

Mandalay Regional Government Consultation on World Bank Group Country Partnership Framework for Myanmar, Mandalay, 2nd July 2014

A meeting with civil society representatives was held in Mandalay, on July 2nd 2014, as part of a series of consultation meetings to inform the World Bank Group's new Country Partnership Framework and priorities emerging from the Systematic Country Diagnostic for Myanmar. The list of regional government representatives and World Bank Group representatives who participated in the meeting is attached hereto as Annex A.

Following is a brief summary of input and feedback received from the meeting organized under seven broad themes discussed: Agricultural Development, Private Sector Development, Education, Health, Electricity, Transportation & Communications, and General Issues.

Note: Numbers (eg. **(3)**, **(6)** etc) in brackets indicate the number of times that a particular point was made by different participants during the meeting.

Agricultural Development

- The World Bank should provide technical assistance, improve access to markets and access to finance for agricultural development. **(5)**
 - Access to markets is important if production is to be increased.
 - Access to low interest loans is important for farmers to avoid losses due to market fluctuations and increase their incomes
 - Agricultural development is the 1st priority as 70 % of the population are dependent on agriculture.
 - Support is needed to mitigate the effects of climate change (particularly in the Dry Zone), for rice milling machinery, and for access to quality agricultural inputs in order to increase the quality of outputs for export, and for access to finance for farmers.
- The World Bank should **NOT** encourage FDI in agriculture sector until effective land management legislation and systems are in place, as this could increase landlessness.

Private Sector Development

- The WBG should support the development of the Private Sector **(3)** by facilitating Foreign Direct Investment and supporting the local businesses to be able to compete with international investors,

Education

- The WBG should address the teacher shortage in rural areas. Only when the educational sector reaches international standards will the political situation in Myanmar improve.
- The WBG should support human resource development. **(2)**
 - To do this we need to change the mindset of the people.

Health

- The WBG should collaborate with the government and other organizations to support for health sector development. **(2)**
- The WBG should **NOT** prioritize the health sector as the government and other organizations are working on health, so the WB can leave this until later.

Electricity

- The WBG should provide financial and technical assistance for the production and distribution of electricity.
 - If electricity can reach the villages SMEs will be able to develop. This will create jobs.
 - Electricity is the key sector that affects development in all other sectors.
 - Provision of electricity is important for storage and distribution of the products.

Transportation and Communications

- The WBG should support improvement of transportation linkages **(3)**, as this is important for storage and distribution of the products
- The WBG should provide support for improved communications **(2)**, particularly telecommunications

General Issues

- We agree that all of that securing the political transition, maintaining macro-economic stability, improving public financial management and developing the capacity of the public sector are all important pre-requisites to development.
- All of the sectors need to be developed as quickly as possible. **(2)**
- WBG should carefully analyze the developmental areas in which Myanmar is lagging behind.

Annex A

No.	Name	Organization
1	Daw Toe Toe Sein	Myanmar Insurance
2	Daw Aye Aye Sein	
3	Daw San Tar Mon	Mandalay City Development Committee
4	U Kyi Pe	Hluttaw
5	Daw Mya Mya San	
6	Daw Tin Tin Mar	
7	<i>This participant did not want his/her name to be published</i>	
8	U Aung Khing Min	
9	U Thein Hla	Hluttaw
10	U Khin Zaw	Bank No 2
11	U Myat Thu	Hluttaw
12	U Thein Shwe Man	Myanmar Economic Bank
13	Daw Thandar Twe	
14	Daw Moe Moe Lwin	
15	U Ko Ko Lwin	Hluttaw
16	U Yin Min Aung	Regional Customs Office
17	U Tun Win	Hluttaw
18	U Han Soe	Mandalay City Development Committee
19	Dr. Myint Kyu	Mandalay Government
20	U Aung Thein	Hluttaw
21	U Aung Thu	Hluttaw
22	U Nyi Nyi	Hluttaw
23	U Sein Taung	Hluttaw
24	U Aung Kyi	Hluttaw
25	U Aung Lin	Hluttaw
26	U Hla Myint Zaw	
27	U Htay Oo	
28	U Ko Ko Gyi	Mandalay City Development Committee
29	U Tin Soe	Hluttaw
30	U Aung Win ko	Bank No 3
31	U Shwe Nan	Hluttaw
32	U Win Myint	Hluttaw
33	U Mg Mg Oo	Hluttaw
34	U Than Zaw Win	Tax Department
35	Daw Shin Moe	Trade and Investment Bank
36	Daw Mu Mu Wai	Accounting Department
37	Daw Su Su Aung	Accounting Department
38	U Aung Kyaw Htoo	Central Bank
39	U Than Htay	Hluttaw
40	U Thaing Aye	Hluttaw
41	U Win Myint	Hluttaw