

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME		MISSION REPORT SUMMARY
Name Karma Raptan	Group/Unit Sustainable and Inclusive Growth	Date: 08 May 2018
Approved Mission Itinerary: MDLY – Myingyan – MDLY		Telephone Number: 09793084228
Inclusive Travel Dates: From 08 – 08 May 2018		Key counterpart(s): CESVI, YAU, DOA, DAR, Farmers from Myingyan and Nyaung U Townships
Purpose/Objective of Mission: The main purpose of this mission was to: attend the field day activity on Post Varietal Selection of Rice in Myingyan Township. We also visited two demo plots where the project has provided fruit trees to farmers for promotion of fruit tree cultivation for additional income. After the field visit, the team dropped the hazard maps (flood, earthquake and drought) to eight Departments in Myingyan Township.		
Brief Summary of Mission Findings: <p>The mission team consisted of Myint Zaw (Agri Specialist) and myself. We visited the post varietal selection site in Shwe Pan Kyun village in Myingyan township. At the end of the field-day session, CESVI and Researchers from YAU were able to narrow down on 2 rice varieties (YAU-1215-183-3-4-1-1-1) and (Salto Sin Thwe Latt) – out of the 12 varieties that were introduced in the experimental plot. Following the event, the team visited two demo plots and dropped off hazard maps and related documents (both hard and soft copies) to 8 departments in Myingyan Township.</p> <p>A. Post Varietal Selection of Rice:</p> <p>The post varietal selection plot is located in Shwe Pan Kyun village in Myingyan Township on the way to Mandalay. Present at the event were U Myint Lin (District Manager of DOA), Daw San San Myint (Township Manager of DOA), Dr. Nyo Mar Htwe (Asst. Professor of YAU) and Dr. Mi Mi Aung (Professor of YAU). The research trial is being conducted in collaboration with YAU where the two professors have engaged Masters’ students to conduct the experiment.</p> <p>The event started with a briefing by the Professors from YAU on the voting process. The experimental field had 12 varieties of rice which were planted 78 days ago. As per design of the experiment, farmers are engaged to vote twice – once just before flowering and once before harvest. In addition, the staff of DOA and YAU are also engaged in the voting process as experts/scientists. The results of the votes are segregated by male farmers, female farmers and experts/scientists. All are made to observe the rice plants in the field and vote for the varieties based on physical characteristics, such as appearance, health, quality, etc of the plants. The votes are then counted and the results compiled. Among the 12 varieties introduced in the plot, the group voted 2 varieties as the most preferred varieties - (YAU-1215-183-3-4-1-1-1) and (Salto Sin Thwe Latt). The first variety is the one which is introduced by YAU and is already under consideration for certification by the national seed committee. The second variety is a salt-tolerant variety – which is very suitable for Myingyan Township, where water is often very salty.</p> <p>The second round of voting will take place once the plants are mature and ready for harvest. The same group will be engaged again in the voting process. The voting process then will mainly consider the number of rice grains and taste, in addition to considering the physical characteristics of the rice varieties. The final choice of 2-3 varieties will then be selected for further propagation and submitted for certification by the national seed committee. Farmers demanded an additional voting session around the time of flowering. This was not recommended by the team from YAU – as the participants’ movement around the plots would distort the results of the final voting just before harvest (due to trampling and disturbance of the flowering plants).</p> <p>B. Visit to Demonstration Plot for promotion of Fruit Trees:</p> <p>Following the event, the team visited 2 demonstration plots for promotion of fruit trees in Htan Taw Gyi village. The first plot was about 0.5 acres and the second one was about 0.25 acres. The plants in both the plots were found very healthy and the farmers has taken very good care – including provision of bio-fencing and regular watering. The second plot has been provided with a drip irrigation facility costing approximately MMK 200,000 which was provided by the project. The farmer highlighted that the support is very useful and that he has seen very good results. He was very happy with the drip irrigation facility, as a result of which, he was able to save water for irrigation. He also highlighted that he plans to spend additional money and introduce the same technology in his fields. The project has provided drip irrigation facilities to 25 farmers in Myingyan. Overall, the project is providing drip irrigation facilities to 125 farmers in the 5 townships of Shwebo, Monywa, Myingyan, Nyaung U and Chauk.</p> <p>C. Submission of Hazard Maps and related documents:</p> <p>In the afternoon, the team dropped off the hazard maps (floods, drought, earthquake) and other related documents for Myingyan township to eight departments – GAD, DoA, LBVD, DMH, FD, DZGD, IWUMD, and DRD. Both hard and soft copies of the documents were provided, as per decision of TAG and PSC. The maps are meant to inform the departments in planning development activities in the township.</p>		
Actions to be Taken (and responsible party): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Myint Zaw to monitor the PVS trials and attend the final voting session when it happens. 2. Myint Zaw to monitor the drip irrigation facilities and request CESVI to prepare a report on the feasibility of the technology in Myingyan township 		Distribution: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Biplove Choudhary, Chief of Unit, UNDP Yangon 2. Myint Wai, AF Project, UNDP Mandalay 3. Khin Maung Lwin, AF Project, UNDP Mandalay 4. Yan Naing Tun, AF Project, UNDP Mandalay 5. Myint Zaw, AF Project, UNDP Mandalay 6. Kyaw Zin Aung Soe, UNDP Mandalay 7. Van Lal Ruat Pwee Yee, AF Project, UNDP Mandalay 8. Theingi Soe, AF Project, UNDP Mandalay