



HELVETAS

MYANMAR



SECOND STATE/REGIONAL LEVEL MULTI-STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION ON DEVELOPING A MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE WISE USE OF THE GULF OF MOTTAMA

January 23-24, 2017, Mawlamyine

WORKSHOP REPORT

June 2017

1. BACKGROUND

On January 23-24, 2017 in Mawlamyine, as part of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) Community-Led Coastal Management in the Gulf of Mottama Project (CLCMGoMP), the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MONREC) and the project consortium, comprising HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation (HELVETAS), the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Network Activities Group (NAG), and Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association (BANCA), organised the second at state/region consultation workshop on developing a management plan for the wise use of the Gulf of Mottama (GoM).

This consultation followed the first one held in Mawlamyine in May 2016. It had three objectives:

1. Validation of the values and threats to the GoM;
2. Identification of the short and long-term management objectives for the GOM; and
3. Discussion of the institutional arrangements for managing the GoM.

The workshop brought together 45 representatives from the Mon State and Bago Region governments, the Nature and Wildlife Conservation Division (NWCD) of MONREC, Mawlamyine University, Myanmar Fisheries Federation, local communities, and local and international NGOs.

The agenda and participants list are in **Annex 1 and 2** respectively. Contact details are in **Annex 5**.

2. OPENING REMARKS: DAY 1

H.E. Dr. Min Kyi Win, Mon State MONREC Minister

The minister emphasized the need for multi-level collaboration involving all relevant stakeholders to ensure the conservation and a sustainable management of the gulf. Globally, he pointed out, there has been increasing focus on improved natural resource management, including the need for more effective law enforcement, and this is needed in the gulf for present and future generation.

There is increasing international recognition of the conservation and human use values of the gulf, and its imminent designation as a Ramsar site, because of its role as a major feeding site for migratory shorebirds, the productivity of its fisheries that are fed by nutrients from three major river systems, the very large mud flats that reduce the risk of natural disasters, the 150 villages are depend on the gulf directly and indirectly for their livelihoods, and the gulf's potential for nature-based tourism given its proximity to Yangon.

The gulf also faces many threats, both human and natural. These include over-fishing, resulting in reduced fish catch, fish stocks, and fish size, low agricultural yields, water pollution from agrochemicals and upstream industries, and particularly in Bago Region river bank and coastal erosion, resulting in significant loss of farmland, loss of jobs, and increased poverty.

The minister supported the establishment of Mon State Wetlands Management Committee specifically for the gulf and the importance of completing a management plan. He presented the draft membership and ToR of the wetlands management committee and announced that the Mon State government had sent a letter to the Union MONREC Minister on January 9 requesting the designation of a Ramsar site in Kyaikheto and Bilin Townships. See map in **Annex 3**.

Markus Bruehl, SDC

Markus noted the value of the GoM to both local communities and the world given its critical importance for the survival of the Spoon billed sandpiper. As the minister stated, in addressing threats to the gulf, it is essential to engage the whole gulf: Mon State and Bago and Yangon Regions and multiple levels of participation. Humans are the cause of many of the problems and consequently need to be part of the solution. SDC will support the project to achieve the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in the gulf through the diversification of livelihoods and improvement of incomes and food security.

Markus explained that the project, while presently focusing Mon State and Bago Region, will expand to include Yangon Region in a later phase and encouraged the designation of the Ramsar site as a reflection of effective cooperation between government, NGOs, local communities, and other stakeholders.

Jake Bruner, Head, Indo-Burma Group, IUCN

Jake said that the effective management of the gulf was like a three legged stool, requiring a management plan, a management committee, and an international label such as Ramsar. Together, these three pillars provide the foundation for the effective management of, and continued international engagement in the gulf. In the absence of one pillar, the stool will fall over and we will not succeed.

It's heartening to see that progress has been made with all three pillars, including the Ramsar designation, which the project, and particularly BANCA, has been advocating for over three years. When designated, the Ramsar site in the northern two townships of Mon State will be Myanmar's fourth and the first outside of a protected area—an important precedent for other sites in the gulf and for Myanmar's 50 or so other wetlands of international importance.

3. PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

U Than Htike Aung, Project Manager, HELVETAS

THA identified key threats to both livelihoods and ecology of the GoM: high levels of household debt, dry season water shortages, weak community cohesion, inward and outward migration, landlessness, fish stock declines, and lack of effective Department of Fisheries (DoF) support, particularly for improved fisheries management.

However, THA pointed out that with the new government that took power in May 2016 a window of opportunity has emerged to support fundamental improvements in natural resources management in the gulf. Immediate ways to improve livelihoods include investments in dry season water supply by building water ponds, affordable credit, and improved value chains for local agricultural products (e.g., paddy and green grains).

U Thant Zin Phy, Program Officer, NAG

TZP highlighted the extraordinary dynamism of the gulf and the stratification of its mudflats into high, mid, and low elevation areas that are submerged 2-3 days/month, 6-9 days/month, and every day, respectively. These differences drive differences in the benthic fauna that support differences in the fish, crab, and bird distribution and abundance.

TZP reported that between January 2014 and February 2016, parts of the Bago Region coastline retreated 3.5 km because of the very powerful wave action that currently affects the west side of the gulf. New land is being accreted in Mon State, but this is subject to diking, draining, and conversion to paddy in ways that are likely to benefit the wealthier families.

Crab collection happens in 30-40 villages and the project will study how to improve the productivity and sustainability of crab collecting as a pro-poor livelihood. The peak season is December-February when fishing is lean and fishing families are vulnerable to money lenders that charge interest rates of up to 15%/month.

TZP pointed that in Bago Region fisheries are primarily freshwater in the river floodplains (*inn*): 689 *inn* leases have been issued in Bago Region vs. 29 in Mon State where coastal fisheries are much more important. The project has documented an indigenous form of aquaculture in Bago Region that appears sustainable but is only possible for families with paddy.

Eleven villages in upper gulf have been surveyed for fish spawning and migration. Spawning periods are summarized below:

Species	Period
Hilsa	April-May
Croaker	July-August
Mango	June
Mullet	March-June

We now have a better understanding of the importance of the area above the Sittaung Bridge for fish spawning and the productivity of the gulf's fisheries. It indicates the need for project interventions in freshwater areas upstream to address possible threats to spawning grounds and migration routes.

Interviews with fishers confirm the decline in fisheries, with catches down by 30%-70% and the numbers of fishers in some villagers down by up to 80%.

U Pyae Phyo Aung, Program Manager, BANCA

Phyolay reported on progress with the Ramsar nomination and eleventh meeting of the Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force that was held in Mawlamyine on January 16-18 before and was preceded by a 5-day shorebird survey by 20 international scientists. An indicator of the gulf's global conservation value is that six of the 19 shorebirds present are assessed by IUCN as globally threatened: one is Critically Endangered, two are Endangered, and three are Vulnerable.

Dr San Tha Tun, Head, Department of Marine Sciences, University of Mawlamyine

STT presented the initial results of research by three MS students on fishing by the 40 or so small and medium sized boats in Kyaikhto Township, mud crab collection in Bilin Township, and the distribution of mangroves in Paung and Thaton Townships.

U Tint Wai, Project Coordinator, IUCN

TW presented a summary of research findings for the GoM. These show the importance to the local economy of non-fishing income including labor, particularly for horticulture, crab collection, and seasonal migration domestically or to Thailand. He pointed out the very low levels of education with 78% of the population having only primary education.

TW reported that the major threat to the fisheries posed by the fence (*than za gar*) nets that trap huge volumes of juvenile fish, thereby blocking recovery of fish stocks. He said that of the 15-20 commercially important fish species in the gulf, hilsa has shown the fastest decline, perhaps because it is a long-range migrant and therefore particularly vulnerability to nets, dikes, and other barriers on the Sittaung and Bilin Rivers. (Although not discussed at the consultation, Bangladesh has introduced a successful hilsa recovery plan that involves paying fishers not to fish in the 3-month closed season.)

4. MANAGEMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK

Dr. Scott Perkin, Head of IUCN's Natural Resources Group based at IUCN's Asia Regional Office in Bangkok, presented the preliminary framework for the management plan, including the draft goal, long and short-term objectives, and examples of possible activities.

The participants broke into three working groups, covering project staff, Bago Region, and Mon State, to first validate the GoM's key values and threats to which the management plan needs to respond. The feedback from the three groups is summarized below.

#1 Project staff

Values	Threats	Challenges
Ecological		
1. Sand 2. Mud flats 3. Migratory birds 4. Fish resources 5. Mangroves 6. Edible non-timber products	1. Sand mine/production 2. Bird hunting 3. illegal and destructive fishing 4. Mangrove loss 5. Water pollution	1. Poverty 2. Limited knowledge and awareness 3. No alternative livelihoods 4. Weak enforcement 5. Political power behind industry practices allowing pollution
Socio-economic		
1. Agriculture 2. Fisheries and aquaculture 3. Industrial development 4. Tourism and recreation 5. Religion 6. Culture	1. Low agriculture yields 2. Depletion of fish stock and catch 3. Water contamination and pollution 4. Unsustainable income from tourism 5. Extensive agricultural land loss 6. Migration 7. Local debt and high interest rates	1. Limited freshwater supply 2. Limited knowledge of agricultural techniques and disease control 3. Weak enforcement 4. Limited human capacity in tourism marketing and operation 5. Weak technology for quality production of agriculture, fish culture, and livestock
Governance and management		

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Governance mechanisms and management organization 2. Ramsar designation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Weak governance 2. Weak and incomplete laws and regulations 3. No marine law 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Limited coordination between central and state government 2. Limited coordination between line ministries and between sectors 3. Limited participation of stakeholders, particularly coastal communities 4. Weak participation between local organizations
Education and communication		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Knowledge and communication 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unclear understanding of ecosystem services of the GoM 2. Unclear understanding of the management framework under the Ramsar Convention 2. Unclear understanding of the benefits of Ramsar designation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Limited information available to the public and communities 2. Limited capacity to disseminate information 3. Weak cooperation and participation due to low levels of education 4. Weak of cooperation of local communities

#2 Mon State

Value	Threats	Challenge
Ecological		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mud flats serve as filter for water toxins 2. Mangroves can absorb 3-5 more CO₂ than terrestrial forests 3. Mangroves mitigate storms, floods, cyclones, and natural disaster and serve as wind breaks 4. Soil quality increased by sedimentation 5. Brackish water system well supply juvenile stage and nursery period 6. Improved international profile from Ramsar designation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Chemical waste increased in river by discharge of factory and industrial zone up-stream 2. River bank erosion damages ecology and aquatic habitats 3. Over use of fertilizer and pesticide and other chemicals in agriculture 4. Mercury and cyanide used for illegal gold mining 5. Increased migrant labour 6. Decreased investment in agriculture 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Weak land use policy 2. No land use management plan 3. Weak management of and compliance in waste discharge 4. Low levels of environmental awareness 5. Over-exploitation of natural resources 6. Limit customs and culture of local communities 7. Limited security (insurgent areas) 8. Transformation of farmland to other land uses 9. Low salaries compared to neighbour countries
Others not complete		

#3 Bago Region

Values	Threats	Challenges
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mud flats 2. Migratory birds 3. fish resources 4. Mangroves 5. Edible non timber products 6. Salt fields 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shifting channels 2. Bird hunting 3. Illegal and destructive fishing 4. Mangrove loss 5. Water pollution 6. Riverbank erosion 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Poverty 2. Limited knowledge and awareness 3. No alternative livelihoods 4. Illegal sand mining 5. Weak enforcement 6. Use of political power behind industry practices
Ecological		

1. Agriculture 2. Salt fields	1. Land/river bank erosion 2. Salt water intrusion	1. Weak cooperation, technology access, and large area 2. Low product quality and market assess 3. No alternative livelihoods 4. Weak loan and micro finance
Socio-economic		
1. Village-based fishermen group (Thantapin and Kawa Townships)	1. Weak democratic practices	1. Low capability, trust, and respect 2. Lack of budget, organizational development 3. Weak law enforcement
Education and communication		
1. Knowledge and communication		1. Limited basic infrastructure (roads, bridges, buildings) 2. Lack of fresh water and sanitation 3. Limited capacity to disseminate information

5. MANAGEMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK: DAY 2

The participants were split into the same three groups to discuss the management plan's management (10-2 year) (management) and operational (1-5 year) objectives, and key activities

#1 Bago Region

Threats to	Management objective	Operational objective
Ecological values	Conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem values and services of the GoM	Activities for 2017-2018
1. Shifting channels 2. Bird hunting 3. Illegal and destructive fishing 4. Mangrove loss 5. Sand mining 6. Water pollution		1.1. Maintain water-shelf area and ecosystem 1.2. Maintain river and waterways and training 2.1. Create livelihood diversification 2.2. Awareness rising, participation and compliance on law and regulation 3.1. Awareness rising , participation and compliance on law and regulation 3.2. Enforcement of spawning season, spawning area 3.3. Improve existing law and regulation and new law 3.4. Patrolling, monitoring, and take action by relevant law 4.1. Mangrove replantation 4.2. Establish communities forest 4.3. Enact coastal management and conservation law 5.1. Take action illegal sand mining practices by relative law 5.2. Enforce and regular monitor on permitting sand mining area 5.3. Manage by law and regulation reduce to environmental impact 6.1. Enforce systematic waste discharge from factory and industry zone 6.2. Enforcement on systematic use of fertilizer, pesticide, and chemical

		compounds for agriculture 6.3. Manage and control unregulated waste discharge into river channel 6.4. Enforce mining and exploiting natural resources in river bed
Socio-economic values 1. Low agricultural yields 2. Depletion of fish stocks and catch 3. Lack of fresh and drinking water 4. Unsustainable income from tourism	Secure and diversify livelihood/income sources for local communities	1.1 Support of good seed, method, and planting seasonal crop in timely 1.2 Provide loans in timely manner for the crop season 1.3 Create good market and value chain 1.4 Transform traditional farms to industrial farms 1.5 Disseminate of agriculture knowledge (workshop, TV, and pamphlet) 2.1. Improve small scale fish culture to commercial scale 2.2. Coordinate and improve market and value chain for aquaculture 2.3. Fish releasing to natural water body (river and lake) 2.4. Encourage on legal fishing methods and legal net (limit mesh size) 3.1. Renovate existing ponds, wells, and create new ponds in project area 3.2. Support purified water machines for require priority village 3.3. Awareness rising for health and clean water methods for village level 4.1 Provide capacity building training for tourism development 4.2 Disseminate tourism information for tourism development 4.3 Create natural recreation places or parks 4.4 Reveal and maintain culture and customs of local communities
Governance and management 1. Weak governance	Improve governance mechanisms	1.1. Improve coordination between central and state government 1.2. Improve coordination between ministry and related sector 1.3. Improve coordination and transparency between line departments, NGOs, INGOs and local communities
Education and communication 1. Unclear understanding of ecosystem services of the GoM	Enhance awareness and understanding of the importance and values of the GoM at international, national and local levels	1.1. Awareness and training to clarify understanding for ecosystem services of the GoM 1.2. Provide IEC materials to local communities 1.3. Celebrate World Wetlands Day

#2: Bago Region

Threats to	Management objective	Operational objective
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Ecological values	Conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem values and services of the GoM	Activities for 2017-2018
1. Shifting channel 2. Bird hunting 3. Illegal and destructive fishing 4. Mangrove loss 5. Water pollution		1.1. Maintain water-shelf area and ecosystem 1.2. Maintain natural forest alongside of river bank and ban mining practice distance 100 m from the river bank and coastal line 1.3. Build retaining wall or hard structure along bank and remove deposited mud 2.1. Improve awareness rising bird and ecological knowledge for local community 2.2. Create livelihood diversification and income generation 2.3. Patrol and take action by the related law 2.4. Establish no bird hunting zone 3.1. Law enforcement on spawning season, spawning area 3.2. Initiate fish culture to cover fish resources decline 3.3. Carry out develop of fish marketing, value change and fish methods 3.4. Improve awareness program 3.5. Take action by related fisheries law 4.1. Maintain existing mangrove forest and mangrove replanting 4.2. Supply substitute energy (electricity, gas, solar and planting communities forest) 4.3. Take action by law 5.1. Awareness for systematic waste discharge practices 5.2. Patrolling, monitoring and enforcement 5.3. Take action by related law
Socio-economic values	Secure and diversify livelihood/income sources for local communities	
1. Low agricultural yield		1.1. Supply quality seed, methods and planting season crop in timely 1.2. Provide loan in time planting crop season 1.3. Provide modern technology and materials 1.4. Carry out improving infrastructure and transportation 1.5. Solve lack of human resources

#3: Bago Group

Threats to	Management objective	Operational objective
Ecological values	Conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem values and services of the GoM	Activities for 2017-2018
1. Shifting channels 2. Mangrove loss 3. Bird hunting 4. Illegal and destructive fishing 5. Water pollution		1.1. Conduct survey and systematic data collection 1.2. Carry out natural resources management awareness program at village level 1.3. Set up village level natural disaster risk reduction management committee and draw management plan for reduction of disaster risk 1.4. Build soft structure to reduce bank erosion by guidance of national and international experts 2.1. Replant mangroves with adaptable

		<p>species in the area</p> <p>3.1. Regular monitoring on shore bird hunting by forming Local Conservation Groups</p> <p>3.2. Natural resources management awareness rising for village level</p> <p>3.3. Create livelihood diversification and other income generation</p> <p>3.4. Conserve threaten species, near threaten and rare bird species</p> <p>4.1. Collect scientific data and fisheries information</p> <p>4.2. Awareness raising of need for fisheries resources conservation</p> <p>4.3. Diversify livelihoods and improve other income</p> <p>4.4. Establish village level fishermen association and build capacity</p> <p>4.5. Train to strengthen compliance and influence law and regulation</p> <p>4.6. Fish releasing into natural water body for fish resources conservation</p> <p>4.7. Get good practice in fisheries resources sustainable utilization</p> <p>4.8. Monitor records on illegal fishing during the neap tide</p> <p>5.1 Conduct survey and scientific data collection</p> <p>5.2 Draw management plan prevent by law</p>
<p>Socio-economic values</p> <p>1. Low agricultural yield</p> <p>2. fish resources decline</p> <p>3. Lack of Fresh and drinking water</p> <p>4. Unsustainable income from tourism</p>	Secure and diversify livelihood/income sources for local communities	<p>1.1. Supply suitable good seed , technology to the farmer</p> <p>1.2. Improve integrated industrial farming system to develop production yield</p> <p>2.2. Awareness raising for compliance of law and regulation and understanding on fisheries resources conservation(close season, closed area, and mesh size limits)</p> <p>2.3. Improve fish releasing practice</p> <p>2.4. Encourage small scale fish culture with indigenous species</p> <p>2.5. Encourage for integrated aquaculture system and initiate small scale cage culture and pen culture.</p> <p>3.1 Renovate existing pond and wells and creating new ponds</p> <p>4.1 Reveal new land or places for natural based eco-tourism business (e.g., Moeyungyi Ramsar site, Phokyar elephant conservation centre)</p> <p>4.2 Attract natural base ecotourism that benefits biodiversity conservation</p>
Governance and management	Improve governance mechanisms	1.1. Improve capacities building and support

1. Weak of democracy practice		fisheries organizational development in the region 1.2. Strengthen compliance and influence law and regulation
Education and communication	Enhance awareness and understanding of the importance and values of the GoM at international, national, and local levels	1.1 Conduct awareness program to improve understanding of ecosystem services of the GoM 1.2 Disseminate information through CEPA and communications channels at local, national, regional ,and international levels
1. Understanding of ecosystem services of the GoM 2. Unclear understanding of the management framework under the Ramsar Convention		

Jake summarized the extensive feedback and presented them in a table in **Annex 4**.

6. GOM GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

This session was devoted to discussing the existing management bodies for GoM and how to improve coordination and effectiveness. Specific interventions were:

- TW reported on the meeting on November 23, 2016 to discuss the establishment of a Mon State Wetlands Management Committee, membership, and ToR.
- TZP shared NAG's freshwater fisheries co-management experience in Bago Region and proposed a coastal co-management pilot in Aung Kan Thar, Thaton Township.
- U Aung Thet Haty (Myanmar Fisheries Federation) is supporting fisher groups in Thaton and Paung Townships and wants to support fisheries co-management.
- Jake suggested that village-level committees may be difficult to manage so should perhaps focus on the township level with village representatives on the township committees.
- U Sein Than (DoF) suggested that village level fisher groups should join or be linked to MFF.
- U Saing Kyaw Myint (DoF) recommended forming a wetlands management committee in Bago Region as soon as possible.

7. CLOSING REMARKS

U Min Thein Myint, Director, Mon State Forest Department)

On behalf of the Mon State Minister of Agriculture, Livestock, and Transportation, the director expressed his pleasure at the outcome of the consultation. Let's save our Gulf of Mottoma! Thank you.

ANNEX 1: AGENDA

Day-1 (23 January 2017)

Time	#	Topic/Item	Facilitator
8:30-9:00	1	Registration	
9:00-10:00	2	Opening ceremony with opening remarks from Minister of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation of Mon State Opening remark from National representative of Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and IUCN	Dr Min Kyi Win, Minister, MoNREC Markus Buerli, SDC Jake Brunner, IUCN
10:00-10:30	Group Photo/Coffee Break		
10:30-12:30	3	Session 2: Setting the context: Development of a coastal management plan, and Ramsar designation for the GoM 1. The rationale for a management plan and an update on the management plan process (Scott Perkin, IUCN) 2. Information on the human and natural values of GoM (TZP, THA, STT, TW) 3. Information on the relevance of GoM for Ramsar designation and update on nomination (Phylay) Discussion on key findings (TW facilitate, rapporteur Nay Myo Zaw)	Thant Zin Phyo (NAG) Than Htike Aung (HELVETAS) Dr San Tha Tun (MU) Tint Wai (IUCN) Pyae Phyo Aung (BANCA)
12:30-13:30	Lunch		
13:30-15:00	4	Session 3: Outline of management plan, summary of goal, threats and management objectives This session will present the preliminary framework of the management plan, including the draft goal, objectives and examples of possible activities (Scott intro, TW and Phylay facilitate)	IUCN and BANCA Scott intro, Tint Wai and Pyae Phyo Aung
15:00-15:15	Coffee Break		
15:15-17:00	5	Group discussion 1: Validation of GoM values and threats (e.g., illegal fishing, coastal erosion) Facilitation: TW + separate rapporteur Report back This session will support the joint validation of the GoM's key values and threats as a contribution to the drafting of the management plan.	Group facilitators: Tint Wai Nyo Latt Zaw Min Aung Nay Myo Zaw, THA, TZP
17:00	6	End of the first day meeting	

Day-2 (24 January 2017)

Time	#	Topic/Item	Facilitator
8:45-9:15	1	Registration	
9:00-9:45	2	Summary of day 1 and introduction to day 2	IUCN
9:45-10:45	3	Group discussion 2: Validation of management objectives (This session will support the joint validation of the preliminary objectives of the GoM management plan (based on values and threats validated on Day 1).	Group facilitators: Tint Wai Nyo Latt Zaw Min Aung Nay Myo Zaw, THA, TZP
10:45-11:00	Coffee Break		
11:00-12:30	4	Summary of the revised outline of the management plan	Facilitation: IUCN

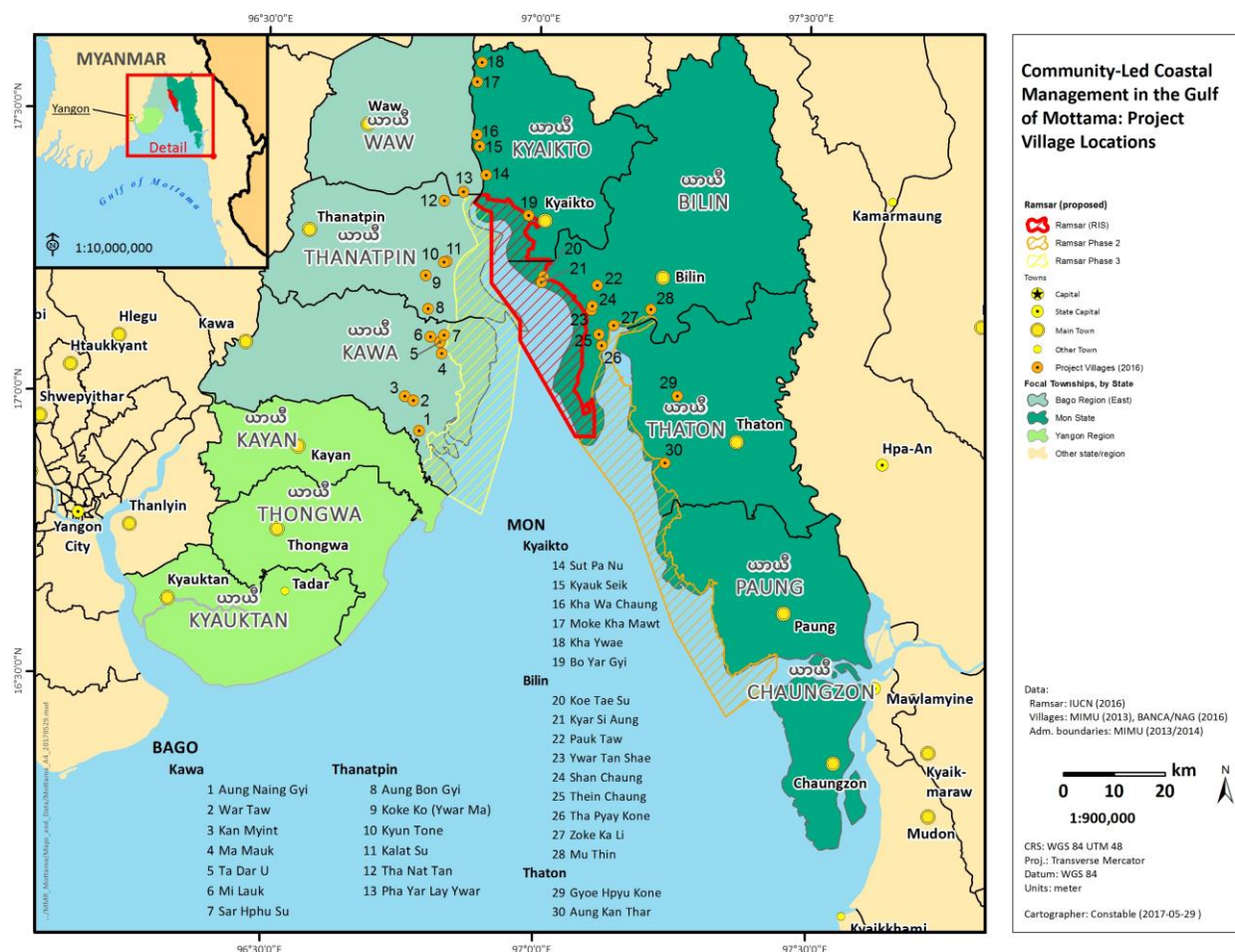
12:30-13:30	Lunch Break		
13:30-15:30	5	Group Discussion 3: Governance for the management of the GoM (Mon Wetlands Management Committee pending approval but not yet Bago WMC). How do Bago/Mon cooperate? What is role of fishery townships associations? What is DOF role? (This session will provide information on the existing governance bodies for the management of the GoM and support a dialogue on enhancing coordination and effectiveness).	Facilitation: IUCN and NAG Thant Zin Phyo Tint Wai
15:30-15:45	Coffee Break		
15:45-16:30	6	Session 4: Update on upcoming events related to the Management of the GoM 1. Spoon billed sandpiper task force meeting in Mawlamyine 2. World Wetlands Day in Mon and Bago 3. National Wetlands Committee meeting 4. Myanmar Fisheries Partnership meeting 5. State/region land and resources management plan	Facilitation: IUCN/BANCA
16:30-17:00	7	Session 5: Summary of agreed next step	Facilitation: IUCN
17:00-17:15	8	Closing remarks by the Minister for Agriculture, livestock and Transportation, Mon state	U Tun Htay Minister of MoAL
17:15	9	Announcement for end of workshop successfully	

ANNEX 2: PARTICIPANTS

	Name	Position	Organization
Mon State government			
1	Dr. Min Kyi Win	Minister of Resources and Environmental Conservation	Mon State
2	U Min Thein Myint	Director, Forest Department	Mon State
3	U Soe Naing	Deputy Director, Department of Natural Resources and Environment Conservation	Mon State
4	U Soe Nyunt	Deputy Director, Department of Fisheries	Mon State
5	U Tin Htoo	Deputy Director, Department of Farm land Management and Planning	Mon State
6	U Hote Kyin Mone	Deputy Director, Department of Hotels and Tourism Development	Mon State
7	U Min Than Zaw Tun	Staff Officer, Department of Rural Development	Mon State
8	Daw Chan Myae Myint Kyaw	Deputy Staff Officer, Department of Administration	Mon State
9	U Than Htike	Staff Officer, Forest Department	Mon State
10	U Myint Aung	Assistant Director, Forest Department	Mon State
11	U Nay Myo Tun	Staff Officer, Forest Department, Kyaikhto	Mon State
12	U Myo Aung	Staff Officer, Forest Department, Bilin	Mon State
Bago Region government			
13	U Aung Zaw Naing	Minister for Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation	Bago Region
14	U Sai Kyaw Myint	Director, Department of Fisheries	Bago Region
15	Dr. Ni Ni Aung	Director, Department of Natural Resources and Environment Conservation	Bago Region
16	U Than Sein	Deputy Director, Department of Fisheries	Bago Region
17	U Hla Myo Naung	Deputy staff officer, Department of fishery	Bago Region
18	U Tun Linn Aung	Personal Assistant	Bago Region
19	U Min Aung Kyaw Oo	Staff Officer, Forest Department	Bago Region
MONREC			
20	U Aung San	Assistant Director, NWCD, Forest Department	Nay Pyi Taw
Mawlamyine University			
21	Dr. San Tha Tun	Head, Department of Marine Science	MU
22	Thazin Htet	MS student	MU

SDC and CLCMGoMP staff			
23	Markus Buerli	Head, Agriculture and Food Security Domain	SDC
24	Aung Kyaw Kyaw	National Program Officer, Yangon	SDC
25	Dr. Scott Perkin	Head of Natural Resources Group, Asia	IUCN
26	Jake Brunner	Head, Indo-Burma Group, Asia	IUCN
27	U Tint Wai	Outreach Coordinator	IUCN
28	Daw Kyi Kyi Zin	Office Assistant	IUCN
29	Pyae Phyo Aung	Program Manager	BANCA
30	U Than Htike Aung	Project Manager	Helvetas
31	U Tun Zaw Htay	Livelihoods Officer	Helvetas
32	U Min Nyan Saik	Communication Officer	Helvetas
33	U Nay Myo Zaw	Knowledge, Monitoring, and Evaluation Officer	Helvetas
34	Daw Khin Hinn Saing	Office Assistant	Helvetas
35	U Zwel Lin Oo	Volunteer	Helvetas
36	U Wonna Htet Zaw	Logistic Officer	Helvetas
37	Daw April Yadana Shein	Finance Officer	Helvetas
38	U Thant Zin Phyo	Programme Officer	NAG
39	U Zaw Min Aung	Township Cluster Coordinator, Bago TSP	NAG
40	U Nyo Latt	Township cluster coordinator, Mon TSP	NAG
41	Daw Moh Moh Win	Intern	NAG
42	Daw Shar Su Naing	Intern	NAG
43	U Min Zaw Oo	Community Facilitator	NAG
44	Paing Thu Nyein Myint	Intern	NAG
45	U Than Htike	Intern	NAG
NGOs			
46	U Shwe Thein	Executive Director, Land Core Group	Mon State
47	Daw Lina Sein Sein Myint	Interpreter	Yangon
CBOs			
48	U Chit Phoo	Head of VDC, fishermen representative, Bilin	Mon State
49	U Myint Oo	Village and fisher representative, Thaton	Mon State
Private sector			
50	Aung Thet Htay	General Manager, Mawlamyine Holding Ltd./MFF	Mon State
51	Lina Sein Sein Myint	Interpreter	Yangon
52	U Thaug Tun	Reporter, Eleven Media	Mon State

ANNEX 3: RAMSAR SITE MAP STEPS 1-3



ANNEX 4: MANAGEMENT PLAN OBJECTIVES

LONG-TERM OBJECTIVES (10-20 YEARS)	SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES (5 YEARS)	ILLUSTRATIVE ACTIVITIES (2017-18)
1. Conserve biodiversity and maintain ecosystem values and services of the GoM	1. Establish Ramsar sites to ensure wise use of GoM's unique ecosystems 2. Protect key habitats of commercially important fish species 3. Take action, as needed, against mining and industrial and agricultural pollution 4. Strictly enforce laws against bird hunting and illegal fishing; enforce closed season regulations	1. Carry out surveys and CEPA activities in Thaton, Paung, Chaungzon, Thanatpin, and Kawa Townships; submit RIS for southern Mon (step 2) and Bago (step 3) 2. Complete identification and mapping of spawning and nursery areas; conserve existing mangroves 3. Monitor mining and industrial and agricultural pollution; educate farmers in appropriate use of agrochemicals; promote environmentally friendly farming 4. Remove stake nets in Bilin; revise law to take into account species-specific closed seasons; continue shorebird patrols; negotiate no-hunting agreements and provide alternative livelihood opportunities
2. Secure and diversify livelihood/income sources for	1. Implement fishery co-management agreements	1. Negotiate co-management in Aung Kan Thar in Mon and 4 more pilots

local communities, with focus on most vulnerable groups	<p>in priority sites</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Replicate models of sustainable aquaculture (e.g., “wild” aquaculture in Bago) Support alternative livelihoods (e.g., agriculture, skills, credit) for fishers exiting the sector Organize crab collection and crab culture in favor of poor unemployed women and other marginalized groups Take “no-regret” actions to reduce impacts of coastal erosion in Bago and Sittoung River Promote nature-based tourism that benefits biodiversity conservation 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Pilot sustainable aquaculture models and value chains Identify target groups and alternative livelihood options; provide necessary support Explore feasibility of implementing community managed crab banks to increase recruitment and productivity Prevent new settlement in erosion-prone areas; model long-term impacts of coastal erosion Promote tourism that benefits the GoM’s cultural and natural values; produce TV and radio programs
3. Ensure integrated, coordinated, and effective governance of the GoM’s natural resources	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Put in place multi-stakeholder wetlands management committees at national and regional levels Promote formal adoption of GoM management plan by relevant regional and national authorities Build regional government and civil society capacity for innovative wetlands management 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and operationalize wetlands management committees in Mon and Bago Complete management plan with specific recommendations and submit to relevant authorities for approval Organize exposure visits to sites with effective Ramsar management
4. Enhance awareness and understanding of the global importance and values of the GoM at local, national, and international levels	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Expand public awareness activities highlighting values of GoM Introduce GoM-specific curricula in local schools and Mawlamyine University Continue to document and report on the GoM’s unique values and ecosystem services 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Support local participation in bird monitoring, solid waste management, etc.; produce TV and radio programs Prepare policy briefs on GoM’s unique values and ecosystem services Support research activities on the GoM’s unique values and ecosystem services

Yellow highlights are additional comment of the Mon Stare Wetlands Management Committee meeting on March 9, 2017.

ANNEX 5: CONTACT DETAILS

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<https://www.eda.admin.ch/countries/myanmar/en/home/representations/embassy-in-yangon.html>

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