



WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME MYANMAR November 2015 Operational Report

Extension of WFP's current operation: In early November, WFP Executive Board has approved the 2-year extension and \$134m expansion of the current WFP Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) in Myanmar until the end of 2017. This extension will accommodate the current political transition, renewed national reconciliation efforts and the goal of establishing a United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) by 2018. WFP will aim to target an increased number of beneficiaries under its scaled up nutrition interventions for treatment and prevention of wasting and prevention of stunting, national school feeding programme as well as emergency relief and community assets creation activities particularly in response to the devastating floods, which hit the country in August. WFP intends to employ gradual reduction of food assistance to internally displaced persons (IDPs) in Kachin, northern Shan and Rakhine in the coming two years to minimize and phase out their dependency on unconditional food assistance since conflicts erupted in 2011/2012. Another major programmatic change will revolve around promoting cash-based transfers for IDPs in Kachin State, pregnant women and nursing mothers and participants in asset creation projects in areas with access to markets and functioning cash infrastructure. During 2016-2017, a particular focus will be put on intensifying cooperation with the Government for the implementation of the country's national strategies, achieving Zero Hunger Challenge by 2025 and graduation from Least Developed Country to Middle Income Country status by 2030. WFP will continue to work with the Ministry of Education through the "School Feeding Systems Approach for Better Education Results (SABER)" by providing technical support for capacity building of designated ministerial staff. WFP will also enhance the collaboration with the Ministry of Health through joint programming and technical support to the National Nutrition Centre and National TB and AIDS programmes. WFP and the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement will continue to implement the National Social

Protection Strategic Plan. WFP and the Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development plan to improve the food security monitoring system and jointly generate country's first Food Security and Poverty Atlas with funding support from the Livelihoods and Food Security Trust (LIFT) fund.

New displacement in Shan State: The armed clashes between the Government military and the Shan State Progress Party/ Shan State Army (SSPP/SSA) headquarters and adjacent villages since early November have resulted in the displacement of at least 6,000 people in southern Shan State. The displaced populations found temporary refuge in a monastery as well as villages around Wang Wa, Mong Shu, Wang Hai and some other areas of central Shan. A UN humanitarian assessment mission, including WFP, visited several accessible areas affected by conflict. According to the preliminary findings, the immediate humanitarian needs include food, proper shelter, clothing, blankets and health care. There is a recurrent movement of IDPs from affected areas to Laihka, Mong Shu, Haipa, Kenglon and Lashio as the shelling continues. Through its Area Office in Lashio, WFP is planning to provide the initial two-week full relief rations of rice, pulses, cooking oil and salt to 1,437 IDPs currently sheltered in Wang Wa village camp because of unstable security situation in the area.

Flood response: In October, WFP continued providing unconditional food relief assistance to a total of more than 55,000 flood-affected people in Chin, Rakhine and Sagaing. (12,996 in Chin, 29,025 in Rakhine and 13,023 in Sagaing). In order to support early recovery of the flood affected people and rehabilitation of community assets, WFP aims to implement cash for assets activities in the worst affected areas of Chin, Magway, Rakhine and Sagaing. WFP intends to provide immediate cash assistance to more than 23,000 people during November 2015 and January 2016, and the target projects include rehabilitation of farmlands, canals, ponds and roads.



Food delivery to the areas of beyond Government control in Kachin:

In late October, WFP was granted permission for pending delivery of pulses to areas beyond government control. WFP delivered a total of 31 metric tons of pulses to Je Yang and Alenbum camps in Laiza area, covering two month ration for more than 8,600 IDPs. WFP's pulses complement regular food assistance provided by a local NGO, Karuna Mission Social Solidarity (KMSS).

Continued support to boat people:

By late October, a total of 731 verified Bangladeshi nationals, accommodated in Taung Pyo camp of Maungdaw Township, were repatriated and 195 people from Rakhine returned to their places of origin. To date, 76 boat people have remained in the camp, and WFP has continued providing them food rations through the authorities in charge.

Commercialized rice fortification:

WFP is working closely with the international NGO PATH to support the Government with national rice fortification. Rice fortification is now ready to be commercialized and the launching event will be held on 10 December in Naw Pyi Taw. WFP has been providing technical assistance and intends to incorporate distribution of fortified rice into the programme, particularly targeting people living with HIV and TB clients, who are undergoing treatment and have high nutritional needs. From 2013, this LIFT-funded rice fortification initiative has been led by PATH with an aim to achieve two distinct outcomes: to reduce micronutrient deficiencies in the population and to create income-generation opportunities for supply chain and distribution actors. This initiative is implemented through multi-sector engagement, including the Ministry of Health, UN agencies, NGOs as well as private sectors. WFP's technical assistance includes: support to define the fortification levels and production modalities, assistance to develop guidelines, and advocacy support for strengthening multi-stakeholder and multi-sectoral participation.

Transition of type and level of assistance and targeting to Kachin IDPs:

As the humanitarian situation in Kachin State has changed since 2011 when armed conflicts resumed, there is a need to start support for early recovery and self-reliance for the IDPs. WFP plans to introduce cash transfer and employ gradual reduction of assistance to IDPs. In this regard, the IDP camps in government control areas (GCA) with access to functional markets will receive cash transfer while the camps in GCA with no or restricted market access will continue receiving regular monthly food ration. Representative and management committees will cooperate with IDPs to assess and identify the most vulnerable households. The latter will be entitled to 100 percent of food or cash. Also, the level of assistance will be reduced by 30 percent of cash equivalent or 20 percent of food ration to the less vulnerable households. This transition of type and level of assistance will be accurately and timely communicated to all the affected communities. To ensure accountability to the beneficiaries and transparency of the process, a Beneficiary Complaints and Feedback mechanism is being set up. Preceded by livelihood and camp profiling exercises being rolled out from October to December 2015, the transition is scheduled in January 2016.

Resource Situation: In October, the EU contributed a supplementary EUR1 million on top of its previous grant in support of IDP response. In November, WFP also received US\$605,794 from Australia as well as US\$1.6 million from Sweden and the UK through multilateral allocations. Switzerland extended the secondment of Protection Advisor to WFP in Myanmar through standby partnership.

WFP currently requires US\$40 million to meet food assistance needs, including flood response till the end of June 2016. Major food pipeline break, affecting relief activities, is expected in February 2016 if no new funding is received as soon as possible.

The top five funding sources to WFP in Myanmar are Japan, USA, EU, Australia and Switzerland.