Local Governance Mapping, Myanmar

Presentation Contents

1. Methodology & scope
2. Development priorities: data
3. Township Planning and Participation
4. Information & Transparency
5. Conclusions

Snapshot on findings from South East States/Region
Local Governance Mapping

Framework & Objectives

- 5 principles of good governance
- Map township governance structures
- Map quality of governance in key basic services
- Map interaction between state and people on planning and utilisation of development funds.
- Map extent of access to information, transparency and accountability at township level and below.
- Provide a baseline for government and DPs to identify capacity development needs & next steps of local governance reforms
Local Governance Mapping
Methodology

**SE: 1500 citizens/500 service providers (Random sampling)**
- Citizen Report Card
- Community Dialogue
- Service providers interviews

**SE: 30 sample communities (Purposive sampling)**

**SE: 15 sample townships (Purposive sampling)**

**Township Background Study**

**Validation workshop at State level**

**State of Local Governance Reports**
Major Development Issues
Major development issues in the SE
As perceived by people

- Variations in perceived major problems across 4 SE States/Regions.
- **Poor roads** (26%) in Mon
- **No electricity** (24%) in Kayin
- **Water** (26/25%) in Kayah and Tanintharyi.

![Bar chart showing the percentage of each issue in different regions.]

What is the most important problem in the village tract/ward?

- [ ] No problem
- [ ] Poor roads
- [ ] Not enough jobs
- [ ] Poor health
- [ ] Poor education
- [ ] No electricity
- [ ] No access to clean water
- [ ] National average

- [ ] 5%
- [ ] 7%
- [ ] 8%
- [ ] 12%
- [ ] 16%
- [ ] 26%
- [ ] 26%
- [ ] 17%
- [ ] 14%
- [ ] 8%
- [ ] 26%
- [ ] 13%
- [ ] 2%
Changes in the safety and security situation
As perceived by people

- Perception in improved security situation is significant.
- Safety perception comparable to national average across SE with Mon and Tanintharyi even doing better.

In general, do you feel safe in your village tract/ward at the moment?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Safe</th>
<th>Neither safe nor unsafe</th>
<th>Unsafe</th>
<th>Don't know/refused to comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>93%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayah</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayin</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanintharyi</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National average</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Overall improvements made by the government
As perceived by people

- **Education** services perceived to be improved in Mon and Kayin and better roads in Kayah and Tanintharyi are the most important improvements made by government.

- A similar story at the national level

What are the most important improvements made by government over the last three years?

![Bar chart showing improvements by region and category]
### Education Improvement/ SE as reported by the people

- **Majority of people reported an improvement in the education services**

- **Three of SE States/Region are reporting improved education above the national average perception.**

- **Reasons for improvements:** new or improved primary school / more teachers / improvement in attitude of teachers.

#### Have the primary education services in your village tract/ward improved, worsened or stayed more or less the same over the last three years?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Improved</th>
<th>Stayed More or Less the Same</th>
<th>Worsened</th>
<th>Don't Know/Refused to Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayah</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayin</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanintharyi</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National average</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- *Improved*
- *Stayed more or less the same*
- *Worsened*
- *Don't know/refused to comment*
If one of your household members requires medical attention, where do you usually go?

- **Private health facility** usage is dominant in Mon, Kayin and Tanintharyi and public facility in Kayah.

- **Private health facility** usage is dominant in urban areas across the 4 SE states/regions.
Health Improvement as reported by the people

- Perception of improvement in **health services is lower than education** (mirrored at national level)

- Overall in all states +50% of people perceive health service improvements, highest in Kayah and Kayin (66/67%)

- **Reasons for improvements:** improved health facility buildings/ more staff, more medical supplies/ reduced cost and improved attitude of staff.

- 96-97% perceived no discrimination in access to services across SE states/regions.
Quality of Water Supply as reported by the people

- Positive change was **least noticed** by people in access to water.
- Perception of change are similar between Mon and Tanintharyi and between Kayin and Kayah

Has water supply in your village tract/ward improved, worsened or stayed more or less the same over the last three years?

- **Mon**
  - Improved: 27%
  - Stayed more or less the same: 66%
  - Worsened: 6%

- **Kayah**
  - Improved: 33%
  - Stayed more or less the same: 57%
  - Worsened: 10%

- **Kayin**
  - Improved: 31%
  - Stayed more or less the same: 63%
  - Worsened: 7%

- **Tanintharyi**
  - Improved: 26%
  - Stayed more or less the same: 53%
  - Worsened: 21%

- **National average**
  - Improved: 33%
  - Stayed more or less the same: 58%
  - Worsened: 9%
Township Development Planning and Participation
Acutors responsible for solving the problems
According to people and the WA/VTAs

- People view **Ward/Village Tract Administrator and the State or Union Government** as responsible for solving problems in the village tract/ward by people.

- Ward/Village Tract Administrator hold the State/Region or Union Government, or the Township administration responsible.

Who is first of all responsible to solve the most important problem in your village tract or ward?

- 10/100 Household heads
- Members of community together
- Township administration
- State/Region or Union Government
- The VTA/WA
Knowledge of names of governance actors as reported by the people

- In general, most well known amongst people are the Ward/Village Tract Administrator and the President of Myanmar.

- Knowledge of elected members of the Hluttaw comparatively low.

- Women are less familiar with the names of the authorities.
Township Development Support Committee (TDSC) and Township Municipal Affairs Committee (TMAC) – (Pres. Notif. 27/2013; 14 S/R municipal laws)

- **TDSC** (gov. & “elected” representatives of interest groups/ consultative for TA & TSP affairs)
- **TMAC** (gov. & “elected” representatives/ executive role for municipal services & consultative/ own revenues & budget)
- Committees to reflect people’s priorities while selection process of the representatives of Committees remains unclear. No women members in the Township Committees in SE.
- TDSC and TMAC mandates remain unclear in practice. TDSC engagement in planning of development funds varies (very active in Kayah rather weak in Kayin/ in Mon some executive function)
Knowledge of the Development Committees as reported by the people

- A very small percentage is aware of any township level committee
- However Mon fares better than other States/Regions

Do you know any committee at the township level in which citizens participate?

- Mon: 8%
- Kayah: 3%
- Kayin: 3%
- Tanintharyi: 3%
- National average: 4%
• People perceive mostly the traditional role of the WA/VTA but a small percentage have begun to see their role in consultation and information provision.

• WA/VTAs continue to emphasize their role in ensuring peace and security, but also highlight new roles including information provision.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What are the most important functions of the Village Tract Administrator?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ensure peace and security in the village</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mediate when there are conflicts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bring village problems to the township administration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consult and involve villagers in decisionmaking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensure that people participate in community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide villagers with information and directives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law enforcement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth and death registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collect taxes or village contributions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
People’s participation

In village tract/ward meetings and consultations

- Participation levels have a large range. 39% of people in Mon to 63% in Tanintharyi (“sometimes” participate in community meetings.

- 18-25% of people in SE States/Region have been invited to a meeting about development projects or problems in their village – comparable to national average.
Information, Transparency and Accountability
Information from administration on new projects in the Village Tract/Ward as reported by the people and WA/VTAs

- Overall citizens feel that the township administration is **not providing them with enough information** about development projects in the village tract/ward.

Is the township administration informing you enough about the plans it has for new projects in your village tract/ward regarding e.g. schools, roads, health facilities, etc.? – asked to WA/VTA and to citizens

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Yes (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayah</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kayin</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taninthary</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National average</strong></td>
<td><strong>24%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Perception gap on information provision**

- 25%
- 83
Sources of information on laws & directives as reported by the people

- **Rural areas:** 10/100 HH followed by VTA appear to be the most important sources of information in Kayah, Kayin and Tanintharyi and friends/family followed by 10/100 household heads in Mon.

- **Urban areas:** people rely on electronic sources of information-TV

If there are new laws or directives from the government, how would you usually learn about them?
Complaints/Dispute Resolution
First port of call

• The Ward/Village Tract Administrator is the first person to be consulted in case of a dispute related to land for majority of the people in SE states/region.

• SE data almost comparable to national average.

If you would have a dispute about a plot of land for farming with someone else in your village/ward (for example you both claim ownership of a piece of land), who would you approach first for assistance to resolve this dispute?

- Mon: 59% WA/VTA, 4% 10/100 household heads, 10% Agricultural staff, 5% Township Administrator, 2% Friends or relatives, 1% The magistrate or court, 1% Village elders, 4% Religious leaders
- Kayah: 50% WA/VTA, 37% 10/100 household heads, 10% Agricultural staff, 5% Township Administrator, 2% Friends or relatives, 1% The magistrate or court, 1% Village elders, 4% Religious leaders
- Kayin: 69% WA/VTA, 21% 10/100 household heads, 2% Agricultural staff, 1% Township Administrator, 1% Friends or relatives, 1% The magistrate or court, 1% Village elders, 4% Religious leaders
- Tanintharyi: 57% WA/VTA, 40% 10/100 household heads, 1% Agricultural staff, 1% Township Administrator, 2% Friends or relatives, 1% The magistrate or court, 1% Village elders, 4% Religious leaders
- National average (phase I and II only): 63% WA/VTA, 23% 10/100 household heads, 3% Agricultural staff, 1% Township Administrator, 1% Friends or relatives, 1% The magistrate or court, 1% Village elders, 4% Religious leaders
Some concluding points

- Participatory mechanism through committees (TMAC/TDSC) are starting to take root but still little known among broader population/ issues on representativeness, mandate and clarity of role and functions to be addressed.

- Pivotal role of VTA/ WA (elected & first interface with government) / emphasis still on “law & order” role but hv mandate for “consultation and information sharing”

- VTA/WA can become avenue for strengthening key governance elements (broad participation/ information sharing) & bridge between communities and TSP/ will need capacity development to grow into multiple functions (elections)
Some concluding points

- Information to the people on development plans and projects & functioning of TSP administration needs to be shared more systematically/ People ask for more information by government on “what is in store” for their wards, villages.

- Space to enhance communication and consultation between MPs and electorates.

- Planning at TSP level highly centralized/ TAs struggling with coordination & difficulties to gain horizontal overview on gaps and priorities across sectors/ Weak linkages to existing discretionary funds, while funds do provide space for more genuine bottom up planning & transparency
Thank you for listening!

All 14 states/regions reports @ UNDP website/local-governance mapping