



Corporate Social
Responsibility

10 Years
Anniversary
A Decade of Action: CSR Then and Now

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A Decade of Action: CSR Then and Now

In our time, environmental and social challenges are rapidly growing in importance, and will continue to shape the viability, growth and success of businesses, and the impacts towards stakeholders and the environment. MPRL E&P's proven approach towards identifying, addressing, and overcoming these challenges is underpinned by our local partnership model in which multiple stakeholders collaborate, and together, realize meaningful and sustainable solutions.

This report describes the ten-year collaboration and partnership between MPRL E&P and our local community stakeholders that coexist within Mann Field, forming a symbiotic relationship through a continuum of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives and practices. Each partner benefited by leveraging the strengths and capabili-

ties of the other, ultimately furthering the sustainability and CSR agenda for the upstream energy sector of Myanmar and the country as a whole.

Our partnership has successfully harnessed social innovation strategies to create transformational programs that help put the upstream energy sector on a more sustainable path. Our relationships are long-term, remaining focused on co-creation of shared value through a common vision underpinned by collective accountability. Our story is one intended to not only provide insights, but to also create inspiration on how businesses and communities can work together to address the relevant, complex, and critical issues of our time.

Today there continues to be opportunities for co-creation everywhere we look. The state of our economy is calling for

action, and we, as a business, will act not only to improve livelihoods, but to also continue to lay the foundations for inclusive growth, peace, and prosperity. Furthermore, as Myanmar develops and transitions politically and economically, the domestic business sector plays a critical role in ensuring that economic development takes place in a manner that allows as many people as possible to benefit. Inclusive business growth requires extending opportunities for the local workforce, contractors, suppliers, service providers, local communities, and many other stakeholders to be involved and engaged along the way. Realizing together a common good remains the most assured and sustainable route for the business community to address and overcome the social and economic challenges of our time.







Statement from the Chief Executive

Embracing Sustainability as a Way of Business

Upstream energy companies continue to have a vital role in the world today by being at the forefront of providing energy to power development, shape economies, and improve livelihoods. In light of our existential requirement to play a more profound role in addressing climate change, the need to both provide and use energy responsibly and respectfully has also never been greater. In Myanmar, MPRL E&P continues to remain committed towards enhancing our nation's energy security, adhering to sustainability best practices, and being at the forefront of helping realize opportunities for nationwide growth and development.

Over the past three years, we have overcome major global crises – the coronavirus pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine conflict, both of which have had an unprecedented impact towards the energy sector of the world. Looking back, I am proud of MPRL E&P's remarkable response to these challenges, adapting our resilience initiatives and strategic operational activities, while at the same time continuing to protect our employees and support our local communities and stakeholders.

In the context of interlocking political and social tensions gaining ground over the last few years, MPRL E&P has resumed field



operations in a measured and phased manner. We have channelled our operations activities and interactions with local communities through a comprehensive CSR program, aimed at continuing to establish an enabling working environment with our local stakeholders. We have observed intensified community needs, from healthcare, education, skillsets, and livelihoods, to clean water access and sanitation. Our determination has never been greater in terms of setting an example of our unwavering commitment towards continuing to maintain our *Social License to Operate*.



We understand the importance of providing safe, affordable, and sustainable energy, essential for our national economy and the livelihoods of our citizens.

We remain committed towards implementing sustainability governance from the executive level and embedding it into our day-to-day business processes. At the same time, we also ensure our constructive relationships with local communities and stakeholders, through continued engagement and investments, are conducted ethically and with transparency and integrity. We maintain strong corporate sustainability goals and continue to set ambitious targets. Our resilience, coupled with our dedicated workforce

and collaborative partnerships, especially with our local community stakeholders, reinforces the effectiveness and progress of our initiatives.

Our continued presence and activities in Mann Field has positively impacted the lives of more than 2,500 households and its 10,000 inhabitants living in the proximity of our operational footprint. I am pleased to share this report which outlines how we have done this, and the significant progress we have achieved together with our stakeholders and business partners in Mann Field.

I am proud to lead an organization where corporate sustainability will continue to be at the core of

our guiding pillars for many years to come. We remain committed to our role as a key catalyst for positive change, promoting responsible business practices and collaborative actions with our partners and stakeholders. Our steadfast dedication to environmental stewardship, social responsibility, and community development paves the way for a brighter future and together, we will continue to create a path towards a better tomorrow where sustainability and progress go hand in hand.

U Moe Myint

Chief Executive Officer
MPRL E&P Pte Ltd.

Chief Operating Officer's Reflections

As we celebrate our achievements over the decade, it is certainly worthwhile reflecting on our beginnings of this meaningful and memorable journey.



It is truly a pleasure to feature a few of my thoughts regarding MPRL E&P's Corporate Social Responsibility element of our sustainability journey on our 10th year milestone. As we celebrate our achievements over the decade,

it is certainly worthwhile reflecting on our beginnings of this meaningful and memorable journey.

The culture and spirit of our Myanmar people has always been built on foundations of empathy, compassion, and metta; the essence of why it is a core part of our social fabric to help and provide for, where we can, the underserved and the less fortunate within our communities. This is why Myanmar, even as a developing country, has been frequently recognized worldwide as one of the most generous nations when it comes to philanthropy. Such is what guides many Myanmar indi-

viduals, as well as Myanmar businesses and corporations, to consistently participate in collective acts of philanthropy directed to those in need; acts of philanthropy, which over time, came to be known, promoted, and publicized as Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives by many organizations within Myanmar's corporate community. Along the same lines, MPRL E&P has consistently been involved in such acts of corporate philanthropy since our founding in 1996, whether it be making periodic monetary donations, or donating towards the construction of new school buildings in Mann Field, or CEO's Foun-



dation in providing educational scholarships over many years to students of various ages.

Our CSR Department was formally established in 2012 around the same time I first started my employment at MPRL E&P. In establishing the strategy and objectives for this department, I vividly recall giving careful consideration towards whether we should continue to be guided by only our philanthropic status quo, or rather be guided by a more effective, far-reaching, and sustainable strategy. It is worth remembering that Myanmar at the time was going through a period of unprecedented and profound transformation within our society, gover-

nance, and business environment. It was evident that local communities, whom long had little influence or say, had now transitioned into a state of the world where they rapidly became key stakeholders within various businesses that had a footprint that impacted such communities, no matter the magnitude of the impact. It became clearly foreseeable that continued long-term sustainable operations, particularly in legacy assets such as Mann Field, required us to obtain and preserve a robust *Social License to Operate* from our local communities that co-exist within our operational area; a license that required a strategy that evolved past philanthropic initiatives alone. This set

the stage for us to pursue a CSR strategy that prioritized the principle of sustainably improving livelihoods, as opposed to predominantly providing donations; a principle that could be summed up as prioritizing 'teaching others to fish' as opposed to simply 'providing fish'. Not only would such an approach enable us to secure the most meaningful and desired social operating license, but would also ensure the creation and preservation of sustainable livelihoods for our local communities for many years to come, and beyond a point in time when we may no longer be present in their day to day lives.

As a key part of our CSR strategy,



KEY KNOWLEDGE INVOLVED





it was decided that pursuing a local community partnership model (the first such model created and practiced within the Myanmar business community) would enable us to more rapidly and effectively achieve our key objectives. This model consisted of our CSR human resources also including a core component of community volunteers from each of the 14 local communities that co-exist together with us in Mann Field. Community volunteers would serve and participate, as equal partners to our CSR team, in their capacity as representatives of their respective communities, advocating for their community needs, co-developing programs, monitoring/evaluating our collec-

tive CSR performance, and acting as focal points for effective and meaningful two-way communication. There was also a limit placed on how long an individual could serve as a community volunteer before being required to be replaced by another member of their community in order to ensure diverse representation.

Based on our earliest social impact assessments, community needs assessments, and consultations, it was learned that there were a number of legacy issues, concerns, and grievances (dating back to even before our active presence in Mann Field in 1996) stemming from historical operational impacts towards our Mann

Field communities. As opposed to frame these findings as threats, I recall taking the view that such findings much rather presented themselves as opportunities that, if effectively understood and addressed, could generate a significant amount of both trust and social capital that could materially enhance our ability to achieve collective community buy-in for our intended new CSR programs and initiatives. This formed the basis of the creation of our Operational Grievance Mechanism (OGM), serving as a formal communications platform for our local communities to officially inform us (in person, on the phone, or in writing, whichever was convenient) of their concerns and grievances. As

another first initiative of its kind in Myanmar, there was an initial underlying concern of the risk that the OGM could be abused or used for purposes other than effective and honest communication. However, in practice, what was truly enlightening for me was that over the 8 years that we have had the OGM in place, there has not been one instance where the OGM was not leveraged by our local communities for its intended purpose. Since the inception of the OGM, there have been numerous grievances communicated to us, a large majority of which have been straightforward and addressed/resolved to a high level of satisfaction from the local community member lodging the grievance.

What has also been an important element of the process involved grievance close-out consultation and dialogue, particularly effective when we had to explain to our local communities why some grievances, after careful investigation and assessment, could not be resolved; a part of our process that always resulted in an acceptable level of satisfaction from the community member lodging the grievance.

In 2015, many of you may remember that parts of Myanmar underwent a significant natural disaster in the form of mass flooding due to torrential and unprecedented rainfall from Cyclone Komen. Nationwide, in addition to

our Government relief response, the general public also mobilized record breaking initiatives of disaster relief efforts to directly assist our fellow citizens that resided in the most impacted areas. One of the areas most impacted was Magway Region, and I vividly remember the quantity of relief supplies and large numbers of citizens from other States and Regions being physically involved in the relief efforts, mainly targeting towns located in northern Magway (towns such as Pwint Phyu). However, in the more remote communities within Mann Field, there were little to no relief efforts that were being provided. I recall forming an internal task force to lead our own emergency



response and relief efforts, together with both our staff and community volunteers, to directly assist the impacted communities within Mann Field. We provided water purification tablets, food supplies, mosquito nets (noting the prevalence of malaria), firewood, critical medicine, and an emergency mobile medical clinic. Through our response, the additional creation of social capital and trust from our local communities was tremendous and far reaching.

One of the key learnings that we realized from our response to this natural disaster was that there still remained a critical need for us to contemplate a form of philanthropy within our CSR strategy.

However, it was also important for us to design this element to ensure that our philanthropic initiatives would not create a long-term dependency or an expectation of sustained handouts. It was decided that we would pursue a model of shared philanthropy as one of our core CSR strategy pillars. This concept involved targeting philanthropic initiatives towards the most basic needs (such as access to clean water), and a design that would include a small collective contribution or co-investment from our local communities in support of our shared philanthropic initiatives.

Our community partnership model, OGM, effective resolution of

legacy issues/grievances, and targeted disaster relief response efforts all markedly enhanced both our social capital and trust within each of our 14 Mann Field communities, forming the bedrock of our CSR strategy and enabling us to achieve materially effective execution capability. Our new CSR strategy was then firmly established and rolled out underpinned by four fundamental elements consisting of (1) educational and vocational enhancement; (2) livelihood improvement; (3) access to health-care; and (4) shared philanthropy. Our undertakings, achievements, learnings, and milestones are a source of much pride in the sense that they truly embody not only the core values of our company, but





rather the spirit and morale fabric of our Myanmar people. Beyond the human element of CSR, it is also worth noting that since the start of our CSR journey, a question that we have repeatedly asked ourselves is how we can measure, from a business point of view, our return on our social performance. Over the course of the political events that our nation has faced over the last two years, the answers can be found by observing the state of the security and safety situation within Mann Field. Comparative to many other onshore producing fields in Myanmar, Mann Field has faced the fewest security related incidents, and for an extended period now, is able to sustain our production op-

erations and performance similar to periods prior to 2021. Our ability to do so, in light of the overarching security related circumstances, is a clear measure of our social return from our decade of CSR, unequivocally demonstrating the business value of securing and preserving a robust *Social License to Operate*.

U Sithu Moe Myint

Chief Operating Officer & Executive Director
MPRL E&P Pte Ltd.

The CSR Continuum





MPRL E&P continues to set our sights on transitioning by redefining our role in society to foster both business and societal success. This follows the completion of a comprehensive impact assessment study with the communities in Mann Field, where we have been implementing a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) program for the past ten years. Through our experiences, we have reached the conclusion that our CSR strategy has firmly advanced along a continuum, progressing from philanthropic donations and short-term transactions in the early years, to long-term sustainable strategic community investment programs that influence our core business model and company mission.

Taking a moment to look back, we can see that we have a portfolio of activities that retain some qualities of our earlier philanthropic relationship, while also investing in new, more transformational initiatives. Early elements, such as sponsoring infrastructure development or donating needed supplies, remain valuable parts of our local community partnership. This continuum of our CSR practices and its evolution are captured in the table in this section.

CSR is a dynamic business undertaking, with no two companies alike, and business leaders continuously push the frontier where CSR practices are in constant evolution. Having overcome implementation barriers in the industry

and validated our engagement model at the local level, it is now time for us to renew our efforts in addressing emerging challenges and shifting priorities. We must seize opportunities to review, evaluate, revise, and devise new solutions, scaling and replicating them where relevant to achieve greater impact effectiveness.

Continuum of Integrating CSR

Integration level	1.0 Operational	2.0 Strategic	3.0 Integrated	4.0 Social purpose
Focus of integration	Operations	Corporate strategy	Governance and management	Core purpose and business model
Philosophy	"CSR is about doing well by doing good"	"CSR enables us to access communities and engage in a dialogue"	"CSR influences how we make decisions to minimize our negative impacts and maximize positive impacts on a daily basis as a business"	"Our vision of a responsible business organization determines our corporate priorities in the areas of the environment, social and governance"
Relationship to strategy	Secondary	Element of corporate strategy	Element of all business policies, procedures and plans	Central to or inseparable from corporate strategy
Leadership	CSR Officer	CSR Manager	Executive Management	Senior Executive Management
Promotion	Outreach	Company website	Employees	Stakeholders
Timeline	Less than 2 years	Short-term	Medium-term	Long-term
Business value	Corporate good will and cost saving	Building reputation	Revenue growth, profitability and risk management	Achieving business growth plans and long-term value creation

To Thrive, Communities must be Healthy,
Resilient and Connected



The Local Partnership Journey





The partnership between MPRL E&P and our local communities in Mann Field, a prolific oil field discovered in 1970 and located in the town of Minbu (Magway Region) in Central Myanmar, originated from an initiative undertaken by MPRL E&P in 2014. This initiative aimed to more meaningfully engage with our local stakeholders in a broad and open conversation about how the company could better contribute towards addressing the societal challenges of the time. MPRL E&P recognized the importance of becoming a responsible business aligned with international best practices in a rapidly-changing operating environment in Myanmar.

During the development of our stakeholder engagement strategy,

MPRL E&P also leveraged the support of a third-party organization to particularly assist in the management of internal bias that could render our strategy less effective. It was our ultimate objective to secure and preserve a *Social License to Operate* in Mann Field, where we have been serving as the main contractor to Myanma Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) since 1996 (26 years after the discovery of Mann Field). Paramount to ensuring a meaningful start towards our ultimate objective, MPRL E&P sought to identify and better understand existing legacy issues involving local stakeholders, rectify stakeholder misperceptions about our roles and responsibilities, and create informed, effective, and lasting solutions.

Following these engagement exercises with both our internal and external stakeholders, MPRL E&P developed an even stronger interest in establishing an ongoing and engaged local partnership with the 14 different local communities that coexists with us in Mann Field. At the time, the primary objective was to explore whether partnering with our local communities could better help identify and address challenges, and also develop collaborative opportunities to more effectively meet local stakeholder needs. On this basis, our strategy initially focused on initiatives aimed at building and maintaining trust.

Issues & Opportunities

Community Engagement:

- Communities raised crop compensation, waste treatment, and the discharge of produced water as key issues, further emphasizing these as responsibilities of MPRL E&P to address.
- Communities had expectations that MPRL E&P would address local community needs, including access to water, education, and livelihood opportunities. It was important for the company to manage these expectations effectively and demonstrate tangible results for the communities.
- Capacity building for MOGE at all levels was deemed crucial, and had direct relevance and impact towards the sustainability challenges that MPRL E&P intended to resolve.

Employee Engagement:

- Challenges in identifying, hiring, and retaining skilled local human resources.
- Providing training and employment opportunities for local individuals without industry skills.
- Offering competitive benefits and growth opportunities for employees within the organization, along with implementing retention and succession plans to enhance morale and develop a talent pipeline.

Environmental Stewardship:

- Key environmental issues identified included produced water disposal, waste treatment, and access to safe drinking water.
- An urgent need to improve environmental management capacity, as new environmental regulations emulating those in developed nations were being implemented.



Knowledge Sharing:

- To address the challenge of scrutiny by both local and international stakeholders, MPRL E&P aimed to be more transparent about our CSR practices through disclosure and regular reporting.
- MPRL E&P also aimed to continuously improve our CSR practices and demonstrate compliance and engagement with national and ecosystem initiatives such as the Myanmar Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (MEITI), Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business (MCRB), and the applicable provisions within the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Outputs

MPRL E&P has co-designed and implemented the following programs and campaigns in collaboration with our local communities in Mann Field during our ten-year journey:

- School infrastructure and supplies, local infrastructure projects
- An Operational Grievance Mechanism (OGM) and awareness campaigns
- Mobile health clinic offerings, hygiene awareness, and eye-health campaigns
- Community-led waste management system and Trash Hero Minbu
- Educational partnerships and vocational trainings
- Agriculture, horticulture, and livestock development initiatives
- Green schoolyards and Bokashi composting training
- Community centers and learning programs for the schoolchildren



Fostering a Stronger Community Together

The following is a year-by-year description of our local partnership journey. Although we initially began with a traditional philanthropy-driven transactional relationship, we have transitioned and evolved into a mutually beneficial, co-existing, and transformational partnership, addressing shared challenges and working towards common goals.



2012-2013 ▶ CSR Operational Start-Up

- The CSR and Communications Department, led by a single CSR Officer, was established at the Head Office in Yangon. The department initiated direct engagement with the local communities in Mann Field, initially responding to ad-hoc requests for basic community infrastructure.

- The CSR field team was formed, comprised of locally-based staff who facilitated the creation and

implementation of CSR policies and programs. In collaboration with MOGE and community volunteers, a socio-economic baseline survey was conducted, and the first community workshops took place with teachers, religious leaders and community leaders, as well as with women and youth groups in Mann Field.

- To establish effective communication and collaboration between

MPRL E&P and the communities, the company recruited and trained 14 volunteers from the surrounding villages in Mann Field (one from each village). These volunteers served as the focal point of contact for feedback and consultations, effectively serving as ambassadors representing their villages. They also played a crucial role in implementing short-term projects related to community water supply as well as establishing



an effective Operational Grievance Mechanism (OGM) in each of the 14 villages in Mann Field. The OGM was introduced in two phases: pilot and full rollout. This mechanism, for the first time since the discovery of the field in 1970, enabled our local communities to openly voice their concerns and grievances directly to the company, enabling early identification and rectification of relevant issues before they escalate.



2014 – Milestone

Transition to Strategic CSR

In 2014, MPRL E&P engaged an independent third-party sustainability contractor (CSR Asia) to undertake consultations with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders, including management, staff, community members, volunteers, local government, business partner organizations, NGOs, and UN organizations. The objective was to gain insights into the sustainability context in Myanmar, identify major risks and opportunities, and formulate an action plan for the company to adopt going forward.

To enhance communication and transparency, MPRL E&P established a Communications Working Group within the CSR and Communications Department at the Yangon Head Office. The group focused on developing a communication strategy and building a company brand through digital platforms such as a company website and social media pages. These efforts aimed to increase business transparency, engage stakeholders, and enhance the company's image.

Additionally, in 2014, MPRL E&P was one of three upstream energy companies in Myanmar that became a member of the Multi-Stakeholder Group responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Myanmar Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (MEITI). Furthermore, the company actively participated in the voluntary assessment in the Myanmar Center for Responsible Business (MCRB) business transparency initiative involving the Pwint Thit Sa Report Project in 2014, where the company was ranked fifth out of all companies operating in Myanmar in terms of corporate transparency and responsible practices among local enterprises.

2015 – Engaging Communities

- In 2015, MPRL E&P and our local communities engaged in multiple discussions and reached an agreement to adopt a phased approach for long-term social investments in Mann Field. During this process, key program areas, criteria, guiding principles, implementation models, as well as roles and responsibilities were established. MPRL E&P facilitated project management, team-building, and leadership trainings for village development committee members, volunteers, and field staff in Mann Field to enhance grassroots capacity.



- To gauge the level of awareness, beliefs, practices, and barriers related to the Operational Grievance Mechanism (OGM), MPRL E&P carried out a knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) survey. The survey involved randomly selecting 419 households in Mann Field to participate. Based on the survey results, an action plan was developed, which included regular OGM campaigns facilitated by the CSR field team and community volunteers across targeted communities in Mann Field.





- Cyclone Komen involved unprecedented rainfall throughout Myanmar which resulted in a natural disaster consisting of massive flooding impacting central and northern Myanmar. MPRL E&P conducted a rapid needs assessment in Mann Field. The company formed a disaster management committee that directly collaborated and coordinated with local and regional stakeholders to deliver humanitarian assistance responses to the affected households within the local communities in Mann Field. A total of 115 employees contributed 2051 hours of volunteer service to the response and recovery efforts, exceeding the targets set by the CSR and Communications Department.

2016 – Milestone Transition to Integrated CSR

In 2016, after three years of implementing quick impact social projects, MPRL E&P aimed to make a more significant impact through its community local partnership framework in Mann Field. The company initiated the integration of CSR practices with other company programs that involved local communities, MOGE, and other stakeholders.

MPRL E&P set up a team dedicated to engaging and training communities on strategic community investments. This team also managed the overall relationship between the company and our local communities, incorporating broader policies and practices such as the Operational Grievance Mechanism (OGM), recruitment of local staff and volunteers, and development and execution of an Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Report (in line with International Finance Corporation standards) for Mann Field.

Investing in the process and fostering a collaborative spirit led to success, and by 2016, we had implemented an ongoing and iterative collaboration process with local stakeholders in Mann Field. The collaboration progressed into a strategic partnership, aligning on values, missions, and strategies. MPRL E&P and our local community stakeholders were interacting with greater frequency, and undertaking a greater number of joint activities, resulting in an increase in institutional resources and unique as well as high-value combinations of core competencies to address local needs, enhance development, and secure material improvements to livelihoods.



2017-2019 ▶ Program Co-development

- In 2017, MPRL E&P initiated the delivery of four types of vocational training, benefiting a total of 97 trainees.
- Over the course of three years, MPRL E&P expanded its vocational training program in collaboration with public and private resources, increasing the number of trainees to 315 in total. Some of these trainees started their own small-scale businesses, utilizing the new skills they acquired. MPRL E&P provided additional support to strengthen their capacity in small business development and management.



- MPRL E&P introduced agricultural information and knowledge sharing sessions on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and the certification process to smallholder farmers in Mann Field. These sessions were conducted in collaboration with government departments Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (MoALI) and local independent NGOs, leading to the implementation of a pilot GAP farming program in the following year. Additionally, a community seed bank and seed loan program was founded with a group of farmers who required a reliable source of high-quality seeds to ensure sustainability.



- MPRL E&P launched the mobile health clinic program in four villages to provide affordable and accessible primary healthcare services for those most challenged with healthcare access (which involved the elderly, women, and young children).



• MPRL E&P installed water purification units and hand-wash stations in the 11 schools in Mann Field, along with conducting awareness sessions on maintaining personal hygiene. This initiative aimed to ensure that schoolchildren have access to safe drinking water and understand the importance of hygienic practices in relationship to ensuring good health. In the following years, we continued to support local schools with renovation projects, furniture supplies, and the creation of green spaces.



• MPRL E&P and MOGE initiated monthly coordination meetings and exchanged information on our respective CSR projects to avoid overlap, increase alignment, enhance effectiveness, and improve decision making. In the following years, reflection workshops and knowledge sharing sessions on Corporate Social Responsibility were organized for MOGE personnel based on their needs to further collaboration and strengthen capacity.





- MPRL E&P supported and facilitated the implementation of a community-led waste management initiative to address the lack of access to municipal waste services. MPRL E&P invested in a community vehicle to be used for the purposes of waste collection and disposal. The management of this bike was entrusted to community volunteers and village leaders, who collectively worked out a solution to tackle the issue. CSR field staff played a facilitative role in the community-led program, conducting awareness-raising sessions on proper and efficient waste management for local schools and households, as well as assisting with program management, program upgrades, and the establishment of the Trash Hero Minbu Chapter.



- MPRL E&P initiated a pilot educational partnership program with No. (5) Industrial Training Center (ITC) in Magway Region. As part of the program, three youths from our Mann Field communities were selected to undergo an 11-month program at the ITC, with financial support provided by the company. The trainees successfully completed the program and secured jobs within six months of graduation. Building on the success of the pilot program, MPRL E&P expanded these partnerships with other local educational/training institutions, aimed to provide rapid and effective employment opportunities to underserved local youths.

- MPRL E&P focused on the development of a Mann Field local horticulture sector in collaboration with external subject matter experts. The objective was to introduce and train farmers on a more sustainable way of growing tomatoes for local consumption. In addition, MPRL E&P established a Mushroom Model Farm Project in Chin Taung Village, which was managed by local community members. On account of the success of these programs, local com-



munity members that participated have remained committed towards knowledge sharing initiatives with other community members interested in enhancing their horticulture development skills.

- Furthermore, MPRL E&P expanded the seed bank and seed loan program to include sunflower farmers in the communities. This expansion was a response to the increasing interest among farmers who were keen on securing reliable, high-quality seeds to consistently improve and enhance their livelihoods.



- After the submission and extensive government as well as multi-stakeholder review of the Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA), Mann Field was the first and only onshore producing oil field in Myanmar to obtain an Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC), issued by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation (MONREC) and the Environmental Conservation Department (ECD). Subsequently, bi-annual Environmental Monitoring Reports were submitted to ECD in order to demonstrate the project's compliance and adherence to the commitments required within our ECC and our Environmental and Social Management Plans.





- MPRL E&P, in collaboration with the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department of Minbu, launched a training program on basic animal husbandry and veterinary healthcare. The training was conducted for 26 small-scale livestock breeders in Mann Field as an initial step towards developing their capacity and promoting the livestock breeding sector in the communities.




- MPRL E&P worked with independent external professionals to conduct a stakeholder engagement and materiality assessment exercise. As a result, the company published its first and inaugural Sustainability Report, underpinned by the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Framework, communicating key information about environmental/social/corporate governance, policies, and key ESG performance metrics.

- MPRL E&P maintained our annual submission of a Communication on Progress (CoP) Report to the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), consistently reaffirming our support and commitment towards the UNGC and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The company has been an active member of UNGC since February 2016.



2020-2022 ▶ Remaining Resilient and Adaptive during Unprecedented Events

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- A photograph showing two farmers in a lush green field. The farmer on the left is wearing a blue and white checkered shirt and a dark hat, leading a brown ox. The farmer on the right is wearing a green checkered shirt and a light-colored hat, leading a light-colored ox. The field is filled with tall green plants, and the background shows a line of trees under a clear sky.
- In 2020, in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic onset in Myanmar, MPRL E&P continued to ensure the progress of community infrastructure projects and adapt livelihood development initiatives, while postponing knowledge sharing activities and mass physical meetings to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 transmission.
 - Virtual assistance to horticultural farmers in collaboration with local external resources continued to address challenges they faced on their farms. We also conducted a refresher course in animal husbandry and veterinary healthcare in collaboration with the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (Minbu), implementing a mask mandate for safety precautions.

- In adherence with early pandemic regulations, the mobile healthcare clinic program was temporarily suspended during mid-2020 and then reinstated at the start of 2022. The offering was further enhanced with home visits by MPRL E&P's medical professionals to further increase the effectiveness of the objective of the program.
- MPRL E&P provided in-kind contributions in the form of health related personal protective equipment, oxygen, medicine, meals, and cash contributions to our local communities in Mann Field and frontline health workers during the waves of COVID-19 that affected Myanmar. MPRL E&P sponsored a mass COVID-19 vaccination program for staff and their family members.
- In light of the increasing security related challenges to personnel, operations, and local communities in 2021, we ensured the functionality of the Operational Grievance Mechanism (OGM) to preserve the ability for our local communities to lodge grievances and preserve trust and confidence.



- MPRL E&P supported a two-month nurse aide training program for three youths from Mann Field in collaboration with a private training center in Minbu, as a second pilot educational partnership program. After completing the training, the three graduates secured employment in pharmacies and clinics located in Minbu and Magway.



2023 + Beyond ▶ Realizing Learnings and Further Enhancing Sustainability

- MPRL E&P prepared a sustainability report for the second time, aiming to communicate and disclose its business continuity strategy. The report emphasizes the company's commitment to providing rapid and impactful support in response to the pandemic, which disrupted our lives and livelihoods. MPRL E&P also outlines plans to build back better with resilience for the post-pandemic era.

- MPRL E&P concluded the period with an impact assessment involving the local communities to continue to help guide an adapting CSR strategy. Furthermore, an assessment and evaluation were conducted to evaluate the performance of community volunteers in the face of unprecedented impacts to ensure learnings and best practices were effectively captured.



- MPRL E&P, with the support of the Department of Public Health (Minbu), further expanded our community healthcare initiatives by launching our community eye care program. The program involved awareness training, eye screening, and referral services, targeting the elderly, schoolteachers, and children for the start-up phase.
- We continue to provide co-leadership and support for our local communities, leveraging our community partnership model to identify and mobilize resources, enhance skill-sets, train local talent, revise program strategies, and maintain regular communications and updates at the project level. Looking forward, we plan to co-develop a strategy to improve access to financial services for the farming communities in Mann Field and also further approaches to enhance the growth of the small-scale livestock sector.
- Our vision has now expanded to instill in the new generation the value of a thriving and self-sustaining community, and to create inspiration to take actions to preserve the milestones achieved in order to realize this vision.



Business Benefits of Social Purpose:

- Recruit, retain and motivate employees and build employee brand advocacy
- Strengthen external relationships and enable collaboration
- Enhance operating context and increase trust
- Enhance financial performance and manage risk
- Increase innovation, enable transformation, and enhance resilience

Our Impact





Health

Health is considered the universal foundation of sustainable development and prosperity, and its status is influenced by various social, economic, political, and environmental factors. Many of the actions required to address these factors are deeply challenging, going beyond the capacity of health ministries of nations alone. Therefore, leadership and support from relevant sectors of society are crucial to ensure the population can achieve and maintain good health and wellbeing on the journey towards development and common prosperity. Achieving this vision effectively also requires collaborative solutions across the public, private, and non-profit sectors.

Primary Healthcare for the Rural Under-served in Mann Field

Access to primary healthcare is crucial for improving Myanmar's overall healthcare sector, as most health conditions can be effectively addressed at the primary stage by general practitioners or community health workers. MPRL E&P is committed to supporting primary healthcare, recognizing that early detection can facilitate preventive or curative treatment and alleviate the burden on secondary and tertiary care services.

MPRL E&P works with local stakeholders and government agencies to provide multi-layered, integrated interventions. These initiatives encompass mobile clinic services, behavioral change communications, water and sanitation initiatives, and infrastructure support. Our efforts are aimed at bringing about positive changes in the health outcomes of the under-served population in Mann Field.



The Mobile Clinic, which was first introduced in September 2018 and routinely operated in four locations in Mann Field, is a vital part of MPRL E&P's CSR Program in Mann Field. It addresses the primary healthcare needs and health education of the medically underserved population, primarily consisting of women, children and the elderly. The Clinic is supported by MPRL E&P's Site Doctors, community healthcare assistants, and community volunteers, and it consistently achieved a 100 percent satisfaction rate among patients, as demonstrated in the two patient satisfaction surveys conducted in December 2018 and December 2019. During the period, the clinic

provided care to 21,139 patients and conducted 608 sessions.

Unfortunately, when the World Health Organization declared the Coronavirus a pandemic in March 2020, MPRL E&P suspended the Mobile Clinic for twenty-two consecutive months (from April 2020 to January 2022). This was done to help control virus transmission among patients and healthcare workers and to comply





with government-imposed virus control measures. In Mann Field, the COVID-19 outbreaks and subsequent containment measures, including lockdowns and social distancing, impacted communities' ability to access basic healthcare services, including prevention education and referral services for COVID-19.

As a result, in January 2022, the CSR and Communications Department conducted an assessment with community members to understand their challenges in seeking healthcare during the period when the Mobile Clinic was completely closed. They also assessed the community's willingness to visit a re-installed Mobile Clinic with pandemic-safe measures. Due to the overwhelming community support for

reopening the clinic to meet their growing healthcare needs, we successfully revived the Mobile Clinic sessions by temporarily recruiting an external medical doctor from Minbu from February to June 2022. In line with the relaxation of COVID-19 and related restrictions in the country, our free healthcare provision has since been expanded to include two new clinic sessions to address increased needs. We have also resumed a full range of services, including COVID-19 referral, community health education, school health education, eye health campaigns, and home visits, with continued support from Site Doctors, community healthcare assistants, and community volunteers.

During the three-and-a-half-year period from September 2018 to

September 2023, our community-based Mobile Health Clinic Program has made a significant impact on the lives of 21,130 patients in Mann Field, many of whom were repeat visitors to the clinic. More than three-fourths of the population served by our clinic were female patients, and 631 children visited the clinic during the period. The program ensured the accessible and tailored health services for the elderly, women and children, aiming to improve the health outcomes of targeted beneficiaries.





Case Study

Female Senior Citizens: Accessible Care

Daw Tin Myint, 69, and Daw Khin Hsaing, 64, received regular care for their diabetes and hypertension at our mobile healthcare clinic. They learned about the clinic through public announcements made by community volunteers. Both patients expressed high satisfaction with the value of the medical consultations, effectiveness of the treatments, the quality of medicines provided, and the other free-of-charge services offered by the clinic. They found the location of the clinic convenient for travel and appreciated the family-like atmosphere created by the clinic team, confirming their desire to return whenever needed. They felt that they re-

ceived the kind of healthcare they were seeking and realized improvements in their health.

Daw Tin Myint had attended health talks by doctors on hypertension and expressed her interest in attending a talk on diabetes in the future. Daw Khin Hsaing expressed her hope that the clinic could accommodate more patients in the future. Both were grateful of the clinic's presence in the vicinity of their village, and confirmed that they would recommend it to their friends who face health problems.



Daw Tin Myint
(Aye Mya Village)



Daw Khin Hsaing
(Mei Bayt Kone Village)

Bringing Eye Health Closer to Our Communities

A significant portion of Myanmar's population remains vulnerable and lacks access to primary healthcare services due to factors such as socio-economic status, geography, mobility, or gender. The majority of healthcare resources are concentrated in urban areas, resulting in rural communities tending to being underserved medically. Additionally, there is a significant disparity in the availability, distribution, and capacity of healthcare professionals. Consequently, rural communities experience a higher incidence of diseases and often face more severe health issues compared to their urban counterparts, even for conditions that could have been addressed at the primary stage.

Starting in January 2023, MPRL E&P collaborated with our local communities and the Department of Public Health (Minbu) to organize an eye screening pilot program under the theme of "Clear Eyesight for Happy Life." The program targeted the elderly, local schoolchildren, and teachers, expanding the services offered by the Mobile Clinic Program in Mann Field. The objective was to provide vision screening and referral services while promoting better preventative eye care through health education talks. Based on the outcomes of the pilot program, MPRL E&P hopes to enhance the offering to a larger target group.



Eye Diseases

- Vitamin deficiency
- Trachoma
- Uncorrected refractive errors
- Cataract
- Glaucoma
- Acute red eye
- Diabetic retinopathy
- Mascular degeneration



Activity

- Identification of potentially blinding illness through mass vision screening
- Diagnosis and treatment of common eye problems
- Treatment or referral services
- Eye health talks

Involvement

- Community leaders and volunteers
- Schoolteachers
- Community healthcare workers
- General physicians and optometrists

Concept of Primary Eye Care Delivery

A total of 1,847 students underwent the initial eye screening test, and 52 of them were referred to an ophthalmologist from the Department of Public Health (Minbu). The ophthalmologist prescribed spectacles for 29 patients, eye drops for 15 patients, and a one-month multivitamin regimen for one patient. Two patients, Maung Wai Hlyan Moe Oo, an 8-year-old from Mei Bayt Kone Village, and Maung Swan Htet Aung, a 6-year-old from Kyar Kan Village, required eye surgery.

MPRL E&P provided support in the form of donating spectacles and eye drops. For the two patients needing eye surgery, based on the ophthalmologist's recommenda-

tion from the Department of Public Health (Minbu), MPRL E&P both sponsored and arranged for the procedure to be conducted at a private eye specialist hospital in Yangon. Further consultations confirmed that only Maung Wai Hlyan Moe Oo needed squint surgery, while the specialist recommended that Maung Swan Htet Aung postpone the Tissue Fixation System (TFS) surgery to further monitor progression before an invasive procedure was undertaken. Also in collaboration with the Department of Public Health (Minbu) of the Ministry of Health, MPRL E&P undertook an awareness talk on cataracts and a preliminary eye screening program for 210 senior citizens aged sixty and above in

Mann Field in June 2023. Cataracts are one of the leading causes of avoidable visual impairment and blindness in Myanmar, particularly among the elderly population. Common causes of cataracts include aging, trauma, steroids, prolonged exposure to ultraviolet light, smoking, diabetes and high blood pressure.



Case Study

Daw Yoon Mon Oo: Squint Surgery that Changed Son's Life

Daw Yoon Mon Oo, the 33-year-old mother of Maung Wai Hlyan Moe Oo, could not afford the operation to treat her son's eye problem, which was a result of him falling severely ill when he was an infant. She felt sorry as a mother, noticing how the eye problem affected her son's ability to live a normal life. Whenever he was exposed to bright sunlight, he would always close his left eye. Concerned, she asked if he could not see clearly. Her son replied that the light was too blinding to look at and that he felt better by keeping that eye shut.

Sometimes, he would complain about his vision, although he could



not explain exactly what was happening. Frustrated, he would isolate himself and refrain from socializing or talking to anyone, both at home and at school, appearing dispirited. His mother could not

help but feel much sadness and helplessness for her son.

Then came MPRL E&P's "Clear Eyesight for Happy Life" eye health campaign at the local schools, including Mei Bayt Kone School, where Maung Wai Hlyan Moe Oo was attending. The timing could not have been better and Daw Yoon Mon Oo seized the opportunity for her son.

During the initial eye screening process, the eye specialist from the Department of Public Health (Minbu) identified that Maung Wai Hlyan Moe Oo was affected by squint eyes and recommended an immediate operation for both eyes. Daw Yoon Mon Oo was grateful to learn that MPRL E&P

would entirely fund the cost of the procedure as well as all logistical requirements for the patient and his family. She was excited and prayed that it would happen as soon as possible.

Two days after undergoing a successful procedure in Yangon to treat his condition, Maung Wai Hlyan Moe Oo became lively and could not stop talking to his mother. He would tirelessly explain how he could now look at the world without having to tilt his head, and he felt great about his new look in the mirror. He was enthusiastic about his changed appearance, believing it would surprise his friends, and eagerly looked forward to the new school year to see his friends.

Daw Yoon Mon Oo realized that her son's life had changed, and could not find enough words to express her gratitude for the company's family-like treatment and service during their stay in Yangon for the operation. Consequently, she did not feel afraid or insecure about coming to the big city, and all she experienced was pure excitement, happiness, and gratitude. She believed that the initiative was life-changing for underprivileged families like hers in the community and expressed her sincere thanks to the company and personnel involved in the initiative.



Case Study

An Ophthalmologist's Insights



Dr. Ei Ei Aung from the Trachoma and Blindness Prevention Project under the Department of Public Health (Minbu) of the Ministry of Health, provided an overview of the field eye examination conducted for the senior citizens in Mann Field.





Clear Eyesight for Happy Life!



Dr. Ei Ei Aung | Ophthalmologist
Department of Public Health (Minbu)

She explained, “Based on their age, we identified cases of cataracts, glaucoma, blurred vision, near-sightedness, far-sightedness, macular degeneration, and diabetic retinopathy. When we conducted the screening at the community schools back in January 2023, the majority of schoolchildren had good vision, while a few were found to have eye birth defects, near-sightedness, and squint eye problems.”

Dr. Ei Ei Aung also highlighted the low level of awareness about eye health among the local population, and the reluctance of some senior citizens to undergo surgical treatment for cataracts and macular degeneration due to fear. The referral procedures at the hospital following the initial eye screening program included measuring eye pressure (Intraocular Pressure or IOP), comprehensive eye exams (slit-lamp exams), cataract operations, pupil dilation tests, and tests for diabetes and high blood pressure.

She expressed her satisfaction with the joint eye health campaigns between MPRL E&P and the Minbu General Hospital,

which included eye health talks, initial eye screenings, provision of eyeglasses, squint surgery, cataract operations, nutritional supplements, and eye drops within the community setting. Dr. Ei Ei Aung emphasized the significant benefits these campaigns brought to the Mann Field communities, both young and old. She encouraged MPRL E&P to continue conducting such initiatives every year in the future, ensuring the quality of life for the Mann Field communities by promoting awareness of diagnosing eye diseases and addressing the growing trend in avoidable vision loss worldwide.



Real-Life Stories of Healing and Hope



Daw Kyi Than
(Aye Mya Village)

“I am a widow, relying on my late husband's pension for my livelihood. Being a tailor, having clear eyesight is crucial for me, as it enables me to work. However, my poor eyesight prevented me from sewing. In 2018, I used my husband's gratuity to undergo cataract surgery on my right eye, which cost over MMK 300,000. Both of my eyes required surgery, but I could not afford to have them both

done at once, as my monthly pension is only MMK 80,000, barely covering my meal expenses.

Living alone, I realized the importance of good eyesight, as having only one functional eye was inconvenient. My children offered to pay for my eye surgery, but they had their own financial struggles.

Then, this June, MPRL E&P brought the gift of clear vision to me at no cost; they fully covered the cost of my left eye surgery. I was thrilled to learn about their CSR Program offering free eye surgeries for elderly people with cataracts in Mann Field.

Before the surgery, their mobile clinic provided me with a necessary supply



of blood pressure medication for free, as I have high blood pressure. This ensured a smooth surgical experience.

The cataract surgery itself took only 15 minutes, and I could see immediately afterward. My vision has greatly improved, and I believe I will be able to resume sewing in the next two or three months.

MPRL E&P has greatly benefited our local community, making everything more convenient. I am deeply thankful to MPRL E&P for the gift of eye surgery.”



U Aung Maung
(Aye Mya Village)

“I had previously visited eye clinics, but they found no signs of glaucoma or cataracts. However, after retiring from my government job, my left eye began to blur, and I could not afford the necessary care on my pension. When I heard about MPRL E&P’s CSR Program offering eye healthcare for individuals aged sixty and above in the Mann Field communities, I saw it as a golden opportunity and immediately reached out to them.

During the preliminary eye screening, the doctor diagnosed me with cataracts and recommended surgery, particularly for my left eye, where the blurriness was severe. My right eye had some blurriness as well, but it was not as severe.

From the start of the eye test to the completion of the surgery, MPRL E&P provided unwavering support. When I attended the eye health talk and eye test in Mann Kyo Village, they arranged transportation for us and ensured the event was comfortable. They even provided snacks to satisfy our hunger.

The planning and execution of the CSR Program demonstrated a strong connection between

them and the local community, working together to promote social well-being. This strong bond facilitated a smooth eye checkup experience for us.

The comprehensive eye health talk by the ophthalmologist eased my fears about surgery. I recently underwent cataract surgery on my left eye, and my vision is gradually improving. My overall eye health is good, thanks to MPRL E&P’s CSR Program, local volunteers, and healthcare workers. My deepest thanks to everyone involved.”







U Myint Swe
(Kywe Cha Village)

“I remember eight years ago, when I was around 60 years old, I developed a cataract in my right eye. It was a difficult time for me, but thankfully, the Sitagu Foundation supported me through the surgery. When I turned 68, the cataract in my left eye became problematic. This time, it was MPRL E&P’s CSR Program that came to my aid.

These cataracts had clouded my vision for about a decade. I could not

see clearly at all; everything was so unclear. I had to rely on my right eye, which had been operated on, to see anything.

As a farmer living in the countryside, I was quite isolated from what was happening in the community. It was only through our Community Volunteer that I learned about MPRL E&P’s eye health program. Thankfully, I was considered a suitable candidate for eye surgery due to my good overall health; I did not have diabetes or high blood pressure. The cataract surgery took just 15 minutes.

Having had eye surgery before, I knew what to expect and followed all the instructions. Now, my eyesight is crystal clear, just like when I was young. I can read letters that

were once unreadable with ease. Beyond the surgery and transportation assistance, the support from the CSR Program was incredibly convenient. I want to express my sincere appreciation to MPRL E&P for their kind support throughout my treatment journey.”



Education

Education is considered a universal foundation for sustainable development and prosperity.



Myanmar's national public education sector is composed of five distinct competency levels:

- Early childhood care and development (ECCD)
- Basic education
- Alternative education
- Higher education
- Technical and vocational education and training (TVET)

Due to the quality of early and basic education, Myanmar exhibits one of the highest literacy rates in the world. Particularly over the past decade, the Ministry of Education has focused on enhancing public education infrastructure by expanding the number of middle



and high schools and increasing the number of teachers in all schools to improve the quality of teaching. Simultaneously, there is a consensus among parents, students, teachers, employers, and the general public that it is crucial to ensure all students progress through the public education system, achieve quality learning outcomes, and fulfill their careers and life-long learning aspirations. Furthermore, there is a

growing expectation for reforms that enhance access, quality, and equity for students at all levels of the national public education system. According to a UNESCO study, by implementing these reforms, the education sector plays an essential role in helping the country address the challenges in its priority development sectors for the economy, which include manufacturing, agriculture, and services.

Case Study

Online Learning Introduced to Primary Schoolers

In general, schools in developing countries often lack adequate facilities and services such as clean water, electricity, computers, and digital connectivity, even more so in rural and other more remote areas. To address these challenges, MPRL E&P has supported local schools in Mann Field by providing handwashing stations and water filtration units. In addition, we have undertaken school renovation projects and supplied furniture to local schools in Mann Field as part of our efforts to develop infrastructure in collaboration with the communities, aiming to strengthen the right to education.

Recently, we launched a one-year digital learning initiative for 15 underprivileged primary schoolchildren in Mann Field. This program includes a dedicated classroom equipped with computers, internet access, electricity, and community-based teachers who have received training in the use of an English language learning software package and basic computer operations.

Online learning refers to the educational experience facilitated through the Internet, allowing students and teachers to interact at their convenience, regardless of time or location. It has experienced



rapid growth in recent times, with an increasing number of online learning programs being developed and delivered to remote or disadvantaged communities, aiming to promote flexibility and still enable effective learning. In Myanmar, children have faced prolonged periods without access to learning opportunities due to crises such as COVID-19. Promoting safe and continuous online learning can significantly contribute to their cognitive development and emotional health.



The unprecedented disruption of education caused by the COVID-19 pandemic also presented a unique opportunity for change and piloting of a smaller scale approach towards education. However, the success and sustainability of this endeavor depended on investing in the capacity of teachers to provide more flexible and effective learning solutions for children. The new approach to learning should encourage pedagogical differentiation and promote independent learning, with a strong focus on developing skills and fostering conceptual understanding.

A total of 15 students were enrolled in the Online English Learning Program at Aye Mya Community Center in Mann Field at the end of October 2022. As part of the official enrollment process on

the digital learning platform, a timetable and student ID cards were created and issued to all learners. Each student received a laptop equipped with the necessary learning platform, and each learning session was designed to accommodate a maximum of five students, ensuring an optimal online learning experience in terms of quality.

Using their student accounts, they accessed the student digital portal to complete various assignments, including reading exercises, listening tasks, and quizzes. Additionally, they utilized self-learning activities to enhance their language skills and expand their vocabulary. Maung Aung Phone Thant, an 11-year-old student from Aye Mya Village, was pleased with learning to pronounce and memorize new English words while using a com-

puter. He believed that this digital learning opportunity had contributed to the development of both his physical and mental skills. He was able to not only enhance his typing abilities and computer literacy, but was also able to improve his concentration.

Similarly, Ma Chit Jue Nyein and Ma Su Pyae Phu, who were also enrolled in the same program, enjoyed the opportunity of digital learning. They were amazed at how English language could be learned in such a simple way, allowing them to acquire computer skills and receive a high quality education simultaneously. The two expressed their desire for the program to be further expanded so that more students from the communities could leverage the opportunity in the future, recognizing its value and benefits.

TVET for Youths: Creating Opportunities throughout the Communities

While encouraging young individuals to explore technical and vocational education and training (TVET) as a viable option alongside traditional university paths, it is crucial to also create awareness of the available relatable job opportunities and how they contribute to community development. Promoting technical and vocational education and training can effectively address the prevailing skills shortage in the local communities as well as the nation. One effective approach is to share success stories of former technical trainees in technical fields, as this can generate interest and enhance the perceived value of TVET programs among young people and other stakeholders within the community.





Case Study

Making a Difference to Communities as a Healthcare Assistant



As a middle school dropout living in Kywe Cha Village in Mann Field, Ma Moe Thandar Naing possessed a solid work history as a clerk at a local pagoda's trustees board. However, she sought an opportunity to receive training as

a nurse aide. Through her dedication and hard work, coupled with support from MPRL E&P, she successfully completed a two-month nurse aide training program at a private training center in the town of Minbu in 2020.

The 25-year-old resident of Kywe Cha Village has been employed as a healthcare assistant since February 2022. She works under the guidance of two Site Doctors at the Mobile Health Clinic, which is run by MPRL E&P in collaboration with community volunteers in Mann Field. As a healthcare assistant, her duties encompass observing, examining, and documenting patients' conditions, monitoring

and replenishing clinic supplies, sterilizing medical equipment, making beds, promoting health awareness, and communicating with patients.

At home and within her neighborhood, she willingly lends a helping hand to assist family members and relatives in times of need. This has led to the establishment of strong relationships that she otherwise would not have developed, and she takes great pride in them. She finds satisfaction in being a beneficiary of the educational partnership program, which specifically targets youths from underprivileged backgrounds such as herself.

Case Study

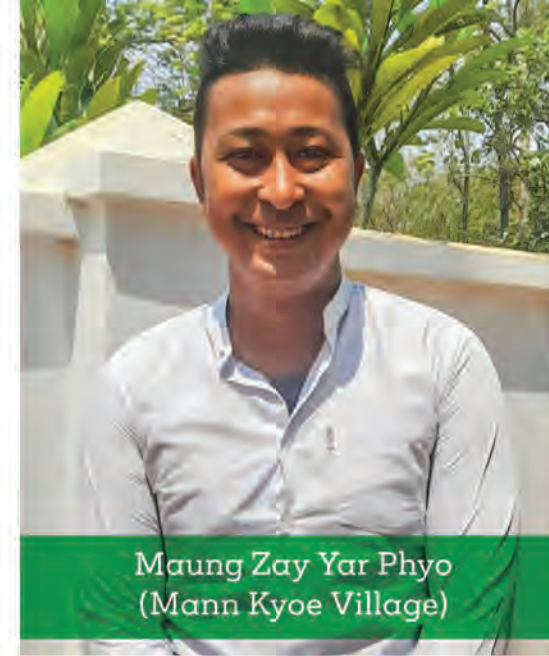
Pathway to Improved Employment Opportunity

While employed as a daily wager at a steel welder in the town of Minbu, Maung Zay Yar Phyo, a 23-year-old from Mann Kyoe Village in Mann Field, reached out to MPRL E&P's Educational Partnership Program in collaboration with No. (5) Industrial Training Center (Magway). His goal was to secure a promising career path with MOGE (Mann Field).

In 2019, he enrolled in the Automobile Mechanic Course at the training center, where he received systematic instruction on motor vehicle repair and maintenance. This experience not only enhanced his technical skills, but also improved his communication abili-

ties and boosted his self-confidence. He considered the time spent completing the course as the most rewarding period of his life and expressed gratitude for the financial support provided in the form of a scholarship from MPRL E&P. After graduating from the training center, he promptly commenced working for MPRL E&P, where he remained employed for nearly two years.

Subsequently, he applied for a position at MOGE (Mann Field) and successfully completed the recruitment process, officially joining the organization in November 2022. Thanks to the practical skills and knowledge acquired from the training center, he quickly made progress in his new role.



Maung Zay Yar Phyo
(Mann Kyoe Village)

He believed that the training program was ideally suited for high school dropouts like himself with previously limited employment opportunities. He encouraged other young individuals to continue their education and to value every opportunity for learning that comes their way, and that there are still ways and means to still develop skillsets through alternative pathways should circumstances not permit continuation within the public education system.



Community Capacity Building

Community development is regarded as an investment into a process and outcome in which community members collectively identify and address issues that are important and relevant to them. The initiative operates on the principles of empowerment, inclusion, self-determination, accountability, and collective action, with a clear emphasis on enabling ownership to address the root causes of inequality and disadvantage. Within our partnership model, community development is led by community members themselves at every stage, from issue identification to prioritization, solution development, implementation, and evaluation. The work involved in community development tends to be long-term in



nature. Desired outcomes, in addition to effectively addressing identified issues, also include meaningful and continuing increases in community capacity, community solidarity, community accountability, and collective positive impact.

Our community capacity building program specifically focuses on nurturing leadership qualities and problem-solving skills among community leaders and members. By doing so, it empowers the communities to take ownership and shape the development initiatives that they consider important. This approach ensures that the development impacts are sustained and firmly embedded within the communities themselves.

Case Study

Making the Most Out of Accelerated Capacity Development



Daw Nwet Thi, a 54-year-old village administrator of Nan U Village in Mann Field, has been actively involved in community development as the member of the Nan U Village Development Com-

mittee since 2014. She was elected as an administrator in 2016 and has been serving in that role ever since.

In February 2023, she joined MPRL E&P's two-day community development training program designed for village administrators and members of the Village Development Committee. This training, facilitated by Capacity Building Initiative (CBI), an external organization, aimed to strengthen their understanding of the community development framework, community engagement tools, and their application. Out of the 28 trainees, Daw Nwet Thi was the only female village administrator. She shared

her thoughts on the training and her plans for implementing the knowledge and skills gained in the future.

Thanks to the training, Daw Nwet Thi has gained a clear understanding that community development is a contribution of both process and outcome; they are not mutually exclusive. She now recognizes that community development involves a continuous process through which people develop collective capacity to best support themselves and reduce their dependence on external resources or handouts. Daw Nwet Thi emphasized the importance of multi-stakeholder needs assessment exercises,



baseline surveys, consultations, and progress updates, which she now comprehends as vital components of the community development process. This newfound understanding has allowed her to appreciate why MPRL E&P has employed these methods in their initiatives.

The training had also empowered her by increasing recognition of

her role and responsibilities as a community leader and equipping her with practical tools to lead positive change. She now feels confident in her ability to persuade everyone in her village that successful communities value and appreciate the roles and contributions of each community member. She is motivated to encourage them to work together to create the environment they desire.

Daw Nwet Thi firmly believes that the training has helped community leaders, including herself, effectively develop and maintain strong relationships. It has also enabled them to identify problems collectively between multiple communities and make group decisions to find solutions where more effective. During the two-day training, she had the opportunity to meet and connect with other village leaders who shared similar interests and values. Through engaging in group activities, they exchanged experiences and perspectives on local development, which she considered one of the highlights of the training. She is eager to nurture these relationships, foster personal



interactions, and gain a better understanding of the neighboring villages and their development activities.

Furthermore, Daw Nwet Thi expressed confidence that the Village Development Committee, as a whole, materially improved their ability to identify issues that contribute to their disempowerment or negatively affect their collective well-being. As a result, they are more inspired to address these issues in a manner that advances shared interests of the communities. The training provided by MPRL E&P played a crucial role in fostering this transformation. The committee members have become more receptive to listening to each other's viewpoints and are now

more motivated to collaborate in ways that yield long-term shared outcomes through the establishment of stronger and more cohesive communities.

Daw Nwet Thi, the leader of Trash Hero Minbu Chapter, highlighted the waste management solution in Mann Field as a prominent example of what can happen when people come together to discuss solutions and take action. The villages surrounding Mann Field lack access to municipal waste collection services due to their remoteness and designation as outside the municipal area. As a consequence, residents have resorted to dumping their household waste near the village gates or simply discarding it wherever convenient,





as long as it is not within their private compounds. This disposal approach and behavior has resulted in plastic and other waste being carried by the wind in various directions, leading to the accumulation of waste throughout the communities.

The community leaders effectively mobilized their respective communities, and within a span of two

years, they successfully tackled the challenging situation. They established a waste collection initiative and implemented Trash Hero Minbu activities, which led to meaningful improvements in not only addressing the issue, but in also positively changing the community's attitude towards waste disposal practices, environmental cleanliness, and environmental sustainability. Beyond resolving the immediate issue, the villages gained a valuable insight: they realized the power of working together for a shared purpose, as emphasized by Daw Nwet Thi.

Daw Nwet Thi believes that MPRL E&P's true enduring legacy lies in the establishment of an arrangement that enabled people to work together in addressing common problems and exploring opportuni-

ties. This arrangement takes into account the interests of all stakeholders within the communities, ensuring a sustainable and inclusive approach to community development.

Aligned with the increasing investments in community infrastructure, Daw Nwet Thi firmly believes that MPRL E&P has successfully empowered the members of her Village Development Committee, enhancing their leadership and management skills. This empowerment has enabled them to effectively carry out community development initiatives and promote community connectedness, self-reliance, and self-responsibility. She intends to continue to eagerly build upon these achievements by utilizing the knowledge, insights, and relationships she gained through the training.





Water Access

The issue of clean water access remains a persistent challenge affecting as many as two billion people worldwide as reported by the World Bank.

Within the local communities in Mann Field, MPRL E&P has identified several challenges that hinder community access to water. These include existing ground water wells running dry, uncertainty with regard to the success of newly drilled ground water wells being able to provide clean freshwater, and a lack of reliable power supply to pump river water to the local communities.

Currently, MPRL E&P is working with our local communities to develop integrated solutions for clean water and sanitation access that address issues such as inadequate financing, infrastructure gaps, inconsistent reliability, and the need to strengthen community systems capacity.

Case Study

Community Quest for Sustainable Clean Water



Daw Khaing San Win and
Daw Ni Ni Win
(Pauk Kone Village)

As the day dawned, Daw Khaing San Win and Daw Ni Ni Win, two women living in a smaller community known as Pauk Kone Village in Mann Field, set out to fetch water from a distant point of access for

their home needs. They would undertake this journey on foot or by bike. However, on occasions when they were unable to do so, they had to purchase this essential resource at a cost. This expenditure of money and time could otherwise have been allocated to income-generating activities.

The two women were not alone in experiencing such hardship; there were entire communities in Mann Field that were grappling with a clean water shortage crisis during the scorching summer season every year. The lack of access to clean water supplies imposes a significant burden on communities, particularly those in rural and



economically disadvantaged backgrounds. The inadequate access to existing municipal water infrastructure, coupled with uncertainties arising from economic factors, as well as the impacts of climate change, further exacerbate the severity of the issue. Consequently, access to clean water continues to remain as one of the top critical concerns for world leaders.

To address the water shortage crisis, MPRL E&P, through our co-financing framework approach, took action in August 2022 by providing 80% of the total funding required to the Pauk Kone Village Development Committee to develop and implement an effective solution. The remaining 20% of the funds were contributed by the local community members to ensure ownership and

empowerment. This funding was allocated for the drilling of a groundwater well that would benefit nearly 110 households in the village. Upon the successful completion of this project, Daw Khaing San Win and Daw Ni Ni Win have confirmed that the water from this well is suitable for drinking, washing, and cooking, serving as an improved source of clean water that is readily available and free from contamination. This development has also enabled community members to make more efficient use of their time towards improving their own livelihoods.

Providing access to safe and clean water has a positive impact on the socio-economic status, in particular, towards women in our local communities. It is observed that the lack of clean water access often dispropor-

tionately impacts the lives of women on the basis that they tend to hold the responsibilities of homemakers within their respective households. By ensuring reliable access to water, their socio-economic standing and access to more opportunity is meaningfully enhanced.

When asked about the importance of water, Daw Khaing San Win expressed, "I can use firewood to cook a meal for today when electricity is not readily available, but I cannot go a day without water." Daw Ni Ni Win echoed the sentiments of her fellow resident, emphasizing, "Water is vital to our daily existence as human beings; it is our essential need." Both women expressed their gratitude towards MPRL E&P for making a significant difference in their lives through their efforts.

Case Study

Making a Smart Investment: Solar-Powered Water Pumping System for Community Water Supply

For Mann Kyoee Village, one of the 14 surrounding communities in Mann Field, having a reliable source of water is essential, especially during the summer hot weather. This period not only lowers the water levels but also diminishes the water supplies from the two wells, previously drilled under MPRL E&P's CSR Program in their village, while the demand for water continues to rise. Moreover, frequent power outages during the summer and increasing fuel costs have rendered traditional water pumps too expensive to operate, leaving 424 households in the village without sufficient water.



U Win Ko
(Mann Kyoee Village)

On the other hand, a solar-powered water pumping system utilizes energy from the sun, which is free and abundant in the Central Dry Zone. This technology ensures reliable water access with next to

nothing electricity bills and minimal environmental impact. The installation process is straightforward, and once in place, it operates effortlessly and requires minimal maintenance. Furthermore, solar panels have a lifespan of 25 to 30 years, ensuring the system's longevity and ongoing support for the community.



MPRL E&P's pioneering solar-powered water pumping system project for Mann Kyoe Village entails a 30-foot deep water well and a 1380-foot PVC pipeline connecting the well to two ground-level water storage tanks. The system can draw up to 18,000 gallons of water from the well every day, serving the basic needs of 424 households and 1,558 residents in the village from 7 in the morning to 5 in the evening.

The solar-powered water pumping system represents a community infrastructure project, marking the first of its kind implemented under MPRL E&P's CSR Program in April 2023 within the Mann Field community. The project was a collaborated effort between the CSR Program and Mann Kyoe Village,

with a total cost MMK 5,164,100. MPRL E&P contributed the majority, MMK 4,660,500 while the Mann Kyoe Village contributed MMK 503,600.

Our Community Liaison U Win Ko, a resident of Mann Kyoe Village, explains how the project improves water security of the community. "I am very happy that the new well is now completed with a solar-powered water pumping system that is very convenient to operate during power cuts or variability. It runs quietly from the morning until sunset. It also quickly fills our storage tanks with water. My house is located in the raised part of the village area, but we receive plenty of water from this new well powered by solar energy."



MPRL E&P's CSR Program has successfully leveraged some of the significant advantages of a solar-powered water pumping system to address the water scarcity and access in the village. These advantages include zero fuel costs, no electricity requirements, easy installation, operation and maintenance, environmental friendliness, and long-lasting performance. In future, we will continue to seek opportunities to extend this initiative within the community, ensuring its sustainability and effectiveness.

School Infrastructure Improvement

As part of the local infrastructure development initiatives in Mann Field, the construction and upgrading of physical school infrastructure aims to create an enhanced and more favorable learning environment that improves student enrollment, attendance, and completion in the K-12 public education sector.

In collaboration with our local communities, MPRL E&P undertook school infrastructure improvement initiatives in phases with the objective to ensure that schools in Mann Field are equipped with the necessary essential facilities. Our initiatives included providing sufficient cup-

boards, desks, and chairs for classrooms, as well as constructing strong floors and ceilings. Our Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) program was also developed with the objective to make available clean water and sanitation structures in schools that cater to the needs of both students and teachers.

MPRL E&P has also fully supported enhancement of school facilities creating playgrounds and areas for outdoor learning. The enhancement of such facilities, in addition to cognitive learning, is intended to support social development and emotional wellbeing, both also believed to play a vital

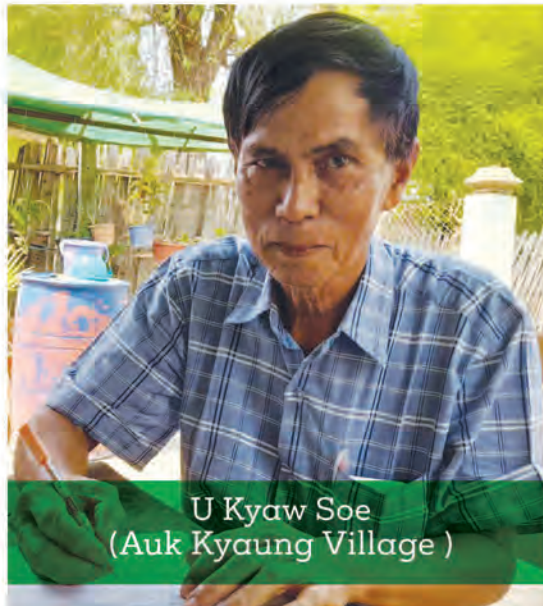


role in ensuring that school-aged children in Mann Field can maximize their learning potential.

Case Study

Community Infrastructure: School Support

Schools serve as the heart of a community, and they benefit when community leaders and other local stakeholders work together to ensure that children within the communities receive a proper education in order to support their holistic growth and development.



U Kyaw Soe actively fulfills his role as a chairperson in the school committee and also as administrator of Auk Kyaung Village in Mann Field. He actively participates in the security and management of the village school. Village leaders like him play a key role in advocating for community-driven improvements in the local educational infrastructure. He acknowledges the substantial improvements made in terms of facilities and amenities through MPRL E&P's support. Additionally, he supervises the maintenance of school water filtration units, recognizing their significance in ensuring that schoolchildren have consistent access to safe drinking water.



U Win Zaw, administrator of Lay Eain Tan Village, serves as the vice chairperson of the school committee and actively involves in various initiatives to improve the school. He has been involved with tasks such as classroom ceiling renovation and wall painting, ordering



desks and chairs, installing water filtration units and hand-washing stations, and overseeing the school fencing project. Furthermore, he takes responsibility for discussing and developing work plans to address the needs of the school in collaboration with teachers and school committee members. He ensures assigning roles and responsibilities properly within the community so that the projects are completed effectively and efficiently, from budgeting and material procurement to actual construction. He coordinates not only with MPRL E&P's community infrastructure development work but also with utilizing the school state fund to fulfill the needs of the school, students and teachers in his community. He recognizes that schoolchildren's health has been improved from better access to safe

drinking water at the school and they also maintain good hand hygiene, especially during the pandemic, through the use of the water filtration unit and hand-washing station that have been installed under MPRL E&P's CSR Program. He ensures these facilities are properly maintained, and he thanks MPRL E&P for undertaking continuous community initiatives at Mann Field.

Both village leaders said that they were pleased to be actively involved in these projects, which have brought a modern and updated look to their school and creating a closer resemblance to their urban counterparts. Additionally, these initiatives have increased students' awareness and knowledge around proper health and hygiene.



Daw Khin Yu Wai
(Kyar Kan School Headmistress)

Similarly, teachers and school principals from Let Pan Ta Pin and Kyar Kan schools appreciated MPRL E&P's behavior change campaigns conducted at their schools. They were keen to encourage their pupils to maintain personal hygiene practices such as handwashing to prevent water-borne diseases, imple-

ment systematic trash disposal, and develop an understanding of the value of trees and their preservation. They expressed gratitude for the classroom furniture donated by MPRL E&P, which now provides secure storage for their official documents and books. The teachers and principals are committed to keeping the schools open to the communities and ensuring the active involvement of community members in the day-to-day maintenance and sustainability of necessary school infrastructure and facilities moving forward.

Two high school students, one from Nan U Village and the other from Mann Kyoe, shared their ex-



periences regarding the improvements in community and school personal hygiene practices. They mentioned that since the implementation of MPRL E&P's WASH program, it has been a long time since they last heard of community children suffering from diarrhea resulting from unclean water. They expressed greater confidence in the quality of drinking water avail-

able at their schools in comparison to other sources. Above all, the students exuded confidence and pride in the fact that their schools are better equipped with improved classrooms, schoolyards, lab rooms, access to clean water, and improved sanitation facilities compared to other villages.

Livelihoods

Smallholder farmers often find that they do not need extravagant measures to realize a profit from their small farms. In reality, it is often the simplest solutions that can make a significant difference in their lives; solutions that can be found in basic good agricultural practices such as using high-quality seeds or fit-for-purpose fertilizer application.



MPRL E&P collaborates with smallholder farmers in Mann Field, providing them with the necessary supplies and training to enhance their farming knowledge, practices, and crop yields. These farmers, driven to increase the profitability and productivity of their horticulture crops, choose to partner with us because they can cultivate their land more systematically, thereby becoming better enabled to generate higher profits. This improvement in their livelihoods not only benefits them individually, but also contributes to building a better future for their communities as a whole.

Quality Farm Supplies

Realizing more productive farms and crop yields begins with leveraging better farming supplies, such as high-quality seeds, plastic

mulches, and organic fertilizer. MPRL E&P led the establishment of a seed bank and a process to select and store higher quality seeds to be used in the next planting season. This seed bank has not only helped farmer preserve and leverage quality seeds, but also further enhances sustainability in the face of climate risks. The high-quality seeds selected to be stored at the seed bank have undergone research, development, and testing to ensure maximum yields and improved resilience against extreme weather conditions, pests, and diseases.

Training

Farming techniques are equally as important as using qualified supplies when it comes to success in farming. Ensuring that soil conditions are healthy through the appropriate use of organic as well as



non-organic methods to treat soil is a necessary facet of improving crop yields. To fulfill this need, MPRL E&P and our local communities collaborate with external experts from the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation to deliver tailored farming and horticulture training directly to farmers throughout the growing season. This comprehensive training covers various farming techniques improvement aspects, including land preparation, planting techniques, fertilizer application, pest and disease management, harvesting, crop storage, processing, and recently, composting.



How We Gauge Our Success

Our primary focus is to ensure that our interventions are centered around the needs of farmers. MPRL E&P remains committed to continuously, consistently, and accurately assessing the scale, impact, and efficacy of our programs to ensure they remain fit for purpose.

Despite horticulture crops (which include flowers, fruits, and vegetables) bearing limited economic importance in terms of total agriculture export volumes, and accounting for only a small fraction of the total cultivated land area in the country, studies indicate that certain crops like chillie, onions,

garlic, mangoes, and melons still hold significant monetary value for local consumption and potential export markets.

However, our horticulture farmers in Mann Field previously faced difficulties upon encountering various challenges when cultivating their crops, as they are perishable and heavily reliant on favorable climatic conditions.

Our key inputs, which come in the form of improved planting materials such as seeds, environmentally friendly fertiliz-

ers, and sound agronomic practices, have demonstrated significant effectiveness over the past four years of our agricultural development initiatives in Mann Field. These inputs have not only facilitated farmers' learning about best practices but have also played a crucial role in skills transfer, adaptation, and farming sustainability.

We take much pride in our ability to engage with and assist one of the most entrepreneurial and underserved segments of the population. We achieve this by designing our livelihood-centered interventions in close collaboration with the small-scale farming households and the communities they belong to. Additionally, we work hand-in-hand with like-minded external resource organizations to ensure that farming in a dry zone becomes both profitable and sustainable.



Case Study

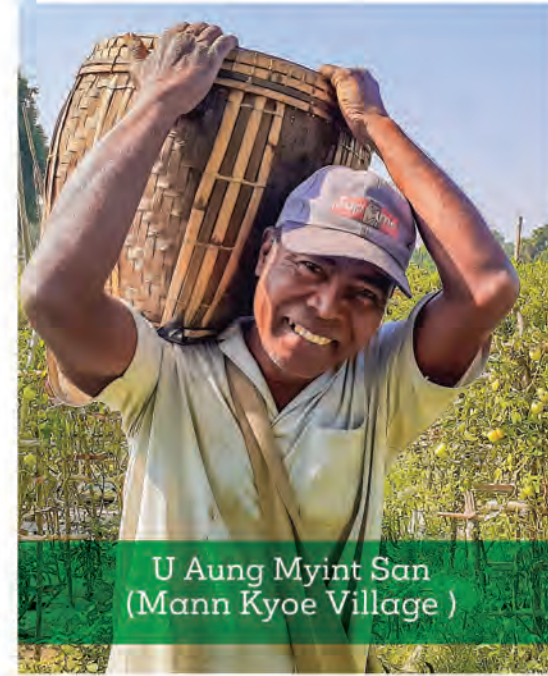
Small Farms, Big Profits

The first horticulture training took place in early 2019, with 41 farmers participating in our program. This training focused on teaching the participants on the use of black plastic mulch for growing tomatoes. Following this basic horticultural training, two farmers from Mann Kyoe and Kyar Kan villages achieved a substantial profit of MMK 8,000,000 in the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Utilizing plastic mulch allowed them to increase their crop yield and also bring their produce to the market early, resulting in higher prices.

Subsequently, more farmers have shown interest in implementing plastic mulch, raised beds, and

other modern farming techniques. The number of farmers engaging in these practices has significantly increased each year, leading to corresponding increases in their crop yields and profits.

U Aung Myint San, a resident of Mann Kyoe Village, is a farmer and an active participant in MPRL E&P's farming improvement initia-



U Aung Myint San
(Mann Kyoe Village)

tives. With his family of three, he cultivates tomatoes, sunflowers, beans, and pulses each year as a means of livelihood. U Aung Myint San participated in the agronomy

Fiscal Year	No. of Farmer	No. of Acre	No. of Village	Profits (MMK)
FY 2019-2020	2	1	2	8,000,000
FY 2020-2021	9	5	4	10,994,700
FY 2021-2022	18	7.35	3	31,849,997
FY 2022-2023	27	7.3	4	66,297,250



training sessions conducted by MPRL E&P, and he began implementing the knowledge gained during the 2019-2020 farming season specifically for cultivating tomatoes on his 0.50 acre farmland. Since adopting the new farming practices he learned through training, U Aung Myint San has witnessed a significant positive transformation in his agricultural methods and crop yields.

At the conclusion of his most recent tomato horticulture season, U Aung Myint San experienced remarkable improvements in both yield and financial returns. This positive outcome was attributed to various factors, including the utilization of high-quality seeds, the application of plastic mulch, access to agronomic practices such as the cre-

ation and top-dressing of Fish Amino Acid liquid fertilizer, and improved market conditions.

During the period spanning from September 2022 to March 2023, the cumulative production of tomatoes reached 150,188 kg. This substantial production volume was a result of consistent application of enhanced farming practices that he applied throughout the season. Consequently, U Aung Myint San, along with other smallholder farmers, were able to generate significant profits from their agricultural endeavors.

The experience of engaging in applicable and well-organized horticulture training has transformed U Aung Myint San into a passionate advocate for the adoption of more

organic and environmentally friendly practices. He strongly supports the use of organic fertilizers and pesticides, which not only prove to be cost-effective, but also provide valuable nutrients to both plants and soil. Previously, U Aung Myint San relied on chemical alternatives that not only harmed the soil and environment, but also became increasingly expensive over time.

U Aung Myint San now prefers to fertilize his tomatoes and other garden plants with fish protein organic liquid plant tonic. This natural solution not only acts as a repellent against insects, but also enriches soil health and stimulates plant growth, blooming, and fruiting. As U Aung Myint San walks among his tomato plants, the sight of them standing tall and laden

with fruits brings him immense pride and pleasure.

U Aung Myint San believes that despite the potentially higher costs associated with a more systematic approach to tomato cultivation, it is undoubtedly worth it. Natural and organic farming practices ensure that the crop receives adequate nutrients and effective pest control, ultimately resulting in a significant improvement in terms of both yield and income.

These days, U Aung Myint San dedicates some of his time to assisting his neighbors, sharing his knowledge, and providing practical help in the realm of organic tomato

farming. He is eager to pass on the benefits of his experience and contribute to the collective success of the community.





Backstopping Local Tomato Farmers
with Technical Knowledge and Horticultural
Input for Our National Diet

Case Study

Contract Farming: Our Way Forward?



U Tun Hla Aung
(Mann Kyo Village)

U Tun Hla Aung, the village administrator residing in Mann Kyo Village with his family of four, is an experienced farmer within the community who has developed a keen interest in contract farming.

Contract farming is a well-known approach that facilitates the coordination of agricultural production and trade, ensuring supply chain efficiency (farm to table concept).

In collaboration with MPRL E&P, U Tun Hla Aung is committed to exploring ways to establish a fair and socially responsible pilot model for contract farming. This model will be based on equitable relationships and flexible arrangements, aiming to enhance local farmers' access to high-value markets, training, technologies, inputs at lower rates, and credit services.

Moreover, the proposed model will help mitigate the risks associated



with fluctuating crop prices, price manipulation, and climate change related extreme weather events, such as droughts and floods. Through effective management, it is expected to enhance farmers' productivity while ensuring a continued supply of high-quality agricultural produce for businesses and consumers.

U Tun Hla Aung is eager to support his fellow farmers in seizing opportunities, as he has personally witnessed the transformative impact of MPRL E&P's interventions on the lives of local farmers. He believes that leveraging their success stories can pave the way for further positive change in the future.

Getting to Know the SDGs

The universal and most important goal of nations around the world is to achieve equal and balanced development, ensuring that every individual, regardless of their location, can equally benefit from the positive outcomes of globalization in the 21st Century. Countries commonly define development as encompassing both physical and mental progress, with the aim of enhancing the quality of life for all.



The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted during the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015 as successors to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), providing a comprehensive framework for development programs. The SDGs officially came into effect on 1 January 2016 with a 15-year implementation window that extends until 2030. While the SDGs consist of 17 goals, 169

targets, and 247 indicators, countries are not obligated to implement all of them. Instead, they are encouraged to align the goals with their national contexts and existing levels of development.

Myanmar and the SDGs

As a member of the United Nations since 19 April 1948, Myanmar fully recognizes the SDGs and has integrated them into the country's national development plans and goals. There is a strong political will in Myanmar to achieve these targets. In 2016, Myanmar's Central Statistical Organization (CSO) and UNDP carried out a joint data assessment. The findings were published in the SDG Indicator Baseline Report in 2017, which concluded that Myanmar is in a favorable position to start monitoring the SDGs

and utilize existing data to track progress. In 2022, Myanmar was ranked 103rd out of 163 countries for its overall progress towards achieving all 17 SDGs.

Myanmar's national priorities revolve around striking the right balance between economic and social development while prioritizing environmental protection. The focus is on people-centered development that promotes all aspects of livelihood improvement. Upon reviewing Myanmar's achievements in the MDGs, it is evident that there is still room for inclusive growth in ensuring improved access to healthcare and education services. However, there are significant barriers that Myanmar faces in achieving the SDGs:

- Stability and peace are critical prerequisites for comprehensive development.
- Multi-stakeholder partnerships involving the government, private sector, civil society, and the international community need to coordinate their efforts in a harmonized and balanced manner.
- Enhancing public awareness and interest in participating in the national development agenda, along with access to adequate financial and human resources.



Myanmar's LDC status

According to the world body, there are 46 countries designated as least developed countries (LDCs). These countries are characterized as low-income nations facing significant structural barriers to sustainable development and are highly vulnerable to economic and environmental shocks. They have special access to specific international assistance mechanisms in the areas of development aid and trade. The list of LDCs is reviewed every three years by a group of independent experts reporting to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), known as the UN Committee for Development Policy (CDP).

The CDP uses three criteria in proposing a country for graduation

from the list: per capita income, human assets, and economic vulnerability. If the CDP recommends a country for graduation, the ECOSOC and the General Assembly will endorse it, providing a grace period of three years. During this period, the graduating country and its development and trade partners agree a smooth transition strategy to ensure that the loss of LDC status does not disrupt the country's development. While graduation represents a significant milestone in the development process, a graduating country also faces a new set of challenges.

Myanmar was included in the group of LDCs in 1987. Since the resumption of economic relations with the international community in the 2010s, Myanmar has made

significant strides in social and economic development. In 2018, Myanmar adopted the Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP), aligning it with the SDGs and other regional development frameworks. The CDP is scheduled to review Myanmar's graduation criteria in 2024, following its initial fulfillment of these criteria in 2018.

This means if Myanmar can sustain these development results upon graduation, it will gain access to resources that can enhance the government's financial, human resource, and technical capacity to implement the SDGs. For instance, government revenues from taxation and state-owned enterprises will serve as significant sources of income for the country's SDG implementation. However, there are a few areas that Myanmar needs to continue working on to graduate successfully:

- Addressing the gaps between national policies and operations of local institutions.
- Enhancing collaboration among government departments and other stakeholders to meet the targets.
- Improving the quality of SDGs data and ensuring accountability at all levels.

Additionally, assessment studies indicate that successful graduation and transition from the LDC category require strong human capital development, structural transformation, and economic reintegration. It is also crucial to have domestic political stability, institutional capacity development, and the lifting of economic and political sanctions. Currently, Myanmar should prioritize increasing investments in

the productive capacities of human resources, with a particular focus on accelerating and expanding technical and vocational skill training. This will ensure long-term benefits and help bridge the gap for sustained and inclusive economic growth. Policies and investments should also prioritize rural and under-served areas across the country, while mobilizing domestic resources to address the increased demand for public services. Therefore, key policy areas for stakeholders include skill training, public infrastructure, and improving access to energy.

Closing Thoughts: Activating on the UN SDGs

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) serve as both a source of inspiration and a valuable tool for assessing how business strategies and priorities align with the global sustainable development agenda. Businesses have the potential to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs through various actions and by employing an appropriate approach towards realizing them.

By leveraging the SDGs as a practical framework and guide, we have identified and prioritized our sustainability impacts throughout our company's value chain. We have embraced five SDGs through which we make the most significant contributions to the global sustain-



ability agenda in coordination with our stakeholders and partners. Our contributions to the relevant SDGs are outlined in the table in this section. We will continue to evaluate and adapt our sustainability strategy to reflect our growing portfolio and evolving global trends in sustainable development.

Relevant SDGs	Our Contributions
 <p>8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</p>	<p>We are committed to providing jobs, promoting labor rights, and making substantial economic contributions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We create and preserve 1300+ jobs directly and indirectly.• We are an equal opportunity employer.• We promote a safe working environment through our HSE system.
 <p>12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION</p>	<p>We consistently produce energy in a socially and environmentally responsible manner.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We implement environmental management plans, including tracking and inspection of emissions and resource uses as well as emergency response procedures to monitor and manage impacts resulting from our operations.

Relevant SDGs



Our Contributions

In relation to our offshore project, we are committed to adopting industry best practices for offshore discharges into the sea and preventing marine pollution by adhering to relevant international protocols.

- We plan to conduct an environmental baseline survey and ESIA at our offshore Block A-6/ Pyitharyar Integrated Project (PIP).
- We will assess and implement biodiversity conservation initiatives in the offshore project area in collaboration with local community, government and civil society stakeholders.

Relevant SDGs



Our Contributions

We persist in ensuring long-term sustainable business growth underpinned by a corporate governance system that promotes a commitment to transparency and accountability.

- We have created an organizational Code of Conduct and Anti-Corruption and Bribery Policy and regularly communicated implementation and progress in these areas internally and externally.
- We maintain our participations in the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC), and Myanmar Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (MEITI).



Through our stakeholder engagement strategy, we engage with host communities, local administrators, government departments, civil society organizations, NGOs/INGOs, among many others, fostering a meticulous and multi-stakeholder approach to contribute effectively to these SDGs.



Creating Impactful Change in Our Communities

Our Impact: By the Numbers



Total Contributions to
Social Performance
Initiatives

MMK **24,163.28** million

US\$ **4.60** million &

Total Contributions toward CSR
and Corporate Philanthropy

US\$ **2.45** million

Total Contributions toward CSR
Initiatives



Operational
Grievance
Mechanism
(OGM)

175

Community Grievances
Resolved

98 %

Complainants Satisfied with
the Outcome



Community Capacity Building

US\$ **55,887.09**

Spent for Capacity Building Program

14 Community Volunteers Trained

70 Village Administrators and Development Committee Members Trained

2 Community Centers Upgraded



Agriculture & Livestock Farming Initiatives

52 Training Sessions for Community Farmers and Horticulturalists

291 Farmers Received Quality Seeds under Seed Bank Program

7 Seed Management Committees Founded



Community Infrastructure Initiatives

27 Community Infrastructure Built and Renovated

50 School Infrastructure Built and Renovated

19 Improved Access to Water and Sanitation



Vocational & Livelihood Initiatives

431+

Vocational Trainees

10+

Ongoing Collaborations with Government and Local Resource Organizations



Community Healthcare

21,139+

Community Members Received Healthcare

2,131+

Community Members Received Eye Healthcare



Educational Partnerships

27

Students Provided with Scholarships

5

Education Partnerships that Benefit Community Youth



Stakeholder Engagement

193 Periodic Reports Distributed

46 Quarterly Newsletters Distributed

41 Quarterly Meetings with Community Leaders

10 Community Needs Assessments Conducted



Acknowledgements





Over the course of ten years, MPRL E&P's CSR Program has provided support to over 10,000 people across the 14 villages in Mann Field. Our efforts have addressed basic needs such as water access and healthcare, while also offering livelihood assistance, knowledge, and skills development to farming households, youth, and women. None of this significant work would have been possible without the diligence and meticulousness of our staff and partners, as well as the generous support of our management.

We have recognized that the impact of our programs and outcomes is more substantial when implemented collaboratively, with buy-in at all levels and involving various actors, including civil society

and government. Therefore, we would like to express our gratitude to everyone for their past and ongoing commitment. As we reflect on our journey, we remain dedicated to strengthening our existing approach

to sustainable development and shared philanthropy. We emphasize the importance of amplifying local actions, building partnerships, developing capacity, and nurturing leadership.





Delivering Flood Relief
Support to the Mann Field Communities





Embracing Corporate Philanthropy
in the Early Days of CSR





Imparting CSR Knowledge to MOGE General Managers and Assistant General Managers





Inspiring Outdoor Play and Enhancing Engagement with Learning at Schools



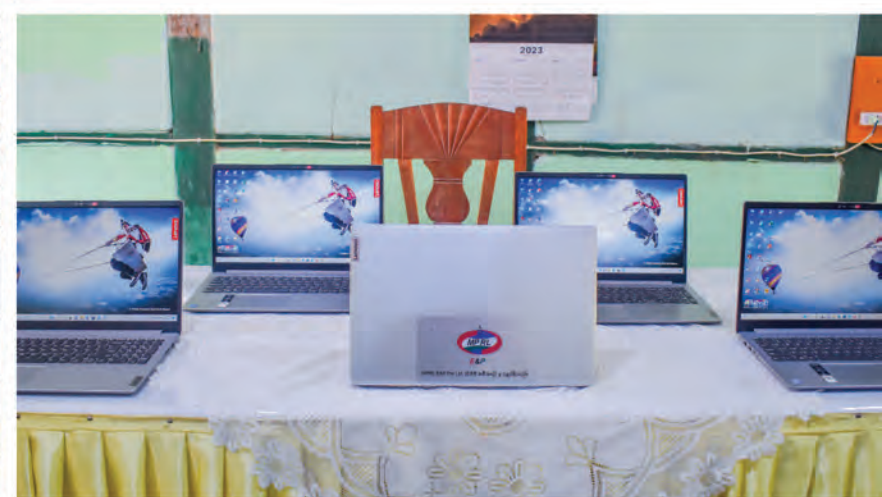


The Triumph of Knowledge over Obliviousness





Supporting Educational Equipment which Plays a Significant Role in Promoting Effective Teaching and Learning in Classrooms





Enabling Children's Access to Digital Learning



Bringing Bokashi to Community Composters





Taking Consistent Action against Plastic Pollution





Celebrating the Spirit of Volunteerism and Recognizing the Outstanding Commitment of Volunteers to the Community





Fulfilling Our Responsibility as Citizens of the Community and Keeping Our Families and Community Safe









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entering the Website

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