Ahlin Yaung: Improving Access to Renewable Energy in Rural Myanmar

UN-DESA Powering the Future We Want

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AREAS OF CHANGE

ENABLERS OF CHANGE
- Capacity Development
- Governance
- Engaging Markets

DOMAINS OF CHANGE
- Individuals, families and communities enjoy good health, have sustainable livelihoods and manage natural resources responsibly

INTEGRATED APPROACH
- Partnerships, systems, structures and mechanisms are strong, responsive and accessible

AREAS OF IMPACT

MEDIUM TERM CHANGE
- People have voice and are able to make informed choices
- People create and advance local solutions

LASTING CHANGE
- People, communities and institutions are resilient and able to act with agency
- People, communities and institutions are able to take ownership of their future

PEOPLE OWN THEIR FUTURE
Pact in Myanmar

2 decades in Myanmar (Burma):

- National Microfinance portfolio
- Integrated Development portfolio

- 4,000 employees
- 75 offices
- 10,000 villages

- Deep roots
- Trusted development partner
Our Integrated Development Portfolio
Energy Access in Myanmar

- 32% of population in Myanmar has access to electricity; 7% rural
- 68,000 villages in Myanmar – only 3,000 electrified
- Biomass = 70% of primary energy
- 61% earn <$2/day
Sustainable Access to Funds

- 50,000 empowered women with $2.5 M in Village Savings & Loan funds - “WORTH”

- 1,350 Village Development Funds worth $1.2M

  - Communities’ top development priority – electricity – 20%
  - Diesel generators

Village Development Fund grant disbursements
Why Rural Renewable Energy?

- Impact on:
  - Health
  - Livelihoods, farming
  - Education
  - Community affairs

- Opportunity and interest, but lack of access to sufficient capital

- National Electrification Plan 2030 – many remote, rural villages a long time from grid power
Ahlin Yaung Renewable Energy Program

- Goal: provide solar power to 1 million by 2020

- Builds on successful model based on village ownership – new RE capital fund linked to VDF and VDC

- UN-DESA grant – would add 50,000 beneficiaries
Ahlin Yaung - Community-Led Renewable Energy

VDF Model

VSL Model
Challenges

• The grid is coming
• Inexpensive but poor quality solar increasingly available
• Government freebies
• Lack of familiarity with solar
• Up-front cost