**Minutes of IM Network Meeting: 5th December 2018**

Chair: Shon Campbell, MIMU Manager.

Participants: NRC, EWMI-ODI, MIMU

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|  | **Issues discussed** | **Next steps** |
|  | **Ethics Review Committee**  Several Ethic Review Committees (ERCs) currently operate in Myanmar, linked to various line ministries. The majority of ERC submissions over the past 3 years have been through the national level ERC in the Department of Medical Research (DMR) of the Ministry of Health and Sports. This is the most established ERC related to routine bio-ethical consideration with detailed requirements which are clarified on their website. Health-related assessments were generally approved in under 6 months, however some took over a year. Multi-sectoral assessments or those related to social welfare were submitted through the ERC in the Department of Social Welfare of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement may include one or more additional ministries in the ERC process (Ministries of Health, Education, Border Affairs or Planning and Finance). Procedures and requirements for these ERCs were less clear and submissions tended to have more mixed results. While most ERC processes had taken place at national level, some were also required to pass through state level ERCs which may take longer. Submissions in 2015 and 2016 were more likely to be approved without restrictions than those from 2017-2018. |  |
|  | **Quality of critical dataset (statistics)**  This section of the meeting considered commonly available sources of statistics, following on from the discussion on sources of spatial data in October. The importance of use of disaggregated data to the lowest possible level was noted, and the discussion focused mainly on available township level data.  **Multi-sector datasets**   * MMSIS from the Central Statistics Organisation collates indicators from government sources at Union and State/region levels. It does not yet include township level. <http://mmsis.gov.mm/> * MIMU Baseline Data - MIMU compiles indicators that are useful for agencies’ humanitarian and development work in one database to enable cross-sectoral analysis and to support township level planning. This Baseline Data currently includes 232 indicators (103 at TS level) from 258 sources, over the period 2009 to 2017 and includes a significant amount of data which was not previously available in digital form. Data has been gathered from different sources – mainly from government and available publications, and is presented by admin level (Union, State/Region and Township). The 12 sectors are Agriculture, Climate, Demography, Economy, Education, Environment, Gender, Health, Information and Communication, Nutrition, Protection and Transportation. Notably this also includes information on monastic schools registered with the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture. Data is maintained in an Access database and recent data (for the past 9 years) is shared in Excel for ease of use along with a list of the available indicators through the MIMU website. Data from previous years can also be requested. MIMU is planning to extend this further into peace-related sectors. <http://www.themimu.info/baseline-datasets> * Vulnerability Study dataset brings together available data at township level as used for the MIMU-HARP study, *Vulnerability in Myanmar: A secondary data review of needs, coverage and gaps*. This focuses on the period 2014-2016 and includes 624 indicators including information on conflict events from the global Armed Conflict and Location Events Database (ACLED). <http://www.themimu.info/vulnerability-in-myanmar> * GAD township profiles (2017) – recently released for the first time, in Myanmar language only and in narrative form. The 326 GAD township profiles which are available have been uploaded to the MIMU website with some data has been included in the MIMU Baseline Data and the MIMU Township Profiles. * Population and Housing Census (2014) – Multisectoral data source from the household census. Gaps and issues in the dataset are well documented and additional data is available through the Redatam platform and individual micro-data requests. Sampling frames have also been developed based on the Census data to support survey preparation. an intercensus is expected to take place in 2019/20 but this would capture information from a % of the population so providing state/region and not township level data. Currently the MIMU Baseline Data includes around half of the Census indicators.   **Specific line ministry datasets**   * Demographic data (number of villages, towns and wards) – the last GAD update was in August 2015 and a new publication is due to be released in mid-2019. * Health data - Township level health statistics were publicly available in HMIS township profiles until 2011. The Ministry of Health and Sports releases updates on hospital statistics through its website with the last data released for 2015. The most recent health survey was the DHS/Demographic Health Survey undertaken in 2015/16 which provides data to state/region level. * Education data (formal sector) – MoE provides education data through the EMIS (Education Management Information System) – this covers only formal sector schools. The EMIS is currently being redeveloped and will include school codes and more data however the focus is internal planning and it’s not yet clear how much will be publicly available. MIMU has been supporting the school mapping aspect of the platform, including gathering the coordinates of the formal sector schools of different types registered with MoE. * Education data (private and religious schools) – MIMU has township-level data from the Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture for 2017 which is made available through the MIMU website – this data is not available through other platforms. This captures data from registered monastic schools (so not all monastic schools). Similar data is not available other religious schools. No data is being collected from the many private schools around the country. * Agriculture and livestock – data is maintained by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation with S/R level data shared through CSO for the annual Statistical yearbook.   Suggestions were made re possible additional data that could usefully be included in the MIMU Baseline Data. |  |
|  | **Updates on cluster/sector/agency/national initiatives**  **MSDP monitoring** – the 12 task teams continue to meet on the finalisation of a limited number of indicators for the MSDP by end December 2018. A report has been produced by CSO of the possible options from the first round of discussions.  **EWMI-ODI**: National Partner Phandeeyar will publish a dataset related to hydropower with a note to highlight the hydropower project issues across the country. Phandeeyar has done a data mashup from different sources to map surface water across Myanmar – this includes reservoirs, irrigation dams and the existing hydro power projects as well as those which are proposed and under-construction.  The reservoirs information will be shared through the Open Development Myanmar platform. Phandeeyar is using this data to assess the changes in the surface water relating to hydro power and energy. Together with Phandeeyar and One Map, EWMI has prepared a data story about the mining sector and has been working on mapping of the EITI dataset. One Map presented this in the EITI meeting and will release the data and mapping tool on their platform, after which Phandeeyar will undertake further analysis by looking at the data.  **NRC**: One stop service (OSS) will be held on the 6th and 7th of December in Lashio, including the Information Campaign (Awareness Campaign for Housing, Land and Property activities). ICLA counselling guideline book finalizing workshop will be organized on 4th to 7th of December in Myitkyina. Also, In December, ICLA workshop will be taken in Dawei. Shelter - school and latrine renovation in Hpa-An, Hlaingbwe and Bilin, Livelihood - saving group mentoring in 5 townships (Bilin, Thaton, Kawkareik, Launglon, Min Ka Baw) will be also done in December.    **MIMU**: National coding system: ongoing work on developing the Access database and manuals and training in its use for GAD and other relevant government departments. The coding system has been agreed and the database is being populated with information from the 2015 gazette and place codes. It is hoped that the National coding system of the location framework down to the village level would be released approximately in the first quarter of 2019.  Capacity building/training: A new MIMU Excel distance learning course is starting for Ayeyarwady-based staff, and candidates have been selected for the MIMU QGIS training to be held in Yangon in mid-December (reduced from 10 to 5 days). The recent MIMU Information Management workshop was successfully delivered in Myanmar language to mixed agency and government staff – this brings participants through the IM continuum from asking the right questions at the beginning through to visualization and storage of data and information at the end. More generally, MIMU is working on making more of its training materials available online to broaden the reach to those interested to learn Excel and QGIS, however only those participating in the MIMU-delivered training programmes will receive certificates.  Surveys and Assessments: MIMU has also supported a survey for the PSEA group (Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse) to review what is already being done, available resources and gaps. The MIMU Assessment Tracking currently includes 1122 assessments reported from 76 organizations. Information on assessments and publications can be received at any time. MIMU is also contacting agencies to share updates on any recent assessments and publications by the deadline of 14th December 2018 to update the Assessment dashboard. |  |
|  | **Next Meeting:** The next scheduled IM Network meeting will be on **Wednesday, February 6th, 2019 at 3:00 pm in the MIMU**.  Possible focus on approaches to monitoring of peace projects and conflict sensitivity. |  |

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