



## Minutes of Information Management Network Meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> August 2023, 3PM MMT, online via Zoom

### Agenda

1. Myanmar Development Observatory (MDO/UNDP)
2. Disability Inclusion Survey (UNFPA)
3. MIMU Pcodes: Recent Updates (MIMU)
4. Humanitarian Updates (UNOCHA)
5. Updates on cluster/sector/agency initiatives
6. AOB and other discussions

### Attendance

Chair: Shon Campbell (MIMU)

Participants: UNFPA, FAO, UNOCHA, UNDP, WEI, SDC, ADPC, MSI, AMDA Myanmar, Shelter Cluster, Nutrition Cluster, MA-UK Myanmar, Health Cluster, MAU, MIMU, PSEA Network (24 participants from 16 organisations)

### 1. Myanmar Development Observatory (MDO/UNDP)

The presentation from the Myanmar Development Observatory (MDO) focused on the organization's approach to data collection, analysis, and dissemination, with a focus on socio-economics, SDGs, and conflict in Myanmar.

As an introduction, the MDO's three main functions were outlined: data collection and analysis, dissemination and communication, and capacity strengthening. The work revolves around three pillars: socio-economics, SDGs, and conflict, with cross-cutting issues of environment, gender, and human rights.

Regarding socio-economic surveys and analysis, the MDO has conducted various studies, including a telephone survey following the February 2021 events with analysis on poverty, a women-focused study, and an urban resilience and garment worker surveys in Yangon. The findings revealed alarming trends such as nearly half of the population living in poverty by early 2022 and women's increased challenges, including eating less as well as increase in incidence of domestic violence.

On the SDG pillar, the MDO completed the identification of priority SDG targets and indicators and produced analytical briefs.

With regard to the conflict pillar, MDO highlighted a report on vulnerability and conflict, with more projects on conflict analysis planned for later this year.

The ongoing and upcoming work includes peoples' perception survey, migration study, socio-economic analysis using satellite-based night lights data, and conflict and social cohesion analyses. The MDO also plans to update SDG data and produce a second round of analytical briefs by the end of 2023.

In terms of dissemination and communication, the MDO uses public and closed group channels, including website, relief web, and MIMU and the weekly newsletter. The goal is to reach over 1,000 subscribers for weekly news.

MDO Website: <https://undp-mdo.org/>

ReliefWeb: <https://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar>

MIMU: <https://themimu.info/assessments-and-publications>

The presentation also touched on the MDO's work on Civil Society Organization (CSO) capacity strengthening, implementing a small grant component to support CSOs in data collection and analysis.

## 2. Disability Inclusion Survey (UNFPA)

The Disability Assessment Study under UNFPA Myanmar's flagship program, Women and Girls First, was presented. The introduction mentioned the exercise's aim to enhance disability inclusion in the program and address the data scarcity on disability inclusion. The challenges encountered during the study were discussed.

The context of the disability prevalence rate in Myanmar was explored, highlighting the obstacles faced by persons with disabilities in accessing education, employment, and other essential services.

The research framework, objectives, and methodology were discussed, with a focus on defining and identifying various factors of disability inclusion in the target population. The research questions were presented in further detail.

Key findings were presented covering aspects such as availability, accessibility, acceptability, and quality of services for persons with disabilities. The challenges in physical infrastructure, economic accessibility, discrimination, and quality of services were discussed.

Practical recommendations were offered, grounded in research. These included ensuring compliance with CRPD (Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) guidelines, expanding the availability of services, enhancing physical infrastructure, augmenting awareness, facilitating active participation of persons with disabilities, building capacity, and refining monitoring systems.

The full report is now accessible on the [UNFPA website](#).

## 3. MIMU Pcodes: Recent Updates (MIMU)

Presentation on MIMU Place Codes (Pcodes) started with an introduction to the context of administrative units of Myanmar, covering States/Regions, Districts, Townships, Towns, Wards, Village Tracts, and Villages. The structure of Pcodes was organised to reflect the various levels.

The changes between versions 9.3 (Jan 2021) and 9.4 (May 2023) was presented in detail. Specific updates were discussed, such as added coordinates, confirmed coordinates, modified coordinates, and new locations added to the database. A comprehensive summary of the updates was provided, with a total of 338 added coordinates, 979 confirmed coordinates, 730 modified coordinates, and 108 new added, amounting to 2,155 updated locations.

Further exploration of the challenges and intricacies of the recent mapping exercise to update the Pcodes highlighted the limited availability of village coordinates across the country. As of May 2023, 79% of the village locations have been included in the Pcode database.

MIMU Pcode products can be explored in the [dedicated page](#) on MIMU website.

## 4. Humanitarian Updates (UNOCHA)

The ongoing work on the 2024 Humanitarian Program Cycle (HPC) activities was presented with an overview of the process of defining scope and identifying relevant indicators. The Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA) is ongoing, with results expected by mid-September. The Joint Intersectoral Analysis Framework (JIAF) 2.0 approach is being used to define the overall people in need and severity at the inter-sectoral level, aligning with global guidelines. The cluster approach remains the same, with working groups such as the Needs Monitoring and Analysis Working Group and the Humanitarian Information Management Working Group meeting monthly. The 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) Q2 report is in progress and expected by mid-August. Additionally, the humanitarian community is pilot testing the Activity Info platform to collect humanitarian response data more efficiently.

## 5. Updates on cluster/sector/agency initiatives

**UNFPA:** UNFPA highlighted the development of the CODPS data set down to the township level (admin level three). Some data still need confirmation, with a potential launch for step one expected early next week. Ongoing studies include a study among young people populations and a review of UNFPA's implementation with partners like CSOs. Additionally, UNFPA continues to provide baseline data sets and definitions to required agencies upon request.

**Nutrition Cluster:** Monthly data collection is ongoing through the Nutrition Information System (NIS). Data is collected from subnational members to provide a monthly activity report, which is then consolidated, analyzed, produced dashboards and then shared with national and sub-national members. Last month, the cluster completed the input to the HRP report for OCHA, and is currently working on its input to the Myanmar humanitarian update report for OCHA.

**PSEA Network:** Planning to conduct PSEA (Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse) training of trainers for focal points. The application process has concluded, and selected participants will be informed shortly. The ToT, supported by UNOPS, is scheduled to be held on the 16th, 17th, and 18th of August, for the first phase and the second phase is scheduled for 28, 29 and 30 August.

**ADPC:** Asian Disaster Preparedness Center provided an update on their current crop mapping activities in Myanmar, focusing on rice, maize, and beans & pulses. The result for 2023 summer rice and 2022 rainy season maize for Shan State are expected to be released by the end of the 2023.

**Shelter Cluster:** IFRC is working on a satellite-based damage review post-Cyclone Mocha. Using satellite imagery from January and May, the images are compared to understand the conditions and identify the extent of the damage. The analysis classified buildings into categories of no or minor damage (represented by white) and major damage (represented by red). IFRC is now exploring the possibility of extending this assessment to other regions, depending on the availability of before-and-after satellite imagery.

**MAU:** Market Analysis Unit has continued its usual monthly output on price monitoring, with the addition of data collection on prices in 4 townships in the Sagaing region, expected to be released next month. An update to the Kayah transportation map is also planned for next month.

**REACH:** REACH has finalized the data collection for the Multi-Sectoral Needs Assessment (MSNA) and is currently cleaning the data. They aim to complete this process by the end of the week with preliminary findings expected to be shared in September.

**MIMU:** Various trainings were conducted July 2023, including an Information Management (IM) workshop and basic mapping training. Conducted in the Myanmar language, most courses, except the IM workshop, have been converted to self-learning online courses. These are mostly offered to IM network members, but clusters are encouraged to reach out to MIMU for specific training needs, with the potential to customize based on requirements. The IM network mailing list is also being updated.

## 6. AOB and other discussions

The next regular meeting will tentatively be on October 4th, 2023.

Participants are encouraged to suggest and/or contribute presentations to the next meeting.