



## FOREST and FARM FACILITY Country achievements



Myanmar



### HIGHLIGHTS OF IMPACTS

- **Forest and Farm Producer Organizations (FFPOs) business capabilities built** from bottom up with Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) support.
- **Business-oriented, first-tier FFPOs called Community Forest Product Producers Associations (CFPPAs) established** at village level in the Chin, Shan and Rakhine states of the Ayeyarwady region by eight local NGOs supported by FFF. Before FFF began work in 2013, very few community forest businesses existed in Myanmar.
- **FFPOs built tier by tier, raising incomes for producers** of tea, coffee, palm leaves, honey, rattan, and other goods.
- **Business plan development triggered** by training in FFF's Market Analysis and Development approach and through NGO mentoring and peer-to-peer exchanges with more developed community forest businesses.
- **Major policy changes catalysed at regional and national level by engaging regional level** producer associations. Changes included: national **Community Forestry Instructions (CFI) revised**; new **Community Forestry Unit created** with Myanmar's Forest Department staff assigned to the new unit; **transfer of tenure of some 200 000 hectares to communities**; community forestry user groups extended to 3 000 members from 740.



### MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS BY THE NUMBERS

- **Average income increased 12 to 18 percent**, some exceeding a 500 to 1 000 percent increase.
- **15 most promising FFPOs, representing 177 community forest user groups received** small grants in 2017 to further business development.
- **17 second-tier FFPOs and two state-level FFPOs created.**
- **Business value chains of agroforestry products developed** such as bamboo craft and furniture, broom grass, coffee, elephant foot yam, fish, fruit juice and liquor, green tea, palm heart, palm leaf household items and thatch, wood-fired pottery, rattan, and gum sterculia.





## FFF SUCCESS IN MYANMAR

“Forest and Farm Facility (FFF) is a very innovative programme that works together with the government and NGOs to provide an effective support to producer organizations in Myanmar”.

*U Bo Ni, Director, Forest Department*



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## LESSONS LEARNED

Second- and third-tier FFPOs can play a vital role in providing sustainable and efficient business incubation but it is crucial those organizations are financially sustainable. They must provide a viable, marketable function, possibly through the value added by marketing and sales (e.g. township level CFPPAs).



## GENDER/YOUTH IMPACT

Myanmar Women's Leadership and Conservation Network (MWLCN) established to promote women's leadership within FFPOs and to increase their engagement in FFPO businesses. Women involved in leadership roles in 29 percent of the 177 FFPOs supported by FFF as of year-end 2017.

**Partners:** Community Forestry Instructions (CFI); Community Forestry National Working Group (CFNWG); Community Forest Product Producers Association (CFPPA); Ecosystem Conservation and Community Development Initiative (ECCDI); Myanmar Environment Rehabilitation-conservation Network (MERN); Rakhine Coastal Region Conservation Association (RCA).

**Government counterparts:** Myanmar Forest Department.