Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business







Can you live for a day without data?

On 30th September, Myanmar Digital Rights Forum organisers MIDO, MCRB, Phandeeyar and FEM, are organising a 'Myanmar Internet Blackout Day 101' to show solidarity with over 600,000 people in Rakhine who have had no access to the internet for 101 days!

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Avoiding culture clash at work in Myanmar

MCRB and Ministry of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations (MIFER) and Directorate of Investment and Company Administration (DICA) launched a new cartoon guide on 5 September. "Respecting Myanmar Culture in the Workplace" aims to help foreigners understand Myanmar culture and avoid misunderstandings in the workplace and with local communities. The guide is available online, in English, Chinese and Myanmar with other languages planned, and in hardcopy from MCRB and DICA.

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Early advice to investors necessary to protect biodiversity

MCRB held a workshop on 27 August with Environmental Conservation Department (ECD) for their staff working on EIAs together with other Ministries involved in investment permitting. Training built on MCRB's published set of briefing papers on Biodiversity, Human Rights and Business (now available in both English and Myanmar), including DICA and ECD's role in promoting responsible investment, and how to align this with screening for the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Procedure.

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How can business promote LGBT+ Equality?

On 28/29 August, MCRB, IHRB and Colors Rainbow held a two-day conference on how business is promoting LGBT+ equality in Myanmar and the region, and the prospects for legal reform. 60 participants including around 20 companies, international lawyers, and the LGBT+ community attended.

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Training for Kyaukphyu communities on EIA

In partnership with the Scholar Institute on 29 August, MCRB trained around 20 community members in Kyaukphyu on responsible business and public participation in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs). Discussion focussed on two planned projects in Kyaukphyu township, the Special Economic Zone (SEZ)/Deep Sea Port, and the separate Offshore Supply Base (OSB), and how effective public consultations using the draft <u>Myanmar EIA public participation</u> <u>guidelines</u> could lead to projects with minimal negative impacts. The EIA for the <u>planned OSB</u> <u>in Ngayokekaung</u> was shared as an example, so that community members would understand the purpose and structure of an EIA.

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Dissemination on Pwint Thit Sa Myanmar version

One of the most downloaded MCRB reports, Pwint Thit Sa (also known as Transparency in Myanmar; TiME) is now available in Myanmar Language. MCRB and Yever have disseminated to stakeholders; Government, Companies and Organizations.



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