**Myanmar Cash Working Group**

**Weekly Update #9 (28 November - 4 December 2020)**

| **Recently published:** **Articles/Blogs/Research/Guidance/Discussion threads/Policy briefs** |
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| **In Myanmar:** **Report**: Mercy Corps has published MARKET PRICE REPORT which was undertaken in RAKHINE STATE in October 2020. The report highlighted October food prices and prices of kitchen wares were generally higher in Maundaw than other townships. [Here is a link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SighY_qA83ch79nmCW-eeuzBRP7E4yOC/view?usp=sharing)NRC Myanmar published Community Hotline Report in October 2020. It includes an introduction to the Hotline as well as provides a summary of issues raised by beneficiaries, in addition to NRC’s work on community mobilization and outreach. [Read here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1N3fIMAIk7fd-vD_L1nQr88QHzCHPfqII/view?usp=sharing)**Snapshot**: During October 29 - November 1, 2020, Mercy Corps’ Market Analysis Unit (MAU) conducted phone interviews with 29 agricultural input suppliers in Rakhine State to measure the impact of conflict and COVID-19 on agricultural supply chains in October 2020. Data are based on a convenience sample of 10 suppliers from Sittwe and 19 suppliers from seven additional townships, most of whom supply inputs to both paddy farmers and winter crop farmers. [Read here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dj3h9Hzqk9mNajgHgGOcFshdQo_bhNqP/view?usp=sharing)**In General:** **Publication:** A study on the “[Efficiency, Legitimacy, and Impacts of Targeting Methods: Evidence from an Experiment in Niger”](https://academic.oup.com/wber/advance-article/doi/10.1093/wber/lhaa019/5902751) provides an analysis of targeting performance through an experiment embedded in the country’s national safety net cash transfer programme. Building on the humanitarian household economy analysis, three methods were tested – proxy means testing; community-based targeting; and food consumption scores. The study highlights the benefits of the different approaches tested.**CaLP** Library added the publications this week: [EMMA: Relying on Markets for the Beirut Blast Shelter Response - Emergency Market Mapping and Analysis of Selected Construction Material Markets in Lebanon](https://www.calpnetwork.org/publication/emma-relying-on-markets-for-the-beirut-blast-shelter-response-emergency-market-mapping-and-analysis-of-selected-construction-material-markets-in-lebanon/); [External Evaluation of SDC/HA Emergency Cash Pilot For Earthquake Affected Households in Bubq, Albania](https://www.calpnetwork.org/publication/external-evaluation-of-sdc-ha-emergency-cash-pilot-for-earthquake-affected-households-in-bubq-albania/), Ruth Aggiss / Valbona Lenja and Video: [Cash assistance: how design influence VfM?](https://www.calpnetwork.org/publication/cash-assistance-how-design-influence-vfm/), Key Aid Consulting**Guidance:** Based on the experience of its members, the Guatemala Multisectoral Group on Cash Transfers has produced guidance to help in the safe delivery of transfers during the pandemic. Advice on monitoring is also included. The link to the guidance (which is in Spanish) is here: [Guía para el manejo de Proyectos de Transferencias Monetarias (PTM) por Covid-19](https://www.calpnetwork.org/es/publication/guia-para-el-manejo-de-proyectos-de-transferencias-monetarias-ptm-por-covid-19/)**Briefing notes:** ODI’s briefing note on [“Bridging humanitarian digital divides during COVID-19”](https://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/resource-documents/digital_covid_briefing_note_web.pdf) highlights the call for humanitarian agencies to work more closely with governments during the pandemic, including in strengthening social protection systems that are built on digital infrastructure. Togo and Jordan are given as examples. The paper finds that early predictions that the pandemic would change how digital technology is used in humanitarian action have not yet materialised. The most effective tools have been those already known to work at scale, such as providing digital cash through mobile money. The briefing note recommends that humanitarian agencies work more closely with a wider range of actors when using digital technology, including governments and the private sector, and understand both the opportunities and risks that this presents.**Coordination**: The Cash Consortium Yemen, a collaboration between DRC, NRC, ACTED, and IOM, which was formed as a response to the need for harmonized tools and approaches and a cohesive Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance (MPCA) strategy for the most vulnerable conflict-affected households in Yemen, has announced its creation in this [brochure](https://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/CCY_Brochure-2.pdf). The CCY is, amongst other things, working on integrating recipients into longer-term social safety nets in the country. In-depth discussions are planned with the majority of the actors currently working on social protection programmes and the ultimate goal of the collaboration is to ensure inclusion and mitigate exclusion of the most vulnerable individuals in long term social protection programmes. |
| **Myanmar Situation Updates**  |
| ဧရာဝတီတိုင်းဒေသကြီး၊ ဟင်္သာတခရိုင်၊ လေးမျက်နှာမြို့နယ်၊ သောင်ဘုတ် အုပ်စု၊ (သောင်ဘုတ်၊ အလယ်ကျွန်း) ကျေးရွာတွင်(၂၆-၁၁-၂၀၂၀)ရက်နေ့က ဖြစ်ပွားခဲ့သော ကမ်းပါးပြိုကျမှုကြောင့် ကြိုတင်ပြောင်းရွှေ့ခဲ့ရသော အိမ်ခြေ(၆)လုံးအတွက် အိမ်ဆောက်ပစ္စည်းဖိုးထောက်ပံ့ငွေ (၆၀၀,၀၀ဝ/-)ကျပ်နှင့် လူဦးရေ(၂၂)ဦးအတွက် ဆန်ရိက္ခာ(၇)ရက်စာ ဖိုးထောက်ပံ့ငွေ (၄၆၂၀ဝ/-)ကျပ် စုစုပေါင်းကယ်ဆယ်ရေးရန်ပုံငွေ (၆၄၆,၂၀ဝ/-)ကျပ်တို့ကို လူ-ကယ်-ပြန်ဝန်ကြီးဌာနမှ တာဝန်ရှိသူများက လေးမျက်နှာမြို့နယ်၊ အထွေထွေအုပ်ချုပ်ရေးဦးစီးဌာန၌ သက်ဆိုင်ရာတာဝန်ရှိသူများနှင့်အတူ ၎င်းပြည်သူများထံသို့ ယနေ့(၁-၁၂-၂၀၂၀)ရက်နေ့ (၁၂:၀၀) နာရီအချိန်တွင် လက်ဝယ်အရောက် ထောက်ပံ့ပေးအပ်ခဲ့ပါသည်။ Ministry of Social Wealfare, Relief and Resettlement has provided a total of relife fund 646,200 kyats for house building materials for 6 houses and 7 days food allowance for 22 people due to landslide in Ayeyarwaddy. [Read here](https://web.facebook.com/mswrrmyanmar/posts/1855574974592119)မြိုနယ်(၄)မြို့နယ်တွင် မီးလောင်မှုကြောင့်ဆုံးရှုံးနစ်နာခဲ့ရသည့် ပြည်သူများအား ကူညီထောက်ပံ့ခြင်းများဆောင်ရွက်။ MoSWRR Provided assistance which includes cash, emergency kit and family kit to those affected by fire in 4 different townships from Kayin, Magway, Mon and Ayeyarwaddy. [Read here](https://web.facebook.com/mswrrmyanmar/posts/1855571854592431)* ကချင်ပြည်နယ်အတွင်းရှိ IDPs စခန်းများမှ ကျေးရွာများသို့ပြောင်းရွှေ့နေထိုင်ကြသည့် ပြည်သူများအား ကူညီထောက်ပံ့ မှုများဆောင်ရွက် MoSWRR provided cash and in kind assistance to those who returned from IDPs to villages in Kachin state. [Read here](https://web.facebook.com/mswrrmyanmar/posts/1852833141532969)
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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.**
* The CaLP community cash working group (DCA, NRC, Oxfam, ActionAid, CRS, WRC) has contracted Key Aid Consulting to lead a study to collect evidence and learnings on cash grants to groups / community cash grants as a response modality. Which will feed into the development of guidelines and tools on group cash grants to be part of the CVA toolbox. If you are interested send a mail on chl@dca.dk with a short narrative on why you want to join and justify your experience/contribution and/or interest in this theme.
* The Global WASH Cluster is conducting an important survey, and along the voices of other sectors and cross-cutting themes, they would like to hear the opinion of cash and market experts.The survey will take 15-20 minutes to complete (but you are welcome to spend more time thinking of gaps!). The survey will close on December 7th. If you would like to be kept up to date and receive the results of the 2020 WASH Gap Analysis, enter your contact information in the form here: <https://forms.gle/2rVtXYfbGaLvf8xh6>.To take the survey follow the link here: <https://cranfielduniversity.eu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_6LQ3AhbiOLWTW29>
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| **Webinars and Events** |
| **Recent webinars and events:** * On Tuesday 1 December CaLP is hosting a webinar targeting practitioners with an interest in CVA in East Africa. This will focus on quality in CVA, considering what quality programming means to different people, and how we can continue to collectively make progress.

**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.
* **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.

**Training:**Applications are now open for a new Online course on CVA for the MENA region!CaLP is piloting a new remote delivery format of our flagship Core CVA skills for Programme Staff course. This course will be delivered from January to April 2021 via a series of videos, online workshops, e-learnings and group tasks. The course takes 12 weeks to complete, at an estimated learning effort of 3 hours per week. Deadline for application is 16 December 2020: [bit.ly/2J3mdxL](http://bit.ly/2J3mdxL) This course is only open to participants from the MENA region and will be run in English. |
| **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.** |