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“Myanmar Aquaculture-Agriculture Survey: Results Dissemination Workshop”

Date: 30. 6. 2017, 8:30 am to 12:00 noon

Venue: Mindon Room, Sedona Hotel, Yangon

**MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY**



Setting the stage: motivation for the study

- The results that will be presented today are based on a **detailed study** of aquaculture, agriculture and the rural economy in 40 villages in four townships in Yangon and Ayeyawaddy Regions – why is this study important?
- **Rural households** represent almost 70% of Myanmar's population.
- **Growth of the rural economy** results in higher incomes from both farm and off-farm employment, and is therefore a key policy objective of the government of Myanmar.
- **Agriculture and aquaculture**, have played key roles as **drivers of rural economic growth and poverty reduction** in all countries in the region

Motivation for the study (2)

- This is because the same **drivers of increased farm incomes** - productivity growth (yields) through the adoption of improved technology and diversification from low value crops to high value enterprises like aquaculture – ALSO generate **demand for off-farm goods and services** (transportation, processing, cold storage)
- A large share of **increased farm incomes**, especially smallholder farm incomes, **are typically spent in the local economy** (construction for example) contributing to non-farm employment and incomes
- **Public policies and investments** have the potential to strengthen or weaken rural economic growth -> and so we need to know what is actually happening in the rural economy to guide decisions