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SUPPORT TO IMPROVED LIVELIHOOD AND SOCIAL COHESION SUB-PROJECT IN MYITKYINA TOWNSHIP, KACHIN STATE



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Executive Summary

Support to improved livelihoods and social cohesion of the community is becoming increasingly important especially for high level of poverty and conflict regions like Kachin State. Professional Research and Consultancy (PRC) served as Implementing Partners (IPs) to improve the livelihoods activities of local communities in Kachin State and to improve interaction, dialogue and unity among communities particularly Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and host communities in Kachin State. The project of UNDP's Country Programme Action Plan is known as "Support to Improved Livelihoods and Social Cohesion Program in Myanmar Sub-Project." PRC has successfully implemented UNDP sub-project in 13 villages/ wards in Myitkyina Township, Kachin State. This project started on November 1, 2013 and successfully completed on March 31, 2014.

The overall objective of the project is to improve access to and reducing inequalities in resources, incomes and livelihood opportunities and enhancing social cohesion within communities in targeted locations. The project targeted the poor, conflict- affected, IDPs, returnees and host-communities, and in particular, traditionally marginalized or vulnerable groups including ethnic minorities and women.

PRC signed MOU with UNDP and attended UNDP-Partners Orientation Workshop and Training to understand field project implementation, social cohesion process and how to conduct poverty score card and Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) exercises in October 2013. Later, UNDP, PRC and relevant line-departments conducted Area Level or Satellite Office Level meeting in Kachin State in November, 2013.

PRC successfully conducted PRA exercises which include tools as seasonal calendar, social map, Venn-Diagram, woman timeline and focus group discussion in 13 villages/ wards. The understanding on how seasonal factors affected the lives of the villagers, identification and prioritization of some infrastructures which need to improve by the community, the understanding of which organizations actively involved and interacted with the community, the understanding of women's contribution of their time and workload in household activities and earnings for the family and identification of difficulties, possible solutions, required trainings and maintenance of social/ economic infrastructures for the community are achieved through PRA exercises. The community successfully reviewed, identified and endorsed the list of all livelihood activities prioritization and each project activity prioritization.

PRC has successfully facilitated village mass meeting for activities prioritization (community needs assessment), along with budget calculation for livelihoods activity of 13 villages/wards in Kachin state, Myanmar. PRC identified 640 beneficiaries' households out of 2,142 households from 13 villages/wards in Myitkyina Township according to UNDP format. 640 individual beneficiaries chose and implemented agriculture livelihood (21 HHs), livestock livelihood (437 HHs) and Micro small-scale enterprise livelihood (182 HHs).

PRC facilitated the community and the community themselves formed one CBO in each village/ward. After that, PRC successfully conducted social cohesion training at 13 villages/wards, inviting 3 participants from each CBO. In addition, PRC conducted organizational and financial management training to 38 trainees in Myitkyina from January 17-20, 2014. The organizational management training focused on continuous vision building, planning, accountability and transparency, organizational management, linkages, monitoring and evaluation. Moreover, the financial management training focused on how to manage general ledger, individual passport, interest, loan, payment very well.

The total amount of 93,120,000 kyats was effectively delivered to the 13 villages/wards. The amount of distributed fund was different, based on the number of poorest households according to Poverty Score Card. PRC successfully delivered all the funding together with CBO members and UNDP staff.

Monitoring and evaluation visit was conducted by U Ye Htut (Area Office Coordinator from UNDP), U Khin Maung Tun and Daw Myint Myint Zaw from PRC in order to follow-up on how the community is using the distributed funds according to their proposed livelihood activities and how their work has been developed. All CBOs and all beneficiaries have a plan to revolve the fund with 2% of interest after this 6 months project intervention.

PRC has successfully submitted Form A to H in UNDP original standard format, both hard and soft copy and PMIS software to UNDP by March 31, 2014.

This project is beneficial to the community in improving their livelihoods, social cohesion, trust building, peace and community engagement. The targeted community has improved livelihoods, social cohesion and community engagement after this 6 months project intervention. However, PRC believes that long-term projects would have more impacts and promote sustainable development, better social cohesion, peace and community engagement towards peaceful coexistence. Thus, PRC recommends implementing such project in other parts of the country in the future.

Acronyms

CBO	Community-Based Organization
CSO	Central Statistical Organization
EU	European Union
HH	Household
IDP	Internally Displaced Persons
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
IPs	Implementing Partners
KBC	Kachin Baptist Convention
KIA	Kachin Independent Army
LNGO	Local Non-Governmental Organization
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSE	Micro Small-scale Enterprise
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PRC	Professional Research and Consultancy
SPDC	State Peace and Development Council
UK	United Kingdom
UNDP	United Nation Development Program
UNICEF	United Nation Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

1. Background Information

Myitkyina Township is located in the northern part of Kachin State and bordered with Moe Kaung in the west, Waing Maw in the east and south to Sin Bo as well as Sonprabum in the North. These areas are characterized as high level of poverty, physical remoteness, complexity and sometimes fractious ethnic composition, poor economic and social 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, mostly upland and low land paddy and other perennial crops. Other kinds of small business such as herbal medicine selling, gold mining, hunting and charcoal making are practicing in this area. At the household level, food security remains the critical issue. Health shocks are common and due to the isolation, lack of adequate health services, facilities and basic health awareness, treatments where available, are expensive. Major health problems are malaria, dysentery, water-borne diseases, acute respiratory infections.

Beginning from June to September 2011, a total of 5,580 IDPs, known as Internally Displaced Persons from 1,397 households arrived at 38 IDP camps under Myanmar Government control. In August 2012, thousands of Kachin refugees were forced to return to Myanmar by the Chinese Government even though the conflicts and battles between Myanmar army and Kachin Independent Army (KIA), calls to end such action by NGOs like Human Rights Watch and the illegality of doing so under international law. By October 2012, more than 100,000 IDPs are taking shelter in various camps across Kachin State.¹ International humanitarian organizations and UN Agencies have an access to IDPs in government-controlled areas and local partners/local organizations have played a vital role in ensuring that humanitarian assistance reaches IDPs in other areas. As one of UNDP's Country Programme Action Plan, Professional Research and Consultancy (PRC) served as Implementing Partners (IPs) and humanitarian assistants in "Support to Improved Livelihoods and Social Cohesion Program (SILSCP)" in order to improve the livelihoods activities of local communities and to improve the interaction, dialogue and unity between communities particularly IDPs and host communities in Kachin State.

A total of 13 villages/wards from Myitkyina Township of Kachin State was selected to implement this sub-project. This sub-project covered 13 villages/wards from Myitkyina and was implemented according to new UNDP model. The project started on November 1, 2013 and completed on March 31, 2014. UNDP and PRC meeting was ensued in November 2013, 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. 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. This project is to enhance social cohesion within the villages/wards in Myitkyina

¹ Wikipedia, Kachin State, Retrieved on April 04, 2014 from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kachin_State

through a support to improved livelihoods. The achieved total target beneficiaries in 13 villages/wards are 640 households out of 2,142 households. There were 21 households which proposed and achieved agriculture livelihood, 437 households for livestock livelihood and 182 households for Micro Small-scale Enterprise (MSE) livelihood among 640 households within 6 months project intervention.

2. Objective of the Project

The overall objective of the project was to improve access to and reducing inequalities in resources, incomes and livelihood opportunities and enhancing social cohesion within communities in targeted locations. The project targeted the poor, conflict- affected, IDPs, returnees and host-communities, and in particular, traditionally marginalized or vulnerable groups including ethnic minorities and women. It linked with and similar supplement activities were undertaken by the Government of Myanmar, UNDP, INGOs, NGOs, PRC and CBOs in the target locations. The project was implemented through an extensive process of community mobilization, community participation, community empowerment, community choice and social cohesion which was intended to serve as a foundation, not only for improving the livelihoods of targeted communities, but also for improving local governance and social cohesion in targeted locations.

3. Rationale of the Project

Myitkyina is one of the remoteness and high level of poverty and conflict with poor economic and social infrastructure townships in Kachin State and local people are facing inequalities in resources, income, livelihoods opportunity, household assets, transportation, job opportunities, security and social cohesion within communities in the project area. Currently, there is the major cease-fire area between Myanmar Army and KIA since 1948. They still do not trust between Myanmar Army and KIA over six decade and they have been fighting against each other without social cohesion and trust building. The cycle repeated year after year. As a consequence, local people in Myitkyina are undoubtedly struggle to work for their daily livelihood and income as well as daily meal. They lost their security, social cohesion, relationship building, trust building, peace building, ethnic values and cultures.

In this situation, UNDP has embarked on a new country programme action plan (CPAP, 2012-105) in partnership with government of Myanmar, and under the United Nations Assistance Framework (UNSF-2012-2015). PRC wished to support a new county programme action plan of UNDP as one of the local partners in Myanmar. PRC is pleased to join with your firm as a collaborating partner on support to improved livelihoods and social cohesion project in Myitkyina, Kachin State, Myanmar.

As this project needs a wider engagement with various stakeholders including different partners (from local and abroad), agencies, local and international NGOs, CSOs, CBOs, media, politicians, Union and State governments, and interest groups etc., PRC believed that this requirement is quite fit with PRC experiences and commitment to carry out this project with a success. This project design requirement is all what PRC has already done almost all the times. Given those factors, PRC implemented this project as a leading role, thereby moving the once country forward.

For long term benefit, PRC hoped that different types of Kachin ethnic including Jinghpaw, Rawang, Lisu and Law Waw, Shan ethnic, Bamar, Islam and other ethnic will be living together within the project villages and within the state as well as other states/ regions in the whole country. Local people are strengthening better peace building, social cohesion, relationship, trust building and better future in Kachin State and other states/ regions. More importantly, different ethnic groups will be building better community participation, community mobilization, social mobilization, social cohesion and peace building in the state and in the whole country in the future.

4. Project Implementation Process

PRC from Yangon Main Office discussed on Standard Memorandum of Understanding for Micro –Capital Grant Agreement with UNDP and signed MOU during the meeting with UNDP in October 2013.

During October 2013, PRC staff attended UNDP-Partners Orientation Workshop and Training in Sedona Hotel, Yangon. This workshop and training provided all partners on field project implementation and social cohesion process, how to conduct poverty score cards and PRA exercises.

On November 4, 2014, UNDP, PRC and relevant line-departments conducted Area Level or Satellite Office Level meeting in Kachin State (for 13 project villages/wards in Kachin State). During the meeting, the participants successfully re-checked, counter-checked, reviewed, verified and endorsed the list of all project villages. In addition, explanation on the current situation of Myitkyina and each project village/ward was based on the following key points.

- a) IDP and IDP Camps situation (Internally-displaced Persons)
- b) UNDP Project assisted Village/ward situation
- c) The roles of UN Agencies, INGOs, NGOs, local authorities, religious or faith-based organizations
- d) Project Management issues (community fund, operation and others)
- e) PRA (Participatory Rural Appraisal) or Village Planning issues
- f) How to utilize Poverty score card
- g) Organizational and Financial Management Training

- h) Handing over to UNDP after project implemented by all IPs
- i) Submission of Final Report to UNDP

5. Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)

PRA or Village Planning Exercise was conducted for one day and PRA tools are seasonal calendar, social map, Venn- diagram, woman timeline, and focused group discussion. PRC firstly built a relationship of trust, friendship and harmony with the community for good communication, active participation and to learn about their lives, values, beliefs and hopes for the future before conducting PRA. By doing so, it helped PRC to have good information and better understanding of those communities.

There are three main objectives: (i) to provide an opportunity for a wide range of different village members, leaders and influential individuals to jointly analyze the livelihoods status of poor households (HHs), (ii) to identify priority activities that are highly relevant for supporting livelihood improvement, benefiting the most vulnerable and marginalized people and (iii) to build people's capacity in order to have more active participation in development of planning, strengthening both the top-down acceptance and bottom-up demand for more participatory and more inclusive village and commune planning processes.

PRA exercise agenda includes-

1. Praying
2. Village Administrator welcome speech
3. Village Elder speech
4. Explained Objective of Poverty score card & PRA
5. Additional speech of IP leader
6. Divided into 4 groups and conduct Women timeline and Social map including staff explained on these tools and group presentation
7. Lunch
8. Divided into 4 groups and conduct seasonal calendar and Venn-Diagram including staff explained on these tools and group presentation
9. Tea break
10. Election of committee by the community
11. Divided into 3 groups and started focus group discussion
12. Training, Resource persons and activities Infrastructure including productive infrastructure, livelihood activities, income generation activities and pair ranking
13. Finalized poverty score card, and developed action plan - Agriculture, Livestock, MSE and social/economy infrastructure

14. Finalized beneficiaries list
15. Specific livelihood activities by individual HH is remained to complete

- **Seasonal Calendar**

This tool is used to understand how seasonal factors, such as overview of seasonal workload, seasonal disease problems, income and expenditure, seasonal migration, food security patterns and time, time of scarcity and abundance, seasonal cropping patterns, time and balancing of the men's & women's point of view, are affecting the life of villagers. In addition, seasonal calendar was drawn to represent the villagers understanding of time and when their year starts and finishes. Moreover, some of the issues which can be affected by each season were also taking into account in this tool. After discussing on seasonal calendar in each village, there are common trends and effects in each factor. Mostly, the participants in the villages work in the paddy fields and planting vegetables as their source of income. Some villagers work as daily worker and small business trader. The participants were divided into 3 groups, men, women and mixed group. The following is the presentation of the results from the discussion of those 3 groups.



As there are three seasons in Myanmar, summer, monsoon and winter, June to September is monsoon season and there is enough rain drop point in August and September for cultivating and farming. The hot and dry weather is in March, April and May. The seasonal occupation in this village are farming, usually spreading seed start in July, then cultivating follow in next month, August. The next processes of farming like nurturing, pesticide activities are

done in September and usually harvesting process are done in November. According to the result, there is a high income in November, December and January after harvesting season. The expenditure is significantly high in May, June, November and December. Monsoon season is the time where most seasonal diseases occurred such as Malaria, diarrhea, flu and dengue fever. Flooding and heavy wind during monsoon and fire during summer are listed as natural disasters. Therefore, income during monsoon season is considerably low which then, has negative impact on food security. Food security is consistently low from June to September. In some months, some of the animals are suffering diseases.

The famous seasonal festivals are Thingyan, Ka Htein, Kaut Thit Sar, Easter, Christmas, New Year and Thanksgiving. The villagers migrate for their income mostly during October and March in order to work at gold mining and look for gem stones.

- **Social Map**

The objective of drawing social map is trying to develop a visual representation of the community and the local reality, villagers' perception on their location to develop a common understanding by using geographic simple symbols. This tool emphasized on local knowledge and allowed the participants to take the lead role. The participants were divided into 2 groups, male and female in order to have different gender perceptions.

In this map, each group of participants have to draw the village structure including homes, village roads, schools and all the buildings and infrastructure in village and surrounded village area. The results of this



tool were presentation of main roads and village paths, bridges, houses, schools, monastery/church, health center, government buildings, water resources, streams, ponds, wells, market areas, meeting places and so on. The list of social/economy infrastructures appeared for each village/ward from this social map exercise. Moreover, some infrastructures which need to improve appeared and are noticed by community when drawing this

social map. The community prioritized the list of social/economy infrastructure to improve through the facilitation of PRC. Then, PRC handed over the list of social/ economy infrastructure to other IP for further implementation.

- **Venn-Diagram/ Institutional Diagram**

The main objective to draw Venn-diagram is to understand which organizations are situated and actively involved internal and external to the village community. The Venn-diagram shows the importance of each organization related to the other organizations by their size and proximity. The organizations and communities within village are situated in a big circle and organizations outside village are located outside of the circle. Furthermore, what kind of social activities are performing and leading by which organization are observed by local people knowledge. In order to know how many organizations are situated and interacted inside and outside village, what organizations are important in the village/ward and give valuable insight into organizations that influence village decisions are also observed in this Venn diagram drawing process. The participants were also divided into 3 groups, men, women and mixed group.

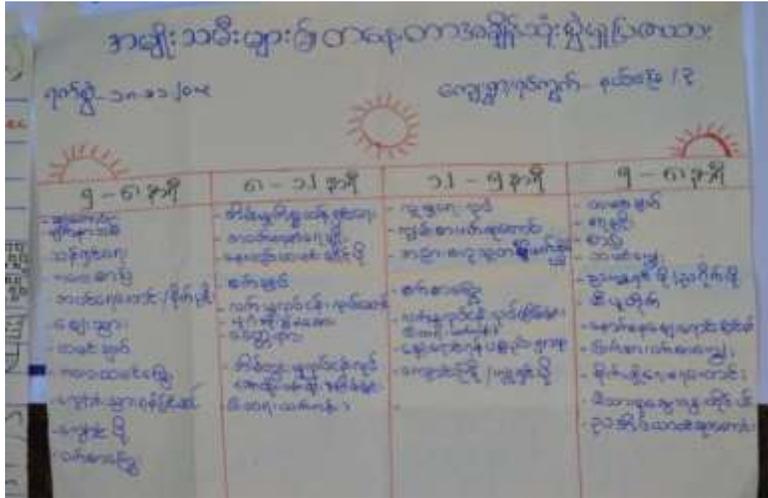
The common organizations involved in village community are Religious Organization, Administration, Co-operative Credit Society, Fire Brigade, Woman Organization, Mother and Child Association, Access Electricity Committee. Other organizations inside the circle are IDP Camp, Youth Organization, Access Road Committee, Projects, Social Services Association, Churches, Health Department, Education Department, State Peace and Development Council (SPDC), Kachin Baptist Convention (KBC), Sports



Department, Early Childhood Care and Development. Some common organizations outside of the villages are Farming, Religious Organizations, Fire Brigade, Municipal, District/ Township/ Ward Office, Police Department, Public Hospital, Health Department, Immigration Office, Woman Organization, Sports Department, Mother and Child Association, Electricity Department and Education

Department. Other organizations which are identified only in a few villages are Parents and Teachers Association, UNICEF, UNDP, INGOs/LNGOs, SPDC, KBC, Village Development Committee, Social Services Association, Churches, Red Cross.

- **Woman Timeline**



This tool focuses on how women spend their time daily basic. By knowing women’s daily activities, how women are contributing their time and workload in household activities and earning for family. In order to understand how women spend their time daily, the day is divided into four periods, 5 am to 8 am, 8 am to 12 pm, 12 pm to 5 pm and 5 pm to 8 pm.

Common women’s daily activities across the villages are identified as follow. As a combined discussion result from every village, most of the women prepare for the meal for the family and also for pigs, going for grocery shopping, working as street vendor and cleaning the house during 5 am to 8 am. Some of the women send their children to school and watering the farm. A few women from one village work on weaving.

During 8 am to 12 pm, most women clean their house, wash clothes and send lunch box to their school children. Some women go to the farm, feed their pigs, work as daily wage worker and go to the office while a few women water the farm and cut woods. 12 pm to 5 pm is the time when most women pick up their children from school, prepare meals for the family and pigs and work as street vendor. Some women spend their time by feeding their children and cutting woods. Very few women read books for general knowledge and make handicrafts.

During the evening between 5 pm to 8 pm, most of the women help their children with school work and taking shower. Some women spend their evening by picking their children up from school, preparing and feeding the pig and preparing for night street vendor. A few women work as night street vendor, sew clothes, teach their children with moral, put the cows back into the shed and weave. Some occasional activities are family devotion, going to funeral/ social events and women worship service.

- **Focused Group Discussion**

This tool is used to understand the livelihood of the local community, difficulties they faced, possible solutions, required trainings and maintenance of social-infrastructure. PRC conducted the discussion as a form of group interview which led from general information to more specific information in different sectors. These sectors covered health, education, water and sanitation and social/ economy infrastructure. After focus group discussion, the main action plan and possible activities were produced as outcomes. This tool allowed new options, two ways learning and cross-checking of information. The participants were divided into 5 groups including elder group, men



group, women group, business leaders group and mixed group. The results identified were taken from above 5 groups in order to understand a variety of perceptions from different gender, age and experience groups. PRC successfully asked the right questions at the right time which is a vital part of focus group discussions. The main livelihood activities appeared pig rearing, pottery rearing, cattle rearing, goat rearing, agriculture activities and micro small enterprises including grocery, small trading, weaving, ratter basket, etc.

The difficulties that the community has to face when making their living are described as not enough money for investment for farming, pig rearing, weaving and ratter basket making, which resulted in low profit, not possessing land for farming, expensive plant seeds, returning interest calculated on daily basis, weather condition, not getting enough water for farming, seasonal animal diseases and flooding in monsoon season. Some possible activities to solve these difficulties are identified as getting loans with low interest, getting good quality seeds and fertilizers for farming, investment for feeding pigs, receiving trainings on how to breed pigs, how to use pesticides and how to do farming systematically, having Veterinary surgeon, building system for farm loans and having own weaving machine.

Detail activities to be supported and prioritized by the villages in livelihood sector are as follow. However, the priorities vary from village to village.

- Assistance for pig rearing (1st priority) to be provided for families who depend on casual labor works such as seasonal farming activities – paddy transplanting/harvesting, weeding, migrant workers in gold mining and timber mills. Main objective of the assistance for this activity is for creating livelihood assets of poor families rather than family additional income.

- Assistance for small scale vegetable and flower growing for casual labors who want to start vegetable growing and small farmer HHs for buying cow dung, poultry waste, chemical fertilizer, pesticides, fuel for irrigation and for land hiring and labor cost in winter and summer season growing. (This one is also identified as 1st priority)
- Assistance for vegetable selling to those who are selling in morning market and to those who sell by mobile trading. Main objective is to stop taking loan with 10-20% interest by daily installment repayment system. (2rd priority)
- Support to farmer for inputs – to buy cow dung, poultry waste and agrochemicals (3rd priority)

After this PRA exercise, the list of village activity prioritization for social/ economy infrastructure and livelihoods was produced. The key social infrastructures appeared road renovation, culvert construction, wooden bridge construction and drinking water as well as school infrastructures in project areas. One CBO was established in each ward/village in Myitkyina Township. PRC also explained about wealth ranking of household in each ward/village. Those participants successfully reviewed, identified and endorsed the list of all project activities prioritization and each project activity prioritization, based on below key points;

- a) Community Driven Approaches
- b) Community Basic Needs
- c) Community Choice and Voice
- d) Are the benefits targeted to the poor?
- e) Are the activities community's needs (Community first prioritization)?
- f) How do you think all activities can support economy and income of local people?
- g) Has the whole community been consulted and aware of those activities and each activity?
- h) Has the activity been participated and calculated by the community joint with PRC?
- i) Has the activity been informed to the relevant line department and/or local authorities?
- j) Are the needs of women taken into account?
- k) Has a cost benefit analysis been completed?
- l) Has the opportunity cost been taken into account?
- m) Are the community members capable of implementing the activities?
- n) Is the community contribution reasonable and achievable (cash for work activity)?
- o) How do you think all activities can support social cohesion of local community and their livelihoods (socio-economic infrastructure)?
- p) Are there any adverse effects on the environment?
- q) Is the reasonable financial amount of each activity?

This step is vital for all stakeholders as participatory, transparency, accountability and understandability manner. All stakeholders can avoid over-lapping activities, misunderstanding, unreasonable budget and other related issues at the implementation level if participants find unappreciated and miscalculation budget of all activities during area PRA exercises.

6. Poverty Score Card

According to UNDP format, PRC identified 640 beneficiaries' households out of 2,142 households from 13 villages/wards in Myitkyina Township.

Before the village trip, PRC discussed how to collect Poverty Score Card and conduct VPE. During the discussion, AOC of Kachin state delivered the status of Kachin state, especially on Myitkyina Township. Social cohesion team shared the required data of Myitkyina Camps and host villages/wards. According to the agenda, the poverty score card was to be collected at DAY-2. However, all participants had agreed to collect the poverty score card on DAY-1.

- **Poverty Score Card Data Collection Process**

On Day 1, team members met with the authorized persons/ village elders from village and explained the objective of the project. Then, group members were divided into suitable number of groups and they started collecting the poverty score in village with support of assigned person from village and team members. Then, team members input the poverty score and prepared the beneficiary lists of the village.² Follow up actions taken were, first, beneficiary identification by activity in consultation with newly formed committee in accordance with prioritized activities and the selection criteria in community mass meeting. Second, the committee announced community beneficiary list with reasons and by explaining process of selection. Third, project provided three representatives of the committee with organizational and financial management training before fund delivery.

² The beneficiary lists are attached as an appendix 1 at the end of this report.

The results of Poverty Score Card are as follow.

List of project villages												
Sr. No	T-Name	VT-Name	V-Name	HH	M	F	Total	Agriculture	Livestock	MSE	Total Beneficiaries HH	Total Budget
1	Myitkyina	Du Ka Htaung	Ward-4 (Du Ka Htaung)	96	310	341	651	2	14	14	30	4,365,000
2	Myitkyina	Du Ka Htaung	Ward-5 (Du Ka Htaung)	79	250	281	531	0	19	11	30	4,365,000
3	Myitkyina	Du Ka Htaung	Ward-14 (Du Ka Htaung)	78	274	298	572	0	16	14	30	4,365,000
4	Myitkyina	Tat Kone	Ward-6 (Tat Kone)	120	356	395	751	1	32	17	50	7,275,000
5	Myitkyina	Tat Kone	Ward-8 (Tat Kone)	331	1072	1184	2256	0	79	21	100	14,550,000
6	Myitkyina	Tat Kone	Ward-3 (Tat Kone)	373	1219	1325	2544	1	58	39	98	14,259,000
7	Myitkyina	Tat Kone	Ward-5 (Tat Kone)	430	1314	1558	2872	2	81	17	100	14,550,000
8	Myitkyina	Myaymyint	Ward-9 (Myaymyint)	46	134	165	299	0	1	3	4	582,000
9	Myitkyina	Sitapu	Thidar Aye (Sitapu)	106	292	322	614	5	19	14	38	5,529,000
10	Myitkyina	Sitapu	Sitapu (Sut Ngai Taung)	159	489	550	1039	6	26	3	35	5,092,500
11	Myitkyina	Shwe Set	Ward-4 (Shwe Sat)	113	305	354	659	0	39	1	40	5,820,000
12	Myitkyina	Palana-1	Ward-4 (Palana-1)	103	348	371	719	1	32	7	40	5,820,000
13	Myitkyina	Man Hkring	Ward-2 (Man Hkring)	108	323	354	677	3	21	21	45	6,547,500
			Total	2,142	6,686	7,498	14,184	21	437	182	640	93,120,000

- **Suggestions on Poverty Score Card and PRA Exercises**

- For score card, village-wise HH is needed to list down by the resource person from the village
- To collect the data by grouping together with staff and villagers
- To involve Male, Female and total in collection
- To review and revise agenda to complete within 1 day timeframe
- To have discussion with village elders in order to avoid the engagement of upset issue with PRA such as village religious ceremony and traditional festival
- To conduct by using 3 tools at the same time to have more time in upcoming exercises
- To facilitate by staff to present the developed exercise by single time and the staff should provide comment on the other same one, comparing facts on 2 flip chart in order to save time
- Staff must digest on the 10 questions of Poverty Score Card
- Staff should not waste their time unnecessary on giving speech
- Staff should encourage the villagers to attend on time at Opening, if necessary; staff will take night stop at the respective villages for motivation
- To try to form committee after Venn-diagram is presented
- Gender equity should be emphasized in forming committee

- Beneficiaries list announcement should not let villagers to know before completion of target number of all VPE villages
- If staff strength is enough, Poverty Score Card could be conducted at 2 villages in DAY-1

7. Target Communities and Institutions have Increased Capacities for Social Cohesion, Sustainable Livelihoods, and Improved Opportunities for Peace

Through support to improved livelihoods project, PRC believed that the community promoted social cohesion and reducing conflict in the project area and other non-project area. Community had practiced how to implement social cohesion in their villages/wards. Social cohesion was achieved through some valuable “tools” from community engagement with one another such as social infrastructure and so forth. PRC understands that concept and successfully applied this via its training/workshop to the community/beneficiaries and relevant stakeholders. With this sharing, the communities themselves could have understanding of the importance of the social cohesion and had better dialogue among them in order to build long-lasting peace.

Activity Result 5.1: Social protection mechanisms in place for poor households at community level

Actions: 5.1.A Assessment and identification of poorest households and other beneficiaries at community level in targeted locations

Table (1) shows the last project implementation status of 13 villages/wards in Kachin State, Myanmar. PRC has successfully facilitated village mass meeting for activities prioritization (community needs assessment), along with budget calculation for livelihoods activities of 13 villages/wards in Kachin state, Myanmar. The names of the villages/wards are –

- 1) Du Ka Htaung (Ward 4)
- 2) Du Ka Htaung (Ward 5)
- 3) Du Ka Htaung (Ward 14)
- 4) Tat Kone (Ward 6)
- 5) Tat Kone (Ward 8)
- 6) Tat Kone (Ward 3)
- 7) Tat Kone (Ward 5)
- 8) Myaymyint (Ward 9)
- 9) Sitapu (Thidar Aye)
- 10) Sut Ngai Taung (Sitapu)

- 11) Shwe Sat (Ward 4)
- 12) Palana-1 (Ward 4)
- 13) Man Hkring (Ward 2)

PRC has successfully conducted PRA exercises and Poverty Score Card in above 13 villages/wards starting from the beginning of November and finished at the end of November. Livelihoods and social/economy infrastructure were PRA results. 640 individual beneficiaries chose and implemented agriculture livelihood (21 HHs), livestock livelihood (437 HHs) and Micro small-scale enterprise livelihood (182 HHs). After measuring with UNDP Poverty Score Card criteria/guidelines, 640 HHs were identified out of 2,142 HHs. Beneficiaries from each village are mentioned as follow. According to the Poverty Score Card, Tat Kone (Ward 8) and (Ward 5) have the highest number of poorest households and Myaymyint (Ward 9) has the least number of poorest households.

Village Names	Total HHs	Agriculture	Livestock	MSE
1) Du Ka Htaung (Ward 4)	30	2	14	14
2) Du Ka Htaung (Ward 5)	30	0	19	11
3) Du Ka Htaung (Ward 14)	30	0	16	14
4) Tat Kone (Ward 6)	50	1	32	17
5) Tat Kone (Ward 8)	100	0	79	21
6) Tat Kone (Ward 3)	98	1	58	39
7) Tat Kone (Ward 5)	100	2	81	17
8) Myaymyint (Ward 9)	4	0	1	3
9) Sitapu (Thidar Aye)	38	5	19	14
10) Shwe Sat (Ward 4)	40	0	39	1
11) Palana-1 (Ward 4)	40	1	32	7
12) Man Hkring (Ward 2)	45	3	21	21
13) Sut Ngai Taung (Sitapu)	35	6	26	3
Total	640	21	437	182

(1) **Table Area-wise quantitative information for Kachin State**

Action		Myitkyina	Total
5.1.A 3.2 Conduct PRA and Poverty Score Card by IP	Target	13	13
	Result	13	13
	Balance	0	
	Achieve %	100%	100%

PRC facilitated the community and the community themselves formed one CBO in each village/ward. Then, PRC successfully conducted social cohesion training at 13 villages/wards, invited 3 participants from each CBO. The reason for having CBO is in order for the community to understand about social cohesion deeply. 3 participants from each CBO who attended the training later shared the knowledge and practices with their community. Social cohesion is a firm concept composed of several ideas—solidarity, unity, inclusion, fairness, engagement (not isolation), and respect for diversity etc. The fundamental aim is to help society/community coexist in a peaceful manner. With this concept, social cohesion should be understood as the capacity of the society to ensure the well-being of all its members. In other words, it refers to the property by which whole societies, and individuals with them, are bound together through the action of specific attitudes, behaviors, rules and institutions which rely on consensus rather than pure coercion. This concept is designed to implement lasting peace in the community via its understanding and engagement with social cohesion activities.

Social cohesion is thus an essential tool for a conflict prone area in Kachin state, in which the communities—perhaps two different groups or more—are reluctant to build ‘mutual trust’ to each other. Without this trust being achieved, lasting peace is far away from a reality. Consequently, development is difficult to achieve. Community mobilization and community facilitation, a part of social cohesion, is difficult to achieve then. As a result, social capital becomes weak. Social inclusion is in a difficult position to implement on the ground. Therefore, social cohesion projects are critical to having a success of development, peace, and community engagement—towards peaceful coexistence. The community then involved in this social cohesion project to achieve ‘social cohesion’ within their own community.

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

PRC have no deviation in terms of planned time frame vs. actual time. Thus, PRC has successfully achieved over 100% of the overall implementation against time frame.

(3) Issues, action taken/recommendations and lessons learned – only under individual output, not for individual activity

- ***Payment should not be delayed;*** otherwise, PRC have no delay payment activities

Actions: 5.1.B - Identify and strengthen social protection mechanisms at community level

(1) Area wise quantitative information

Action		Myitkyina	Total
5.1.B 1.3 Training for Village Social Protection Measures (Human Rights based development, Social security and cohesion, organizational and financial management)	Target	13	13
	Result	13	13
	Balance	0	
	Achieve %	100	100

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

There is no deviation in training plan, and PRC arranges that at the beginning of March.

- 38 Person identified and trained for social protection mechanisms.
- 38 community resource persons identified and trained for financial management mechanisms.
- 38 community resource persons identified and trained for organizational management mechanisms.
- Explain achievement complete or partial or not start per time frame. 100 % of achievement.

(3) Issues, action taken/recommendations and lessons learned – only under individual output, not for individual activity

- UNDP needs to monitor and follow-up individual households' activities according to their action plan and proposed activities.
- UNDP needs to conduct vocational trainings on MSE, agriculture, livestock sectors after discussing with the community again.
- 6 months project intervention is quite short for the community to practice social cohesion, peace and community engagement towards peaceful coexistence.
- UNDP needs to consider long-term (e.g. 3 years) projects through livelihoods and economy infrastructures with social cohesion project. (e.g. Myanmar Peace Center has been working for peace building with UN Agencies, Government Ministries, EU, UK, USAID and other INGOs, spending 100 million dollars support, yet, the impact of community social cohesion, peace building and community engagement among ethnic community has not been seen clearly since long-lasting peace and trust building takes time.) However, PRC has worked their best to achieve and to improve social cohesion and livelihoods of the community within the 6 months project intervention.

8. Facilitation and Home Visit

Action plans identified by the community are farming, animal husbandry, domestic science, hairdressing, health education, motorcycle repair workshop, cooking, electronic-related, computer, making soaps, baking, sewing and designer training, carpentry, small business and capacity building. The discussion also led to identify the maintenance needed in those selected villages. Regards to social-infrastructure, action plans needed are to renovate the road, well, school buildings and bridges in the villages, to build bridges over drainage, to receive electricity or solar plates and to build a village library.

Majority of families mainly depend on agriculture – vegetable, flower and paddy growing. Daily wage labors also depend on those farm activities. Farmers are very knowledgeable and well-experience in vegetable production. They depend on underground water pumping by engine for irrigation in winter and summer season growing. Some small farmer hired land for growing paddy and vegetable and most small farmers used to take loan for buying organic fertilizers – cow dung and poultry waste, chemical fertilizers, fuel for irrigation and for farm labor cost. Therefore, small farmers and casual labor families who want to produce vegetable need capital assistance for inputs – seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, labor and land hiring cost.

Pig rearing is a good opportunity both for additional family income and creation of livelihood assets as there are wide enough compound around their houses and a lot of vegetable waste for animal feed. Currently, most poor families could not afford to rear pig due to lack of investment. Casual labor and small farmers could manage this activity if they have investment. Improved practice regard with feeding, variety selection and vaccination is essential for effective rearing. Village Veterinary Worker training should be provided before fund delivery for dissemination of improved practice of pig rearing particularly on above mentioned issues. During the meeting, the community showed great interest in pig breeding.

9. Organizational Management Training

At the village level meeting with community, PRC successfully finished the list of all infrastructure activities prioritization and livelihood activities prioritization, formation and establishment of CBO, poverty score card identification and detail budget in 13 villages/wards of Kachin States before December 25, 2013. When the CBO was established, roles and responsibilities were divided and assigned to chosen members. CBO was formed in order to lead and work for the sustainable development of their own community after project is finished. During the meeting, characteristics of organization, about CBO and laws/ ways to establish village development committee were explained. PRC discussed on how to implement their project activities within proposed time-frame.

PRC conducted organizational management training to 38 trainees in Myitkyina from January 17-18, 2014. This training provided how to manage financial and organizations in their villages. The training focused on continuous vision building, planning, accountability and transparency, organizational management, linkages, monitoring and evaluation. Vision building topic was included in order for CBOs to have short, medium and long term vision. This 6 month-long support to improved livelihoods and social cohesion project was a short term vision. This training supported CBOs to continue to have long term vision and continue with the work after the end of this project period. Planning topic was included to support them to plan systematically in every project. This training delivered how to conduct joint planning and CBO own planning for every development project with the understanding of own/others' responsibilities and work. Accountability and transparency topic was needed in order to understand rules and regulations besides roles and responsibilities individually or in organization. Thus, each CBO needs to share the information on data, financial, opportunities, roles and responsibilities equally regardless of gender, religion and ethnic group.

Organizational management topic was delivered in order for CBO to manage their funds, time, assets, information, resources, capacity, coordination, project implementation, etc. effectively. After this training, CBO are able to work together with other organizations such as INGOs, LNGOs, UN Agencies, CBOs, CSOs, Faith-based Organizations, Disable Organizations, etc. in building capacity, financial, technical skills after realizing own needs. Monitoring and evaluation topic was included in order to have understanding on how to monitor and evaluate the project effectively. Organizational and Financial Management capacity for development purpose is totally new for village community. Systematic formal training, frequent interaction by development staff and exposure to functioning committee in former HDI villages of UNDP to be provided to the committee are essential for improvement of organizational and financial management skill of the committee.

10. Financial Management Training

PRC conducted financial management training to 38 trainees in Myitkyina from January 19-20, 2014. This training provided how to manage financial and organizations in their villages. This training focused on how to manage general ledger, individual passport, interest, loan, payment very well. This training covered both livelihood project and social/economy infrastructure project. The participants gained the knowledge of how to keep financial statements, including income, expenditures, balance, book keeping system, book record and book writing, from this training. CBO received the funds from the project and delivered to individual households in order to implement their proposed livelihood activities (agriculture, livestock and MSE). This training was conducted before CBO receiving and distributing the funds so that CBO could manage effectively.

On day 1, properly required financial book keeping system in CBO was mentioned. During the day 1 training, the participants learned and practiced how to do book keeping systematically. This training not only delivered the knowledge but also included practical activities. Moreover, the participants learned to keep individual passport, how to manage interest, income, expenditures, repayment, overdue and fine through practices and how to link with general ledger. The training supported CBOs to manage their financial statement very well.

Action		Myitkyina	Total
5.1.B 1.4 Training for Organizational and Financial Management Training	Target	13	13
	Result	13	13
	Balance	0	
	Achieve %	100	100



Organizational Management Training in Myitkyina



Financial Management Training in Myitkyina

11. Fund Delivery

The amount of distributed fund was different based on the number of poorest households according to Poverty Score Card. PRC successfully delivered the following funding to respective individual households in 13 villages/wards.³ The copy of beneficiary list included both CBO and individual receipt, signature, finger print and photo evidence of beneficiary, is attached as an appendix 1. The original list is kept at

³ The photos evidence of fund delivery from PRC to CBOs and from CBOs to individual households in 13 villages/wards are attached in an appendix 2 and 3.

PRC office for audit and other mission purposes. On the other hand, PRC handed over original UNDP standard format (Form A to H) to UNDP as per request on March 31, 2014.

The following first photo is the evidence of distributing funds from CBO to individual households. The second photo is the group photo after receiving funds from their CBO.



Fund Delivery to Individual Household in Tat Kone (Ward 3), Myitkyina



Group Photo after Receiving Funding in Du Ka Htawng (Ward 14), Myitkyina

Photos of PRC delivering fund to 13 CBOs, CBOs delivering fund to individual households and group photos after fund delivery are attached at the end of this report as an evidence for accountability and transparency matter. PRC successfully delivered all the funding together with CBO members and UNDP staff. U Aung Lwin from UNDP followed to most of the villages during fund delivery period.

12. Monitoring and Evaluation Visit



Monitoring and evaluation visit was conducted by U Ye Htut (Area Office Coordinator from UNDP), U Khin Maung Tun and Daw Myint Myint Zaw from PRC in order to follow-up with the community work plan and to assist necessary technical inputs. During the visit, it was to follow-up on how the community is using the distributed funds according to their proposed activities and how their work has been developed. The main objective of the monitoring and evaluation visit is to build up the

sustainable development and social cohesion of the respective community. U Aung Lwin from UNDP monitored during the fund delivery trip.

13. Revolving and Repayment Plan

All CBOs and all beneficiaries have a plan to revolve the fund with 2% of interest. 6 months project intervention is quite short for PRC to follow-up with their revolving fund and repayment plan. Therefore, PRC suggests that UNDP should follow-up with their plan. Additional trainings such as social cohesion training, organizational management training and vocational training are required for CBOs sustainable development.

14. Handing over to UNDP after project implemented by all IPs

PRC has submitted Form A to H in original standard format, both hard and soft copy and PMIS software to UNDP by March 31, 2014. Thus, the original signed forms are not attached with this report.

15. Conclusion

PRC has successfully implemented the project of “Support to improved livelihoods and social cohesion in Myanmar Sub-project” in Kachin State within UNDP agreed time-frame, budget, terms and conditions. PRC believed that implementing livelihoods improved social cohesion within the community, villages/wards and township level. For the future sustainable development and better social cohesion process, the conflict resolution training, organizational management training and vocational training are needed for CBOs. This project is beneficial to the community in improving their livelihoods and social cohesion, thus, PRC recommends implementing such project in other parts of the country in the future.