



# Minutes of Myanmar Language Information Management Network Meeting

## 26<sup>th</sup> February 2025, 2PM MMT, online via Zoom

The meeting was conducted in Myanmar language, and this is a translation of the original minutes.

### Agenda

1. Presentation – Youth & Migration (MDO/UNDP)
2. Presentation – MIMU Pcodes Version 9.6 (MIMU)
3. Experience working on Visualising Women and Girls in Humanitarian Need 2025 Infographic (MIMU)
4. Updates on Sector/Cluster/Agency Initiatives
5. AOB and other discussions

### Attendance

Chair: Ei Ei Thein (MIMU)

Participants: ADRA, AHRN, ARC, BS, CBC, CESVI, CL, CPI, CPM, FAO, GNI, HALO, IRC, JOICFP, KMSS, MI, MIMU, MRCS, MSU, NRC, Nyein, OCHA, PPWT, RSP, SARA, SCI, UNDP, UNFPA, WVM (33 participants from 29 organisations)

### Revised Meeting Schedule in 2025

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
ENG												
MMR												

### 1. Youth & Migration (MDO/UNDP)

The Myanmar Development Observatory (MDO/UNDP) conducted a Youth & Migration research to explore the migration patterns and political, economic, and social views of youth in Myanmar through the Myanmar Youth Survey (MYS). Between June and September 2024, over 7,100 young people aged 18-35 from 15 states and regions were interviewed using the Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) method. The research examined youths' economic and educational difficulties, discrimination and security issues, gender-based violence (GBV) and women's rights, mental health concerns, and their views on the country.

Based on the data collected, four reports will be produced. The first report primarily focuses on youth migration and their attitudes towards Myanmar as a country. Other reports will detail economic and educational difficulties, issues of security and discrimination, and mental health aspects. To ensure youth voices were heard, Focus Group Discussions were conducted not only in seven states and regions of Myanmar but also in Thailand, involving 192 participants.

Findings from other studies indicated that between December 2021 and June 2023, internal and international migration accounted for 18.5% of Myanmar's total population, with 6.45 million being youth. Additionally, since the announcement of conscription laws, young people have increasingly attempted to leave the country. This youth exodus has caused labor shortages affecting businesses across Myanmar. According to the MYS findings, about 40% of youth expressed a desire to leave Myanmar, with 60% from Rakhine citing poverty as their main reason. High migration intentions were also noted in Yangon and Chin State.

With a rising number of youths contemplating leaving the country, Myanmar could face further declines in its young workforce. Reasons for migration include limited job opportunities, increased armed conflicts, human rights issues, and military conscription laws. The survey indicated youth preference for relocating to countries like

Japan, Thailand, South Korea, and Singapore. However, actual migration mostly occurred towards Thailand, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, and the USA.

Around half of the 40% who wish to migrate may do so illegally due to lack of proper travel documentation. Nevertheless, around 90% indicated they would return if political stability, security, and economic conditions in Myanmar improved. When youth were asked what improvements, they wish to see, 62% favored simultaneous advancements in democracy and the economy, 14% prioritized democracy alone, and another 14% prioritized economic growth alone.

Youth migration and political views also impact peace-building prospects. Approximately 70% believe peace can be achieved in Myanmar, though youth from Rakhine, Kachin, and Shan are more skeptical. While 66% supported the possibility of ceasefires, perceptions vary widely across different states and regions. Youth wishing to migrate abroad are less confident about peace prospects than those choosing to stay.

Regarding Myanmar's future, over 40% of youth believe that although the country is currently in a challenging situation, significant improvements will occur within five years. Youth from Rakhine, despite having the highest migration intentions, also showed the highest optimism for Myanmar's improvement. Consequently, youth migration patterns and their political perspectives are critical factors influencing the future stability and development of Myanmar.

## 2. MIMU Pcodes Version 9.6 (MIMU)

Pcodes are unique codes assigned to locations within Myanmar, ranging from village level to states and regions. The Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU) has maintained the Pcodes system since 2008. The system aims to establish a unique referencing method for locations, avoid ambiguity in naming conventions, ensure accurate documentation of data, improve the efficiency and interoperability of various datasets, and support mapping activities.

The Pcodes structure is systematically organized, beginning at the country level with “MMR” and extending down to state and region, township, and village levels. Village codes consist of a six-digit format, and both officially designated, and locally known names are recorded separately.

Within the Pcodes dataset, locations are distinguished by Active or Inactive mapping status. Locations no longer listed by the General Administration Department (GAD) are marked as inactive. Changes such as upgrading villages to wards, village deletions, transferring villages from one village tract to another, and merging two villages into a new one are documented under Change Types.

Before 2021, administrative unit changes were captured in Pcodes Version 9.6. Since then, only new villages and corrections in latitude and longitude coordinates have been added. MIMU Pcodes currently includes 66,657 villages, of which 80.8% can be accurately displayed on maps with coordinates.

MIMU collaborates with organizations implementing projects on the ground for updating Pcodes. Corrections to village names, latitudes, longitudes, and spelling can be submitted via the Pcodes Submission Form and will be updated if they align with established standards.

The [Pcodes page](#) is accessible on the MIMU website under the Data & Databases section of the navigation bar, providing access to the full Pcodes Dataset and Change History Reports. The Pcoder Tool allows automatic matching of Pcodes and verification of villages. As an integral information management system for Myanmar, Pcodes play a vital role in the management and maintenance of location-specific data.

## 3. Experience working on Visualising Women and Girls in Humanitarian Need 2025 Infographic (MIMU)

MIMU created an infographic titled "Visualising Women and Girls in Humanitarian Need 2025" to commemorate International Women's Day on March 8. The data for women and girls was derived from the Myanmar

Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan 2025 released by OCHA, recognizing that approximately 7 million women and 3 million girls, totaling around 10 million were in need to humanitarian assistance.

Maps were deemed to be ineffective due to clutter. Therefore, data was represented using points and circles on X-Y axes. Available data from HDX and HNRP dashboard was used to extract the Final Severity Score (based on JIAF methodology) and Women & Girls in Humanitarian Needs population data. Infographic design inspiration was drawn from journalistic infographics, such as those from the South China Morning Post, and the visualization was developed using Tableau Public Software. It represented township-level data with pop-up tooltips for detailed cluster data.

Due to limitations in Tableau, such as issues with font size and layout consistency, missing fonts online, and layout adjustments, additional manual text editing and design elements were completed externally using Photoshop. Filters and search functionalities were included to allow viewing by state, region, and township. For storytelling, annotations were added but to accommodate data analysts and to reduce clutter, options to view only the points and toggle annotations on or off were provided.

An essential component of the infographic was guiding users on how to interpret the data clearly. Besides providing a legend, an instruction panel (user guide) was included. A dedicated reference page was also added to prominently highlight data sources for future reference.

## 4. Updates on Sector/Cluster/Agency Initiatives

**JOICFP:** Shared project-related information during the meeting. Regardless of Registration/MOU status, a monthly invitation to attend meetings was sent out to partners. Supporting letters are required for volunteers who are not formal employees but are actively assisting the project.

**MIMU:** Currently collecting 5W information and conducting 5W Support Sessions. The deadline for submitting 5W data is March 11, after which 5W products will be sequentially released. Participants for the Basic QGIS training have been selected, and the training is scheduled for the first week of March.

## 5. AOB and other discussions

The next meeting will be tentatively in the last week of May, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025.  
Please contact [ei.ei.thein@undp.org](mailto:ei.ei.thein@undp.org) if you have anything to present or discuss.