

# CENTRE FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Q2 April – June 2018

### FINAL PHASE OF LABOUR MOBILITY STUDIES WITH THE WORLD BANK CONCLUDED

CESD and the Social Protection and Jobs team at the World Bank has conducted rapid assessments in 6 regions across Myanmar over a span of 3 months aiming to understand the labor mobility patterns within the country. The rapid assessments started in February 2018 with field visits in Yangon and Ayeyarwaddy, followed by second phase visits to both Mandalay and Magway in March 2018, rounding off the last phase with visits to Mon and Kayin regions in May 2018. During the study the team had an opportunity to interview key informants including migrant families, return migrants, Labour Exchange officers (LEO) as well as representatives from the civil society organisations. Read more about the project [here](#).



Deputy Director of Research, Mr. Min Zar Ni Lin during a field visit with the World Bank in Mon State

### AQUACULTURE RAPID ASSESSMENT STUDY IN AYEYARWADDY REGION

In June, a group of researchers from CESD conducted a rapid assessment study of aquaculture in Maubin and Twante townships of the Ayeyarwaddy region as a part of its engagement with the Myanmar Sustainable Aquaculture Program (MYSAP) funded by GIZ Myanmar. During the study, researchers tried to identify the different components and characteristics of the aquaculture value chain by conducting focus group discussions and field visits to fishing communities. The researchers also had a chance to interact with fish farmers and fishpond owners thereby identifying some of the key challenges and issues that are being faced by them. All of the information gathered will be useful when the CESD is drafting the National Aquaculture Development Plan (NADP). Read more [here](#).



CESD Researchers on field visits in Ayeyarwaddy region

### CESD PRESENTS RESEARCH AT MCGILL UNIVERSITY IN CANADA

In July, CESD's Executive Director Dr. Zaw Oo concluded a trip to Canada where he presented CESD's research findings on the panel "Research to Policy - Canada and Free Trade with Asia" as part of the 52nd Annual Conference of the Canadian Economics Association (CEA) at McGill University. During his visit, he also met with other academic experts, government officials, think-tank representatives and members from IDRC / CRDI to build further engagements and exchange ideas.

## CESD CONDUCTS SURVEYS ON COST OF LIVING AND WORKERS' SATISFACTION

In June, CESD researchers travelled to Hlaing Tharyar Industrial Zone and Shwe Lin Pan Industrial Zone to conduct surveys on cost of living and workers' satisfaction for a project with the JustJobs Network and WageIndicator.org.

The surveys are part of CESD's initiatives to understand about labour dynamics and ensure that policy recommendations document current living standards and address needs of the communities. Read more about CESD's work on labour market reform [here](#).



Research Assistant, Ms. Khin Suu Thet interviewing respondents for the survey using tablets



Research Assistant, Ms. Niang San Cing during a group discussion at the BIMSTEC conference

## CESD CO-ORGANISES CONFERENCE ON ADVANCING BIMSTEC COOPERATION

On June 14 and 15, the CESD co-organised a conference at the Park Royal hotel in Yangon on how to Advance BIMSTEC Cooperation together with the Delhi Policy Group (DPG), the Asia Foundation and the Myanmar Institute of Strategic and International Studies (MISIS) which witnessed the participation of key stakeholders from across BIMSTEC member states including representatives from the government, policy institutions, private sector and others.

The conference addressed policy areas such as Trade and Economic Integration, Multi-modal Connectivity, Energy, People to People contact as well as other pertinent topics such as Gender, Food Security and Climate Resilience. Read more about the conference [here](#).



### **For any inquiries, please contact:**

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