

Kadu Youth Development Association (KYDA)
Social Assessment
February 2017

Indigenous Peoples in the project area

We will work mainly with people of Kadu and Shan ethnicity in Indaw Township, but will also provide information for people of other ethnicities (mainly Burmese). This project will focus on 5 target villages in Indaw Township. This data is based on the results of an assessment conducted before we developed the project proposal.

Village Name	Location	Ethnicity	Population
Thetkelkyin	North of the Lake	Kadu and Shan	1250
Innywa	East of the Lake	Kadu, Shan and Burmese	649
Latpankone	East of the Lake	Kadu and Shan	600
Paebin	West of the Lake	Kadu and Shan	792
Natmahotekalay	South of the Lake	Shan & Burmese	1608

841 households with a total of 4,899 Kadu, Shan and Burmese people are living around the project area. Even though there is a diversity of ethnicities, they share a common language (Myanmar language), and have traditions and cultural beliefs that do not significantly conflict.

Expected project impacts on target community (both positive and negative).

Community Forestry will be useful for local communities because currently they are illegally extracting wood and other resources (such as bamboo) from the government-managed forest reserve. This will be a positive impact, as they will now be able to harvest natural resources sustainably, and legally.

Once Community Forests have been established, people who are not members of the target village will not be able to extract natural resources from there. Some of them may steal timber and other resources from the Community Forest. If this happens, we will work with other villages to raise their awareness about the importance of Community Forestry.

Fish spawning and nursery grounds will be protected as Community Fisheries. However, protecting parts of the lake in that way may mean that some people have reduced access to the natural resources. KYDA will work with our local monitor to discuss this with the local fishermen during the training in Sustainable Fishing Practices, and will discuss it during community meetings, so that everyone understands the role of Community Fisheries in maintaining the productivity of the lake. This negotiation will take place before the Community Fisheries are established, to make sure we can agree common ground rules and receive advice from the fishermen.

By implementing this project, we intend that members of local communities will have more knowledge increase understanding power about sustainable management of natural resources, change their mind-set and behavior, and will be able to maintain their environment more than before. They will be able to apply the knowledge that they have learned, and share it with others in their communities. A direct positive impact of the project will be that local communities understand how to conserve the natural resources upon which they depend, and better protect the environment.

Activities under Objective 3 (generating better information about the biodiversity of the lake) will be implemented with significant community participation. Local fishermen are an excellent source of information about the lake's biodiversity.

In addition, increased understanding about sustainable fisheries practices will allow members of local communities to have a greater income in the future. In recent years, fish catches have been declining in all parts of the lake, and we hope that this project will contribute to reversing this trend.

We do not anticipate that there will be any negative impacts as a result of the project.

How you have achieved Free, Prior and informed Consent during project design?

In January 2016, we organized a meeting in Indaw Twonship in order to consult with the target communities about the project. Forty-two participants from 10 villages and two wards were involved. They recognised the need for action and agreed to participate in conservation activities to protect the lake and other natural resources. All local people at the project site speak Myanmar language, and are easily able to communicate with each other. The Smaller Indaw Lake Conservation Committee will include equal numbers of representatives from each ethnic group, and will also be balanced in terms of gender and education level.

How will you avoid adverse impacts and provide culturally-appropriate benefits?

Every year, farmers work to extend the agricultural land around the lake for growing paddy during the summer. This is particularly the case to the east and west of the lake. Farmers who are working this land may consider that they are being disadvantaged if the Forest Department demarcates their land as protected areas during the conservation project around the lake. There is forested land at the eastern edge of the lake cleared by farmers every year, to extend their agricultural, however this is illegal according to the government.

If we face this situation, KYDA will meet with the farmers who are working around the lake to discuss the problem, and attempt to broker a consensus at the Smaller Indaw Lake Conservation Committee (SILCC). Local people who are farming these areas need to participate in some of the project activities to increase their awareness about the conservation process.

How will these measures will be monitored?

The freelance project monitor (Daw Nilar Aung) will observe the Smaller Indaw Lake Conservation Committee. She will take assessment baseline data before the start of the project including data needs, data sources, data method, frequency and responsible person, to indicate the hierarchy of objectives. We can measure their social ecology increasing and becoming more eager to learn based on more about environmental conservation by finding out their opportunities. Local community members will be invited to provide comments and assessments through them.

Monitoring of project implementation (including safeguards issues) will be done by KYDA staff who will visit the site every month, including meetings with community representatives to update them about project progress, and receive their input.

How will you establish/manage a grievance mechanism?

We will establish a monitoring committee under SILCC. Monitoring committee members are responsible for collecting information and reporting to the project staff. We will also employ a third-party project monitor. We will establish a grievance mechanism by producing and sharing pamphlets and posters about the conservation campaign, which will include the contact information (name, email address, telephone number, etc.) of KYDA staff, and the CEPF RIT (MERN and IUCN).