**Myanmar Cash Working Group**

**Weekly Update #10 (5 December - 11 December 2020)**

| **Recently published:** **Articles/Blogs/Research/Guidance/Discussion threads/Policy briefs** |
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| **In Myanmar:*** The Myanmar WASH Cluster has recently published a report [Two steps forward, one step back: Assessing the implications of COVID-19 on locally-led humanitarian response in Myanmar](https://humanitarianadvisorygroup.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/COVID-19-implications-for-Myanmar_Final_electronic_101220.pdf). This report is looking at how COVID-19 impacted localisation of humanitarian aid in Myanmar. Trócaire Myanmar engaged the Humanitarian [Advisory Group (HAG)](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fhumanitarianadvisorygroup.org%2F&data=02%7C01%7CJulien.Buha-Collette%40echofield.eu%7C86d5682d128e433aa91308d860870964%7C35df470feb344dd0b390c79de26d4906%7C0%7C0%7C637365480680571169&sdata=RNH4mfyEIy0E84vicryh2JJ5G34X2Vwbcc1JpzRN7Gw%3D&reserved=0) to conduct this research, which has also been supported by the national research partner Myanmar Development Network. The Myanmar Humanitarian Fund (MHF) team was also interviewed during the research work. Please feel free to share with your partners and networks.

**In General:****Publications:** * The Cash Consortium of Yemen has recently published a study focusing on [the Covid-19 impact on vulnerable households in Yemen](https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/covid-19-impact-vulnerable-households-yemen-november-2020). The study looks at the impacts of the pandemic on the economy of vulnerable households in the country. The findings from this study provide an entry point to understand: the potential effects of the COVID-19 crisis and its related containment measures on income and job security; communities’ basic needs since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic; how communities perceive potential disruptions to market access and changing prices caused by COVID-19. A key recommendation from the study is for humanitarian actors and donors to continue monitoring, supporting, and coordinating immediate cash transfers, ideally integrated with other types of long-term assistance to support communities in Yemen to cope, including supporting vulnerable communities by referrals between cash assistance, community shielding, social safety programmes and/or sector-specific programming to address their complex needs and thus mitigate the adoption of negative and damaging coping strategies.
* Key Aid Counselling recently launched a research report on how the design of cash assistance can influences value for money ([accessible here](https://www.keyaidconsulting.com/portfolio/dfid-contributing-to-humanitarian-reform-through-cash-programming-scale-up/)). There is now also a 3.30 animation accompanying the report that you can access here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmFg5sJt0jk>
* A recent working paper published by the Maastricht Economic and Social Research Institute on Innovation and Technology titled [Rethinking humanitarian aid & making the case for humanitarian social protection: A response to the 2019 Global Refugee Forum](https://www.merit.unu.edu/publications/working-papers/abstract/?id=8685) highlights the importance of strengthening the linkages between humanitarian aid and social protection, particularly when viewed from a transformative lens, in order to reduce deprivations and enhance resilience among refugee populations.

**Guidance:** The Global Shelter Cluster announced the **publication of the Global Shelter Cluster’s Rental Market Interventions documents**, which were developed by CashCap, with support from NRC, CRS, UNHCR and other members of the Global Shelter Cluster Cash Working Group. Many thanks also to all those who contributed their time and experiences to the learning review. The guidance comprises: A review of best practice in humanitarian rental market interventions; A collection of five tip sheets to support the planning and implementation of rental market interventions; and A resource library which brings together existing tools, templates, reports and other documents which are relevant to rental market interventions. The documents and resource library are available at the Rental Markets webpage of the Global Shelter Cluster Website. **You can access the documents** [**HERE**](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.sheltercluster.org%2Fresources%2Flibrary%2Frental-market-interventions&data=04%7C01%7Cguillauh%40unhcr.org%7Cbc2fb8ed5d2d4bae8ddf08d892f09bbb%7Ce5c37981666441348a0c6543d2af80be%7C0%7C0%7C637420909388325148%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=%2BSVsxTlXjwjnfBDBaiXWs8azTEgI%2FhFLZX6OsfhpjJg%3D&reserved=0). **Blogs:** Writing for the World Bank, Melis Guven and Raphaela Karlen tell us of the vital role played by social protection in Africa’s informal urban economies as a means to prevent the sale of productive assets in case of shocks, and promote savings to build resilience. The blog highlights that with no access to social protection and meager or no savings to fall back on, the COVID-19 pandemic has been decimating informal workers’ livelihoods. The delivery of emergency cash benefits has been the most effective response for short-term relief during the pandemic and the writers call for governments to put in place coordinated policies to protect informal workers against future shocks. Read more [here](https://blogs.worldbank.org/africacan/supporting-africas-urban-informal-sector-coordinated-policies-social-protection-core). |
| **Myanmar Situation Updates**  |
| ပြည်ထောင်စုအစိုးရအဖွဲ့အနေဖြင့် Covid-19 ငွေကျပ် ၄၀,၀၀၀ ပေးချေမှုနှင့် ပတ်သတ်၍ တိုင်ကြားမှုပေါင်း ၂၁၀,၀၀၀ ကျော်မှ ၂၉၀၀၀ နီးပါးကိုအစိုးရအနေဖြင့်အတည်မပြုရသေး။ The government has yet to verify almost 29,000 of the more than 210,000 complaints it has received about its K40,000 Covid-19 payment to the public, Union Government Office Minister U Min Thus said on 8 December 2020. Read news in [english](https://www.mmtimes.com/news/over-200000-complaints-received-k40k-myanmar-govt-subsidy.html) & [burmese](https://myanmar.mmtimes.com/news/148050.html). * ရခိုင်ပြည်နယ်၊ မောင်တောမြို့၊ ရွှေဇားအုပ်စု၊ ရွှေဇားကပ္ပကောင်းကျေးရွာတွင် (၄-၁၂-၂၀၂၀)ရက် (၂၁:၂၀)နာရီခန့်က မီးလောင်မှုဖြစ်ပွားခဲ့ရာ မြေစိုက်လူနေအိမ်(၄)လုံး မီးလောင်ဆုံရှုံးခဲ့ပြီး အဆိုပါမီးလောင်မှုကြောင့်(၄)စုမှ လူဦးရေ(၂၄)ဦး ၊ အိမ်ထောင်စု(၄)စုအား ကယ်ဆယ်ရေးပစ္စည်း(၁၆)မျိုး၊ ဆန်(၇)ရက်စာဖိုးထောက်ပံငွေ(၅၀,၄၀ဝိ/-)၊ လူနေအိမ်(၄)လုံးအတွက်ထောက်ပံ့ငွေ(၄၀၀,၀၀၀/-)ကျပ်အား လူ-ကယ်-ပြန်ဝန်ကြီးဌာနမှ တာဝန်ရှိသူများက ၎င်းပြည်သူများထံသို့ ယနေ့(၆-၁၂-၂၀၂၀)နေ့တွင် သွားရောက်ထောက်ပံ့ ပေးအပ်ခဲ့ ပါသည်။ Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement provided cash assistance and emergy kit to those affected by fire in Maungdaw. [Read here](https://web.facebook.com/mswrrmyanmar/posts/1859858720830411)
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| **Mapping Updates** |
| * **SP/humanitarian cash links mapping (GB cash sub group initiative)**: This can be [accessed here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/14fd9FMcm9ueDsfnLLJPyPOrNk9Ml0KpC/view). The purpose of this live, shareable mapping is to support humanitarian actors in the field. It is light touch and the initial focus is countries/regions that have Humanitarian Response Plans. The mapping has been developed in coordination with other mapping initiatives. Contact Lois Austin (KML consultant for the GB Cash Workstream sub group on Linking Humanitarian Cash and Social Protection) for info/to set up a call. And please do go ahead and add missing information from your country/region into the mapping in order to ensure that it is a helpful tool for practitioners.
* The [IMF Policy Responses to COVID-19 Tracker](https://www.imf.org/en/Topics/imf-and-covid19/Policy-Responses-to-COVID-19) provides a summary of the key economic responses that governments are taking to limit the human and economic impact of the pandemic providing information which is of relevance to humanitarian and development actors, particularly in the design and modification of their COVID-19-related responses.
* CalP shares with actors responding to ETA that OCHA has integrated CVA into the 345Ws. Click [here](https://rolac345w.humanitarianresponse.info/) to register and upload information to the dashboards and [here](https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/latin-america-and-caribbean/hurricane-eta-nov-2020#honduras3w) to view dashboards on [humanitarianresponse.info](http://humanitarianresponse.info/). 345Ws are an important coordination tools to share information about activities by sectors that are being implemented in the field.

**Survey:** * **SURVEY ON THE USE OF THE GRAND BARGAIN MULTIPURPOSE OUTCOME INDICATORS:** Has your organisation used the [Multipurpose Cash Outcome Indicators](https://www.calpnetwork.org/publication/multipurpose-cash-outcome-indicators-final-draft-for-testing/) developed under the Grand Bargain Cash workstream and published in July 2019? Do you have feedback you want to share on the indicators, including ideas for how they could be improved? If so, we’d be grateful if you could complete our survey looking at how the indicators have been used in practice. The survey is a core element of a review that will be used to inform a revised version of the indicators, and to contribute to related collective learning (e.g. webinars). You can access the survey [here](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=3b7_wRbLqkOekwdP02-HR5ACYBAw1vNBshMS3P3krYVUQTBZSlBROEsyS0dWVE83RkNaUk5DU0dQRC4u). The survey will be open for responses until **December 31st 2020.**
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| **Webinars and Events** |
| **Recent webinars and events:** * On December 9, Cash Hub Webinar 16 was organised in partnership with the newly launched Anticipation Hub and focused on CVA and Early Action. Kenya Red Cross presented a recent drought response, and the Bangladesh Red Crescent presented a recent flood response. Challenges, lessons learnt, and the work required to get to the point of delivering cash assistance pre-crisis rather than post-crisis were presented followed by Q&A. This Webinar is part of the Global Dialogue Platform on Anticipatory Humanitarian Action, which is an annual online conference.

**Upcoming webinars and events:*** The Global Shelter Cluster invites the launch of this guidance on **publication of the Global Shelter Cluster’s Rental Market Interventions documents**, which will take place on **15th December at 2pm Geneva time/CET (UTC+1/GMT+1).** Please register your participatio**n** [**HERE**](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fee.humanitarianresponse.info%2Fx%2FfKQ8JAz6&data=04%7C01%7Cguillauh%40unhcr.org%7Cbc2fb8ed5d2d4bae8ddf08d892f09bbb%7Ce5c37981666441348a0c6543d2af80be%7C0%7C0%7C637420909388325148%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=iBD1%2Bpl4JJSSL3M0z1KosWNSJhr9BYLge38WccU9sR8%3D&reserved=0). You can access the event [HERE](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/ap/t-59584e83/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fteams.microsoft.com%2Fl%2Fmeetup-join%2F19%253ameeting_YjQ3MDBjYzQtYzFiMC00ZDhhLTgwMDctMTU2MzUwYjcxN2I0%2540thread.v2%2F0%3Fcontext%3D%257b%2522Tid%2522%253a%2522e5c37981-6664-4134-8a0c-6543d2af80be%2522%252c%2522Oid%2522%253a%2522dc4af02b-2456-4a60-b11c-c5280d8c5c8b%2522%257d&data=04%7C01%7Cguillauh%40unhcr.org%7Cbc2fb8ed5d2d4bae8ddf08d892f09bbb%7Ce5c37981666441348a0c6543d2af80be%7C0%7C0%7C637420909388335141%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=nT1kxpqnzN0cb846OxAnIxTJLAdvj7edlYKZdGb8%2BVQ%3D&reserved=0). (You can give feedback on the event [here](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fee.humanitarianresponse.info%2Fsingle%2FN58Jrmlm&data=04%7C01%7Cguillauh%40unhcr.org%7Cbc2fb8ed5d2d4bae8ddf08d892f09bbb%7Ce5c37981666441348a0c6543d2af80be%7C0%7C0%7C637420909388335141%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=s1Mcee%2B6ReflXFDjrk74MRqrAfej92%2FGSQu8m%2F04920%3D&reserved=0)). You can provide feedback and comments [**HERE**](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fee.humanitarianresponse.info%2Fsingle%2FFOCI4xM2&data=04%7C01%7Cguillauh%40unhcr.org%7Cbc2fb8ed5d2d4bae8ddf08d892f09bbb%7Ce5c37981666441348a0c6543d2af80be%7C0%7C0%7C637420909388345138%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=mBxJlzGOwb1oqv6bwAleJX6pj6htzYnbsbKVRlsMxm4%3D&reserved=0).
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| **Resources and Trainings** |
| * [Socialprotection.org](https://socialprotection.org/) continues to host a space on [social protection responses to #COVID19](https://socialprotection.org/connect/communities/social-protection-responses-covid-19-task-force) which provides access to a series of events, newsletters, mappings etc. In addition, the website hosts a number of online communities including one specifically focused on [social protection in crisis contexts](https://socialprotection.org/connect/communities/social-protection-crisis-contexts). Here, as one of the community resources, you can find a page dedicated to th[e Grand Bargain cash workstream sub-group on linking HCT and SP](https://www.calpnetwork.org/themes/cva-and-covid-19-resources-guidance-events-and-questions/) which will give you links to this newsletter and more.
* CaLP has a dedicated space on [CVA and COVID-19: resources, guidance, events and questions](https://www.calpnetwork.org/themes/cva-and-covid-19-resources-guidance-events-and-questions/) and [CaLP-produced guidance on CVA considerations for COVID](https://www.calpnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/CaLP-summary-guidance-version-5-16-April-2020_.pdf). (including a section specific to SP/HCTs).
* The Cash Hub (hosted by the British Red Cross) has developed a number of tip sheets on delivering CVA and advocating for the use of CVA in response to COVID-19. Whilst targeted towards Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, the resources can be adapted to the needs and approaches of other organisations. They can be found here: [here.](https://cash-hub.org/resources/cash-and-covid-19)
* The Cash Hub platform also provides quarterly updates which provide a useful consolidation of CVA-related topics. Subscribe by clicking on this [link](https://r1.dotmailer-surveys.com/4952l7ad-074f9u4b).
* A multi-country cash transfer research initiative – the Transfer Project – provides a quick-access round-up of COVID-19 related resources [click here](https://transfer.cpc.unc.edu/cash-transfers-covid-19/?utm_source=Transfer+Project+Newsletter&utm_campaign=df0f757bb9-)
* The interactive e-Learning Course on Humanitarian Cash Transfer ( HCT) is now available on AGORA.This 2 hour course covers the fundamentals on Humanitarian Cash Transfers (HCT). It provides a first introduction to what are HCT, and how UNICEF uses them in a humanitarian response as an implementation modality across sectors. It includes considerations on UNICEF comparative advantage and its strategic positioning on HCT, as well as showcase examples of programmes and two case studies. UNICEF colleagues can access it [HERE](https://agora.unicef.org/course/info.php?id=28525). Humanitarian partners can access it on the following link on [AGORA platform](https://agora.unicef.org/course/info.php?id=28525). Partners just need to register / create an account, and then log in to access the course.For any queries, please contact Claire Mariani, Humanitarian Cash Transfer Coordinator, Office of Emergency Programmes, cmariani@unicef.org.

**Resources:** * CCD has a page on [Social Protection and Humanitarian Cash](https://www.collaborativecash.org/social-protection-working-group) which includes country case studies and guidance.
* **Foundational webinars**: The [first webinar](https://socialprotection.org/linking-cash-and-voucher-assistance-and-social-protection-demystifying-entry-points-humanitarians) from GB cash sub group series to demystify the concept of linking social protection and HCT; good introduction and primer to the topic. Second: How can SP Systems respond to the COVID 19 crisis? sets the scene on how SP systems can respond and the challenges governments are facing; [recording here](https://socialprotection.org/how-can-social-protection-systems-respond-covid-19-crisis). And thirdly, [Lessons learned and Opportunities: Linking SP systems to humanitarian cash in a pandemic](https://socialprotection.org/discover/blog/lessons-learned-and-opportunities-linking-social-protection-systems-humanitarian-cash). Includes examples within the context of COVID for measures to link SP/HCT.
* Click the link to access [Ugo Gentilini’s Weekly Social Protection Links newsletter.](https://www.ugogentilini.net/) Packed with valuable information, focusing on social protection developments and action across the globe but also referencing humanitarian action where relevant, the newsletter is a helpful resource for practitioners and policymakers alike.
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| **We welcome your feedback. It is important to allow us to tailor the newsletter to your needs and to make decisions on what is useful.** |