



WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME MYANMAR December 2015 Operational Report

National launch event of “Fortified Rice for Myanmar”: On 10 December, a national launch event for commercialising fortified rice in Myanmar was conducted by the Ministry of Health in collaboration with international NGO, PATH, in Nay Pyi Taw. The Deputy Minister of Health H.E. Dr. Daw Thein Thein Htay made her opening remarks. Myanmar private sector organisations, international NGOs and UN agencies, including WFP, attended the event, during which the Ministry of Health led a panel discussion with senior officials from the national nutrition centre, Myanmar rice federation, PATH, UNICEF and WFP. With the aim of addressing the micro-nutrient deficiencies prevalent in the country, PATH has ushered the rice fortification initiative with funding from the Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund (LIFT) in Myanmar by providing technical support to local companies to import, install and test the equipment necessary to produce fortified rice. With in-house expertise and empirical experience in other Asian countries, WFP has been engaged in the process of rice fortification, providing technical assistance to the Government. From 2016, WFP intends to integrate fortified rice into Myanmar’s national social safety nets programmes such as people living with HIV and TB. The fortified rice will help meeting the nutrition need for PLHIV/TB clients to keep the immune system strong and to fight disease.

Download link: [Rice Fortification Factsheet](#)

Ongoing flood response: In November, WFP continued providing unconditional food assistance to some 70,000 flood-affected people in Chin, Rakhine, Magway and Sagaing under food for relief activities. In Magway, more than 47,200 beneficiaries also received assistance through unconditional cash for relief activities. In addition, a total of 513 people were supported through community cash for assets rehabilitation activities in Magway. WFP observed that the people were satisfied with the cash assistance provided.



Loss of poultry, caused by the floods. With WFP’s cash assistance, women will be able to resume animal rearing. © WFP/ Soe Thet Nyo.

Humanitarian support in Shan State: From early October till the end of November, armed clashes between the Government’s forces and the Shan State Army-North (SSA-N) intensified in Shan State, causing displacements of a total of 10,000 people to camps and surrounding areas in Mong Hsu, Kye Thee Townships. In first week of December, a humanitarian mission consisting of Save the Children, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNOCHA and WFP carried out a rapid assessment. The findings reflected immediate needs in Nutrition, Shelter and WASH sectors. Although private donation of staple food seemed to be sufficient for next two to four weeks, WFP’s nutrition support was recommended for all the IDPs given the dietary intake by IDPs being limited to instant food such as dried noodles and canned fish. During the mission, WFP provided blended food to meet additional nutrition need of pregnant and lactating women and young children. WFP intends to continue providing blended food. As of end November, the situation has become relatively stable, however, the IDPs are likely to remain in camps until agreement has been reached by the Union Peacemaking Working Committee and SSA-N to cease tension.





The Ministry of Health led a panel discussion with the Myanmar Rice Federation, PATH, UNICEF and WFP, at the national launch event of "Fortified Rice for Myanmar" in Nay Pyi Taw. © WFP

Transition to cash assistance: WFP has rolled out a pilot beneficiary targeting exercise in one of the IDP camps in Government control area (GCA) in Kachin for transition to cash assistance. A predetermined approach and criteria were used for the exercise which has successfully completed with only 20 percent of total IDPs being identified as the most vulnerable households. WFP assessed functionality of local monetary services for future cooperation with WFP. The pilot exercise will be followed by meeting with camp management committees, radio broadcasting and household prioritization in 75 out of total 104 camps in GCA, scheduled from late November to early December. WFP intends to expand the use of cash transfer in its programmes wherever feasible within the next two years.

16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence: WFP in Myanmar participated in "ORANGE WFP AND THE WORLD: WFP Says NO to Violence against Women" organized by its Gender office. WFP staff held a role play to raise awareness of potential gender based violence or sexual abuse in humanitarian context. During 2016~2017, WFP will further promote gender-sensitive and protection-sensitive approach and programming. WFP expects to have more opportunities to address gender equality and women empowerment by mainstreaming gender and protection in all activities.



16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence event at WFP Country Office in Yangon. ©WFP

Year-End Thank You

In November, WFP welcomed US\$4.2 million from the United Kingdom and US\$300,000 from the Republic of Korea in support of ongoing activities for the most food insecure people in the worst flood-affected areas.

WFP would like to extend sincere thanks to all partners who have provided support during 2015, namely Australia, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, EU, Germany, Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK and the USA.

WFP also would like to extend thanks to the Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund (LIFT) for multi-donor continued financial support for the Food Security and Poverty Estimation surveys conducted across the country jointly with the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development, and which will enable development of the country's first food security atlas early next year.

WFP's programmes would have not been possible without the tremendous support from our cooperating partners - ACF, ACRD, ADRA, AGE, AHRN, AMDA, AMI, AYO, CARD, CDN, GREEN, HPA, IOM, KMSS, Malteser International, MAM, MDM, MHAA, MHDO, MSF, MAM, NAG, NCV, OISCA, Partners, PC - Myanmar, Plan Myanmar, REAM, RPF, SCI, TDH and World Vision, as well as close coordination with our development partners and UN agencies.

Resource Situation: WFP currently requires US\$31 million to meet all food assistance needs till the end of June 2016 with a major pipeline break, affecting relief and school feeding programme in January, if no new funding is received as soon as possible.