

Call for paper

Towards a sustainable future in Myanmar

Conference at the Yangon University of Economics

30 May 2020

Language: English

Organized by

Association of Development Studies, Myanmar

Yangon University of Economics

Socio-Economic and Gender Resource Institute (SEGRI)

Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)

Supported by

International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada

In commemoration of the 100th year anniversary of Yangon University of Economics

Participation: Free of charge Lunch will be served (only for those who registered beforehand)

Towards a sustainable future in Myanmar.

Myanmar has seen profound socio-economic changes in the past decade. Myanmar's Human Development Index (HDI) value increased from 0.349 to 0.584 between 1990 and 2018[1]. Life expectancy at birth increased by 10.0 years, mean years of schooling increased by 2.5 years. Gross National Income per capita increased by about 689.1 percent during the same period. However, loss of HDI value due to inequality is 23.2 percent for 2018, which is higher than the East Asia and the Pacific average of 16.6 percent. Myanmar's Gender Inequality Index (GII) that shows gender-based inequalities in reproductive health, empowerment and economic activity, is 0.458, ranking it 106 out of 162 countries in 2018. UNDP's Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) shows that 38.3% of the population is living under multidimensional poverty, which is the highest in Southeast Asia. Multiple studies by the government shows that vulnerability is increasing: Total amount of land illegally confiscated in 2016 amounted to 2 million acres according to the government's farmers' affairs committee[2]; Ministry of Home Affairs report shows that sexual violence against women has been increasing year by year[3]. Poverty and vulnerability is pushing people out of the country, as seen in the 2014 census that recorded over 2 million people migrating to other countries and internal migration is increasing[4].

This conference calls for researchers doing empirical studies on Myanmar to share cutting edge knowledge and grassroots research on contemporary development issues in Myanmar. Perspectives on Myanmar's development path is of interest to national and international academicians, policy makers, donors and development practitioners alike because of its ethnic diversity, complex history and political changes

[1] http://hdr.undp.org/sites/all/themes/hdr_theme/country-notes/MMR.pdf%20%20

[2] <https://www.dw.com/en/myanmar-land-ownership-law-could-displace-millions-of-farmers/a-47740259%203%20>

[3] <https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/efforts-needed-end-violence-women-myanmar.html>

[4] <https://www.ilo.org/yangon/areas/labour-migration/lang--en/index.htm>

as well as its potential for economic growth, dynamic social changes, its rich human resources, and the various development initiatives that provide rich learning experiences for the region and beyond. Researchers in Myanmar continue to contribute to evidence-based policy and program recommendations and advocacies for sustainable development of the country.

This conference calls for presentations that are based on concerns for development in Myanmar and holding firm values in contributing to better policy and society. Towards this aim, we are calling for presentations on the following topics:

- Gender and development
- Economic development
- Enterprise development and local livelihood
- Violence against women
- Ethnic diversity
- Inequality and justice
- Land governance
- Health
- Political participation
- Media
- Labor issues
- Urbanization
- Agriculture and fisheries
- Environment
- Community development
- Others

The conference will have a keynote speaker (TBA) followed by parallel panel sessions. We also welcome poster presentations.

For those who are interested to present (oral/ poster), please submit the followings to devconference@ait.ac.th. The deadline for submission is **10 April 2020**.

- Title of Paper
- Abstract (300-500 words: including background of study, methods used, findings, and implications)
- Name of author(s), designations, institution names, and contact emails.
- Presenter(s) and their email addresses
- Preference of oral or poster presentation
- Please submit MS WORD format. The name of the file must include the title of the paper and the corresponding author name. (eg. Thant. Migrant Workers Housing)

The abstracts will be assessed by the scientific committee and the results will be informed by 21 April 2020.

This conference is part of the IDRC funded project on “Building policy research capacity in Myanmar”.

For inquiries, please send email to devconference@ait.ac.th

Organizers:

Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) is a regional graduate school located in Thailand. Visit website: www.ait.ac.th

Socio-Economic and Gender Resource Institute (SEGRI) is an organization that provides research and capacity building in the area of socio-economic and gender issues. Visit website: www.segrimyanmar.com/

Yangon University of Economics (YUE) is a State University under the Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education. Visit website: www.yueco.edu.mm

Association of Development Studies, Myanmar is an alumni association of master of development studies, Yangon University of Economics.