

CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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CESD HELPS FORMULATE STRATEGY FOR A SUSTAINABLE RUBBER SECTOR

On March 21 and 22, 2018, the Centre for Economic and Social Development (CESD), alongside the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Care International, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation and Myanmar Rubber Planters and Producers Association (MRPPA), hosted the Myanmar Rubber Forum 2018 in Nay Pyi Taw. This year's theme, "Sustainable Rubber Value Chain Development," brought together international, government, private and local stakeholders to provide inputs on how to assess, target and develop Myanmar's rubber sector. Distinguished guests including H.E. Vice President U Myint Swe, H.E. U Aung Thu, Union Minister of MOALI, U Ye Tint Tun, Director General of the Department of Agriculture, U Yu Sein, Chairman of The Rubber Producers and PA, Dr. Christy Williams, Country Director of the World Wildlife Fund, and Dr. Zaw Oo, Executive Director of CESD opened the forum with their inputs and views of Myanmar's rubber industry. [Read More](#)



CESD's, Executive Director, Dr. Zaw Oo, speaking at the Myanmar Rubber Forum – 2018 in Nay Pyi Taw.

FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT SUCCESSES IN MYANMAR'S GARMENT SECTOR

In late March, the Centre for Economic and Social Development co-hosted the International Workshop on Lancang-Mekong Cooperation-Ways Forward Conference in Kunming alongside NIER, the Cambodia Development Research Institute (CDRI), ASEAN Studies Center, Chulalongkorn University, and HKARC. CESD presented its findings on the impact and successes of Chinese investment in Myanmar, specifically in the garment sector. CESD hopes to utilize its research and perspective to further aid the sustainable development of Myanmar's garment sector.



CESD's, Executive Director, Dr. Zaw Oo, at the International Workshop on Lancang-Mekong Cooperation-Ways Forward Conference in Kunming

CANADIAN AMERICAN BUSINESS COUNCIL STRENGTHENS CANADA-ASEAN BUSINESS

Between March 21-22 2018 the Centre for Economic and Social Development participated in the 4th CABBC Business Forum held by the Canada-ASEAN Business Council. The forum brought together 300 leaders from the public and private sectors of Canada and Southeast Asia, featuring keynote addresses, focused industry breakout sessions, and tailored networking opportunities.

CESD PRESENTS MYANMAR'S AGRO-FORESTRY VALUE CHAIN TO ICC-ESCAP WORKSHOP IN BANGKOK

As Myanmar begins to integrate itself into the global economy, CESD has sought to connect global best practices in value chain development to Myanmar's ongoing modernization. Between December 20-22nd, the Centre for Economic and Social Development (CESD) presented its findings at the International Chamber of Commerce and Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific's (ICC-ESCAP) Workshop in Bangkok, Thailand. CESD's Senior Program Coordinator, Ms. Nang Seng Pen, attended the workshop and presented CESD's findings on how to upgrade Myanmar's Agroforestry Value Chain. The value chain analysis specifically focused on rubber farmer development in Mon State, Myanmar.



Ms. Nang Seng Pin (left) presents CESD's findings at the OCC-ESCAP Workshop

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IMPROVING MYANMAR'S AVOCADO PRODUCTION IN SHAN AND CHIN STATE

The CESD field team has been busy visiting townships in Chin and Shan State collecting data on cultivation practices and current practices. The baseline survey seeks to understand avocado cultivator practices and identify their challenges and needs. Avocados are a nutrient-rich, high protein fruit with extensive international demand, especially in large, developed markets such as the United States, Japan, and China. The baseline survey will ultimately provide a set of next steps and recommendations for the Myanmar government, private sector institutions, and NGOs to provide Myanmar's budding avocado cultivators.



Some of the CESD field research team poses for a photo with respondents in Chin State

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