Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business





July 2017 eNews Update

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Practical workshop on 'Building Business Integrity', 2 August

MCRB, in partnership with UNODC, is organising a peer-to-peer workshop for Myanmar companies to address the opportunities for companies to combat corruption individually and collectively. This practical workshop aims to help owners and managers of businesses in Myanmar who want to resist corrupt practices and reduce exposure to the risks that corruption can pose.



Mini Sector-Wide Impact Assessment (SWIA) on Oil Palm Sector in Tanintharyi Region

Building on the work of civil society organisations on the social impacts of the oil

palm sector, as well as <u>Fauna & Flora</u> <u>International's</u> (FFI) research on the environmental impacts of the sector, and the work which One Map Myanmar (OMM) is doing to map oil palm concessions, MCRB has commenced work on an assessment of actual and potential environmental, social and human rights impacts of the oil palm sector in Myanmar.

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Submission to the Hluttaw on the Bill concerning Artisanal Oil Production

MCRB made a written submission in Burmese to the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw Joint Bill Committee on the Artisanal Oil Production Bill. MCRB's submission highlighted seven concerns which were focussed on simplifying the proposed complicated licensing process for artisanal oil drilling and production to meet the local context of artisanal oil workers.

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MCRB joins Coalition for Telecom Law Reform on Advocacy Trip to Naypyidaw

Wai Phyo Myint, MCRB's Regional Outreach Manager and another 10 organisations representing the 22 organisations in the **Coalition for Telecoms Law Reform and the Abolition of Article 66(d)** visited Naypyidaw to meet with Minister of Transport and Communications HE U Thant Sin Maung, senior Telecoms Ministry officials and, later, 11 members of the Amyotha Hluttaw Bill Committee. The coalition is seeking the removal of Article 66(d) from the Telecoms Law, as well as amendment to other provisions of the law with potential for impacts on the right to freedom of expression.

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Roundtable Between Myanmar CSOs and the Caux Roundtable Japan

MCRB hosted a discussion between the Caux Roundtable (CRT) Japan and trade union and labour rights activists, organisations working on other business and human rights issues. The roundtable was an opportunity for organisations to raise concerns that CRT could convey to Japanese businesses.

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Presentation on corporate disclosure at the Yangon Stock Exchange

Vicky Bowman, MCRB Director gave a presentation at an event hosted at the Yangon Stock Exchange and by the Securities and Exchange Commission of Myanmar and the International Finance Corporation (IFC) on `Enhancing Corporate Transparency: trends and business case on transparent reporting and ongoing disclosure'.





Consultation on Discrimination and Business in Myanmar

MCRB held a consultation in Yangon to receive feedback and engage in discussion on the draft Discrimination and Business in Myanmar Briefing paper. Over 50 people, representing a wide range of stakeholders, attended the consultation.

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2nd Community and Tourism Conference in Nay Pyi Taw

MCRB, Myanmar Responsible Tourism Initiative (MRTI) and Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) cohosted a second Communities and Tourism Conference, attended by 120 participants. The conference was organised to promote learning from the successful projects in Myanmar which are already up and running, and inspire the development of new community tourism products.

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Conference paper on gender and hydropower

The WLE programs have now published their International Conference Proceedings, *Mekong*, *Salween and Red Rivers: Sharing Knowledge and Perspectives Across Borders.* MCRB's Hnin Wut Yee contributed a research on "Implications on Women's Lives and Livelihoods: A Case Study of Villages to Be Affected by the Mongton Dam Project in Shan State".

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