

Question	Myingyan	Nahtogyi	Taungthar			
Poverty						
How is poverty defined and measured by the township authorities?	lower per capita income; not having regular agricultural output; a village that has many households with casual labourers.	Limited job opportunities	having difficulty in agricultural activities; erratic weather; lack of knowledge in agricultural technology/methods.			
		villages with lower level of HH incomes and less fertile lands	No agriculture land; available land is not easy to cultivate crops; many casual workers and no secured job which can provide sufficient income.			
What are the levels of rural poverty in the township, according to established definitions?	The level of poverty in the township level is about average. In the villages, it is getting worse due to lack of irrigation and water for agriculture and unpredictable weather.	the levels of rural poverty is moderate. Major problem is little or no employment opportunities.	Various government departments consider the level of rural poverty in Taungthar township to be moderate. There are no villages that are extremely poor.			
What are the (4 major) characteristics of the poor(est) villages? What makes them poor?	1	while depending on agriculture, the quality of soil and land is not very good	1	Poor fertility of farm land	1	No agriculture land.
	2	lack of access to irrigated water	2	erratic climate and no irrigated water	2	Available land cannot be used as farm lands due to lack of irrigated water.
	3	poor knowledge of agricultural methods and technology	3	not enough capital for agricultural inputs	3	While difficulty in agricultural activities make the rural population poor, most people are depending solely on agriculture.
	4	Scarcity in employment opportunities and many households with landless casual labourers			4	Not having sufficient resources/ capital (cash, technology)
What are the (4 major) characteristics of the poor(est) households within villages? What makes them poor?	1	No agricultural land while depending on agricultural livelihood for main source of income.	1	none of the HH members could earn enough to support the family	1	lack of sufficient employment opportunities
	2	Limited number of employment opportunities	2	Large families with many children and little income	2	Not having main income earner in the household (HH members with elderly, widow, handicapped)
	3	having only one HH member as an income earner.	3	no farm land	3	Casual laborers depend mainly on agriculture and if it is difficult to , there is no alternative.
	4	No financial capital	4	limited job opportunities in the region and local people could do nothing but casual labour.	4	No capital. (cash, technology)
What are the (4 major) characteristics of the most vulnerable people within households? What makes them vulnerable?	1	Female-headed households, and widows as main income earners	1	being women and children	1	Depend on others because of having no income.
	2	disabled HH member as income earner	2	elderly and disabled	2	Unable to do jobs that are labour intensive when being a woman, elderly or disabled.
	3	lower level of education in the HH, and/or lack of educated HH members	3	being illiterate or little formal education	3	There are no jobs available which suits the vulnerable people.
	4	lack of financial capital and of vocational training causing them no other employment opportunities except casual labour	4	lack of other vocational training/schooling to support the livelihood	4	Not able to do agriculture.
Which are the poorest villages within the township?	-				-	
What is the number/% of the following within the township?						
(a)Female-headed households?	10%		10%		15%	
(b) Landless households?	80%		60%		70%	
(c)Households with disabled/elderly member(s)	10%		30%		15%	

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What measures have been taken by the township to combat poverty (policies, institutions, support mechanisms, etc.)?	microfinance projects coordinated by organizations (Co-ops, INGOs) and assistance on agricultural activities (agricultural loans)	tsp. government cooperates with NGOs and INGOs to provide small loans for poor households.	The township works together with NGO and INGO in village developments and irrigation for agriculture. Departments from the township work together to decrease the obstacles that the village is facing and to increase employment opportunities.
		provides vocational trainings (agricultural and technical/mechanical trainings)	
		renovating dams and reservoirs to improve irrigation in agriculture	
Community Development			
What has been the experience of the township with VDCs? Especially progress in creating them and their sustainability?	VDCs have been formed about a year ago. Some were formed by INGOs. VDCs have been working together with the villagers to fulfill various needs of the communities.	There are VDCs in most villages.	In the past, VDCs were formed by NGOs. Later on, there are also village support committees formed by the township. Even though there is no support, some of the committees continue to exist and some stop functioning due to lack of support.
		Since 2012, rural development projects have been carried out and VDCs have been founded and members are elected by the community.	
How many villages in the township have functioning VDCs?	40%	there are many VDCs but no record of exact numbers.	50%
How many VDCs are still externally supported? Till when?	Don't know	There is none that has external support.	Don't know
How many VDCs have operated independently for a minimum of 1 year, after end of support?	Don't know	current ones have no external support.	VDCs formed by the government operate without any support.
How useful have VDCs been in mobilizing/promoting/managing development activities in villages?	Good	Good	Moderate
In what ways have township authorities worked with NGOs or other organizations to support VDC development and/or channel development activities through VDCs?	There are VDCs in the village tracts which were formed by the township. Some NGOs formed VDCs in some villages and many people participate in the activities. Township authorities also encourage to form such VDCs and give support to set up proper rules and regulations.	tsp authorities keep records of reported requests made by VDCs and share those with INGOs in the township meetings to provide necessary support and to include them in the planned projects.	Government departments and NGOs give trainings to the committee members. (trainings cover topics such as agriculture and accounting)
In what ways have VDCs channeled support/facilitated assistance to the most vulnerable in the villages?	The most vulnerable in the villages are given priority in receiving support whenever development activities are carried out in the village.	The VDCs have listed the poorest and most needy community members and submitted the lists to the Township Management in order to include them in priority projects.	Committees collect poorest households data and set priorities accordingly with poverty level. Sometimes, the committees make requests to the township government and INGOs to receive help and support.

Question	Myingyan		Nahtogyi		Taungthar	
Other relevant information on township characteristics or activities	<p>This township is a major district township. Although it used to be an agricultural town, soil erosion and erratic weather have made the farmers to change their livelihood and migrate to foreign countries.</p>		<p>Four dams have been built for agriculture.</p>		<p>There are microfinance groups in the township. PACT Myanmar have been doing microfinance activities for 3 years now. Co-operative group has initiated microfinance activities starting this year, and have formed microfinance groups and started lending money. They mainly lend money to the poor people and provide them with medical treatments. Eye operations are offered for free once in every 3 months.</p>	
			<p>As of August 2014, for domestic water usage, 617 tubewells and 22 dug wells have been built in urban area. In villages, 1168 hand-dug shallow tube wells for domestic use, 395 dug wells for drinking water, 2289 deep tube wells and 12 reservoirs have been built in rural area.</p>			
			<p>Myittamon (Funeral services), Yin Nyein Pan (clinic), Thukha Chanthar (Doctors' association), UNICEF,</p>			
			<p>There are 15 BEHs, 21 BEMs, 19 BEPPs, 102 BEPSs and 2 private schools.</p>			
			<p>one 25-bed-hospital, 3 station hospitals, 3 RHCs, 31 Sub-RHCs and 1 dept of combating Malaria</p>			
			<p>20 villages have received electricity.</p>			

Question		Mahlaing	Pakkoku	Yesago		
Total area of Township (km ²)	402.7		310,937 acres 485.839 sq miles	385.73		
Total population	157,674		292,700	234,992		
Total male	73,683		134,110	109,769		
Total female	83,991		158,590	125,223		
under 18 (male)	25,783		45,360	33,343		
under 18 (female)	26,129		47,627	33,908		
above 18 (male)	47,900		88,750	76,426		
above 18 (female)	57,862		110,963	91,315		
Rural population	145,607		209,215	211,784		
% of Rural Population	92.35%		71.48%	90.12%		
No. of villages	247		264	245		
Rural Poverty (no. & % of poor people and no. & % of poor villages)						
No of HH & %			27.04%			
No of villages in poverty & %			15%	60%		
Total cropped area	180,543		135,450	314,800		
Total area irrigated	2,584		9,394	39,249		
% of area irrigated/cropped area	1.43%		6.94%	12.47%		
Total forest area	16,072		27,520	28,627		
Institutions (name, number, location):						
State-owned banks						
Myanmar Economic Bank	Mahlaing-Maikhtila road	Myanma Economic Bank	No.8	Myanmar Economic Bank	No (2) Government Offices' compound	
Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank	Mahlaing-Maikhtila road	Myanmar Agriculture Development Bank	No.3 ward, Htin Tan road	Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank	No (2) Government Offices' compound	
Private banks	KBZ	Ward 4, West of Market	Kanbawza Bank	No.8/No.3/No.11	Myanmar Citizen Bank	Ward (2)
			Global Treasure Bank	No.8		
			Yoma Bank	Myoma road, Pakkoku		
			Myawaddy Bank	Myoma road, Pakkoku		
			AGD Bank	Myoma road, Pakkoku		
			CB Bank	Myoma road, Pakkoku		
			Innwa Bank	Myoma road, Pakkoku		
			UAB Bank	Myoma road, Pakkoku		
			Ayarwaddy Bank	Myoma road, near Myoma market		
			Myanmar Apex Bank	Myoma road, near Myoma market		
			SME Development Bank	Myoma road, Pakkoku		
			First Private Bank	Myoma road, Pakkoku		
MFIs						
Cooperatives loans			Cooperative group	No.1	Cooperatives	No (2) Government Offices' compound
Pact in Myanmar			PACT Myanmar	No.3	Township Municipal	Ward (3)
			Municipal	No.1	OISCA	Pakhangyi Village
					Pact Myanmar	Ward (2)
Livestock markets						
Saturday Market	Sanay Nai Market	Myit Chay cattle market	Myit Chay village			
Other agricultural markets		Pakkoku wholesale center	No.2 ward	Yesago Township Market		
Commodity exchange	Commodity exchange 1	Mahlaing Township Market	Pakkoku Myoma market	No.9 ward	Yesago commodity exchange	
	Commodity exchange 2	Mahlaing Township Market				
Agricultural / vocational training					OISCA (Japan), agricultural training	Phkhangyi village
					Training school for home economics	Paykone village
Crop or animal breeding/res. station						
Other (specify)			Training school on home economics	No.1		
			Technical high school	Koe Pin village		
			Training school for weaving	No.5		
			Nursing training school	No.4		
			Computer University	Kan Taw village		
			Technical University	Pan Tine Chone village		
			Pakkoku University	No.6		
Township level technical staff (No.):						
Planning Officer	1		2		2	
Water Specialist	1		1			
Agricultural Officer	1		2		1	
Livestock Officer	1		1		1	
Marketing Specialist	1		1			
Community Dev. Specialist			0			
Other (specify)			Tsp Municipal Affairs Committee	7	Tsp Municipal Affairs Committee	4
			Tsp Development Support Committee	7	Tsp Development Support Committee	3
			Members of Parliament	3	Members of Parliament	3
2013 Expenditures (Kvat 000)						
Dept of Agriculture	37 800 000		41,883		34 755 885	
Dept. of Animal Health & Breeding	7 000 000		-		13 142	
Dept of Irrigation	51 243 500		245,162			
Dept of Water Supply and Sanitation	44 012 100		416,740		144 005	
Dept. of Social Welfare			-			
Other rural development departments	20 174 250		Nil		756 167.8	

Question		Mahlaing	Pakkoku	Yesago		
Poverty						
How is poverty defined and measured by the township authorities?	measured by having Limited job opportunities and level of incomes.		Poverty is defined as having high proportion of household members who cannot afford to buy basic necessities such as food and non-food items.	Having high ratio of HH members who don't have adequate resources required for basic needs such as food and non food items.		
What are the levels of rural poverty in the township, according to established definitions?	The level of rural poverty is moderate. About one third of the total villages are suffering financial and agricultural hardships.		The level of rural poverty in the township is rank (2) 25.66%.	In Magway Region, the rural poverty level has decreased from 43.9% (2005) to 28.2% (2010). Necessary actions are being taken to reduce the poverty rate to 24% in 2015.		
What are the (4 major) characteristics of the poor(est) villages? What makes them poor?	1	Underdevelopment	1	Being landless	1	no farm land and no water for farming
	2	too much reliance on agriculture	2	Food scarcity	2	lack of vocational training and education necessary to suport the livelihood.
	3	unsuccessful in working on agriculture	3	Poor living standards	3	limited job opportunities
	4	no external support/help	4	Lack of vocational education and of employment opportunities	4	poor infrastructure for transportation and communication
What are the (4 major) characteristics of the poor(est) households within villages? What makes them poor?	1	No capital	1	Woman headed household	1	large number of landless casual workers
	2	No farm land	2	Households with disabled and/or handicapped family members	2	large number of households with children and dependent HH members
	3	the sore income earner is female or not in good health or disabled.	3	Households with many dependent family members	3	large number of HHs with disabled HH members
	4	large households with low income.	4	households of landless casual workers	4	large number of female headed households
What are the (4 major) characteristics of the most vulnerable people within households? What makes them vulnerable?	1	cannot make adequate income.	1	Income and expenses are not balanced	1	limited job opportunities
	2	being disabled	2	Poor health knowledge	2	income doesn't cover the expenses
	3	being too old or too young to make money	3	No formal schooling	3	people with little or no formal schooling
	4	being female or illiterate	4	Poor employment opportunities	4	people who have little health knowledge.
Which are the poorest villages within the township?			80			
What is the number/% of the following within the township?						
(a)Female-headed households?			9527	21.40%	19.50%	
(b) Landless households?			10284	23.10%	21.70%	
(c)Households with disabled/elderly member(s)						

Question	Mahlaing		Pakkoku		Yesayo
What measures have been taken by the township to combat poverty (policies, institutions, support mechanisms, etc.)?	Formed village support committees and provide support in coordination with INGOs.		Implementing the 8 plan of actions for poverty reduction. Coordination with NGO/INGO organizations.		Township administration has been forming committees and sub committees and implementing the 8 plan of actions to fight poverty.
	Provide vocational trainings		Coordination with Parliamentary Members and Township Development committees to fulfill the needs of 264 villages and 15 wards within the community.		The township/village/ward support committees and INGOs cooperate together with people in order to satisfy the local needs.
	Provide loans and starting capital.				
	Cooperate with CSOs, INGOs and government for external support				
Community Development					
What has been the experience of the township with VDCs? Especially progress in creating them and their sustainability?	There are many VDCs in many villages founded by government and INGOs.		VDCs were formed with elected representatives from the citizens by following the President's directions. VDCs work together with the village administrators in order to effectively implement the community development activities.		VDCs are founded and members are elected by the people following the instruction of the President.
	Some VDCs founded by INGOs have stopped functioning however some VDCs founded by government are still functioning.				Those committees have been cooperating with VTAs in development projects.
How many villages in the township have functioning VDCs?	80%		264		245
How many VDCs are still externally supported? Till when?	They might not know how to get supported externally.		213	(PACT) August-2014	
How many VDCs have operated independently for a minimum of 1 year, after end of support?	N/A		51		
How useful have VDCs been in mobilizing/promoting/managing development activities in villages?	Good		Good		Good
In what ways have township authorities worked with NGOs or other organizations to support VDC development and/or channel development activities through VDCs?	The VDCs are helpful as they could report the needs of the community; and INGOs and government departments concerned provide support based on the information provided by the VDCs.		Township management committee has been coordinating with township development committee, township municipal committee, Parliamentary members, NGOs and VDCs, and prioritizing local development projects based on the availability of budget.		Township authorities are now cooperating with Township development/management committees, INGOs and MPs, and prioritizing necessary projects.
In what ways have VDCs channeled support/facilitated assistance to the most vulnerable in the villages?	Some VDCs have listed poor villages and submitted those lists to organizations and they also do fund raising activities to provide services such as health care.		VDCs has been supporting and facilitating various necessary projects in coordination with MPs, township administration and INGOs.		VDCs are now cooperating with Township administration, committees, INGOs and MPs to support various necessary projects based on priority.

Question	Mahlaing	Pakkoku	Yesagyo
Other relevant information on township characteristics or activities			
	<p>There are many acres of land where no crops of any kind could be cultivated.</p>	<p>Pakkoku township has gained momentum in development since after the Ayarwaddy bridge was built.</p>	<p>In order to increase job opportunities, OISCA is providing agriculture/aquaculture trainings.</p>
	<p>People don't know what techniques should be used to prevent soil contamination (Alkali soil).</p>	<p>Pakkoku Tsp has been developing every year due to improvements in telecommunication/ transportation, implementing urban development plans, following village development manuals and coordination among township administration, township development committees, Parliament members, Action Aid groups and other development organizations.</p>	<p>Dept of Rural Development is collaborating with the township GAD, INGOs and NGOs for water security and road improvements.</p>
	<p>Crops have been destroyed if people use water flowing over those contaminated soil.</p>		
	<p>The number of migrant workers has been increasing as there are not regular seasonal employment opportunities while rural population is growing.</p>		