Methodology

This study is a result of a joint effort of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and World Food Programme (WFP) of the United Nations in monitoring food security and livelihoods of all actors in key agricultural, livestock, fisheries value chains in high priority food crisis countries, with a focus on producers. FAO's contribution was made possible with financial support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) for the establishment of a data and analysis facility in the context of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and other shocks such as political instability. WFP's contribution to the survey was also possible through financial support from USAID.

This assessment represents the second round (Round 2) of data collection under the monitoring system, with data collected through computer-assisted telephone interviews (CATI). The sample was stratified by state/region and households were randomly selected using Random Digital Dialling. Round 2 was conducted between the second week of August and the first week of September 2021 and covered 147 townships in 9 States/Regions (Mon, Chin, Kachin, Kayin, Kayah, Rakhine, Shan[1], Ayeyarwady and Yangon, Table 1, Figure 1). By comparison, the first round (Round 1) was conducted between mid-August to mid-October 2020 and covered 75 townships of eight states or regions: Mon, Chin, Kachin, Kayin, Rakhine, Sagaing, Shan and Yangon (FAO & WFP, 2021). The analysis of Round 2 benefited from three tools: interviews conducted with household (2708)[2], Food traders' (239) and inputs retailers' (108). The sample size and distribution of household survey by state is provided in Table 1.

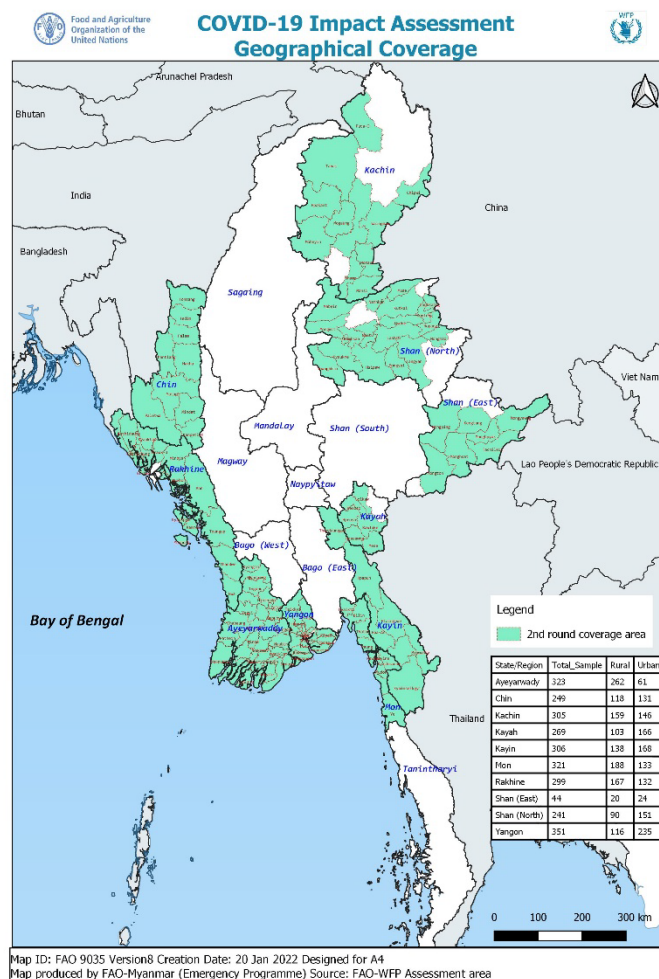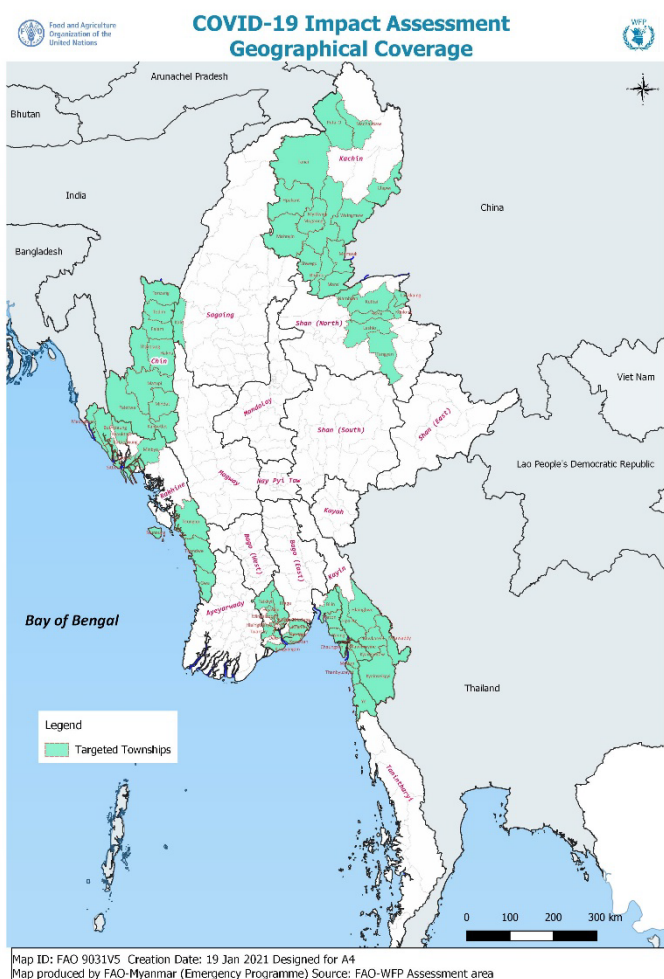Table 1. Sample distribution and proportion of agricultural households[3]

State/region	Sample	Of which, engaging in agriculture / livestock	Live in rural areas
All	2708	52.4 percent	50.3 percent
Ayeyarwady	323	74.6 percent	81.1 percent
Chin	249	65.9 percent	47.4 percent
Kachin	305	54.8 percent	52.1 percent
Kayah	269	57.6 percent	38.3 percent
Kayin	306	41.8 percent	45.1 percent
Mon	321	52.3 percent	58.6 percent
Rakhine	299	56.2 percent	55.9 percent
Shan	285	41.1 percent	38.6 percent
Yangon	351	31.6 percent	33.0 percent

---

[1] Shan South was excluded from the survey.

[2] The households' sample is constituted by 259 respondents of FAO's beneficiaries list and 2449 respondents reached by Random Digital Dialing (RDD), similar proportion in rural and urban areas.

[3] Agricultural households are defined as engaging in the production of crops, livestock and livestock products, fishing and forest products, including waged labourers. The definition is different from rural or urban, as the latter refers to an administrative division ('Wards' or 'Village').

[4] Households engaged in agriculture, from the production of either crop or livestock, or that have an income coming from the production sale of any agricultural product including fisheries and forestry, or labor in any agricultural.

COVID-19 Impact Assessment
Geographical Coverage

Legend
Targeted Townships

Map ID: FAO 9031V5 Creation Date: 19 Jan 2021 Designed for A4
Map produced by FAO-Myanmar (Emergency Programme) Source: FAO-WFP Assessment area

COVID-19 Impact Assessment
Geographical Coverage

Legend
2nd round coverage area

State/Region	Total_Sample	Rural	Urban
Ayeyarwady	323	262	61
Chin	249	118	131
Kachin	305	159	146
Kayah	269	103	166
Kayin	306	138	168
Mon	321	188	133
Rakhine	299	167	132
Shan (East)	44	20	24
Shan (North)	241	90	151
Yangon	351	116	235

Map ID: FAO 9035 Version8 Creation Date: 20 Jan 2022 Designed for A4
Map produced by FAO-Myanmar (Emergency Programme) Source: FAO-WFP Assessment area

Comparing the characteristics of the sample with secondary baseline information, urban households were over-represented: 50.3 percent, while 70 percent of the population in Myanmar is rural (MLIP 2017) [5].Other characteristics of the sample align well with other sources: 48% females were interviewed, and the average age of the respondent was 37 years old. The head of household was more often male (84%) than female (16%) and the proportion of heads of household with no education or no completion of primary education, or with only Islamic education was 19%, 33% completed primary education, 32% middle secondary, and 15% higher education. On average, household had 5.1 members, i.e., in line with the national average (CSO et al., 2017). Average household size was slightly larger in rural areas (5.3) compared to urban (4.9).

The data were weighted by:

- The demographics by state/region[6]

- The share of households in urban and rural setting[7]

---

[5] The survey had no national scope but included the predominantly urban region of Yangon.
[6]OCHA's population estimates for 2021, based on 2014 census figures and 2019 inter-censal survey (UNFPA)
[7]OCHA's population estimates for 2021, based on 2014 census figures and 2019 inter-censal survey (UNFPA)

- The education of the head of households, as a proxy for wealth (DHS, 2015-2016)

This survey is not nationally representative, and another potential limitation of this study come from the bias of telephone surveying. It is possible that the sample excluded the poorest segments of the population who do not typically own a telephone and/or live in the most remote areas with limited coverage. Moreover, due to the above-mentioned differences in geographical coverage and weighting, the results from Round 1 and Round 2 are not directly comparable.