

INTRODUCING HDIE



An integrated development programme in Myanmar, funded by the United Nations Development Programme

What is HDIE?

"Human Development Initiative Extension", or HDIE, is a project that aims to help villagers in parts of Myanmar improve their standard of living.

What does HDIE do?

HDIE helps village people in selected townships to improve their lives. Here are some examples:

- Training health workers and providing them with medicines and equipment.
- Teaching people how to avoid deadly diseases like malaria and AIDS.
- Helping dig a well or lay pipes to supply drinking water.
- Renovating the village school.
- Helping farmers improve their crop yields or livestock production.
- Providing small amounts of credit on easy terms.

These are just examples. Ask an HDIE staff member about other ways in which HDIE might be able to help your village.

Where does HDIE work?

HDIE works in 23 townships throughout Myanmar:

- Bogalay, Laputta and Mawlamyinegyun in Ayeyarwady Division
- Kalaw, Nyaungshwe, Pindaya, Pinlaung and Ywangan in Shan State
- Falam, Haka, Htantalang, Paletwa and Tiddim in Chin State
- Buthidaung, Kyauktaw, Maungdaw, Minbya and Mrauk U in Rakhine State
- Myitkyina and Waing Maw in Kachin State ...and three townships in the dry part of central Myanmar
- Chaung U in Sagaing Division
- Kyaukpadaung in Mandalay Division, and
- Magway in Magway Division.

Why were these places chosen?

These townships were chosen because they face especially difficult circumstances. In each township, HDIE conducted a survey. Only the neediest villages were chosen.

Who is the HDIE team?

The HDIE team in your township includes specialists in many different fields:

- Agriculture, livestock, forestry and fisheries.
- Education.
- Water and sanitation.
- Credit.
- Health.

They are assisted by a team of extension workers and community development workers. Each of these is assigned to one or more villages. Your local community development worker or extension worker can advise you about project activities, and can give you lots of useful information about how to improve your livelihood.

Who qualifies for HDIE services?

HDIE aims to help improve the standard of living of the neediest people in these townships. It cannot provide assistance to better-off villages, or to better-off people—because they don't need help as much as others.

HDIE gives priority to farmers who own very small plots of land, or people who own no land at all. It also tries to help women and people who are disadvantaged in some way—for example, those who are ill or handicapped.

Who decides what happens?

You and your neighbours. The HDIE team can help you decide on the most important problems and how best to tackle them. The team is also responsible for making sure the project money is spent wisely. But the ultimate decision on what to do belongs to *you*.

How can I get HDIE's services?

To take advantage of HDIE's services, you and your neighbours must be a member of a group. The HDIE staff will advise you on how to form a group, and what you must do to qualify.

HDIE's help doesn't come free. As a member of a group, you may have to contribute your time and labour. You will be required to attend meetings, help make decisions, and work on the projects you and your fellow group members decide on. To qualify for credit, you must first save a small amount and pay a membership fee.

How can I contact HDIE?

Just talk to the extension worker or community development worker assigned to your village. Or visit the Human Development Office in the township capital. This office has a blue sign outside with the United Nations symbol on it.

The United Nations symbol looks like this:



Who runs HDIE?

Different United Nations agencies run the various parts of HDIE. Each of these organizations has specialists who work in the project townships. You might see their symbols on project vehicles:



The **World Health Organization (WHO)** runs health-related activities.



The **Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)** implements work in agriculture and environmental conservation.



Unesco (the United Nations' educational agency) supports educational work, like building schools and training teachers.



Habitat (the United Nations' housing agency) builds water supplies and promotes hygiene and sanitation.



The United Nations Office for Project Services (**Unops**) does other types of work (coordination, credit, and activities in Chin, Kachin and Rakhine states).



HDIE is funded by the **United Nations Development Programme's** office in Yangon.