

Myanmar Agriculture Network

Myanmar Agriculture Network (MAN) Core Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, 03 March 2020

Attendees:

Name	Title and Organization
1. Mr. Pranav Sethaputra	Country Partnership Manager (Grow Asia)
2. U Ye Htut	MAN Country Director
3. U Tin Htut Oo	MAN Advisory Council (YOMA)
4. U Nyantha Maw Lin	MAN Co-Chair (Burgundy Hills)
5. Mr. Leo Roozendaal	MAN Co-Chair (Mercy Corps)
6. U Thein Win	Corn WG Co-lead (Fresh Studio)
7. Mr. Jose' Molina	Corn WG Co-lead (Fresh Studio)
8. Dr. Phyo Ko Ko Naing	Corn WG Co-lead (AEG Agri Ltd)
9. U Sai Phyo Lwin Oo	Corn WG Co-lead (AEG Agri Ltd)
10. U Htut Htut	Corn WG Co-lead (AEG Agri Ltd)
11. Daw Thuzar Aye	Corn WG Co-lead (AEG Agri Ltd)
12. Daw Thiri Han	Corn WG Co-lead (AEG Agri Ltd)
13. U Tin Aung	Horticulture WG Co-lead (MFVP (UMFCCI))
14. U Htet Kyu	Horticulture WG Co-lead (MFVP)
15. U Soe Htike Lwin	Agri-Finance WG Co-lead (Proximity Designs)
16. U Myo Aye	Coffee WG Co-lead (MCA)
17. U Ye Pyae Kyaw	Agri-Input WG (Syngenta Foundation)
18. U Khin Zaw Tun	Pulses and Oil seeds WG Co-lead (ICCO)
19. U Ye Min Htwe	Pulses and Oil seeds WG Co-lead (ICCO)
20. U Kyaw Maw Zan	Pulses and Oil seeds WG Co-lead (ICCO)
21. U Htet Aung Phyo	MAN Engagement Manager
22. Daw Naw Rosy Love	MAN Communications Manager

Hosted by; Pranav and Ye Htut

1. Internal Update

The following are highlighted discussions on the Core-Committee meeting.

Staffing

MAN welcomes three team members in the last quarter, U Htet Aung Phyo, Daw Naw Rosy Love and Daw Win Hsu Myat Chel as Engagement Manager, Communications Manager and Operations Manager respectively.

Knowledge Exchange

- For Myanmar, Grow Asia partnered up with an independent consultant, conducted a case study on Myanmar Tea sector issues.
- Regionally, Grow Asia announcing Charoen Pokphand Group as Grow Asia's new Co-Chair. On regional level, Grow Asia working for Responsible Agriculture

Investment Guidelines with ASEAN, and working to create Farmer Portal and Barriers to Agri-Tech Adoption with IFAD and Private Sector consultation together with FAO.

- Call for Proposal phase (III) will be carried out soon.

Strategy and Programming

Key Focus Areas

- In 2020, MAN will be focusing on building up MAN Secretariat capacity, strengthening the relationships between the stakeholders as well as the government with 3E Baseline (Engagement, Empowerment and Education).
 - Engagement
 - More engagement with Regionals Government departments,
 - More engagement with businesses on Agri-sector,
 - INGO & NGO and CSO to partnering and cooperating,
 - Farmer Associations and clusters for the needs of their daily farming practice and trading.
 - Empowerment
 - Women Empowerment, Youth and Farmer Organizations to promote more involvement in future Agriculture sector.
 - Education
 - Educating to the farmers about GAP (Good Agriculture Practices) to achieve and gain more market access.
 - Educate Food Safety on Planting, Processing and Producing.
- MAN, Agri Pro Focus and Food Safety Working Group discussed to form joint initiatives in 2020.

Selecting WG Events

The Secretariat will select WG activities based on these following criteria.

- **Potential to contribute to MAN’s vision for:**
 - Improving the competitiveness of Myanmar’s Agricultural Sector
 - Improving livelihoods of smallholders
- **Call for Proposal will be announced soon to do relevance industry research for MAN Working Groups.**
- **MAN’s competence and additionality vs. other ecosystem actors**
According to MAN manpower, prioritize and consider the events that MAN needs to organize, what will be the outcomes?

Upcoming WGs Events (TBC)

Proposed Date	Theme	Objective
TBC	All-inclusive Agri-Finance Event	To put all together multi-stakeholder organizations from different background that are providing Myanmar Agriculture sector requirements. Linking the stakeholders with Agri-products /solutions and encourage feedbacks from the small stakeholder farmers.

TBC	Digital Literacy Event	ICT solutions emerging from Myanmar and the region, highlighting why digital is important for the Myanmar Agriculture sector development and awareness of modern farming practice. improve small stakeholders' ICT awareness.
TBC	Horticulture (He` Ho or Taunggyi)	Identify continuity event of Flower Forum 2019 which held in PyinOoLwin for Myanmar's floriculture sector development funded by the Netherlands Embassy. Will discuss with the Netherlands Embassy regarding this event.
TBC	National Corn Forum	Corn Vision 2020 Billion Trade proposal which is already stated Shan State Regional agenda to link with the National Project Bank.
TBC	Contract Farming SOP development and in line with Union Level	Work together with Bago Regional Government and ICCO for preparing the Contract Farming Standard Regulation in line with Union level.

Remark: Events are to be approved by the Core Committee. Dates are still TBC with WGs.

Other discussions and suggestions in relation to the Knowledge Exchange and Strategy are:

- Regarding to the impact and effects of Corona virus to Agriculture sector, Co-Chairs and Advisor recommended MAN to encourage UMFCCI for organizing a Workshop to discuss with the other stakeholders.
- Find potential to extend the regional benchmarking project to country specific crop research.
- Regarding MAN's Roadmap in the future, Co-chairs and Advisor suggested focusing more on multi-stakeholder partnerships, learning from the successes of other Country Partnerships on Contract Farming and with the help of Grow Asia, implement it in Myanmar and build up the trust on a Contract Farming Business Model.
- MAN Co-Chairs advised MAN to become the neutral information exchanging platform between stakeholders and Financial Institutions for the financial requirement of Contract Farming Practices.
- Membership fees will be used for funding the benchmarking, industry research and Working Groups' activities.

2. Review Membership Fee & Roll-out plan

MAN announced its membership plan in July 2019 and officially launched its roll-out at the Annual General Meeting held on 5th of September 2019.

Paid membership received as 3rd March 2020 are as follows.

Membership Tier	Annual membership fees	Quantity
MNCs	\$2,000	0
INGOs + Dev Agencies	\$1,000	4
Large Non-MNC Companies (revenue >\$1m)	\$500	2
MSMEs (revenue <\$1m) & International Associations	\$300	10
Local Commodity Associations & Research/Academia	Free	0
LNGOs & Civic Organizations	Free	4
Total		20

3. Planning General Meeting

The Core Committee agreed to hold MAN Annual General Meeting on **3rd June 2020**.

4. Core Committee Meetings (Upcoming)

The next Core Committee agenda, date and time will be decided at the MAN Annual General Meeting.