



# MYANMAR CLIMATE ACTION WEEK



**13** CLIMATE ACTION



*Event Summary Report*

20 – 26 March 2023

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# 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The first Myanmar Climate Action Week was held between 20 and 26 March 2023 with the goal of revitalizing climate discussion and action within the country. The event was hosted by UN-Habitat Myanmar as part of the Myanmar Climate Change Alliance programme funded by the European Union. The event brought together stakeholders from various sectors to refocus on the pressing issue of climate change amidst shifting priorities due to the ongoing political crisis and COVID-19.

Presentations and panels were held over the course of the week with speakers from organizations working within Myanmar as well as from the South and Southeast Asian regions. Throughout these discussions, the urgency of the climate crisis was emphasized with special attention drawn to the impacts of climate change already felt within the country. Notably, while Myanmar only contributes 0.1% of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, it is within the top three most climate-affected countries in the world. By 2050, sea levels are projected to rise 20–41 cm and temperature to increase 1.3–2.7°C on average. These changes will have devastating impacts across Myanmar. Since climate change is a cross-cutting issue, different sectors must unite to mitigate and adapt to the coming changes. The alignment between climate action and the Sustainable Development Goals underscores the interconnectedness of these global agendas. Through enhanced engagement and collaboration between stakeholders, UN-Habitat Myanmar hopes to increase awareness of, and progress towards, more effective climate action.



## MCCA2

The EU funded Myanmar Climate Change Alliance (MCCA) programme, is dedicated to raising climate change awareness and building climate resilient communities through inclusive actions. The first phase of MCCA was implemented between 2013 and 2018. MCCA1 built awareness and advocacy about climate changes and supported development of climate policy instruments. Additionally, MCCA1 piloted climate change vulnerability assessments and adaptation planning tools in three geographically distinct townships and supported implementation of climate actions.

Now in its second phase, MCCA2 will continue to build upon the work from the programme's first phase. MCCA2 will scale up climate adaption and mitigation actions to enhance climate resilience at the community level and increase multisector dialogue about climate change. These goals will be achieved through greater knowledge generation and exchange among climate actors. Additionally, UN-Habitat will work in eight geographically diverse townships of different climatic zones to demonstrate climate adaptation and mitigation actions. Climate actions will be locally appropriate and incorporate gender-responsive and inclusive DRR approaches. MCCA2 will be implemented until March 2025.

# 2. ATTENDANCE & ORGANIZATION OF WORK

## PLACE AND DATE OF THE EVENT

### ATTENDANCE

#### UN Agencies, Funds, Programs

United Nations agencies, funds, and programs that attended included the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), and the UN Resident Coordinator's Office (UNRCO) in Myanmar.

#### Speakers and Panelists

During the pre-event "Building a Climate Resilient City by Young City Shapers-Workshop" Thurein Aung, Senior Public Outreach Manager from Doh Eain, facilitated the event and the young city shapers attended.

During the opening session "Launching event for Myanmar Climate Action Network" the following speakers and panelists attended: Catarina Camarinhas, Country Programme Manager of UN-Habitat Myanmar, Manjeet Dhakal, Director of Climate Analytics South Asia, Maung Maung Than, Director of Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific (RECOFTC), Aung Thant Zin, CEO of Myanmar Environmental Rehabilitation-conservation Network (MERN), Denis Kenan Schaefer, Team Leader from Prevent Plastics Myanmar, Hang Dal, Head of Climate and Energy from WWF-Myanmar, Su Mon Htay, Director of Human Resources and Admin from Plan International.

During the event "Unlocking Potential for Accelerating Climate Action" the following speakers and panelists attended: Nawraj Pradhan, Lead Climate Finance Specialist from Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC) Thailand, Sanjeev Bhuchar, Senior Watershed Management Specialist from The International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) Nepal, Vishwas Chitale, Advisor for Artificial Intelligence Program from GIZ India, Khin Aung Thein, Maung Maung from United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) Myanmar.

During the event "Reimagining Our Future Together: The Role of Civil Society Organizations in Undertaking Climate Actions in Myanmar" the following speakers and panelists attended: U Tin Aung Moe, MERN, U Than Soe Oo, MERN, U Lwin Maung Maung Swe, ALARM, Dr. Maung Maung Kyi, RCA, U Thein Saung, GEDA, Marianne Mosberg, International Researcher, Aye Mya Thinzar, Climate Change Officer of Centre for Development and Environment (CDE), U Shwe Thein, Director from Land Core Group, U Myo Oo, Green Network Tanintharyi Region (GNTR).

During the event "Building resilience to future climates: Looking to the future" the following speakers and panelists attended: Murielle Morisson, Program Manager from CORAD, Bobby, Chief Executive Officer from Network Activities Group, Kha Ze, Project Coordinator from Metta Development Foundation, Ms. Nyein Ei San, Construction Supervisor from UNOPS Myanmar.

# 2. ATTENDANCE & ORGANIZATION OF WORK

## ATTENDANCE

During the event "CSO-led SDG Monitoring" the following speakers and panelists attended: Aung Thu Moe, Consultant, Myo Oo, Founder of Green Network Thanintharyi Region, Kyaw Win, Director of Community and Environmental Development Association, Lon Thang, Director of Open Development Foundation, Than Soe Oo, Programme Manager from MERN.

During the event "Climate, Environmental Degradation and Disaster Risk in Myanmar" the following speaker attended: Ms Shon Campbell, Manager of Myanmar Information Management Unit.

During the focus session on "Nature-Based Solutions" the following speakers and panelists attended: Thomas Schaffner, Project Lead from 1001 Fontaines Myanmar, Sanjeev Bhuchar, Senior Water Management Specialist from International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD), Ngwe Lwin, Country Director a.i. from Fauna & Flora International (FFI), Naw Ei Ei Min, Director of Promotion of Indigenous and Nature Together (POINT), and Thomas Schaffner, Hang Dal, Head of Climate and Energy from WWF, Myanmar, Binu Mathew, Chief Operating Officer from Taru Leading Edge India, Regan Pairojmahakij, Senior Program Officer from The Center for People and Forests (RECOFTC), and Rajeev K.C., Delegate from IFRC Country Delegation.

### Cooperating Agencies

Cooperating agencies that hosted virtual booths via the online platform were Amazing Grace, Bokashi Myanmar, Doh Eain, Hla Day, Kokkoya Organics, Link to Earth Group (Myanmar RS & GIS Research Centre), Mercy Corps Myanmar, Myanmar Information Management Unit (MIMU), OLGA Children Art, Plan International Myanmar, Prevent Plastics Myanmar, Thant Myanmar, Recyglo, She Creates သူမလက်ရာ, Spectrum SDKN, Zero Plastic.

### Other Participants

See [Annex: Participants](#) for a list of all participants.

### UN-Habitat

Presenters and speakers from UN-Habitat included Catarina Teles Camarinhas, Country Programme Manager, a.i., Bernhard Barth, Human Settlements Officer, Shashank Mishra, Programme Specialist, Christopher Rollo, Philippines Country Programme Manager, Denzil Abel, Senior Advisor.

# 2. ATTENDANCE & ORGANIZATION OF WORK

## FLAGSHIP EVENTS

### OPENING SESSION: Launching event for Myanmar Climate Action Network

MCAW was officially opened on Tuesday March 21 by Catarina Teles Camarinhas, the Country Programme Manager a.i. of UN-Habitat Myanmar. As the first MCAW Ms. Catarina shared that the aim of the event was to revitalize discussion about climate change and encourage climate action. Ms. Catarina also announced the official launch of M-CAN (Myanmar Climate Action Network). She emphasized the importance of greater collaboration and partnership to address climate change, highlighting the need to involve a wider range of participants such as women and youth. She noted the importance of addressing the root causes of climate change and building resilience through concrete action rather than just discussions.

The introductory session then included presentations from three speakers. Bernhard Barth, Human Settlements Officer from UN-Habitat began with the presentation "Urban Climate Action" to show the role of nature-based solutions (NbS) in urban environments. He presented three different case studies from the Solomon Islands, Philippines and Mongolia and demonstrated how NbS can not only address the impacts of climate change but also provide direct economic benefits for urban areas.

Next, the short documentary "Grow More Trees" was shown. The video highlighted UN-Habitat's work with communities in Labutta township in the Delta region to implement NbS in the form of mangrove restoration. This project aimed to reduce the vulnerability and increase the resilience of coastal communities.

Manjeet Dhakal, Director from Climate Analytics South Asia presented "Climate Science to Action". The presentation emphasized the disparity between the impacts climate change is having on Myanmar versus the country's contribution to global emissions. Mr. Manjeet called for the global financial architecture to be reformed in order to deal with the ongoing impacts of climate change. He also emphasized that greater work to mitigate climate change will reduce the amount that needs to be spent on loss and damages.

Maung Maung Than, the Director of RECOFTC gave a presentation addressing the potentially devastating effects of climate change on Myanmar. He emphasized the need for urgent action and to overcome the challenges such as lack of adequate awareness, funding, and technology. Despite this, he stated that Myanmar has opportunities to address climate change through national-level policies, natural capital like community forests, and the generation of human and social capital.

Following the presentations, a panel discussion was held and moderated by Shashank Mishra, Programme Specialist from UN-Habitat Myanmar. On the panel was Aung Thant Zin, CEO of the Myanmar Environmental Rehabilitation-Conservation Network (MERN), Hang Dal, Head of Climate and Energy from WWF-Myanmar, Denis Kenan Schaefer, Team Leader from Prevent Plastics Myanmar, and Su Mon Htay, Director of Human Resources & Admin at Plan International, Myanmar.

# 2. ATTENDANCE & ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Key points that emerged from the panel discussion included the need to mainstream issues such as climate resilience as well as adaptation and mitigation measures such as NbS. The Myanmar Climate Action Network (M-CAN) was seen as having potential better integrate the voices of multiple stakeholders from the local to the national level. Being able to work with CSO was seen as a unique strength as it was highlighted that they already have experience changing or updating policies and laws. Ultimately, the need for a collective movement driven by a strategy was emphasized as time for climate action is running out.

Finally, the event ended with a short presentation on the overview of M-CAN conducted by UN-Habitat Myanmar. The Programme Specialist then reiterated M-CAN's goal of bringing non-state actors together to collaborate and increase climate action and knowledge across sectors. He then concluded by stating that registration for M-CAN members will continue to be open and encouraged organizations to join the network and be part of the journey to fight for climate change in the country.

## **FOCUS SESSION: Nature-Based Solutions**

On Friday March 24 Catarina Teles Camarinhas, the Country Programme Manager a.i. of UN-Habitat Myanmar, opened the focus session on nature-based solutions (NbS). She explained how NbS are an important tool for creating resilience to climate change and supporting the livelihoods for local communities. The following presentations were thus targeted at exploring how NbS have been applied in different contexts.

### **National Experiences on Climate Action**

Shashank Mishra from UN-Habitat Myanmar began with the presentation "Climate Change Issues of Coastal Region in Myanmar: A Case Study from Labutta". He spoke about the Myanmar Climate Change Alliance's work in Labutta which included a vulnerability assessment that focused on 3 factors: environmental and ecosystem vulnerability, socio economic vulnerability, and physical infrastructure vulnerability. The assessment help identify mangroves as a key area for increasing climate resilience. Thus, UN-Habitat implemented 10 hectares mangrove restoration in the Delta region as a NbS.

Thomas Schaffner from 100fontaines then presented "Sustainable Safe Drinking Water Solutions in Myanmar". He discussed 100fontaines model of establishing water kiosks to provide high quality, affordable, and accessible water to vulnerable populations. Their model of local entrepreneurship with support from the local NGO Network Activities Group has proven to offer a resilient solution to water access in the pilot phase in Myanmar's dry zone.

Sanjeev Bhuchar, Senior Water Management Specialist from ICIMOD, gave the presentation "Building Climate Resilience in Myanmar: A Few Resilient Solutions". In his presentation, he discussed two main initiatives which focused on building climate and socioeconomic resilience in mountain communities. These initiatives included activities such as bamboo regeneration,



## 2. ATTENDANCE & ORGANIZATION OF WORK

rainwater harvesting, and ginger cultivation. They additionally, identified their gender-responsive approach as a key part of their programming. They found that many of these initiatives could be scaled up and replicated in other regions to build resilience to climate change.

Following the presentations, a panel discussion was held and moderated by Hang Dal, the Head of Climate and Energy at WWF Myanmar. The panel was composed by Shashank Mishra, Programme Specialist at UN-Habitat Myanmar, Ngwe Lwin, Country Director a.i. from Flora and Fauna International (FFI), Myanmar, Naw Ei Ei Min, Director from POINT Myanmar, and Thomas Schaffner from 100fontaines.

Key points that emerged from the panel discussion included the need for more financing and focus on adaptation and mitigation measures, as well as better integration of indigenous and local voices into decision-making processes around adaptation and mitigation measures. NbS were highlighted as an important means of achieving greater climate resilience. Future programs should therefore consider NbS as a part of their programming.

### **Regional Experiences on Climate Action**

Christopher Rollo, Country Program Manager at UN-Habitat Philippines, gave the presentation "Nature-Based Solutions Approach and Community-led Interventions". In the presentation, he discussed how NbS solutions were implemented in Ormoc City in the Philippines. The solutions were co-designed at the neighborhood level to manage water within the city. They employed the concepts of store, delay, resist, and discharge by constructing canals, green streets, seawalls, and a water square. These projects help transform communities into more livable, climate-resilient places.

Binu Matthew, the Chief Operating Officer at Taru Leading Edge, then gave a presentation on their implementation of various nature-based solutions in India. In his presentation, he emphasized nature's natural resilience and adaptability as the basis for using NbS. However, he also illustrated different challenges to the implementation of NbS including technical, institutional, social, and economic barriers.

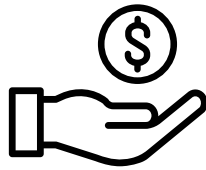
Following the presentations, another panel discussion was moderated by Dr. Catarina Camarinhas, UN-Habitat Myanmar. The panel consisted of Christopher Rollo, Country Program Manager at UN-Habitat Philippines, Binu Mathew, the Chief Operating Officer at Taru leading Edge, Denzil Abel, Senior Advisor at UN-Habitat Myanmar, Rajeev K.C., Delegate Disaster Management from IFRC, and Regan Pairojmahakij, Senior Program Officer from The Center for People and Forests (RECOFTC).

Key points that emerged from the panel discussion included the need for better education, increased access to climate finance, and the explicit acknowledgment of indigenous people as stewards and managers of the environment. Panelists also emphasized that NbS should become a default approach and should be better integrated into DRR programming.

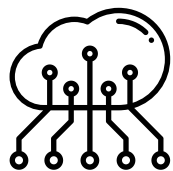


# 3. KEY THEMES

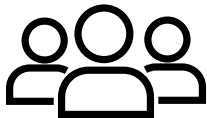
Throughout the Myanmar Climate Action Week, several key themes emerged as central for creating effective, sustainable, and successful climate action. These themes were present explicitly or implicitly through many of the presentations and discussions. The themes identified below should serve as potential jumping off points for further discussion. They should also be considered as areas that need further development and more attention when developing future activities and initiatives.



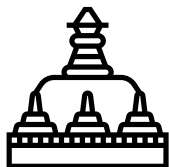
**FINANCING**



**TECHNOLOGY & DATA**



**YOUTH & GENDER**

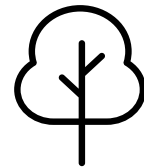


**TRADITIONAL & INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE**

**DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**



**NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS**



**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT & SECURITY**



**PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT**



# 3.1 FINANCING

Climate financing involves the mobilization and allocation of financial resources for climate action. It involves grants, loans, and investments into projects, policies, and initiatives aimed at climate mitigation or adaptation. Various sources of financing for climate action include public finance from governments and international institutions, private investments, climate funds, as well as innovative financing mechanisms.

**What to know:** The Green Climate Fund is a major climate finance fund established by the UN that supports global efforts to address climate change. COP27 additionally created the Loss and Damages Fund, which aims to assist the most climate vulnerable countries. While climate mitigation funding receives the majority of climate finance, there is a notable gap in funding for adaptation measures with only about 6% of funding allotted to adaptation. According to the UNEP Adaptation Gap Report 2022, the global annual adaptation needs are estimated to range between 160–340 billion USD by 2030. Grants play a crucial role in funding climate initiatives in an equitable manner and promoting climate action that doesn't prioritize profit generation. However, accessing climate finance remains challenging for developing nations.

**What to do:** Funding must be increased for climate adaptation activities, particularly for LDCs such as Myanmar and countries already suffering from multidimensional vulnerabilities and conflict where response mechanisms may be hampered. Exploring funding options from the private sector would be one way to bolster funding for both mitigation and adaptation efforts. Furthermore, it is crucial to invest in both new and existing climate related technologies, such as AI driven solutions.



**Nawraj Pradhan**  
Climate Finance Specialist  
ADPC

*"These funds are signals of best practices and transformations, stimulating markets, fostering innovation, taking a diverse set of risk, and contributing to capacity and institutional building of developing countries"*

## Related themes:



**PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT**



**TECHNOLOGY & DATA**

## 3.2 DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

Disaster risk reduction (DRR) refers to systematic efforts and measures taken to minimize the impacts of natural hazards and climate-related events on communities and ecosystems. It involves reducing the vulnerability of people, property, and the environment to these risks, as well as enhancing resilience to cope with and recover from their impacts.

**What to know:** Myanmar experiences high levels of climate vulnerability, ranking among the top three countries most affected by natural disasters. Understanding vulnerability, although challenging to quantify due to its multifaceted nature, plays a crucial role in comprehending risks. In 2018, MIMU conducted a vulnerability study, which explored various dimensions of vulnerability. The identified environmental and ecosystem vulnerability, socio-economic vulnerability, and the vulnerability of physical infrastructure as the key dimensions. The study also identified eight township typologies, providing a potential framework for targeted interventions and coordinated actions to address vulnerability more effectively.

**What to do:** Vulnerability assessments should be conducted at the community level to identify areas where interventions are necessary and effective. Analysis of risk should consider multiple possible realities, pathways, and outcomes to ensure comprehensive understanding of the possible vulnerabilities. It is also crucial to involve the most vulnerable populations, including indigenous communities, in DRR efforts. Building resilience is also essential, and NbS can play a significant role in achieving this. Employing local climate adaptation planning can help develop concrete actions that address climate risks.

### Related themes:



**NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS**

**TRADITIONAL & INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE**

## 3.3 TECHNOLOGY & DATA

Technology can be used to address the challenges of climate change through the utilization of scientific knowledge, innovations, and tools to provide a range of useful solutions and practices. Data can similarly be used to address climate challenges via the collection, analysis, and interpretation of information such as temperature records, CO2 emissions, weather patterns, and socio-economic data. Technology is critical for mitigating climate change and facilitating the transition to a sustainable and low-carbon future. Data is similarly important as it can be used to increase understanding of climate trends, assess risks and vulnerabilities, and monitor the effectiveness of climate actions.

**What to know:** Technology and data play a crucial role in conducting risk and vulnerability assessments and enabling more effective climate related decision making. Organizations like ICIMOD utilize geographical data and modeling software to develop 3D hydrological models, aiding in the understanding of springsheds. Similarly, GIZ in India leverages AI technology to identify the causes of environmental risks, with applications ranging from air pollution and water management, to urban planning, weather monitoring, and crop management. Technology also contributes to NbS, such as rainwater harvesting. However, it is important to note that technology alone is not the solution. When combined with community engagement, technology can become a powerful tool in addressing climate challenges and achieving sustainable outcomes.

**What to do:** It is crucial to allocate more funding and investment towards the development and implementation of new technologies to drive innovation and progress in addressing climate change. Additionally, there is a need for improved policy frameworks that effectively govern the use of emerging technologies, such as AI. Without policy frameworks, there is a risk that data and technology may be misused to the detriment of the environment and people while opportunities to utilize them for climate action fall by the wayside.

### Related themes:



**NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS**



**FINANCING**

# 3.4 NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS

Nature-based solutions (NbS) refers to solutions that utilize nature to address climate challenges and achieve sustainable outcomes. NbS involve the conservation, restoration, and sustainable management of ecosystems often with the goal of supporting climate mitigation and adaptation efforts. NbS not only help sequester carbon dioxide from the atmosphere but also enhance resilience to climate impacts, improve water resource management, and support biodiversity, while also benefiting local communities.

**What to know:** NbS encompass a diverse range of approaches, including ecosystem restoration and rainwater harvesting, that can be strategically applied in urban and rural areas. The adoption of NbS often faces challenges on technical, institutional, economic, and societal fronts. Despite these obstacles, NbS play a crucial role in DRR and offer valuable solutions to combat issues such as water scarcity. UN-Habitat frequently uses NbS in its approach to climate adaptation. Notably, UN-Habitat’s mangrove restoration project in the coastal Delta region of Myanmar used NbS in conjunction with vulnerability assessments and adaptation planning.

**What to do:** Due to the urgent crisis posed by climate change, taking a proactive approach is to applying NbS is essential. However, in order to effectively leverage NbS, it is crucial to involve indigenous communities, women, youth, and people with disabilities in the planning and implementation processes, ensuring representation of diverse perspectives. Furthermore, fostering cooperation and adopting an integrated approach at both international and local levels is key to successfully harnessing the potential of NbS. Consideration of land use implications is also vital to enhancing the success of NbS interventions. Finally, there is an additional need for increased research on NbS and sharing of findings to enhance knowledge and understanding of where and how to apply NbS most effectively.

**Related themes:**



**TRADITIONAL & INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE**



**DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

*"Nature has managed to withstand, overcome, and thrive despite the Earth's capricious weather patterns... This adaptability and endurance of nature has laid out the foundation for NbS."*



**Binu Mathew**  
Chief Operating Officer  
Taru Leading Edge

## 3.5 YOUTH & GENDER

In the context of climate change, youth and gender are two important dimensions that play significant roles in addressing challenges and achieving sustainable solutions. Youth involvement in climate action brings fresh perspectives, energy, and innovative ideas to tackle climate issues, while also playing the role of vital advocates of change. Gender responsive programming also recognizes the distinct roles, experiences, and vulnerabilities of individuals based on their gender. Gender responsive approaches aim to ensure equal participation, access to resources, and involvement of women in climate change initiatives.

**What to know:** During the panel discussion on Youth's Visions on Climate Action in Myanmar, the country's youth speakers expressed deep concerns regarding the depletion of natural resources and environmental degradation. They raised alarming issues about changing weather patterns, rising temperatures, and pollution. Shar Thae Hoy, a youth representative, has taken the initiative to promote citizen science and citizen climatology, collaborating with Climate Toolbox to enhance climate science awareness. Sai Thet Nay Lin emphasized the power of his photography work in increasing awareness by capturing the visible impacts of climate change. In order to promote gender representation, 1001 Fontaines requires the inclusion of women in water boards. ICIMOD also adopts a gender-responsive approach in their work to empower women and enhance income generation, including the establishment of women's savings groups.

**What to do:** To effectively address climate change, it is crucial to adopt a socially inclusive approach that actively involves youth and women. Their perspectives, ideas, and contributions are essential in shaping climate action. Furthermore, there is a pressing need for improved education on climate change and climate science presented in accessible language that reaches all segments of society. Empowering youth leaders and prioritizing their involvement in UN and NGO work is vital for driving meaningful change and ensuring intergenerational equity in climate decision making.

### Related themes:



**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT  
& SECURITY**



# 3.6 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT & SECURITY

Resource management and security are interlinked concepts that refer to the sustainable and efficient use of natural resources while ensuring their availability and accessibility in the face of climate related challenges. Resource security ensures that people have the essential resources such as water, energy, food, and minerals needed to live. Natural resource management focuses on the sustainable utilization and conservation of natural resources such as forests, land, water bodies, and biodiversity. By prioritizing resource management and security, societies can enhance their resilience and reduce vulnerability in the face of a changing climate.

**What to know:** Effective resource management leads to increased resource security. Ecosystem management in particular plays a key role in fostering resilience, as it helps maintain the health and functionality of natural systems. One example is the ICIMOD project, which focuses on enhancing forest conditions and groundwater recharge to improve water security. Adaptive approaches must also be taken address to issues of resource security. UN-Habitat in the Philippines uses the framework of Store, Delay, Resist, Discharge in their NbS design approach to manage water as a resources that is both necessary for life but also deadly.

### Related themes:



**YOUTH & GENDER**



**TRADITIONAL & INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE**



**DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

**What to do:** We must shift our focus from resource extraction to resource management for sustainability and especially in light of Climate Change. Collaborating with government departments, whenever feasible, can significantly contribute to the effectiveness of resource management. Additionally, fostering collaboration with local communities and CSOs is critical for inclusive decision-making processes and increased accountability. Adopting technologies like AI for weather monitoring or traditional hydrological models for watersheds, holds immense potential for resource management. Ensuring year-round resource availability necessitates adaptive approaches such as use of multiple water sources, such as rainwater harvesting, to meet the growing demands for resources.



# 3.7 TRADITIONAL & INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE

Traditional and indigenous knowledge refers to the traditional practices and insights passed down within indigenous and local communities. This knowledge encompasses a holistic understanding of the environment, ecosystems, and climate patterns that have been accumulated and refined over generations. Traditional and indigenous knowledge systems recognize the interconnectedness the natural environment and human societies and can offer valuable insight into sustainable resource management practices and climate adaptation strategies.

**What to know:** Indigenous people play a crucial role in NbS for climate change as a result of their traditional knowledge and practices. Their experience can contribute greatly to adaptation efforts. However, their involvement in planning and decision making processes is limited and their voices often go unheard, leaving them as mere observers in many international and local processes. This is all the more concerning considering that indigenous communities are disproportionately affected by climate change impacts. COP 27, however, has made progress by explicitly recognizing the importance of indigenous people as stewards and managers of the natural environment.

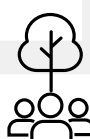
**What to do:** Indigenous people must be included early and often in decision making and planning processes. NbS in particular can benefit from including indigenous members and utilizing their traditional knowledge of the local environment. There must also be particular prioritization of climate issues on the grassroots level as those initiatives are most equipped to address the impacts from climate change that indigenous people are facing now.



**Naw Ei Ei Min**  
Director  
POINT

*“Indigenous people are also part of the solution because of the way we live in a sustainable and sufficient economy. We just need more of our voices heard and our role respected and to be part of planning and implementation at the international level...”*

## Related themes:



**NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS**

**YOUTH & GENDER**

# 3.8 PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT

Private sector engagement refers to the active involvement and collaboration with businesses, industries, and corporate entities to address climate change challenges and advance sustainable practices. It involves the participation of the private sector in developing and implementing climate mitigation and adaptation strategies as well as encouraging investment in clean technologies. Private sector engagement is also key for promoting sustainable business models.

**What to know:** 1001 Fontaines utilizes a combination of private and public partnerships to ensure the effective delivery of their services. By engaging with private entities in particular, 1001 Fontaines can access technical support, which contributes to the long-term viability of their clean water initiatives. These partnerships also play a crucial role in ensuring the financial sustainability of the organization. The private sector also plays a key role in climate finance. Funding from the private sector is forecasted to grow at 11% per year while climate focused startups have also seen a rise in investment.

**What to do:** There are numerous opportunities for private sector engagement in various aspects of climate action. In particular, increased engagement with the private sector could help to bridge gaps in climate financing through direct investments from private organizations. The private sector should also be included more often in participatory decision making processes and collaborative governance schemes as they can bring diverse perspectives, resources, and expertise to the table.

### Related themes:



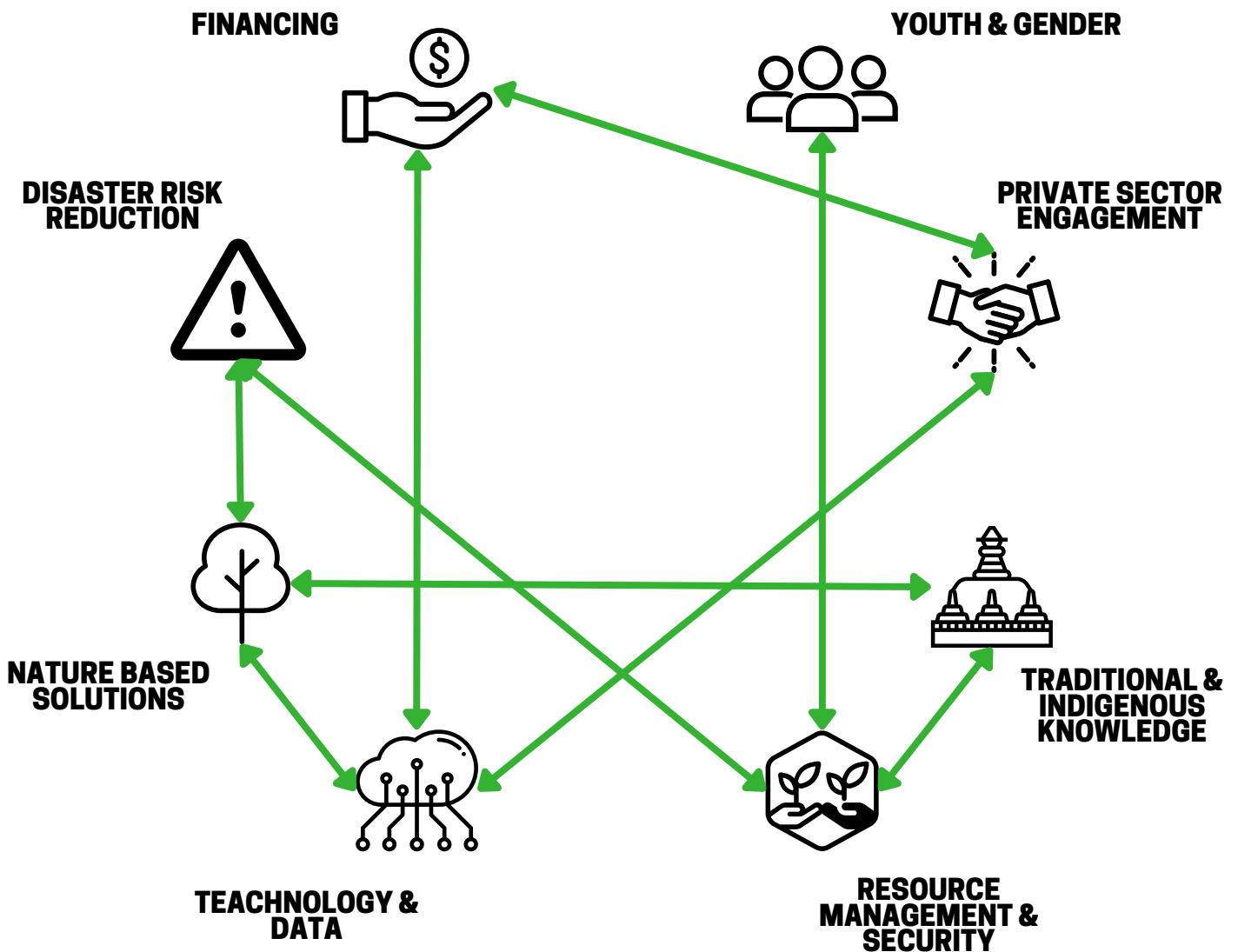
**TECHNOLOGY & DATA**



**FINANCING**

# 4. INTERCONNECTED THEMES

Many of the themes addressed throughout Myanmar Climate Action Week were not discussed in isolation. The diagram below illustrates the interlinkages and synergies between these themes, revealing how different climate actions can impact and reinforce one another. This interconnectedness highlights the holistic nature of addressing climate change and emphasizes the importance of considering multiple points of intervention. By recognizing these connections, we can foster integrated approaches that amplify the effectiveness of individual climate efforts and create meaningful change across various key issues.



# 5. STRATEGY ALIGNMENT

Aligning with the Myanmar Climate Change Strategy (2019) is critical as it provides a framework that outlines the priorities, goals, and approaches needed to address climate change in Myanmar. Below, the six priority sectors and outcomes outlined in section 5.5 of the Myanmar Climate Change Strategy are compared with the key themes from the Myanmar Climate Action Week. The related themes are identified based on the specified work necessary to achieve each sectoral outcome. This comparison allows for existing gaps, additional areas of focus, and new points of leverage to be identified.

## 1. CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK FOR FOOD SECURITY



**TECHNOLOGY & DATA**



**FINANCING**



**YOUTH & GENDER**



**PRIVATE SECTOR  
ENGAGEMENT**

## 2. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM



**TECHNOLOGY & DATA**



**FINANCING**



**RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT &  
SECURITY**



**PRIVATE SECTOR  
ENGAGEMENT**

## 3. RESILIENT AND LOW-CARBON ENERGY, TRANSPORT AND INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH



**TECHNOLOGY & DATA**



**DISASTER RISK  
REDUCTION**

# 5. STRATEGY ALIGNMENT

## 4. RESILIENT, INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND TOWNS WHERE PEOPLE CAN LIVE AND THRIVE



**DISASTER RISK  
REDUCTION**



**YOUTH & GENDER**

## 5. CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT FOR PEOPLE'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING



**DISASTER RISK  
REDUCTION**



**FINANCING**



**YOUTH & GENDER**


## 6. EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR A RESILIENT SOCIETY



**TECHNOLOGY & DATA**



**PRIVATE SECTOR  
ENGAGEMENT**



**The climate emergency is often lost among other emergencies in Myanmar, but we cannot afford to ignore climate change. Business as usual is no longer viable.**

## **6. CONCLUSION**

Mainstreaming climate action across all sectors is of paramount importance. The urgency to act has never been greater. The key themes identified in this report provide valuable starting points to consider to including climate action in various programs. Even though Myanmar has many diverse regions and climates that face differing challenges, much can be learned from the experience of local initiatives as well as those of other countries in the region. Numerous examples of climate adaptation and mitigation programs were presented during this event, demonstrating the potential for knowledge sharing and collaboration.



Events like this Myanmar Climate Action Week, along with the Myanmar Climate Action Network, play a crucial role in fostering networking and collective action. It is essential to seize these opportunities, learn from each other, and work together to address the challenges of climate change effectively. The time for action is now!

# ANNEX: AGENDA

MONDAY 20	TUESDAY 21	WEDNESDAY 22	THURSDAY 23	FRIDAY 24	SATURDAY 25
<p>9h30-11h</p> <p><b>Pre-Event: Building a Climate Resilient City by Young City Shapers-Workshop Final Presentation</b></p> <p>Doh Eain Yangon Virtual Event</p>	<p>10h-12h30</p> <p><b>OPENING SESSION</b> Launching event for Myanmar Climate Action Network</p> <p>Chatrium Hotel Yangon</p>	<p>9h-16h</p> <p><b>Reimagining Our Future Together: The Role of Civil Society Organizations in Undertaking Climate Actions in Myanmar</b></p> <p>MERN, UN-Habitat, CDE By Invitation Only Novotel Yangon, Max</p>	<p>9h-10h30</p> <p><b>Building resilience to future climates: Looking to the future</b></p> <p>UNOPS/LIFT Novotel Yangon, Max</p>	<p>11h30-12h30</p> <p><b>Climate, Environmental Degradation and Disaster Risk in Myanmar</b></p> <p>MIMU Virtual Event</p>	<p>9h30-12h30</p> <p><b>Draw your Imaginations for a Better and Greener World - Drawing Event for Children</b></p> <p>UN-Habitat Saint Mary's Cathedral, Yangon</p>
<p>15h-16h</p> <p><b>Pre-Event: Urban Stakeholder Meeting</b></p> <p>UN-Habitat Myanmar By Invitation Only Virtual Event</p>	<p>15h-16h30</p> <p><b>Unlocking Potential for Accelerating Climate Action</b></p> <p>ADPC, ICIMOD, GIZ, UNICEF Virtual Event</p>		<p>9h-12h15</p> <p><b>Preparing Young People And The Greater Community For The Changing Climate</b></p> <p>Plan International Nyaung Oo</p>	<p>13h30-17h30</p> <p><b>Climate Fair and Photo Exhibition</b></p> <p><b>FOCUS SESSION : Nature-Based Solutions</b></p> <p><b>Panel Discussion: Youth's Visions on Climate Action in Myanmar</b></p> <p>Goethe Institut, Yangon</p>	<p>9h30-12h30</p> <p><b>Community Participatory Climate Hazard Mapping Exercise</b></p> <p>UN-Habitat By Invitation Only Kokkoya Organics, Yangon</p>
			<p>13h-17h</p> <p><b>CSO-led SDG Monitoring</b></p> <p>UNOPS/LIFT Novotel Yangon, Max</p>		<p><b>SUNDAY 26</b></p> <p>5h30-16h30</p> <p><b>Back to Nature: Teik Gyi Day Trekking</b></p> <p>Teik Gyi</p>



# ANNEX: PARTICIPANTS

<b>Aaron Egolf from UNRCO</b>
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<b>Anja Buehler from Pestalozzi Children's Foundation</b>
<b>Anshu Thapa from Scott Wilson Nepal</b>
<b>Anu Gomanju from Thammasat University</b>
<b>Aung Khany Phyoo from No Hunger Zone</b>
<b>Aung Ko Lin from Fauna &amp; Flora International (FFI) Myanmar</b>
<b>Aung Naing Oo from UN-Habitat Myanmar</b>
<b>Aung Paing Thant from Net Zero Myanmar</b>
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<b>Aung Pyae Phyoo from UN-Habitat Myanmar</b>
<b>Aung Thant Zin from Myanmar Environment Rehabilitation-conservation Network (MERN)</b>
<b>Aung Thu Moe from UNDP</b>
<b>Aye Aye Aung from Kokkoya Organics</b>
<b>Aye Cho from UN-Habitat Myanmar</b>
<b>Aye Mya Thinzar from Centre for Development and Environment (CDE)</b>
<b>Balqis Nazmi Fauziah</b>
<b>Bawi Lian Khum from Dreamland Recycle</b>
<b>Bernhard Barth from UN-Habitat</b>
<b>Beverley Salmon from Doh Eain</b>
<b>Binod Thapa from Nepal Ministry of Forest and Environment</b>
<b>Binu Mathew from Taru Leading Edge India</b>
<b>Bobby from Network Activities Group (NAG)</b>
<b>Brigit Burkard from Pestalozzi Children's Foundation</b>
<b>Carl Frosio from European Union Delegation to Myanmar</b>
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<b>Chiranjibi Rijal from International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC)</b>
<b>Cho Cho Aye from Voluntary Service Overseas Myanmar (VSO Myanmar)</b>
<b>Cho Cho Shwe from Doh Eain</b>
<b>Christopher Rollo from UN-Habitat Philippines</b>
<b>David John Allan from Spectrum Sustainable Development Knowledge Network (SDKN)</b>
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# ANNEX: PARTICIPANTS

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<b>Htet Thu Nay from UNOPS</b>
<b>Htun Lynn from UN-Habitat Myanmar</b>
<b>Htun Tint Aung</b>
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Wai Yan Hein from Green Yatt Woon
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