

Value Adding Initiatives and Engagements

Research and reliable information access for **sound decision making** is critical throughout the project cycle, from scoping to evaluation, as much for us as development practitioners as for the partners and communities we work with. Together with partners, we carried out a series of **participatory studies** looking at **integrated livelihood and market development** in our intended target areas. We will continue to generate and share information with our partners and communities ranging from field findings, to market access and policy awareness.

Aid and Development Effectiveness is best achieved through pro-active engagement and coordination with other development actors, where lessons and good practices learnt can be shared, where collaborations can be fostered to **optimize resources and results**, and **dialogue** can be facilitated to build understanding, address **gaps** and identify common **solutions**. With this aim, in Myanmar - HELVETAS is a member of several **formal and informal working groups** including the Food Security Working Group, the Gender Equality Network, WASH, and the Education Thematic Working Group among others. Internationally we are also members of Swiss based Alliance Sud, European based Alliance 2015 and the International Land Coalition among others. We subscribe to the Istanbul Principles for Civil Society Accountability and Effectiveness, and are ZE-WO certified for quality assurance.

HELVETAS In The Region

HELVETAS has been active in the South East Asia for 20 years. With several country programs in the region, HELVETAS strives to continually **promote cross-border learning, exchange and joint initiatives** where synergies are identified. HELVETAS Myanmar will collaborate with and draw on our program experiences in among others - **Laos** where projects focusing on **Agriculture Extension Services, Organic and Fair Markets** have been successfully developed; in **Vietnam** where **community driven approaches and local governance** have been implemented and adopted, and in **Nepal** where **bridges** have increased access to livelihood and income options. Currently we are implementing an **SDC funded regional Shan Tea project** (2013-2016) with HELVETAS Laos and HELVETAS Vietnam, linking Northern Shan State to Northern Provinces of Laos and Vietnam.

HELVETAS is well positioned to contribute to regional and **ASEAN people centered** social, economic, and environmental **equitable and sustainable development**.

Contact or Visit Us



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HELVETAS Swiss Intercoperation

Our **vision** is a just world in which all men and women determine the course of their lives in dignity and security, using environmental resources in a sustainable manner. This vision is the basis for the organisation's mission to help disadvantaged men, women and communities in developing countries.

Our **mission** is that together with our partners, we support the efforts of disadvantaged people and communities in developing countries to determine the course of their own lives and provide help for them to help themselves. We promote fair access to essential resources and protect social, economic, political, environmental and cultural rights.



HELVETAS Swiss Intercoperation is one of the most **experienced** and largest **development organisations** in Switzerland. It came into existence in July 2011 with the merger of two organisations: HELVETAS (founded 1955) and Intercoperation (founded 1982). As a **politically and denominationally neutral association**, HELVETAS Swiss Intercoperation is supported by around **100,000 members and sponsors**, as well as **12 regional groups of volunteers**. Our head offices are in Zurich and Berne Switzerland, with branch offices in Germany and the USA. Our team comprises over **1200 local** and over **60 international employees** engaged in **33 partner countries** in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe.

www.helvetas.org



Our Working Areas

HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation is active in five thematic working areas. For each of these we engage in related sectors and sub-sectors. Our program based approach facilitates synergies between the different working areas, and their inter-related sectors.



Rural Economy



Water & Infrastructure



Governance & Peace



Skills & Education



Climate & Environment

Our Key Cross Cutting Areas

Gender and Social Equity

We are committed to inclusive development, where men, women, youth and elders from different backgrounds, with different skills and knowledge are valued and capacitated to actively partake and contribute to their own and communal development.

Learning and Innovation

We are committed to working in ways that foster collaboration, respect diversity, and promote local knowledge and state-of-the-art development practice.

Capacity Building and Partnership

We are committed to sustainable results by building capacity and local ownership, through multi-stakeholder and equitable partnerships with our teams and our partners and the communities with whom we work.

In Myanmar



Current and Planned Target Areas

Dry Zone, Shan State and South-East

Key Working Areas

Rural Economy
Skills Development and Education
Governance and Peace

Since 2012, HELVETAS has been incrementally engaging in Myanmar, piloting different activities, **exploring partnerships** with a **diverse group** of stakeholders, including **civil society, public and private sector**. In 2014, HELVETAS is in process of seeking registration and related MoUs, and aims to **develop projects based on learnings** and results from our experiences to date.

Achievements So Far

In **tri-partite partnership** with Network Activities Group (NAG - National NGO) and the Association Francois-Xavier Bagnoud (AFXB - Swiss NGO) together with their government partners and local authorities, we **piloted a variety activities** in Minhla and Minbu Townships, in the Magwe area, of the Dry Zone, including overall **over 10 villages**, reaching **over 750 community members**, of which **at least 50% were women** and 30% disadvantaged:

In the working area of **Rural Economy**

Farmer to Farmer Exchange on agriculture and livestock experiences; concerns and questions on conventional and organic production, fair market engagement and access to inputs and information
Integrated Crop Production and Management Training

In the working area of **Skills Development and Education**

Community Learning Center and library
Community Based Peer-Educators Coaching & Community Outreach
Mobile village based Weaving and Sewing Course
Intensive township based Weaving and Handcraft Course

In the working area of **Governance and Peace**

Constitution and Civic Education Training
Gender and Family Governance
HIV/Aids and Human Trafficking Prevention and Risk Awareness, Labour rights