MANAGING CHALLENGES DURING MYANMAR’S TRANSITION
MYANMAR UPDATE 2019
5-6 JULY
INTRODUCTION FROM THE CONVENORS

It is with great pleasure we welcome all participants to the conference "Managing Challenges During Myanmar’s Transition".

This conference is a tripartite collaboration between the Department of International Relations (University of Yangon), the Myanmar Research Centre (College of Asia & the Pacific Australian National University) and the Institute of Myanmar Studies (Yunnan University). The selected papers speak to the complex array of issues that Myanmar is addressing as the country moves through this transitional period. In particular, we aim to present papers that address the impact of policy change across a wide range of fields. Speakers represent the voices of Myanmar researchers along side those from Australia and China. We anticipate this will offer differing perspectives on topics and will facilitate an international dialogue regarding facets of Myanmar’s society, politics and economy. Our national and international speakers are all engaged in research and/or capacity building in Myanmar. We are particularly pleased to include papers from emerging Myanmar researchers from both the academic environment as well as NGOs. The conference has been made possible through the support our external sponsors, the International Development Research Council (IDRC) Canada and The Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs. The funding has assisted in bringing academics from across Myanmar to this conference, and will enable us to publish selected papers. We thank you all for joining us and welcome you all to the University of Yangon and “Managing Challenges During Myanmar’s Transition”

Regards,

Professor Chaw Chaw Sein,
Department of International Relations, University of Yangon

Dr Charlotte Galloway,
The Australian National University

Dr Zhu Xianghui,
Yunnan University
MESSAGE FROM RECTOR

It is my pleasure to welcome all the participants to the Myanmar Update Conference on “Managing Challenges during Myanmar’s Transition.”

I am delighted to welcome the conference keynote speaker Mr. Sean Turnell, Special Economic Consultant to the State Counsellor and Director of Research, Myanmar Development Institute. His insights will no doubt contribute to managing economy in Myanmar. The theme of the Conference focuses on the challenges that have been faced by Myanmar since historic reforms in 2010 after multi-party general election. Myanmar is now on the way to transition and higher education reform is listed as top agenda. The year 2020 will be the centennial milestone of the University of Yangon (UY) and it is poised to re-establish itself as Myanmar’s Flagship University. In this context, I am proud to hold this event in collaboration with our partner universities, Australian National University (ANU) and Yunnan University. Speakers from Myanmar, Australia and China will address the diverse range of topics from various perspectives. I am delighted to see that the conference also includes the education session that will highlight education reform and innovation. I am confident that at the end of the conference, we will bring about fruitful results which address the challenges facing in Myanmar during the transition. I would like to appreciate DFAT (Australia), IDRC (Canada) and IMS (Yunnan University) for sponsoring the conference. Furthermore, I also congratulate the efforts of the IR faculties and IR and PS students for participating in and organizing this conference.

Dr Pho Kaung
Rector, University of Yangon
## CONFERENCE PROGRAM

**Venue:** Arts Hall University of Yangon

### Thursday 4 July 2019

<table>
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| 9am-5pm | Pre Conference Workshop  
Venue: Myanmar-Korea Centre for International Studies (KIS Centre), University of Yangon  
Participants: Myanmar Higher Degree by Research (HDR) students |

### Day 1 - Friday 5 July 2019

<table>
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<tr>
<td>8.30-9.00am</td>
<td>Registration - Arts Hall</td>
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| 9-9.30am    | **Welcome Address by Rector of University of Yangon**  
Opening Remarks by H.E Andrea Faulkner, Australian Ambassador to Myanmar  
Representatives of the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China, Embassy of Canada, Australian National University and University of Yunnan.  
Moderated by Professor Dr. Chaw Chaw Sein.  
Venue: Arts Hall, University of Yangon |
| 9.30-10.45am | **Keynote Address by Dr. Sean Turnell**, Special Economic Consultant to the State Counsellor, Director of Research Myanmar Development Institute  
Chair: Prof Dr Aung Tun Thet, Member, Peace Commission |
| 10.45-11.15am | Morning Tea  
Venue: Arts Hall, University of Yangon |
| 11.15am-12.45pm | **Panel 1: Building Trust**  
Chair: U Khin Maung Lynn, Secretary MISIS  
> “Trust Deficit in Ethnic Areas under the NLD Rule: Local Demonstrations in Mon and Kayah States”  
Lwin Cho Latt, University of Yangon  
> The Experience of Trust-building between Chinese Han and Ethnic Groups and its Implications for Myanmar’s National Reconciliation  
He Jinsong, Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences  
> Civil-Military Relations: NLD Government and the Tatmadaw  
Kong Peng, Yunnan University  
> Corruption Issues in Myanmar: Anti-corruption Efforts and Challenges  
Khin Ma Ma Myo, University of Yangon |
| 12.45–1.45pm | Lunch  
Venue: Arts Hall, University of Yangon |
| 1.45–3pm     | **Panel 2: Everyday Life and Policy Change**  
Chair: Matthew Arnold, The Asia Foundation  
> Ten years of freshwater fisheries governance reform in Myanmar (2008-2018)  
Yin Nyein, Network Activities Group Myanmar  
> Class dismissed? Examining the rise and fall of economic inequality from Burmese democratic politics.  
Gerard McCarthy, ANU  
> Analysis of Public Awareness and Attitudes Towards Solid Waste Management in Mandalay, Myanmar  
San Myint Yi, Yadarnabon University  
> “Effects of minimum wage on Manufacturing Workers and Forms”  
Min Zar Ni, Centre for Economic and Social Development |
3–3.30pm  Afternoon Tea  
Venue: Arts Hall, University of Yangon

3.30–5pm  Panel 3: Education Reform and Innovation  
Chair: Charlotte Galloway, ANU  

> Building a knowledge society through evolving library education in Myanmar  
Roxanne Missingham, ANU  

> Managing University in Transition Myanmar: Challenges & Prospects  
Chaw Chaw Sein, University of Yangon  

> Legal education in Myanmar and the role of the women teachers in university legal education  
Khin Khin Oo, University of Yangon  

> “Building science communication/education capacity in Myanmar: the Science Circus Myanmar project”  
Joe Fayle, ANU

Day 2 - Saturday 6th of July 2019

9–10.30am  Panel 4: China-Myanmar Relations  
Chair: Lyu Xing, Yunnan University  

> Local Governments in China-Myanmar Cooperation  
Yang Xiangzhang, Yunnan University  

> The Third Anniversary for Ruling by NLD: Coexistence of Achievements and Challenges  
Meng Zijun, Yunnan University  

> China-Myanmar Poverty Reduction Cooperation under the framework of CMEC  
Xiong Shunqing, Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences

10.30–11am  Morning Tea  
Venue: Arts Hall, University of Yangon

11am–12.30pm  Panel 5: Equity and Inclusion  
Chair: Daw Carole Ann Chit Tha, Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS)  

> Practices of Legal Pluralism and State Laws in Myanmar  
Mya Mya Khin, University of Yangon  

> Gender Budgeting: the role of preferences, impact and trajectories  
Khin Ma Ma Myo, Myanmar Institute of Gender Studies  

> The winding path to gender equality in Myanmar: how institutions, interests and ideas influence the ongoing implementation of the Government of Myanmar’s National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women  
Khin Khin Mra, Myanmar Centre for Good Governance  

> Turning Battlefields into Zoos: Myanmar Cinema and Minority Representation in Two Eras  
Jane Ferguson, ANU

12.30–1.30pm  Lunch  
Venue: Arts Hall, University of Yangon
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<th>Time</th>
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<td>1.30–3pm</td>
<td>Chair: Edgardo Rodriguez, IDRC</td>
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<td>1.30–3pm</td>
<td>Poverty Alleviation of Myanmar in the Context of LMC Mechanism Oak Soe San, University of Yangon</td>
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<td>1.30–3pm</td>
<td>Transnational Intermediaries in Myanmar Legal Education Reforms: Issues at the Nexus of Capacity-Building Jonathan Liljeblad, ANU</td>
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<td>1.30–3pm</td>
<td>An analysis of ‘traps’ in Myanmar China Economic Relations Colin Zhang Tint Lwin, University of Yangon</td>
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<td>1.30–3pm</td>
<td>CyberBaykin: Trends and Challenges facing digital Myanmar Lennon Chang, Monash University</td>
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<td>3–3.30pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Tea</td>
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<td>3.30–4.45pm</td>
<td>Panel 7: The Culture Factor</td>
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<td>3.30–4.45pm</td>
<td>Chair: Peter Batchelor, UNDP Myanmar</td>
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<td>3.30–4.45pm</td>
<td>“Public Perception and Responsible Media” Lyu Xing, Yunnan University</td>
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<td>3.30–4.45pm</td>
<td>Cultural Matters: Managing Racial Harmony in Myanmar Democratic Transition Win Myat Aung, SEAMEO CHAT</td>
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<td>3.30–4.45pm</td>
<td>“Myanmar-China Socio-Cultural Relations in the Context of BRI” Mo Mo Thant, University of Yangon</td>
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<td>3.30–4.45pm</td>
<td>The Logic of Conflict Duration in Myanmar Jingjing Song, Fudan University</td>
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Speakers' Biographies

Lwin Cho Latt
Lwin Cho Latt has been a lecturer in the Department of International Relations at the University of Yangon since 2005. She holds a BA (Hons) in International Relations from Dagon University and double MA in International Relations from the University of Yangon (UY) and the International University of Japan (IIJ). She is responsible for teaching International Relations and Political Science courses in the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. Her research interests include Myanmar’s foreign policy, relations with neighbouring countries, and peacemaking process.

He Jinsong
He Jinsong is an Associate Professor at the Institute of Myanmar Studies of the Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences, Chinese Academy of South and Southeast Asian Studies in Kunming. His research focuses on relations between China and Myanmar, border human migration within and outside the Myanmar territory, rural area sustainable development in the region, poverty alleviation and social vulnerable groups’ empowerment.

Kong Peng
Mr. Kong Peng, Associate Professor of Institute of Myanmar Studies at Yunnan University, is interested in the Myanmar’s transition especially in the Civil-Military Relation and the ethnic conflict. He has been engaged with the Military/Tatmadaw’s rule in Myanmar, since 2010 He has been focused on researching the transition’s challenges from Tatmadaw and ethnic issues in Myanmar.

Khin Ma Ma Myo
Dr Khin Ma Ma Myo is Associate Professor of the Department of International Relations at University of Yangon, Myanmar. Her teaching career started at the University of Yangon in 1997. After the new Democratic Government took office in May 2011, she served as Assistant Director at the President Office.

Yin Nyein
Yin Nyein is Program Manager of Network Activities Group and steering committee member of Learning and Action Group for Local Governance, works extensively in the field of natural resource governance and facilitating the small-scale fishery movement in Myanmar. He holds an Executive Master in Development Policies and Practices from the Graduate Institute, Geneva, and is currently studying for a Master of Public Policy at the ANU.

Lennon Chang
Dr Lennon Yao-chung Chang is currently a lecturer in criminology in the School of Social Sciences at Monash University, Australia. He is a co-founder and vice-chairman of the Asia Pacific Association of Technology and Society. Dr Chang is interested in researching crime and governance of cyberspace - cybercrime, cyber terrorism and cyber warfare. He is particularly interested in the regulation and governance of cyberspace in the Asia-Pacific region. His book Cybercrime in the Greater China Region: Regulatory Responses and Crime Prevention (Edward Elgar, 2012) is about the nature and range of responses to cybercrime between China and Taiwan. His research is highly topical and he has been invited by the governments of Canada, Taiwan, Korea, and Hong Kong to discuss his research findings with senior national security, foreign policy and policing staff. Dr Chang’s professional interest in Cyber security continues and he is currently researching on-line vigilantism in Asia. He is now working with Myanmar government, IT companies and NGOs in Myanmar on research and training programmes to build cyber security capacity and cyber security awareness.

San Myint Yi
Dr San Myint Yi is an Associate Professor in the Department of International Relations, University of Yadanabon, Myanmar since 1998. She received her Ph.D from the International Relations Department, Mandalay University in 2008. Currently, she is working on the research project, “Situation Analysis of Waste Management in Mandalay City, Myanmar” funded by Ministry of Education.

Min Zar Ni
Min Zar Ni Lin is the Deputy Director of Research at the Myanmar Centre for Economic and Social Development (CESD). He conducts public policy research and analysis helping support regional, state, and national governments and parliamentarians create development strategies including connectivity and spatial strategies for economic integration. Additionally, he has conducted numerous research studies on Myanmar’s private sector, specifically focusing on SME development, value chains, logistic networks and agglomeration options. Previously, he was the Senior Technical and Policy Analyst for the Myanmar Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (MEITI). He received his Master’s degree in Economics from Chiang Mai University in 2009.

Roxanne Missingham
Roxanne Missingham is University Librarian at ANU. Before joining the University, she spent over six years at the Parliamentary Library providing research and information services to Members of Parliament.

Chaw Chaw Sein
Chaw Chaw Sein has been Head of the International Relations Department, University of Yangon since 2006. She was promoted to the post of Professor in 2011 and now taking charge of both International Relations and Political Science at University of Yangon. She works as an advisor to the Union Civil Service Board and Advisory Group for establishing Diplomatic Academy of Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Joe Fayle
Joe’s career began as a geologist looking at rocks all over Australia and in the jungles of Laos. It was in Laos that he developed a passion for science communication. Here he took on the role of training up-and-coming geoscientist in a bilingual setting. This love of sharing the wonders of our planet prompted Joe to head back to university to study a Master of Science Communication Outreach with the Australian National Centre for the Public Awareness of Science. In 2018, he took part in the pilot project, Science Circus Myanmar. Joe’s emerging science communication career continues in the coordination team of the renowned Shell Questacon Science Circus based in Australia.
Khin Khin Oo
Khin Khin Oo is a Professor at the Department of Law, University of Yangon. She received her LLB (1993), LLM (1997), and PhD in Law (2005) degrees from University of Yangon. Her area of specialization is civil law – particularly criminal law, family law, constitutional law and administrative law, corporate law and child rights. In 2004, she did part of her research for PhD degree at International Institute for the Rights of the Child (IDR) in Sion, Switzerland. She was a visiting research fellow at CALS, National University of Singapore (2014), at Seoul National University (2014), at Central European University (2016), and at Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law, Heidelberg, Germany (2017). Her current research interest is constitutional adjudication systems and judicial review of administrative acts of some different countries and different legal systems. She has been involved as drafting member of Myanmar Technical and Vocational Education and Training Law since 2016.

Yang Xiangzhang
Yang Xiangzhang is a research fellow at the Institute of Myanmar Studies, Yunnan University. Her research interests focuses on China-Myanmar Relations and China’s Neighboring Diplomacy.

Meng Zijun
Meng Zijun is a research fellow at the Institute of Myanmar Studies, Yunnan University. Her research interests focuses on Myanmar transition and China-Myanmar Relations.

Xiaong Shunqing
Dr Xiong Shunqing is associate professor of ethnology and history at Institute of Myanmar Studies@Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences (YASS / Chinese Academy (Kunming)) for South and Southeast Asian Studies. PhD(2009-2012), School of History and Culture, Minzu University of China, Beijing, China; M.S.(2006-2009), School of Mathematics & Computer Science, Yunnan Nationalities University, Kunming, China; B.S.(1998-2002), School of Physics & Electronic Information Technology,Yunnan Normal University, Kunming, China; Academic Visitor(2004-2005), Peking University, Beijing, China; Academic Visitor(2010-2011), Latrobe University, Melbourne Australia.

Mya Mya Khin
Professor Mya Mya Khin is Head of Faculty in Department of Anthropology, University of Yangon, Myanmar. She holds a BA (Honours) (1987) and MA degrees (1994) in Anthropology from University of Yangon and PhD degree in Cultural Anthropology from Kobe University, Japan in 2004.

Khin Ma Ma Myo
Khin Ma Ma Myo is founder of the Myanmar Institute of Gender Studies, has been a Coordinator for the Burmese Democratic Movement Association (2003-04), Media Director for the Democratic Federation of Burma (2004-08) and elected Joint-General Secretary of the Free Burma Federation (2008-12). She is the winner of Citizen of Burma awarded by USA. She has facilitated and advised different aspects of the Peace Process and written widely on the political developments and transformations, as Chief-Editor for the Freedom Journal of Burma, and author of many publications, including the Handbook of People Power Movement, Fighting for Freedom and Anti-Dictatorship Struggles. She worked as a researcher for the University of Aberdeen, the Renaissance Institute, and the Gender Equality Network (GEN). She holds three Master degrees from University of Aberdeen in Political Economy; Strategic Studies; and Political Research.

Khin Khin Mra
Khin Khin Mra was a National Consultant, Department of Social Welfare, Ministry of Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement in Myanmar for over a year, influencing policy implementation and acting as a bridge between government, donors and civil society. She has worked with UN agencies and NGOs in program development, policy analysis, research and evaluation, and is a board member of Yang Chi Thit, supporting women’s rights. She contributed to development and implementation of the government’s National Strategic Plan on the Advancement of Women (NSPAW 2013-2022) and Prevention and Protection of Violence Against Women (PoVAW) Law in Myanmar. She holds an MA in Public Policy and Graduate Diploma in Public Administration from the Australian National University and was awarded the Chevening Fellowship at the University of Wolverhampton, UK.

Jane M Ferguson
Jane M Ferguson is a Senior Lecturer in Anthropology and Southeast Asian History in the School of Culture, History and Languages, Australian National University. Her research interests include ethnic Shan in Burma and Thailand, film history, unpopular culture and airlines.

Oak Soe San
Oak Soe San is an Assistant Lecturer at the Department of International Relations, University of Yangon, Myanmar. She started her teaching career at University of Yangon in 2012 and also earned her PhD in 2013 at University of Yangon. Her research interests focus on China and Japan’s Aid policy towards Myanmar and geopolitics. She was a Visiting Research Fellow at University of Tokyo, Ritsumeikan University (Kyoto) and Central European University (Hungary) and also participated in International Visitor’s Leadership Program (IVLP) 2016: Law of the Sea & Maritime Security Program sponsored by State Department of United States. She had written research papers on domestic research journals: Universities Research Journal (URJ) 2015, Journal of Asia Research Centre (ARC) 2016, University of Yangon Research Journal (UYRJ) 2018 and Journal of Myanmar Academy of Arts and Sciences (MAAS) 2017 and 2018.

Jonathan Liljeblad
Jonathan Liljeblad received a PhD and JD from the University of Southern California (USC), an MS from the University of Washington (UW), and a BS from the California Institute of Technology (Caltech). His research largely focuses on rule-of-law, with case studies from human rights and environmental issues. His fieldwork is mostly in Myanmar. Generally, his research falls within the fields of international law, rule-of-law, human rights, environmental law, law & development, and law & society.
Colin Zhang Tint Lwin
Colin Zhang is now a visiting scholar at Institute of International Relations, the University of Yangon. He is also a Research Assistant and a PhD student from Institute of Myanmar, Yunnan University. He is studying Myanmar diplomacy and Myanmar-China relations.

Gerard McCarthy
Gerard McCarthy is Associate Director of ANU’s Myanmar Research Centre. He completed his doctoral dissertation, ‘Regressive Democracy: Explaining distributive politics in Myanmar’s transition’, in the ANU Department of Political and Social Change in December 2018. Based on extensive mixed-methods research in provincial Myanmar since 2015, his dissertation examined the historical and contemporary dynamics of market reform, state-society relations and social policy in Myanmar.

Lyu Xing
Mr. Lyu Xing, Associate Professor of Institute of Southeast Asian Studies at Yunnan University, is interested in the trans-boundary issues especially in the Mekong region. Since 2006 He has been actively engaged with Greater Mekong regional cooperation in field of water governance, and implications of China outband foreign direct investment. He has been actively participating regional dialogue, research and training to foster understanding among peoples of Greater Mekong. He is currently undertaking research projects on issues of Chinese investment, trade and water cooperation in Greater Mekong.

Win Myat Aung
Win Myat Aung is Deputy Director at the Southeast Asia Ministers of Education Organization-Regional Centre for History and Traditions (SEAMEO CHAT). He hold B.A. (Hons) and M.A. in International Relations from University of Mandalay and Ph.D. in International Relations from University of Yangon. In 2016, he achieved Post Graduate Diploma in Asian Arts from School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. His interest of research area covers politics, government and culture of Southeast Asia. He is currently involved in coordinating the programmes and projects of SEAMEO CHAT.

Mo Mo Thant
Dr Mo Mo Thant is the professor and Head of History Department at the University of Yangon Myanmar. She attained her BA (1984) and MA (1990), Degrees from Mandalay University and a PhD at the University of Yangon (2002). She is a member of the Governing Board of SEAMEO CHAT : Regional Centre for History and Tradition. Her research area is Social History, in particular religion in Myanmar, with a special interest in women and religion.

Jing Jing Song
Jingjing Song, Ph.D Candidate of Political Science, Department of International Relations & Public Affairs, Fudan University, Shanghai, China. Research Field: Ethnic Conflict and Conflict duration in Southeast Asia.
CONTACT US

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