



AFD AND

Myanmar

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9 projets

funded since
2012

Nearly Euros 180 million

invested over
six years

35,000

hectares of irrigated
areas by 2021

A large, predominantly rural territory rich in natural resources, Myanmar (formerly Burma) enjoys a strategic geographical position between the Indian subcontinent, China and Southeast Asia. Since 2011, the country has initiated a fragile process of democratic transition and is witnessing relatively strong economic growth. AFD is supporting it so that the growth leads to sustainable development and solidarity, by acting primarily in the areas of energy, urban development, water resources and health.

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OUR ACTION IN Myanmar

1

Providing support for urban growth

The development of urban centres is essential for Myanmar's economic expansion. Yangon, the economic capital, and Mandalay are witnessing an unprecedented population growth – their population is expected to double by 2040. However, the highly rapid urbanization is poorly controlled and presents many challenges: developing transport infrastructure, building housing and provide basic services (water, sanitation, waste management and electricity).

In order to support the government in improving urban services, AFD launched its first activities in support of the municipality of Mandalay in 2016. Our areas of action are the:

- Distribution of drinking water in Amarapura district
- Improvement of urban services (MUSIP - Mandalay Urban Services Improvement Project) in partnership with the European Union and the Asian Development Bank.

Since 2016, AFD has also been active in Yangon to contribute to inclusive urban development in the capital and plans to change scale in order to take action at the neighbourhood level and work on river transport and its connection to other means of transport.

2

Anticipating and monitoring the risks of epidemics

The long years of Myanmar's isolation have led to a significant delay in the health sector even as the country, like its Southeast Asian neighbours, is facing the emergence of infectious diseases and the risk of major epidemics (dengue, zika, H5-N1, etc.) more than ever before. Since 2011, the health sector has been a national priority for the Myanmar government. Its target for 2020 is to allocate 12% of the state budget to the sector (as compared to the current 3%).

AFD supports this approach:

- In partnership with the Institut Pasteur and Fondation Mérieux, AFD supports Myanmar's Ministry of Health in its plans to rehabilitate and expand the National Health Laboratory (NHL).
- At the regional level, we collaborate with the same laboratory to improve epidemiological surveillance related to climate change in the framework of regional ECOMORE (ECONomic, development, ECOSystem Modifications, and emerging infectious diseases Risk Evaluation) projects. The second phase of this programme,

3

Expanding access to electricity

implemented by Paris' Institut Pasteur was initiated in early 2018. Focussing on dengue and leptospirosis, it also covers Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam and the Philippines.

In Myanmar, power cuts are frequent and only 30% of the population is connected to the grid. At the same time, power consumption is increasing by 10% every year, especially in Yangon, which accounts for 50% of national consumption.

Increasing power generation is one of the government's priorities and it has begun building several hydroelectric plants.

Pending their commissioning (within 4-5 years), AFD plans to support Myanmar's Ministry of Electricity and Energy in the renovation of its existing hydroelectric plants.

AFD is also examining rural electrification projects and the strengthening of electricity grids.

4

Better management of natural resources

While agriculture remains the largest employer in Myanmar, it suffers from random rainfall and unsuitable practices. Access to irrigation, combined with improved farming practices, will be the key to improving the sector's productivity.

To support this transition, AFD has developed two projects with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation (IAIDP - Irrigated Agriculture Inclusive Development Project - et PIP - Development of pumped irrigation schemes in arid areas) aimed at improving water management and diversifying crops in the Magway and Mandalay regions, co-funded with the European Union and the Asian Development Bank.

These projects are complemented by a regional project, ACTAE, which promotes agro-ecology in national research, practices and strategies.

In addition, Myanmar is to be included for the first time in a project to promote Geographical Indications with the objective of preserving and enhancing the local cultural and natural heritage.

Finally, in the Indo-Myanmar biodiversity hotspot, we support the sustainable management a protected land and marine area of Thanintaryi province as part of a regional project.