

## Research, Network and Support Facility (RNSF)

“Support to enhance livelihoods per people dependent on informal economy  
and improve social inclusion of marginalised and vulnerable persons”

### Good Practices and Lessons Learned

RESEARCH QUESTION	2-Decent work and enterprise growth
SUB-TOPICS (Research matrix)	<u>International labour standards and right to decent work for informal economy workers (2.1)</u>
REGION – COUNTRY OF IMPLEMENTATION	Asia - Myanmar
LESSONS LEARNED	A design characterised by a theory of change not sufficiently solid to ensure its understanding by all stakeholders means, first of all, that stakeholders will interpret the project in their own way, placing emphasis on one or another of the specific objectives according to their own interests, rather than taking a more global approach.
PROJECT NAME	<i>Promoting Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work as Tools for Peace in Myanmar</i>
YEAR	2014 – 2016
FUNDING AGENCY	European Commission
IMPLEMENTING AGENCY	ILO
KEY TARGET GROUPS	Women, Children (up to age 18), Elderly, People with disabilities, Minorities: indigenous people, minority ethnic groups, minority religious group members.
SUMMARY OF THE ACTION	<p>In Myanmar forced labour was perpetrated for decades and now makes up part of the country’s cultural context.</p> <p>The action intended to work with stakeholders in the peace process to build the foundation to a more cohesive society where human rights are better respected and vulnerable communities are offered economic development opportunities and can benefit from the opening of the Myanmar economy. Ultimate beneficiaries were: victims of forced labour in communities affected by armed conflict: vulnerable men, women, children, disabled and the elderly; the populations (women and men) employed in or residing in proximity to Special Economic Zones (SEZ) and other major projects; Government officials including those of lower rank; law enforcement officials; social partners; ethnic nationality organisations.</p>

<b>CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<p>Promotion of full respect for and application of Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work in Myanmar as a means to ensure practices of forced labour no longer continue. This rights-based foundation is the basis for addressing the developments made in the national peace process, as well as economic reforms introduced by the government in line with the priorities laid out in the Action Plan. By addressing fundamental rights, it was envisaged that the country's reconciliation and development would be more in line with a fundamental respect of rights, and thus more inclusive of the needs of all the country's constituents.</p> <p>In the end, the design proved to be overambitious, characterised by a theory of change that may have been clear to those responsible for the initial design but has not proven sufficiently solid to ensure its understanding by all stakeholders. This means, first of all, that stakeholders will interpret the project in their own way, placing emphasis on one or another of the specific objectives according to their own interests, rather than taking a more global approach.</p> <p>Under such circumstances, no good practice could be extracted from the project.</p>
<b>FURTHER TAGS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocacy with government to improve legal and policy frameworks to support informal economy enterprises (1.2)</li> </ul>
<b>SOURCE(s)</b>	<p><b>RNSF Research Volume 4.3:</b> <a href="https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/iesf/documents/rnsf-research-volume-43-gp-ll-15-ec-funded-projects">https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/iesf/documents/rnsf-research-volume-43-gp-ll-15-ec-funded-projects</a></p>
<b>REFERENCE:</b>	<p><b>EuropeAid</b> project page: <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/projects/promotion-fundamental-principles-and-rights-work-tools-peace-myanmar_en">https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/projects/promotion-fundamental-principles-and-rights-work-tools-peace-myanmar_en</a></p>