**Myanmar Cash Working Group**

**Weekly Update #7 (14 November - 20 November 2020)**

| **Recently published:** **Articles/Blogs/Research/Guidance/Discussion threads/Policy briefs** |
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| **In Myanmar:** * WFP - Myanmar published Covid-19 situation report #12 on 16 November 2020. As a part of COVID response, WFP is providing cooked meals for some 2,000 people on a daily basis at a government-managed COVID-19 treatment centre, in South Dagon, one of Yangon’s poorest townships with a large number of informal settlements. [Read here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1OCJWyJ4_c2wNuE3Bb2ZF8_QN4DJrDVvP/view?usp=sharing)

**In General:** **Publications:** * Published by the World Bank, [Children on the Move - Progressive Redistribution of Humanitarian Cash Transfers among Refugees](http://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/996581604677892185/pdf/Children-on-the-Move-Progressive-Redistribution-of-Humanitarian-Cash-Transfers-among-Refugees.pdf), evaluates the ESSN in Turkey (primarily using data collected pre-COVID-19 but including data from a “post-pandemic” panel survey) finds that the programme has rapidly caused substantial changes in household size and composition, with a net movement of primarily school-age children from larger ineligible households to smaller eligible ones. A sharp decline in inequality was observed within six months of programme rollout and the poverty headcount at the $3.20/day international poverty line declined by more than 50 percent after one year. The evaluation goes on to suggest that to strike the right balance between transfer size and coverage, key parameters in the design of any cash transfer programme, policy makers should consider the possibility that refugee populations may respond to their eligibility status by altering their household structure and living arrangements.
* CaLP published **State of the World’s Cash 2020** which provides a comprehensive snapshot of cash and voucher assistance (CVA), with significant recommendations for anyone interested in humanitarian action. This report follows on from the first report, a seminal piece, published in 2018. Since then CVA has continued to grow and is now a major part of almost every humanitarian response. The total amount of CVA has doubled since 2016, from $2.8 Bn to $5.6Bn in 2019 and it is an increasingly important tool in the humanitarian toolbox. CVA continues to save lives and livelihoods, and to challenge humanitarian actors to think differently and deliver better. But barriers to greater effectiveness and accountability remain. **Read the report** [here](https://www.calpnetwork.org/state-of-the-worlds-cash-2020/).

**Guidance:** * The Cash Hub, working with the Asia-Pacific Region Cash Coordinator IFRC, has been drafting some interim guidance for PDMs focusing more on outcome Indicators pulling from the Grand Bargain Outcome Indicators 2019 pilot document. The interim document is draft, but may be of interest to those developing PDMs in relation to unconditional cash. It can be viewed [here](https://brcsbrms-my.sharepoint.com/%3Aw%3A/g/personal/daviddalgado_redcross_org_uk/EXZXivoXlNtEs859EcizMPMBweYdi5FAu4qodSWhqwqW-w?rtime=Eu2ylW2M2Eg).
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| **Myanmar Situation Updates**  |
| ပုံမှန်ဝင်ငွေမရှိတဲ့ အခြေခံလူတန်းစား၊ ဝင်ငွေနည်းပြည်သူတွေအတွက် အစိုးရရဲ့ စတုတ္ထအကြိမ်မြောက် ထောက်ပံ့မှုမှာ အိမ်ထောင်စုပေါင်း ၆ ဒသမ ၁ သန်းလောက်အတွက် ကျပ်ငွေ ၁၆၄ ဘီလီယံအသုံးပြုသွားမယ်လို့ သမ္မတရုံးပြောရေးဆိုခွင့်ရှိသူ ဦးဇော်ဌေးက ပြောပါတယ်။ Myanmar’s government says it will provide a fourth round of cash handouts for those struggling because of COVID-19.  [Link here](http://burmese.dvb.no/archives/424201?fbclid=IwAR3112W-i7X0UkyYbKlhWHE30_66iqfD9LxOj5xfVQA6qoLoT2iEy4Nwb44)ကိုရိုနာဗိုင်းရပ်စ်၏ ခြောက်လှန့်မှုများကြားမှ ဂျပန်ကျွမ်းကျင်ပညာရှင်များ၊ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံဘက်မှ ဗဟိုဘဏ်နှင့် ပြည်တွင်း/ပြည်ပဘဏ်များမှတာ၀န်ရှိသူများ၏ လုံံ့လ၀ီရိယအပြည့်ဖြင့် ပူးပေါင်းဆောင်ရွက်ခဲ့မှုတို့‌ကြောင့် ဗဟိုဘဏ်၏ ငွေ‌ပေးချေမှုကွန်ယက်စနစ်-၂ (CBM-Net2)ကို ၂၀၂၀ ခုနစ် နို၀င်ဘာလ (၁၆)ရက်နေ့ တွင် အောင်မြင်စွာ စတင်မိတ်ဆက်နိုင်ခဲ့ပြီ ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ **Central Bank of Myanmar (CBM) launches New Payment and Settlement System (CBM-NET2):** Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) supported to implement CBM-NET, a secure and efficient payment and settlement infrastructure, in January 2016, and contributed to the development and computerization of the financial and banking sector. [For english: Global News Light of Myanmar](https://www.gnlm.com.mm/cbm-launches-new-payment-and-settlement-system-cbm-net2/); [For burmese: JICA Facebook](https://web.facebook.com/JicaMyanmarOffice/photos/a.1272594529421924/4079912372023445/)* ဧရာ၀တီမြစ်ကမ်းပါးပြိုကျသူများအားငွေကြေးအထောက်အပံ့များပေးအပ်ခြင်း - At about 6:30 pm on 14 November, the riverbank collapsed in the villages in Magway Region. The collapse was caused by water erosion of the Ayeyawady River. Each household of the 36 households\_30 households from Paukkone, five from Kyaung Zu, and one from Zee Kyun\_was given K100,000. So, the total cash assistance is K3.6 million. The Chief Minister and his entourage also gave the victims food. Here is a [link](https://www.gnlm.com.mm/victims-of-ayeyawady-riverbank-collapse-get-cash-assistance/)
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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.**
* Key Aid Counselling has developed a short online survey (10-15 minutes) on cash grants for groups / community cash; The survey can be accessed here (until 25th of November 2020): <https://ee.humanitarianresponse.info/x/wm5MnR75>. The data feed into the development of guidelines and tools on group cash grants to be part of the CVA toolbox.
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| **Webinars and Events** |
| **Recent webinars and events:** * The last of CaLP’s five webinars was about “Identifying the trigger points for MEB review and update: a peer-to-peer learning conversation” – [Recording available here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HL_aA5Qo_gA&feature=youtu.be)
* CashHub webinar 14 - on monitoring in relation to Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) with a focus on outcome indicators, expenditure monitoring, recent work on well-being indicators, and remote focus group discussions (FGDs) was held on November 4, 2020. The recording of the Webinar is [here](https://vimeo.com/475443877). The slides for the Webinar are [here](https://cash-hub.org/-/media/cashhub-documents/resources/thematic-area/webinar/webinar-14/20201104_cashhub_webinar.pdf?la=en&hash=2E25DF453B404DBDF3C996318C28B206DB45056F). The summary takeaways are attached. Further information from Turkish Red Crescent on remote FGDs is [here](http://platform.kizilaykart.org/en/Doc/rapor/Remote_Focus_Group_Discussions.pdf).
* **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.

**Upcoming webinars and events:*** The [Global WASH Cluster,](https://washcluster.net/) [PRO-WASH](https://www.fsnnetwork.org/pro-wash) and [CaLP](https://www.calpnetwork.org/) are organizing an upcoming webinar on the ***Effectiveness of cash, vouchers and market support activities in achieving WASH Outcomes***. The webinar will take place on: **Tuesday, December 8th at 9 a.m. Eastern Time (US) / 3 p.m. Paris**. This webinar will be held in English with simultaneous interpretation in French, Arabic and Spanish. More details and registration here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/webinar-effectiveness-of-cva-and-market-support-activities-in-wash-tickets-129358074483>
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| **Resources and Trainings** |
| * [Socialprotection.org](https://socialprotection.org/) continues to host a space on [social protection responses to #COVID19](https://socialprotection.org/connect/communities/social-protection-responses-covid-19-task-force) which provides access to a series of events, newsletters, mappings etc. In addition, the website hosts a number of online communities including one specifically focused on [social protection in crisis contexts](https://socialprotection.org/connect/communities/social-protection-crisis-contexts). Here, as one of the community resources, you can find a page dedicated to th[e Grand Bargain cash workstream sub-group on linking HCT and SP](https://www.calpnetwork.org/themes/cva-and-covid-19-resources-guidance-events-and-questions/) which will give you links to this newsletter and more.
* CaLP has a dedicated space on [CVA and COVID-19: resources, guidance, events and questions](https://www.calpnetwork.org/themes/cva-and-covid-19-resources-guidance-events-and-questions/) and [CaLP-produced guidance on CVA considerations for COVID](https://www.calpnetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/CaLP-summary-guidance-version-5-16-April-2020_.pdf). (including a section specific to SP/HCTs).
* The Cash Hub (hosted by the British Red Cross) has developed a number of tip sheets on delivering CVA and advocating for the use of CVA in response to COVID-19. Whilst targeted towards Red Cross and Red Crescent National Societies, the resources can be adapted to the needs and approaches of other organisations. They can be found here: [here.](https://cash-hub.org/resources/cash-and-covid-19)
* The Cash Hub platform also provides quarterly updates which provide a useful consolidation of CVA-related topics. Subscribe by clicking on this [link](https://r1.dotmailer-surveys.com/4952l7ad-074f9u4b).
* A multi-country cash transfer research initiative – the Transfer Project – provides a quick-access round-up of COVID-19 related resources [click here](https://transfer.cpc.unc.edu/cash-transfers-covid-19/?utm_source=Transfer+Project+Newsletter&utm_campaign=df0f757bb9-)
* The interactive e-Learning Course on Humanitarian Cash Transfer ( HCT) is now available on AGORA.This 2 hour course covers the fundamentals on Humanitarian Cash Transfers (HCT). It provides a first introduction to what are HCT, and how UNICEF uses them in a humanitarian response as an implementation modality across sectors. It includes considerations on UNICEF comparative advantage and its strategic positioning on HCT, as well as showcase examples of programmes and two case studies. UNICEF colleagues can access it [HERE](https://agora.unicef.org/course/info.php?id=28525). Humanitarian partners can access it on the following link on [AGORA platform](https://agora.unicef.org/course/info.php?id=28525). Partners just need to register / create an account, and then log in to access the course.For any queries, please contact Claire Mariani, Humanitarian Cash Transfer Coordinator, Office of Emergency Programmes, cmariani@unicef.org.

**Resources:** * CCD has a page on [Social Protection and Humanitarian Cash](https://www.collaborativecash.org/social-protection-working-group) which includes country case studies and guidance.
* 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.** |