



# Information sharing on novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

MRCS's activities supported by its nation-wide branches & community-based Red Cross volunteers

#COVID19 Helping the most vulnerable people through the most local action in Myanmar and globally



Ma Cho Nwe Lwin with her son planting trees in her community amidst COVID-19.

### Planting our future amidst COVID-19

**“** I came to plant trees with a team of volunteers, as well as my 6-year-old son. In Myanmar, June is usually the time for the government to encourage people to plant trees, in consideration of the Monsoon season. We received tree seedlings and tools from the local government.

Next year, it will be 10 years since I became a Myanmar Red Cross volunteer. For the last 3.5 months, I've been checking temperatures and giving awareness raising sessions at gates between townships. I miss giving first aid trainings among other volunteers and really hope we can return to normal soon.

When I am volunteering for COVID-19, my father takes care of my son. My son is very excited to come along with me today to plant trees and has been very energetic all day. I hope he will become a Red Cross volunteer in the future as well. I am sure he will enjoy helping others, just like I do.”

Ma Cho Nwe Lwin, Red Cross volunteer, Pauk Township, Magway Region

Latest statistics from the Ministry of Health and Sports (MoHS) as of 8:00pm, 23 June 2020

Total Person Under Investigation (PUI) - 5,759

Confirmed - 292  
Death - 6  
Recovered - 204

Source: [Surveillance Dashboard](#). Global figures [here](#).



Magway region



Mandalay region



Tanintharyi region



Mon state

### Helping the local governments and teachers in preparing to welcoming back students amidst COVID-19



### Red Cross voices from the field



**“** Teachers from various villages in our township gathered for a briefing from the Ministry of Education, the usual one given before school begins again every year. This year due to COVID-19, the briefing was postponed for a few weeks. We still don't know when the school will open, just expecting it will be soon...we provided masks, posters, and information leaflets to the teachers.

As a parent of a daughter in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, I am worried about her safety when the schools open again. So I always remind her of proper handwashing, physical distancing, and wearing of masks, the way I do during our COVID-19 activities. My daughter will be so happy to go back to school though, as she has been really bored for a few months already. She just can't wait for schools to open.

Daw War War Win Thu (in red vest), Red Cross Volunteer, Mongyaung township, Eastern Shan state

Myanmar Red Cross volunteers are supporting local governments to smoothly turn the quarantine facilities back to basic education schools, as the government is preparing to open schools in the coming months. MRCS activities include disinfecting classrooms and teacher's rooms, putting up posters, and providing awareness raising leaflets, posters, and masks to teachers. Above photos and [video](#) are from various townships in Eastern Shan state.



Kachin state

**Risk Comm. & Community Engagement**

16,477+ activities in 235+ townships conducting outdoor awareness raising sessions and disseminating preventive information



Kayah state

**Services in support of government**

44,178+ activities in 281+ townships providing temperature screening at border & communities, disinfection, quarantine services.



Mon state

**Psychosocial support**

3,209+ activities in 80+ townships addressing psychosocial needs of COVID-19 affected population in quarantine facilities and communities.



Southern Shan state

**Increased access to basic needs**

Cash distribution in support of the government, as well as own cash distribution and distribution of food

Looking back and moving forward: Myanmar Red Cross volunteers making a difference on the ground [click the captions to meet our volunteers](#)



Welcoming returning migrants



Being a life-saving gatekeeper



Using ethnic languages



Raising awareness



Attracting support

Everywhere for everyone.



Listening to diverse needs



Life-saving disinfection



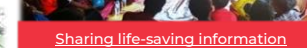
Raising funds to provide food



Tackling rumors



Preparing for disasters



Sharing life-saving information



Inviting women to lead



Helping IDPs open up



Playing together



Addressing basic needs

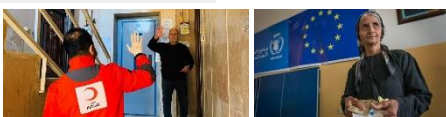


Inspiring others



Leaving no one behind

Expert's take



**Opinion: COVID-19 - it's time to take cash to the next level**

"There is no better time to tap into the power of cash as a critical link between economies and households, and it can become a lifeline for millions of people globally."

[Read the article here](#)



**Coronavirus forces disaster planning rethink as storm threats rise**

**Back to basics: Local response and preparedness:**

"With the coronavirus, many countries are now "rethinking their ways of thinking" about disaster preparedness and response."

[Read the article here](#)

For previous versions of this weekly COVID-19 update prepared by MRCS and IFRC, please visit [here](#).

**IFRC revised emergency appeal highlights**

IFRC is appealing for 1.9 billion Swiss francs (1.95 billion US dollars) to support National Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in providing health care, water and sanitation, and mitigation against the socio-economic impacts for the most vulnerable people, as well as strengthening National Societies' capacities and safety of staff and volunteers. Out of the 1.9 billion Swiss francs, 450 million Swiss francs will be raised through the IFRC Secretariat in support of National Societies. Currently CHF 152,117,653 is received. (see [IFRC Go](#))

**Global: COVID-19 outbreak**



**Heatwaves: 10 safety tips**

- Stay out of the sun
- Dress light
- Keep your house cool
- Avoid physical efforts
- Stay hydrated
- Don't drink alcohol
- Eat enough
- Look after your pets
- Check on family, friends, neighbours
- Don't leave kids or pets in parked vehicles

Stay safe and meet again in August! 🙌

**Resources and contact information**

- [Daily MoHS update on COVID-19](#)
- [WHO global webpage on COVID-19](#)
- [Daily MIMU update on COVID-19](#)
- [INGO Forum COVID-19 resource collection](#)
- [IFRC Asia Pacific COVID-19 Dashboard](#)
- MRCS social media ([Facebook](#)/[Twitter](#))

Dr Nay Htet Lin  
Deputy Director, Health Department  
Myanmar Red Cross Society  
nayhtetlin@redcross.org.mm  
+95 9 799 531 565

Joseph Muyambo  
Programme Coordinator  
IFRC Myanmar Country Office  
joseph.muyambo@ifrc.org  
+95 9 450 719 453

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