



Supporting Peace through Natural Resource Management in Burma's Ethnic Regions (P-NRM)

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Final Report

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I. Introduction

Launched in May 2013, Mercy Corps' *Supporting Peace through Natural Resource Management in Burma's Ethnic Regions (PNRM)*¹ aimed to strengthen the capacity of local community, civil society, and government leaders to prevent and resolve natural resource-based conflict. Focused at the subnational level, key program activities included: including interest-based negotiation (IBN) training for local government and civil society leaders, monitoring of alternative dispute resolution processes, land law education, and the implementation of natural resource projects that created opportunities for multi-stakeholder engagement while addressing community concerns related to natural resources. Implemented in partnership with two local organizations, Ar Yone Oo (AYO) and Karuna Myanmar Social Services (KMSS), the program has a strong emphasis on building local peacebuilding capacity. The program was implemented in Tonzang and Tedim Townships in northern Chin State and Taunggyi, Kalaw, and Hopone Townships in southern Shan State.

Findings from the final evaluation² highlighted the program's achievements, notably strengthened communication, collaboration, conflict management, and negotiation skills of key government and civil leaders who are working across lines of existing division to resolve natural resource based conflict in their communities. Findings captured an increased willingness among these key leaders to engage one another as a partner, rather than an opponent, a noticeable shift from confrontation to collaboration. In effect, the program supported the broader transition and decentralization process in Myanmar by: strengthening township level actors' negotiation skills in order to address community concerns

¹ Publically known as the *Inclusive Natural Resource Management (INRM) Program*.

² See Causal Design. *Inclusive Natural Resource Management (INRM) Program Final Evaluation*. June 2015.

related to development and natural resources; promoting “constructive engagement” between civil society and local government actors; and resolving natural resource based conflict.

II. Activities & Achievements

Objective 1: Strengthening the ability of key leaders in Chin and Southern Shan to work across lines of division to resolve natural resource disputes that are fueling tensions.

Activities implemented under this objective aimed to strengthen the ability of civil society and government leaders to work together to resolve natural resource-related disputes. Based on Harvard University’s interest-based negotiation (IBN) methodology and adapted to Myanmar’s context, our capacity building approach combined classroom and experiential learning over the life of the program. Following a two-day foundation training in IBN, we convened quarterly meetings for participating leaders to share dispute resolution experiences, learn additional negotiation skills and other substantive content (e.g. responsible business, land laws, etc.), and network with other leaders. To help leaders put their negotiation and dispute resolution skills into practice, we provided ongoing support including mentoring, peer exchange, and networking. In order to evaluate program impact, document learning, and enhance dispute resolution capacity, we also worked with leaders to monitor dispute resolution processes and identify effective dispute resolution practices.

Key Outputs

- 165 leaders trained in IBN
- 7 IBN trainings
- 17 learning exchange meetings

Dispute Resolution - Summary Findings from the Final Evaluation

- Participants in negotiation training highlighted distinct changes in their negotiation skills, including improved capacity to address and resolve conflict in a more participatory and systematic manner.
- Participants, particularly government leaders, reported increased confidence in their ability to solve problems.
- Training helped to shift leaders’ negotiation approach, from what was often described as “hard line” or “traditional,” and typically characterized as “aggressive” or full of “emotion,” to a non-confrontational and participatory approach.
- Findings suggest high levels of relevance and utility of the IBN approach to resolve conflicts.

Conflict mapping and actor mapping: In the early stages of program implementation, we invested in learning about the local context and adapting the original program design to current priorities and opportunities. An initial conflict assessment³ was conducted in June-July 2013 to update our knowledge of current conflict dynamics, with a focus on resource-based conflicts in Chin and southern Shan states as well as national factors impacting state-level conflict and resource management. The purpose of the assessment was to: 1) identify the key conflicts/issues in each state that the program would focus on, 2) inform selection of the townships where the program would be implemented, and 3) identify key stakeholders who would need to be engaged in order to successfully move the program forward. Field assessments conducted in Chin State⁴ (August 2013) and Shan State⁵ (September 2013) gave us a more detailed understanding of the typology of local resource-based conflicts, existing capacities for preventing and resolving such conflicts, and gaps in the conflict management system. Based upon our findings, we selected Tonzang and Tedim townships as our Chin State target areas, and Taunggyi, Kalaw, and Hopong townships in Shan State. Building on these assessments, Mercy Corps conducted an assessment in southern Shan State in October 2013 geared toward understanding the relationships between conflict, governance, and

³ Mercy Corps. *Myanmar Conflict Management & Mitigation Assessment Report*. July 2013.

⁴ Mercy Corps. *Resource-based Conflict in Northern Chin State*. September 2013.

⁵ Mercy Corps. *Resource-based Conflict in Southern Shan State*. October 2013.

economic development. This culminated in the release of the report⁶ “*Visibility vs. Vulnerability: Understanding instability and opportunity in Myanmar*” in May 2014, followed by a roundtable discussion with policy makers in Washington, DC, in September 2014.

Detailed actor mapping was also conducted to identify influential and respected leaders responsible for resolving resource-related disputes and organizations interested in working on environmental management and resource-based conflict in each township in order to inform the selection of leaders to participate in the IBN training (Obj. 1 activities) and the CSOs to participate in the capacity building activities (Obj. 2 activities).

Relationship-building with government: In order to build our relationship with the government, secure permission for implementing program activities, and encourage active participation by the right government representatives, we conducted six inception workshops with government officials. In November 2013, we conducted a national inception workshop in Naypyitaw attended by 20 Union- and state-level officials from the Forestry Department, the Settlement & Land Records Department, the Mining Department, the General Administration, the Pa-oh Self-Administration, and other relevant offices. In December and January 2013, we conducted five township inception workshops for representatives of the General Administration, Forestry Department, Settlement & Land Records Department, and other relevant departments in each of our target townships. This effort yielded the success of getting the mandate from them to move forward, including requests for support for specific initiatives that address resource-based conflict.

No	Date	Location	No of participants	No of men	No of women
1	November 12, 2013	Naypyitaw	21	19	2
2	December 4, 2013	Taunggyi, Shan State	22	18	4
3	December 5, 2013	Hopone, Shan State	21	18	3
4	December 13, 2013	Tedim, Chin State	8	7	1
5	December 16, 2013	Tonzang, Chin State	14	14	0
6	January 13, 2014	Kalaw, Shan State	16	16	0

Leader selection: Identifying the right participants is key to the success of the dispute resolution component of the program. Consequently, in the beginning of the program we devoted our resources to learning about the local context and identifying relevant actors in the targeted area. In order to recruit the right participants, we used two different strategies to approach government and civil society:

- **Civil society:** Relevant organizations and individuals from CSOs were identified through the actor mapping process and asked to fill out Expressions of Interest. Based on their applications and interviews with program staff, 60 CSO representatives were selected.
- **Government:** We used the inception workshops at both national and township levels to build relationships with the government and to learn about their context. Followed by the inception workshops, the program team reached out to key stakeholders in government who showed their interest in the program during the inception in order to identify relevant people from key line departments. We also worked with key leaders from the government, for example township administrators, to invite the relevant participants. A total of 103 government representatives were ultimately invited to participate in the IBN training program.

Descriptive statistics from our baseline leader survey⁷ indicate that the program successfully targeted individuals already involved in dispute resolution.

⁶ <https://www.mercycorps.org/research-resources/visibility-versus-vulnerability>

Interest-based negotiation training: Over the life of the project, we trained 165 government, civil society, and community leaders in interest-based negotiation (IBN), exceeding our target of 80. During the January-March 2014 period, we conducted 5 trainings, training 111 leaders. Because the January training of government staff in Chin State was predominantly attended by junior staff, we held a second round of training in March targeting more senior staff. In August 2014, we conducted a training in Yangon attended by 65 national-level civil society and government representatives and led by Mark Gordon, a global expert in negotiation training and one of Mercy Corps' board members. According to Tedim's township agriculture officer, *"I think IBN is very systematic and it will be useful not only to resolve natural resource based conflicts but also for other social conflicts."*

What is Interest-Based Negotiation?

Interest-based negotiation (IBN) is a dispute resolution and problem-solving approach that provides a framework for systematically analyzing the other party's interests and helping leaders to prepare for effective negotiation. Key principles include understanding and finding creative ways of meeting the interests of the other party, building good communication and relationships so that negotiators are able to address the problem without attacking their counterparts, and defining objective criteria against which to judge the fairness of the end agreement.

A key indicator of success has been the repeated requests from participating leaders to extend IBN training to other cohorts, including community leaders; newly elected administrators at the village, village tract, and township levels; and political party leaders. A ward administrator in Taunggyi, for example, mentioned that IBN is very useful for someone like him who works as an administrator, since the administrator has to deal with various issues in the communities. He suggested, *"The 2015 election is coming soon. After the election, there will be many new administrators. It will be very good to train them in IBN for it will be very helpful for them in dispute resolution."*

Date	Title	Location	No. of Participants	No. of Men	No. of Women	Type of Participant
December 9-10, 2013	Shan State IBN training	Taunggyi, Shan State	28	23	5	CSO/ community
January 16-17, 2014	Shan State IBN training	Taunggyi, Shan State	32	28	4	Government
January 23-24, 2014	Chin State IBN training	Tedim, Chin State	23	20	3	CSO/ community
January 28-29, 2014	Chin State IBN training	Tedim, Chin State	31	28	3	Government
March 17, 2014	Chin State IBN training	Tonzang, Chin State	14	14	0	Government
March 18-19, 2014	Chin State IBN training	Tedim, Chin State	11	9	2	Government
August 9-10, 2014	National IBN training	Yangon	26	22	4	Government /CSO
Total			165	144 (87%)	21 (13%)	

Quarterly exchange meetings: As a core component of our IBN training program, we brought participants together on a quarterly basis to share dispute resolution experiences, network, and learn additional negotiation skills and other substantive content such as land law and responsible business. We conducted 17 quarterly exchange meetings over the life of the program (LOP), including eight in Shan State and 9 in Chin State. Due to tensions between government and civil

⁷ Among 112 participants in the negotiation training program, 87% have attempted to resolve tensions or conflicts in the area where they work and live. In the previous 6 months, 29% have been involved in dispute resolution attempts 3 or more times, 24% 2 times, and 17% 1 time.

society, the first two thirds of the exchanges (11) were intragroup meetings (government-only and civil society-only). Our emphasis on constructive communication techniques and practical collaboration on joint projects (under Obj. 2 and 3) built enough trust and comfort with each other, that participants were willing to meet jointly during the remaining meetings, which therefore brought government and civil society together to share experiences and discuss common concerns. Participants benefited from the meeting by discussing and reflecting on the conflict situation from different perspectives. As a result, both parties understood that, in the past, most conflicts became more serious due to the lack of communication and misunderstandings between them. Ko Nay Myo, a leader of 88 Generation-Shan said during the meetings that, *“I now started to believe in working together with government staff...I am sure that this will also allow government staffs to promote transparency.”*

No.	Date	Title	Location	No. of Participants	No. of Men	No. of Women	Type of Participant
1	March 5, 2014	Shan -1 st Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Taunggyi, Shan State	16	13	3	Government
2	March 7, 2014	Shan - 1 st Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Taunggyi, Shan State	17	15	2	CSO/ community
3	April 30, 2014	Chin - 1 st Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Tedim, Chin State	12	10	2	CSO/ community
4	May 2, 2014	Chin - 1 st Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Tedim, Chin State	19	16	3	Government
5	June 14, 2014	Shan- 2 nd Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Taunggyi, Shan State	16	15	1	Government
6	June 16, 2014	Shan - 2 nd Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Taunggyi, Shan State	14	11	3	CSO/ community
7	July 30, 2014	Chin - 2 nd Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Tedim, Chin State	9	9	0	Government
8	July 31, 2014	Chin - 2 nd Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Tedim, Chin State	11	11	0	CSO/ community
9	Sep 6, 2014	Shan- 3 rd Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Taunggyi, Shan State	18	17	1	Government
10	Sep 8, 2014	Shan - 3 rd Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Taunggyi, Shan State	10	10	0	CSO/ community
11	Oct 24, 2014	Chin -3 rd Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Tedim, Chin State	15	15	0	CSO/community
12	Oct 29, 2014	Chin- 3 rd Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Tedim, Chin State	15	14	1	Government
13	Dec 13, 2014	Shan - 4 th Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Taunggyi, Shan State	28	23	5	Government, CSO/community
14	Jan 5, 2015	Chin - 4 th Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Tedim, Chin State	10	10	0	Government, CSO/community
15	Jan 19, 2015	Chin - 4 th Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Tonzang, Chin State	18	18	0	Government, CSO/community
16	Feb 28, 2015	Shan - 5 th Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Taunggyi, Shan State	20	14	6	Government, CSO/community
17	March 13, 2015	Chin - 5 th Quarterly Exchange Meeting	Tedim, Chin State	21	18	3	Government, CSO/community

Dispute resolution monitoring: Drawing on Mercy Corps global experience, we developed a dispute resolution monitoring system. This system allowed us to track the number of disputes program participants attempted to resolve, as well as key information about these disputes that

furthered our understanding of conflict in our program sites. Program staff were trained by Mercy Corps Yangon-based M&E team, and they collected data and reported in every quarter. The program recorded 68 dispute resolution attempts and 54 disputes resolved⁸ (of a targeted 80 disputes resolved) over the life of the program by participating leaders in our dispute resolution monitoring system. Most of these disputes concerned natural resources, but leaders also addressed the other disputes concerning social, economic, political, and administration issues.

Newsletter: In order to promote networking and sharing of lessons learned among leaders, the INRM team developed and distributed a Myanmar-language newsletter to leaders following the quarterly exchange meetings. The program team produced four quarterly newsletters over the LOP, which included discussion points from the quarterly exchange meetings, a dispute resolution case study, INRM program information, and a CSO profile.

National negotiation training: On 9-10 August 2014, Mercy Corps conducted interest-based negotiation (IBN) training for national-level civil society and government leaders. Twenty-six leaders from government departments, political parties, and civil society organizations participated in the training, which was led by Mark Gordon, Mercy Corps board member and negotiation expert. Participation rates were excellent, with no attrition from the first to the second day. Following the training, a participant from the National League for Democracy published an article about the training in a local paper.

Case study development: To capture qualitative data about the types of conflicts participating leaders resolved and their strategies for doing so, program staff developed six dispute resolution case studies.

Voices of IBN Training Participants

"I have been dealing with disputes since I was a youth. In the past I used to focus solely on winning. I took the problem and the people as one, but now I see them separately. When I see the problem and people separately it is very helpful in dispute resolution." - Village head, Taunggyi Township, Shan State

"IBN is very good. The ways I help solve the problem were not systematic before. I tend to make the decision very fast. I used my authority and law for decision making. Anyhow the disputants broke the agreement they made. After learning IBN, I try to find out the interested of the disputants. Now I do not make decision very fast. I find out why do the disputants did not do according to the law. Then I find out their interests and make decision or give decision." – General Administrator, Hopone Township, Shan State

"We, CSOs have been working together for many activities. In our activities, we have not thought of inviting government department or working with them. After I attend IBN training, I think of working with government departments. Our work will be much effective if government works with us. So now we have planned to work with government departments. Since our work is related with forest department, we have invited them to participate in environmental awareness raising campaign." – CSO leader, Shan State

"I am very privileged for the chance to participate in IBN training. As a village tract administrator, I found these tools very useful in resolving the disputes happened in my community." - Village Tract Administrator, Tedim Township, Chin State

⁸ In light of the other data provided above that demonstrates the positive impact of negotiation training, the fact that the target of "number of disputes resolved" was not met raises questions about how best to define and categorize "conflict," and the types of outcomes that are most likely in a program of this nature. Program leaders may be involved in negotiations that may not be accounted for in the database due to their intractable or confidential nature. Mercy Corps and its partners also experienced some challenges tracking dispute data, including: confidentiality and sensitivity issues, organizational and language barriers, and common telecommunication challenges that inhibited their ability to adequately track disputes.

Objective 2: Strengthening the capacity of local organizations to implement projects that address natural resource tensions.

Activities implemented under this objective aimed to strengthen the technical capacity of local partners AYO and KMSS and support CSO-led initiatives to address natural resource tensions. In addition to partner technical capacity development, we conducted three interdependent activities under this objective: (1) natural resource projects, (2) land governance, and (3) thematic relationship-building events.

Partner technical capacity building: One of the key aims of this program was to strengthen the capacity of local partners. To achieve this, Mercy Corps conducted 15 trainings for partner field teams on topics including conflict analysis, interest-based negotiation, facilitation skills, program management, M&E of peacebuilding programs, land conflict, responsible business, and gender. Additionally, one Mercy Corps program staff was placed in each partner office not only to give technical support in program activities but also to build capacity of the local partner. Finally, Mercy Corps provided ongoing, day-to-day technical and management support to the partner teams, working with partner staff to jointly plan, implement, and review the activities.

As part of closing out the program with partners, Mercy Corps organized a learning workshop with partners KMSS and AYO on 25-26 March 2015. During this one and a half day learning event, the team reviewed the achievements and challenges for each objective to ensure that learning points were captured to inform future programming. Since this program was implemented by a joint team comprised of Mercy Corps and its partner staff members, the strengths and weaknesses of this partnership model was also evaluated.

In addition, each partner completed a self-assessment of their conflict management technical capacity. This self-assessment provided end line data against the baseline conflict management technical capacity assessments each partner conducted in July 2013. Based on baseline findings from Mercy Corps' Conflict Management Technical Capacity Assessment, AYO received a score of 40% and KMSS received 18%; while at end line AYO received a score of 88% and KMSS 68% to result in a cumulative +169% increase, revealing a substantial change in conflict management technical capacity among its local partners from program start to finish.

Natural resource projects: As part of our strategy for strengthening CSOs and reducing resource-related tensions, the program team supported local partner AYO and 20 CSOs to implement a total of 46 natural resource projects including community nurseries, community forestry initiatives, projects developed by CSOs themselves (with technical and management guidance as necessary by

Key Outputs

- 15 trainings conducted for partners
- 20 CSOs supported
- 3 community nurseries established
- 3 community forests initiated
- 7 CSO-led projects implemented
- 33 land law education trainings conducted
- 1108 people reached through land law trainings
- 59 NLUP consultation facilitators trained
- 7 NLUP pre-consultation meetings conducted
- 3 thematic relationship-building events

Community Impact - Summary Findings from the Final Evaluation

- The INRM Program strengthened the collective capacity of communities where natural resource projects were implemented.
- Communities reported an increase in exposure to and communication with government departments. Some communities reported interacting with the government for the first time as a result of program activities.
- Community reported key program impacts to include: improved environmental awareness and understanding of the land registration process, which lead to improved land tenure for some rural farming households.
- Civil society and community representatives reported a substantial increase in satisfaction with government's response to local natural resources related concerns.
- The program strengthened the capacity of Mercy Corps' local partners, AYO and KMSS in Shan and Chin State, who are now better equipped to identify, raise and respond to local natural resource related issues as they arise.

the program team), and land law education training (discussed in the next section). Through the small grants mechanism, we were able to support CSOs to respond to community needs and prevent conflict by addressing the root causes of conflict.

Community nurseries: Rural livelihoods in the program’s targeted locations in Chin State are heavily dependent on natural resources such as water and wood. While communities have owned and managed forest resources according to local customary laws, there is a lot of concern that it will be difficult to protect water resources and that they may lose access to these areas in the future. Additionally, forested areas are gradually being deforested and degraded. The INRM team supported three CSOs in Chin State to establish three community nurseries with the collaboration of communities and the Forest Department. The purpose of these projects was to increase community access to trees for community forestry initiatives, water shed protection, and fruit tree plantation in highland areas (which makes these areas eligible for land registration). The CSOs were responsible for managing the funds to achieve project outcomes and outputs while community members participated as resource persons, nursery maintainers, and members of the implementing committee. The Forestry Department provided technical support to the project, such as conducting trainings on how to establish and maintain a nursery. The role of the program team was to manage the small grants as well as to facilitate dialogue between the CSOs and the Forestry Department in order to ensure that relationships and trust are promoted throughout the process. By the end of the projects, 216 community members had increased access to trees from community nurseries.

Community forestry initiatives: In order to reduce land- and forest-based conflicts in the project area, to ensure the local communities’ legal ownership and control over natural resources, and to promote the local communities’ awareness of forest and watershed area conservation, the INRM team worked with communities and relevant line departments to establish three community forests in target areas of northern Chin State. This activity was directly implemented and managed by local partner Ar Yone Oo. By the end of the program, all three communities had submitted community forest registration forms to the government.

Summary of community nursery and forestry projects

No.	Date of Project Start	Location	Title of project	Implementing organization	Direct Participants/ Beneficiaries		
					Male	Female	Total
1	21-Apr-14	Tedim	Nursery Establishment	Siyin Green Group	154	0	154
2	21-Apr-14	Tonzang	Nursery Establishment	Kham Kho Development Association	26	0	26
3	21-Apr-14	Tedim	Nursery Establishment	Ever Green Land Group	36	0	36
4	1-Jun-14	Tedim	Community Forest Initiative	Ar Yone Oo	7	0	7
5	9-May-14	Tedim	Community Forest Initiative	Ar Yone Oo	20	0	20
6	4-Jun-14	Tedim	Community Forest Initiative	Ar Yone Oo	45	43	2

Open call projects: In order to support local initiatives and build local CSO capacity, Mercy Corps issued an open call for proposals from CSOs in the target areas for the implementation of projects that promote the resolution of existing natural resource conflicts or that tangibly address causes of natural resource-based conflict. Following established selection criteria, the program team selected and funded seven CSOs to implement small projects in their respective communities. See annex B for project description. The final evaluation found that these projects strengthened the collective capacity of communities where natural resource projects were implemented. Projects also provided an opportunity for government, civil society, and community actors to work with one another on a more frequent basis.

“Since my organization’s focus is environmental and natural resource issues, I am very lucky to work with INRM program. We especially benefit from relationship with government department. In the past, we always prejudge to government with our own assumption. But when we started working with them I have learnt their limitation that causes lots of misunderstanding.”

- U Maung Maung Myat Thone, a founder of Shan State-based CSO Our Lovely World

No.	Date of Project Start	Location	Title of project	Implementing organization	Beneficiaries		
					Male	Female	Total
1	Sept 2014-March 2015	Taunggyi, Hopone, Kalaw	Respect and practice of law and human rights by public and authorities	Cherry Image	347	374	721
2	Sept 2014-March 2015	Taunggyi	Environmental conservation awareness raising and nursery establishment	Shwe Lu pe	118	201	319
3	Sept 2014-March 2015	Taunggyi, Hopone, Kalaw	Building sustainable environment	Our lovely world	127	142	269
4	Oct 2014-March 2015	Tedim	Conservation of water source	Ever Green Land Group	332	337	669
5	Oct 2014-March 2015	Tedim	Establishment of community forest	Siryin Green Group	412	352	764
6	Oct 2014-March 2015	Tedim	Land registration, village tract mapping and water source conservation	Kazaihta	2242	220	2462
7	Oct 2014-March 2015	Tedim Tonzang	Capacity building for natural resource management and firewood conservation	Kham Kho development association	248	188	436

Land governance: As land issues emerged as the major natural resource conflict in the program's target areas, the program team invested significant resources in designing and implementing activities geared toward preventing land conflict. These activities included land law education Training of Trainers (TOTs), a land law education awareness raising campaign, and consultations around the National Land Use Policy (NLUP).

Land Law Education TOTs: In collaboration with the Land Core Group, Mercy Corps conducted two Land Law Education TOTs, one in Taunggyi on March 10-14 2014 and one in Tedium on March 24-28 2014. The five-day trainings covered topics such as definition of lands and types of land, land utilization, land management groups, land registration, benefits and rules of land registration certificates, land conflict, and fines and compensation. The 28 participants included representatives from local government, civil society organizations, and Land Management Committee members.

Land Law Education awareness-raising campaigns: Following the land law education TOT conducted in March 2014, eight training groups (including five in Chin State and three in Shan State) were formed to conduct land law awareness-raising campaigns in their communities. The training groups in Chin State were comprised of a mix of both civil society and government representatives, while the training groups in Shan State are comprised solely of civil society actors. Mercy Corps disbursed eight small grants to all eight training groups to conduct land law awareness-raising trainings for farmers and Land Management Committee members in the target areas. Four of the grants were funded by USAID, while another four were funded by the Land Core Group, who granted \$16,000 to Mercy Corps for the implementation of land law education training. During the project period, a total of 33 land law education trainings were conducted, reaching 1108 farmers and village-tract level Land Management Committee members.

Draft National Land Use Policy (NLUP) consultation process: Followed by the official announcement of the Government of Myanmar's Land Use Allocation and Scrutinizing Committee to conduct public consultations on the draft policy, Land Core group members including Mercy Corps initiated a task force comprised of 13 civil society organizations to mobilize the public to engage in the consultation process. As an operational member of the Land Core Group, Mercy Corps implemented several activities in support of the NLUP consultation process as part of the INRM program:

- *TOT:* On November 3-4, 2014, Mercy Corps conducted a TOT for 59 CSO representatives responsible for facilitating the draft NLUP pre-consultation meetings. The training provided the opportunity for the participants to go through the new draft policy and identify priority issues to discuss with an experienced lawyer from the Myanmar Legal Aid Network and learn how to facilitate the pre-consultation meetings. Participation rates were excellent with no attrition from the first to the second day. Mercy Corps developed and produced the facilitator guide for the pre-consultation meeting and shared it with CSO representatives.
- *Community level pre-consultation meetings:* Mercy Corps conducted four pre-consultation meetings in Southern Shan State with 202 participants (136 men, 66 women) and three pre-consultation meetings in Northern Chin State with 148 participants (121 men, 27 women). Activity costs were supported by funds from Loka Ahlinn who was responsible for funding the NLUP task force formed by Land Core Group members. Target locations were selected among program villages which were identified as being at risk of natural resource conflict and with expressed community interest. Meetings were facilitated by program staff who had attended the TOT and were able to facilitate the meetings in local languages. Participants were introduced to the background of the draft NLUP and informed of the consultation process. Participants had the chance to review the policy and raise their concerns. At the end of each meeting, participants produced detailed suggestions and recommendations for each section. After learning that Mercy Corps had organized these

pre-consultation meetings, a Tonzang Township SLRD officer said, “*Actually, it is the governments’ responsibility to share this kind of information. We are really thankful to Mercy Corps who organized these pre-consultation meetings so that community had chance to raise their concern.*”

Table 3: Summary of pre-consultation meeting

No	State	Date	Host village/Township	Township	Participants			No. of Participating Villages
					M	F	Total	
1	Shan	20 Nov 2014	Yae Poke	Kalaw	35	15	50	5
2	Shan	19 Nov 2014	Pwe Hla	Pindaya	38	12	50	3
3	Shan	24 Nov 2014	Taunggyi	Taunggyi	26	25	51	CSO representatives from Taunggyi and Ayetharyar
4	Shan	26 Nov 2014	Taunggyi	Taunggyi	37	14	51	CSO representatives from Hopone township and Kyauk Ni village
5	Chin	13 Nov 2014	Saizang	Tedim	46	14	60	4
6	Chin	15 Nov 2014	Zaunuanzang	Tedim	28	9	37	3
7	Chin	17 Nov 2014	Khunuai	Tonzang	47	4	51	9
Total					257	93	350	

- *Participation in government public consultation meeting:* At the end of the pre-consultation meetings, Mercy Corps identified community representatives to participate in the government’s public consultation meeting. Thirteen community representatives, including two female representatives, attended the pre-consultation meetings to collect ideas for recommendations and raise community concerns at the government public consultation meeting. In response to their preparedness, a township level government official from Taunggyi said, “*How can I give the feedback during this short time? I never heard about or read the policy before. However, it is really surprised me that CSO and community members ask clarification questions and gave recommendations. Very impressive!*”

Table 4: Summary of participants at the government public consultation meeting

No	State	Date	Location of meeting	Participant		
				Male	Female	Total
1	Shan	28 Nov 2014	City Hall, Taunggyi	6	2	8
2	Chin	24 Nov 2014	City Hall, Hakha	5	0	5

Thematic relationship-building events: Thematic events provided the opportunity to bring diverse actors together around similar natural resource-related concerns. The focus on specific thematic issues created the space for participants to share their personal experiences and relate them to structural factors such as national policy and law, while providing a neutral venue for discussion and networking.

Farmer Forum: Convened at the request of local government, the program team organized two Farmer Forums in Tedim in March and September 2014 in partnership with the Tedim Township Forestry Department and SLRD and CSO Kazaitha. The forum's objectives were to promote relationships between government line departments and local farmer groups, to jointly identify ways to promote food security and income opportunities, and to strengthen the network of local farmer groups (CSOs) to promote their existing technical exchange program. The forum was facilitated by the Tedim township agriculture officer and the INRM program team. These two forums brought together 102 farmers from different communities in Tedim and Tonzang Township to learn about the land laws and the land registration process (presented by the Tedim township SLRD officer), plant protection and the rice stem borer (presented by a plant protection specialist from Kalay Myo), ecology and environmental awareness, animal husbandry, and IBN. The forum offered a good opportunity for farmers to interact with government technical staff and ask them questions. Several participants commented that this was the first time they had had the opportunity to speak with government technical staff and that they now felt more comfortable approaching government staff. At the end of the farmer forum, U Thang Go lam Mang, a farmer from Gamalai village, Tedim Township said, "Now I understand the importance of land registration and how to do it. I decided to register my land."

Natural Resource Management and Environmental Conservation Youth Campaign: On 6-7 November 2014, the program team, in cooperation with Green Kennedy Group, organized a natural resource and environmental conservation youth campaign in Tedim Township. The campaign brought together 61 youth from across Tedim and Kalay Townships. The campaign aimed to promote awareness about natural resource management and environmental conservation to youth. Participating youth built relationships and networks in order to collaborate on environmental conservation. They also discussed environmental issues, changes, and the impact around their region (the Kennedy mountain range).

Networking: Mercy Corps also supported 46 civil society representatives to participate in peace and land-related events across the country, including the Land Law and Development Forum in Shan State in March 2014 and meetings of the Civil Society Forum for Peace organized by the Shalom Foundation in Yangon.

Objective 3: Strengthening the ability of local government to implement initiatives that address natural resource tensions.

Activities implemented under this objective aimed to support government initiatives to address natural resource tensions and to improve communication and coordination with civil society groups concerned with environmental and natural resource issues. In the past, communication and collaboration between CSOs and government was limited due to lack of trust and limited understanding between the parties, leading to additional challenges. Activities implemented under this objective focused on engaging government in order to lay the groundwork for their participation in Obj. 1 and 2 activities, facilitating relationships between CSO representatives and government officials, convening dialogue platforms and fora, and supporting government-led initiatives to address natural resource tensions.

Key Outputs

- 50 government representatives trained in facilitation skills
- 29 natural resource projects implemented in collaboration with government
- 7 dialogue events convened

Government meetings: Given the amount of time the program team spent meeting with government representatives and the importance of relationship-building with the government to this program, Mercy Corps began tracking the number of meetings the program team conducts with government representatives at program mid-term in May 2014. From May 2014 to March 2015, the

Constructive Engagement - Summary Findings from the Final Evaluation

- Mercy Corps' INRM Program helped close the gap between government, civil society and community actors by creating opportunities for constructive engagement. Leaders now work together on natural resource based issues, laying a strong foundation for participatory and decentralized natural resource management.
- Negotiation training strengthened government leaders' capacity to govern in a participatory, inclusive, and responsive manner, and enhanced civil society leaders' ability to engage and collaborate with government.
- Negotiation training strengthened actor engagement by specifically encouraging them to: think strategically about the negotiation process; include other actors in a collaborative and timely manner; and plan for a mutually beneficial outcomes.
- Leaders became particularly efficient at utilizing informal networks and maneuvering professional channels in an efficient manner in order to gain access to influential government representatives.
- The program had a multiplier effect encouraging government and civil society collaboration on natural resource related activities outside of the scope of the INRM Program.

program team conducted a total of 200 meetings with government representatives, including meetings to plan activities, request approvals, and provide updates on the program. This is indicative of the degree of time and human resources required to successfully implement programs targeting government representatives in Myanmar.

Social and environmental awareness raising exhibitions in Shan State: This activity was held in four schools in Taunggyi town led by CSO Our Lovely World with the support of the program team. The program team helped to ensure that the relationship was built between the government and CSOs while organizing these exhibitions. Our Lovely World, formed with environmental activists, worked very closely with Forest Department and Education Department to organize this exhibition. As part of the activities, trees were planted in the school compounds. When the exhibition was held, two other nearby schools requested to extend the exhibition period so that the students from their school could come and observe the exhibition. Around 12,500 students and teachers have since visited or participated in the exhibition.

Table 3. Summary of social and environmental awareness raising exhibition

No.	Date	Location	Total participants
1	13-16 June 2014	BEHS (1)	2500
2	20-24 June 2014	BEHS (2)	2000
3	20-24 June 2014	BEHS (6,7,10)	1500
4	27-30 June 2014	BEHS (4)	3000
5	3-6 August 2014	BEHS (5)	2000

CSO visit to government in Shan State: In order to build better relationships between CSOs and local government, the program team organized a CSO visit to the Taunggyi Township Administration Office in August 2014. Fourteen participants from five CSOs and the program team joined the visit. During the visit, the leaders from CSOs asked questions to the administrator and exchanged their opinions on some issues. An open and fruitful discussion took place in the administrator's office. The leaders were happy and satisfied with the visit.

General Coordination Meeting: Beginning in August 2014, the program team convened and facilitated five general coordination meetings between civil society organizations, national/international non-government organizations, and government line department in Taunggyi Township, Shan State, and Tedim, and Tonzang Townships, Chin State. These monthly meetings provided the space for key leaders to present their activities and discuss opportunities for cooperation in future activities. Participating organizations found the meetings useful and decided to continue the general coordination meeting beyond the life of the program.

Date	Title	Location	No. of Participants	No. of Men	No. of Women	Type of Participant
August 28, 2014	General Coordination meeting	Tonzang, Chin State	18	17	1	Government, CSO, NGO/INGO
Nov 3, 2014	General Coordination meeting	Tedim, Chin State	20	17	3	Government, CSO, NGO/INGO
Dec 3, 2014	General Coordination meeting	Tonzang, Chin State	15	13	2	Government, CSO, NGO/INGO
Dec 16, 2014	General Coordination meeting	Taunggyi, Shan State	21	14	7	Government, CSO, NGO/INGO
Feb 18, 2015	General Coordination meeting	Taunggyi, Shan State	28	15	13	Government, CSO, NGO/INGO

Tonzang Township Government and Public Forum: Convened by the Tonzang Township Administrator with organizational support from Mercy Corps, the Government and Public Forum occurred on 31 October and 1 November 2014 in Tonzang, Chin State. A total of 186 government department staff, community elders, and community representatives from Tonzang Township actively participated during the two days. During his opening speech, the Tonzang Township Administrator explained, *“The objective of this event is to let the public know what we (government) are doing, to let you know we all are the same and to build relationships between community and government. Participants should feel free to ask any questions.”* A total of 23 government department representatives presented the function of their department to the public and answered questions from the participants.

Natural Resource and Regional Development Forum in Chin State: The program team in cooperation with CSO Chin Natural Resource Watch Group organized a natural resource and regional development forum in Tedim on 1-2 July 2014. Participants included 55 representatives from 19 civil society organizations based in Tedim and Tonzang Townships as well as in Kalay Myo. The objectives of the forum were to identify the natural resource and development issues that concern communities and find ways to engage with government to address natural resource management peacefully. At the end of the forum, participants compiled a plan that detailed the level of government that must be engaged to address each issue.

Natural Resource Working Group meeting: Following the Natural Resource and Regional Development Forum, the program team planned to present the findings from this forum to government officials in Tedim and Tonzang Township, provided that government was open to this. As a result, the findings of the forum were submitted to the Tedim Township Administrator with the expectation of organizing a follow up formal or informal meeting to promote collaborative actions by government and civil society. However, the program team wasn’t able to facilitate an in-person meeting due to lack of willingness of the government. Recognizing the importance of continuous efforts to advocate about natural resource issues to the government, the program team organized a meeting with CSO representatives working on natural resource issues in order to discuss next steps. The meeting was conducted on 22 January 2015 in Tedim, with 10 participants from five different organizations participating. The participants founded the Natural Resource Working Group at the end of the meeting. The working group plans to meet regularly to discuss strategies for advocating to government and engaging with government on natural resource issues.

Facilitation training: The program team conducted two facilitation trainings for government staff, one in Taunggyi on 12-13 January 2015 and one in Tedim on 11-12 March 2015. The two-day training covered topics such as what is facilitation, what is community participation, what is community consultation, facilitation tools, types of meetings, role of facilitator, communication, and listening. Twenty-nine government staff participated in the Shan State facilitation training, and

21 participated in the Chin State facilitation training. Most of the participants provided positive feedback about the training regarding both training process and the relevance of the content for their work. One of the participants said, *“Finally, I realized how to organize a meeting where participants feel comfortable and can participate.”* Another shared that, *“I will definitely use the techniques from the training in future work.”*

Date	Title	Location	No. of Participants	No. of Men	No. of Women	Type of Participant
Jan 12-13 2015	Facilitation training	Taunggyi, Shan State	29	16	13	Government
March 11-12, 2015	Facilitation training	Tedim, Chin State	21	15	6	Government

III. Lessons learned

The P-NRM program provided the opportunity to pilot a range of approaches to promoting constructive engagement and improved communication between civil society and government and strengthening the capacity of these actors to prevent and resolve natural resource conflicts. Successful approaches that Mercy Corps plans to incorporate into future programs include:

- Interest-based negotiation as a tool for strengthening dispute resolution and shifting the way government and civil society leaders understand and address local conflicts;
- Interest-based negotiation and facilitated inter- and intragroup dialogue platforms as a means of promoting constructive engagement and improved communication between government and civil society;
- Land law awareness-raising and targeted support for appropriate means of securing land rights.

The program also produced a number of lessons learned about how best to address natural resource conflict, engage local government, and build trust at the sub-national level, including:

Flexibility and adaptability: The design of the program changed significantly during the first six months of the program due to updated understanding of the context. The most significant change was the revision of the third program objective away from a focus on economic relationship-building activities between communities and toward efforts to foster government engagement in addressing natural resource concerns expressed by community and civil society leaders. USAID’s willingness to support program adaptations, including allowing 100% line item flexibility, was critical to enabling this program to be responsive to the change context as well as to emerging needs (e.g., support to the NLUP consultation process).

Partnership models: This program was implemented through a joint partnership model, where Mercy Corps provided day-to-day management and technical support to the program teams, comprised predominantly of partner staff. We decided to use this more intensive partnership model as a means of building local partner technical capacity and ensuring technical oversight of program activities, rather than simply sub-granting to partners and evaluating program quality through monitoring visits. The success of this model varied based on partners’ organizational culture, personalities of team members, and management practices. The model worked particularly well with the KMSS team in Taunggyi, where staff were open to learning and collaboration, unconcerned by issues of organizational branding, and willing to push themselves beyond their comfort zone to develop relationships with the government. In contrast, our relationship with AYO in Chin state was challenging due to management challenges (e.g., inappropriate behavior during work hours, limited oversight from the AYO head office) as well as AYO’s discomfort engaging with

government and in activities that might be perceived as politically contentious. This experience suggests the importance of assuring alignment of organizational culture and programming goals, explicitly establishing norms for communication and collaboration, and supportive management on the part of the partner before undertaking a partnership.

Stakeholder expectations: Stakeholders did not always understand the objectives of the program, impacting the program team's ability to successfully engage them and cultivate committed participation in program activities. In part, the team's ability to clearly articulate the objectives of the program was challenged by the changing context and concomitant adaptations to program strategy. Particularly at the beginning of the program, stakeholders, notably the government, expressed a preference for tangible deliverables rather than the capacity building and relationship building activities that this program emphasized. Rather than building local capacity to manage conflict, some stakeholders wished for Mercy Corps and partner staff to directly mediate and resolve natural resource disputes. Additionally, given the broad focus of the program on natural resource management, some stakeholders expressed a preference for the program team to focus on environmental conversation rather than on resource-related conflict management. These challenges highlight the need to clearly explain the program's focus at program start, although this may be difficult by definition in a pilot program that aims to test a range of approaches.

Working with government: The P-NRM program successfully modeled a process for effectively engaging local government officials at the township, village tract, and village levels. Success factors included dedicating adequate staff time to develop personal relationships with government representatives, adapting relationship building strategies to the personality of the individual, working with staff to understand and move beyond their own negative assumptions about and biases toward government in order to work effectively and comfortably with them, and learning about government representatives concerns, priorities, and constraints. Key challenges in engaging government including frequent transfers of government employees, leading to a high dropout rate in Obj. 1 activities, limited availability of government staff and competing priorities, and team member discomfort engaging with government.

Limited time frame: The program demonstrated success in strengthening dispute resolution and negotiation capacities among civil society and government leaders and improving relationships and communication between government and civil society. By the end of the program, the program had built a foundation for continued engagement and practical action around issues of mutual concern. However, it took almost the whole life of the program to get to this point, with civil society and government leaders only feeling comfortable meeting with each other during the last quarter of the program. Basic relationship building and constructive communication skills are the building blocks of constructive collaborative relationships between government and civil society and of good governance. In Myanmar's context, where these linkages have been broken for decades, establishing communication channels and relationship building skills is a prerequisite for practical collaborative problem-solving and improved governance. In order to consolidate these gains and enable government and civil society to take action together, future programming should allow for a longer program lifespan.

**Annex A
Output Summary**

Indicator No.	Indicator	Target	Achieved
3	# of leaders selected to participate on Natural Resource Leadership Councils. Disaggregate by state, township, and type of stakeholder, age, gender, religion, and ethnicity.	100	163
4	# of USG-assisted facilitated events geared toward strengthening understanding and mitigating conflict between groups. Disaggregate by state, township, and type of event. "Events" include dispute resolution/interest-based negotiation training, inter-group dialogues, and Natural Resource Leadership Council quarterly meetings.	n/a	40
5	# of people attending USG-assisted facilitated events that are geared toward strengthening understanding and mitigating conflict between groups. Disaggregate by state, township, type of stakeholder, age, gender, religion, ethnicity, and type of event. "Events" include dispute resolution training, inter-group dialogues, and quarterly meetings.	200	901
7	# of community natural resource councils formed or strengthened. Disaggregate by state and township.	8	36
8	# of members of community natural resource councils. Disaggregate by state, township, and type of stakeholder, age, gender, religion, and ethnicity.	80	701
9	# of natural resource disputes identified. Disaggregate by state, township, type of conflict, and scale.	n/a	68
12	# of people trained in conflict mitigation/resolution skills with USG assistance. Disaggregate by state, township, and type of stakeholder, age, gender, religion, and ethnicity.	80	165
16	# of capacity building trainings delivered to program partners. Disaggregate by partner, location, and type of training.	8	15
	# of small cash grants disbursed to CSOs and/or community groups	n/a	21
18	# of natural resource projects implemented. Disaggregate by state, township, type of project, and number, age, gender, religion, and ethnicity of project beneficiaries.	32	46
19	# of people benefitting from natural resource projects. Disaggregate by state, township, type of project, and number, age, gender, religion, and ethnicity of project beneficiaries.	800	10,322
20	# of USG-assisted public information campaigns to support peaceful resolution of conflicts. Disaggregate by state, township, type of public information campaign, and number, age, gender, religion, and ethnicity of project beneficiaries. Public information campaigns include outreach and awareness-raising activities focused on natural resource issues, government policies, best practices, etc.	15	45

21	# of people benefitting from USG-assisted public information campaigns to support peaceful resolution of conflicts. Disaggregate by state, township, type of public information campaign, and number, age, gender, religion, and ethnicity of project beneficiaries.	TBD	13,958
23	# of higher-level decision-making and dialogue forums related to peace, natural resources, and development attended by local actors. Disaggregate by state, township, and type of forum.	5	10
24	# of local actors who participate in higher-level decision-making and dialogue forums related to peace, natural resources, and development. Disaggregate by state, township, and type of stakeholder, age, gender, religion, and ethnicity.	20	46
25	# of meetings held with government (between our team and the government)	n/a	200
26	# of local government officials trained in skills critical for constructive engagement with both communities and civil society. Disaggregate by state, township, and type of stakeholder, age, gender, religion, and ethnicity.	80	50
27	# of projects that address natural resource tensions implemented by or in collaboration with local government actors. Disaggregate by state, township, type of project, and number, age, gender, religion, and ethnicity of project beneficiaries.	8	7
28	# of projects that address natural resource tensions jointly implemented by local government and civil society actors. Disaggregate by state, township, type of project, and number, age, gender, religion, and ethnicity of project beneficiaries.	5	29

Annex B
Description of the natural resource projects

CSO	Shwe Lu Pet
Location	Ta Yat Pin Hla Village, Taunggyi Tsp
Beneficiaries	290
Budget	5,600,000 MMK
Duration	September 2014 to January 2015
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental awareness, forestry law, and community forestry workshops • Establishment of community nursery
Relevance	As the targeted area is located near Baw Saing mining area, the mining industry has significant impact on the village and there are some conflicts relating to the unofficial mining industry around the village. Furthermore, the extension of the farming areas, higher population and high usage of fuel resources can deteriorate the villagers' livelihoods and social lives. The activity will reduce natural resource conflict by conducting the awareness workshop (finding the causes of natural issues and the prevention plan how to protect these problems) to the local community. These plans will be implemented in the villages and villagers will know how to resolve and mitigate issues around natural resource by applying the conflict resolution knowledge they received from the training. Furthermore, the nursery and forest conservation activities will sustain the environment and can also protect the livelihood of the local people.

CSO	Cherry Image
Location	Lae Laung Village, Aung Ban, and Kaung Tan Village (Taunggyi, Kalaw, and Hopone tsps.)
Beneficiaries	750
Budget	7,400,000 MMK
Duration	September 2014 to January 2015
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land law outreach and land registration support • Community protection outreach • Workshop to review lessons learned and successes
Relevance	As the targeted areas have many conflicts relating to natural resources and land usage, these activities will mitigate conflicts by empowering the community through land law training and applying the registration process in the local areas. By identifying causes of natural resource conflict in the local areas and discovering ways to protect and prevent these issues in the workshop, the community will learn to resolve problems by sharing knowledge in their own villages, which will lead to less conflicts in the target areas.

CSO	Our Lovely World
Location	Lone Tan Village, Thar Mine Kham Village, and Selle Village (Taunggyi, Kalaw, and Hopone tsps.)
Beneficiaries	120
Budget	6,993,000 MMK
Duration	September 2014 to February 2015
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental law and awareness training • Land law, land registration, and community forest development training

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning workshop
Relevance	<p>As most of the people who live in the targeted areas are farmers and maintain low levels of knowledge concerning the environment, the target area is now facing environmental deterioration through overuse of fertilizer and there are always natural resource conflict issues with the forest department and SLRD as an extension of the farm areas to the government forest areas. Furthermore, there are many mining industries implemented around the targeted areas, which has impacted not only on the livelihoods of the villagers but also on the environment. By implementing these activities, the local community will know how to protect the environment and by nurturing the community forest there will be less natural resource conflicts within the local areas. By registering the land officially, the local areas have less natural resource issues in the future and by sharing knowledge of the surrounding villages, people will learn how to handle and mitigate the conflicts without depending on the other organizations.</p>

CSO	Kham Kho
Location	11 locations in Tedim Tsp and 6 locations in Tonzang Tsp
Beneficiaries	380
Budget	5,000,000 MMK
Duration	September 2014 to March 2015
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct training of trainers on environmental and resource management • Conduct community-level training on environmental and resource management • Form community-based organization • Establish of community firewood areas
Relevance	<p>The targeted areas in Tedim are located around Tedim Township and along the road which connects Tedim and India. People from the town harvest the trees in the village areas and use the village's water. As a result, there are conflicts between the two communities. In Tonzang, the conflicts are around water scarcity due to deforestation. By conducting the awareness training, people will become aware of the environmental issues and by establishing community firewood areas there will be fewer conflicts between the two communities.</p>

CSO	Ever Green Land Group
Location	Muizawl village, Tedim Tsp
Beneficiaries	669
Budget	7,400,000 MMK
Duration	September 2014 to January 2015
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fence water resource areas at four places • Build the water storage tank • Plant trees • Register water resource areas • Construct fire protection road
Relevance	<p>The targeted area was established in 1876 and villagers must rely on outdated water resources situated at the edge of the village. For many, access to water is half a mile away. As the population increased, a new village was established and conflicts arise due to insufficient drinking water. The proposed activities will help villagers share their natural resources by finding solutions to distribute water to both villages reducing the likelihood of potential conflicts.</p>

CSO	Kazaihta`
Location	55 Village Tracts in Tedim Township
Beneficiaries	Land management committee from 55 village tracts 600 households from Kuptal and Swan Zung Village tract 98 households from Lai Lo Village 743 farmers from 30 village tracts
Budget	6,287,700MMK
Duration	October 2014 to March 2015
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop village mapping in 55 villages of Tedim Township • Land Registration • Conduct maintenance for water shed areas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construct fire protection road for the CF area - Fencing the CF area - Plant trees
Relevance	<p>In Tedim Township, there are 55 village tracts and the villagers earn their livelihoods through farming. The villagers possess the land according to their traditional customary law and many have little to no knowledge about government land law and policies. Historically, villagers solve their natural resource conflicts according traditional methods; however, in order to protect their land they need to have an understanding of the current policies.</p> <p>The project activities will reduce conflicts by empowering the community. They will learn the current land laws and gain an understanding about the land registration process. These activities will also be an opportunity for the government and CSOs to work together. Working together will increase their trust in each other and transparency in the process of local development. This project is convened by SLRD and cooperates with Kazaihta.</p>

CSO	Siryin Green Group
Location	Dolung in Tedim Township
Beneficiaries	264 people from 44 households of Dolung Village 410 people from 70 household of Mwal Zan Village 90 people from 15 household of Htan San Village
Budget	6,287,700MMK
Duration	October 2014 to March 2015
Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct environmental awareness training to the local community • Construct the fire protection road • Fence the Community Forest • Plant trees
Relevance	<p>As a result of the population growth, people are invading the village forest to produce construction materials. Traditional laws are not enough to address the deforestation and conflicts have arisen. Establishing a community forest is the only way to prevent conflict and mitigate these problems in the communities. The project will empower the villagers by educating them about environmental conservation and the benefits of maintaining their natural resources.</p>