

Mandalay Community-Based Solid Waste Management

PROJECT SCOPE

- + Integrated Solid Waste Management
- + Participatory planning and stakeholder engagement
- + Awareness campaigns and capacity building
- + Urban climate change and environmental management
- + 3Rs approach Reduce, Reuse and Recycle
- + Establish Ward Resilience Committees
- + Establish Ward Resilience Plans
- + Assess a Ward Resilience Fund
- + Explore female livelihood opportunities

I ith a population of 1.25 million inhabitants, Mandalay is the second largest city in Myanmar. It is experiencing rapid urbanisation and battles with severe environmental degradation, inadequate infrastructure, and basic service provision. In an attempt to tackle this situation, the Mandalay City Development Committee (MCDC) launched the Mandalay City Waste Management Strategy and Action Plan in 2017, which is considered to be the very first initiative aimed at addressing the city's waste problem in a holistic and integrated manner, with the vision of eventually developing a resource-efficient and zero-waste management system. The plan is furthermore in line with the Mandalay Green City Agenda, which has been established to guide the city toward becoming a clean and prosperous green urban area by 2040.

However, the Action Plan cannot be realised without the involvement of Mandalay's citizens as they have a crucial role to play in creating a greener, healthier and more liveable environment. The Community-Based Solid Waste Management (CBSWM) project aims to convince the city dwellers that that the basis for all successful waste management operations rests in the willingness of citizens to follow good practices and maintain the discipline to do so consistently. Funded by the Asian Development Bank, CBSWM runs from October 2018 to October 2022 and targets four townships located at the banks of the Thingaza Creek.



More than 150,000 people in 28,692 households along the Thingaza Creek will be impacted by the project initiatives



Deploying the 3Rs approach by Reduce, Reuse and Recycle, with strong emphasis on prevention through education and awareness creation.







climate change as unpredictable rainfall causes flooding, which is compounded by unorganised disposal of solid waste. In Mandalay, community-based solid waste management efforts are making a

CBSWM in a nutshell

The four townships involved in the project are situated along the banks of the Thingaza Creek, which is badly polluted and clogged by domestic and industrial waste, causing severe flooding during the rainy season. As a key measure to reduce the amount of trash dumped into bodies of water, the NIRAS team has been deployed to support the MDCD, and in particular the "Cleansing Department", in developing and launching awareness-raising campaigns on climate change impacts, solid waste, flooding, sanitation, and health among the residents. Pilot initiatives will be centred around three key interventions: Community Mobilization, Awareness Creation, and Resilience Mechanisms. The project will define the boundaries of the pilot area, organise advocacy meetings with stakeholders at the ward, township and MCDC levels, establish a Ward Resilience Committee (WRC) and draft a Ward Resilience Plan. The feasibility of a Ward Resilience Fund will also be assessed. After documenting lessons learned from the pilot area, NIRAS will develop an approach to replicate the efforts to other wards. This will involve an assessment of capacity gaps and resource constraints as well as the development of a training plan for WRC members. As the project

evolves, an additional stage will focus on monitoring, capacity building and backstopping "agents of change".

Synergies with ongoing efforts

The project is in line with the Mandalay Waste Management Action Plan as it deploys the 3Rs (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle) approach and places a strong emphasis on prevention through education and awareness creation. NIRAS's team will apply the hierarchy waste model of prevention, reduction, recycling and reusing, recovery and disposal - thereby directly contributing to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 12.5 - reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling, and reuse. In addition, CRWM contributes to Mandalay's participation in the ASEAN SDGs Frontrunner Cities Programme by monitoring progress on SDGs 11.6, 5.5 and 6.3.

On a more general level, the project will closely cooperate with its sister project under the Mandalay Urban Service Improvement Project (MUSIP) portfolio, namely the Capacity Development in Climate Change Resilient Urban Planning project, to harness synergies and coordinate efforts across the various departments of MCDC.

