



Myanmar: Economic Empowerment of the Poor and Women in the East-West Economic Corridor

Project Name	Economic Empowerment of the Poor and Women in the East-West Economic Corridor
Project Number	48322-001
Country	Myanmar
Project Status	Active
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Grant
Source of Funding / Amount	Grant 9184-MYA: Economic Empowerment of the Poor and Women in the East-West Economic Corridor Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction US\$ 3.00 million
Strategic Agendas	Inclusive economic growth
Drivers of Change	Knowledge solutions Partnerships
Sector / Subsector	Public sector management - Public administration
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	Gender equity
Description	The project will support micro and small enterprise (MSE) development, and increased employment and economic opportunities for the poor and women selling crafts and local food to tourists and residents in the East West Economic Corridor (EWEC). The project locations are Chaungzon Island, Kyaikhto Mawlamyine, and Mudon_four townships in Mon state. The project comprises an integrated approach to enable microentrepreneurs to access technical training, skills in business management, appropriate technology, finance, and markets to build competitive and sustainable businesses and contribute to reducing household poverty.
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	Myanmar is classified as a low human development country; the 2014 Human Development Report ranks it 150th of 187 countries. Approximately 26% of the population lives in poverty. Poverty is gendered, and concentrated in rural areas and among some ethnic groups. A key objective of the government's development agenda is to attain sustainable inclusive growth, job creation, and poverty reduction. The government's current 5-year National Development Plan emphasizes transition from predominantly low-productive agriculture to higher-value products by promoting micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises and trade, as one channel to facilitate inclusive growth. In Myanmar, micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises account for 90% of all business and are the largest source of employment, accounting for 70% of the total workforce. Investing in their development is, therefore, essential for inclusive growth and poverty reduction.
Impact	The project is aligned with the government's priority to create jobs and generate income to reduce poverty. (Government of Myanmar.2012. Framework for Economic and Social Reforms, 2012_2015. Yangon; and Government of Myanmar. 2014. National Comprehensive Development Plan _ A Prosperous Nation Integrated Into the Global Community 2030. Yangon.)

Project Outcome

Description of Outcome	The outcome will be MSEs are enabled to increase business activities and employment in project areas.
Progress Toward Outcome	
Implementation Progress	

Description of Project Outputs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Skills and management capacity of MSEs and their employees developed 2. Access to business services, credit, and commercial networks strengthened 3. Infrastructure to support access to markets and processing facilities improved 4. Capacity of executing and implementing agencies, and key stakeholders enhanced
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	
Geographical Location	

Safeguard Categories

Environment	C
Involuntary Resettlement	C
Indigenous Peoples	B

Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects

Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	
During Project Design	
During Project Implementation	

Business Opportunities

Consulting Services	11 consultants for 217 person-months
Procurement	National competitive bidding (2 contracts) (Civil works for market and processing facility) \$0.65 million Shopping (8 contracts) \$0.17 million

Responsible Staff

Responsible ADB Officer	Dina, Stefania
Responsible ADB Department	Southeast Asia Department
Responsible ADB Division	Myanmar Resident Mission
Executing Agencies	<i>Ministry of Hotels and Tourism TOURISMMYANMAR.ORG@GMAIL.COM Building No. 33, Nay Pyi Taw, Union of Myanmar</i>

Timetable

Concept Clearance	07 Nov 2014
Fact Finding	31 Mar 2015 to 08 Apr 2015
MRM	-
Approval	15 Dec 2015
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	24 Nov 2015

Grant 9184-MYA

Milestones

Approval	Signing Date	Effectivity Date	Closing		
			Original	Revised	Actual
15 Dec 2015	17 May 2016	17 Aug 2016	30 Jun 2020	-	-

Financing Plan			Grant Utilization			
	Total (Amount in US\$ million)		Date	ADB	Others	Net Percentage
Project Cost	3.45	Cumulative Contract Awards				
ADB	0.00	15 Dec 2015	0.00	0.70	23%	
Counterpart	0.45	Cumulative Disbursements				
Cofinancing	3.00	15 Dec 2015	0.00	0.69	23%	

Project Page <https://www.adb.org/projects/48322-001/main>

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