## Experiences so far from introduction of land consolidation in Myanmar

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## **SUMMARY**

Ministry of Agriculture, livestock and Irrigation (MOALI) of Myanmar and International Donors are contributing to ongoing expansion of irrigated areas under the command of primary and secondary canals (developed, or to be enhanced by MOALI), with complementary investments in land development identified through a Participatory Land Use Planning (PLUP) and Design Process. The objectives are to: (i) improve the equity and efficiency of irrigation water distribution; (ii) create opportunities for crop diversification; and, (iii) improve field access (for machinery and transport).

Areas for which land user rights have been approved and land titles issued (or are in the process of being issued) are eligible for land development under the land development projects. Farmer empowerment (or) Participatory Irrigation Management by forming Water Users' Group will be fostered, particularly in scheme operation and maintenance as an additional outcome of land development through the Participatory Land Use Planning (PLUP) and Participatory Design Process.

It is very important to have approved and issued land titles using updated cadastral maps and attribute area data for the smooth implementation of land consolidation projects. Most of the land consolidation projects in Myanmar are struggling to have approved and issued land titles with the consents of all beneficiary farmers.

As a first step PLUP Team of MOALI is trying to have updated digital Kwin (Farm Land) Maps with attribute area data of each plot in Kwin (Farm Land). And second step is to have approved and issued land titles with the consents of all beneficiary farmers using digital and updated Kwin (Farm Land) Maps with attribute area data of each plot for smooth Participatory Land Use Planning

(PLUP) and Design Process of land development projects.

The existing main challenges on the way forward to expand irrigated and consolidated farm land is the shortage of not only the skill but also the number of surveyors fully equipped for production of updated digital Kwin (Farm Land) Maps and land area data for land consolidation project in Myanmar. For improvement of Land Records and Practices in PLUP Team of MOALI Training of Trainers (TOT) for Kwin (Farm Land) surveyors and senior officials study tour to countries with recent success in cadastral map renewal and land consolidation programs and advanced land administration system should be supported accordingly by MOALI, international organizations and agencies.

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