

Progress Report

Name of the country: Myanmar

Project number (Atlas): 00074064

Project name: Improvement of the quality of life of ethnic minorities in the Naga area in Myanmar through youth participation in REDD+

DGTTF edition (year): 2012

Implementation period: September 2013 to August 2015

PROJECT PERFORMANCE

Outcome areas under strategic plan 2008-2011 ¹	Purpose and expected output	Activities undertaken	RESULTS ACHIEVED	Reasons if progress below target
Civil society, including civil society organizations and voluntary associations, and the private sector contribute to the MDGs in support of national planning strategies and policies	Strengthened the network of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)/Community Based Organizations (CBOs) with enhanced roles for youths, advocating a right based approach for Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+)	Assessment on capacity of the Civil Society (CS)/ Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the project area.	Existing and potential CSOs/CBOs in the project area were identified. Technical needs of CSOs/CBOs on group management, climate change, REDD+, forest conservation and monitoring has already been assessed in the project area. Entry points and potential risks for project implementation were identified The potential project villages were identified Possible working definition of Youth in the context of project area was identified.	

¹ Please state under which of the following nine outcome areas your project falls into:

1. Civil society, including civil society organizations and voluntary associations, and the private sector contribute to the MDGs in support of national planning strategies and policies
2. Electoral laws, processes and institutions strengthen inclusive participation and professional electoral administration
3. Access to information policies support accountability and transparency
4. National, regional and local levels of governance expand their capacities to reduce conflict and manage the equitable delivery of public services
5. Legislatures, regional elected bodies, and local assemblies have strengthened institutional capacity, enabling them to represent their constituents more effectively
6. Effective, responsive, accessible and fair justice systems promote the rule of law, including both formal and informal processes, with due consideration on the rights of the poor, women and vulnerable groups.
7. Strengthened capacities of national human rights institutions
8. Strengthened national, regional and local level capacity to mainstream gender equality and women's empowerment in government policies and institutions
9. Strengthened national, regional and local level capacity to implement anti-corruption initiatives

	<p>2. Enhance awareness of ethnic minority youths in the Naga area on climate change, REDD+, the UNDRIP, and implications for right-based development</p>	<p>Preparation on development of IEC materials for awareness program and process of selecting the implementing partners</p>	<p>Traditional benefit sharing mechanism and institutional capacity of the study area is clearly understood and the assessment will guide to the whole process of project implementation.</p> <p>Proposal for calling implementing partners was prepared.</p> <p>Development of IEC materials is under process with the cooperation with other development organizations in order to get effective coordination and results.</p>	
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CUMULATIVE RESOURCES UTILIZED

DGTTF resources: USD\$ 6517

Other resources (as applicable; please state sources of funding and amount): USD\$ 7651

PROJECT PERFORMANCE—MAIN CHALLENGES

Internal factors: No challenges were defined yet during the reporting period.

External factors:

As only one of the project activities has been conducted, the challenges below based on the findings were found out from the assessment. So these challenges may come to support our focal consideration points with effective implementation of the project.

Accessibility: Difficulties in accessibility may take time for project implementation.

Human resource capital: Most of the educated youths used to migrate to other places in order to create job opportunities. As the project targets at the village level youth activists, the educational background may cause some limitation on the expectation of the project. Approximately those older than 45-50 are of low literacy and hard to communicate

Trust of communities: Being very remote and isolated from mainland area for a long time because of difficult accessibility and lack of experiences on development project, the establishment of trust building is key factor for effective project implementation.

Women participation: According to the cultural integrity at the project area, the education level of women is limited. The participation on decision making process will be affected to some extent.

Sharing time of communities: The target communities have to conduct livelihood activities for their daily subsistence. So their availability may be limited to participate in the project activities all the time. It, however, can be managed and adjusted during the project implementation through effective planning.

Expectations of communities: The expectations of local communities on the project are beyond the project capability, for example, alternative livelihood options

Understanding on project concept: Fear of local communities of being prohibited from conducting shifting cultivation and misunderstanding might lead to low participation

PROJECT PERFORMANCE—MAIN OPPORTUNITIES

Please list the main opportunities which have been the key enabling factors to support the implementation of the project.

- The project area is one of the government priority area of the development activities.
- Myanmar joined the UN-REDD programme in December 2011 and formulated the national REDD+ readiness road map. The implementation of road map is one of the key priority area of Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry (MoECAF). The right-based approach to REDD+, including respect for Indigenous Peoples rights and measures to reduce the risk of corruption the stakeholder participation and role of indigenous people in right of REDD+ is the major activities of the road map.
- Willingness and interests of local stakeholders on project. Their participation in the assessment is visible.
- Most of the indigenous communities rely on forest for their livelihood and there are still forest cover in the project area for effective conservation in time.
- Having the organizations/groups such as Naga Tradition and Culture Committee, Makuri Youth Federation, etc is good opportunities for the project implementation.
- Youths are mostly well educated than elder are.
- Community in the Naga area is quite unique, simple and very open

RATING ON PROGRESS on PARTNERSHIPS

Please describe the level to which the DGTTF project has contributed to strengthening partnership with different stakeholders and tick the boxes as appropriate:

	Strengthened	Somewhat Strengthened	Unchanged
1. Government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Donors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Civil society:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
a) Academia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Unions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Religious organizations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) NGO/CBOs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Private sector	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
5. UN system	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
6. Other Int.organizations (like IMF, ADB, etc)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7. Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments: The project is going to implement with the experience CSOs/NGOs. The implementation process will be brooming starting from the beginning of 2014. The partnership with different stakeholders will improve then.

WAYS IN WHICH DGTTF FUNDED ACTIVITIES WERE CATALYTIC AND INNOVATIVE

Please indicate how DGTTF funds helped the CO advanced its agenda in Democratic Governance. How did DGTTF funds allow the CO to explore innovative approaches? Did other donors or the government provide additional funding as a result? Did the DGTTF funds allow UNDP to advance the dialogue or garner a leadership position?

Only the assessment is done by the project, but it is too early to define/mention it though the project has intended to support through innovative and catalytic ways.

The project will find out the evidences which can contribute to setting up strategies to measures the driver of deforestation. The results and lessons learned from the project could support the national level policy setting on scoping strategies for sustainable forest management and climate change adaptation and mitigation through participatory planning process.

LESSONS LEARNED

Please elaborate on the three most important lessons learned during the project implementation.

- It is important to pay attention to the important feedbacks of local stakeholder in order to get effective support and smooth implementation.
- The existing institutions/groups should be focused more rather creating new institutions/groups for the sustainable process.
- Empowering target communities can enhance the role of ownership and accountability.

SUPPORT FROM HQ/REGIONAL BUREAUS/REGIONAL SERVICE CENTRES

Please indicate the nature of support requested and received from HQ, Regional Bureaus, Regional Service Centers, and DG-net during the course of project implementation.

Effective support has been provided by UNDP's Asia-Pacific Regional Centre (APRC) in defining project and formulation of project document.

GENDER MAINSTREAMING

Has your project contributed to gender mainstreaming? If so, please elaborate.

The activist youths of both male and female are targeted by the project. The mechanisms/groups were formed including both male and female. Allowing all members to participate in decision making process and actions. During the assesment process, the participation of female was also focused in order to get different dimension of apporach.

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