Australian Government
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Aid Program Performance Report 2014-15

Myanmar

November 2015

Key Messages

This report outlines the progress of Australia's aid program in Myanmar from July 2014 to June 2015. The program was implemented in line with the *Australia-Myanmar Aid Program Strategy 2012-15* and reflects the priorities of the Australian and Myanmar Governments.

2015 marks a transition in Australia's aid program to Myanmar. We have incorporated the lessons from the past three years of the *Australia-Myanmar Aid Program Strategy* into a new Aid Investment Plan 2015-19, which will guide Australia's aid program going forward.

In 2014-15 Australia's aid program provided $99.1million in development assistance to Myanmar through multilateral organisations, government and non-government organisations. This report finds that in 2014-15 Australia's aid program made good progress against our objectives in education, health, governance, peace and humanitarian assistance and met all its performance benchmarks. However, our performance against our livelihoods objective was mixed. Some key achievements attributable to Australian aid include:

- over 140,000 additional girls and boys enrolled in school, and Australian assistance to Myanmar's education reforms helped strengthen policy, planning and budgeting to increase education access and quality
- an additional 15,000 children under the age of one were immunised against childhood tuberculosis, hepatitis B, measles, polio, diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis across four states and regions in Myanmar
- 19,231 households have increased access to financial services and markets, exceeding the performance benchmark of 6,300 households
- 235,313 vulnerable women, men, girls and boys in conflicted-affected and displaced communities, including in Rakhine State and on the Thai-Myanmar border, were provided with life-saving assistance, and
- assisting the Myanmar Government to promote economic growth by developing investment policy and initiating a Myanmar business forum to promote private sector views to government.

We met the Australian aid program's strategic target for gender equality, with 80 per cent of investments receiving at least adequate ratings. That said, there is still more we can do to improve gender equality and women's empowerment.

In assessing the program's performance in 2014-15 we have identified a number of lessons. It is clear that our programs' ability to adapt to Myanmar's dynamic operating environment is critical to success, and that in some areas our programs and the way we measure our performance has not kept pace with the changing context. Our commitment to build and maintain responsive programs and associated performance frameworks is included in the management response, and has fed into the new Aid Investment Plan 2015-19.

Context

In 2014-15 the Myanmar Government continued its program of political, economic and social reforms. Since 2011 the Myanmar Government has delivered a number of political 'quick wins' to demonstrate its commitment to reform. The Myanmar Government made some notable achievements in the reform process in 2014-15, although the complexity and challenging nature of the current wave of reform tempered the pace of reform.

In chairing ASEAN in 2014 and signing a number of international security instruments, the Myanmar Government highlighted its commitment to reintegrate into the regional and international community. The development of a National Comprehensive Development Plan 2015-2020 shows evidence of better policy planning, and the Government has significantly increased public expenditure on health and education[i]. And it agreed the draft text of a Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement with the country's main ethnic armed groups in March 2015.

After decades of isolation and internal conflict, however Myanmar remains one of the poorest countries in South-East Asia, despite some improvement in poverty rates. The World Bank recently calculated 37.5 per cent of the population were living in poverty[ii], with the rate reaching more than 70 per cent in some rural areas of Myanmar[iii]. Around 10 per cent of Myanmar's population does not have access to enough food.

Education and health standards are low compared with regional neighbours. Myanmar has the lowest life expectancy among ASEAN countries with average life expectancy at 64 years. Each year around 48,000 children die before the age of five from easily preventable diseases. Only half of all enrolled children complete primary school[iv] and approximately 10 per cent of school aged children do not attend basic education due to poverty, geographic location or disability.

While opening the economy has enabled economic growth of 8.5 per cent in 2014-15, Myanmar's economy continued to suffer from its years of isolation. Per capita income is estimated at USD1,197[v], and the economy remains narrowly based. Myanmar's economy is characterised by an underperforming agriculture sector, a small manufacturing sector, macroeconomic instability, and untapped tourism potential.

People affected by conflict and resulting instability are some of the poorest and most vulnerable in Myanmar. The UN estimates there are approximately 640,000 internally displaced people in Myanmar [vi], in addition to 110,000 refugees from Myanmar in Thailand[vii].

Australia's aid to Myanmar is designed to create an environment conducive to economic growth and increased trade by strengthening government capacity, promoting peace and stability, and supporting the development of a healthy, educated population. In 2014-15 our aid program worked with the Myanmar Government to support productive political, economic and social reform. We supported Myanmar's democratic transition by strengthening government capacity to deliver a credible election in 2015. Australia helped improve trade prospects through aid for trade activities, promoted private sector growth, and strengthened public financial management capacity. Through our regional engagement, Australia helped Myanmar to capture the benefits of economic regionalism, particularly through the ASEAN Economic Community.

In 2014-15 Australia provided $99.1 million in official development assistance (ODA) to Myanmar, an increase from $91.8 million in 2013-14[viii]. This was delivered largely through multi-donor trust funds, although Australia has begun to work more closely with the Myanmar Government on education, public financial management and economic governance. Australia's ODA to Myanmar in 2014-15 equated to approximately 0.1 per cent of Myanmar's estimated 2014 gross domestic product[ix]. Official figures remain difficult to confirm; however in 2014-15 Australia was considered one of the most significant donors to Myanmar, both in volume and because Australian ODA is totally grant-based and does not include concessional lending or debt relief. Other major donors include, in order: Japan (AUD262 million[x]); France (AUD155 million[xi]); the European Union (AUD140 million[xii]); the United Kingdom (AUD136 million[xiii]); and the United States (AUD80 million[xiv]). The recent growth in donor investment in Myanmar and a reduced Australian aid budget has decreased the comparative size of Australia's donor

footprint. But the value of Australia's contribution is greater than our funding: our enduring presence in Myanmar and strong policy dialogue with the Myanmar Government has helped to build our reputation and influence as a supportive and constructive development partner.

Expenditure

Table 1 Total ODA Expenditure in FY 2014-15

Objective	A$ million	% of total ODA
Bilateral		
Improving the delivery of basic education to the poor	26.2	26.4
Improving the delivery of health services to the poor	10.5	10.6
Improving the livelihoods of the rural poor	6.2	6.3
Addressing the needs of conflict and disaster affected people	17.0	17.2
Supporting reform and improved governance	13.1	13.2
Sub-Total Bilateral	**73.0**	73.7
Regional and Global	26.1	26.3
Other Government Departments	0.0	0.0
Total ODA Expenditure	**99.1**	100.0

Performance against Strategic Objectives

The performance of Australia's aid program is measured against the objectives and performance assessment framework detailed in the *Australia-Myanmar Aid Program Strategy 2012-15*, as well as the seven performance benchmarks identified in the 2013-14 Burma Aid Program Performance Report. The ratings for each objective remain the same as in 2013-14. The high proportion of green ratings in this report reflects that Australia set realistic performance targets in an operating environment that remains challenging and complex.

Table 2 Rating of the Program's Progress towards Australia's Aid Objectives

Objective	Previous Rating	Current Rating
1. Improving the delivery of basic education to the poor	Green	Green
2. Improving the delivery of health services to the poor	Green	Green
3. Improving the livelihoods of the poor	Amber	Amber
4. Addressing the needs of conflict and disaster affected people	Green	Green
5. Supporting reform and improved governance	Green	Green

Note:

Green. Progress is as expected at this stage of implementation and it is likely that the objective will be achieved. Standard program management practices are sufficient.

Amber. Progress is somewhat less than expected at this stage of implementation and restorative action will be necessary if the objective is to be achieved. Close performance monitoring is recommended.

Red. Progress is significantly less than expected at this stage of implementation and the objective is not likely to be met given available resources and priorities. Recasting the objective may be required.

Reporting period:

Education

OBJECTIVE 1: IMPROVING THE DELIVERY OF BASIC EDUCATION TO THE POOR	Green

Education remains the flagship sector of Australia's aid program to Myanmar. In 2014-15 Australia provided immediate and tangible assistance to enable more girls and boys to attend school and receive a quality education. Simultaneously, we worked closely with the Myanmar Government to progress and embed its education reforms.

Three major programs contribute to this objective: the Decentralising Funds to Schools Project ($14 million in 2014-15), in partnership with the World Bank and the Myanmar Government, which improved students' access to quality education by providing school grants and stipends; the Myanmar Education Consortium (MEC, $9 million), which delivered complementary education services to ethnic communities and monastic schools; and the Quality Basic Education Program (QBEP), implemented by UNICEF, which assisted the Myanmar Government to progress education reforms and improved the quality of education in primary schools. QBEP did not receive Australian funding in 2014-15 due to underspending against its budget and DFAT's decision to focus resources on more sustainable education investments.

The education objective was rated green in 2014-15 based on improvements in children's access to quality education and continued good progress in supporting the Myanmar Government's education reform agenda. The education program achieved its performance benchmark and five out of six milestones against the program strategy were reached. However, the Aid Quality Check (AQC) ratings for the three major education investments were mixed: the Decentralising Funds to Schools Project, scored well; MEC had mixed results; and QBEP rated poorly following an independent evaluation in 2014. On balance, we assessed that a green performance rating was appropriate for three reasons: (1) the findings of the MEC independent review were largely positive; (2) partners have made good progress addressing the findings of the MEC and QBEP reviews; and (3) QBEP was a small component of the education portfolio in 2014-15 as Australia did not provide additional funding.

Objective 1a: Improved quality of teaching and learning practices in basic education in government and complementary schools

Australia's investments focused on increasing access to basic education, after decades of low public investment denied a quality basic education to many of Myanmar's 18 million children. We also worked with partners to improve the quality of teaching and learning in Myanmar's classrooms, as evidence shows this has a significant impact on students' ability to contribute to a productive workforce and reduce poverty[xv]. Australia invested in both government and non-government schools, with the latter focused on supporting education for ethnic minority communities in conflict-affected areas.

In 2014-15, Australia increased access to education by enabling over 140,000 additional girls and boys to enrol in school through QBEP and MEC.[xvi] In addition, nearly 49,000 children (51 per cent girls) accessed early childhood development services in 2014-15 (exceeding the program target of 32,600). An assessment of the net primary enrolment rate and survival rates to grade 5 in targeted townships was unavailable due to limitations in available national data.

Australia's investments are also improving the quality of teaching and learning in schools. Through QBEP and MEC we helped 7,939 teachers and caregivers meet relevant competency levels in improved teaching methods for basic education (exceeding the 2014-15 target of

7,026) in both government and non-government schools. In the latter, our support particularly focused on training teachers from local communities to help address teacher retention problems in these areas. We also provided 326,813 students with essential school supplies and textbooks, including in conflict-affected areas (exceeding the program target of 251,395).

Since commencing in 2014, the Decentralising Funds to Schools Project has had some initial success in providing access to quality education through the Myanmar Ministry of Education. It demonstrated the successful use of results-based financing, with the government meeting all disbursement-linked indicators. This included training over 40,000 school heads and the timely disbursement of the first tranche of grants to government schools in 229 townships. Australia's grant funding leveraged increased investment in the program from the Myanmar Government, which has expanded the investment significantly. Secondly, early reporting suggests the project has contributed to improved school learning environments, reduced parents' financial burden for schooling, and supported 36,910 poor children to continue their education. However, there remains scope to improve community involvement in the grant allocation, focus more on learning outcomes, and adopt more conflict-sensitive approaches..

MEC continued to deliver essential education services to ethnic communities, many of which are in conflict-affected areas. This program complements Australia's support to Myanmar's government schools and is critical to our credibility with ethnic leaders involved in the peace process. MEC has been highly inclusive by providing education to the hardest-to- reach children in Myanmar. MEC also heightened its focus on disability in 2014-15 by providing training on inclusive teaching methods, and providing textbooks and teaching aids in alternative formats. Now 15 per cent of grant projects have a specific focus on children with disabilities.

An independent mid-term review of MEC found that it was largely on track or exceeding its targets in providing education to children in hard-to-reach and conflict-affected areas in Myanmar. It also identified that, in order to continue delivering on its objectives in a rapidly evolving environment, MEC needed to focus its efforts where it could have the greatest impact and strengthen program governance and management. MEC has responded positively and is working closely with donors to address these issues, including by focusing its support for non-government education systems in remote and conflict-affected areas in Myanmar.

A mid-term review of QBEP in 2014 found the program was unable to effectively respond to the rapidly changing context in Myanmar, which impacted on its efficiency and effectiveness. In response, DFAT has worked with UNICEF, QBEP's implementing partner, to revise the program objectives for 2015. QBEP is now helping the Myanmar Government to strengthen its systems for supporting quality education. QBEP did not receive additional Australian funding in 2014-15 and will conclude in June 2016.

Objective 1b: Implementation of the Myanmar Government's Framework for Economic and Social Reform

In 2014-15, the Myanmar Government continued to demonstrate its commitment to an ambitious reform agenda in the education sector[xvii]. Australia has taken a lead amongst development partners in providing practical assistance to these reforms. For example, Australia funded in-depth and disaggregated analysis on education access, attainment, reasons for dropout, and household expenditure burdens, which informed the preparation of Myanmar's National Education Sector Plan (NESP). We continued to support the Ministry of Education to develop a cross-cutting Basic Education Curriculum Framework and to engage a diverse range of stakeholders across its reform process.

Myanmar's Parliament passed an important amendment to the National Education Bill in June 2015 which made positive steps towards inclusiveness and accountability. After public outcry against the National Education Law in September 2014, the Myanmar Government asked Australia to provide technical assistance to review the law and coordinate donor comments, which provided important input to the Amendment. The amended Law enshrines the concept of free compulsory education, recognises that regional differences should be reflected in a flexible national curriculum, and highlights the importance of disability inclusive education.

Australia was the first grant donor to fund a government project (Decentralising Funds to Schools Project) using government systems. We used results-based financing to manage fiduciary risks, ensure strong government ownership, and leverage policy planning and Myanmar Government funding. This type of practical assistance has deepened our strong relationship with government.

Health

OBJECTIVE 2. IMPROVING THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH SERVICES TO THE POOR	Green

Australia's investment contributed to improved access to health services across three components: maternal and child health; communicable diseases (HIV, TB and malaria); and supporting sustainable health services and a more robust health system in Myanmar. In doing so, the investment aligned with the Myanmar Government's strategic health plan, which identified health system reform and improved access to health services – particularly for the rural poor – as critical priorities within its broader reform agenda. Accordingly, progress towards this objective is rated green.

Australia invested in Myanmar's health sector through the Three Millennium Development Goal (3MDG) Fund. 3MDG was established as a multi-donor trust fund to provide funding and technical support to accelerate improvements in access to health services in Myanmar's poorest states and regions. It is the largest source of funding for health system strengthening in Myanmar, with commitments totalling more than USD330 million from 2012 to 2016. In 2014-15, Australia provided over $10 million to 3MDG, making us the second largest contributor with total funding of $46 million since 2012. Australia chaired the 3MDG Fund Board in 2014-15.

3MDG made progress on health system strengthening, including finalising an agreement with the Ministry of Health (MoH) to strengthen midwifery at the national level[xviii], under which it is aimed to deploy at least one basic health care provider per village. 3MDG also supported the development of a Human Resources for Health Strategy and five year costed plan to help MoH manage the recruitment and mobilisation of health staff in a cost effective and sustainable way, and improved access to health care through the construction of 66 rural healthcare facilities.

A Strategic Review of 3MDG was undertaken in 2014. It recommended 3MDG establish more regular and systematic dialogue with Myanmar's MoH. The Fund Board has since expanded its membership to include the MoH, and worked towards building greater MoH ownership and improving linkages with Myanmar's national health plan. As Chair of the Fund Board, Australia took a leadership role in engaging with the MoH, improving dialogue and facilitating consultation with the aim of promoting government ownership.

Beyond 3MDG, Australia has advocated for more effective health assistance across the sector, serving as the bilateral donor representative for the Myanmar Health Sector Coordination Mechanism. Australia also helped inform government and donor planning and decision making by supporting sector situational analyses, 'the Health in Transition' series.

In 2014-15, 3MDG's effectiveness improved, with a number of targets reached across all three components. While overall expenditure remained behind schedule, contracting and disbursements improved significantly.

3MDG also increased private sector engagement in 2014-15, including through an innovative partnership with international telecommunications provider Ooredoo to provide mobile health messaging services on nutritional needs for mothers and children. This increased the distribution of important health information. Population Services International and Marie Stopes International were also funded to partner with the private sector in providing complementary reproductive health care services. 3MDG has contracted the University of California San Francisco to identify additional options for private sector engagement. As many people in Myanmar access health services through the private sector, these activities increase patient access to quality assured products at a subsidised rate.

In view of the reduction in funding to Australia's bilateral aid program to Myanmar, the presence of other donors, and the need to consolidate the number of sectors we work in, DFAT decided not to make any further contributions to 3MDG from 2015. This decision was not based on any perceived lack of performance in 3MDG's work.

Objective 2.a: Increased access to and availability of essential maternal and child health services for the poorest and most vulnerable in targeted areas

Key Australian milestones related to maternal and child health (MNCH) services for the poorest and most vulnerable were on track. By late 2014, MNCH services were being delivered in 30 target townships, reaching 3.5 million (against a target of 4.3 million people).

Nearly 6,000 women delivered with support from skilled birth attendants and close to 2,800 women received emergency referral services, exceeding Australian's performance benchmark of 2,500. 15,000 children under the age of one completed immunisation schedules, meeting the revised performance benchmark and 3MDG target[xix].

In 2014-15, 3MDG further expanded its support to provide MNCH services into remote and conflict affected areas, including in Kayah, Shan and Chin States. This complements Australia's efforts to support the peace process by delivering improved services to conflict affected communities. Significant steps were also taken to align the work of 3MDG partners working in the Ayeyarwaddy Delta with government services to promote government ownership and sustainability, through the 'One Plan One Township' initiative.

Objective 2.b: Increased access to and availability of HIV, TB and malaria interventions

Progress was made in addressing communicable diseases, with increases in access to harm reduction services and drug-resistant malaria containment activities. Harm reduction services and malaria control programs were delivered in 36 out of 52 priority townships, including high risk and migrant populations who would otherwise be without easy access to health care. From its support to the 3MDG Fund, Australian aid is attributed with supporting the treatment of over 11,000 confirmed malaria cases (75 per cent of Australia's target of 14,600). 3MDG did not achieve its malaria targets in 2014 due to an overall reduction in malaria prevalence in priority areas, and therefore fewer confirmed malaria cases requiring treatment.

A new TB program was rolled out to 100 townships in 2014, and integrated TB screening into maternal and child health clinics. This is the first TB initiative to implement a nationwide screening program undertaken through service delivery units such as antenatal and postnatal clinics. Through the national TB program 3MDG has promoted work on multi-drug resistant tuberculosis, treating 2,200 new patients.

Livelihoods

OBJECTIVE 3. IMPROVING THE LIVELIHOODS OF THE RURAL POOR	Amber

In 2014-15 Australia invested $6.2 million in an agricultural development and livelihoods program, recognising the importance of agriculture to the Myanmar economy. The activities have resulted in improved nutrition and food security outcomes while assisting broader economic development by increasing employment, raising incomes and helping households build a buffer to external shocks. The rating for this objective remains amber in 2014-15, primarily due to delays in the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) translating agricultural research into practical support to improve the livelihoods of the rural poor. While performance in this sector has improved since 2013-14 and there are grounds for optimism, further work is required before a green rating can be awarded. We have identified measures to address the shortcomings, which are included in the management response.

Much of Australia's support for livelihoods in Myanmar is delivered through a multi-donor program, the Livelihoods and Food Security Trust Fund (LIFT). Its goal is to sustainably reduce the number of people in Myanmar living in poverty and hunger, including in conflict-affected areas. LIFT has made a notable difference in addressing rural poverty in Myanmar thanks to its broad geographic coverage, with activities in 13 states and regions of Myanmar. By 2016 it is expected that 5 per cent of Myanmar's population will have received LIFT support. LIFT has already achieved or exceeded two thirds of its performance indicators.

Australia's contribution has enabled LIFT to: increase incomes for 12,420 Myanmar households (target 11,700 by 2016); reduce food insecurity months for 22,680 people (target 21,600); increase or diversify food consumption for 8,730 households (target 21,600); and at least 5 per cent agricultural productivity gains for 11,970 households (target 11,700)[xx]. Australia has also enabled 19,231 households to access financial services and markets through LIFT. This exceeded the target of 6,300 households following a decision by the LIFT Fund Board to focus additional resources on financial inclusion.

Australia also funds the ACIAR Multidisciplinary Research Program for Food Security, which aims to increase food production for small-holder farmers in the Ayeyarwaddy Delta and Central Dry Zone in Myanmar by applying research to agricultural practices. The program has piloted low-cost technologies to increase fish productivity, with early results indicating a potential doubling of total gross production. Several new high-yielding varieties of legumes have been introduced to Myanmar and produced yield gains of between 50 and 152 per cent. ACIAR also supported 980 rice farmers to improve crop management practices and trial new crop varieties, the combined productivity benefit of which will be at least 40 per cent.

A mid-term review in June 2015 found the ACIAR program's five activities were well implemented and achieved significant outputs, but have not operated effectively as an integrated multidisciplinary research program. While the program's effectiveness improved since the last reporting period, the absence of an overarching monitoring and evaluation framework makes it difficult to capture its full impact. There has also been limited progress in translating research findings on increased production to practical measures to improve peoples' livelihoods. This was largely due to delays in finalising an agreement with the Myanmar Government to disseminate the research. This issue has now been resolved and implementation has commenced.

Australia's third livelihoods investment in Myanmar is CARE's Strengthening Partnerships and Resilience of Communities (SPARC) in northern Rakhine State. The program assists vulnerable Rakhine and Rohingya communities to improve livelihoods by increasing food security and economic opportunities in one of the poorest and most remote parts of Myanmar. The operating environment of northern Rakhine State is extremely difficult, and the implementation of SPARC has been delayed by inter-communal violence, ongoing restrictions on movement, and the complexities of engaging with government in this area.

SPARC has adapted well to the dynamic context. In May 2015 DFAT approved an extension of the program to 2017, in response to CARE's comprehensive conflict analysis and recognition that it would take longer than initially anticipated to achieve the program's results. In 2014-15 SPARC established 20 new community forestry nurseries, supported the management of existing community forestry plots for 2,728 households, and provided agricultural and financial assistance for 1,568 farming households to productively use land for both summer and winter crops. By increasing access to plant seedlings and supporting annual post-harvest planting, SPARC contributed to improving the livelihoods of communities in northern Rakhine.

Peace and humanitarian

OBJECTIVE 4: ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF CONFLICT AND DISASTER AFFECTED PEOPLE	Green

Australia's aid program continued to help build and sustain confidence in the locally-led peace process and helped meet the humanitarian and development needs of people affected by conflict in Myanmar. While the impact of international support for the peace process is difficult to assess due to the locally-owned nature of the process, we assess that Australia's contribution was positive as we met both our performance benchmark and our target under the *Australia-Myanmar Aid Program Strategy* in 2014-15.

There was significant progress in negotiating a Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement (NCA) in 2014-15, including preliminary consensus on the text of the agreement in March. This culminated in the Myanmar Government and eight ethnic armed organisations signing a partial NCA on 15 October 2015. The impact of the NCA on non-signatories is unclear and the critical political dialogue phase will need to be progressed by the next government in 2016.

Australian-funded staffing support and training increased the ability of the Myanmar Government and ethnic groups to engage effectively in the peace process. Australian advisers to the Myanmar Peace Center and support to ethnic groups was targeted to assist parties participate and articulate their negotiating positions. Through the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, Australia supported efforts to ensure negotiations are informed by the views of those who are outside the formal negotiation process, including foot soldiers from all sides.

Australia continued to support improvements for people in conflict-affected areas. In 2014 Australian funding enabled the Norwegian Refugee Council to partner with the Myanmar Government in providing national identity cards to 10,176 people (5,597 women) in southern Shan State. Around half of these people had never had a national ID card before, limiting their ability to fully access their rights. Initial surveys found that most women and men intended to use their ID to register to vote in the 2015 elections or enrol in higher education.

In line with Australia's support for implementing UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, Australia continued to support women's involvement in the peace process. Australia supported six women from Myanmar who have previous experience in peace

and conflict work to build stronger leadership skills by developing technical skills in conflict resolution, peace building and advocacy. Australia provided funding to the Shalom Foundation, which enabled 69 women to attend negotiation skills workshops to support them in their roles in the peace process. Shalom Foundation has also joined with four other local organisations to establish the Alliance for Gender Inclusion in the Peace Process. This provides a platform for future advocacy on women's inclusion in the peace process, particularly given likely openings stemming from the political dialogue. The program has made adequate progress to date, building on a low level of women's participation in the peace process and Myanmar politics.

The reporting period saw increasing humanitarian needs across Myanmar due to the outbreak of violence in the country's northeast and further deterioration in the conditions of existing displaced persons' camps. The majority of internally displaced people living in camps remain almost entirely dependent on international assistance to meet their basic needs. Although efforts are being made to find durable solutions, tensions in Rakhine and Kachin states remained high in 2014-15.

Australia continued to deliver effective and appropriate humanitarian assistance to those in need, in line with Australia's Humanitarian Action Policy. In 2014-15, Australia provided $19 million in humanitarian funding to Myanmar, which provided life-saving assistance such as food, water and shelter for 235,313 people. Australia's humanitarian funding was almost entirely allocated towards priorities identified in the UN Humanitarian Response Plan, indicating that it was closely aligned to national priorities and targeted needs. At a critical time in Myanmar's transition, supporting displaced communities helps maintain stability and allows adequate time for peace negotiations between the Myanmar Government and ethnic groups.

Australia's humanitarian assistance forms an integral part of our response to the situation in Rakhine State. It supports our diplomatic advocacy to address the root causes of the situation and ensure the human rights of all communities in Rakhine State. An independent review of Australia's assistance to the Thai-Myanmar border found Australia's response was relevant and appropriate, and had successfully adapted to the changing context.

Governance

OBJECTIVE 5. SUPPORTING REFORM AND IMPROVED GOVERNANCE	Green

Australia continued to invest in Myanmar's reform agenda. Our investments focused on strengthening Myanmar institutions to develop policies and deliver services, and supporting the transition to democracy. The Myanmar Government's ongoing advancement of its ambitious reform agenda, with the support of Australia and other development partners, enables Australia's progress against this objective to maintain a green rating. Australia's responsive approach to supporting Myanmar's immediate reform priorities has paid dividends. The success of small pilot investments has created opportunities to participate in larger-scale initiatives that will be critical to growing Myanmar's economy and improving the lives of its people. It will also enable greater consolidation of Australia's governance investments in Myanmar.

Myanmar's parliamentary elections scheduled for November 2015 will be a key milestone for its transition to democracy. Australia has been one of the key donors supporting the preparations for this historic event, primarily through the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES). With the support of Australia and other donors, IFES built the technical capacity of Myanmar's Union Election Commission (UEC) to operate effectively, conduct credible elections, recruit a diverse and inclusive staff, strengthen marginalised citizens' participation in key aspects of the electoral process, and develop and implement a new voter registration system.

In addition, the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) located staff in UEC offices to provide technical advice on the training of poll workers, and is the only foreign government agency with a peer-to-peer relationship with the UEC.

Australia's support for transparent, accountable and responsive state institutions in Myanmar was delivered through our partnership with the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) democratic governance program. Program implementation was delayed, due in part to poor planning and understaffing, as well as other factors beyond UNDP's control. Despite this there were positive outcomes over the reporting period. Both Parliament and the Office of the Supreme Court of the Union developed strategic plans. A Parliamentary Learning Centre has been established; the Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development conducted a business census; and a model curriculum has been developed for pilot Rule of Law Centres. By supporting legal practitioners, parliamentary staff and civil society organisations Australia is helping to strengthen the rule of law and democratic institutions in Myanmar.

Australia funded the World Bank to undertake Myanmar's first Public Expenditure Review, which mapped out how the government finances, prioritises and implements its spending. The Review significantly improved the evidence base for sound policy and programs and supports greater transparency and accountability. The Review has contributed to improved economic and social policy, including that Myanmar's budget better reflects the priorities established by the Myanmar Government and that line departments have displayed greater confidence in implementing work plans. Australia's previous investments are also continuing to bear fruit. For example, preliminary census data has been used to implement the Comprehensive Education Sector Review, a significant Australian investment in the education sector.

In 2014-15 Australia partnered with the International Finance Corporation to improve the enabling environment for trade and investment and help strengthen Myanmar's economy. This resulted in the development of a revised draft of the Myanmar Government's investment policy following consultations with the private sector, parliament and NGOs. The program helped develop an action plan for the Government's task force on business and trade promotion, and is undertaking a Trade Facilitation Assessment. The program has also helped establish Myanmar's business forum to promote the views of the private sector to government. This has already resulted in a number of business-friendly administrative reforms being introduced by government in direct response to barriers identified by business to their operations in Myanmar. The knowledge and relationships developed through this activity have enabled a further investment of up to $20 million over six years ($3 million in 2014-15) to boost investment, create jobs and facilitate trade in Myanmar.

Performance Benchmarks

Australia met all seven of its performance benchmarks in 2014-15. We exceeded targets in emergency obstetric services, issuing national identity cards to ethnic minority populations, and consolidating our program investments. In education, we were unable to verify progress against our education performance indicator because the Myanmar Government did not publish enrolment and completion statistics in the last year. As an alternative, we used the number of additional girls and boys enrolled and access to early childhood services as proxy indicators. These proxies suggested Australia made a good contribution to increasing access to basic education in Myanmar. Like all proxies these are imperfect, but we expect Myanmar's education reporting will improve in the coming years and therefore reduce our reliance on proxies.

The performance benchmark relating to child immunisation schedules was revised down in December 2014 due to changes in population data released in the preliminary 2014 census. We met the revised performance benchmark.

An overview of achievements against each performance benchmark is at **Annex B**. A new set of performance benchmarks has been included in the Myanmar Aid Investment Plan 2015-19.

Mutual Obligations

Australia has delivered aid in line with the objectives of the *Australia-Myanmar Aid Program Strategy 2012-15*, in a way that is responsive to the Myanmar Government priorities. Australia worked with the Myanmar Government to progress ongoing reform efforts, including preparation of the *Strategic Development Priorities* and *National Comprehensive Development Plan*. This will guide Myanmar's development priorities over the next five years.

Australia and Myanmar maintain a mutual interest in supporting a number of Myanmar's development priorities. The Myanmar Government has made significant gains in economic and social policy and its budget now better reflects the government's priorities. For example, the Myanmar Government has increased education funding by 30 per cent in 2015[xxi]. The Myanmar Government also made important progress in the peace process by negotiating a Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement in 2014-15.

Australia and Myanmar remained committed to regular high-level consultations on aid, as agreed through our Memorandum of Understanding on Development Cooperation, signed in January 2013. The second high-level consultations were held on 30 April 2015, with officials noting the strengthening of the relationship between Australia and Myanmar and the positive outcomes resulting from constructive development cooperation.

Program Quality and Partner Performance

Overview

Australia's aid program is in transition as we respond to the rapidly changing context in Myanmar and implement a new strategy, the *Myanmar Aid Investment Plan 2015-19*. While our ability to respond flexibly is central to successful aid delivery at this juncture, that flexibility creates challenges for reporting against the program's performance assessment framework (PAF). The *Australia-Myanmar Aid Program Strategy 2012-15* PAF guided performance reporting at a high level, but some indicators are no longer relevant where our programs have shifted focus. There is a consequent disconnect between the PAF and programming realities. Further, in some instances we have set performance benchmarks or PAF indicators that pivot on the actions of the Myanmar Government rather than Australia's actions or contributions. Australia will aim to improve performance reporting in 2015-16 (see Management Responses below).

Inadequate data continues to hamper the efforts of Australia and other development partners to make evidence based programming decisions. A dearth of sex-disaggregated data in Myanmar is particularly problematic. Australia has worked to remedy this by investing in gender analyses in design and early implementation for the Decentralising Funding to Schools Project and the IFC's Investment Climate and Competitiveness to help target interventions.

Australia's aid program evaluated six of its programs in Myanmar in 2014-15. The list of evaluations is at Annex C; all evaluations will be published in 2015 once finalised. The evaluations have shaped programming decisions. For example, mid-term reviews of two major education investments identified that our understanding of how change would occur through these programs was outdated. In response, both programs have refined their program theories to clearly articulate their respective roles in supporting education services in Myanmar. There

are currently two evaluations planned for 2015-16, covering Australia's support for the peace process and public financial management reforms.

The Myanmar program met the effectiveness standard for 70 per cent of investments, and met the efficiency standard for 80 per cent of investments. We have implemented measures across our various aid investments, and expect to meet the strategic target of 85 per cent for both in the next reporting period.

Consolidating program investments has continued to be a priority in 2014-15, in line with the aid program's strategic target. In June 2015 Australia decided to focus on fewer, high performing investments where our aid priorities and the Myanmar Government's own development goals coincide. Consequently Australia will withdraw from the health sector, where other donors are present. As of July 2015, 24 per cent of investments are low value, a reduction from 38 per cent in September 2014. This surpasses the target that fewer than one third of investments be low value. The percentage of programmed funds in high value investments is also on target at 90 per cent.

In 2014-15 the aid program made a concerted effort to improve understanding and reporting on how women and men access the benefits of our investments. The program met the aid program's strategic target for gender equality, with 80 per cent of investments receiving at least adequate ratings. While this demonstrates an improvement on previous years, we recognise there is still more we can do to improve gender equality and women's empowerment.

We have continued to mainstream gender into all investments with support from DFAT's Gender Principal Sector Specialist. Australia is preparing a comprehensive gender assessment of a new program to improve Myanmar's investment climate to ensure women are appropriately targeted. DFAT has consistently advocated for improved performance on gender equality with all our program partners, including improved reporting and collection of sex-disaggregated data. While our evidence base to support gender analysis and improve gender outcomes has been enhanced, consistent and ongoing attention is required to embed good practices.

Analysis of Aid Quality Checks (AQCs)

In 2014-15 we completed AQCs for 11 investments. Ratings broadly remained the same as in 2013-14 though there was an improvement in the performance of ACIAR's research program, which had previously been recorded as an Investment Requiring Improvement. A summary of AQC ratings is at **Annex D**. A rating of 4 or above is considered satisfactory.

The ACIAR research program recorded higher scores than last year in relevance, effectiveness, efficiency and gender equality. Further details are included on page 8. In the education sector, MEC received scores of 3 for efficiency, sustainability and gender equality, while all QBEP scores were below satisfactory. Details on MEC and QBEP are at page 5.

Advancing women's economic empowerment and promoting gender equality remains a high priority for the aid program. There has also been significant progress in 2014-15: three out of four investments with a rating of 3 in 2013-14 received an adequate rating of 4. This shift was due to a greater focus on gender analysis in design and implementation that led to more targeted interventions, and building monitoring and evaluation systems that capture changes in gender engagement and strengthen sex-disaggregated reporting. However, there is still room for improvement. The AQCs identified low levels of awareness of gender issues in some beneficiary communities, a lack of sex disaggregated reporting, and some implementing partners that were 'gender aware' rather than challenging gender norms.

Performance of key delivery partners

The program completed nine Partner Performance Assessments in 2014-15: four for multilateral partners and five for NGOs. This section will focus on three major delivery partners: the World Bank, the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), and Save the Children.

The re-engagement of the World Bank with Myanmar has presented welcome new opportunities to align donor investments and leverage substantial change in support of the Myanmar Government's reform agenda. Through the Myanmar Partnership Multi-Donor Trust Fund, Australia is supporting major investments in education, public financial management and investment promotion. The Bank is delivering high-quality results in these programs by ensuring strong Myanmar Government ownership and working collaboratively with donors to improve harmonisation and alignment. There is scope for the Bank to address gender issues better in investment designs, adopt conflict-sensitive approaches in implementation, and foster greater in-country collaboration by increasing resources in Yangon.

UNOPS implements the 3MDG Fund on behalf of Australia and other donors. While the maternal and child health results and efforts to address HIV, TB and malaria were on track, the program's management did not meet donor expectations. In 2014-15 there were significant delays in the roll out of services and program reporting. However, UNOPS has a well-developed strategy to promote gender and disability inclusion, which has had a positive impact on programming.

Save the Children Australia (SCA) manages the implementation of MEC. SCA has supported effective collaboration and communication within MEC, with the program's mid-term review noting MEC has influence within policy forums beyond its anticipated role. SCA has been highly responsive to the mid-term review and is working closely with partners to implement the findings, including by revising MEC's governance structure and refocusing the program.

Risks

Table 3 Management of Key Risks to Achieving Objectives

Key risks	What actions were taken to manage the risks over the past year?	What further actions will be taken to manage the risks in the coming year?	For emerging/ongoing risks provide a Risk Rating (low, medium, high, very high)
Myanmar's 2015 national parliamentary election and transition to a new government reduces Australia's ability to engage with government, creating challenges in implementing existing and new aid investments.	Australia closely monitored political developments and maintained relationships with government and opposition. The aid program supported government and non-government service providers and built flexibility into new program design schedules.	Risk is sufficiently managed by existing controls. Waiting for a more predictable political situation would result in missed opportunities. Flexibility will be built into all new aid activities.	High
Reform efforts stall or reverse, limiting Australia's ability to engage with the Myanmar Government and/or NGOs on aid delivery or align assistance with Government priorities.	Australia's policy of constructive engagement supported reform momentum. Engagement was informed by close monitoring. Assistance was aligned with government policies /systems where possible, and built capacity to progress reforms.	Assessments of government systems will inform any future investments with government.	Moderate

Breakdown in peace talks results in escalated hostility and/or armed conflict, disrupting the delivery of aid activities; increasing displacement and humanitarian need in conflict areas.	Aid investments supported the peace process, and all interventions are conflict-sensitive. Australia supported the gradual roll-out of services to conflict-affected areas and retained flexible funding for humanitarian needs.	Strengthen the peace process through targeted interventions and prioritise tangible benefits for conflict-affected communities in line with Myanmar Government requests. Considering further support through a multi-donor peace fund.	High
Aid program resources are inadequate to manage the investment design workload in 2015-16	Aid program managers have planned the investment pipeline and allocated resources flexibly between Post and Canberra.	Continue to adjust investment pipeline and resourcing as required.	Moderate

Management Responses

All management responses from the previous report have been either fully or partly achieved. More work is required to improve our livelihoods investments and address gender inequality with partners. A description of progress on management responses is included at **Annex A.**

From 2015-16, Australia's aid program will:

Strategic

- mitigate political risk by working closely with the next Myanmar Government to implement Australia's aid program
- closely monitor and report on developments in the peace process, and recalibrate our investments as necessary
- build closer links with the private sector, including by using design and evaluation processes as opportunities to identify entry points
- continue to strengthen program performance on gender equality and women's economic empowerment by including gender as a key evaluation question for all reviews in 2015-16

Operational

- continue to explore options for using government systems to deliver accountable and effective aid by commencing work on an Assessment of National Systems
- improve program performance reporting by developing a targeted Performance Assessment Framework for the Myanmar Aid Investment Plan 2015-19 that explains Australia's contribution, sets targets to assess adequacy of progress, and is reviewed six monthly to maintain relevance
- explore opportunities to balance humanitarian assistance with a greater development focus on education and livelihoods opportunities, particularly in Rakhine State
- support the Ministry of Education's monitoring and evaluation systems to improve data collection and its use in planning, including through the design of a new investment
- work with implementing partners of livelihoods programs on program quality and performance and revisit progress against review recommendations in six months.

Annex A - Progress in Addressing Management Responses

Management responses identified in 2013-14 APPR	Rating	Progress made in 2014-5
Complete education program design aligning to Myanmar Government reform agenda and Australia's priorities. Extend program to meet identified national gaps in service delivery while promoting an inclusive national education system. Consider the ongoing effectiveness of trust funds and other partners in responding to the rapidly changing education sector in Myanmar.	Partly achieved	The Myanmar Education Sector Investment Plan 2015-2020 was approved in July 2015, paving the way for specific investment designs to be finalised in 2015-16. The Plan outlines how we will use innovative results based financing through the World Bank. We are aligning our activities with the Myanmar Government's reform agenda, which is taking shape through the development of Myanmar's National Education Sector Plan.
Ensure Australia's engagements in the health and livelihoods sectors are in line with the Myanmar Government's reforms and benefit Australia's bilateral relationship.	Achieved	The 3MDG Fund Board and the Ministry of Health engaged more closely to better align the investment with the Myanmar Government's strategic health plan. LIFT has made significant progress in aligning with the Myanmar Government's economic reform agenda, finalising a new strategy that focuses on improving the conditions of Myanmar's smallholder farmers and the rural poor and linking with the Ministry of Livestock to launch the Government's Rural Development Strategy.
Allocate further resources to mainstream gender into existing programming and ensure program focal points are effectively skilled, undertake further gender analysis, update gender stocktake identifying actions to improve gender results, seek improved gender reporting and collection of sex-disaggregated data from partners and prioritise gender equality in emerging economic diplomacy programs.	Partly achieved	The program has continued to focus on mainstreaming gender into all investments, including a visit by the Gender Principle Sector Specialist to Post in February 2015. While we have seen improved gender reporting from partners and met the gender strategic target, there is more to do on gender analysis, skilling gender focal points, and prioritising gender in economic diplomacy activities.
Revise and finalise governance strategy taking account of appropriateness and viability of reforms supported and alignment with Australia's new aid policy.	Achieved	Following a streamlining of DFAT's aid programming architecture, the draft governance strategy was adapted to become a governance guidance note and shaped subsequent programming.
Monitor progress towards a Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement and look for ways to consolidate our support to the peace process to limit fragmentation. Consideration will be given to closer alignment of Australian peacebuilding support with governance programs to rationalise management costs and reinforce complementary objectives.	Achieved	We have continued to find ways to consolidate our support for the peace process where appropriate. Australia joined the Peace Support Fund, a multi-donor trust fund, that will help to coordinate international support to the peace process and offers a potential mechanism for Australia to reduce fragmentation. Australia has also been an active member of the design of the Joint Peace Fund in Myanmar.
Work with partners to ensure that programs take a conflict-sensitive approach to programs in post-conflict areas and sites of communal violence.	Achieved	Australia provided training to partner organisations on conflict-sensitivity in the reporting period to help ensure programs in conflict-affected areas are appropriate.
Continue to improve the evidence base for programs, particularly in conflict-affected areas, by supporting targeted analytical work.	Achieved	Australia has supported analysis as part of investment designs and has also commissioned targeted analysis to support program interventions, including a political economy analysis that informed the Myanmar Aid Investment Plan.
Seek opportunities to increase Australia's contribution to economic growth in Myanmar including through public/private partnerships.	Achieved	Australia has significantly increased support for economic growth in Myanmar in the reporting period. Building on the positive results of the pilot program implemented by the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank Group, we have invested up to $20 million over five years in the subsequent Investment Climate and Competitiveness Program. This is aimed at increasing investment, creating jobs and generating incomes for Myanmar's people.

Work with ACIAR to improve AQC ratings and establish the Multidisciplinary Research Program as Australia's hallmark program of assistance to Myanmar's agricultural sector.	Partly achieved	ACIAR and DFAT undertook a joint mid-term review of the Multidisciplinary Research Program late in the reporting period. The AQC scores improved, though further work is required, as per the new management response.
Rangoon Post will continue to constructively engage with the Myanmar Government to monitor and manage political risks.	Achieved	In the lead up to the November 2015 elections in Myanmar DFAT has engaged with the Myanmar Government and other political leaders to manage political risks to the aid program.
Develop an Aid Investment Plan articulating Australia's forward aid priorities, objectives and benchmarks by 1 July 2015.	Partly achieved	An Aid Investment Plan was finalised in September 2015.

Note:

- **Achieved. Significant progress has been made in addressing the issue**
- **Partly achieved. Some progress has been made in addressing the issue, but the issue has not been resolved**
- **Not achieved. Progress in addressing the issue has been significantly below expectations**

Annex B - Progress towards Performance Benchmarks in 2014 -15

Aid objective	2014-15 benchmark	Rating	Progress in 2014-15
Improve quality of teaching and learning practices	Sustained gains in primary enrolment and completion and transition rates to middle school.	Achieved	Assessment of enrolment and completion and transition rates was not possible in 2014-15 due to limitations in national data. The number of Australian-funded additional enrolments in schools (over 140,000) and early childhood development services (49,000) has been used as a proxy to indicate adequate progress.
Improve child and maternal health outcomes	25,000 children under one year old immunised and 2,500 life-saving referrals for pregnant women who need emergency obstetric care.	Achieved	Nearly 2,800 women received emergency referral services, exceeding our performance benchmark. 15,000 children under the age of one completed immunisation schedules. This exceeded the revised performance benchmark, which was adjusted in December 2014 due to changes in population data released from the 2014 Census report.
Increase access to markets, financial inclusion and opportunities for private sector development	6,300 households with increased access to financial services and markets.	Achieved	19,231 households have increased access to financial services and markets through LIFT. The benchmark was exceeded due to a decision by the LIFT Fund Board in 2013 to create a dedicated funding window for financial inclusion, which led to an increase in the number of LIFT projects providing affordable financial services in LIFT operating areas.
Improve confidence in the peace process	7,000 people in ethnic minority populations in former conflict affected areas with citizen scrutiny cards.	Achieved	10,176 national identity cards were issued.
Address humanitarian needs of people affected by conflict and natural disasters	Australian humanitarian assistance is effective and appropriate (as defined in Australia's Humanitarian Action Policy and Protection in Humanitarian Action Framework).	Achieved	Independent evaluation of Australia's humanitarian assistance to Myanmar in 2014 found it to be effective and appropriate.
Strengthen institutions and support reforms which promote sustainable economic growth, democratisation and government accountability	Provisional and main census data and preliminary report disseminated; new voter registration system piloted; Myanmar's government starts to base budget allocations on policy, outputs and outcomes; medium-term fiscal framework started.	Achieved	Provisional census data was released in October 2014 and the main data was released in May 2015. A new voter registration system has been piloted. The Myanmar Government has developed a budget that better reflects its economic and social policies and work plans, and is developing the Medium Term Fiscal Framework analysis.
Improved management efficiency through consolidation of investments	Less than one third of program investments are low value (under $3 million) and more than 90 per cent of programmed funds will be maintained in investments greater than $10 million.	Achieved	24 per cent of investments are low value, reduced from 38 per cent in September 2014. The percentage of programmed funds in high value investments is 90 per cent.

Note:

- **Achieved. Significant progress has been made and the performance benchmark was achieved**
- **Partly achieved. Some progress has been made towards achieving the performance benchmark, but progress was less than anticipated.**
- **Not achieved. Progress towards the performance benchmark has been significantly below expectations**

Annex C - Evaluation and Review Pipeline Planning

List of evaluations completed in the reporting period

Name of Investment	AidWorks number	Name of evaluation	Date finalised	Date Evaluation report Uploaded into AidWorks	Date Management response uploaded into AidWorks	Published on website
Quality Basic Education Program	INK545	Mid-term review	August 2014	October 2015	October 2015	October 2015
Assisting Myanmar's Conflict Affected and Displaced	INL008	Mid-term review	October 2014	October 2015	October 2015	October 2015
Humanitarian and Peacebuilding Support in Myanmar	INL443	Independent evaluation	December 2014	October 2015	Scheduled for December 2015	Scheduled for December 2015
Three Millennium Development Goals Fund	INK445	Mid-term review	January 2015	October 2015	October 2015	October 2015
Myanmar Education Consortium	INK545	Mid-term review	February 2015	October 2015	October 2015	October 2015
ACIAR Multidisciplinary Research Program Myanmar	INK149	Mid-term review	June 2015	October 2015	Scheduled for December 2015	Scheduled for December 2015

List of evaluations planned in the next 12 months

Name of Investment	AidWorks number	Type of evaluation	Purpose of evaluation	Expected completion date
Humanitarian and Peace building Support in Myanmar	INK803	Progress	Evaluation of peace support activities to inform future programming.	November 2015
Myanmar-Australia Partnership for Reform	INL035	Progress	Mid-term evaluation	June 2016

Annex D - Aid Quality Check ratings

The previous investment level performance assessment system utilised Quality at Implementation (QAI) reports. Two criteria, Risks and Safeguards and Innovation and Private sector were not assessed in QAI reports and there have been significant changes in AQC reporting this year. Innovation and Private Sector is not a quality standard.

AQC ratings

Investment name	Approved budget and duration	AQC/QAI year	Relevance	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Monitoring and Evaluation	Sustainability	Gender equality	Risks and Safeguards
Myanmar School Grants and Stipends (Decentralising Funding to Schools Project)	$25m, 2014-18	2014 AQC	6	4	4	5	5	4	5
		2013 QAI	n/a						
Multi-Donor Education Fund Phase II (QBEP)	$27.2m, 2012-15	2014 AQC	3	3	3	3	3	2	4
		2013 QAI	n/a						
Myanmar Education Consortium	$23m, 2013-17	2014 AQC	4	4	3	4	3	3	4
		2013 QAI	n/a						
Three MDGs Fund	$100.6m, 2012-17	2014 AQC	6	4	4	5	4	5	5
		2013 QAI	6	3	4	4	4	5	n/a
Livelihoods & Food Security Trust Fund	$19m, 2009-15	2014 AQC	5	5	5	4	4	4	5
		2013 QAI	5	5	5	4	4	4	n/a
ACIAR Multidisciplinary Research Program Myanmar	$12m, 2011-16	2014 AQC	5	3	4	3	4	4	4
		2013 QAI	4	2	2	3	4	2	n/a
CARE SPARC	$7.7m, 2010-17	2014 AQC	4	3	4	4	3	4	5
		2013 QAI	Exempt						
Humanitarian and Peacebuilding Support Myanmar	$21.3m, 2012-15	2014 AQC	5	4	4	4	4	4	4
		2013 QAI	5	5	4	4	4	3	n/a

Supporting the Electoral Process	$3m, 2014-16	2014 AQC	5	6	5	5	5	5	5
		2013 QAI	n/a						

HAQC ratings

Investment name	Approved budget and duration	Relevance	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Monitoring and Evaluation	Connectedness	Protection	Gender equality	Risks and Safeguards
Assisting Myanmar's Conflict-Affected and Displaced	$28m, 2013-16	6	5	6	5	6	4	4	5

FAQC ratings

FAQC scores assess performance over the lifetime of the investment and should not be compared to the previous year's QAI ratings.

Investment name	Approved budget and duration	Overall rating	Relevance	Effectiveness	Efficiency	Monitoring and Evaluation	Sustainability	Gender equality	Risks and Safeguards
Myanmar-Australia Partnership for Reform	$12.9m, 2013-15	4	5	4	4	4	5	4	4

Definitions of rating scale:

Satisfactory (4, 5 and 6)

- **= 6 = Very good; satisfies criteria in all or almost all areas**
- **= 5 = Good; satisfies criteria in most areas**
- **= 4 = Adequate; on balance, satisfies criteria; does not fail in any major area**

Less than satisfactory (1, 2 and 3)

- **= 3 = Less than adequate; on balance does not satisfy criteria but does not fail in any major area**
- **= 2 = Poor; does not satisfy criteria in major areas**
- **= 1 = Very poor; does not satisfy criteria in many major areas**

[i] Myanmar's education spending increased from US$1 billion in 2013-14 to US$1.3 billion in 2014-15; health spending increased by 6.8 per cent from 2014-15 to 2015-16.
[ii] World Bank's Systematic Country Diagnostic, p.11-12 para 6: http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2014/11/23025474/myanmar-systematic-country-diagnostic-ending-poverty-boosting-shared-prosperity-time-transition
[iii] UNDP – Integrated Household Living Conditions Assessment – II; Poverty Profile, February 2011.
[iv] Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development and Ministry of Health, *Myanmar Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2009-2010 Final Report*, Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 2011.
[v] World Bank Group, World Development Indicators database, *Gross National Income per capita 2014, Atlas method and PPP*, 1 July 2015: databank.worldbank.org/data/download/GNIPC.pdf
[vi] United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, *2015 Humanitarian Response Plan: Myanmar*. http://reliefweb.int/sites/reliefweb.int/files/resources/2015%20Myanmar%20Humanitarian%20Response%20Plan_0.pdf.
[vii] The Border Consortium, Refugee and IDP Camp Populations: June 2015: http://www.theborderconsortium.org/resources/key-resources/
[viii] Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (2015), Performance of Australian Aid 2013-14: dfat.gov.au/about-us/.../performance-of-australian-aid-2013-14.pdf
[ix] World Bank Group, World Development Indicators database, 2015: http://data.worldbank.org/country/myanmar#cp_wdi
[x] JICA Annual Report 2014: http://www.jica.go.jp/english/publications/reports/annual/2014/c8h0vm000090s8nn-att/2014_08.pdf. Japan provided ¥22,996 million in development assistance, including grants, loans and technical assistance. This converts to approximately AUD262 million (using exchange rate of 1 JPY = 0.0113726 AUD, as per www.xe.com rates on 12 October 2015).
[xi] ReliefWeb, 2014: http://reliefweb.int/report/myanmar/france-give-100-million-euro-development-aid-2015. €100 million converted to approximately AUD155 million, based on exchange rate of 1 EUR = 1.55312 AUD (source: www.xe.com, 12 October 2015).
[xii] European Union: https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/countries/myanmarburma_en. €90 million converted to approximately AUD140 million, based on exchange rate of 1 EUR = 1.55312 AUD (source: www.xe.com, 12 October 2015).
[xiii] United Kingdom Department for International Development, 2014: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dfid-burma-operational-plan-2014. £65 million converted to approximately AUD136 million, based on exchange rate of 1 GBP = 2.09321 AUD (source: www.xe.com, 12 October 2015).
[xiv] United States Department of State, Congressional Budget Justification: Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs, Fiscal Year 2015, p. 87: https://www.google.com.au/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&frm=1&source=web&cd=3&ved=0CCwQFjACahUKEwj6hdvY_q7HAhWD4qYKHY5wAbQ&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.usaid.gov%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fdocuments%2F9276%2F222898.pdf&ei=FjzRVfoig8WbBY7hhaAL&usg=AFQjCNFmrH9AyQH7u7kJ1DaKymvQBdmGMQ&bvm=bv.99804247,d.dGY. USD58.7 million converted to approximately AUD80 million, based on exchange rate of 1 USD = 1.36636 AUD (source: www.xe.com, 12 October 2015).
[xv] Hanushek and Woessman, *Background paper for EFA Global Monitoring Report 2012*, 2012, cited in Teaching and Learning: Achieving Equality for All: EFA Global Monitoring Report 2013/14, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Paris, 2014, p. 144

[xvi] Of these 140,000 additional students, only 380 were reported to have disabilities (0.2 per cent). This is well below the estimated 15 per cent of a given population that has some form of disability. This may reflect underestimates resulting from the method of collection, as well as low actual enrolments for children with disabilities.
[xvii] Including hiring 60,000 daily wage teachers; restructuring the Ministry of Education; increasing government spending by 30 per cent, and making significant progress in developing a costed five-year National Education Sector Plan (NESP) after finalising the Comprehensive Education Sector Review in 2014.
[xviii] 1588 auxiliary midwives from 77 townships were enrolled in the training by the December 2014.
[xix] All 3 MDG logframe targets were reduced in December 2014 due to changes in population data released from the Census report in 2014.

[xxi] http://www.irrawaddy.org/burma/govt-proposes-20-budget-rise-boosting-education-defense-health.html