

MINUTES
Local Project Appraisal Committee Meeting for the
UNDP-GEF Project, Myanmar Rural Renewable Energy Development Programme
25 April 2019
UNDP Office, Nay Pyi Taw

Participants

See participant list at Annex 1

Agenda:

Time	Subject
14.00-14.10	Introductions and welcome remarks by Deputy Director General, DRD, and Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP
14.10-14.20	Overview of UNDP's Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Portfolio, by Chief of Unit, SIG, UNDP
14.20-15.00	Presentation: Overview of the Project by Regional Technical Specialist, Bangkok Regional Hub, UNDP
15.00-15.30	Discussions
15.30 -16.15	Presentation: Project Safeguards by Regional Technical Specialist, Bangkok Regional Hub, UNDP
16.15-16.45	Discussions
16.45- 17.00	Summary and Closing Remarks (DDG, DRD and Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP)

Summary of Discussions

Topic	Discussions
Introductions and welcome remarks by DDG, DRD and DRR UNDP	UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, Ms. Dawn Del Rio opening the meeting welcomed the participants to the Local Project Appraisal Committee of the UNDP GEF Project. She briefed the meeting on the objective of the meeting, including the role of the participants as the Local Project Appraisal Committee for the project (Refer Annex 2: Terms of Reference of the Local Project Appraisal Committee) in reviewing the project document and making recommendations for the submission of the project to the GEF Secretariat for endorsement. She informed that UNDP is excited for the opportunity to partner and support the government's efforts in the strategic area of Myanmar's energy security as a key driver of economic growth and productivity underpinned by a growing share of renewable energy services.



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	<p>Deputy Director General, Department of Rural Development, U Maung Win encouraged the participants to actively engage in the discussions and provide constructive feedback. He reminded the meeting of the targets set under the National Electrification Plan and noted that the RURED project will contribute to the achievement of the Government’s rural electrification goals.</p>
<p>Overview of UNDP’s Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Portfolio by Chief of Unit, SIG Unit, UNDP</p>	<p>Chief of the Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Unit, UNDP, Mr. Biplove Choudhary also welcomed the Committee members, and provided a brief overview of the Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Portfolio of UNDP, and clarified the linkage of the RURED project with the ongoing and planned initiatives of UNDP Myanmar. He briefed that the achievement of the inclusive, resilient and sustainable growth is a top priority of many countries, including Myanmar, but that the pursuit of economic growth while improving livelihoods, addressing impacts of climate change and building resilience communities remains a challenge. The RURED Project draws on the UNDP’s experience and their experience and expertise of its partners to address this challenge.</p>
<p>Presentation: Overview of the Project by Regional Technical Specialist, Bangkok Regional Hub, UNDP; and Presentation: Project Safeguards by Regional Technical Specialist, Bangkok Regional Hub, UNDP</p>	<p>Regional Technical Specialist, Bangkok Regional Hub, UNDP, Ms. Milou Beerepoot presented the overview of the project, its theory of change, results framework and budget. (Refer Annex 3 for the Presentation on Project Overview). She also presented the project safeguards (Refer Annex 4: Project Safeguards).</p>
<p>Discussions</p>	<p><i>Project Implementation Arrangements</i> UNDP informed that the project will be implemented by UNDP as the Implementing Partner under the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM). Under DIM, UNDP will assume full responsibility and accountability for project management, achievement of project outputs, and ensure the efficient use of funds. The day to day management of the project will be delegated to a Project Management Team recruited for the project. Under this modality, UNDP may identify a Responsible Party to carry out activities within a DIM project on behalf of UNDP on the basis of a written agreement using project budgets. It may similarly enter into contract with other entities to purchase goods or provide services using project budgets.</p> <p>The Project Board (also known as Project Steering Committee) is the highest authority within the Project’s governance structure. The Board is responsible for providing overall strategic direction to ensure that the project’s objectives are being met, that progress is achieved against set targets, and that risks and issues are adequately addressed through management actions. As such the Project Board will be co-chaired by UNDP and DRD.</p>



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Capacity Development

DRI welcomed the RURED project, especially in supporting the development of a training center with the DRI. As DRI's resources and capacities are limited, the RURED project will be able to complement this and make sure a full-fledged training center can be set up that will ensure sustainability of the project's results. It recommended that the project work closely with MOEE for planning.

GIZ expressed its appreciation for the RURED's involvement on sub-national level, certification of RESCOs, access to finance and village level capacity building, all of which are considered to be niches that are yet to be addressed. GIZ advised that the RURED project very closely align with the GIZ project in capacity building activities as mentioned in Output 2.1 and 2.2 since GIZ is also very active in this field. GIZ is also working on the question of the longer-term sustainability of the mini-grid sector after the World Bank programme ends, this is also an area where RURED project and GIZ could work together.

Working with Communities:

Representative of REAM emphasized the involvement of village committee in the community as crucial for successful mini-grid development. He stressed that without community ownership, mini-grid are vulnerable to failure.

Selection Criteria for project sites:

To the question regarding the selection of the project sites, it was clarified that the selection will depend upon PUE potential including technical feasibility study of the area, and willingness of the villages to participate in the project.

Data

REAM stressed that apart from geo-spatial analysis on the basis of the general available data, it is very important to add on the ground knowledge and data to the analysis. He agreed that striving towards least cost min-grid development is good but advised that it is even more important to strive for reliable and sustainable costs in order to guarantee long term sustainability of the mini-grid systems.

Project Board

The Project Board may be missing certain key players, several possible partners to be included in the Project Board were mentioned. GIZ enquired as to why the World Bank is not more visible in the Project Document and also why it is not part of the Project Board, especially since the RURED project



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	<p>also aims to use the current World Bank scheme as a basis for mini-grid development.</p> <p><i>Safeguards:</i> The Environmental and Social Safeguards analysis was appreciated while it was mentioned that Myanmar also has safeguards screening known as the IEE (Initial Environmental Examination) and EIA regulations. The IEE will have to prevail over the UNDPs Safeguards analysis, after which UNDPs SES policy can complement the IEE.</p> <p><i>Subnational focus:</i> Also emphasized was the importance to work on policy and regulation at the sub-national level. While the union level has mandate on several energy development related issues, there are also issues where the sub-national government has decision power and where support for policy and regulation development is essential.</p> <p><i>Productive use:</i> Smart Power is looking forward to collaboration in the RURED project. Statement was made that productive use in communities will need substantial dedicated efforts since economic development in many villages is low and a lot of alignment is needed in development work, private sector encouragement and energy sector efforts. Attention was raised for the long-term sustainability of the interventions in the 53 villages selected for project support to mini-grid and productive use development and also how to financially scale up beyond the project interventions.</p> <p>It was also mentioned that productive use encouragement has a strong link to overall development activities that may already be undertaken by UNDP. Linking up UNDP's development work with a productive use angle can create synergy.</p> <p><i>Greenhouse Gas Emissions Monitoring</i> The ECD emphasized the importance of GHG emission monitoring and its role in reporting on GHG emission reduction of Myanmar towards the UNFCCC. The ECD therefore welcomes the project to work with ECD on the development of a mechanism for monitoring GHG emissions reduction from renewable energy mini-grid development as well as capacity building on how to consistently maintain and update such monitoring mechanism.</p> <p>UNDP informed that the project will support the monitoring, reporting and verification of GHG emissions from mini-grid development.</p> <p><i>Co-financing contribution</i></p>
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	<p>GIZ also commented that it's in-kind contribution is reflecting the budget up to 2020 (continuation of the project is foreseen with additional budget from BMUB for 2021-2023).</p>
<p>Summary and Closing Remarks (DDG, DRD and Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP)</p>	<p>DDG, DRD expressed appreciation for UNDP's project and reemphasized its importance for Myanmar. He welcomed UNDP to the technical coordination committee that is currently comprised of DRD, WB and GIZ.</p> <p>Deputy Resident Representative, UNDP summarized the following main points of the LPAC Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project document is endorsed by the LPAC. UNDP will proceed with the submission of the project document to the GEF Secretariat after feedback from the meeting has been incorporated • Expressed her thanks for the rich comments and contributions from the Committee. These demonstrates that the project is relevant for the Myanmar • Noted the need for coordination, learning from lessons, and that a mapping exercise is critical to ensure that there are no overlaps and duplication of efforts. A joined approach will be essential. • GIZ in-kind co-financing amount will be amended to reflect their additional budget • It is important to work and with both the national and the regional level to ensure the project results are achieved fully • The Project Board composition needs to be revised to include all relevant and key stakeholders

Signed:

Co-Chair, Department of Rural Development
Deputy Director General
Department of Rural Development

Dawn Deleka 1-8-19
Co-Chair, United Nations Development Programme



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Annex 1: Participants List

Local Project Appraisal Meeting Myanmar Rural Renewable Energy Development Programme (UNDP-GEF)

Sr. No	Name	Organization/Ministry	MHC No	Township	Signature	Remarks
1	U Nu Aung Mye	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
2	U Nu Aung Mye	DRD	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
3	U Nu Aung Mye	DRD	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
4	U Nu Aung Mye	MUEE	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
5	U Nu Aung Mye	UNEP			[Signature]	
6	U Nu Aung Mye	Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
7	U Nu Aung Mye	DRD	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
8	U Nu Aung Mye	DRD	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
9	U Nu Aung Mye	DRD	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
10	U Nu Aung Mye	DRD	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
11	U Nu Aung Mye	DRD	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	

Local Project Appraisal Meeting Myanmar Rural Renewable Energy Development Programme (UNDP-GEF)

Sr. No	Name	Organization/Ministry	MHC No	Township	Signature	Remarks
12	U Nu Aung Mye	REACT	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
13	U Nu Aung Mye	DRD	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
14	U Nu Aung Mye	MESC	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
15	U Nu Aung Mye	DRD	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
16	U Nu Aung Mye	DRD	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
17	U Nu Aung Mye	DRD	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
18	U Nu Aung Mye	DRD	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
19	U Nu Aung Mye	DRD	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	
20	U Nu Aung Mye	DRD	၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁၁	၁၁၁၁	[Signature]	



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Local Project Approval Meeting Myanmar Rural Renewable Energy Development Programme (UNDP-GEF)

No	Name	Organization/Institution	Address	Signature	Remarks
	အမည်	အဖွဲ့အစည်း	လိပ်စာ	လက်မှတ်	မှတ်ချက်
1	ကလေးစားကျေးရွာ	UNDP	ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု	[Signature]	
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3	ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု	UNDP	ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု	[Signature]	
4	ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု	UNDP	ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု	[Signature]	
5	ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု	UNDP	ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု	[Signature]	
6	ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု	UNDP	ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု	[Signature]	
7	ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု	UNDP	ကျေးရွာအုပ်စု	[Signature]	
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10					
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Annex 2:

**Terms of Reference
UNDP Local Project Appraisal Meeting and Committee**

1. Objective of the Local Project Appraisal Meeting

The Local Project Appraisal Meeting is to assess the quality of the proposed project and its responsiveness to national priorities.

2. Roles of the Local Project Appraisal Committee (PAC)

Participants to the Meeting will act as the Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC). The Committee will provide a forum for discussion and review of the project document. The Committee will have the responsibility of advising UNDP the next steps that should be taken in the approval process, in particular, concerning whether the project is recommended for approval, revision or rejection.

3. Composition of the Local Project Appraisal Committee (PAC)

The Committee will be chaired by the Resident Representative or Deputy Resident Representative. Participation will consist of:

- Government representatives
- UNDP Project and technical staff
- Representatives from national institutions
- Others as relevant

Donors may be invited in an ex-officio capacity.

4. Reporting

Following the meeting, the presenter will be responsible for drafting the minutes, summarizing the major discussions and highlighting recommendations. The minutes will then be circulated for endorsement by the Committee members.



Annex 3: Presentation: PROJECT OVERVIEW
Annex 4: Presentation: PROJECT SAFEGUARDS

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