

## Civil Society Organization Consultation on the WBG Country Partnership Framework for Myanmar, Yangon, 2nd July 2014

A meeting with civil society representatives was held in Yangon on the 2nd of July, 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 CSO representatives who participated in the meeting is attached hereto as Annex A.

Following is a brief summary of input and feedback received from CSO representatives, organized under nine broad themes discussed: Operations and Stakeholder Engagement, Securing the Political Transition, Public Financial Management and Public Sector Capacity Building, Agricultural Development and Land Governance, Private Sector Development, Education, Health, Electricity, Transportation and Communications.

*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.*

### *Operations and Stakeholder Engagement*

- The WBG should operate according to the UN Global Compact.
- The WBG should improve the consultation process, provide adequate information and data to Myanmar CSOs to let them know what the WBG has done, and is doing and provide sufficient time for discussion during consultations. Please ensure that a comprehensive research and consultation is done before decisions are made. Consultations should be regular and ongoing, and should take place before and during implementation. The WBG should only implement projects that are supported by the people of Myanmar.
- There is a sense that in the rush for quick wins sufficient planning is not taking place. The WBG should include everyone in the planning process. There is nothing on the current list of priorities that we think that WBG should not do. We just feel that the process should be slowed down so that better planning can take place.
- The WBG staff in Myanmar needs to be aware of and learn the mistakes that the WBG has made in other countries. The fact that the staff here are not aware of the problems that occurred in Honduras is an indication that the safeguard policy is inadequate.
- If the WB wants the support of CSOs then they should give us tangible indicators.
- The WBG should strive to understand diversity and the local context in Myanmar.
- Please ensure that WBG programs do not make Myanmar donor dependant.
- The WBG should support capacity development projects at the community level.

- The WBG should **NOT** carry out any development activities that could negatively affect Myanmar's river systems, particularly the Ayeyarwaddy, Than Lwin or Chin Dwin rivers **(2)**.

### *Securing the Political Transition*

- Please ensure that all investments and projects are conflict sensitive. **(2)**
- If the focus is poverty reduction then the WBG should consider supporting the resettlement process, particularly that of the IDPs in Kachin State.
- The WBG should work on ensuring macroeconomic stability by assisting the government to control inflation.
- The WBG should work on building sustainable peace, and should **NOT** work on development in conflict areas until there is peace.

### *Public Financial Management and Public Sector Capacity Building*

- The WBG should prioritize collaboration with and capacity building of government, **(2)** and assist the government in developing accountability, transparency and good governance. Capacity needs to be developed at all levels of government.
- However much money is spent the only way that poverty reduction will be successful is if there is greater cooperation between the government and the CSOs. The WBG should promote collaboration between government, CSOs and communities. Programs such as social protection mechanisms and the delivery of quality health services are not just government work, they require the involvement of the community to be effective.
- The WBG should support social protection programs, such as free education and pensions.

### *Agricultural Development and Land Governance*

- The WBG should work on development of the agricultural sector. Programs should focus on increasing agricultural incomes, providing agricultural inputs (seeds and fertilizers) and technological assistance and improving access to market.
- Agricultural development must be community based. The WBG should consult with farmers directly to get their perspectives.
- The WBG should prioritize protection of farmers and the use of appropriate technology.
- The WBG should provide support and expertise to the government to improve land management law and systems. **(3)**

### *Private Sector Development*

- The WBG should work on improving access to international markets and access to finance, but should prioritize capacity development to build a skilled labor force, support for the development of SMEs, and should actively promote Corporate Social Responsibility.

- There have been many problems with the privatization process in Myanmar in the past the problems with privatization. The privatization process needs to be slowed down to allow for proper planning.
- The WBG should work with the trade unions to ensure the effective application of OECD and UN guidelines.
- The WBG should **NOT** work on increasing Foreign Direct Investment. **(2)**
- The WBG should **NOT** work with Yoma Bank.

### *Education*

- The WBG should contribute to the development of the education sector in Myanmar. **(5)**
- The WBG support for education should focus on building infrastructure, increasing the supply of teachers and upgrading teachers' skills and teaching facilities **(3)** rather than on providing stipends for students.
- The WBG should carefully observe the government's educational implementation strategies and should collaborate with the existing parallel education systems run by CSOs and the monastic providers as well as government.
- The WBG should support the development of 'second chance' alternative education programs and the development of effective vocational training programs
- Support for education should be based on the child rights based approach. To develop a normally a child needs proper nutrition. Many poor pregnant women in this country do not understand nutrition and cannot get vitamins etc.
- Improving transportation networks and providing social security would contribute to the development of basic education.

### *Health*

- The WBG should support the provision of Universal Health Coverage in Myanmar **(3)**.
- Support for the health sector should focus on developing a holistic system, including health insurance and primary health care.
- The WBG should consider working on the development occupational health and safety policy **(2)**

### *Electricity*

- The WBG should provide support to expand electrical production, but this should be done in an environmentally and socially friendly way (Repeated 2 times).
- The WBG should **NOT** directly or indirectly support coal-fired or nuclear power production.

### *Transportation and Communications*

- WBG should work on development of transportation and communication networks **(2)**, but should pay careful attention to potentially negative social impacts of this type of support

## Annex A

No	Name	Organization
1	Aye Aye Khine	KT Care Foundation
2	Tin Tin Lwan	Edunet
3	Aye Myat New	Thinking Classroom Foundation
4	Kyaw Lin Oo	Myanmar People Forum working Group
5	Tin May Oo	Community Driven Development of Capacity Enhancement Team
6	A Bawi Thang	New Generation Social Development Organization
7	Aung Kyaw Thein	Pyoe Pin
8	Yu War	Karuna Myanmar Social Services
9	Arkar Soe Naung	Myanmar Child Rights Development Network
10	Bawi Uk Thang	Field Group/The Chinland Post
11	Kay Thi Sein Than	ECCD Centre
12	Dr.Khin Maung Win	Agriculture and Farmers Federation of Myanmar
13	<i>This participant did not wish to have his/her name published</i>	
14	Dr.Than Myint	National League for Democracy
15	U Chit Mya	Action Green Earth
16	Daw Yin Yin Aye	Social-lite Foundation
17	Saw Wyuu	Lanthit Foundation
18	Myo Thant Aung	Myanmar Positive Group / PLHIV Network
19	Gin Uan Sum	Karuna Myanmar Social Services
20	Mawi Lumme	DAN
21	U Ohn	Forest Resource Environment Development Conservation Association
22	Dr.Phone Myint Win	Burnet Institute
23	Thuya Hein	Kyaung Htar Mi Khin
24	U Khin Mg Kyi	Earth Rights Defenders
25	Myint Swe	Ratana Metta
26	Prof Khin Maung Cho	<i>Organization name unclear</i>
27	Daw Phyu Zar Swe	Border Areas Development Association
28	Prof Saw Win	Myanmar Medical Association Central
29	Yin Htway	LRDD
30	Ye Win Thu	Myanmar Maritime worker's Federation
31	Kyaw Khaing	NLA
32	Khin Saw Mu	DDCET
33	Daw War Lin Htun	Friendly Child
34	U Min Soe	<i>Organization name unclear</i>
35	Daw Nyein Aye	Kachin Peace Network
36	Daw NweThazin	Yangon City Development Committee
37	Khon Ja	<i>Organization Name Unclear</i>
38	Nyein Kyaw Lat	Sympathetic Hands
39	Phoo Phoo	SMART Myanmar
40	Thet Myat Noe	Myanmar Knowledge Society
41	Eh Doh Htoo	Akhaya
42	Liz Hlaing	IFI Watch Myanmar
43	Myo Myint	Green Network, Magway
44	Kay Thi	Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative / CEDC
45	U Than Lwin	Federated Trade Union of Myanmar
46	Lucy Stevens	<i>Organization name unclear</i>
47	Shin Audo	Bank Information Center

48	Ah Sai	Thinking Classroom Foundation
49	Nilar Myaing	The Border Consortium
50	Saw David Yawn	Wa Youth Center