

# SHAE THOT

**S**hae Thot, a five year program (2011-2016), is designed to provide over 3,000 villages in Rangoon Division, the Dry Zone and Southern Shan State of Burma with comprehensive, holistic services on maternal health and child health, livelihoods, food security and water and sanitation and hygiene in order to alleviate suffering and prevent death. These activities are intrinsically linked, since improvement in one area bring about improvements in other areas. Shae Thot is the collaborative design of four main partners, where UN-Habitat concentrates on increasing people's access to adequate and safe water and improved hygiene through not only infrastructural improvements but also transfer of knowledge and development of skills of the people by means of hands-on training.

## Water, a basic human right

Village communities in rural Burma obtain water for drinking and day-to-day consumption from open wells, unprotected springs, creeks, rivers, or ponds – often located some distance away from the village. The task of fetching water usually falls to women and children. During the dry season, the probabilities of these water sources drying up increase, forcing villagers to walk even further for alternative water sources, which are almost always contaminated. In addition, the use of latrines is not common in many areas of rural Burma, and knowledge of safe, hygienic practices is also limited: many people do not make the connection between poor water quality and diseases; dirty hands and unsanitary waste disposal perpetuate the cycle of disease and poverty. Due to these circumstances, water-borne diseases such as dysentery and diarrhea spread, making many people, particularly children, ill. Access to sustainable sources of safe water is a critical development and humanitarian issue.

Women are limited in their abilities to engage in either entrepreneurial or agriculture activities, for example, if they must spend many hours each day collecting and hauling water. Shae Thot aims to upgrade water collection and storage infrastructures throughout our target region, while actively involving community members at each stage in the process, from needs assessment and prioritization, to developing water and sanitation improvement plans, to carrying out construction and developing mechanisms to ensure long-term maintenance.



**UN HABITAT**

and solutions

၁၅.၀၃.၁၆



## Community Mobilization

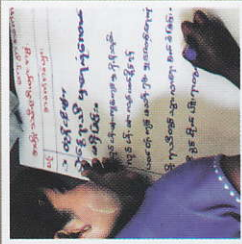
This project is fundamentally based on the philosophy of community mobilization and empowerment, where target communities actually lead the process of planning, implementation, monitoring and maintenance. It allows people to contemplate and come to terms with their situation; to organize and initiate action for their recovery and development with their own initiative and creativity. Through community mobilization, people can organize themselves to take action collectively by developing their own plan and strategy for recovery rather than having it be imposed from outside.

## Local Governance

All project activities are directly executed by UN-Habitat in target areas by establishing Village Development Committees (VDCs) where members are sourced from the community.

During the selection of members for Village Development Committees (VDCs), numbering usually 7-10 persons, the community is encouraged to nominate and vote for people that do not already hold posts with local authorities or NGO's to minimize the possibility of conflict of interest and at the same time select those people that have influence and sway (village elders and local opinion leaders) over the community, the latter ensures that decisions taken by the VDCs are upheld by the community allowing for sustainable development building on existing power structures and hierarchies within the community.

Myanmar recently opened and is on the way to becoming a democracy. The Habitat program is also an application of democracy. The members to represent the villagers. Elected persons have the villagers and anything we do. Transparency is an essential part of our VDC management, we apply democracy in our villages and how we solve problems to achieve our community




## Community Action Planning Community Contracts

The project is implemented through community contracting system. A community contract is the formal instrument of agreement between UN-Habitat and the beneficiary households. The implementation of community contracts promoted by UN-Habitat follows a step-by-step methodology within the framework of the Community Action Planning (CAP) approach, where UN-Habitat supports community to prepare development plans. In the UN-Habitat community contract system the community is at the center of the process in terms of identifying the works, design of the works, managing the execution, controlling the finances, procurement of materials, managing labor, store keeping and accounting, and accountability to the community.

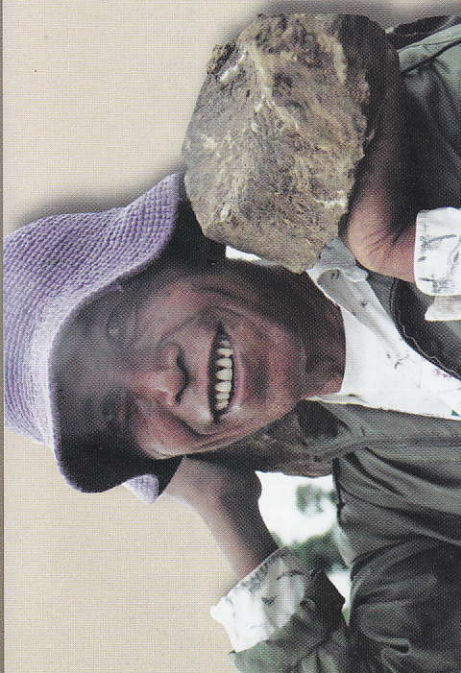
## Women Empowerment

An important response to inequality is building awareness. This requires that any decision considers its impact on the condition and position of both men and women, and the relationship between them, and adjusts interventions to promote fairness. A widely accepted strategy to achieve this is mainstreaming. UN-Habitat ensures mainstreaming of gender equality throughout the project implementation.

... a democratic country. What we do with the UN-  
... the community selects its own leaders and committee  
... to be transparent; therefore, we show the budget to  
... essential indicator of democracy. When we apply it in  
... e. We also share with our community the challenges,  
... common goal



# access to safe water is a fundamental need and therefore a basic human right



**340,395 people with access to water**

## After two years of implementation

Biosand Filter for HH Water Treatment	61,824
Cart to carry water	16
HH RWH cisterns/ Gutter/ concrete tank/ GI plain sheet gutter/ flexible pipe	26,965
Deep Tube-Well (powered) (new)	128
Deep Tube-Well (powered) (renovation)	6
Drainage/sewerage for clean environment	29
Fencing with chain link	1
Fly Proof Latrines for Households	10,609
Rain Water Collection Tank(5000- gal) for communal places	104
Hand-Dug Well (New)	149
Hand-Dug Well-Renovation	98
Household level iron Removal System	40
Iron removal system	2
Jerry Can (4.5 gal)	1,200
Min-Dam/Reservoir (New)	8
Min-Dam/Reservoir (Renovation)	6
New Pond-Earth Work Dig & Fill	6
Gravity flow pipe water supply installation systems	32
Ground Tank (3000 gal)	5
Ground Tank (5000 gal)	4
Pond Renovation-Fencing/Brick steps/Platform	17
Pond Renovation-Stilling well/Filter/Spillway	98
Pump house, pump, motor and water purification unit	2
River water supply system with pumps	4
Road path to water source	68
Sub-surface dam/sand dam(new)	3
Shallow Tube-Well	356
Stage, platform and stainless steel tank	1
Over Head Tank/Testle	8
School Latrine	1

Supported by



### Contact us

United Nations Human Settlements Programme, UN-Habitat  
 No 8, Natogyak Road  
 Yangon - Myanmar  
 Telephone (95-1) 542 910 ~ 19 Ext 135  
 Fax (95-1) 430 628, 544 531, 545 634  
 Email [desk@unhabitat.mya.org](mailto:desk@unhabitat.mya.org), [un.habitat.mya@gmail.com](mailto:un.habitat.mya@gmail.com)  
<http://www.tukuoka.unhabitat.org>