



Photo: Migrant returnees queueing up to collect WFP-supported cooked meals in a quarantine site in Myawaddy Township along the Thai-Myanmar border.
©WFP/Mohmoh Win Aung

Situation

- According to the Ministry of Health and Sports, there are 161 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Myanmar as of 5 May, including six deaths.

WFP Operations

- WFP is actively engaged in the planning and formulation of the UN COVID-19 Socio-Economic Workstream, co-leading the social protection pillar with UNICEF and the community resilience pillar with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
- WFP, in close coordination with other actors in the Nutrition in Emergency (NiE) Sector, has developed a guidance package on emergency nutrition response in the context of COVID-19. The NiE Sector provided a virtual orientation on the package to nutrition partners in the field, focusing particularly on the nutrition information system, risk communication, monitoring and reporting.
- WFP, together with UNICEF, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), is designing a Rapid Response Mechanism for Myanmar to be activated in case of need in a COVID-19 emergency. The package may include food assistance, drinking water and hygiene kits, and will aim to link to longer-term Government social protection assistance.



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- WFP has completed the April distribution cycle for emergency relief with two- to three-months' worth of rations in Kachin, central Rakhine and northern Shan. Starting from May, WFP plans to distribute a two-month ration in northern Rakhine.
- WFP continues to provide food and nutrition assistance to 13,600 people in quarantine sites in Kayin, Mon and Yangon, at the request of local authorities. WFP also delivered meal boxes to 800 people who completed facility quarantine in Hpa An Township in Kayin.
- Starting from May, WFP plans to provide cooked meals for 15,000 migrant returnees in quarantine sites in Hpa An, Kyarinseikgyi and Myawaddy townships in Kayin State for the 21-day quarantine period, in addition to a one-time meal for an estimated 30,000 migrant returnees who may cross the Thai-Myanmar border in Myawaddy in transit to

Highlights

- WFP is providing emergency food and nutrition assistance to 14,400 people in quarantine sites in Kayin, Mon and Yangon, as requested by the authorities.
- WFP will operate its first weekly humanitarian flight linking Yangon and Kuala Lumpur on 10 May to bring in priority cargo and support frontline humanitarian and health responders in Myanmar.
- WFP is actively engaged in the formulation of the UN COVID-19 Socio-Economic Workstream, with a particular focus on social protection and community resilience.

other quarantine facilities.

- As a preventive measure, WFP plans to provide personal protective equipment (PPE) to HIV/TB patients in peri-urban Yangon areas, who have greater health vulnerabilities to COVID-19.

Common Services Support



Supply Chain and Logistics Coordination

- WFP has procured personal protective equipment such as masks, gloves and basic hygiene supplies for its staff and cooperating partners. The procurement exercise is expected to be completed in the first week of May.
- WFP stands ready to provide mobile storage units for emergency deployment to Myitkyina Township in Kachin for COVID-19 response.



Aviation Service Support

- Thanks to support from the European Union and Switzerland, WFP plans to start operating the first of a series of weekly humanitarian flight connecting Yangon and Kuala Lumpur on 10 May. Each flight is able to accommodate two metric tonnes of humanitarian cargo and up to 100 passengers.
- WFP stands ready to provide coordination support at Yangon International Airport to manage the flow of incoming cargo. Arrangements are in place to activate the hiring of dedicated handling and storage capacity to allow humanitarian actors to perform custom clearance process while avoiding congestion at the airport.

Resourcing Situation

- WFP requires approximately US\$ 3.7 million to provide food and nutrition assistance to 45,000 quarantined migrant returnees, as reflected in the Humanitarian Response Plan Addendum.
- WFP requires US\$1 million as seed funding for the Rapid Response Mechanism for Myanmar, as well as US\$ 2.8 million for logistics/common services support.

WFP 6-month Net Funding Requirements (May 2020 – October 2020)

Country Strategic Plan
(2018-2022)

USD 20.94 million