

**Minutes**  
**6<sup>th</sup> (Special) Project Steering Committee Meeting**

**“Addressing Climate Change Risks on Water Resources and Food Security in the Dry Zone of Myanmar”**

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>5 February 2018</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>09:30 – 12:00</b>
<b>Venue:</b>	<b>Sandaku Hall, Dry Zone Greening Department, Patheingyi, Mandalay</b>

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**1. Background**

The 6<sup>th</sup> Special Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting of the Adaptation Fund Project – **“Addressing Climate Change Risks on Water Resources and Food Security in the Dry Zone of Myanmar”** was held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018 in the Sandaku Hall of the Director General’s Office, Dry Zone Greening Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation, Patheingyi.

As per decision of the 1<sup>st</sup> PSC meeting, Project Steering Committee meetings are organized biannually, preferably in June and December. As per Terms of Reference, the role of the Project Steering Committee is to:

- facilitate implementation of project to achieve progress on time, on scope and on budget;
- review progress reports submitted by the project team and advise the project team to be able to run the project smoothly;
- liaise and coordinate between Union and Regional level government to be able to implement the project activities efficiently and effectively

The 6<sup>th</sup> (Special) PSC meeting was held on 5<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018 in line with the decision of 5<sup>th</sup> PSC meeting to consider recommendations of the Mid-Term Evaluation (MTE) of the project (29 Nov 2017 – 31 Jan 2018) - which included changes in project targets and implementation modality to enhance quality of deliverables. The agenda of the 6<sup>th</sup> Project Steering Committee meeting and the list of participants are attached as **Annex 1 and Annex 2**, respectively.

**2. Opening Session:**

During the opening session, remarks were delivered by the Co-chairs – U Htay Aung, Director General, Dry Zone Greening Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation and Mr. Peter Batchelor, Country Director, UNDP Myanmar. In his opening address, U Htay Aung stated that the project has conducted the midterm evaluation (MTE) in December 2017 and the initial findings of MTE was presented during the 5<sup>th</sup> PSC meeting. Following the recommendations of MTE, the 5<sup>th</sup> PSC directed the project team to, in particular, discuss changes in target and implementation modalities of outcome 1 of the project (rehabilitation/reforestation activities and renovation of water retention ponds. A special TAG meeting was organized to consider the changes and the special PSC meeting is being called today. The Dry Zone Greening Department and the project team met to revise the project targets and implementation approach for 2018 and identified several options. These options were presented to the special TAG meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 for advice and endorsement. He highlighted that the project team will be presenting the revised annual work plan and budget later. He thanked TAG members, DZGD officials, UNDP AF project team and PSC members for their tireless efforts and contributions to the successful implementation of the AF project.

Mr. Peter Batchelor, Country Director of UNDP thanked the Government Co-chair and PSC members for their presence in the meeting. He also highlighted that the special PSC meeting is being organized in response to the decision of the 5<sup>th</sup> PSC meeting and the recommendations of the MTE. The 5<sup>th</sup> PSC directed the project team to discuss and consider the MTE recommendations on changes in targets and implementation modalities and report back to the PSC with appropriate recommendations. These options will be presented and discussed in this Special PSC meeting. He also introduced the new Chief of Unit of Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Unit of UNDP - Mr. Biplove Choudhary. He informed the PSC that the former Team Leader, Daw Lat Lat Aye will move to Nay Pyi Taw Office to take up a new position. Finally, he thanked all the PSC Members and requested their active participation in the deliberations.

### **3. Presentation on Progress of Project**

Following the opening session, the Technical Specialist presented the progress of implementation during late December 2017 and January 2018 as follows:

- Deputy Country Director of UNDP, Project Team and DZGD officials met with the Permanent Secretary of MONREC in Nay Pyi Taw to discuss the issue of land approval for rehabilitation/reforestation activities under the project.
- Project Team and DZGD had a bi-lateral meeting to identify potential options for changes in project targets and implementation approach. These options were later presented to the TAG.
- The project organized a special TAG meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 at Mandalay to consider MTE recommendations on changes in targets and implementation modalities.
- The project team conducted survival counting of plantation areas that were implemented in 2017. The second round of survival counting will be conducted jointly with DZGD in May 2018.
- MTE consultants submitted the draft MTE report on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2018 and the same was circulated to project stakeholders on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2018. The final MTE report was submitted on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018.
- The project signed contracts with 2 implementing partners (IPs) for the provision of small-scale water infrastructure. The IPs have started assessment and verification of site for small scale water infrastructure.
- The project team participated in two annual review meetings with implementing partners (with CDAs on 9-10 and with Cesvi on 11-12 January 2018).
- The project is conducting an assessment of water retention ponds from 2017. The assessment in Shwebo and Monywa have been completed.
- The project conducted a survey to identify gaps on climate risk information flow at township and village tract level.

The presentation for this agenda item is attached as **Annex 3**.

### **4. Proposed changes of targets and implementation approach**

Under this agenda item, the National Project Manager presented the proposed changes of project targets and implementation approach. The presentation highlighted key recommendations of the Mid-Term Evaluation, as well as recommendations of the special TAG held on 23 Jan 2018. The recommendations included the following:

- To consider accepting “no objection letter” instead of “land approval” to continue rehabilitation/reforestation activities in 2018. This is in view of the lengthy process involved in obtaining “approval” from the government.
- With regard to change in target for rehabilitation/reforestation activities, 5 options considered by the TAG were presented (as presented in table below). Among these option, the TAG recommended option 5 as first priority, option 2 as second priority and option 3 as third priority.

- The TAG also recommended that the project continue planting and applying for community forestry certificates on the basis of the “No objection letter” as land approval document. However it was noted that if this is not adequate, concerned communities will secure approval for land and apply for community forestry certificates with assistance of the project team.
- The project will make arrangements for handover of project outputs and documents to concerned community groups and government agencies at the end of project period.

Opt	Description	The whole project Target (Acres)	Finished until end of 2017(Acres)	Revised figures for 2018						
				Area (Acres)	Area (Acres)	Difference (Acres)	Reduced seedling	Reduced amount (MMK)	Amount gained to use for other activities	Per seedling cost
1	Meeting Gov. Standard (500)	25,006	15,981	9,025	6,318	2,707	162,827	53,663,562	0	497
2	Plantation only in proposed reserve forest and private land	25,006	15,981	9,025	2,675	6,350	437,483	144,369,390	195,022,350	500
3	No land approval available	25,006	15,981	9,025	0	0	718,819	236,900,100	395,759,099	NA
4	DZGD option (delete NFC)	25,006	15,981	9,025	4,848	4,177	170,318	56,127,905	0	510
5	Proposed reserve forest and private land + Gov. Land (DZGD to assist in securing land approval)	25,006	15,981	9,025	4,130	4,895	152,749	50,342,164	0	480

- Regarding changes in target on renovation of water retention ponds, 3 options were presented. The actual target for 2018 is 75 ponds and the budget allocated is 750,000 MMK/pond. Option 1 is to reduce target to 60 ponds and enhance quality of the 60 ponds. Option 2 is to reduce target to 50 ponds and significantly enhance quality of 60 ponds. The 3<sup>rd</sup> option is to reduce target to 60 ponds

and consider rehabilitating approximately 10 water retention ponds that were already completed in 2017. Option 3 is proposed only if additional budget becomes available as a result of the decision to abandon plantation in 2018. The TAG recommended option 3 (depending on resource availability). If additional resources are not available TAG recommended option 1.

- DZGD to share standard design for renovation of water retention ponds and also indicate sample ponds that they have constructed in the past.

Opt	# of Pond	Available budget per pond	gov. standard	Difference per pond	Number of revisiting pond 2017	Per pond rate for revisiting	sub total for revisiting	Budget to meet gov. standard	Total requirement for revised target	Amount need to add to IP (USD)
1	60	937,500	1,610,000	672,500	0					
2	50	1,125,000	1,700,000	575,000	0					
3	60	937,500	1,615,000	677,500	10	865,000	8,650,000	40,650,000	49,300,000	37,923

A copy of the presentation on proposed changes of targets and implementation approach is attached as **Annex 4**.

## 5. Discussions:

The PSC first considered the recommendations on changes in target on rehabilitation/reforestation activities considered by the TAG. The Country Director informed the meeting that the recommendations presented are from the TAG and invited members to provide their feedback and views on the recommendations.

Mr. Karma Raptan, Technical Specialist of AF project informed the meeting that during the TAG discussion, members were of the view that securing land approval would not be possible before end February 2018 – as recommended by the MTE. Members pointed out that securing approval may take anywhere between one to two years. Therefore, the TAG members proposed that the project should go ahead with rehabilitation/reforestation activities based on a “no objection letter” from respective GADs as this would be easier to secure instead of “land approval.” He therefore highlighted the need for PSC to first consider whether a “no objection letter” would suffice instead of “land approval.”

The Country Director of UNDP pointed out that during the 5<sup>th</sup> PSC meeting, there was a discussion that if land approval is not forthcoming before the monsoon season, the project should abandon rehabilitation/reforestation activities and consider moving resources for other activities. This is recorded in the minutes of the meeting with a deadline of end Feb 2018, and therefore the PSC should consider this during today’s deliberations.

Mr. Biplove Choudhary, Chief of Sustainable and Inclusive Growth Team, UNDP requested the project team to clarify if it was possible to secure “no objection letter” before the dead line of end Feb 2018. In response to this, the Technical Specialist explained that the project has already consulted respective community groups in Nyaung U and Chauk townships and secured their agreement for rehabilitation/reforestation activities in the identified areas for 2018. GIS maps of the proposed areas have been prepared and the application for “no objection letter” will be submitted to the GAD this week.

He also added that in 2017 the project was able to secure “no objection letter” from GAD for rehabilitation/reforestation areas under government control and therefore securing “no objection letter” for rehabilitation/reforestation activities in 2018 should not be a major issue. He however highlighted that the project team will need the continued assistance of DZGD in securing “no objection letter” from the respective GADs.

The Country Director of UNDP informed the meeting that following the 5<sup>th</sup> PSC meeting on 20 Dec 2017, the project team and DZGD met with the Permanent Secretary of MONREC and requested assistance from the Ministry to secure land for rehabilitation/reforestation activities. He also added that UNDP will be meeting the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs in the coming week and said that he will request assistance from the Ministry of Home Affairs as well. He reiterated that if the project cannot secure “land approval” or “no objection letter” by end of February, the project should not go ahead with rehabilitation/reforestation activities.

U Htay Aung, Director General of DZGD informed the meeting that securing land approval is not very easy and the process involves several departments and takes a long time. He therefore suggested PSC to consider changing the deadline for land approval/no objection letter from end Feb to end 2018 and move ahead with rehabilitation/reforestation activities while the application for “land approval/no objection letter” is under process.

U Ba Kaung, DDG of DZGD pointed out that the project has conducted rehabilitation/reforestation activities in 2016 and 2017 without land approval. So, there should not be any major issue to continue doing the same in 2018. He also highlighted that during the meeting with MONREC in Dec 2017, the Permanent Secretary ensured his full support to the project to secure land approval. In this regard, MONREC has issued an official request letter to Ministry of Home Affairs to expedite the process. He also informed the meeting that – in 2018 the project has identified rehabilitation/reforestation areas in only two townships of Chauk (forest reserve area) and Nyaung U (government land), which will mean that application for land approval/no objection will have to be submitted to only two agencies - Forest Department in Chauk and GAD in Nyaung U. He also informed the meeting that once the application is submitted by the project, DZGD will assist and follow up with the respective GADs. He also pointed out that the community groups in Nyaung U township are very interested in plantation activities and therefore securing their agreement will not be an issue. Given this background, it is likely that securing land approval/no objection will not be a major issue. He also mentioned that DZGD will not be able to guarantee land approval/no objection since it is not within the department’s mandate to approve land or issue no objection letter. However, he committed full support of DZGD to secure no objection letter within 2018.

The Country Director of UNDP pointed out that if DZGD is able to guarantee no objection letter on time and before the monsoon season, it is ok for the project to go ahead with rehabilitation/reforestation activities. In this regard, he pointed out that “no objection letter” should be secured before June 2018. He requested DZGD to share a copy of the letter issued by Permanent Secretary of MONREC to Ministry of Home Affairs, so that he can refer to the letter during his discussion with the Deputy Minister next week. The Country Director of UNDP also agreed to go ahead with option 5 recommended as the first priority by the Special TAG. (Reducing 150,000 seedlings and allocating 480 MMK/seedling for plantation and maintenance activities).

The Technical Specialist of UNDP informed the meeting that as per recommendation of MTE, the project team will be developing quality assurance checklist for rehabilitation/reforestation activities and water infrastructure activities in 2018 and strictly monitor project deliverables as per the TOR. Once

rehabilitation/reforestation activities for the season are completed, the project team and IPs will conduct survival counting in December and May of each year.

The DDG of DZGD pointed out that - although DZGD has no authority in for issuing “no objection letter, DZGD is trying its best to assist the project in securing land for rehabilitation/reforestation activities. He informed that if the target land for forestry activities is under control of forest department it is easier to get land approval. However, securing approval for land that is under control of GAD is quite a long process. He informed the meeting that DZGD and MONREC will continue its full cooperation with the project to secure land approval/no objection letter.

The Country Director of UNDP appreciated the efforts of DZGD and recognized that the process of getting no objection letter is very complicated. He highlighted that he will bring this issue to the notice of the Minister of MONREC and the Deputy Minister of Home Affair next week and request them for their assistance. He also appreciated DZGD’s commitment to support the project in securing approval/no objection letter and reminded the project team to inform PSC members once the project secures “no objection letter” from the respective GADs.

Mr. Biplove Choudhary of UNDP highlighted that it is not possible for the project to predict the date on which they can secure no objection letter because of the complicated processes. Therefore, if there is some form of documentation or an acceptable paper work (no objection or interim letter from respective authorities), it should be ok for the project to go ahead with rehabilitation/reforestation activities. Otherwise, since rehabilitation/reforestation activities are seasonal in nature, it is not feasible to wait until approval/no objection letter is secured. He also inquired why the project is required to secure land approval/no objection letter for rehabilitation/reforestation activities in 2018 when it had conducted the same activities in 2016 and 2017 without land approval. In response to this, the DDG of DZGD highlighted that it is important for the PSC to allow the project to continue rehabilitation/reforestation activities, while DZGD and the project team tries to secure no objection letter before the monsoon season. In addition to this the DG of DZGD also said that there are several steps involved for land approval. In general, if there is community agreement through village tract land management committee, then there is no major issue that he foresees. Therefore, the project should proceed with rehabilitation/reforestation activities once agreement from community is secured. In the meantime, he assured that DZGD will fully cooperate and assist the project team in securing no objection letter within 2018. But he also mentioned that since the authority to approve is not within the DZGD’s control, he cannot fully ensure this at this point in time.

The Country Director of UNDP informed the meeting that the PSC can agree with option 5 but the project team and DZGD should pursue together and secure no objection letter on time. The project team should also initiate the process for securing community agreement as soon as possible. If the “no objection letter” is not secured by June 2018 or by the time of the next PSC meeting, PSC will need to deliberate on the issue again. In response to this, the DDG of DZGD pointed out that even if no objection letter is not available by June 2018, rehabilitation/reforestation activities should not be discontinued, because by then it will be too late to stop work that is already in progress. Therefore, he said that the project team and DZGD should try to secure no objection letter as soon as possible.

Mr. Biplove Choudhary of UNDP requested the project team to clarify whether rehabilitation/reforestation activities will be stalled if no objection letter cannot be secured by June 2018. In response to this, the Technical Specialist of AF project explained that, based on past experience, there are no major issues. In 2016 and 2017, the project has consulted with the communities and secured their endorsement for rehabilitation/reforestation activities. For 2018, the project team has already consulted and secured endorsement of identified areas along with GIS maps and the application is almost ready for submission

to GAD. The DDG of DZGD also added that the request letter to Ministry of Home Affairs has been issued on 25 January 2018. Subsequently, the Ministry of Home Affairs has issued follow-up letter to GADs of 3 dry zone regions on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2018.

The Country Director of UNDP summarized that the PSC will agree with option 5 and initiate rehabilitation/reforestation activities on time. He also added that the PSC will revisit this issue in June 2018 during the next PSC meeting. If the project is not able to secure 'no objection letter' by then, the PSC will have to note that the project is going ahead with rehabilitation/reforestation activities without "no objection letter."

With regards to renovation of water retention ponds, the Country Director of UNDP highlighted that the preference of TAG is to go ahead with option 3 (reducing target to 60 and add resources to meet government standards, as well as rehabilitate some ponds already renovated in 2017). This option is to be considered only if the PSC decides to abandon rehabilitation/reforestation activities in 2018 and if there is additional resources. If not, the recommendation of TAG is to consider option 1 – which is to reduce 2018 target from 75 to 60 and enhance the quality by allocating additional resources. In order to agree on option 3, the project will need to allocate additional 38,000 USD, but this is now not available, as the PSC has agreed to proceed with rehabilitation/reforestation activities. Therefore, for now the project should proceed with option 1 and if there is additional resource available the project will also try to rehabilitate some ponds that were already renovated in 2017.

The Technical Specialist of AF project explained that as per option 1, the budget allocated for each pond will be 937,000 MMK, whereas government standard for pond renovation is 1,700,000 MMK/pond. He requested that depending on the resource situation, the project can enhance this budget. He therefore requested PSC to allow the project team to assess available budget in the project and allocate a reasonable amount to improve the quality of ponds in 2018. In response to this, the DDG of DZGD pointed out that for now the project should go ahead with option 1 and if there is budget available, the project team should allocate more and inform PSC during the next PSC meeting.

The Country Director of UNDP highlighted that during the Co-chairs field visit in December 2017, the quality of ponds renovated were not satisfactory. Therefore the PSC should consider enhancing quality rather than maintaining the target. If the project has savings from other components, additional resources should be allocated for pond renovation works to meet government standards or come closer to government standard.

U Aung Kyaw Soe of DZGD pointed out that the government standard of 1,700,000 MMK/pond is for new pond construction and not for renovation. As of now the project has allocated 750,000 MMK/pond. If the project can allocate about 1,000,000 MMK/pond, that should be good enough. If additional resources are available from the forestry component, he suggested that it should be used for patching of 2016 and 2017 plantation areas. In response to this, the Technical Specialist of AF project highlighted that under option 5 for rehabilitation/reforestation in 2018, the project has already allocated additional seedlings (15% over and above that in 2017) to conduct patching of areas rehabilitated/reforested in 2016 and 2017. Therefore, it will be more realistic to allocate additional resources for pond renovation works as per recommendation of MTE.

The DDG of DOA pointed out that if the project intends to allocate additional budget for pond renovation activities, the project should amend the contract with the IP. He also requested the project to share the revised ToR to PSC members so that they can review and verify the changes in the TOR and scope of work. In response to this, National Project Manager of AF project clarified that the project will amend contracts

with implementing partners for both forestry and water resources components. He also assured that the TORs will be shared with the respective departments for comments and suggestions.

Finally, the Country Director of UNDP summarized the discussion on pond renovation works and highlighted the decision of PSC to go ahead with option 1 (reduce target from 75 to 60 in 2018 and enhance quality of pond renovation works) and if there is additional resources available under other components, this will be allocated to pond renovation works.

The PSC also reviewed the remaining recommendation of the Special TAG meeting, i.e application of community forestry certificates (which is dependent on land approval) and the need to handover project outputs and documents to relevant community groups and government departments at the end of the project.

With regards to community forestry certificates, the DDG of DZGD highlighted that the Forest Department has adopted CFI (Community Forestry Instruction) 2016. The project will need to abide with the CFI 2016. However, the project needs to first apply for “no objection certificate.” Following that, community forest user groups should be established and the project will have to assist in the development of CF management plans. After that, the user groups have to apply for CF certificate to Forest Department. He also added that DZGD will assist the project team in completing the necessary steps and in securing community forestry certificates from the Forestry Department.

With regards to handover of project activities at the end of the project, members highlighted that the project should handover all project outputs and documents to related community groups formed by the project under each component; as well as to government departments, as relevant. The project also noted that, as per the project document, long-term development of these community groups formed by the project is essential for sustainability of project outputs. The project team was instructed to present an update on the sustainability and exit strategy at the next PSC meeting.

The Technical Specialist of AF project informed the meeting that an interim annual work plan and budget was already approved by the 5<sup>th</sup> PSC meeting. The project team will revise the interim AWP and budget as per decision of this PSC and submit the same to the Co-Chairs for their endorsement on behalf of PSC. He also informed members that the project team will amend the contracts with relevant IPs in line with the decision of PSC and share updates during the next PSC meeting. The Technical Specialist also informed the meeting that the changes in targets agreed by the PSC will be communicated in advance to the AF Secretariat through UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub.

## **6. Any Other Business:**

The DG of DZGD reminded that to ensure quality implementation, good project management is equally important as increasing costs of inputs. Thus, the project team should closely monitor the implementing partners. We are now moving towards the end of project implementation and it is therefore important for the project to enhance quality assurance and strengthen monitoring of project activities in the field.

The DG also highlighted that the current modality of implementation of this project - Direct Implementation Modality (DIM) - has not really ensure capacity building for government staff, communities and sustainability of project outputs. Therefore he suggested that future support from UNDP should consider national implementation modality.

The Country Director highlighted that the AF project was designed in 2012 under previous government, at a time when Myanmar was under sanctions. Therefore, it was not possible to implement this project under NIM modality. However, there has been several changes in the government recently and there will be opportunities to move toward NIM modality in the coming years. In order to operate under NIM



modality, government implementing partner will have to go through a detail capacity assessment process (HACT Assessment) and the government needs to demonstrate that its fiduciary, procurement and administrative standards are full-proof and does not pose any financial and administrative risks.

The Country Director proposed that the Co-chairs should provide a briefing to the Minister of MONREC sometime before the next PSC meeting. The briefing will include progress of project activities, as well as issues, gaps and challenges and related support required from MONREC. The briefing will also discuss issues around land approval/no objection letter.

The Country Director of UNDP informed the meeting that the next PSC should also consider issues such as Terminal Evaluation of the Project and handover arrangements of project activities at the end of the project.

The Country Director also reminded DZGD to provide official response on the MTE report.

#### **Decisions taken:**

1. The meeting endorsed TAG recommendation to continue rehabilitation/reforestation activities for 2018, based on the fact that a “no objection letter” will suffice for rehabilitation/reforestation activities instead of an “approval.”
2. The meeting endorsed that for rehabilitation/reforestation activities in 2018, the project will go ahead with Option 5 proposed by TAG with the reduction of overall target from 25,006 acres (10,124 ha) to 19642.7 acres (7952.5 ha)
3. The project team will submit application for no objection letters for 2017 and 2018 plantations areas along with maps and follow up with respective GAD offices. DZGD will assist and fully cooperate with the project team in securing “no objection letter” The Project Team will update the PSC on the progress of “no objection letter” during the next PSC meeting.
4. With regard to pond renovation works, the PSC endorsed Option 1 (reduce 2018 target from 75 to 60).
5. If possible (depending on budget) the project team should also consider rehabilitating some ponds already renovated in 2017. The project team will provide updates on this in the next PSC.
6. The PSC instructed the project team to submit the revised AWP and budget to the Co-Chairs for their review and endorsement – on behalf of the PSC.
7. The PSC instructed the project team to organize bilateral meetings with respective IPs and related departments to review and revise the TORs – following which the current contracts will be amended.
8. The PSC endorsed the proposal for a briefing meeting of the Co-Chairs and Minister of MONREC before the next PSC meeting.
9. The PSC endorsed the proposal from the project team to submit the changes in targets to the AF Secretariat through UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub.
10. The PSC instructed the project team to present an update on terminal evaluation of the project and arrangements for handover of project outputs at the next PSC meeting.

#### **7. Closing:**

In his closing remarks, the UNDP Country Director thanked the members for their active participation and contribution. He expressed that the meeting was very productive and the PSC was able to make decisions on a number of outstanding issues. He informed the members that the project team will follow upon the decisions and submit the revised AWP and budget for approval.

The DG of DZGD also highlighted that the meeting was very fruitful. He highlighted the importance of timely and proper monitoring of project activities to ensure quality of project deliverables. He urged the project team to monitor closely the work of all implementing partners. He also remarked that – as the main government counterpart, DZGD will fully cooperate and provide assistance to the project team during implementation.

## **8. Annexures:**

Annex 1. Agenda of 3<sup>rd</sup> Project Steering Committee Meeting

Annex 2. List of participants of the meeting

Annex 3. Presentation on the progress of the project

Annex 4. Presentation on Proposed changes of targets and implementation approach

## Annex 1. Agenda of the 6<sup>th</sup> Special PSC meeting



Empowered lives.  
Resilient nations.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Special Project Steering Committee Meeting**

#### **Adaptation Fund Project in the Dry Zone**

#### ***"Addressing Climate Change Risks on Water Resources and Food Security in the Dry Zone of Myanmar"***

**Dry Zone Greening Department, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation**

**Patheingyi, Mandalay**

**5 February 2018**

#### **TENTATIVE AGENDA**

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| 09:00 | Registration   |
| 09:30 | Opening Remarks by Co-chairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- U Htay Aung, Director General, Dry Zone Greening Department</li><li>- Mr. Peter Batchelor, Country Director, UNDP Myanmar</li></ul> |
| 09:50 | Presentation of Project Progress (End of 2018, January)  |
| 10:20 | Discussions  |
| 10:40 | Presentation on Proposed Changes in Targets and Implementation Approach  |
| 11:10 | Discussions  |
| 11:40 | Any Other Business   |
| 11:50 | Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Mr. Peter Batchelor, Country Director, UNDP Myanmar</li><li>- U Htay Aung, Director General, Dry Zone Greening Department</li></ul>              |
| 12:00 | Lunch  |

## Annex 2. List of participants of the meeting

No	Confirmed Participant	Position	Department
1	Mr. Peter Batchelor	Country Director	UNDP
2	U Htay Aung	Director General	Dry Zone Greening Department
3	U Ba Kaung	Deputy Director General	Dry Zone Greening Department
4	U Soon Htwe	Director	Dry Zone Greening Department
5	U Pe Chit	Director	Dry Zone Greening Department
6	U Aung Kyaw Soe	Assistant Director	Dry Zone Greening Department
7	Daw Yatanar Ye Myint	Range Officer	Dry Zone Greening Department
8	U Zaw Htun Myint	Deputy Director General	Department of Agriculture
9	U Aye Min Thu	Director	Relief and Resettlement Department
10	U Than Zaw	Assistant Director	Department of Meteorology and Hydrology
11	U Win San	Director	Irrigation and Water Utilization Management Department
12	U Min Thein	Deputy Director	Environmental Conservation Department
13	Dr. Win Win Hlaing	Staff Officer	Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department
14	Mr. Biplove Choudhary	Chief of Unit	UNDP
15	Mr. Karma Lodey Raptan	Technical Specialist	UNDP
16	Dr. Thiri Aung	National Project Coordinator	UNDP
17	Dr. Myint Wai	National Project Manager	UNDP
18	U Zaw Min Naung	National Field Officer	UNDP
19	Theingi Soe	Project Assistant	UNDP
20	U Theing Zan	Simultaneous Translator	Freelance Translator

### Annex 3. Presentation on Progress of Project

# Project Progress (Dec - Jan 2018)

Addressing Climate Change Risks on Water  
Resources and Food Security in the Dry Zone  
of Myanmar  
(Adaptation Fund Project)

6<sup>th</sup> (Special) PSC Meeting  
5<sup>th</sup> February 2018  
Mandalay

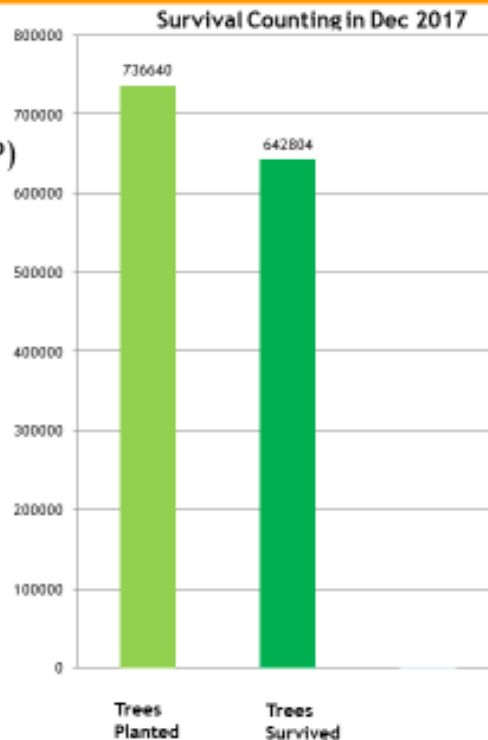
## Follow up on decisions of 5th PSC Meeting

- 27 Dec 2017: Meeting with MONREC (DCD, NPM and TS)
  - Project presented details of land requirement for rehabilitation/reforestation activities in 2017 and 2018
  - Permanent Secretary committed to secure land approval for rehabilitation/reforestation activities by the end of Jan 2018
- 03 Jan 2018: Bilateral discussions with DZGD
  - 5 options on changes in rehabilitation/reforestation activities
- 23 Jan 2018: Special Technical Advisory Group Meeting
  - TAG recommendations will be presented later

## Survival Counting: Rehabilitation/reforestation activities in 2017

- Twice every season
  - Dec - after plantation (IP/UNDP)
  - May - end of dry season (DZGD/FD/IP/UNDP)

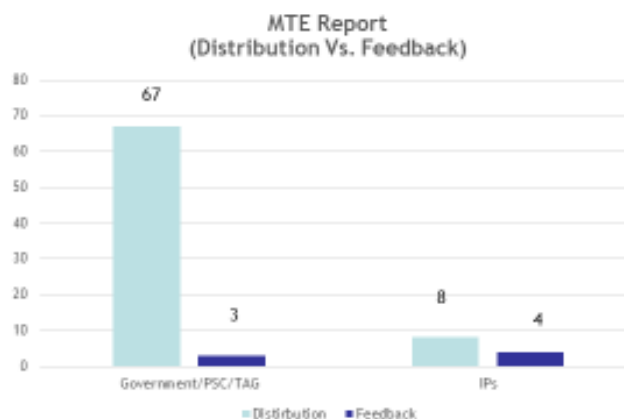
Total Trees (Planted)	Total Trees (Survived)	Survival %
736,640	642,804	87.26



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## Mid-Term Review/Evaluation

- 10 Jan 2018 - draft MTE report received
- 11 Jan 2018 - draft MTE report circulated to stakeholders (Govt. departments, PSC and TAG members and IPs)
- Comments/feedback submitted on 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2018
- Final Report received on 30 Jan 2018



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## Others:

- Provision of small-scale water infrastructure
  - Contracts signed with 2 IPs (Well Done and Win Top)
  - Field assessment and site verification completed
  - Introduction of IPs to township officials
- Annual Review Meetings with IPs
  - Promotion of Climate-resilient Livestock Practices - Community Development Association (9-10 Jan 2018)
  - Promotion of Climate-resilient Agriculture Practices - CESVI (11-12 Jan 2018)
  - Annual review and planning meeting on rehabilitation/reforestation activities (NAG, CDA) - week of 12 Feb 2018

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## Others:

- Assessment of pond renovation works in 2017
  - Field assessment completed in Shwebo and Monywa
  - Ongoing for Myingyan, Nyaung U and Chauk
- Analysis of Climate Risk Information Flow
  - Survey completed at township/village level
  - Stakeholder consultation pending
- Community Based Disaster Risk Management (CBDRM)
  - Climate Risk Information (CRI) sub-committee at township level established
  - CBDRM teams established and assessment in pilot village completed
- Contract for rehabilitation/reforestation of farm boundary and public land - revised
- No cost extension of contract for rehabilitation/reforestation of watersheds, NFC and CF - by 2 months

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## Pending Issues:

- Decision on change in targets for rehabilitation/reforestation activities
- decision on change in targets on pond renovation works
- Finalize AWP and budget for 2018
- Proposal for further support from DMH (depending on budget availability) - next PSC meeting

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Thank You

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# Proposed Changes in Targets and Implementation Approach

Addressing Climate Change Risks on Water  
Resources and Food Security in the Dry Zone  
of Myanmar  
(Adaptation Fund Project)

6<sup>th</sup> (Special) PSC Meeting  
5<sup>th</sup> February 2018  
Mandalay

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## Background - Key Points of MTE Report

- Flexibility
- Target vs Quality (Targets are too high or budgets are too low and therefore adjustments need to be made - Forestry and Pond Renovation)
- Meeting government standard
- Follow up, operations and maintenance of planted seedlings
- The specific services that comprise the co-financing commitments of the government should be considered within the 2018 work plan

## Options submitted to TAG 9 meeting

Opt	Description	The whole project Target (Acres)	Already Implemented until end of 2017 (Acres)	Planned figures for 2018		Revised figures for 2018							
				Area (Acres)	# of Seedlings	Area (Acres)	Difference (Acres)	Required Seedlings	Reduced seedling	Reduced amount (MMK)	Amount gained to use for other activities	Per seedling cost	Remarks
1	Meeting Gov. Standard (500)	25,006	15,981	9,025	718,819	6,318	2,707	555,995	162,827	53,663,562	0	497	
2	Plantation only in proposed reserve forest and private land	25,006	15,981	9,025	718,819	2,675	6,350	281,336	437,483	144,369,390	195,022,350	500	Move to other activities
3	No land approval available	25,006	15,981	9,025	718,819	0	0	0	718,819	236,900,100	395,759,099	NA	(-) some NAG operation cost
4	DZGD option (delete NFC)	25,006	15,981	9,025	718,819	4,848	4,177	548,501	170,318	56,127,905	0	510	
5	Proposed reserve forest and private land + Gov. Land (DZGD to assist in securing land approval)	25,006	15,981	9,025	718,819	4,130	4,895	566,049	152,749	50,342,164	0	480	

The planned area is excluding (homestead 400 ha, Public land Plantation 36.2 ha and Farm Boundary Plantation 458.9 ha) TOTAL 895.1 ha or 2011 acres. 11,036 Acres

Number of seedlings is also excluding for Homestead plantation (111,573), Public land and farm boundary plantation (269,743)

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## Recommendations of TAG

- To consider "No Objection Certificate" instead of "Approval" as "approval" before 28 Feb is not possible

Preference	Description	The whole project Target (Acres)	Already Implemented until end of 2017 (Acres)	Planned figures for 2018		Revised figures for 2018							
				Area (Acres)	# of Seedling	Area (Acres)	Difference (Acres)	Required Seedling	Reduced seedling	Reduced amount (MMK)	Amount gained to use for other activities	Per seedling cost	Remarks
1	Proposed Reserve Forest and Private Land + Gov. Land (DZGD to assist in securing land approval)	25006	15981	9,025	718,819	4,130	4,895	566,049	152,749	50,342,164	0***	480	480
2	Plantation only in Proposed Reserve Forest and Private Land	25006	15981	9,025	718,819	2,675	6,350	281,336	437,483	144,369,390	195,022,350	500	Move to other activities
3	No land approval available	25006	15981	9,025	718,819	0	0	0	718,819	236,900,100	395,759,099	NA	(-) some NAG operation cost

\*\*\* Project will gain some operation budget from plantation (23,797 USD) after revising seedling requirement (as per community feedback).

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## Proposed changes in pond renovation works

### Option 1. Reduce target for 2018 (60 ponds only instead of 75)

Conditions - TAG and PSC approve the reduction of target

Original target for pond renovation in 2018	Pond	75
Per unit cost (planned)	MMK	750,000
Total cost planned	MMK	56,250,000
Reduce target	Pond	60
Total cost planned	MMK	56,250,000
Per unit cost	MMK	937,500

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## Proposed changes in pond renovation works

### Option 2. Reduce planned target for 2018 (50 ponds only instead of 75)

Conditions - TAG and PSC approve the reduction of target

Original target for pond renovation in 2018	Pond	75
Per unit cost (planned)	MMK	750,000
Total cost planned	MMK	56,250,000
Reducing target	Pond	50
Total cost planned	MMK	56,250,000
Per unit cost	MMK	1,125,000

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## Proposed changes in pond renovation works

### Option 3. Reduce 2018 target and enhance quality of some pond renovation works completed in 2017

Conditions - TAG and PSC approve the reduction of target

- Revisit some ponds renovated in 2017 (as per field verification)

Original target for pond renovation in 2018	Pond	75
Per unit cost (planned)	MMK	750,000
Total cost planned	MMK	56,250,000

- Reduce the target (60)
- Revisit some ponds rehabilitated in 2017 (Approx. 10) - based on assessment
- Meeting government standard - 1,700,000 (1,650,000) MMK/POND

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## Summary of options for change - Output 1.1

Project target planned for 2018						
Opt	Description	The whole project Target	Already implemented until end of 2017	Planned figures for 2018	Per pond allocation	Total budget allocated
1	Reducing target to 60 ponds	150	75	75	750,000	56,250,000
2	Reducing target to 50 ponds	150	75	75	750,000	56,250,000
3	Revisiting some pond of 2017 and meeting gov. standard	150	75	75	750,000	56,250,000

Revised figures for 2018										
Opt	# of Pond	Available budget per pond	gov. standard	Difference per pond	Number of revisiting pond 2017	Per pond rate for revisiting	sub total for revisiting	Budget to meet gov. standard	Total requirement for revised target	Amount need to add to IP (USD)
1	60	937,500	1,610,000	672,500	0					
2	50	1,125,000	1,700,000	575,000	0					
3	60	937,500	1,615,000	677,500	10	865,000	8,650,000	40,650,000	49,300,000	37,923

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## Recommendations of TAG on pond renovation works

**1st Preference: Option 3 reduce target and enhance quality of pond renovation works in 2017 (provide funds become available)**

- Renovation target for 2018 = 60 (reduce 15 ponds)
- Per pond cost allocation = 1,615,000 MMK
- Revisiting pond renovation works in 2017 = 10 (out of 75)
- Per pond cost allocation = 865,000 MMK (+750,000 = 1,615,000 MMK)
- Allocation of additional US\$ 38,000 (Exchange rate 1300 MMK/\$)

**If no additional resources - Option 1**

- Reduce target for 2018 (60 ponds only instead of 75)
- Per pond cost allocation = MMK 937,500

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## TAG 9 - Decisions

#	Decision	Responsibility
1	Recommend that PSC consider whether securing a "No Objection Certificate/Letter" from GAD is adequate rather than securing "Land Approval."	UNDP Project Team
2	TAG recommends option 5 as first preference, option 2 as second preference and option 3 as third preference (to be submitted to the special PSC meeting	UNDP project team
3	Project team to continue applying for land as well as community forestry certificates by using no objection letter until the end of the project	UNDP Project team and DZGD
4	At the end of project, the project team will hand over rehabilitation/reforestation activities to respective departments/community groups	UNDP project team
5	DZGD to share standard design and requirements for pond renovation to UNDP project team	DZGD
6	DZGD to share sample pond renovation sites in each project township	DZGD
7	TAG recommended option 3 for pond renovation, provided additional funds are available. If additional resources are not available, TAG recommended option 1.	UNDP Project Team

## PSC decisions requested on the following:

- Land “Approval” vs “No Objection Certificate” for plantation” from GAD
- Endorsement of TAG recommendations for rehabilitation/reforestation activities
- Endorsement for pond renovation works

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**Thank You**

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