



Myanmar Agriculture Network

Myanmar Agriculture Network (MAN) Core Committee Meeting Notes

Monday, 18th November 2019

Attendees:

Name	Title and Organization
1. Leo Rozendaal	MAN Co-Chair (Mercy Corps)
2. Frederik Heijink,	Agricultural Counsellor, Embassy of the Netherlands
3. Erwin Sikma	Head of Impact Terra
4. U Thein Soe Min	Green Way
5. Ms. Esther Wintraecken	Fresh Studio
6. U Ye Htut	(MAN Country Director)
7. Daw Naw Rosy Love	(MAN Communications Manager)
8. Daw Aye Nandar Tun	(MAN Operations Manager)
9. U Nyantha Maw Lin	(MAN Co-Chair – absent due travelling to Myitkyina)
10. U Tin Htut Oo	(MAN Advisory Council – absent due to UMFCCI meeting)

Hosted by: U Ye Htut

Core Committee Meeting Note Summary

1. Internal Update (Staffing)

Daw Naw Rosy Love has been appointed as the new Communications Manager and joined the Team at the beginning of November.

2. Update on Upcoming Events

MAN is organizing the Flower Forum 2019 to be held on 4th December 2019 (Wednesday) in Pyin Oo Lwin, Mandalay Region. The aim of the Forum is to seek views and identify challenges facing flower growers in Myanmar and find solutions to develop the sector. The event is being supported by the Embassy of the Netherlands in Myanmar.

MAN is discussing with Phandeeyar to organize A Digital Event to promote digital literacy and awareness in Myanmar with focus on agriculture sector. The aim of the event is to attract investors into agriculture sector and to for the establishment of SMEs via the Phandeeyar incubator. MAN and Phandeeyar are envisaging to jointly organizing this event. However, more discussions on the theme, the date of the event as well as participants to be invited.

3. Strategy and Programming

Key Focus Areas

- In 2019, MAN will be focusing on building up MAN secretariat capacity, strengthening the relationships between the members as well as the government, running sustainably through membership fees.

4. Membership Fee & Roll-out plan

MAN Secretariat provided an update on the Membership Roll-Out. Currently, the membership registration is still relatively small and has 8 registered to join and that this numbers are likely to grow. In the coming weeks and months MAN Secretariat will be engaging and making follow up calls and communicating to members who have not yet registered. With the existing membership fees collected, the Secretariat will prepare a note for the first Call for Proposals to be launched in early January 2020.

5. Responses by participants related to the issues discussed

Leo Rozendaal (Mercy Corps)

- Would like to see other potential members make their contributions in order that Membership Fees can be utilized effectively but more importantly those who have joined and paid should not kept waiting for others.
- MAN needs to draw up a clear strategy regarding the Call for Proposals and also planning of activities.

Erwin Sikma (Impact Terra)

- Impact Terra would like to explore the possibilities of MAN and Impact Terra on providing training to government officials on digital literacy. Impact Terra has already conducted such training for government officials in the Shan State.

Thein Soe Min (Green Way)

- Green Way is always keen to take initiatives to highlight that MAN's Working Group on Mobile Services is active and always to promoting farmers' interests;

Esther Wintraecken (Fresh Studio)

- Keen to see the Membership Roll out plan move forward. Would like to be updated on what is happening in the sector both on technical content, laws/policies/regulations.
- To also have access to important calls for proposals of interest.

6. Core Committee Meetings (Upcoming)

The date for the next MAN Core Committee Meeting and also consideration to convene MAN Annual General Assembly will convey to MAN Core Committee in early January 2020 for consideration. The Secretariat would like to suggest the following schedules for consideration:

- MAN Core Committee Meeting (mid-February or early March 2020).
- MAN Annual General Assembly (May or June 2020)

The key focus of the First Core Committee to be held in 2020 will focus on reviewing working group proposals for 2020, updating membership and funding status and broader agenda for 2020.

Date: 2nd December 2019.
