

**IASC Meeting-AIT, 13-16<sup>th</sup> July**

**Myanmar upland farm-forestry management and  
implications for REDD+ triple benefits**

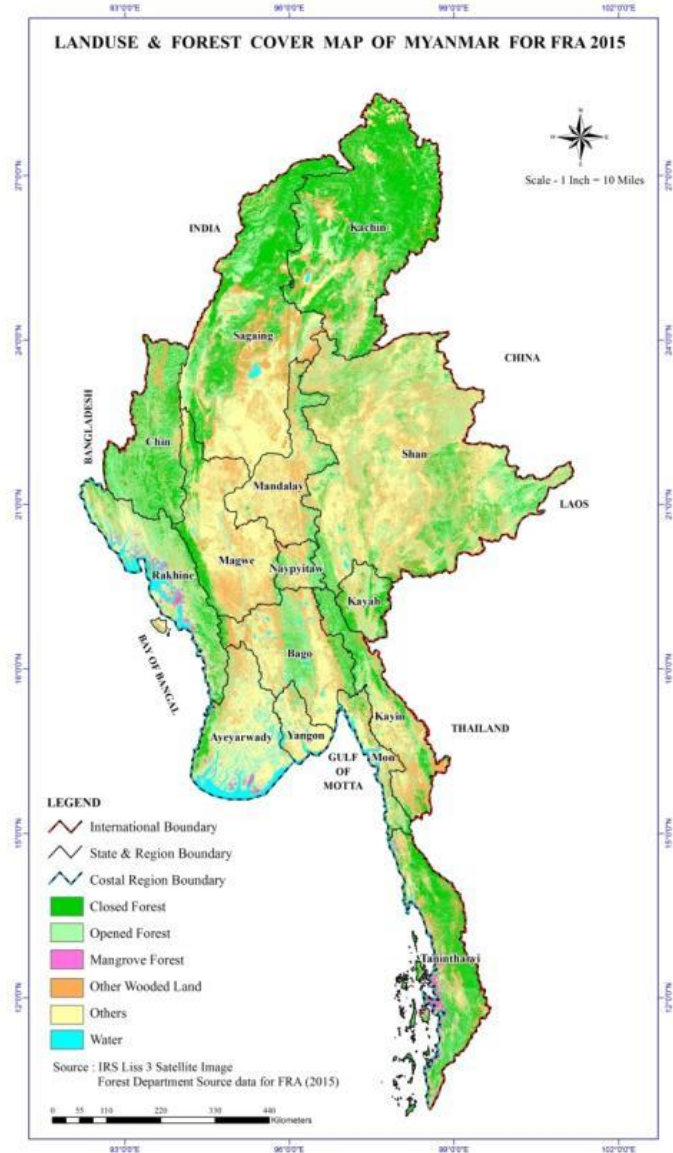


# Background information

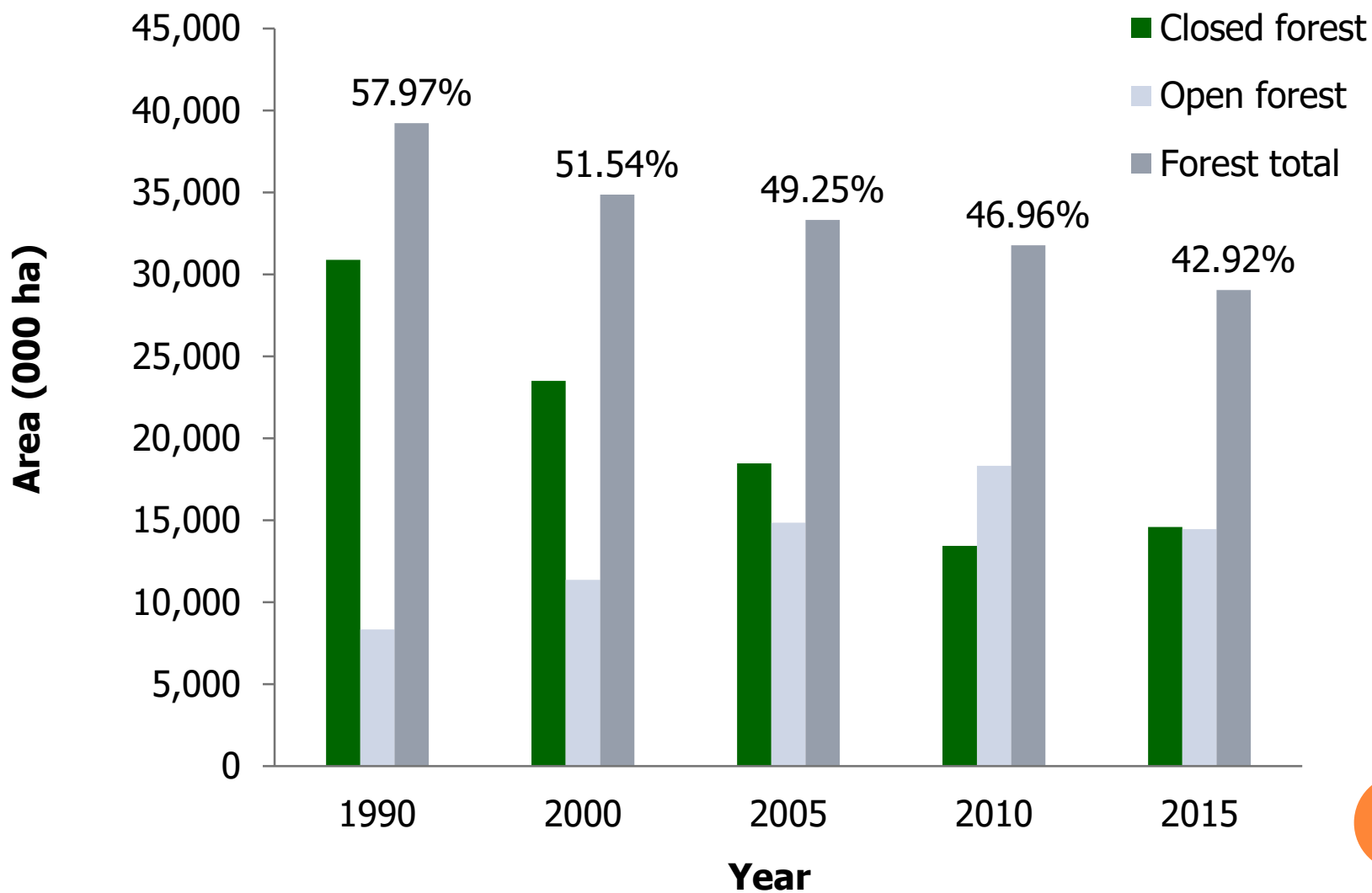
## Forest Cover Status of Myanmar

	Area (,000 ha)	% of total country area
Closed forest	14585	21.56
Open forest	14456	21.36
<b>Total forest</b>	<b>29041</b>	<b>42.92</b>
Other Wooded land	15080	22.28
Others	21634	31.97
Water body	1903	2.81
<b>Total</b>	<b>67658</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: FRA 2015



## FOREST COVER CHANGES IN MYANMAR



## Deforestation Rate

Period	Annual deforested Area ( 000 ha)	Annual deforested Area (%)
1990-2000	435.0	1.2
2000-2010	309.5	0.9
2010-2015	546.4	1.8

Myanmar standing at a place of third most deforestation rate in the world between 2010 and 2015 and the government is committed to bring it down.

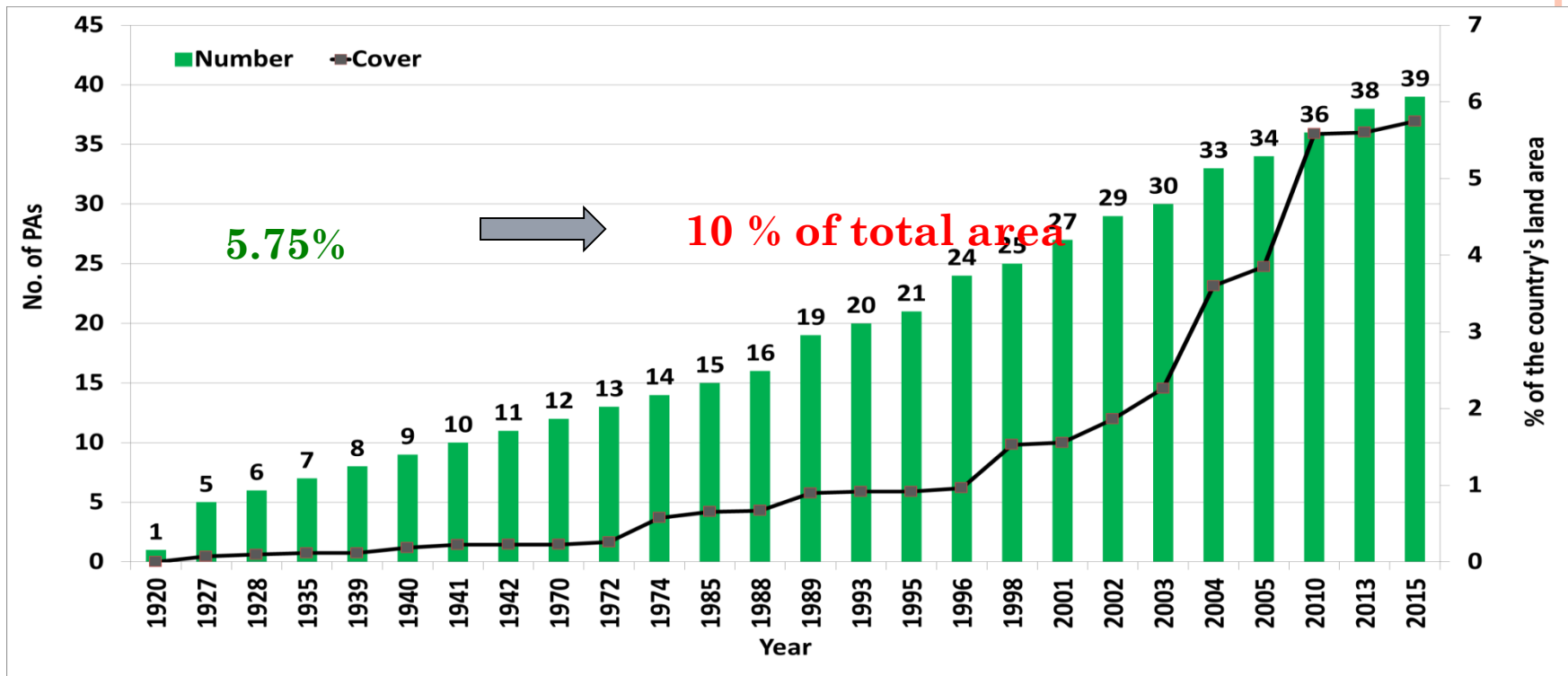
**Source: FRA 2015**



# CURRENT STATUS OF PFE (PERMANENT FOREST ESTATE)

- ❖ Reserved forest (RF)+ Protected Public Forests (PPF)– 24.83% of total country's area (as of April 2017)
- ❖ PAS (40 PAs) – 5.79% of total country's area (as of April 2017)

## Cumulative of protected areas between 1920 and 2015



# DATA COLLECTION AND INTERVIEW



# SITES

	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3
<b>Myanmar</b>	<b>Yoesone Community Forest, Meikhtila District</b>	<b>Laewon Community Forest, Naypyitaw Council region</b>	<b>Pwehla Community Forest, Taungyi District</b>
<b>Type of the project</b>	It is an agroforestry-based community forest toto address greening environment as well as enhancing local livelihood	It is an agroforestry-based community forest to address greening environment as well as enhancing local livelihood	It is natural forest protection community forest site. They did reforestation activities in the gap areas.  Community received support from REDD+ ICIMOD project for seedlings and trainings.
<b>Land ownership</b>	<b>Community managing the forest with 30 years renewable use rights.</b>	<b>Community managing the forest with 30 years renewable use rights.</b>	<b>Community managing the forest with 30 years renewable use rights.</b>

# RESULTS







Yoesone Community Forest; Meikhtial District

# Background

- Yoesone community forest is located at the foothills of Maenyotaung where local people collect NTFPs and forest products for subsistence income.
- Interview results show that forest-dependent household can earn about 5 \$ a day from Maenyotaung Reserved forest near their village
- By community forestry project implemented by Forest Department and JICA in the Dry land area of Myanmar, Forest Department Staff came to the village and villagers received information on CF.
- It has an area of 550 acres in all. Out of 550 acres, 70 acres were conserved as the natural forest conservation, with the remaining 480 acres divided among families in proportion to intercrop.
- Community received Community Forest Certificate with 30 years land lease in 2004 for agroforestry purposes.





# Government organizations (GSI) and non-governmental organizations (GS2).

- The FD had provided technical support such as providing training and raising awareness on rights & responsibilities of community forest user groups; seedlings to the community, while communities are empowered to manage CF
- There is regular contact between the Township FD and community forest user group
- Communities recognized that forest resources in nearby forest particularly timber from big trees have become scarce after 2015. They revealed that people have less depend on forest resources by the time of getting higher cash income from agroforestry and employment opportunities for the women.
- Yosone community forest is connected to other community forest from various agro-ecological zone of Myanmar; CSOs and public training center and through social media and field visit to their CF

# Social, economic and political settings

- Exemplary role of the leaders and community unwritten rules play an important role in implementing agroforestry.
- Community get income from selling seasonal crops such as sesame; groundnut and beans before getting income from gums (*Sterculia versicolla*). Since 2010, selling gums is major source of income in this community. They received about 15,000 to 25,000 \$ a year for one household in 2016.
- Energy Globe National Award for 2018 was awarded to Yoesone Community Forest for improved livelihood and sustainable natural resources management through community forestry
- The Director General of the FD; the Minister and regional government acknowledged their great achievement





Pwehla Communtiy Forest,  
Taungyi District



# Background

- Since before 2010, the area was under community forest. However, the CF was not function well because weakness in institution; some members were passed away and some were aged.
- With the support of ECCDI and FD, Pwehla CF revitalized again in 2015. It was led by one of the youth groups who is a member of village administration.
- There are 450 households, of which, 65 households are members of CF. The area is approximately (53.8) ha and mainly covered by tropical Pine trees and its associated species such as *Chaeyi*, *Pinsein*, *Ficus trees*.
- The basic purpose of community forest is for watershed conservation



# Government organizations (GSI) and non-governmental organizations (GS2).

- The main drivers of deforestation and forest degradation in the past is cutting trees without controlling (like open access) and expansion of agricultural land. After revitalization, forest conservation activities such as gap planting and protection of hunting were carried out.
- ECCDI (Ecosystem Conservation and Community Development Initiative) has helped selected local communities through providing trees and providing small amount of seed money.
- Under REDD+ ICIMOD Himalia project, communities received trainings on FPIC/agroforestry/value added products/nursery techniques/basic concept of REDD+; exchange visit to community-based tourism areas and successful CF in Nepal and Myanmar and tree seedlings that they want to plant including fruit trees like Avocado
- They are also receiving seed money from Forest Farm Facility (FFF) for livelihood improvement by bamboo based value-added products; seedlings production



# Social, economic and political settings

- There was less dependence on forest because they have alternative livelihood for income during off-farm season and Pwehla village has access on electricity since around 1956 so there is less dependent for firewood. After 2012, local people seemed to be more interested in community-based tourism while forests are protected.
- Institutional sustainability is key issues to continue CF for watershed development
- REDD + not only can contribute reducing deforestation and forest degradation but also indirectly contribute to other SDGs including poverty reduction; health and well-being and improving institutions
- Community forest area is close to **Tracking** of Pindaya-Kalaw so tourism development have high potential



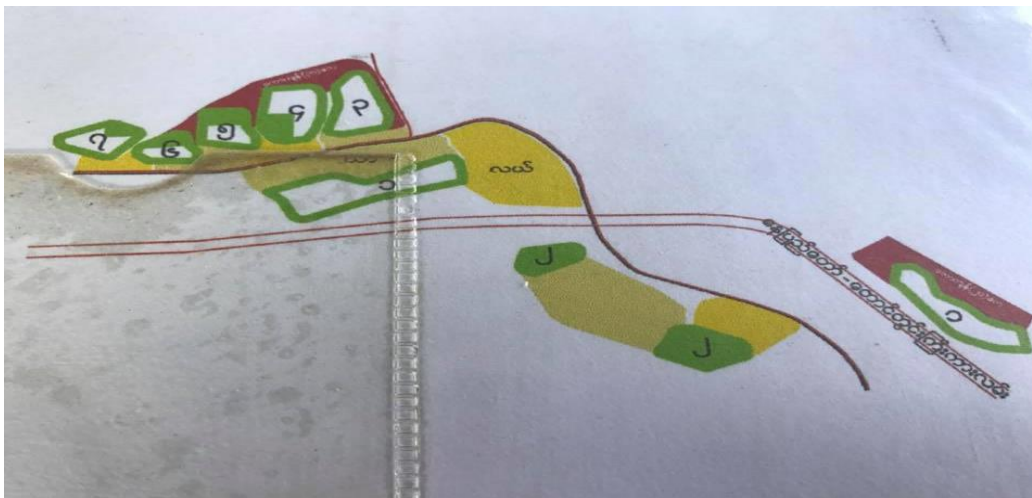


## Laewon Community Forest, Naypyitaw Council region



# Background

- This community is occupy forest areas for the farming and living 28 years ago. Charcoal production is one their main income sources.
- The government encouraged establishing agroforestry in the encroached area, under CF mechanism since 2013. Along with this reform, Le Won community forest was started in 2015 with the technical assistance of FD
- The forest area under community forest is about 70 acres in which 7 individual households were divided to manage their respective area.



Sketch map of individual allotted area under CF



## Government organizations (GSI) and non-governmental organizations (GS2).

- The FD supported seedlings such as Eucalyptus; Cassia siama and Mango. During field visit, it was revealed by community forest user group member that they would love to see FD staff more frequently to raise awareness on community forest activities.
- Laewon community forest has not yet connected to other community forest as well as non-governmental organizations.
- Among 7 members of community forest user group, 6 members who have low income plant paddy, sesame, mango, corn, and seasonal crops while rich members mainly plan banana. The main forest tree species include *Tectona grandis*, *Swintonia macrophylla*, *Casia siamea*, *Sterculia versicolloa*.



# Summary of results



# GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS AND NON- GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Site	Support from government officials	Support from non-governmental organizations
Yoe sone	Seedlings & Technical support & Networking (Regular contact with FD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Providing opportunities to learn from other countries' experience by exchange programme</li> <li>• Networking with INGOs</li> <li>• Capacity building by exchange programme</li> </ul>
Pwehla	Seedlings & Technical support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Seed money for producing seedlings and establishing revolving fund particularly for women group members</li> <li>•Capacity building</li> <li>•Biodiversity survey (There are about 90 bird species including Peacock)</li> </ul>
Laewon	Support CF process and seedlings (limited awareness raising by the FD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not yet received any support form NGOs</li> </ul>

## Social, economic and political settings

Site	Economic development	Social development	Major challenge (Demographic trends, political stability, migration etc)
Yoe sone	High income from gums (about 20,000-30,000-40,000 \$ per year) /create employment for women	Strong leadership respected by the villagers/ unwritten rules for community forest management	market stability; improved technology for production of good quality gums ( <i>Sterculia versicolor</i> )
Pwehla	Indirect benefits from selling seedlings using revolving fund	Improved institutions after revitalization & forest conditions	Institutional sustainability to continue CF for watershed development & development of community-based tourism
Laewon	Short-term subsistence income from agroforestry	Weak in networking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awareness raising</li> <li>• Need financial support for implementation costs</li> </ul>



Site (Myanmar)	Yoesone	Pwehla	Laewon
land tenure rights (private or communal titles) of local inhabitants	30 years renewable use rights	30 years renewable use rights	30 years renewable use rights
land tenure security (due to change in perception as result of inclusion of land in carbon scheme)	Land tenure may not be disturbed by carbon scheme. Carbon scheme may further strengthen land tenure.		
availability of land for poor landless, due to access restrictions	NA	NA	NA
Access to forest resources for extraction/harvest (timber, NTFPs, wild game etc.)	Access to forest resources for extraction of NTFPs, wildlife are prohibited locally though Community Forestry Instructions allowed it.		
Recognition of carbon rights for local communities or individuals	Does not recognize carbon rights yet as forest belongs to the government under 30 years use rights		
Demonstration that all property rights are respected and supported	All property rights are respected and supported. National Land Use Policy (2018) highlighted to address land use rights of ethnic nationalities & equal rights of men and women		
Carbon emission goals do not reallocate or reduce the rights of property holders, or destroy existing culture and tradition	-		
Areas with ongoing land and tenure conflicts and how legal frameworks provides effective means of resolving conflicts.	Conflict sensitivity mechanism is not well developed in Myanmar		
Participation in decision making and implementation	Communities are empowered for sustainable forest management under community forestry mechanism.		
Transparency of processes and accessibility	Transparency among stakeholders is much better than before at all levels.		

**Thank you for your attention!!**

