



MCRB eNewsletter - November 2018

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MCRB Publishes Briefing Paper on Biodiversity, Human Rights and Business

MCRB has published a Briefing Paper intended to help business, civil society and government understand how investments can negatively impact biodiversity and thereby affect human rights, in particular the right to livelihood. The Paper and sectoral supplements on the extractives, tourism, and agriculture provide practical recommendations to companies and sources of further information and contacts.

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MCRB to partner with the 2020 Doing Good Index

MCRB has signed an MoU with the Centre for Asian Philanthropy and Society ([CAPS](#)) to be the research partner for Myanmar for the second edition of the [Doing Good Index](#) (DGI2020) to be published in January 2020. MCRB is interested in corporate governance issues concerning

philanthropic giving by companies, including business integrity, tax and transparency, as well as the regulatory framework for social enterprise and other organisations receiving such funding.

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Coming soon: Seminar for business on Combatting Corruption, 5 December

As part of our series of [Responsible Business Seminar](#), MCRB, UMFCCI, Telenor and Coke will hold a workshop on business integrity and combatting corruption on 5 December together with speakers from the Anti-Corruption Commission and DICA. This seminar will discuss [recent developments in Myanmar](#) including the Anti-Corruption Commission's Notification 4/2018.



EU's Trade Relations with Myanmar

John Morrison, Chief Executive of the Institute for Human Rights and Business (IHRB), one of MCRB's co-founder organisations sent an open letter to the European Union (EU) Commissioner for Trade Cecilia Malmström, highlighting the relevant recommendations concerning business, and targeted sanctions contained in the [Independent International Fact-Finding Mission \(IFFM\) on Myanmar](#), which reported to the United Nations in September 2018.

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Links between Business, Human Rights and the Environment for Asia's Legal Professionals

Vicky Bowman, MCRB Director, spoke at the plenary session and on a panel at the [31st LAWASIA conference](#) Siem Reap, Cambodia from 3-5 November, attended by over 450 lawyers, mostly from commercial practice, from throughout the Asia region. Her remarks focused on MCRB's work on [Biodiversity, Human Rights](#)

[and Business](#) grievance mechanisms and transparency.

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Building Understanding of EIA and Responsible Business in Shan State

MCRB, Metta Development Foundation and Environmental Conservation and Farmer Development Organization (Shan), held a workshop on EIA in Taunggyi on 3-4 October for civil society organisations from southern Shan State to follow up an [earlier introductory workshop in June](#), and a further similar workshop in Kengtung. Speakers in Taunggyi included Apache Cement/Shwetaung, and Myanmar Environmental Assessment Association.

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Child Labour in the Fishing Sector

Hnin Wut Yee presented MCRB's work on children's rights and business including the 2017 Briefing Paper on "[Children's Rights and Business](#)" at the launch of Japanese NGO's Human Rights Now's report on [Child Labour in the Myanmar Fishing Sector](#) on 17 October in Yangon.

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Evaluation of MCRB's work 2013-2018

The recent independent evaluation of MCRB is available on our website. Thank you to those who made inputs.

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