

Annual Report or other Report: Cover Letter Template

United Nations Development Programme



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

Ref: UNDP/[xxx]/[xxx]/[xxx]
[June 23, 2014]

Subject: "Improved Livelihoods and Social Cohesion in Myanmar Project: Technical and Management Service Providers for Construction of Small Livelihood and Social Infrastructure in Kayin State"
Final Report

I am pleased to submit herewith the Narrative and Financial Final Report for the abovementioned project.

The report summarizes the progress of the project as of June 30, 2014 and provides an overview of the achievements, challenges, lessons learned, financial status and way forward.

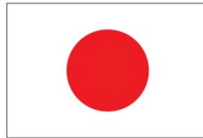
U Kyaw Kyaw Soe
Area Office Coordinator
UNDP [Kayin State, Myanmar]

Attached:
Improved Livelihoods and Social Cohesion in Myanmar Project: Technical and Management Service Providers for Construction of Small Livelihood and Social Infrastructure in Kayin State
Final Report

Kayin State, Myanmar



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.



From
the People of Japan



Professional Research
And Consultancy

FINAL REPORT

**United Nations Development Programme
Kayin State, Myanmar
Improved Livelihoods and Social Cohesion in Myanmar Project:
Technical and Management Service Providers for Construction of Small
Livelihood and Social Infrastructure in Kayin State
June 23, 2014**



Reporting Period	January 01, 2014 to June 30, 2014
Donor	UNDP and Japan Government
Country	Myanmar
Project Title	Improved Livelihoods and Social Cohesion in Myanmar Project: Technical and Management Service Providers for Construction of Small Livelihood and Social Infrastructure in Kayin State
Project ID (Atlas Award ID) Outputs (Atlas Project ID and Description) Strategic Plan and/or CPD Outcomes	
Implementing Partner(s)	Professional Research and Consultancy (PRC)
Project Start Date	January 01, 2014
Project End Date	June 30, 2014
[2014] Actual Work Plan Budget	USD 659120
Total resources required	Fund, Human, Technical Skills, Office Assets
Revenue received	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regular USD • Other <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Donor USD ○ Trust Fund Cost Sharing USD ○ Thematic Trust Fund C/S USD ○ Special Activities USD ○ EU funding USD • Total USD
Unfunded budget	USD
UNDP Contact Person	Mr. Toyli Kurbanov Country Director - UNDP UNDP, Myanmar Email: toyli.kurbanov@undp.org Tel.: + 95 (1) 542910-19

Table of Content

- I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 3
- II. BACKGROUND..... 5
- III. PROGRESS REVIEW 6
- IV. PROJECT RISKS AND ISSUES 12
 - A. UPDATED PROJECT RISKS AND ACTIONS..... 13
 - B. UPDATED PROJECT ISSUES AND ACTIONS 13
- V. LESSONS LEARNED 14
- VI. CONCLUSIONS AND WAY FORWARD 15
- VII. FINANCIAL STATUS..... 15
- VIII. ANNEX 16

- Appendix I Lists of Trainees for Social Cohesion, Operation and Maintenance Trainings
- Appendix II Village Mass Meeting for Activities Prioritization Lists (Community Needs Assessment), along with Budget Calculation and Drawing Design of Economy Infrastructures
- Appendix III 100% of Community Fund Liquidation and Fund Utilization Status, Community Fund Delivery and Fund Utilization Status (Requested Letter for Community Fund, Fund Received and Activities Completion Reports from CBOs in all Villages, Kayin State
- Appendix IV Photos of Activities Implementation Processes and Activities Completion
- Appendix V Google Earth Map of Villages' Locations and Activities
- Appendix VI Actual Work Plan of PRC

I. Executive Summary

Support to improved livelihoods and social cohesion of the community in high level of poverty, remote and conflict areas in Myanmar is vital part of development activities. Professional Research and Consultancy (PRC) served as Implementing Partners (IPs) to improve the livelihoods activities and social cohesion of local communities in Kayin State by providing technical and management service for construction of small livelihood and social infrastructure. The project of UNDP's Country Programme Action Plan is known as "Improved Livelihoods and Social Cohesion in Myanmar Project: Technical and Management Service Providers for Construction of Small Livelihood and Social Infrastructure in Kayin State." PRC has successfully implemented UNDP sub-project in 40 villages in Hpa-An, Hlaing Bwe, Kyar Inn Seik Kyi and Kawkareik townships.

The overall objective is to support livelihood recovery and development activities and opportunities for social cohesion and peace building, at national, regional and local levels. Sub-components of this project aim to contribute to improving access to and reducing inequalities in resources, incomes and livelihood opportunities and to enhancing social cohesion within communities in target locations. These sub-components targets the poor, conflict-affected, IDPs, returnees and host-communities, and in particular, traditionally marginalized or vulnerable groups including ethnic minorities and women. The project has undertaken the construction/ rehabilitation of small livelihood and social infrastructure at the village level. This particular project is to strengthen social cohesion within and between villages and different groups and the identified construction activities are to be undertaken in tandem with strategies that increase opportunities for interaction, dialogue, trust and unity in target locations. Infrastructure activities need to focus on supporting economic development, social cohesion and accessibility of job opportunities in local community.

The project started on January 01, 2014 and completed on June 30, 2014. UNDP and PRC meeting was ensued in December 31, 2013 to sign the contract and discussed about the field implementation which includes funding mechanism, approaches, strategies, coordination, project cycle management, project implementation process and other concerns related to this implementation. PRC conducted special trainings for its staff on social cohesion, conflict resolution, facilitation, communication, report writing, professionalism, monitoring, project cycle management, negotiation, how to deal with difficult people and evaluation, from village entry strategies to exit strategies, community and social mobilization before the project implementation.

At the village level meeting with community, before February 25, 2014, PRC successfully finished the list of all infrastructures activities prioritization, designs, drawing, BQ (Bill of Quantity), and specific detailed budget and the participants successfully re-checked, counter-checked, reviewed, verified and endorsed the list of all the project activities prioritization and each project activity prioritization, along with designs, drawing, BQ (Bill of Quantity), and a specified detailed budget in 40 villages in Kayin State.

PRC successfully delivered Operation and Maintenance training plus Village Social Cohesion Training to 87 participants from 40 villages where they learned project objectives, strategies, process mainly focusing on social cohesion through Cash for Work activities. PRC facilitated the community and the community itself discussed and chose to construct either bridge or market access road for their villages. PRC successfully distributed 12,350,000 kyats to each village in order to implement their proposed social/economy infrastructure activities. The total amount of 494,000,000 kyats was

successfully delivered to 40 villages in Kayin State. 40 villages have successfully constructed 31 Bridges, 32 Market Access Road, 9 Culvert, 1 Market and 1 Jetty Road, the total of 74 social/economy infrastructures, by their own human resource and community initiative through PRC support and UNDP and Japan Government funding. As a significant achievement of this project implementation, the total of 9,422 local people from 40 villages gained social cohesion through cash for work and social/economy infrastructure project intervention.

Main challenges faced are the weather condition such as heavy rain and extreme heat which disturb the implementation of activities in proposed time-frame. Another issue is the delay of fund delivery from UNDP which consequently delayed the fund delivery to the community and delayed of the activities. Monitoring and evaluation visit was conducted by U Thin Khaing (Senior Field Coordinator), U Kyaw Kyaw Soe (Area Office Coordinator from UNDP), and Line Department Officers in order to follow-up on how the community has constructed the social/economy infrastructures according to their proposed activities and how their work has been developed.

PRC has successfully submitted Form B, C and D in UNDP original standard format, both hard and soft copy and PMIS software along with the Project Final Report to UNDP by June 30, 2014.

This project is beneficial to the community in improving their livelihoods, social cohesion, trust building, peace and community engagement through the social/economy infrastructures. The targeted community has improved transportation, education, medical assistant, economy development, livelihoods, social cohesion and community engagement directly or indirectly after this 6 months project intervention. However, PRC believes that long-term projects would have more impacts and promote sustainable development, better social cohesion within and between villages and different groups and the identified construction activities when undertaken with strategies that increase opportunities for interaction, dialogue, trust and unity in target locations. Thus, PRC recommends implementing such project in other parts of the country in the future.

Without the continuous support from the Government, UNDP, other IPs, Local NGOs and the communities, this project cannot be implemented successfully. Therefore, PRC sincerely appreciate and is thankful to all the project stakeholders. PRC is always willing to receive and value the guidance and support from the Government and UNDP.

II. Background

Kayin State is located in the southern part of Myanmar and the Dawna Range running along the state and the southern end of the Karen Hills in the northwest. It is bordered by Mae Hong Son, Tak, and Kanchanaburi provinces of Thailand to the east; Mon State and Bago Region to the west and south; Mandalay Region, Shan State and Kayah State to the north. The capital of Kayin State is Hpa-An. There are 410 wards and villages-tracts and townships under Hpa-An district, Hpapun district, Kawkareik district and Myawaddy district. The area is 11,731 sq. miles. Kayin State has a humid tropical climate because of mountain ranges that lies in the backdrop and its location which is near the sea. These areas are characterized as high level of poverty, physical remoteness, complexity and sometimes fractious ethnic composition, poor social/ economy infrastructure, low level of production technology and inadequate institutional arrangement for the beneficial delivery of foods and services. The main economy in the region is agriculture, livestock and planting of regional plants. Principal crops cultivated are paddy, groundnut, sesame, durian, djenkol bean, tobacco, betel nut, sugar-cane and rubber. Its natural resources are iron, lead, copper, tin, antimony and tungsten.

The main challenges and problems are different, believe, culture, religious, norm, habit, aims, vision and commitment of several ethnic groups in the state. In order of mitigate the internal conflicts and lack of social cohesion of local people in Kayin State, PRC implemented the project on improved livelihoods and social cohesion funded by UNDP. PRC hopes that implementing such project reduced their conflict and problem among and between local people in the state. In Kayin state, 40 villages have been identified in four townships for project implementation by UNDP. Four townships are namely, Hpa-An, Hlaing Bwe, Kyar Inn Seik Kyi and Kawkareik. In Kayin, social cohesion will be a major thrust area, where all activities were undertaken with the aim of improving interaction, dialogue and unity between communities.

Therefore, UNDP has conducted "Improved Livelihoods and Social Cohesion in Myanmar". This is a part of UNDP's program of improving small livelihoods and social infrastructures, in the Kayin state. Lessons have been learned about the context of the Kayin, from which will improve the impact of project activities. There were existing Implementing Partners (IPs) of UNDP in Kayin State, include UNDP itself in Hpa-an, Lanthit in Hlaing Bwe, LEAD in Kyar Inn Seik Kyi and Sympathy Hands in Kawkareik. Above IPs in each respective township had implemented "Improved Livelihoods and Social Cohesion in Myanmar." At the field level, PRC met and discussed on specific coordination meetings and activities with relevant UNDP and local authorities. During those meetings, PRC handed over the list of UNDP project assisted villages from UNDP. In addition, UNDP and other local stakeholders handed over existing villages' situation and other related documents from UNDP in order to implement the project successfully.

III. Progress Review

PRC has adopted a realistic approach (community-driven approach), addressing some key questions during its implementation. For instance, PRC always like to address via the social cohesion project—whether the benefits are really targeted to the poor; whether the basic community needs are met in terms of project duration and implementation; gender issue such as addressing whether the needs of women are taken into consideration in terms of cash for work activity; always looking into channels to strengthen civil society via social infrastructures; having a closer look into whether time-frame and budget, and community participation (benefits) are matched; addressing, at the same time, transparency and accountability issue to a maximum level.

PRC understands that this entire step is vital for all stakeholders in a participatory, transparent, accountable and understandable manner. To ensure that, PRC engaged with all stakeholders in order to avoid over-lapping (over-riding) activities, misunderstanding, unreasonable budget, BQ (Bill of Quantity), designs, drawing and other related issues at the implementation level. At the same time, PRC made sure all civil society groups involving social cohesion activity understand each other, thereby reducing conflicts and encouraging 'cohesion' in the community during the project implementation.

In choosing the targeted areas, PRC's most prioritized activities are socio-economic infrastructures of local people according to UNDP guideline and strategies. On the other hand, PRC hopes to have an understanding of UNDP how PRC is going on all project field implementation and would be facing very difficult coordination and collaboration with project stakeholders including local armed ethnic community, local Myanmar authorities and other relevant people in that area. Nevertheless, to implement the project activities successfully, PRC team has a great confidence in dealing with conflict zones/areas to achieve the project against the proposed time-frame. So far, PRC has achieved so. PRC has thoroughly calculated all detailed work-plan, along with detailed budget, designs, drawing and BQ (Bill of Quantity) in collaboration with UNDP Area officers and Satellite Offices as well as UNDP Yangon Offices.

Output 5 - Target Communities and Institutions have Increased Capacities for Social Cohesion, Sustainable Livelihoods, and Improved Opportunities for Peace

Actions: 5.3.C2.1 Conducting Operation & Maintenance plus Social Cohesion Training for Households and other Beneficiaries at Community Level in Targeted Locations

Table (I) shows that the status of the completion of the Operation and Maintenance training plus village social cohesion to all targeted 40 villages in 4 townships, Kayin state. Total of 144 participants attended the training. The training was conducted for two days at six different centres. All the trainings had been 100% completed. Detailed attendees are attached in the appendix (I) with respective dates, locations, and photos. The training modules are also quite comprehensive, focusing

on exit strategies while keeping sustainability for those social infrastructures such as addressing: how to maintain those infrastructures in terms of social cohesion ‘forces’ at community level. The participants have learned project objectives, strategies, process mainly focusing on social cohesion through Cash for Work activities. It is noted from the community that the delivery of training before the implementation was very useful since it helped in practical activities, how to manage the human resource and how to do financial budgeting/income/expense.

Table (1) The Completion Status of Training for Village Social Cohesion and Operation and Maintenance

Action		Hpa-an	Hlaing Bwe	Kawkareik	Kyar Inn Seik Kyi	Total
5.3.C2.1 Training for Village Social Cohesion and Operation & Maintenance	Target	10	10	10	10	40
	Result	10	10	10	10	40
	Balance	0	0	0	0	0
	Achieve %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Actions: 5.1.B Assessment and Identification of Poorest Households and other Beneficiaries at Community Level in Targeted Locations

Table (2) shows the complete project implementation status of 40 villages in Kayin State, Myanmar. PRC had successfully facilitated village mass meeting for activities prioritization (community needs assessment), along with budget calculations and drawing designs of economy infrastructures of 40 villages in Kayin state, Myanmar. See the attachment in appendix (IV) for documentation and photos of the activities, along with respective dates, village names, and townships. Village mass meeting for activities prioritization lists (community needs assessment), along with budget calculation and drawing design of economy infrastructures conducted for 40 villages are attached in appendix (II).

(2) Area wise quantitative information for Kayin State

Action		Hpa-an	Hlaing Bwe	Kawkareik	Kyar Inn Seik Kyi	Total
Mass meeting for activities prioritization along with budget calculation and drawing design of infrastructure	Target	10	10	10	10	40
	Result	10	10	10	10	40
	Balance	0	0	0	0	0
	Achieve %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

(3) Area wise quantitative information for Kayin State

Action		Hpa-an	Hlaing Bwe	Kawkareik	Kyar Inn Seik Kyi	Total
The Results of activities prioritization (community needs of infra	Target	10	10	10	10	40
	Result	10	10	10	10	40
	Balance	0	0	0	0	0
	Achieve %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

(1) Status of Area wise activity – Planned activity Vs. Actual achievement; Planned time frame Vs. Actual time, Reason for deviation

PRC has implemented villages' mass meetings, activities prioritization (community needs), along with budget calculation, BQ, and drawing design of infrastructure. Then, 100% of the community fund and the total of 12,350,000 kyats to each village were completely delivered. All the details of those community funds are in the liquidation letter, which has been already sent out to UNDP and also attached in appendix (III). Also in appendix (III), community fund delivery and fund utilization status which include requested letter for community fund, fund received and activities completion reports from CBOs in all 40 villages in Kayin State are attached. PRC has successfully achieved 100 % of the overall implementation against a proposed time frame. PRC successfully implemented all activities in 40 villages in Kayin State despite of delay fund delivery from UNDP to the Community, through PRC proposed time-frame and according to UNDP current contract.

Actions: 5.2.B7 - Support for some important economy infrastructure. (Village level Livelihood Support)

Actions: 5.2.B7.1 – Construction/ Renovation of Village Market

(1) Area wise quantitative information

Action		Hpa-an	Hlaing Bwe	Kawkareik	Kyar Inn Seik Kyi	Total
5.2.B7.1 Construction/ Renovation of Village Market	Target	0	0	1	0	1
	Result	0	0	1	0	1
	Balance	0	0	0	0	0
	Achieve %			100%		100%

Actions: 5.2.B7.2A – Construction/ Renovation of Market Access Road

(2) Area wise quantitative information

Action		Hpa-an	Hlaing Bwe	Kawkareik	Kyar Inn Seik Kyi	Total
5.2.B7.1 Construction/ Renovation of Market Access Road	Target	4	8	7	9	28
	Result	4	9	7	10	30
	Balance	0	+1	0	+1	+2
	Achieve %	100%	>100%	100%	>100%	>100%

Actions: 5.2.B07.03 - Construction/ Renovation of Jetty Road**(3) Area wise quantitative information**

Action		Hpa-an	Hlaing Bwe	Kawkareik	Kyar Inn Seik Kyi	Total
5.2.B7.1 Construction/ Renovation of Culvert	Target	1				1
	Result	1				1
	Balance	0				0
	Achieve %	100%				100%

Actions: 5.2.B7.3 – Construction/ Renovation of Bridge**(4) Area wise quantitative information**

Action		Hpa-an	Hlaing Bwe	Kawkareik	Kyar Inn Seik Kyi	Total
5.2.B7.1 Construction/ Renovation of Bridge	Target	8	8	7	4	27
	Result	10	8	7	4	29
	Balance	+2	0	0	0	+2
	Achieve %	>100%	100%	100%	100%	>100%

Actions: 5.2.B7.4 – Construction/ Renovation of Culvert**(5) Area wise quantitative information**

Action		Hpa-an	Hlaing Bwe	Kawkareik	Kyar Inn Seik Kyi	Total
5.2.B7.1 Construction/ Renovation of Culvert	Target	1	1	2	2	6
	Result	1	2	4	2	9
	Balance	0	+1	+2	0	+3
	Achieve %	100	>100%	>100%	100%	>100%

Above tables shown the total activities conducted by 40 villages which are 31 Bridges, 32 Market Access Road, 9 Culvert, 1 Market and 1 Jetty Road, the total of 74 social/economy infrastructures, by their own human resource and community initiative through PRC support and UNDP and Japan Government funding. Construction of social infrastructures is completed in all targeted townships above. Those activities are achieved 100% completely in all targeted villages. Photos of those construction activities from those communities particularly from Kayin state are attached in appendix (IV).

Fund Delivery Status						
Action		Hpa-an	Hlaing Bwe	Kawkareik	Kyar Inn Seik Kyi	Total
100% of Community Fund Delivery Status of Social Infrastructures	Target	10	10	10	10	40
	Result	10	10	10	10	40
	Balance	0	0	0	0	0
	Achieve %	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

100% of the entire community fund has been already disbursed. The total amount of 494,000,000 kyats was successfully delivered to 40 villages in Kayin State. PRC successfully distributed 12,350,000 kyats to each village in order to implement their proposed social/economy infrastructure activities. On the other hand, PRC handed over original UNDP standard format (Form B, C and D) to UNDP as per request on June 30, 2014.

(2) Status of individual township activity – Planned activity Vs. Actual achievement; Planned time frame Vs. Actual time, Reason for deviation

There was no deviation in training plan. However, due to Water Festival (long holidays break), fund delivery from UNDP was delayed which consequently delayed in project implementation. Some of the road constructions are not smoothly finalised completely due to the rain and monsoon season. Thus, it is critical to finish the project activities in time; otherwise, it would unnecessarily be facing difficult means to complete the project smoothly.

According to Actual Work Plan (AWP), the project outputs and targets are met completely through PRC proposed time-line and within UNDP budget. The CBOs from respective villages submitted Micro Project Proposal (MPP), along with their detailed budget and work plan. A review meeting with relevant stakeholders, PRC and the UNDP was held in order to approve the CBOs' proposals on social/economy infrastructure construction. Upon MPP review committee approval, the communities implemented the activities directly, facilitated by community mobilizers and township project supervisors. Area managers, township project supervisors and community mobilizers closely facilitated and motivated the community to implement their activities effectively, efficiently and successfully. After the project implementation, internal monitoring was conducted Daw Ni Ni Lwin who visited all 40 villages for the completion of the project and Daw Hnin Pwint Soe from Yangon PRC main office visited 17 villages to monitor the complete activities and discussed with the beneficiaries to share the best practices, lesson learned, and success stories etc. Thus, it promotes a sense of ownership and common understanding of social cohesion and peace building as well as relationship trust building.

According to the community action plan for cash for work, the communities participated to implement their cash for work project through their own management so that they themselves reduce conflict, insecurity and inequality. The purpose for this is to build understanding and trust

among and between ethnic groups within villages and other villages in the State. Even after the project intervention, they can communicate and work with each other for long-term social cohesion improvement in the State. Cash for work not only supported community infrastructure completion alone but also improved social cohesion which is the most important point for local ethnic groups within village and other villages.

As an achievement of this project implementation, the total of 9,422 local people from 40 villages gained social cohesion through cash for work and social/economy infrastructure project intervention.

Achievement of Social Cohesion through Cash for Work and Social/Economy Infrastructure

	Male	Female	Total
Hpa-an	1,040	390	1,430
Hlaing Bwe	1,754	786	2,540
Kyar Inn Seik Kyi	1,806	1,024	2,830
Kawkareik	1,526	1,096	2,622
Total	6,126	3,296	9,422

The review and assessment of overall project implementation on construction of social/economy infrastructures showed many positive impacts on the community. Large scale cash for work program linking community infrastructures work was effective not only for providing the livelihood alternative to reduce the dependency of the poor on resources but also to earn the better relationship and trust from the people on the long term social cohesion work. Having built those social/economy infrastructures such as market access road and bridge resulted in positive impacts on villagers' education, health, livelihoods, economy, etc. Managing, organizing and using own human resource for both skill labours and un-skill labours from the community encouraged the unity, participation and teamwork among the community, better leadership and management skills and learned to solve the problems together. According to the discussion with the villagers during the internal monitoring visit, it is noted that the community has learned new techniques related to construction, gained incredible experiences and was very happy to receive such kind of support to develop social/economy infrastructures, social cohesion and livelihoods of the community. Both men and women, young and old participated in the construction.

Before implementing this project, most of the villages had difficulties to travel from village to village or to the nearest town for trading of regional goods, for attending schools and for seeking medical assistance. The community encountered difficulties mainly in monsoon season where they get heavy rain which cause extreme flooding preventing from traveling to other villages or the nearest town. Most of the roads and bridges were under the flooded water. The community already had a plan to repair or to build bridge or roads; however, they cannot bear the cost of construction. After the project implementation, it showed the great impacts on children's education, transportation, trading of regional goods in time which increase the income of the villagers and the communication among the villages regardless of the weather condition. The benefits gained from this project are not limited to

the community where the project was implemented, but also to the businessman and other villages in the region who use those constructed bridges and roads.

PRC request Appreciative Letter and Project Completion Letter from UNDP after PRC submission of the Project Final Report. Those above two letters are also needed to send to AGD Bank in order to receive the Advanced Payment Grantee of 64,994,592 Kyats. AGD Bank will return this Advanced Payment Grantee to PRC only after receiving Appreciative Letter and Project Completion Letter from UNDP since PRC submitted Advanced Payment to AGD Bank before implementing the project.

PRC initiate a new monitoring tool in this project where the monitoring officers do not need to go to the actual project areas to look at the completion of the activities. All those activities and locations of project activities can be looked up on Google Earth which also saves transportation expense. The activity photos, latitudes and longitudes of the activity (locations) in each village can be looked up from Google Earth file (KML) which is attached as soft copy with this final report. Hard copy photos are attached as an appendix (V).

The latest version of Actual Work Plan (AWP) is attached as an appendix (VI).

IV. Project Risks and Issues

One of the biggest project risks is that some areas of the Kayin have already secured ceasefire agreements with the central government, but the conflict keeps going on with sporadic fighting. As a result, it was quite challenging to facilitate local ethnic groups including the Kayin, Mon, Shan, Pa-Oh, Rakhine, and Bama; for instance, it was quite dangerous for field staff in the conflict areas. Most importantly, a lack of trust building and relationship building among and between ethnic groups particularly the KNU and DKBA forces and the central government made PRC difficult to implement our activities. However, through thorough discussion and meeting with the leaders from armed forces, PRC successfully gained a support from them to implement the project in a few of their villages. Due to conflict zones/areas, it was very difficult to invite all participants including armed groups to the training. Information dissemination is a key for enhanced understanding and trust among the key stakeholders. Regular information flow was made through the communication channel established to keep contact alive and active.

PRC faced a certain difficulty—the weather. The rain started during the first week of May, 2014. The other thing is that official water festival holiday was on April 12-21, 2014 when people take a break from work and celebrate. That is why; PRC hopes UNDP delivers Advanced payment guarantee fund to PRC according current contract and proposed time-frame after completing above mentioned steps as soon as possible.

However, payment from UNDP was delayed; thus, PRC activities were delayed, then having a burden of salaries and benefits for PRC. Additionally, during monsoon season, the activities were difficult to implement on the ground. During raining period, PRC team could not go to facilitate community to implement project activities in the village because there are so many creeks and bad transportation and unfavourable roads. Therefore, PRC recommends that the UNDP would make financial transaction in time for each implementation activity in the future.

a. Updated Project Risks and Actions

Project Risk 1: Since Kayin state is a conflict region, PRC needs to be very careful in communicating and dealing with armed ethnic groups and local authorities in order to get the agreement to implement the project activities in their respective villages.

Actions taken: PRC and respective armed ethnic group leaders had a thorough discussion to gain their consent. PRC built trust, relationship and coordination with them.

Project Risk 2: Delay of completing social/economy infrastructure activities within proposed time-frame due to community seasonal festivals and events (Water festival, Phone-Gyi Pyan Pwal, etc.) and the extreme heat during the month of March, April and May.

Actions taken: PRC supported, encouraged and supervised the community to complete the activities as their possible capacity.

b. Updated Project Issues and Actions

Project Issue 1: Delay of payment from UNDP which consequently delay the social/economy infrastructure activities in the community, and having a burden of salaries and benefits for PRC.

Actions taken: Community got the loan from the Head Monk (Monastery fund for village development) or from the community fund of the village without interest to start the activity before the fund delivery.

Project Issue 2: During the monsoon season, where the activities are difficult to implement on the ground, it is quite difficult for PRC team to go to facilitate community to implement project activities in the villages because there are so many creeks and bad transportation and unfavourable roads.

Actions taken: PRC supported, encouraged and supervised the community to complete the activities as their possible capacity before the rain starts.

V. Lessons Learned

1) Key project successes and factors which supported these successes

The beneficiaries of this project implementation are from 40 villages among Hpa-An, Hlaing Bwe, Kyar Inn Seik Kyi and Kawkareik townships in Kayin State.

PRC successfully facilitated community to identify the social/economy infrastructure which they want to implement. Then, the social/economy infrastructure activity chosen by each village was successfully implemented through the villagers.

Operation and Maintenance training and Social Cohesion Training were successfully conducted with 87 participants in four townships before starting the construction.

PRC successfully delivered the total funding of 494,000,000 kyats to all 40 villages.

The total of 74 social/economy infrastructures, including 31 Bridges, 32 Market Access Road, 9 Culvert, 1 Market and 1 Jetty Road, was successfully implemented.

The factors which supported these successes are the funding from UNDP and Japan Government, support, effort and careful supervision of PRC main office and field staff, willingness, unity, hard work, endless effort of the community.

2) Difficulties encountered and measures taken to overcome these difficulties

The biggest difficulty encountered during implementing this project is the delay in fund delivery from UNDP which has the consequences of fund delivery delay to the community and delay of construction. Several villages overcame this difficulty by getting loan from the Head Monk (Monastery fund for village development) of their village without any interest and started the implementation on time.

The participation of villagers during construction in a few villages was low because of the low cash for work per day. The villagers can earn more if they work other daily job. Thus, the village leaders in a few villages had to make more effort in organizing the villagers to participate in the construction and managing the workload.

3) Recommendations to improve future programming.

Implementing social/economy infrastructure improved social cohesion within the community, villages and township level is beneficial to the community.

For the future sustainable development and better social cohesion process, long-term series of the conflict resolution training, organizational management training, peace/ trust/ relationship building trainings and vocational training are needed for the community.

PRC recommends implementing long-term projects (at least three years) in order to maintain the long-term impacts and results rather than short-term projects.

PRC recommends fund delivery process to be more effective and faster.

The training should be longer and be more supportive of social cohesion.

Due to the short-term project, it is quite difficult to achieve 'sustainability' of social cohesion.

UNDP needs to monitor and follow-up the sustainability of those constructed infrastructures after the project intervention according to the community action plan.

VI. Conclusions and Way Forward

As PRC is committed to implement this project in time, by the end of June 2014, respecting its contract with UNDP, PRC successfully completed all the project activities against their time frame through UNDP's support and best coordination, despite of current unfavourable political situation, insecurity, armed ethnic groups area, conflict area, local community demand (community driven), seriousness in demand and involvement of local authorities and other hidden factors and bad transportation, unfavourable roads during the monsoon season.

PRC successfully distributed 12,350,000 kyats to each village in order to implement their proposed social/economy infrastructure activities. The total amount of 494,000,000 kyats was successfully delivered to 40 villages in Kayin State. 40 villages have successfully constructed 31 Bridges, 32 Market Access Road, 9 Culvert, 1 Market and 1 Jetty Road, the total of 74 social/economy infrastructures, by their own human resource and community initiative through PRC support and UNDP and Japan Government funding. The total of 9,422 local people from 40 project villages gained social cohesion through cash for work and social/economy infrastructure activities.

This project is beneficial to the community in improving their livelihoods, social cohesion, trust building, peace and community engagement through the social/economy infrastructures. The targeted community has improved transportation, education, medical assistant, economy development, livelihoods, social cohesion and community engagement directly or indirectly after this 6 months project intervention. However, PRC believes that long-term projects would have more impacts and promote sustainable development, better social cohesion within and between villages and different groups and the identified construction activities when undertaken with strategies that increase opportunities for interaction, dialogue, trust and unity in target locations. Thus, PRC recommends implementing such project in other parts of the country in the future.

VII. Financial Status

Insert the Financial Report or Cumulative Financial Report here. It should be planned budget, revised budget, expenditure and balance

Activity	Budget (as planned)	Expenditure	Balance
Programme cost	521,664,000	521,664,000	0
Operation	129,546,560	129,546,560	0
Total	651,210,560	651,210,560	0

VIII. Annex

Insert the latest approved Annual Work Plan (AWP), relevant copies of media coverage, publications, etc. Specific reporting requirements can also be inserted here.