



Photo: Workers unloading WFP food items for distributions in a quarantine centre in Yangon. ©WFP/Htet Oo Linn

Highlights

- WFP is coordinating with other UN agencies to conduct a joint socio-economic impact assessment of COVID-19 on Myanmar.
- WFP continues to provide food and nutrition assistance to 7,500 migrant returnees placed under quarantine.
- WFP is actively engaging the humanitarian community in Myanmar in collecting and disseminating information on logistics coordination and supply chain.
- WFP is on standby to provide further information and communications technology support to the Government and humanitarian partners.

Situation

- According to the Ministry of Health and Sports, there are 41 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Myanmar as of 13 April, including four deaths.
- To curb the spread of COVID-19, the Government of Myanmar imposed additional restrictions on residents' movements including strongly advising people to stay home, shutting down public transportation networks, suspending all international commercial flights until 30 April, banning mass gatherings and extending the quarantine period from 14 to 28 days.

WFP Operations

- WFP is closely coordinating with other UN agencies to conduct a joint socio-economic assessment on the impact of COVID-19 on Myanmar. WFP will focus on food security, vulnerability and market assessments through remote monitoring and mobile data collection.
- WFP remote monitoring in early April shows an increase in retail prices of rice (9%) and oil (5%) in northern Rakhine compared to early March. Across Myanmar, people are purchasing food at a higher rate than normal to avoid depletion of food supplies.



Food and Nutrition Assistance

- WFP plans to complete the April distribution cycle for all activities before the UN Myanmar New Year holidays (14th-17th April).
- As requested by the Kayin State Government, WFP has dispatched rice sufficient for the needs of 2,500 migrant returnees in quarantine sites in Myawaddy Township (along the Thai-Myanmar border). Further food assistance to returnees is planned in the coming weeks, with an overall target of 50,000 people to be supported through their quarantine period.
- As requested by the Yangon Regional Health Department, WFP is currently providing food and nutrition assistance to 5,000 people in quarantine shelters in Yangon.

Common Services Support



Supply Chain and Logistics Coordination

- WFP is planning to upgrade WFP warehouses for cold chain processes to support the Government's COVID-19 response.
- As the lead agency in the Inter-Agency Logistics Sector Coordination Group, WFP is providing consolidated updates on logistics coordination and supply chain information. WFP focuses on collecting information from the humanitarian community on upstream pipeline requirements in Myanmar to feed into WFP global logistics service provision plans.
- WFP continues to offer procurement and logistics support to its humanitarian partners, which includes common logistics services, transport and warehousing.



Emergency Telecommunications

- WFP stands ready to provide information and communications technology (ICT) support to enable key staff from the Government and humanitarian partners to carry out critical activities.



Aviation Service Support

- WFP Myanmar concluded the consultation process on the demand of the humanitarian community for passenger air service domestically and internationally to designated hubs.

Resourcing Situation

- WFP is currently finalizing its estimated requirements as part of the three-month COVID-19 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) Addendum that will be launched in the coming days. Support under the HRP will enable the UN, international NGOs and national NGOs to respond to fresh needs arising from COVID-19 while sustaining critical ongoing humanitarian operations.

WFP 6-month Net Funding Requirements (April 2020 – September 2020)

Country Strategic Plan
(2018-2022)

USD 31.29 million