးကြပ်ရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့အင်အားဝန်ကြီးဌာန၊ စက်ရုံအလုပ်ရုံများနှင့် အလုပ်ခွင် နေရာများ ပြန်လည်ဖွင့်လှစ်ရန် စည်းကမ်းသတ်မှတ်ချက်များ က ကုမ္ပဏီများအနေဖြင့် ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့် အားကစားဝန်ကြီးဌာန၏ လမ်းညွှန်ချက်များအား လိုက်နာမှုရှိမှုကို ပြသရန် လိုအပ်စေသည်။ ၎င်းက လုပ်ငန်း ဆောင်ရွက်မှုအမျိုးမျိုးကို နှောင့်နှေးကြန့်ကြာစေလိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။ အဘယ့်ကြောင့်ဆိုသော် စက်ရုံအလုပ်ရုံ များကို စစ်ဆေးမှုမပြီးဆုံးမီနှင့် ခွင့်ပြုချက်မရမီ မဖွင့်လှစ်နိုင်သောကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည်။ စစ်ဆေးရေးအဖွဲ့များ လာရောက်စစ်ဆေးမည်ကို စောင့်ဆိုင်းနေချိန်အတွင်း ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်မှုမလုပ်နိုင်ဘဲ လုပ်ခလစာများအားလုံး ကို ဆက်လက်ပေးချေရန် လိုအပ်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။

သင်္ကြံန်အားလပ်ရက်ကာလအတွင်း အလုပ်များကိုပိတ်ပြီးနောက် နိုင်ငံအနှံ့ရှိ စက်ရုံအလုပ်ရုံများ အနေဖြင့် နောက်ထပ် ၁၀ ရက် အလုပ်ဆိုင်းငံ့ထားရန်နှင့် ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့် အားကစားဝန်ကြီးဌာန၏ လမ်းညွှန်ချက်များနှင့်အညီ အလုပ်သမားများအတွက် ဗိုင်းရပ်ကြိုတင် ကာကွယ်ရေးအစီအမံများကို စတင် လုပ်ဆောင်ရန် လိုအပ်လိမ့်မည်ဖြစ်သည်။ ၁၉ ၊ ဧပြီ တွင် အလုပ်သမား၊ လူဝင်မှုကြီးကြပ်ရေးနှင့် ပြည်သူ့ အင်အားဝန်ကြီးဌာနက စက်ရုံအလုပ်ရုံများအား သင်္ကြံန်အားလပ်ရက်ကာလပြီးသည့်နောက် ကျန်းမာရေးနှင့် အားကစားဝန်ကြီးဌာနက ချမှတ်ထားသော ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ကြိုတင်ကာကွယ်ရေးအစီအမံများကို စတင်လုပ် ဆောင်ပြီး စစ်ဆေးရေးဆောင်ရွက်ပြီးမှသာ ပြန်လည်ဖွင့်လှစ်ခွင့်ပြုမည်ဟု ကြေညာခဲ့သည်။

မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်ကဏ္ဍများအပေါ် ကိုဗစ် –၁၉ ၏ အကျိုးသက်ရောက်မှု

ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်ကဏ္ဍများအပေါ် ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ၏ ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှုအား ဆန်းစစ်လေ့လာသည့် စစ်တမ်းတစ်ခုကို မေ ၊ ၂၀၂၀ တွင် ပြုလုပ်ခဲ့သည်။ အမျိုးသား ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်မဟာဗျူဟာ (NES) ဦးစားပေး ကဏ္ဍများရှိ စုစုပေါင်းကုမ္ပဏီ ၂၆၆ ခုသည် စစ်တမ်းကို တုံ့ပြန်ဖြေကြားခဲ့ကြသည်။ ကဏ္ဍတစ်ခုလျှင် အနည်းဆုံး တုံ့ပြန်ဖြေကြားသည့်ကုမ္ပဏီ ၂၀ ရှိသည်။ အဓိကတွေ့ရှိချက်များကို အောက်တွင်ဖော်ပြထား သည်။

• စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းများ၏ ၃၀% နီးပါးသည် ပြင်းထန်စွာထိခိုက်ခဲ့ပြီး ၄၆% သည် အသင့်အတင့် ထိခိုက်ခဲ့သည်။ ကမ္ဘာလှည့်ခရီးသွားလုပ်ငန်း ကဏ္ဍသည် အများဆုံးထိခိုက်ပြီး ယင်း၏နောက်၌ အထည်အလိပ်နှင့် အဝတ်အထည် (T & G) လုပ်ငန်းကဏ္ဍက ဒုတိယလိုက်သည်။ (ပုံ ၄)

• အခွိန်ဘဏ္ဍာငွေ ရရှိမှုအတွက် ၎င်း၏ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်လုပ်ငန်းများအပေါ် လုံးဝန်းပါး မှီခိုနေရသော် ရာဘာကဏ္ဍသည်လည်း ပြင်းထန်စွာထိခိုက်ခဲ့သည်။ ပို၍သေးငယ်သော ရော်ဘာလုပ်ငန်းကုမ္ပဏီ များအားလည်း သိသိသာသာ ထိခိုက်သည်ဟု ယူဆရသည်။

• စစ်တမ်းက မြန်မာကုမ္ပဏီများ၏ ၅၀% သည် ၎င်းတို့၏ ထိပ်ဆုံးဖောက်သည် ၅ ဦးထံမှ ဝယ်လိုအား လျှော့ချမှုကို ကြုံတွေ့ရပြီး ၁၈ % သည် အဝယ်အမှာစာများ ပယ်ဖျက်ခြင်း ၊သို့မဟုတ်၊ ပြန်ပို့ခြင်းကို ကိုင်တွယ်ဖြေရှင်းခဲ့ရသည်ဟု ပြသသည်။(ပုံ ၅ ကိုကြည့်ပါ)

• ကုမ္ပဏီတစ်ဝက်ကျော်က စစ်တမ်းနောက်ပိုင်း ၃ လအတွင်း အဝယ်အမှာစာများ လျော့နည်းသွား လိမ့်မည်ဟု မျှော်မှန်းထားသည်။ ၎င်းတို့အကြားတွင် ကုမ္ပဏီ ၁၉% က ကျဆင်းမှု ၂၀% ထက် ကျော်လွန်သည့် အကြီးအကျယ်ကျဆင်းမှုရှိမည်ဟု မျှော်လင့်ထားသည်။ ကမ္ဘာ့စီးပွားရေး ကျဆင်းမှုနှင့်ဆက်စပ်သည့် မရေရာမှုလက္ခဏာများလည်းရှိသည်။ အဘယ့်ကြောင့်ဆိုသော် စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းများ၏ ၃၆% သည် လာမည့် ၃ လအတွက် ၎င်းတို့၏ ကြိုတင်အမှာစာများကို အတည်မပြုနိုင်သောကြောင့်ဖြစ်သည်။

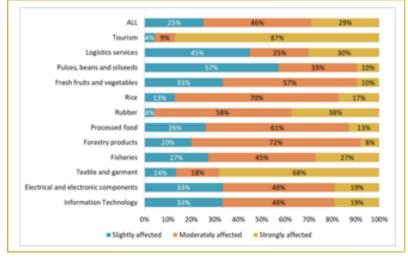
'တွေ့ဆုံမေးမြန်းသည့် ကုမ္ပဏီများ၏ ၄၀% ခန့်က အကြပ်အတည်း၏အကျိုးဆက်အဖြစ် ၎င်းတို့၏ ထုတ်ကုန်ပစ္စည်းများအား ပြည်ပသို့တင်ပို့ရာတွင် အခက်အခဲများရှိကြောင်း အစီရင်ခံခဲ့သည်။ သွင်းအားစုများ ဝယ်ယူခြင်းသည်လည်း ၃၄% တွင် စိန်ခေါ်မှုများရှိနေပြီး

ပြည်ပမှဝယ်ယူခြင်းတွင် (၁၈%) နှင့် ပြည်တွင်းမှဝယ်ယူခြင်းတွင် (၁၆ %) ရှိသည်။

• နယ်စပ်စစ်ဆေးမှု/ ပိတ်ပင်မှုများ တိုးမြှင့်ခြင်းကြောင့် နှောင့်နှေးကြန့်ကြာမှုများသည် စစ်တမ်း ကောက်ယူခဲ့သည့် ကမ္ဘာ့စီးပွားရေးတွင် ပါဝင်ဆောင်ရွက်နေသော မြန်မာ့စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းများ၏ တစ်ဝက်ကျော်ကို ထိခိုက်ခဲ့သည်။ အခြားအဓိက လုပ်ထုံးလုပ်နည်းဆိုင်ရာ ကိစ္စရပ်များတွင် ထပ်ဆောင်း ကျန်းမာသန့်ရှင်းရေးဆိုင်ရာ စည်းမျဉ်းများနှင့် လုပ်ထုံးလုပ်နည်းများ (၂၂%) နှင့် ထောက်ပံ့ပို့ဆောင်ရေး အစီအစဉ်များနှင့် သင်္ဘောဖြင့်ကုန်စည်ပို့ဆောင်ရေးတွင် အခက်အခဲများ (၂၀%) ပါဝင်သည်။

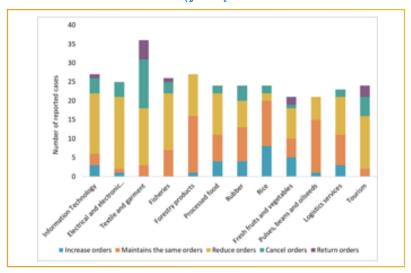
• အကြပ်အတည်းကိုကိုင်တွယ်ဖြေရှင်းရာတွင် ကူညီရန် အစိုးရ၏အစီအမံများအကြား၌ 'အခွန်လျှော့ ပေ့ါခြင်း၊ သို့မဟုတ်၊ ယာယီ အခွန်ရပ်ဆိုင်းခြင်း' (၂၆ %) ၊ 'ဘဏ္ဍာရေး အစီအစဉ်များ' (၂၄ %) နှင့် 'ငှားရမ်းခ ထောက်ပံ့ငွေ ၊ သို့မဟုတ်၊ လျှပ်စစ်ဓာတ်အား၊ ရေ စသည့် အသုံးဝန်ဆောင်လုပ်ငန်းများ၏ ကျသင့်ငွေကို လျှော့ပေ့ါခြင်း/ရွှေ့ဆိုင်းခြင်း' (၁၈%) စသည်တို့သည် အလိုလားဆုံးဖြစ်သော အစီအမံ ၃ ခု ဖြစ်သည်။ ဤရလဒ်က ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ကြောင့်ဖြစ်သော ငွေရေးကြေးရေး အခက်အခဲဒုက္ခကို လည်းကောင်း၊ ဘဏ္ဍာရေး/အခွန်ဘဏ္ဍာဆိုင်ရာ လှုံ့ဆော်မှုအစီအစဉ်တစ်စုအား လိုအပ်မှုကို လည်းကောင်း မီးမောင်းထိုးပြသည်။

ပုံ ၄ ။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံမှ စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းများအပေါ် ကိုဗစ် –၁၉ ၏ ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှု။ ကဏ္ဍအလိုက်



မှတ်ချက်။ အင်တာဗျူးဖြေဆိုသူများအား "ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ကမ္ဘာ့ကပ်ရောဂါကြောင့် သင်၏ စီးပွားရေးလုပ်ငန်းဆောင်ရွက်မှု များ မည်သို့ထိခိုက်သနည်း" ဟုမေးမြန်းသည်။

ပုံ ၅ ။ ထိပ်ဆုံးဝယ်ယူသူ ၅ ဦး၏ ၂၀၂၀ ခုနှစ် ဒုတိယသုံးလပတ်အတွက် ဝယ်ယူရန် ကတိကဝတ်ပြုမှုများ။ ကဏ္ဍအလိုက်



ရင်းမြစ် ။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှုစစ်တမ်းအပေါ်တွင် အခြေခံ၍ ITC တွက်ချက်မှုများ။ အချက်အလက်များကို ၀၉–၀၅–၂၀၂၀ မှ ၂၆–၀၅– ၂၀၂၀ အထိ ကောက်ခံသည်။

မှတ်ချက် ။ အင်တာဗျူးဖြေဆိုသူများအား "သင်၏ ထိပ်ဆုံးဖောက်သည် ၅ ဦးသည် နောက်လာမည့် သုံးလပတ်အတွက် အောက်ပါတို့အနက်မှတစ်ခုခုကို ကတိကဝတ်ပြုခဲ့သလား" ဟု မေးမြန်းသည်။ (ဖြစ်နိုင်သည့်အဖြေများထဲမှ အဖြေမှန် ကို ရွေးချယ်ရန်)

ရင်းမြစ် ။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ ကိုဗစ်–၁၉ ထိခိုက်သက်ရောက်မှုစစ်တမ်း အပေါ်တွင် အခြေခံ၍ ITC တွက်ချက်မှုများ။ အချက်အလက်များကို ၉–၂၆ ၊ မေ၂၀၂၀ တွင် ကောက်ခံသည်။

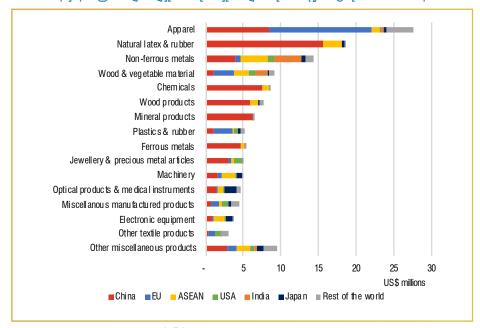
ကြားသုံးကုန် (intermediates) များ ပြည်ပတင်ပို့မှုတွင် မျှော်မှန်းထားသည့် လျော့ကျမှု

ITC ကပြုလုပ်သော ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်ရေးအတွက် ကမ္ဘာလုံးဆိုင်ရာ တန်ဖိုးမြှင့်ကွင်းဆက်များ (GVCs) အား ကြိုတင်ခန့်မှန်း ဆန်းစစ်ချက်တစ်ရပ်အရ ကိုဗစ်-၁၉ ကြောင့် မိတ်ဖက်နိုင်ငံများအားလုံးတွင် ၂–လ ကြာ ပိတ်ပင်မှုတစ်ရပ်ပြုလုပ်မည်ဟု ယူဆလျက် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံမှ ကြားသုံးကုန် သွင်းအားစုများ (intermediates inputs) ပြည်ပတင်ပို့မှုတွင် ခန့်မှန်းထားသည့် လျော့ကျမှုသည် US\$ ၁၃၇.၆ သန်း အထိရှိ သည်။ အဝတ်အစားကဏ္ဍသည် မယှဉ်သာအောင် ထိခိုက်မှုအရှိဆုံးလုပ်ငန်းဖြစ်ပြီး ဤကဏ္ဍတစ်ခုတည်းက ပင် မျှော်လင့်ထားသည့် ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်လျော့ကျမှု ၂၀.၀ % ရှိပြီး မျှော်မှန်းထားသည့် ဆုံးရှုံးမှုမှာ US\$ ၂၇.၆ သန်း ရှိသည်။ (ပုံ ၆ ကို ကြည့်ပါ)။ အခြား အမျိုးသား ပြည်ပပို့ကုန်မဟာဗျူဟာ (NES)၏ ကဏ္ဍများသည်လည်း အကြပ်အတည်းကြောင့် ပြင်းထန်စွာ ထိခိုက်ခဲ့သည်။ ၎င်းတွင် သဘာဝရာဘာစေးနှင့် ရာဘာ (စုစုပေါင်း ပြတ်တောက်မှု၏ ၁၃.၅ % ရှိပြီး ကြားသုံးကုန်များ (intermediates) များ ပြည်ပတင်ပို့မှုတွင် US\$ ၁၈.၆ သန်း လျော့နည်းကျဆင်းခဲ့သည်)၊ သစ်ထုတ်ကုန်များနှင့် ဟင်းသီးဟင်းရွက်ကုန်ပစ္စည်းများ (၁၂.၅ % ၊ US\$ ၁၆.၈ သန်း) နှင့် အီလက်ထရောနစ်ပစ္စည်းကိရိယာများ (၂.၇ % ၊ US\$ ၃.၇ သန်း) တို့ ပါဝင်သည်။

^{6.-} ဤဆန်းစစ်လေ့လာချက်သည် ကုန်ပစ္စည်းပေးပို့မှုကွင်းဆက်များ (supply chains) အတွင်းရှိ ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်ရေး သွင်းအားစုများ (inputs) အား ပြည်ပသို့တင်ပို့ခြင်း/ ပြည်တွင်းသို့တင်သွင်းခြင်း အပေါ်တွင် စူးစိုက်လေ့လာသည်။ အနည်းဆုံး နိုင်ငံ ၃ နိုင်ငံ (သို့မဟုတ် ၊ နယ်စပ်ဖြတ်ကျော်မှု ၂ ခု) တွင် တည်ရှိသည့် ထုတ်လုပ်ရေးတွင် အသုံးပြုသည့် သွင်းအားစုများအဖြစ် အဓိပ္ပာယ်သတ်မှတ်သည်။ ဤဆန်းစစ်လေ့လာချက်မှ ဖယ်ထုတ်ထားသည့်အရာများမှာ အပြီးသတ်ကုန်ပစ္စည်းများ (final goods) ၊ အပြီးသတ်ကုန်ပစ္စည်း များထုတ်လုပ်ရာတွင် အသုံးပြုသည့် သွင်းအားစုများ ၊ နှင့် ပြည်တွင်း၌ရောင်းချသည့် ကုန်ပစ္စည်းများထုတ်လုပ်ရာတွင် အသုံးပြုသည့် သွင်းအားစုများ ဖြစ်သည်။ ကုန်ထုတ် လုပ်ရေး သွင်းအားစုများအား ကနဦး တိုက်ရိုက် ပြင်းထန်စွာ ထိဒိုက်မှု (initial direct shock) အား အကဲဖြတ် ဆန်းစစ် ခြင်းအားဖြင့် ဆန်းစစ်လေ့လာချက်ကို ကုန်ပစ္စည်း ပေးပို့မှုကွင်းဆက်များ (supply chains) အတွင်း၌ ထပ်မံ၍ ကျဉ်းမြောင်းအောင် ချုံ့ထားသည်။ ကနဦး ပြင်းထန်စွာ ထိဒိုက်မှု (initial shock) ဆိုသည်မှာ ကိုရိုနာဗိုင်းရပ်ပျံ့ပွားမှုကို ဟန့်တားရန်အတွက် လူချင်းခွာနေမှု (social distancing) ကို သေချာစေရန် မိတ်ဖက်နိုင်ငံများတွင် အစိုးရက အမိန့် ထုတ်ပြန်သည့် စက်ရုံအလုပ်ရုံပိတ်မှုများကြောင့် ဖြစ်ပေါ်သော ပြင်းထန်စွာထိဒိုက်မှု ပထမလှိုင်းကို ရည်ညွှန်းသည်။ ဤဆန်းစစ်လေ့လာချက်တွင် ကုန်ထုတ်လုပ်ရေး ကဏ္ဍကိုသာ ထည့်သွင်းစဉ်းစားသည်။

ဤဆန်းစစ်လေ့လာချက်အရ တရုတ်နိုင်ငံနှင့် ကုန်သွယ်ရေးပြတ်တောက်မှုသည် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံမှ ကြားသုံးကုန်များ (intermediates) ပြည်ပတင်ပို့မှုတွင် စုစုပေါင်းမျှော်မှန်းထားသည့် လျော့ကျမှု၏ ၄၇% ကျော်အတွက် တာဝန်ရှိသည်။ အထူးသဖြင့် ရာဘာ၊ အဝတ်အစား၊ ဓာတုပစ္စည်းနှင့် တွင်းထွက်ပစ္စည်းကဏ္ဍ များမှ ရောင်းချမှုများအပေါ် ထိခိုက်မှုရှိသည်။ မျှော်မှန်းထားသည့် US\$ ၂၄.၃ သန်း ဆုံးရှုံးမှုအတွက် တာဝန်ရှိ သောနိုင်ငံများတွင် ဥရောပသမဂ္ဂ (EU) – အင်္ဂလန်နိုင်ငံအပါအဝင် – သည် ဒုတိယအကြီးမားဆုံး ပြတ်တောက်မှု၏အရင်းအမြစ် ဖြစ်သည်။ ထိုဆုံးရှုံးမှု၏ ၅၇ % သည် အဝတ်အစားလုပ်ငန်းမှ သွင်းအားစုများ ပြည်ပတင်ပို့မှုနှင့် သက်ဆိုင်သည်။

ပုံ ၆ ။ ကုန်ပစ္စည်းတင်သွင်းသည့် မိတ်ဖက်နိုင်ငံများအလိုက် ကြားသုံးကုန်များ (intermediates) ပြည်ပတင်ပို့မှုတွင် ခန့် မှန်းခြေ လျော့ကျမှု။ ထိခိုက်မှုအများဆုံး ကဏ္ဍ ၁၅ ခု ။ (US\$ သန်း)



ရင်းမြစ် ။ ITC GVC ဆန်းစစ်လေ့လာချက် ။



INTRODUCTION



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The ultimate economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic remain highly uncertain. Even in places where social distancing measures successfully limit the spread of the virus, the resumption of normal economic activity depends on a number of factors, any of which have the potential to cause delays of months or even years. These factors include the duration of immunity, if any, for the recovered; the time needed to develop and widely distribute antibody tests, therapeutics and vaccines; the logistical and financial feasibility of increasing and sustaining levels of medical equipment, staff and facilities; and the development and widespread adoption of protocols, equipment, technologies and legal/regulatory frameworks for tracking and isolating the infected, and contact tracing.

At the same time, containment measures triggered by the spread of the virus are having a large economic impact. These measures include wide-ranging restrictions on transportation and labour mobility, as well as plant closures and overall reduced activity, which are spilling into global and regional supply chains through different channels. These include a supply shock as production falls due to significant supply chain disruptions and cutbacks in many sectors, as well as demand shocks caused by reduced purchases by both enterprises and households, amplified by the contraction of available income. The economic uncertainty generated by the COVID-19 outbreak is leading to reduced or delayed consumption of goods and services, and delayed or foregone investment.

While these uncertainties do not allow confident assertions about the pandemic's consequences for trade in Myanmar, it is nevertheless possible to:

- 1. Identify unfolding consequences and options to mitigate negative impacts
- 2. Identify a range of possible consequences for which contingency plans may be needed.

Considering Myanmar's limited fiscal space, successful management of the economic response to the pandemic will require exceptional proactivity, creativity and coordination. Economic recovery should be adjusted and resources reoriented based on the emerging needs of industries and new opportunities. Consultation with chambers of commerce, sector associations, exporters and investors will provide the information needed by Government to adjust its response.

^{7.–} According to the study below form the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, social distancing may be needed into 2022 to avoid exceeding critical care capacities: Kissler, Stephen M. and others (2020). Projecting the transmission dynamics of SARS-CoV-2 through the postpandemic period. *Science*, vol. 368, No. 6493 (May), pp. 860–868. Available from https://science.sciencemag.org/content/368/6493/860.



COVID-19 IMPACT ON THE GLOBAL ECONOMY AND WORLD TRADE

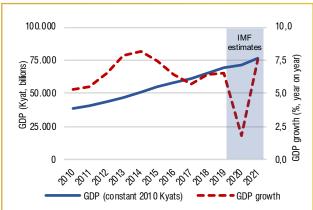
The world will face an economic downturn worse than the Great Depression

As countries implemented quarantines and social distancing practices to contain the spread of the virus, many cities and countries around the world went into lockdown. The resultant collapse in activity hit economies with unprecedented force and speed. In its April 2020 World Economic Outlook, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) projects global growth to fall to -3% in 2020, a downgrade of 6.3 percentage points from January 2020 (IMF, 2020). Growth in advanced economies is projected at 6.1% while emerging and developing economies - with normal growth levels well above advanced economies - are projected to have negative growth rates of -1.0% in 2020 (-2.2% excluding China) (IMF, 2020). Supported by policy actions taken around the world to cushion the impact of the crisis, global growth is projected to rebound to 5.8% in 2021. However, economic activity will remain below the level initially projected before the COVID-19 outbreak.

While the full extent of the COVID-19 impact on Myanmar is yet to be seen, the country is expected to suffer economically as a result of reduced domestic consumption and a downturn in trade. Economic growth is expected to drop to 1.8% in 2020 (IMF estimates - see Figure 1). In particular, Myanmar will likely be hit by the sudden slowdowns - and associated fall in foreign direct investment (FDI) - observed in the services and industry sectors which were driving the structural transformation of the economy. The economic downturn will also inevitably contribute to reducing domestic consumption, which remains the main driver of economic growth in Myanmar (Figure 2). The anticipated increase in unemployment and subsequent contraction of available income will also lead to lower household consumption. The IMF anticipates a rapid economic recovery over the medium term as gross domestic product (GDP) growth is expected to rebound to 7.5% in 2021.



Figure 1: GDP and GDP growth in Myanmar (constant prices), 2010–2021 (per cent)



ile all industries have been affected, the manufac- massive decline in manufacturing output is expected

in industrialized economies and in most developing countries in the second quarter of 2020 (United Nations Industrial Development Organization, 2020).

Plummeting manufacturing output in industrialized countries translated to severe supply-side disruptions in the domestic manufacturing sector in Myanmar. As the COVID-19 outbreak is hitting major industrialized countries, including China, the United States and European Union (EU) Member States, direct supply disruptions are hindering manufacturing production. A supply chain contagion effect is amplifying this direct supply shock as manufacturing sectors in less affected nations such as Myanmar find it harder to acquire the necessary imported industrial inputs to manufacture its export products. This is especially impacting the textile and garments (T&G) industry in Myanmar because over 90% of raw materials for cut-make-pack garment activities are imported from China.



8.— United Nations Industrial Development Organization (2020). World Manufacturing Production: Statistics for Quarter I, 2020. Available from: https://stat.unido.org/content/publications/world-manufacturing-production#:~:text=Global%20manufacturing%20 output%20growth%20has,motivated%20by%20COVID%2D19%20 pandemic.&text=The%20global%20outbreak%20of%20COVID,the%20 first%20quarter%20of%202020...

Development Organization, 2020). As the majority of

countries halted their economic activities from March

2020 onwards (China went into lockdown sooner), a

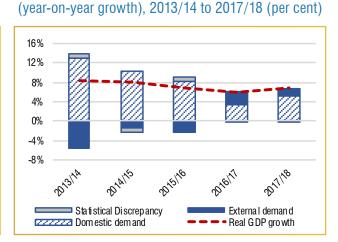


Figure 2: Contribution to real GDP growth in Myanmar

Source: ITC calculations based on Myanmar Planning Department data.



The COVID-19 pandemic represents unprecedented disruption to world trade

International trade is one of the leading mechanisms through which the virus damages domestic economies and spreads internationally (Baldwin and Tomiura).⁹ By their very nature, trade flows are susceptible to demand and supply shocks, as purchases in one country and production in another may fluctuate significantly. In addition to these shocks, the COVID-19 outbreak is generating global economic uncertainty which has already translated into contracted global demand, raising the likelihood of a global recession.¹⁰

As production and consumption are scaled back across the globe, the COVID-19 outbreak led to a 3% drop in global trade values in the first quarter of 2020 (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, 2020). This downturn is expected to accelerate during the second quarter of 2020 because most of the impact of measures to halt the spread of the pandemic will affect global trade then, with an estimated quarter-on-quarter decline of 26.9% (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, 2020). In 2020, world merchandise trade is set to plummet by between 13% and 32% (World Trade Organization (WTO), 2020). This broad range reflects the high uncertainty regarding the duration and gravity of the pandemic. Estimates of the expected recovery in 2021 are equally uncertain, with outcomes depending largely on the duration of the outbreak and the effectiveness of policy responses (WTO, 2020).11

This economic downturn, exacerbated by the exposure of Myanmar to the slowdown in China, is likely to have a major and long-lasting impact on the economy of Myanmar.

Weaker regional and global demand will result in a deceleration of export growth in Myanmar. A decline in global demand is inevitable as advanced economies, hit hard by COVID-19, fall into a recession (hardest-hit nations include the G7 plus China). Demand-side shocks in these economies, especially China, Myanmar's largest trading partner, will spill over to the Myanmar economy via trade and production links because imports will fall. Export earnings in key

strategic sectors including natural gas, tourism, T&G and agricultural products are therefore likely to be severely impacted in the short-to-medium term.

Movement restrictions and border closings have resulted in a fall in border trade, especially for agricultural products exports. Strong cross-border links with China, Myanmar's largest trading partner (capturing about half of all agricultural products exports) will result in significant adverse effects in the short run, especially for commodity exporters. Myanmar exporters of perishable raw materials such as fresh fruit and vegetables and livestock have been particularly impacted. In addition, stricter food safety requirements from importing countries should be expected as cross-border trade gradually resumes. China has already been introduced more stringent phytosanitary import requirements and controls which could severely impact trade, including informal trade. Other key trading partners in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region are also expected to tighten such measures and inspections.

The fall in exports causes financial distress for exporters. Delays in receiving payments, buyers requesting extended credit periods, and potential order cancellations or buyer defaults are causing major financial problems. Companies may shut down due to the lack of demand while still having to pay workers and service debt, with the consequence of mass bankruptcies among households and firms.

The drop in hydrocarbon prices is a double-edged sword, reducing Myanmar's external oil bill while decreasing the revenues generated from natural gas exports. Brent oil prices have dropped dramatically following the contraction of global demand, from about US\$65 per barrel in early January 2020 to as low as US\$20 in April 2020, its lowest level ever. In early June 2020, Brent oil futures recovered to US\$40 as investors factored in the reduced lockdowns in most countries and resulting expectations of higher demand for oil. Similarly, natural gas prices hit record lows, with little demand support on the horizon. While declining hydrocarbon prices may provide some relief and reduce the country's oil expenditure as well as moderating inflation, it will also deeply impact the country's natural gas exports (Figure 3).

^{9.—} Baldwin, Richard E. and Eiichi Tomiura (2020), Thinking ahead about the trade impact of COVID-19. In *Economics in the Time of COVID-19*, Richard E. Baldwin and Beatrice Weder Di Mauro, eds. Geneva: VoxEU.

^{10.–} The World Economic Outlook published by the IMF in April 2020 projects global growth in 2020 to fall to -3%.

^{11.—} World Trade Organization (2020). Trade set to plunge as COVID-19 pandemic upends global economy, 8 April.

Available from www.wto.org/english/news_e/pres20_e/pr855_e.htm.

Figure 3: Natural gas prices and exports of hydrocarbons in Myanmar 2010–2020 (US\$ billions)

Note: Mirror data used for 2019 exported value.

Source: World Bank Commodity Price Data (The Pink Sheet), updated 2 June 2020; and United Nations Comtrade data.

Box 1: Impact on oil and gas FDI

Low oil and gas prices threaten new and existing FDI projects in Myanmar, as well as public revenue from natural gas sales and the tender of new blocks. The oil and gas sector is Myanmar's most attractive by value, accounting for 37% of total FDI inflows between 2011 and 2018. The fall of global petroleum prices will discourage output by existing projects, reduce Government revenues from natural gas exports and pause new exploration. It will also force the Government to choose between proceeding with a planned tender of 33 new blocks at likely discounted prices or waiting and postponing revenue. During any downturn in this sector's investment and production, the Government can still strengthen the sector for FDI and improve its potential to generate revenue for the public budget.

Because of the uncertainty surrounding the global financial market, the local currency is strengthening against the United States dollar and the euro. The appreciation of the kyat makes Myanmar exports relatively less competitive and could lead to a reduction in export earnings. However, this impact is likely to be partly offset by the decrease in the real cost of importing commodities and raw materials for manufacturing. More generally, increased financial volatility may affect the region's economies through capital (both equity and bond markets), credit and foreign exchange channels. It may also become harder in the short term to obtain dollar credit for trade transactions, due to intense risk aversion by financial markets. Counterpart banks

overseas will raise their risk radar and turn off providing counterpart facilities to some Myanmar banks and this

will affect domestic traders.

The appreciation of the Myanmar kyat negatively impacts the competitiveness of Myanmar exports.



^{1.–} ITC calculations based on Myanmar Directorate of Investment and Company Administration and fDi Markets data for the period January 2011 to September 2018.

Box 2: COVID-19 impact on FDI in Myanmar

Major disruptions in FDI into Myanmar are to be expected as the outbreak affects views on future business activity. A number of FDI projects are expected to be suspended or postponed as a consequence of drops in aggregate demand, amplified by uncertainty and resulting in investment delays by firms. Major decline is likely in the tourism sector, due to the current and anticipated delayed impact of travel restrictions. Investment projects in the natural gas sector will also likely be stifled as the drop in hydrocarbon prices will inevitably discourage investment in the short-to-medium term. Investments in the T&G industry, mainly originating from China, are also likely to halt, at least in the short run.

The T&G industry, Myanmar's most attractive sector for FDI (by number of projects), is at major risk of collapse, threatening 350,000 jobs. Fully 30% of Myanmar's announced FDI projects between 2011 and 2018 were in garment assembly. T&G is a globally diffuse sector with high sensitivity to lead times and cost efficiencies, particularly in the low-margin segment occupied by Myanmar.

The halt to tourism virtually eliminates the near-term potential to attract hotel operators, deprives food businesses of demand, and deprives Myanmar of an important image-building tool. The Asian Development Bank estimates that Myanmar will see a decline in tourist revenue of US\$53 million per month, at least until September 2020²

Food and agribusiness offer the best opportunities to FDI but require Government intervention. Food has perhaps the most stable demand of any good during the pandemic. Consumer demand within Myanmar and regionally persists, particularly for rice, fruits, vegetables and oilseeds in southwest China; grains and seafood in Thailand; and vegetables in India. FDI projects in Myanmar's food and agribusiness sector, existing and planned, remain attractive in principle. However, investors deciding whether to proceed with a project or divert their resources elsewhere will place a premium on predictability of supply chains, distribution channels and trade logistics.

FDI in critical infrastructure is at risk of long delays and potentially cancellation. Infrastructure projects undertaken as part of the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor may be paused for months to years or even abandoned. The most immediately anticipated projects include the Kyaukphyu deep sea port, the Muse—Mandalay railway, the New Yangon Development Project, three border economic zones in Kachin and Shan states, the Myitsone hydropower project and the Kyaukphyu-Kunming railway line. Most of these already faced considerable challenges in terms of local buy-in, environmental concerns and potential to aggravate regional tensions.

FDI will not return to Myanmar as quickly as it leaves. In a period of nascent economic recovery, even cash-flush investors are likely to be more cautious than before the pandemic, building stronger safety nets in case of a pandemic resurgence and waiting for signs that the economic recovery is real and sustained.

Myanmar's Union Government, possibly through the Myanmar Investment Commission's Monitoring and Working Group for COVID-19 economic impacts, should aim to keep abreast of developments in leading export markets and FDI source countries.

^{1.–} ITC calculations based on Myanmar Directorate of Investment and Company Administration and fDi Markets data for the period January 2011 to September 2018.

^{2.—} Asian Development Bank (2020). 'The Economic Impact of the COVID-19 Outbreak on Developing Asia'. ADB Briefs, No. 128, 6 March. Manila: Asian Development Bank. Available from www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/571536/adb-brief-128-economic-impact-covid19-developing-asia.pdf.

CURRENT SITUATION IN MYANMAR'S KEY ECONOMIC SECTORS AND TRADE SUPPORT FUNCTIONS

Overall impact

Most export sectors are – and will be – affected by the COVID-19 crisis and post-recovery period. An indirect impact of the pandemic will be seen in changed consumer behaviour in buying, eating and travelling; more challenging market access for companies; difficulties complying with stricter food safety and hygiene requirements; logistical problems with transportation and border restrictions; digitization and changing of manufacturing practices, to name a few.

Guidelines and prevention measures for factories and worksites issued by the Ministry of Health and Sports (MoHS) on 30 March and 19 April 2020 are impacting most sectors. These require companies to arrange shifts, apply social distancing requirements and assign costs for preventive measures (masks, gloves, washing areas, thermo-scanning and transportation arrangements).

Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population factory and worksite reopening conditions require companies to demonstrate compliance with MoHS guidelines. This will delay various operations, as the factories cannot be open before an inspection is completed and permissions granted. While awaiting inspection teams, all payments need to be continued without production being possible.

After shutting down during the Thingyan holiday period, factories across the country were required to suspend operations for an additional 10 days and to introduce virus preventive measures for workers in line with the instructions of MoHS. On 19 April, the Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population announced that factories were only allowed to reopen after the Thingyan holiday period once COVID-19 preventive measures set by MoHS had been introduced and an inspection conducted.

COVID-19 impact on Myanmar export sectors

A survey assessing the impact of COVID-19 on export sectors was conducted in May 2020. A total of 266 companies across the National Export Strategy (NES) priority sectors responded to the survey, with a minimum 20 respondents per sector. Key findings are presented below.

- Nearly 30% of businesses were strongly affected, while 46% were moderately affected. The tourism sector was affected the most, followed by the T&G sector (
- Figure 4). The rubber sector, almost entirely dependent on its export activities for revenue generation, is also strongly impacted. Smaller entities also appear to be significantly more affected.

- The survey shows that 50% of Myanmar companies faced reduced demand from their top five customers, while 18% had to cope with cancelled or returned orders (see figure 5).
- More than half of companies anticipate orders will decrease in the three months following the survey. Among them, 19% expect a severe decline of more than 20%. There are also signs of uncertainty associated with the global economic downturn, as 36% of the businesses could not confirm their order book for the following three months.
- Some 40% of the companies interviewed reported having difficulty exporting their products as a consequence of the crisis. Purchasing inputs was also challenging in 34% of cases, whether sourced from abroad (18%) or domestically (16%).
- Delays due to increased border checks/closures have affected more than half of the surveyed businesses operating internationally. Other major procedural issues cited include additional sanitary regulations and procedures (22%) and difficulties in logistics arrangements and shipping (20%).
- Among the Government measures to help cope with the crisis, 'tax waivers or temporary tax breaks' (26%), 'financial programmes' (24%) and 'rent subsidies or waiver/postponement of utility bills' (18%) were the three most preferred measures. This outcome highlights the financial distress caused by COVID-19 and the need for a financial/fiscal stimulus package to cushion the impact.



YangonContainerPort,YANGONContainerPort _ Página _ 06 _ Imagen _ 0001.jp0

ALL
Tourism
Logistics services
Pulses, beans and oilseeds
Fresh fruits and vegetables
Rice
Rubber
Rubber
Processed food
Forestry products
Fisheries
Textile and garment
Electrical and electronic components
Information Technology

0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70% 80% 90% 100%

Slightly affected

Moderately affected

Moderately affected

Strongly affected

Figure 4: Impact of COVID-19 on Myanmar businesses, by sector

Note: Respondents were asked 'How have your business operations been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic?' **Source:** ITC calculations based on Myanmar COVID-19 Impact Survey. Data collected from 09-05-2020 to 26-05-2020.

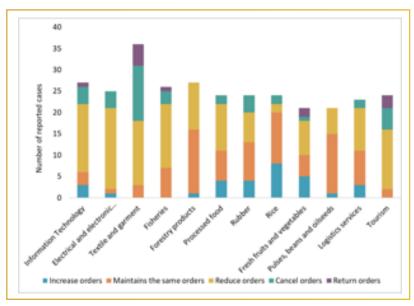


Figure 5: Top five buyers' commitments for the second quarter of 2020, by sector

Note: Respondents were asked 'Have your top five customers committed to any of the following for the next quarter?' (Multi-select). **Source:** ITC calculations based on Myanmar COVID-19 Impact Survey. Data collected 9–26 May 2020.

Anticipated reduction of exports of intermediates

According to an forecasting analysis of global value chains (GVCs) for manufacturing conducted by ITC and assuming a two-month shutdown in all partner countries due to COVID-19, the projected reduction in exports of intermediate inputs from Myanmar amounts to US\$137.6 million. The apparel sector is by far the most impacted industry, alone accounting for 20.0% of the expected reduction in exports with an anticipated loss of US\$27.6 million (see Figure 6). Other NES sectors have been severely hit by the crisis, including natural latex and rubber (accounting for 13.5% of total disruption with a US\$18.6 million reduction in exports of intermediates), wood products and vegetable materials (12.2%; US\$16.8 million) and electronic equipment (2.7%; US\$3.7 million).

^{12.–} This analysis focuses on exports/imports of manufacturing inputs within supply chains, defined as inputs used in production located in at least three countries (or crossing two borders). Excluded from this analysis: final goods, inputs that go into final goods, and inputs that go into goods that are sold domestically. The analysis is further narrowed within supply chains by evaluating the initial direct shock to manufacturing inputs. The initial shock refers to the first wave of the shock, caused by Government-ordered factory shutdowns in partner countries to ensure social distancing to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. Only the manufacturing sector is considered in this analysis.



Pictures for Brochures, EEM 5.jpg

According to this analysis, trade disruption with China is responsible for more than 47% of the total anticipated reduction of exports of intermediates from Myanmar, especially affecting sales from the rubber, apparel, chemicals and minerals sectors. Responsible for an anticipated loss of US\$24.3 million, the EU – including the United Kingdom – is the second largest source of disruption, of which 57% concerns exports of inputs from the apparel industry.

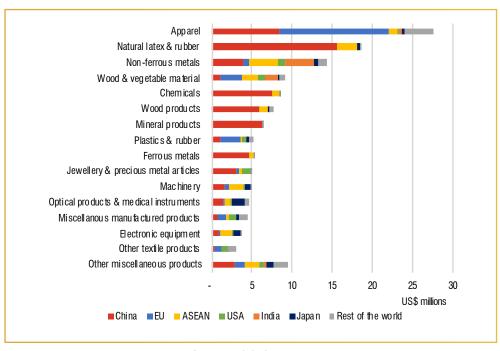


Figure 6: Estimated reduction of exports of intermediates by importing partner countries, 15 most impacted sectors (US\$ millions)

Source: ITC GVC analysis.

An initial brief assessment of the COVID-19 impact on key sectors is presented hereafter.

Electronics and electrical machinery

In Myanmar's electronics and electrical machinery (EEM) sector -an emerging industry with great potential - COVID-19 caused sharp supply shortages for imported inputs, followed by a demand collapse that triggered order cuts and cancellations. Labour constraints due to the lockdown and logistics difficulties affected factory operations but these have gradually eased. Beyond the immediate demand shock, the medium-term outlook for the sector remains promising, with greater demand for digitization following COVID-19. With supply chain de-risking efforts likely to accelerate across Asia, Myanmar must focus on improving investment climate conditions to attract FDI that is now looking for new locations. Meanwhile, a focus on building domestic capabilities by leveraging public procurement opportunities, particularly in the energy sector, could become a key priority in helping the industry overcome the fallout of the crisis.

IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK ON MYANMAR'S ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY SECTOR

The EEM industry, whose operations are globalized and rely on production inputs from a handful of countries, including China, was most exposed to the initial supply chain disruptions triggered by COVID-19. EEM production was halted because of the logistics slowdown and unavailability of the workforce across the globe. Measured by the Grubel-Lloyd index¹³ of intraindustry trade (i.e. supply chain connectivity), China's integration in GVCs for electrical machinery is a high 0.425.¹⁴ According to the Electronic Components

^{13.—} The Grubel-Lloyd index is a measure of the intra-industry trade that takes place between countries within an industry. A score would equal zero if a country only exports or imports a particular good, and a score would be one if a country imports exactly as much of that particular good as it exports.

^{14.–} United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (2020). 'Trade and Development Report Update: Global Trade Impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Epidemic', 4 March. Available from https://unctad.org/en/PublicationsLibrary/ditcinf2020d1.pdf.

Industry Association – a global industry group – as many as 60% of respondents to their member survey report that they do not have 'adequate visibility on the supply chain and are unable to quantify the impact of the crisis'.¹⁵

In the Myanmar COVID-19 impact survey,¹⁶ 67% of respondents reported their business was 'moderately' or 'strongly' affected by COVID-19, and 62% of firms reported difficulties importing inputs from abroad. Among them, over three-quarters (77%) indicated facing this during March and April and beyond, while less than a quarter (23%) reported that they had not faced difficulties earlier but had begun to since mid-May. Industry consultations indicated that while there were sufficient supplies up to the Thingyan holiday period, afterwards foreign and domestic supply chain shortages occurred.

Demand shocks followed the supply-side shocks. As the outbreak spread and most countries went into lockdown, demand in key markets for Myanmar – i.e. Japan, China, Hong Kong (China), Singapore, the Republic of Korea, Europe, the United Kingdom and the United States – collapsed. The shutdown of retail

shops and showrooms, as well as many e-commerce companies pausing the delivery of non-essential items (including most electronics products), is affecting demand. According to the survey, 38% of companies reported a reduction in their order book of more than 10%. Industry players report that customer orders up to June are being fulfilled and some new orders came in due to shifts from regional locations like the Philippines and Malaysia, as factories there remained shut. Beyond June, the outlook seems uncertain as a majority of survey respondents (48%) were unable to indicate the outlook for orders. Overall, demand is expected to be subdued for the next 12 months.

GVC analysis provides some quantitative indications of the impacts of EEM sector disruption. Assuming a two-month shutdown in all partner countries, the projected reductions in Myanmar's exports of electrical machinery and electronic equipment (as intermediates) amount to US\$5 million and US\$3.7 million respectively, across Harmonized System (HS) 85 and 84 product categories. The expected impacts are mainly to the markets of China, Japan, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, the United States, Hong Kong (China), Viet Nam, Germany, Indonesia, the United Kingdom, Chinese Taipei and the Republic of Korea.

In the domestic market, manufacturers have noted that demand has remained buoyant but retail and distribution have been affected. Although there has been some trend towards online purchases, this has been limited for goods in this sector.

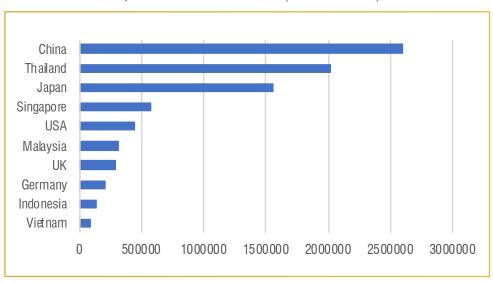


Figure 7: Projected reduction of exports of intermediate inputs in the EEM sector in Myanmar, top 10 most affected markets (US\$ thousands)

Source: ITC GVC analysis.

^{15.—} Control Engineering (2020). Survey on impact of COVID-19 on electronics industry released, 28 March. Electronic Components Industry Association. Available from https://www.controleng.com/articles/survey-on-impact-of-covid-19-on-electronics-industry-released/.

^{16.–} Myanmar Covid-19 Impact Survey by ITC. Data collected from 266 total respondents 9–26 May 2020.

The impact on operations has been driven by not only the shortage of raw materials from abroad but also domestic lockdown conditions. There have been some labour supply shortages because workers from different states have not yet returned in full back to Yangon and areas with EEM factories. Some 38% of survey respondents reported temporarily reducing employment but none indicated workers had been laid off. An overwhelming 65% of respondents also indicated that they did not envisage business closure, while 10% and 15% expected closure in one and three months, respectively.

Factories must strictly adhere to Government orders prior to restarting production. Ministry of Labour teams inspect and then provide formal clearance to recommence operations. In some cases, factories have been shut for between three days and one week until this inspection is done and clearance granted. Industrialists have reported a sharp increase in costs – 15%–20% –associated with COVID-19 safety measures such as extending production lines and installing plastic dividers (to enable social distancing), as well as renting private transport for workers. Government officials have observed that some less well-resourced factories have not been able to adjust to the new requirements and follow Government guidelines for reopening.

Trade logistics have also been difficult. Air cargo capacity has been cut due to the reduced number and suspension of flights. The COVID-19 impact survey revealed that 21% of reported cases were delays due to increased border checks and border closures, while 14% were difficulties in logistics arrangements and shipping.

OUTLOOK FOR THE ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY INDUSTRY: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

In the short term, all discretionary spending will decline, affecting products in the EEM space. However, because electronics offer several benefits as an enabler and a meta resource, increased use of cell phones; information, communications and technological equipment; servers; hand-held devices and scanners is to be anticipated in the near future. For instance, Myanmar's existing competency in manufacturing temperature sensors for household kitchen appliances could be leveraged to cater to the medical sector, as temperature checks are becoming ubiquitous globally. Meanwhile, the electrical equipment sector caters mainly to two areas, i.e. infrastructure (which is dependent on Government spending, for instance on electrification programmes) and real estate development (which will most likely stay subdued for some time). Appetite for new investments is unlikely to grow in the near future as existing global capacities are already underutilized and firms focus on conserving cash. Domestic players observed that investors are reluctant to engage in expansion plans to take advantage of supply chain shifts, instead adopting a wait-and-see approach. Moreover, there is a likelihood of dumping practices by countries with large excess capacity once production and exports fully resume; a concern that Myanmar's industry and Government authorities must guard against.

In the medium term, though, renewed investor appetite to find alternative and additional production bases is to be anticipated, as part of an active supply chain risk diversification and de-concentration strategy. The exclusive focus on cost efficiency in the supply chain is making way for a focus on resilient supply chains. A key feature of this will be risk mitigation and geographical diversity. For instance, a 'China + 1' strategy could be adopted by manufacturers, which refers to the practice of international businesses active in China coupling their investments with a second facility, generally in another Asian economy. This could be an opportunity for Myanmar to position itself as a viable manufacturing and export destination in this sector but will require early implementation of the recommendations contained in the Myanmar NES 2020-2025. The country has strategic geographical, social and economic advantages that need to be leveraged without delay as the opportunity window is short and the competition fierce.

Globally, assembly and manufacturing activities in the EEM industry could be subject to a shift closer to final markets and to large finished goods manufacturers. Therefore, as India and China are expected to continue to dominate the final goods markets, Myanmar should aim to invite a few key brands and anchor firms to invest and assemble in the country. The upstream and downstream supply chains, at least partially, would follow the leaders.

As the next round of minimum wage negotiations edge closer, new pressure will emerge. Industrialists are concerned that cost pressures they face may not be sufficiently taken into consideration in deciding the new wage rates. A truly collaborative and evidence-based process would need to be adopted to protect both firms and workers.

ELECTRONICS AND ELECTRICAL MACHINERY SECTOR'S IMMEDIATE RESPONSES TO THE PANDEMIC

Among the Government measures introduced to cope with the crisis, 'tax waivers or temporary tax breaks' was the most popular among surveyed

companies (33%), indicating a need to identify solutions to ease the financial burden faced by EEM businesses.

To provide a rapid response to industry's development, the following interventions should be prioritized.

- Protecting the health of workers while production activities get back up and running should be a primary focus of industry players and Government authorities alike. Most factories have adopted new hygiene measures, introduced private transport for workers, adjusted factory floor plans to adhere to social distancing. The Government may need to consider an income tax double deduction on the additional costs incurred by firms.
- Provide advice to businesses on how to manage production and productivity to adjust to likely changes in supply chain dynamics. Priority focus training areas would include top management on reworking business models for more digitized supply chains, and capacity-building of management teams on quick response manufacturing and improving manufacturing competitiveness.
- Some economic relief measures would need a closer look if they are to benefit the sector. The current tax deferral scheme (monthly commercial and income tax deferred to September 2020) is purportedly aimed primarily at small and medium-sized

- enterprises (SMEs). The scope of the scheme may need to be expanded to larger entities. Additionally, there is a need to consider a grace period or instalment scheme for payment of deferred income taxes.
- 4. Public procurement can provide vital leverage for domestic firms to enhance their abilities. Industry players have repeatedly advocated for reconsidering procurement rules and reforming tender processes (legal and commercial terms) to make reputed domestic players more eligible for public contracts, especially in the growing energy sector.
- The focus on establishing industrial standards and enhancing quality testing and certification will enhance Myanmar's international attractiveness for EEM manufacture.
- Start-ups and innovative ventures must be encouraged to take advantage of the new medium-term opportunities in the EEM market brought on by the heightened demand for digitization. In particular, young people entering the sector must be promoted.
- 7. Industry stakeholders reiterated that the formation and active involvement of a Sector Development Committee is more important than ever, in order to build strong public–private coordination to handle all matters relating to the sector's recovery from the COVID-19 crisis.

Information technology services

Myanmar's information technology (IT) sector has played a critical role in the country's COVID-19 response and recovery efforts. This has ranged from enabling working from home to developing contacttracing apps to stem the spread of the virus, to leveraging e-commerce to meet consumer needs during the lockdown period. Yet the industry is facing a challenging time as new contracts will shrink in the short term, resulting in critical cash flow constraints that existing financial relief schemes are only partly covering. The outlook is nevertheless bright for the IT services sector, with many opportunities emerging due to a heightened focus on digitization brought on by the pandemic. In order to fully take advantage of these opportunities, Myanmar needs to focus on strengthening its information security and privacy credentials, craft and promote a strong sector destination brand, double down on improving soft skills, and ensure tax and regulatory concerns are quickly resolved.

IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK ON MYANMAR'S IT SERVICES SECTOR

While the services sector will be heavily impacted by COVID-19, the WTO nevertheless noted that 'some services may benefit from the crisis', with reference to the IT services sector. The WTO further observed that 'demand [...] has boomed as companies try to enable employees to work from home and people socialize remotely'. Businesses in diverse sectors and of diverse sizes have come to rapidly rely on digital technology practically overnight as the pandemic triggered lockdowns, curfews and stay-home orders around the world.

The global economic fallout of COVID-19 is having obvious impacts on the cash flow of clients of IT

^{17.—} World Trade Organization (2020). Trade set to plunge as COVID-19 pandemic upends global economy, 8 April. Available from www.wto. org/english/news_e/pres20_e/pr855_e.htm.

services exporters around the world. There is an ongoing slowdown and softening of export services and product sales as all end markets are dealing with the immediate shock and undoubtedly postponing purchases. Industry experts anticipate a cut of 30%–40% in sales, globally, over the next six months. Industry sources further observed that there have been temporary shutdowns of some businesses, some temporary reduction of salaries and probable reduced employment in the short term.

Myanmar firms in the sector reported that their clients are focusing on controlling capex and conserving cash. IT services firms are consequently affected as clients are reducing person days/hours contracted and delaying or suspending outstanding payments due to cash flow issues. Customized work that customers had already allocated budgets for has been largely unaffected but the concern is that new customers have been non-committal and undecided, putting new contracts on hold.

From the outset, IT services firms in Myanmar have taken the right steps to ensure the safety of their staff, enabling them to work from home wherever possible. Industry players noted that even once lockdown measures are eased, they will continue remote work for some time to avoid any risk of COVID-19 cases and subsequent office shutdown. Most businesses have adopted business continuity plans in the event that a patient is found among the workforce, and have split teams into two groups that work on alternate days.

New trends and responses have emerged in the domestic landscape as businesses have embraced various online cloud platforms and remote meeting tools. The Myanmar Computer Federation worked closely with Government and formed a 'COVID-19 Tech Support Team', comprised largely of volunteer tech talent. There has also been some new online content development, especially in the e-learning space. The MICT Park in Yangon has offered 20% rent subsidies for all tenants, and the Government concessionary loan scheme is operational for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), albeit no specific scheme is available for the IT sector.

OUTLOOK FOR THE IT SERVICES SECTOR: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

There will be heightened domestic demand for digital commerce and remote operations-related IT products and services in the medium term. The COVID-19 crisis has accelerated demand for digital transformation, especially among legacy businesses. Digital transformation projects that save costs for businesses will remain important as businesses focus on

consolidation, survival and driving new competitiveness. ¹⁸ Even as capex budgets are slashed in the short term, digital transformation projects that can demonstrate financial benefits and quicker return on investment will be prioritized by some clients.

The disruptive effects of COVID-19 have underscored the need to move to digital-friendly business models for many industries.¹⁹ Many industries will want to accelerate their digital transformation initiatives to recover lost time, to lower the cost of customer service and to de-risk their traditional business models. To survive the crisis, firms globally will need to increase their productivity, in particular through the development of automated systems and by making staff remote-capable. Most global jobs will first move from in-person to remote-domestic, and in time they will go from remote-domestic to remote-overseas. Myanmar must be ready to position itself as a high value-low cost option to capitalize in areas of focus. Moreover, as noted in a recent report by Deloitte Consulting, 'most organizations do not have a tech stack in place for a reliable business continuity plan. Due to enhanced remote work scenarios, IT departments will play a larger role in future business continuity plans and will need help from IT service providers in specialized software, setting up a resilient, flexible and secure network, disaster recovery systems and IT security'.20 All these throw up new opportunities for Myanmar IT services firms, some of which already provide similar services to clients in Japan, Singapore and Europe.

In the medium term, the IT services sector worldwide is expected to be shaped by the emergence of several trends to which Myanmar firms will have to adjust rapidly:

- Virtualization of events, activities and interactions driving higher demand for digitization services
- Acceleration of automation of processes and services
- Heightened focus on and demand for customer intimacy/centricity
- Acceleration of digital transformation by legacy businesses (e.g. Japan, Europe).

^{18.–} Ayan Pramanik (2020). Digital transformation deals may weather COVID-19 storm: Analysts. *The Economic Times*, 14 April. Available from https://economictimes.indiatimes. com/tech/ites/digital-transformation-deals-may-weather-covid-19-storm-analysts/articleshow/75126016.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst. 19.– Sengupta, Chirajeet (2020). Drifting the Curve: Three Opportunities for Service Providers in a Post-COVID-19 IT Services Industry. Everest Group, 31 March. Available from www.everestgrp.com/2020-03-drifting-the-curve-three-opportunities-for-service-providers-in-a-post-covid-19-it-services-industry-blog-.html.

^{20.–} Deloitte (2020). Understanding COVID-19's impact on the technology sector, 25 March. Available from https://www2.deloitte.com/global/en/pages/about-deloitte/articles/covid-19/understanding-covid-19-s-impact-on-the-technology-sector-.html.

IT SERVICES SECTOR'S IMMEDIATE RESPONSES TO THE PANDEMIC

Among the Government measures introduced to cope with the pandemic, 'tax waivers or temporary tax breaks' was the most popular among surveyed companies in the IT sector (33%), followed by 'rent subsidies or waiver/postponement of utility bills' (20%). This indicates that, while economic prospects are bright, businesses from the sector have nevertheless suffered during the lockdown period.

To provide a rapid response to support the sector's development, the following interventions should be prioritized.

- Government relief measures need to be adjusted to the industry's needs. Several stakeholders noted that the existing relief programmes are not well suited to IT businesses and reiterated the need for immediate payroll financing as well as project financing in the medium term to ease current cashflow issues and prepare for the next stage of growth
- 2. Privacy and information security need to be an industry-wide concern that receives Government support. Several entrepreneurs in the sector noted that customer concerns on intellectual property, data privacy and information security have heightened due to the current work-from-home conditions. While individual firms have been seeking legal advice on data privacy and convincing customers that Myanmar has the legal tools to deal with their concerns, more systematic measures need to be taken to strengthen this area. The industry can learn from the case of India, where efforts to address global customers' concerns around privacy and data protection were tackled by the private sector

- itself through the 'India INC' campaign, led by their industry body, the National Association of Software and Services Companies. The Government could consider tax rebates for security and quality audits as well as for obtaining certifications for information security management and IT governance in enterprises.
- 3. In order to capitalize on new opportunities in the area of digitization services, workers from the IT services industry in Myanmar would need to accelerate improving their soft skills. A particular focus should be given to understanding client needs, problem-solving and communication skills. Customers are already expecting IT services companies in Myanmar to provide more mature services, in particular by playing a consulting role and co-creating solutions. Overseas clients are also increasingly expecting Myanmar service providers to work independently and integrate seamlessly with their teams in other countries. Insufficient communication skills in the sector are currently holding this process back.
- 4. The IT services sector and Government institutions should identify champion companies that are best equipped to take advantage of emerging opportunities and provide them with the required resources (i.e. affordable financing, market links, talent pipeline, etc.). As part of this effort, resolving outstanding tax and regulatory bottlenecks faced by the industry is essential, as highlighted in NES Plan of Action for the Myanmar IT services sector.
- 5. Industry stakeholders and international experts have reiterated the need to craft and promote a strong sector brand and invest in digital channels. This would play a vital role in propelling the country onto the global stage of service delivery locations.

Food processing

Food products being essential items, the demand shock triggered by Government measures to halt the spread of the pandemic all over the world was less severe than for other non-essential items. The industry was nevertheless severely affected by supply chain disruptions for some products and the impossibility for a number of food processors of sourcing necessary ingredients for the manufacture of processed food. From a demand perspective, once past the panic buying phenomenon at the start of the outbreak, sales of processed food fell due to lockdowns and closure of

restaurants, schools, etc. The industry is now anticipating a reduction in consumption as a result of the global economic slowdown caused by the pandemic. Food processing segments are affected to varying degrees by the current events and their consequences, non-essential products being the most affected.



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IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK ON MYANMAR'S FOOD PROCESSING SECTOR

Overall, being mainly domestic-driven, the food processing industry in Myanmar was not as severely impacted by the fall in international trade as other export-led sectors in the country. A survey conducted with 23 small, medium and large companies from the industry indicates that only 13% of the respondents consider that their business operations have been 'highly' affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, while 61% have been 'moderately' impacted.

From a supply perspective, the food processing industry has experienced some disruptions. A number of companies have been unable to source some ingredients used to manufacture final products. While road transportation is progressively getting back to normal, securing domestically produced raw material supply from rural areas proved difficult due to delivery and transportation delays. For imported inputs, in addition to international flight disruption, professionals from the sector also reported some delays in Customs clearance due to reduced Customs staff during the lockdown. This situation has forced food processors to use existing stocks, when possible.

The most significant impact for Myanmar food processors has been the contraction of domestic sales as a result of the measures imposed by the Government to combat the virus. The most visible impact has been the cancellation of orders from the public sector, in particular with the closing of schools, universities and cinemas, which are major consumers of processed food, including snack food and soft drinks. The reduction of activity in the tourism industry also contributed to lower demand for processed food. In addition, logistics difficulties led to supplies to most states and regions being temporarily halted, further contributing to the reduction in domestic sales (the activity was mainly limited to Yangon Region). Reduced logistics services were cited by 23% of survey respondents as the most significant difficulty caused by the COVID-19 crisis.

International sales, although still relatively limited, were severely impacted during the first quarter of 2020 with border closures and movement restrictions imposed by governments. Movement of people and goods at crossing points with China, India and Thailand have consequently been suspended, causing major trade disruption as a large proportion of packaged food exported is moved to neighbouring countries by land routes, particularly to Thailand and China. Some 68% of the processors surveyed indicated that they are facing reduced demand from foreign buyers.

Export procedures also appear to have been a major factor of trade disruption. Measures implemented by the Government to combat the virus resulted in delayed inspection procedures and longer administrative processes, exacerbated by insufficiently developed e-Government services. This factor was confirmed by 48% of survey respondents from the sector, who cited increased administrative bottlenecks as the major disruptive factor caused by COVID-19.

While few businesses seem to be at risk of permanently shutting down because of the crisis, food processors are nevertheless facing cash flow issues. As there were virtually no sales or income for food processors in April, it is anticipated that companies will face difficulties purchasing intermediate inputs for the production of final products in the coming months as cash flow problems arise. The situation is exacerbated by the fact that businesses were asked to pay their workers in April, when most factories were closed.²¹

OUTLOOK FOR THE FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The economic slowdown and anticipated rise in unemployment in Myanmar will result in a contraction of disposable income, in turn leading to reduced household consumption. This will mainly affect non-essential products such as snack food. The expected drop in remittances from Myanmar citizens abroad will exacerbate the situation.

A slowdown in international sales is also to be expected as a result of the economic downturn that is already affecting most economies. According to the survey, 68% of the respondent companies anticipate a reduction in orders – irrespective of their origins – for the next three months, confirming the expectations that demand for processed food will not rebound in the short term due to the inevitable economic slowdown and the reduced consumption associated with it. However, the reduction in orders is anticipated to be moderate: half the survey respondents foresee a decrease not exceeding 10%. In the same vein, almost half (48%) of the professionals from the sector also indicated that their top customers would reduce their orders for the next quarter.

Ensuring food safety along the food supply chain and being able to demonstrate compliance with export market requirements is needed more than ever to increase Myanmar exports of food products. While cross-border trade is gradually resuming, Chinese authorities have already tightened border controls regarding quality and sanitary and phytosanitary measures and the conformity of the associated certificates. Because a number of traders do not comply with these requirements, this results in trade disruptions as noncompliant shipments are blocked at the border (as of May 2020, only 25% of exports were going smoothly, according to the Myanmar Food Processors and Exporters Association).

Besides the primary processes of production and distribution, the nature of doing business has also changed.²² Offices are closed and staff are typically working from home as most countries in the world have imposed quarantine measures, though with different degrees of strictness. This changes the way of communicating with customers, which may continue and become the new normal. Against this backdrop, sales staff and purchase managers have had to reassess their priorities. Securing the existing flow of goods is now the highest priority and new projects have to wait.²³

Online grocery shopping has grown substantially during the pandemic, urging the country to take rapid actions to facilitate the development of e-commerce activities and boost sales. Some 52% of Myanmar food processors that took part in the COVID-19 impact survey have adopted online sales strategies to cope with the crisis, the highest occurrence among all sectors surveyed.

FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY'S IMMEDIATE RESPONSES TO THE PANDEMIC

'Tax waivers or temporary tax breaks' (28%) and 'financial programmes' (23%) were perceived as the most helpful Government measures introduced to cope with the crisis, in particular to ease cash flow problems. However, accessing COVID-19-related assistance programmes has proven difficult for most businesses from the food processing industry (59%).

To provide a rapid response to support the industry's development, the following interventions should be prioritized.

- Trade finance to support companies is the top priority in the short term (six months) for payment clearance, to avoid delayed payments and businesses going bankrupt. According to the survey, 70% of businesses from the sector favour financial programmes such as a low interest credit lines, loan repayment deferrals or credit guarantees as priority Government measures that would be most helpful to cope with the crisis.
- Introduce an income tax rebate for exports of food products using exclusively (or in large proportion) locally produced ingredients. This would encourage food processors to source locally produced

^{21.–} The Government provides 40% of the social security fees for workers from factories and workshops that are temporarily suspended for health inspections.

^{22.—} Centre for the Promotion of Imports from Developing Countries (2020). How to respond to COVID-19 in the grains, pulses and oilseeds sector. Available from www.cbi.eu/market-information/grains-pulses-oilseeds/how-respond-covid-19-grains-pulses-oilseeds-sector/.

23.— *Ibid*.

- agricultural inputs (e.g. sugar, corn, wheat, etc.) and support strengthening and structuring of the supply chain. Sourcing large amounts of raw material at a relatively low price would also allow the industry to increase the quantity produced and reduce unit costs through economies of scale. Increased volumes would, in turn, improve the capacity of Myanmar processors to compete with imported food products in the domestic market.
- Improve the quality of the products produced locally to compete more effectively with food imported from neighbouring countries in the domestic market. To improve the compliance of Myanmar food
- products with international quality and food safety standards, the establishment of private international service providers in the field of conformity assessment should be encouraged to improve businesses' access to such services.
- 4. Encourage and support small-scale FDI projects, in particular from Thailand, possibly through joint ventures. The aim would be to benefit from Thai technologies in food processing and benefit from the opportunities offered by the Thai market, possibly taking advantage of their well-established export channels.

Fisheries

Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the fisheries sector has been affected worldwide, although to varying degrees. The closure of certain establishments and companies, as well as movement restrictions, are greatly disrupting supply chains, leading to a sharp drop in global demand. The imbalances between falling consumption and an overabundance of fresh produce in various markets are resulting in a generalized drop in prices. Supply chains in developing countries are particularly affected due to a lack of adequate infrastructure. These include storage limitations and limited ability to chill or freeze a large proportion of fisheries products.

IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK ON MYANMAR'S FISHERIES SECTOR

In developed countries, consumers' need to store food as a consequence of the pandemic led to a shift in demand from fresh seafood products to packaged, frozen and non-perishable products. Prices have dropped and logistical difficulties along the supply chain remain, including border restrictions and health inspection delays. Aquaculture harvest is also delayed due to labour shortages caused by the implementation of social distancing measures in many countries. The unpredictable duration of the pandemic and the various measures that countries adopt in regard to production and trade add to the uncertainty about the future development of the sector globally.²⁴

In Myanmar, production activities such as catching and aquaculture are threatened by a general slowdown in foreign trade as well as by the closure of restaurants and hotels, and the temporary shutdown of most processing plants. Both inshore and offshore fishing activities slowed down considerably as a result and a number of fishers have been forced to sell their vessels, although it is hard to get accurate data at this early stage. The curfew put in place by the Government as well as social distancing measures are also severely impacting these activities, as a number of processing plants were closed and additional protective measures were put in place to reduce the risk of the virus spreading. According to private sector associations, about 6,000 people lost their jobs in fishing and 4,000 in activities related to the fisheries sector (e.g. fishing landing sites, auctions, etc.). Processing plants reduced employment by about 25%, resulting in 1,000 job losses.

Limited supply of inputs, feed, fish seed and materials such as ice or packaging also threaten productive and processing activity. According to the ITC Myanmar COVID-19 impact survey, 68% of companies operating in the fisheries sector faced input sourcing constraints in March and April.²⁵ In the case of aquaculture, a large proportion of fish stocks have had to be kept longer than originally planned, which increases both the costs and risks of production. In Ayeyarwady and Tanintharyi Regions, a number of shrimp farms are planning to reduce their stocking rate and even considering temporary shutdown due to the delayed harvest and restocking as a result of restricted transportation, reduced market price and a fall in orders from international buyers.

^{24.–} Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (2020). How is COVID-19 affecting the fisheries and aquaculture food systems, 10 April. Available from www.fao.org/3/ca8637en/CA8637EN.pdf.

^{25.-} ITC Myanmar COVID-19 Impact Survey, carried out 9-26 May 2020.



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Most companies face logistics constraints to produce and export due to constrained supply of inputs and additional bottlenecks with transportation. Companies reported difficulties obtaining inputs and exporting because of reduced logistics services (31%). Some 22% of reported cases cited reduced investment and 20% increased administrative bottlenecks. They are greatly affected by an increase in lead times, particularly with regard to transport because of long delays at the border, but also in the transfer of goods because of precautionary measures. Companies also faced difficulties arising from procedural obstacles resulting from the pandemic. According to the survey, delays due to increased border checks/closures (21%) and problems in logistics arrangements and shipping (18%) were the most cited issues, followed by additional sanitary regulations/procedures (13%) and nonsanitary regulations/ procedures (16%). These delays weigh heavily on the competitiveness of businesses as they result in higher production costs.

The fall in exported volume coupled with a collapse in prices is having disastrous consequences on the level of national production. The situation has deteriorated considerably since April because exports of most fisheries products have stopped. Trade with Bangladesh, the EU, Australia and the United States has been virtually suspended, while Thailand and India temporarily closed their borders with Myanmar. China, on the other hand, continued to import very low value-added products such as small fish and shrimp at relatively low prices. Most companies have faced reduced demand from their buyers as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, with 68% of the businesses surveyed reporting reduced or cancelled orders.

The full impact of the global pandemic on the Myanmar fisheries sector remains uncertain but companies have started to experience order reduction or cancellation. According to the Myanmar COVID-19 Impact Survey, 45% of companies have been moderately affected, while 27% stated that they have been strongly affected by the pandemic since its eruption at the beginning of 2020. Most companies (76%) did not envisage a permanent shutdown of their business, while 19% of companies expressed the possibility of a shutdown within a month and 5% in the coming months.

OUTLOOK FOR THE FISHERIES SECTOR: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Rapid adaptation to the pandemic and post-pandemic era will define the success of measures put in place by the Government. In the aftermath of the crisis, a number of changes to business models are to be expected. These include the emergence of new products and new market destinations, as well as a possible increase in domestic demand and changes in consumers' patterns (e.g. higher demand for frozen seafood and canned products, less demand in luxurious seafood, etc.).²⁶ According to survey respondents, 27% of companies increased their marketing efforts but no companies used online selling to cope with the crisis.

26.– Infofish International (2020). Global COVID-19 Situation Report: Update, March. Available from http://infofish.org/v3/images/pdf/situation%20report.pdf.

It is expected that demand will pick up as soon as borders open again because most of the global market will still require supply. Myanmar will have to adjust rapidly to additional food safety measures and requirements implemented by importing countries, as well as changing global patterns and consumer preferences. To cope with the impact of COVID-19, it will be necessary to keep the trade open, disseminate timely information and provide support to companies for export.

FISHERIES SECTOR'S IMMEDIATE RESPONSES TO THE PANDEMIC

Among the Government measures required to cope with the crisis, 'tax waivers or temporary tax breaks' was the most popular among surveyed companies (30%). Reduction of tariffs on imported inputs was also among the top three most valuable measures (29%), as well as 'rent subsidies or waiver/postponement of utility bills' (24%). However, 36% of companies found it difficult to access information about and benefits of COVID-19-related Government SME assistance programmes.

To provide a rapid response to support the sector's development, the following interventions should be prioritized.

- Ensure efficient broodstock management and hatcheries development to have sufficient supply of broodstock, post-larvae, live food, etc. for aquaculture development.
- Create better links between producers and processing companies. This can be achieved through contract farming and clustering of aquaculture farmers and fishing vessel owners with processing

- plants to reduce production risks, price and marketing costs, and ensure increased production of highquality products. Financial support and technical guidance should be provided to farmers.
- 3. Introduce national standards on Good Aquaculture Practices to provide clear guidelines and codes of conduct for aquaculture, and implement the National Aquaculture Development Plan.
- Encourage domestic market consumption of both freshwater and marine products to make up for the first wave of export restrictions to neighbouring countries due to border closures.
- Upgrade the Department of Fisheries Laboratory on quality, nutritional value and safety parameters according to the National Residue Monitoring Plan (EU requirement). Increase laboratories' capacities and facilities for diagnostics and testing services for aquaculture products, in compliance with ISO 17025.
- 6. Increase private sector awareness of emerging global trends and importing countries' requirements and regulations.
- 7. Accelerate negotiation of bilateral trade agreements and continue trade negotiations with new partners (Gulf Cooperation Council and others); explore opportunities for trade negotiation with the Russian Federation; and finalize the memorandum of understanding signature process with China.
- 8. Expand outreach to new markets, support the participation of companies in trade fairs and arrange business-to-business meetings to increase access to the market for certain products.
- Form a sector development committee to guide sector reorganization strategically and plan implementation of strategic programmes.

Forest products

Measures introduced to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are having substantial impacts on the tropical timber sector, with thousands of workers laid off worldwide and plummeting global demand for these non-essential items. The anticipated slowdown in the construction industry worldwide will also create a medium-term demand shock. While limited production of outstanding orders could resume as restrictions on people's movements are progressively eased, a quick recovery in international demand is unlikely because many buyers have delayed or cancelled orders.

IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK ON MYANMAR'S FOREST PRODUCTS SECTOR

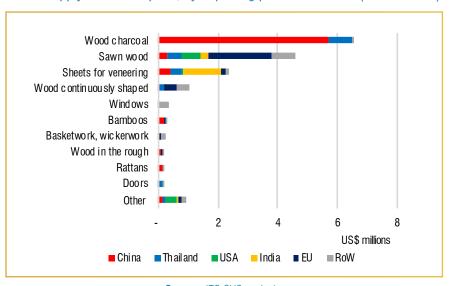
Given its high dependence on export activities, the forest products industry in Myanmar is very exposed to the demand shocks observed in key international markets. Businesses from the sector report a sharp drop in export revenues as most orders from international buyers have been either cancelled or put on hold, particularly from the markets most affected by COVID-19 such as the United States and Europe (Italy, United Kingdom, Spain, France). In these countries, the retail

market for furniture and wood products has come to a standstill. A slowdown in demand from neighbouring countries is also being observed, especially in India and China. A survey conducted with 25 small, medium and large forest products manufacturers in Myanmar indicates that 78% of businesses are facing reduced demand from foreign partners.

Containment measures triggered by the spread of the virus are also creating major supply chain disruptions. These measures are spilling over globally as production falls due to significant supply chain disruptions and cutbacks taking place in the industry. Because Myanmar mainly exports intermediate products such as sawn wood or sheets for veneering, the shutdown of manufacturing facilities using these inputs to produce finished goods in partner countries is having a severe impact on the country's exports, even though Myanmar has been relatively spared by the pandemic itself.

According to a study conducted by ITC and assuming a two-month shutdown in all partner countries due to the pandemic, the projected reduction in exports of intermediate inputs of wood products and vegetable material from Myanmar due to supply chain disruption amounts US\$16.8 million. The most impacted intermediate inputs (used to produce other products) include wood charcoal (accounting for 27% of the expected reduction in exports), sawn wood (27%) and sheets for veneering (14%) (see figure 8). According to the study, trade disruption with China is responsible for 84% of the total anticipated reduction of exports of intermediate inputs. Very much dependent on the tourism sector, the rattan and bamboo and handicraft segments also anticipate a reduction of 60%-80% of their sales, according to their respective private sector associations.

Figure 8: Estimated reduction of exports of intermediate wood products and vegetable materials due to supply chain disruption, by importing partner countries (US\$ millions)



Source: ITC GVC analysis.

As a result of the fall in orders, the forest products industry in Myanmar is experiencing cutbacks in production, cash flow problems and layoffs of workers. Because the sector is largely export-driven, the sharp reduction in export earnings results in most manufacturers being at risk of no longer being in the position to make advance payments due to insufficient cash flow. Complete closures of manufacturers seem inevitable in the near future. Overall, 72% of the businesses interviewed believed their business operations have been 'moderately' affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, while 8% have been 'strongly' impacted.

Containment measures introduced by the Government of Myanmar are having a significant impact on forest products manufacturers, in particular in accessing wood resources domestically. The Myanma Timber Enterprise postponed teak and other hardwood tenders, resulting in wood supplies being completely cut off.²⁷ Log imports by private operators being subject to high Customs duties (i.e. 15%) as well as other taxes, manufacturers are currently unable to source timber and are relying on stocks. This situation was

^{27.–} As of 1 June 2020, there have been no announcements of future open tender sales by Myanma Timber Enterprise.



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confirmed by 68% of sector survey respondents, who indicated facing input sourcing constraints over the two months prior to the survey and continue to. Supply disruptions have also been observed in the rattan and bamboo segment, in particular as Government measures to halt the spread of the pandemic coincided with the harvest period for rattan and bamboo.

Difficulties in obtaining the various permits and authorizations from Government offices have been reported, mainly due to delays in inspections for permissions approval. Similarly, time-consuming Customs clearance procedures –as well as delays – have been observed due to shortages of Customs staffs. The survey confirmed that 52% of businesses suffered from increased administrative bottlenecks during the lockdown period.

While necessary, the introduction of COVID-19 preventive measures in factories is also negatively impacting the industry's productivity. In particular, arranging workers' shifts and reorganizing the workspace to comply with social distancing measures is likely to represent challenges for manufacturers in the short-to-medium term. Movement restrictions also continue to prevent a number of workers from reaching their workplace.

OUTLOOK FOR THE FOREST PRODUCTS INDUSTRY

A sharp drop in demand for forest products, especially wooden furniture, is to be expected in the short term as the purchase of these non-essential items can be delayed by most consumers. Demand from neighbouring countries, including India and China, is not expected to rebound significantly in the coming months. The retail market for furniture and wood products in the United States and Europe is also likely to face a slowdown as a result of the economic downturn.

The pandemic may lead to export market shifts to which manufacturers in Myanmar will have to adjust. While the ultimate impacts on demand trends remain highly uncertain, potential market opportunities may arise in countries and regions that have been less affected by COVID-19, including Scandinavian countries, the Middle East and South Africa.

A delayed impact on the sector's sales is also feared as orders are generally made for a period of several months (very few new orders have been placed since March 2020). As a result, the vast majority of the forest products manufacturers surveyed in Myanmar anticipate a reduction in orders for the next three months because a large proportion of customers have already reduced their orders for the next quarter. However, this reduction is expected to be moderate: 72% of the survey respondents foresee a decrease not exceeding 5%. Most sector businesses anticipate a rapid recovery: 52% of the respondents do not foresee the reduced demand from foreign markets exceeding one month.

FOREST PRODUCTS SECTOR'S IMMEDIATE RESPONSES TO THE PANDEMIC

Among the Government measures introduced to cope with the crisis, 'tax waivers or temporary tax breaks' was the most popular among surveyed companies (29%), followed by 'financial programmes' (e.g. low interest credit line, loan repayment deferral or credit guarantees –26%) and 'rent subsidies or waiver/ postponement of utility bills' (23%). This outcome clearly indicates the urgent need for a financial stimulus package from the Government to cushion the impact of the crisis and ease cash flow problems. The survey also highlights the difficulties currently faced by the industry in accessing information about and benefits

from Government COVID-19-related assistance programmes, a view shared by 74% of respondents.

To provide a rapid response in supporting the sector's development, the following interventions should be prioritized.

- Advocate for the immediate waiver of the 10% special goods tax and 2% advanced income tax for forest products exports.²⁸
- Increase the COVID-19 Fund established at the Myanmar Economic Bank and currently worth MMK 100 billion (US\$70 million, 0.1% of GDP) – to at least 2%–3% of GDP, also considering the forest products sector as a priority for financial support.
- Strengthen coordination and communication between the Government and private sector associations regarding the management of the COVID-19 crisis. The Sector Development Committee, acting as a public-private dialogue platform, could be instrumental in this regard.
- 4. Additional financial support from the Government is required to cover wages paid.²⁹ Support for MSMEs is also needed, including for those operating in the informal sector. See Comprehensive Economic
- 28.– Income and commercial tax payments due in the second and third quarters of the fiscal year have been made extendable to the end of the fiscal year, and an exemption for the 2% advance income tax on exports to the end of the fiscal year has been announced (IMF).
- 29.– The Ministry of Labour, Immigration and Population will provide 40% of the social security fees for about 1.3 million insured workers from factories and workshops that are temporarily suspended for health inspections (IMF).

- Recovery Plan activity 2.1.5. 'Tax Credits (Fiscal Stimulus)' to allow for a deduction equal to 125% of wages paid.
- Extend payment deadlines (or allow delayed payment terms) for log buyers through Myanma Timber
 Enterprise tenders for the period May–December
 2020, at no additional cost. This measure would
 lessen the financial impact of pandemic control
 measures on businesses.
- 6. Ease regulations and procedures for exports to stimulate export activities. Potential intervention areas include removing licensing restrictions and forest products' legality certification for rattan and bamboo finished products and handicrafts, reducing the release time for export licences and simplifying regulations and procedures for exports.
- 7. Realign Myanmar technical standards requirements to conform to international standards, with a view to boosting exports when market demand picks up.
- 8. Take advantage of this slow period to complete forest inventories (including rattan and bamboo) and make the information publicly available.
- 9. Explore potential shifts in key markets and market reorientation for exports of forest products from Myanmar as a result of the pandemic.
- 10. Public procurement can also provide a vital leverage for domestic firms to enhance their abilities and generate alternative sources of revenue. Advocating for a review of procurement rules and reforming tender processes to make reputed domestic players more eligible for public contracts could be envisaged in this regard.

Textiles and garments

The containment measures triggered by the spread of COVID-19 caused sharp supply shortages in Myanmar's T&G sector, followed by a demand collapse triggering order cancellations, suspensions and cuts. The situation resulted in the shutting down of dozens of factories in quick succession, leaving thousands of mostly female workers unemployed. Initial estimates suggested that over 25,000 workers from more than 40 factories lost their jobs early in the crisis (as at the end of March 2020, Delegation of the EU to Myanmar). As the economic downturn caused by the pandemic continues to affect global demand for clothing, more layoffs are to be expected. Meanwhile, heightened pressures from retailers and consumers for sustainable fashion will continue to weigh on the country's T&G manufacturing sector. The sector can survive and thrive

through the COVID-19 crisis by focusing on sustainable and ethical manufacturing, and improving investment climate conditions to attract foreign investors looking for new locations.

IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK ON MYANMAR'S TEXTILE AND GARMENTS INDUSTRY

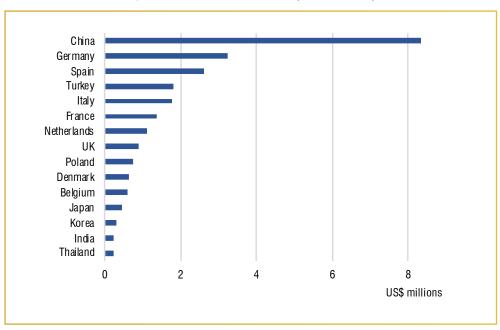
The T&G industry, whose operations are globalized and which relies heavily on the production of inputs from a handful of countries, particularly China, was most exposed to the initial supply chain disruptions triggered by COVID-19. As the outbreak spread and most countries went into lockdown, demand collapsed

in key markets for Myanmar, including Japan, Europe and the United States, adding a demand shock to the supply chain disruptions.

Given that clothing products are considered discretionary and non-essential, the global industry for clothing is particularly vulnerable to economic downturns. As retail outlets remained closed for a relatively long period of time and unemployment and underemployment affect spending ability, sales of new clothing are expected to remain muted throughout 2020. Estimates suggest that as much as US\$297 billion will be wiped off the global clothing market in 2020, a 15.2% decline compared with 2019.³⁰ More than 70% of European and American consumers expect to cut back spending on apparel, compared with an overall 40%–50% drop in global discretionary spending.³¹

An analysis assuming a two-month shutdown in all partner countries due to the pandemic projected a reduction in Myanmar's exports of garments (as intermediates) of US\$27.6 million, or 38% of the estimated reduction of exports of intermediates for the whole economy. The contractions are largely attributable to the HS 62 category – products like men's and women's wind-jackets, overcoats and capes; men's and women's shorts and trousers; and some categories of baby garments and accessories. Just 20 product categories (at the HS six-digit level) account for nearly 60% of the projected reduction. The most impacted trading relationships for Myanmar would be with China, Germany, Spain, Turkey, Italy, France and the Netherlands (see figure 9). The projected reduction in the textiles segment amounts to US\$3.7 million.

Figure 9: Projected reduction of exports of intermediate apparel inputs from Myanmar, top 15 most affected markets (US\$ millions)



Source: ITC GVC analysis.

^{30.–} Arnold, Michael (2020). Global apparel spending to slump by \$300 billion in 2020, says GlobalData. *Inside Retail Asia*, 15 May. Available from https://insideretail.asia/2020/05/15/global-apparel-spending-to-slump-by-300-billion-in-2020-says-globaldata/.

^{31.—} McKinsey & Company (2020). Global surveys of consumer sentiment during the coronavirus crisis. Available from www.Mckinsey.com/business-functions/marketing-and-sales/our-insights/global-surveys-of-consumer-sentiment-during-the-coronavirus-crisis.



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According to an ITC COVID-19 impact survey,³² 68% of T&G firms surveyed reported being 'strongly affected' by the crisis. This is more than double the average of 30% recorded across all sectors surveyed, and second only to the tourism sector. Some 86% of survey respondents also asserted that their top five customers had reduced or cancelled orders for the next quarter, in particular with the prevalence of 'return orders' (23%). A high proportion of respondents in the sector (46%) believe that the demand reduction in the top five foreign markets would last 3–12 months, while only 5% believe it will last more than a year. Half of respondents were unable to indicate the duration of the impacts, signifying the continued uncertainty being faced by firms in the T&G sector.

Labour impacts have come in the form of job cuts, reduced working hours and reduced overtime. Even as the lockdown has eased and factories have been allowed to operate under strict health guidelines (by mid-May, around 80% of capacity was operating), overtime has been prohibited and this is reportedly having a big impact on worker incomes. According to the firm-level survey, 23% of firms reported having implemented temporarily reduced employment and 13% reported they had laid off employees – the highest among all sectors.

The collapse of the industry has important implications for socioeconomic inclusion, given the high prevalence of women (approximately 84% in garments and 75%–77% in the textiles sector) and MSMEs (around

workforce, including a large number of migrant workers from other states and regions of Myanmar.

Immediate labour impacts have been eased, in part,

31% in garments and over 81% in textiles) in the T&G

Immediate labour impacts have been eased, in part, with donor assistance. The EU launched a 5 million euro (MMK 7.9 billion) *Myan Ku* or 'Quick Assistance' fund to provide income support for up to 80,000 of the country's T&G sector workers who have lost their jobs, ³³ the first phase of which got under way in early May. Meanwhile, some of the world's largest fashion brands, including H&M, Inditex (owners of Zara), Next, C&A, Bestseller and Tchibo, have signed on to an agreement with suppliers and trade unions (Industrial Workers Federation of Myanmar, affiliated to the IndustriALL Global Union) to protect garment factories and workers in Myanmar from the worst impacts of the pandemic.³⁴

As the next round of minimum wage negotiations edges closer, new pressures will emerge. Factory owners are concerned that cost pressures they face may not be sufficiently taken into consideration in deciding the new wage rates. A truly collaborative and evidence-based process will need to be adopted to protect both firms and workers.

33.- Delegation of the European Union to Myanmar (2020). COVID-19

rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response: EU creates €5 million emergency fund for Myanmar rapid response resp

^{34.—} Ethical Trading Initiative (2020). ACT – Initiative on living wages. Available from www.ethicaltrade.org/act-initiative-living-wages.

^{32.-} Myanmar COVID-19 Impact Survey by ITC. Data collected from 266 total respondents 9–26 May 2020.

OUTLOOK FOR THE TEXTILE AND GARMENTS INDUSTRY: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

In Myanmar, the fallout of the pandemic is even more pronounced because T&G -the country's most prominent export-oriented manufacturing sector in recent years - has recently plugged into GVCs. While the full impacts are yet to be felt, industry stakeholders expect the fast fashion segment to be worst affected, and to a lesser extent casual wear. They also note that there are orders for 2-3 months in the pipeline, with minimal pricing pressures so far. On the production side, Myanmar has somewhat gained from the continued lockdown in some competitor locations and there was a momentary jump in orders placed in Myanmar due to fewer factories being in operation and less choice for buyers. Myanmar manufacturers consider Cambodia to be their nearest competitor, as buyers had reportedly already begun pulling out from this country even before the COVID-19 outbreak, a trend that will likely accelerate. Meanwhile, a handful of factories have pivoted to producing personal protective equipment as demand for medical garments has spiked. As Myanmar has been producing outerwear and products with synthetic fabrics, this could be a continued opportunity.

The outlook for orders in the short term looks rather bleak. According to the survey, 55% of respondents from the sector reported that orders were down by more than 20%, while a further 23% said that they still do not know the full extent of the order impact. On the risk of business closure, survey respondents in the T&G sector were the most concerned, with 68% indicating that they face the risk of a permanent shutdown. This was the second highest among all sectors surveyed (after tourism).

Yet industry leaders in Myanmar observed that by mid-May, some orders to Europe had begun picking up. This was primarily from mid-range buyers rather than the larger brands, and from relatively smaller markets like Belgium, Poland and Ukraine. Buyers have indicated that they do not want to have their shelves empty when customers do eventually come back out shopping. Additionally, industry leaders observe that they are unlikely to see the typical 'seasonal trends' over the next six months, and instead buyers are likely to stock up as needed even outside of seasonality, with normalization anticipated by around the northern hemisphere spring of 2021. A survey among 2,000 British consumers conducted in early May also provides further encouraging signs of a post-lockdown

demand bump.³⁵ Among consumers who said they planned to shop for non-essential items immediately after COVID-19 restrictions were lifted, 66% reported that clothing would be a priority purchase, well above other spending categories like footwear (29%) or DIY and gardening products (27%). As more people pivot their entertainment to spend time and money outdoors and engage in outdoor leisure activities, the sportswear and athleisure categories are likely to gain further prominence.

Experts suggest that Chinese investment in Myanmar may intensify as China will aggressively look for overseas production bases. Myanmar's strategic location and its abundant and cheap labour force should be a strong factor in attracting new foreign investment. These opportunities will need to be pursued proactively by investment promotion authorities like the Myanmar Directorate of Investment and Company Administration and the Myanmar Investment Commission, while ensuring that investment climate issues that FDI investors are concerned about are addressed. Many areas identified in the NES T&G Plan of Action, such as commercial tax anomalies for domestic sourcing of raw materials, would need fast resolution.

TEXTILE AND GARMENT INDUSTRY'S IMMEDIATE RESPONSES TO THE PANDEMIC

Among the Government measures introduced to cope with the crisis, 'tax waivers or temporary tax breaks' was the considered the most helpful among T&G manufacturers (27%), followed by 'financial programmes' (24%) and 'rent subsidies or waiver/post-ponement of utility bills' (21%). This clearly indicates the need for a financial stimulus package to cushion the impact of the crisis on the industry.

To provide a rapid response to support the industry's development, the following interventions should be prioritized.

 Protecting the health of workers, while production activities get back up and running, should be a primary focus of industry players and Government authorities alike. Most factories have adopted new hygiene measures, introduced private transport for workers and adjusted factory floor plans to adhere to social distancing, and are regularly in contact with public health inspectors to ensure compliance with Government regulations.

^{35.-} GlobalData Retail (2020). Clothing sales surge seen when UK lockdown ends. *Just-Style*, 29 May. Available from www.just-style. com/comment/clothing-sales-surge-seen-when-uk-lockdown-ends_id138837.aspx.

- 2. Firms will need advice on how to manage production and productivity while taking safety precautions. The industry will need to adjust to likely changes in supply chain dynamics, for instance quicker response times and smaller minimum order quantities at higher quality. As such, the industry will also need to start working on reskilling and upskilling members of the workforce that have lost jobs or may not have the optimal skills, especially in the context of greater digitization of processes and a rise in e-commerce as a sales channel deployed by Myanmar's current buyers. Another focus area includes the training of top management on reworking business models for more digitized supply chains and building the capacity of management teams on quick response manufacturing.
- 3. Relief measures aimed at keeping the industry buoyant will need to continue and deepen in order to protect firms and workers. The focus on tax measures highlighted by the survey reflects the desire to introduce waivers and breaks on taxes, including duties and commercial tax.
- 4. Pre-existing tensions regarding sustainability and waste management in the global garment industry have come further to the fore, with greater calls for introspection regarding manufacturing practices and consumption patterns. These shifts could signal that manufacturers like Myanmar could be under greater pressure from changing buyer patterns and heightened focus on smaller inventories and sustainable supply chains. Programmes that have supported the industry to become more sustainable, including SMART Myanmar and others, would need to expand and accelerate.

Rubber

'The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic put the world rubber industry into one of the worst crises in the past few decades and pushed the stakeholders in the whole value chain into chaos and hopelessness'. This statement from the Secretary-General of the Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries (ANRPC) provides an overview of the dramatic impact of the COVID-19 outbreak on the rubber sector. The economic slowdown observed in many industrialized countries has resulted in a sharp decrease in demand for rubber products, especially from the automotive industry, the largest consumer of natural rubber. Rubber producing countries have therefore suffered a very heavy blow, especially those who do not have the capacity to produce value added manufactured products, such as Myanmar.

IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK ON MYANMAR'S RUBBER SECTOR

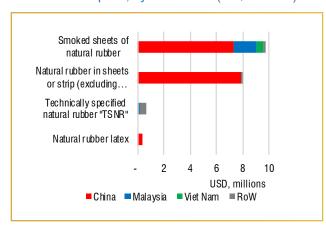
The economic crisis is exposing the extreme vulnerability of the Myanmar rubber sector to demand shocks in partner countries. Being inextricably linked to GVCs, the halt in orders from foreign manufacturers is having a devastating impact on the entire rubber supply chain in Myanmar, which is almost exclusively dependent on its exports of intermediate inputs, namely ribbed smoked sheets and technically specified rubber, for revenue regeneration. Some 80% of respondents to an ITC survey of 24 rubber sector manufacturers in Myanmar indicate facing reduced orders from international buyers. Even more worrying is that the impact of the outbreak remains highly uncertain: 65% of the companies interviewed were unable to estimate the length of the disruption for their international transactions.

According to a study shedding light on how, within global supply chains, Myanmar's export of intermediate products reacts to a two-month shutdown of manufacturing facilities in partner countries, the projected export reduction for the natural latex and rubber sector amounts to US\$18.6 million (see figure 10). Calculations indicate that rubber is the second hardesthit sector in terms of export reduction after the apparel industry. The most affected intermediate inputs (used to produce other products) in the sector include ribbed smoked sheets (accounting for 52% of the expected reduction in exports) and natural rubber in primary forms (non-smoked: 42%). The high dependency on the Chinese market was also highlighted by the analysis, that country being responsible for 84% of the anticipated reduction of exports of intermediate products. After temporarily closing its borders with Myanmar during the peak of the epidemic, transactions with China have been slowly resuming since early May, though with small volumes traded.



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Figure 10: Projected export reduction due to supply chain disruption, by destination (US\$ millions)

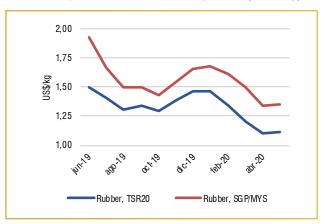


Source: ITC GVC analysis.

This difficult situation has been exacerbated by declining rubber prices, as international demand contracts (Figure 11). Technically specified rubber 20 is currently traded at US\$1.12 per kg, its lowest level since early 2016. Because of lower rubber prices, sales of technically specified rubber and ribbed smoked sheets are currently not commercially viable without aid to cover production costs and revenue for the producers. As highlighted by ANRPC, natural rubber prices started recovering in the last week of April, driven by the positive sentiment generated by the relaxation of COVID-19 containment measures and lockdowns and the reopening of economic activities in many countries.

The fall in rubber orders is having dramatic socioeconomic consequences in Myanmar. The entire rubber value chain is affected by the current crisis because

Figure 11: Evolution of international rubber prices over the period June 2019 to May 2020 (US\$ /kg)



Source: World Bank Commodity Price Data (The Pink Sheet), updated on June 02, 2020.

factories have been forced to suspend their purchase of latex from smallholders. This has generated significant loss of income and unemployment at both factory and farmer levels. In the initial phase of the outbreak, the collection of latex from smallholders by factories was also considerably affected due to the risk of infection. However, the impact in terms of job loss is difficult to estimate as it is hard to get accurate data at this early stage. Overall, no less than 95% of respondents believe that their business operations have been either 'strongly' (38%) or 'moderately' (58%) affected by the pandemic.

The introduction of Government measures to halt the spread of the pandemic has also affected the rubber supply chain. Workers are still facing difficulties getting to production sites to work due to movement restrictions imposed by the Government.

OUTLOOK FOR THE RUBBER SECTOR: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

It its Natural Rubber Trends and Statistics report for May 2020, ANRPC scaled down the outlook for world consumption, which is expected to fall by 6.0% to 12.904 million tons in 2020. This rather pessimistic outlook is largely driven by dampened vehicle sales in Q1 2020, with spillover into Q2 as well, with unfulfilled order deliveries due to production slowdowns, shattered supply chains and postponed new car model launches.³⁶

According to ANRPC, recovery is nevertheless under way and is likely to continue, albeit at a slow pace and subject to a set of risk factors. This positive trend is expected to progressively push rubber prices up. Overall, high uncertainty prevails in the rubber sector in Myanmar, as highlighted by 87% of survey respondents indicating they have no visibility on orders in the three months following the survey.

RUBBER SECTOR'S IMMEDIATE RESPONSES TO THE PANDEMIC

Among the Government measures introduced to cope with the crisis, 'financial programmes' such as low interest credit lines, loan repayment deferrals or

36.— Business Wire (2020). Global Automotive Industry (2020 to 2025) - Impact of COVID-19 on the Market - ResearchAndMarkets. com, 19 May. Available from www.businesswire. com/news/home/20200519005657/en/Global-Automotive-Industry-2020-2025---Impact.

credit guarantees were the most popular among surveyed companies (33%), followed by 'rent subsidies or waiver/postponement of utility bills' (24%). This highlights the need for a financial stimulus package to support financially drained businesses in the rubber sector. The survey further indicates that 75% of respondents are facing difficulties accessing information about and benefits from the Government's COVID-19-related assistance programmes.

To provide a rapid response to support the sector's development, the following interventions should be prioritized.

- Provide temporary soft loans to rubber processors, traders and exporters at low interest rates with inventory as collateral. Loans would be repaid as the situation improves.
- Introduce an immediate waiver of the advance 2% tax on exports. A reduction in advance income taxes imposed on companies is also recommended. The application of these taxes and fees on exports results in further deterioration of the profitability of rubber exports.
- Initiate negotiations with some ASEAN and neighbouring countries to sell rubber through government-to-government initiatives and boost sector sales.
- 4. Take advantage of this slow period to restructure the sector, in particular by enacting the Rubber Law to regulate the sector's activities and form a rubber board, following a holistic approach (already in the NES Plan of Action for the sector).

Rice

Lockdown measures across Asia resulted in most of the world's largest rice net exporters, including Myanmar, freezing their overseas shipments to ensure sufficient stocks of rice for domestic consumption. Among the largest rice exporters, Thailand is the only country that remained open for trade operations as its regional competitors closed down international rice sales. These export restrictions coupled with increased demand resulted in a surge in rice prices across the region. These favourable market conditions are in stark contrast to most commodities, whose prices have generally collapsed following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, export quotas are currently preventing most rice exporters from fully taking advantage of this bright economic outlook.

IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK ON MYANMAR'S RICE SECTOR

As a response to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Government of Myanmar imposed export restrictions on rice for food security purposes. As of April 2020, the Ministry of Commerce temporarily halted the issuance of new rice export licences to maintain market stability and ensure the building of sufficient rice reserves for food security purposes. This decision was mainly motivated by the sudden surges in domestic demand spurred by fears of shortages during the pandemic. Concerned with the export restrictions brought about by the measure, the Myanmar Rice Federation and rice exporters later negotiated the introduction of

a quota system with the Ministry of Commerce. Under this scheme, more than 2 million tons of rice will be allocated for export in the current fiscal year, of which 10% will be retained as food reserves and sold to the Ministry of Commerce at an agreed price to build up a 'rice buffer stock'. Allocated quotas for border trade and sea trade will be negotiated monthly, based on the latest developments on the COVID-19 outbreak, to keep rice reserves stable.

Market conditions have been favourable since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak. Rice orders have been on the increase, driven by sudden surges in domestic demand in most Asian countries. In particular, surging demand from China has been observed since the beginning of the year in order to secure domestic supplies and bolster rice stocks in the wake of its COVID-19 shutdowns. An ITC survey conducted with 23 small, medium and large companies from the

rice sector confirmed these good market conditions: 83% of respondents indicated that their top customers have either maintained (50%) or increased their orders (33%).

Surging demand and slashed exports – caused by both export restrictions and supply disruptions – are leading to inflated prices for rice across the region. The surging demand for rice from China has arguably been the principal driver in boosting global prices since the beginning of 2020. The price of Thai white rice 5% broken, which is an Asian export benchmark, went up by 37%, year-on-year, at the end of April 2020, to reach US\$564/ton, a seven-year high (Figure 12). Driven by the progressive relaxation of COVID-19 containment measures and lockdowns and the reopening of economic activities across countries, rice prices started to drop at the end of April 2020.

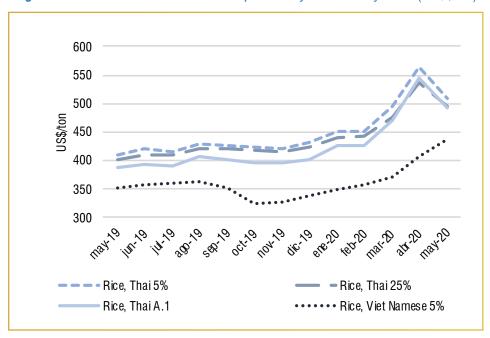


Figure 12: Evolution of international rice prices May 2019 to May 2020 (US\$ /ton)

Source: World Bank Commodity Price Data (The Pink Sheet), updated on 2 June 2020.

Constrained by the export restrictions imposed by the Government, Myanmar rice exporters are not in a position to take full advantage of these opportunities. Being indirectly hit by the crisis, 70% of surveyed businesses from the rice sector indicate that their operations have been 'moderately' affected by the pandemic, while 17% have been 'strongly' impacted.

Logistical constraints linked to quarantine and hygiene measures have had negative impacts on trade. Reduced logistics services have resulted in an increase in transportation prices, a shortage of available

containers and insufficient manpower (only 50% of labourers can work due to COVID-19 restrictions) which led to delaying the whole process of exporting. The survey conducted with businesses from the sector confirms this analysis: all respondents considered reduced logistics services as the most disruptive factor faced during the crisis.

Measures to combat the virus have caused few disruptions to production, despite the fact that the harvesting season for summer paddy coincided with the peak of the outbreak.

OUTLOOK FOR THE RICE SECTOR: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The outlook for rice exporters is somewhat positive because large regional net rice importers are setting about ensuring sufficient rice stocks for their domestic consumption. Countries including China, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines are planning to beef up current rice stocks, that, in the case of Indonesia, exceed estimated consumption for the year.

Market conditions are expected to remain favourable, driven by a dynamic demand. While rice prices are expected to decrease in the coming months as containment measures progressively relax, rice prices across Asia are likely to remain relatively attractive.

For Myanmar operators, taking full advantage of these bright export prospects will depend, to a large extent, on the allocated quotas for exports negotiated monthly. Uncertainty currently prevails in the sector because the export quota system makes it difficult for businesses to plan for future sales. This lack of visibility was apparent from the survey analysis: 91% of rice sector respondents indicated that they do not know what their order book will look like in the three months following the survey.

RICE SECTOR'S IMMEDIATE RESPONSES TO THE PANDEMIC

To provide a rapid response to support the sector's development and fully take advantage of emerging opportunities, the following interventions should be prioritized.

- Immediate storage facilities are required to keep the rice buffer stock. Support the creation of storage facilities to handle and maintain national rice stocks. Because public authorities do not have sufficient facilities, the Government is currently renting private sector storage facilities to store national rice reserves.
- Develop small-scale storage and drying facilities at community level. This will not only enable export continuation but reduce volatility and shocks and stabilize domestic market prices.
- Develop contract farming schemes for seed multiplication, in particular with the view to plant 400,000 acres for the upcoming monsoon planting season, through collaboration between the Myanmar Rice Federation and the Department of Agriculture.
- 4. For micro enterprises involved in rice farming, the longer-term intervention of the Government will be key to their viability. The economic devastation arising from the COVID-19 outbreak should ensure that Government support for rice growers will remain an essential and increasing feature of national food security in the years to come.

Beans, pulses and oilseeds

The impact of the global outbreak of COVID-19 on the beans, pulses and oilseeds sector is generally less than on other agricultural sectors, in particular those dealing with perishable produce or primarily serving the food service sector. Global demand has remained intact because the supply of food and feed is vital for any society. Still, the importance of the sector for global food supply makes it vulnerable to Government policies, as highlighted by the recent announcement by Indian authorities that they will reduce the time allocated to Myanmar to fill its 400,000-ton Indian import quota of black gram from one year to three months.

IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 OUTBREAK ON MYANMAR'S BEANS, PULSES AND OIL SEEDS SECTOR

The global demand for beans, pulses and oilseeds has remained largely stable, as these products are essential ingredients for the human diet and for animal feed. An ITC survey of 21 small, medium and large companies from the sector confirms this trend, as 57% of respondents consider that their business operations have only been 'slightly' impacted by the pandemic, with just 10% reporting 'strong' disruption of their activities. Further, only 48% of the businesses surveyed reported reduced demand from foreign markets, a relatively low percentage compared with most other sectors.



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The main impact on the availability of products comes from border closures, in particular with India, as well as logistical restrictions on trucking and shipping, although these have generally been temporary and partial. Land borders with India – by far the largest importer of pulses from Myanmar – and China were closed during the peak of the pandemic and the imposed lockdowns, causing temporary disruptions in trade operations. Myanmar exporters also mention that inland freight prices have significantly increased as trucking became scarcer and more difficult. More than half of sector respondents indicated that the pandemic affected their ability to export products.

From a production perspective, the measures introduced by the Government to combat the virus have not caused major disruptions, despite the fact that the harvesting season for the winter crop coincided with the peak of the pandemic outbreak in February and March. While the total production will also depend on the harvest of the monsoon crop, professionals from the sector anticipate the 2020 production to be normal, provided that there is limited climate change impact.³⁷

While necessary, the introduction of COVID-19 preventive measures is impacting the sector's productivity. Arranging workers' shifts and reorganizing workspaces to comply with social distancing measures are likely to create challenges for exporters in the short-to-medium

term. Movement restrictions also continue, as of early June, to prevent a number of workers from reaching their workplaces. These measures are thought to be responsible for a significant increase in production costs, including labour costs. Sector professionals are concerned that the anticipated loss of competitiveness resulting from this negative impact on productivity will harm the sector's exports while market conditions are favourable.

OUTLOOK FOR THE BEANS, PULSES AND OILSEEDS SECTOR: RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The most severe impact of the COVID-19 pandemic may hit the sector with a delay, as India recently announced it was reducing Myanmar's window to export 400,000 tons of black gram from one year to three months. From the original schedule of end of March 2021, the Indian import quota is now due to lapse in August 2020. This new policy is unfavourable to Myanmar as the sector will most likely be unable to fill this quota within the allotted time. This measure will potentially result in significant loss of export earnings because Myanmar exports the bulk of locally harvested black gram to India. The high exposure of the sector to India's volatile policies highlights the urgent need for Myanmar to seek new export markets and diversify into alternative crops.

^{37.–} Some 30% of pulses are planted in monsoon and 70% are planted as winter crops.

Government policies restricting trade will remain a major focus of attention in the near future, as well as the free flow of goods, in connection to Government restrictions on people and transport.³⁸

The economic slowdown and the anticipated contraction of disposable income in Myanmar may also lead to a slight decrease in household consumption. However, reductions in food consumption are expected to affect non-essential products more severely than staple foods such as beans and pulses.

Nevertheless, market conditions are anticipated to remain favourable. As demand is expected to remain strong, bean prices in international markets are likely to remain relatively attractive in the short-to-medium term.

BEANS, PULSES AND OILSEEDS SECTOR'S IMMEDIATE RESPONSES TO THE PANDEMIC

Financial programmes such as low interest credit lines, loan repayment deferrals or credit guarantees

38.— Centre for the Promotion of Imports from Developing Countries (2020). How to respond to COVID-19 in the grains, pulses and oilseeds sector. Available from www.cbi.eu/market-information/grains-pulses-oilseeds/how-respond-covid-19-grains-pulses-oilseeds-sector/.

were cited as the most helpful Government measure introduced to cope with the crisis (by 29% of the total response). Support for the self-employed was also cited by 18% of the sector's businesses, reflecting the need to support the many individual companies that operate in the beans, pulses and oilseeds sector.

To provide a rapid response to support the sector's development, the following interventions should be prioritized.

- Advocate for the working out of arrangements with India to extend the recently reduced window to fill the 400,000-ton Indian import quota for Myanmar black gram to safeguard the long-term interests of both nations.
- Pursue, more than ever, product and market diversification efforts to reduce the sector's vulnerability to changing government policies in traditional markets and fully take advantage of potential new market opportunities.
- Ensure the timely and effective provision of farm inputs to farmers to maintain existing production areas in anticipation of the upcoming monsoon and winter planting seasons.
- 4. Advocate for the negotiation of government-to-government agreements with neighbouring countries for bean, pulse and oilseed sales.

Trade in a new reality

The multilateral trading system is confronted with challenges never faced before. The world is facing a new reality following the COVID-19 pandemic. Borders remain mostly closed, trade has almost halted, many MSMEs are on edge with a higher than ever risk of closure, and employees are working reduced shifts or may even have lost their employment. Most projections anticipate a possible return to a 'new normal' by late 2021, if not later.

Myanmar might be slightly better positioned than other emerging economies. Official data report few cases of COVID-19; the economy has not fully halted as the pandemic partially rolled out during the Thingyan holiday; economic growth is still mainly based on domestic demand; borders in Asia are gradually opening up; and according to most estimates, economic growth is expected to remain positive in 2020, at 1.8% (IMF estimates – see Figure 1). Along with challenges, the situation brings new opportunities

for Myanmar exporters to innovate and potentially gain critical shares in destination markets.

Many new realities will need to be considered by exporters when designing their market entry strategies. Following are some elements to consider in planning export operations.

- Sanitary measures There are new 'social distancing' measures that enterprises are required to implement in order to continue production and services. This affects costs and efficiency. New models will be needed to optimize productivity.
- 2. Quality standards Importing countries will most certainly be applying more stringent quality and sanitary measures to reduce potential transmission chains and ensure goods are safe for consumers. This will require Myanmar companies to increase their compliance with global standards. Myanmar quality institutions will also need to improve



(CC BY-NC-ND 2.0) Phil @flickr, Phil Ayeyarwady Bridge.jpg

standard setting, testing and certification. It is thus critical to increase access to accredited conformity assessment bodies to ensure the compliance of export products, especially food products, with more stringent food safety and quality requirements.

- 3. Regionalization and reshoring of supply chains – According to a number of analysts,³⁹ the supply shock on GVCs caused by COVID-19 implies manufacturers will aim to bring production of inputs closer to assembly factories as a means of reducing disruption in supply of parts.
- 4. Environmental protection The movement for increased sustainability in trade was initiated before the pandemic. The crisis has only accelerated the ambition of consumers, and many governments, to condition 'recovery packages' to ecological transition and green growth. In Europe, there is growing pressure to tax imports based on their carbon footprint.⁴⁰ This new non-tariff measure means that

- 5. Market intelligence In a world changing fast, it will be important to improve commercial intelligence services for exporters in order to keep abreast of new developments in partner countries, especially as public health concerns are rising, and identify new market opportunities as new prospects may arise in the aftermath of the crisis.
- 6. E-commerce The growth in digital solutions and limited ability of movement will create greater demand for e-commerce solutions. This is a time for IT and logistics companies to work hand in hand to better connect producers and consumers.

Most export sectors will be affected by the COVID-19 crisis and post-recovery period, either through direct impacts caused by the reductions in trade, or through adjusting products and services to a new global trading system that will evolve over the months to come.

Myanmar exports will become less competitive if their carbon footprint is high.

^{39.} Duke Today (2020). COVID-19 and global supply chains: disruptions and restructuring, 23 April. Available from https://today.duke.edu/2020/04/covid-19-and-global-supply-chains-disruptions-and-restructuring.

^{40.–} Gros, Daniel and Christian Egenhofer (2010). Climate Change and Trade: Taxing Carbon at the Border? Brussels: Centre for European Policy Studies. Available from www.ceps.eu/download/publication/?id=6662&pdf=Climate%20Change%20and%20Trade.pdf.

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