



Plowing in Delta @ GRET

GRET

Professionals for Fair Development

Delta CSO Project

Establishing a small grant fund to strengthen civil society organizations in Delta

The project in a nutshell

The Delta CSO project is a 33 month-project designed to strengthen the civil society of Delta in 8 Townships of the Ayeyarawaddy Region: **Patheingyi, Labutta, Bogalay, Mawlamyinegyun, Dedaye, Kyaiklath, Pyapon** and **Pantanaw**.

This project will contribute to building capacity of the local civil society organizations through a special funding window of **small grant** for improving income, resilience and pro-poor policy influence.

The main component is to **establish a sustainable funding system in Delta**.

Other actions aim to ensure **demand driven technical support** for CSOs and to provide **social mobilization support** to the civil society for identifying innovative livelihoods solutions for Delta.

The project also targets sustainable development by strengthening the coordination between **civil society, government** and **private sector**.

GRET has been working in Delta (Bogale and Mawlamyinegyun townships) since 2008. With a bottom-up democratic approach, it has supported the emergence of local producers' organizations which provide a wide range

of quality services (storage, marketing, credit, news on local development issues, etc.) to their members. This experience will be useful to share with CSOs willing to get new project ideas.

The approach

Support **to** civil society organizations will be the rationale of the fund establishment. CSOs will access resources and receive support based on what they want to do.

Services to the rural population will be delivered **through** CSOs, based on the project they want to implement.

Working **with** civil society refers to the inclusion of civil society representatives in the governance of the funding system.

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The objectives

- **The overall objectives:**

Civil society plays a more effective role in the livelihoods system at the township level.

- **The specific objectives:**

A **funding system** for CSOs is known, legitimate and sustainable.

Civil society uses **networking** to share learning and/or for joint action.

Civil society has **increased capacity** to achieve its social change

- **A specific focus on township level CSOs.**



The main activities

> Small Grant:

- Establish a fund board.
- Support the CSOs in project development and fund management.
- Support livelihood activities.

> Social Mobilisation:

- Support the CSOs in identification and mobilization of local initiatives.
- Support communities to organize themselves together for the improvement of local livelihood systems.
- Develop linkages with government and private service providers.
- Support networking between the CSOs.
- Identification of local resource persons in CSOs and communities for future sustainability.
- Support the CSOs/community groups to comply with the legal issues.

> Technical Support to CSOs:

- Service development.
- Human resource development.
- Organizational development.
- System and institutional development.
- Cooperation and network development.
- Development of a pool of expertise / capacity building.



Consultation meeting with FSWG, Delta Resource Centre © Gret



A rice mill in Pathein © Gret

THE EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- The fund is operating in a transparent and inclusive way and intends to be continued in the mid-term.
- CSOs are aware of its existence and applying for grants and they've increased their access to financial resources.
- CSOs use networking to share learning and for joint actions.
- CSOs have increased their technical capacities to develop services and activities to their members and targeted populations.
- Technical support to CSOs is made easier by the formalization of support topics and a pool of experts.
- Lessons learnt from the project are formalized and debated to influence other stakeholders and policy-making.
- Cross-learning on key issues of SGF with other consortiums.



Rice cultivation transplantation © Gret



Pathein umbrella making — one of the alternative livelihood in Delta © Gret



Fishing in Delta © Gret

BUDGET: 2.1 MILLION USD, FUNDED BY:



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