

Another Development Burma for



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Another Development for Burma

The project Another Development for Burma provides a platform for political, community and issue-based groups within the Burma democracy movement to consider long-term, holistic and visionary thinking on the future of Burma. Activists, practitioners and politicians, united by their devotion for political and social change in Burma, meet to gain and share knowledge and ideas on how to meet future development challenges. Through seminars and workshops, policy alternatives for different thematic sectors are examined, and policy recommendations are drafted, discussed and revised.

The policy recommendations can be used as a tool for internal and external advocacy, as a basis for debate and policy formulation by a future democratically elected government of Burma or as input in dialogues for transition. In addition, the process of elaborating the policy recommendations is in itself valuable in terms of capacity building and information sharing among all actors involved.



The project aims to

- facilitate engagement by both leadership and grassroots of the democracy movement in long-term development considerations, beyond the immediate struggle for democracy.
- increase capacity and empower civil society actors and grass-roots activists to raise their concerns with regard to policy development.
- increase coordination and dialogue between community- and issue-based groups and policy makers within the democracy movement, to aspire a common vision.

Organization and coordination

The Another Development for Burma process is facilitated by project coordinators and a core group of devoted volunteering individuals from different thematic fields, political alliances and ethnic groups. The core group members operate in their individual capacity, but their wide-ranging networks enable broad outreach to groups within the movement and in local communities. The core group is open for new members to join.

The coordinators and core group work in collaboration with the *Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation (DHF)*, a Swedish Foundation with a global network of activists and scholars. Through its crosscutting work areas and extensive network the DHF can play a catalysing role in identifying alternative perspectives as well as individual resource persons with particularly valuable experiences for the Burma movement. The process is however largely planned and led by the Burmese coordinators and the core group, with support from and in consultation with the DHF.

Previous project activities

- First High-level seminar: *Another Development for Burma*, Mae Sot, Thailand, 8-12 January 2003.
- Second High-level seminar: *Economic policy and development planning*, Chiang Mai, Thailand 14-17 Dec 2003.
- Publication: *Another development for Burma: Priorities in transition*. Printed and distributed in Burmese and English in 2004. Translated and printed in Mon language upon an initiative by Mon Youth Progressive Organization (MYPO) in 2007.
- Thematic seminar: *Another Development for Burma: Water, Agriculture, Land, and Environment*, Chiang Mai, Thailand, 17-19 December 2004.
- Follow-up seminar: *Environment Seminar on Burma*, Chiang Mai, Thailand, 12-15 January 2006. Co-sponsored by Open Society Institute.
- Thematically crosscutting seminar: *Another Development for Burma: Aspiring Visions for the Future*, Chiang Mai, Thailand, 29 May – 2 June 2007. Co-sponsored by Open Society Institute.
- Workshops: *Institutional Reforms in Transitional Period: Czech Republic Experience*, co-organized with People in Need (PIN), Chiang Mai, Mae Sot and Sangkhlaburi (Thailand), December 2007.
- Thematic seminar: *National Health Policies for Burma*, Mae Sot, Thailand 21-22 February 2008. Co-organized with Burma Medical Association (BMA) and National Health and Education Committee (NHEC).
- Thematic workshop: *Security sector reform*, 2-4 June, Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- Workshops: *The role of international financial institutions in Burma – in post-Nargis reconstruction work and transition times*, 29-31 August 2008 in Mae Sot and 3-5 September 2008 in Chiang Mai, Thailand.
- Publication: Facilitation of the production of the report *Post-Nargis Analysis: The Other Side of the Story*, produced as a result of the IFI workshops by 19 community, issue, politically or ethnically based groups on the Thai-Burma border. Published in October, 2008.
- Thematic seminar: *Economic policies for future Burma: What challenges do economic liberalization bring and how can sustainable livelihoods be ensured?*, Chiang Mai, Thailand, 28-31 November 2008.
- Thematic seminar: *Economic policies for future Burma II: Analyzing Mainstream Development and Alternative Economic Development Approaches*, Chiang Mai, Thailand 28-30 June, 2009.

