Australian Government Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research

Mainstreaming research in Myanmar's Agricultural and Veterinary Universities



Key details

Location Myanmar

Duration Start Jan 2019

End Jul 2021

Budget

AUD 411,790

Commissioned organisation The University of Queensland

Partners

The University of Queensland; University of Melbourne, Australia; University of Veterinary Science, Myanmar; Yezin Agricultural University, Myanmar

Project Leader Prof Kaye Basford

ACIAR Research Program Manager Dr James Quilty

Program Soil and Land Management

Project code SLAM/2017/041

Overview

This project aimed to develop research as a core activity of Yezin Agricultural University and University of Veterinary Science, enabling these universities to meet Myanmar's needs for agricultural and veterinary researchers, and to exploit the broader educational advantages of a research informed curriculum.

An opportunity has been identified to develop educational approaches capable of delivering problem solving skills at an undergraduate level, that are effective in the social, cultural and organizational setting of Myanmar.

Implementation of appropriate educational strategies will permit the two selected universities to build contemporary teaching and research services for students, industry, communities, and government. By supporting governance reform, while at the same time increasing research outputs, improving research training, and fostering the adoption of research-led curricula for agricultural and veterinary education in Myanmar.

The research effort will be the basis for longer-term development of research programs that are relevant to stakeholders and that will improve the capacity of the two universities to deliver improved farming practices that can be readily adopted by farmers.

Project outcomes

 Evaluating institutional governance options to identify those quality structures and processes best suited for Yezin Agricultural University and University of Veterinary Science to increase the efficiency, robustness and transparency of the university operations.

- Evaluating teaching frameworks to identify those which best support staff to improve the teaching and learning environment for undergraduate and postgraduate students, and are acceptable in the social and cultural context of Myanmar and assist with the implementation of these frameworks.
- Developing strategies to build a contemporary undergraduate curriculum and thereby foster the attitudes and capabilities of a research-oriented university.
- Providing staff with experience in the process of identifying problems capable of research, refining testable research hypotheses, designing and implementing research projects, and evaluating research designs and outcomes.

