**Myanmar Country Partnership Strategy**

**First Consultation Workshop, 19th May 2014**

**Mandalay Regional Government**

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| **Category** | **Comments from Stakeholders** | **Response** |
| **Substance** | **Transport connectivity** is important for rural development, to allow the community to export their local products. Eighty percent of rural roads are not accessible. While there have been some improvements of roads at the township level, it would be good if this could happen in the rural area too. |  |
| **Electricity** would contribute to socioeconomic development, would support the development of SMEs, and would improve communication and knowledge related to health. |  |
| **Agricultural Development** is a priority since the economy is based on agriculture and 70% of the population lives in rural areas. |  |
| **Electricity** as the majority of those living in rural areas do not have access to electricity. This is an obstacle to economic development.  However we also feel that peace is very important as without peace nothing can be done. |  |
| **Electricity** is our number one priority as we have seen how electrification can improve the living standard in a village.  The second priority is **road connectivity/ transportation**. Many people live in village with poor roads. We have seen that as soon as cars can reach a village, there are many positive changes. There have been many improvements in the road system over the past two years, and as some people have been able to buy cars, it is easier for products to reach markets in the cities. |  |
| **Agricultural Development** is the number one priority, as the economy is based on agriculture. We need to produce a greater quantity and a greater variety of crops. If we can get money from exports then we can invest in other things such as electricity.  **Education** is the second priority as the lack of Education is causing a lack of development. Also ASEAN countries are talking about the Myanmar education system as the primary cause of poverty. |  |
|  | **Agricultural Development** is our number one priority as 70% of the people are farmers.  Our second priority is **education.** In particular we need to improve non-formal and vocational education and to change attitudes and the way of thinking. |  |
|  | Overall it is very hard to choose which sectors to prioritize as they are all very important. **National unity** and **peace** are paramount. Peace and the **rule of law** are directly proportional to poverty levels. We need a strategy to control **urban poverty**, and a strategy for **natural resource management**. We also need to work on **infrastructure development.** |  |
| **Process** |  | . |