



August 2017 eNews Update

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Practical workshop on 'Building Business Integrity'

MCRB and the UN Office of Drugs and Crime co-hosted a workshop for businesses to identify practical ways to enhance business integrity, resist corrupt practices and reduce exposure to the risks that corruption can pose, through internal practices and collective action. Around 60 participants attended, mostly from Myanmar companies.

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DFID continues to fund MCRB via DaNa Facility

MCRB and DaNa Facility have signed a two-year grant agreement, involving approximately USD 1.2 million for 2017-18, to encourage responsible business activities across the country. According to Peter Brimble, Team Leader for DaNa, MCRB program complements DaNa initiatives to reform the business

environment at national and sub-national levels, as well as to collaborate with the private sector.

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Responsible Business and CSR: What matters is Not 'how much?' but 'how?'

Vicky Bowman spoke about responsible business conduct and building a social licence to operate at a two-day seminar on 'Good Practice Social Considerations for Public and Private Developments' organised by the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA). Vicky's stressed the importance of distinguishing between the voluntary and obligatory aspects of responsible business conduct as well as highlighting the difference between "how much will the company spend on CSR?" and "how will the company be responsible and create shared value?"

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MCRB completes first leg of the field research on oil palm sector

MCRB has completed the first leg of the field research on oil palm sector. MCRB research team travelled to Tanintharyi Region to visit oil palm plantations, talk to managers, supervisors and plantation workers. This month, the team is going back to the region to focus on communities affected by oil palm concessions.

MCRB is interested in hearing from companies, international organisations, NGOs and civil society who are interested in the oil palm sector in Myanmar.



Beach sandmining in Ngwesaung

MCRB visited Patheingyi for a discussion of the problems of beach sand mining in Ngwesaung with the Township General Administration Department head and a number of Patheingyi township officials, including from Ngwesaung and Chaungtha. The meeting was held at the

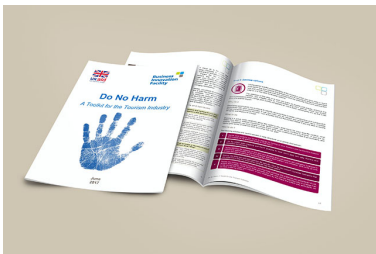
invitation of Patheingyi GAD after MCRB had submitted letters to the office of the State Counsellor, and to the Anti-Corruption Commission, following the observation of continuous sand mining on the beaches around Ngwesaung Yacht Club.

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Comments on the draft By-laws for the 2015 Protection of the Rights of National Races Law

MCRB continues working on the comments on the second draft of the by-laws for the 2015 Protection of the Rights of National Races Law. MCRB provided input focusing on provisions related to protecting rights of ethnic peoples from impact of businesses to be operated or operating in ethnic areas.



Do No Harm: A Toolkit for the Tourism Industry

'Do No Harm' toolkit has been developed for businesses, not-for-profit and government organisations that directly or indirectly supply goods or services to the tourism, travel and hospitality industries in Myanmar. The toolkit, in English and Burmese was published by the Business Innovation Facility, funded by UKAid in Myanmar.

[Read more](#)

