

FIELD OBSERVATION GUIDE¹

Field Observation Guide No.: _____

Village _____ Township _____ District _____
 Route from _____ to _____
 Date and Time of Observation _____
 Recorder _____

Objective: Observation and documentation of socio-economic activities, bio-physical characteristics of the place, issues, problems, threats and opportunities, etc

Methods:

- (i) direct field observation, and
- (ii) interviews with field guide / community members (supplement)

Materials:

- Field maps
- Field notebook
- Field Observation Guide (matrix + questions)
- Pen
- Digital camera
- GPS

Outputs:

- Completed/Annotated Field Observation Guide
- Field notes
- Photographs

Process:

A. Field Observation

In areas which can be directly observed and accessed, the reconnaissance team will identify and/or describe the socio-economic activities, bio-physical characteristics of the place, issues, problems, threats and opportunities, etc by taking notes, taking photographs and fill up the **Field Observation Table/Guide** below.

Socio-economic Activity/Feature	Check if present	Describe location, condition, magnitude, severity, observed impacts, etc
1. Agriculture		
1.1. Crops		
1.1.1 Shifting agriculture (lands are cultivated, then abandoned)		
1.1.2. Intensive agricultural farming (large-scale farming)		
1.1.3. major crops planted/harvested		
1.1.4. Use of inorganic fertilizer and/or synthetic pesticides		
1.2. Wood/forest plantations		
1.2.1 Small-scale		
1.2.2 Large scale (commercial)		
1.3. Non-timber plantations		
1.3.1 Small-scale		
1.3.2 Large scale (commercial)		
1.4. Non-timber forest products (NTFPs)		
1.4.1. Honey		

¹Reconnaissance Instrument Developed for Training on Socioeconomic Monitoring (SocMon) Methodology for Evaluation of Socioeconomics and Marine Resources Utilization at Selected Coastal Communities in Myanmar Mawlamyine University and Setse and Kyaikkhami Villages, Mon State, Myanmar, 9-19 January 2014 (modified/adopted from MFI Data Gathering Instrument, Palawan State University – Center for Strategic Policy & Governance)

Socio-economic Activity	Check if present	Describe condition, magnitude, severity, observed impacts, etc
1.4.2. Nipa palm		
1.4.3. Medicinal plants and herbs		
1.4.4 Others _____		
1.5. Livestock		
1.5.1. Nomadic (mobile)		
1.5.2. Commercial (large-scale Poultry/piggery; NOT backyard)		
1.5.3. Silvi-pasture (livestock + tree plantation in one site)		
1.6. Marine aquaculture (fishpond)		
1.7 Freshwater aquaculture		
1.8 Other agriculture (pls. specify)		
2.1 Mining		
2.1.1. Abandoned/existing mining (metallic – gold, nickel, copper; non-metallic – silica)		
2.1.2. Surface runoff of mine tailings		
2.1.3. Aggregates / gravel and sand quarrying		
2.2. Fisheries		
2.2.a. Presence of cyanide		
2.2.b. Presence of trawl vessels		
2.2.c. Presence of compressor pumps		
2.2.d. Presence of discards along the shoreline		
2.2.1. Subsistence Fisheries		
2.2.1.1 Fishing gears		
2.2.1.1.1. Hook and Line		
2.2.1.1.2. Net (drift/surface)		
2.2.1.1.3. Net (bottom set)		
2.2.1.1.4. Dynamite		
2.2.1.1.5. Poisoning (herbs)		
2.2.1.1.6. Trawl fishing		
2.2.1.1.7. Compressor		
2.2.1.1.8. Cyanide		
2.2.1.1.9. Other gears, specify _____		
2.2.1.2. by-catch/discards		
2.2.1.3. overfishing (low catch of specific target species)		
2.2.1.4. fish kills (red tide / harmful algal blooms)		
2.2.2. Inshore/artisanal/small-scale fishing		
2.2.3. Offshore/Large-scale/industrial fishing		
2.2.4. Intrusion of commercial fishers (domestic or foreign) within municipal water limits		
2.2.5 Other fisheries harvested (seaweed, sea cucumber, abalone, giant clams, lobster, livefish)		
2.3. Mangroves		
2.3.1. debarking (tanbarking) of mangroves		
2.3.2. mangrove cutting for domestic purposes		
2.3.3. charcoal making		
2.3.4. mangrove reforestation		
2.3.5. conversion to human settlement		
2.3.6. conversion to fishponds		
2.3.7. other use of mangroves		
2.4. Wood / Timber		
2.4.1. Small-scale cutting		
2.4.2. Selective logging		
2.4.3. Clear-cutting (Illegal logging)		
2.4.4. Charcoal making (non-mangrove species)		

2.4.5. Biofuel (e.g., Jetropha)		
2.4.6. Other use of timber/wood (specify)		
Socio-economic Activity/Feature	Check if present	Describe location, condition, magnitude, severity, observed impacts, etc
2.5. Coral removal		
2.5.1 presence of corals on shoreline		
2.5.2 corals for decoration		
2.5.3 corals as building materials for housing		
2.6. Groundwater extraction		
2.6.1. artesian well		
2.6.2. pumps		
2.6.3. water pipelines		
2.7. Others (threatened wildlife)		
2.7.1. wildlife trading (e.g., orchids, animals, etc)		
2.7.2. threatened species (dugong, marine turtles, marine turtle eggs collection)		
3. Infrastructure Development		
3.1. Complex (Conglomeration of government centers)		
3.2. Human settlement		
3.2.1. Informal settlers		
3.3. Tourism/recreation facilities		
3.4. Land transport (roads, bridges)		
3.5. Air transport (airports, airstrips)		
3.7. Health Center/Hospital/Lying-in clinics		
3.8. School buildings		
elementary _____ # of classrooms; enrolment: _____		
high school _____ # of classrooms; enrolment: _____		
3.9. temples/pagodas, churches, mosques (other places of worship)		
3.10. Cemeteries		
3.11. Market		
3.12. Parks/Sport facilities		
3.13. Dams		
3.14. Telecommunications		
3.15. Power lines- electricity		
3.16. Seawalls		
3.17. Others		
4. Invasive alien species (directly impacting habitats)		
4.1 Non-native exotic species		
4.1.1 Exotic culture species (Tilapia, Vanamei)		
4.1.2. Ballast water		
4.1.3 others _____		
4.2. Change in native species dynamics (directly impacting habitat)		
4.2.1. Forest fires		
4.2.2. Others _____		
5.1. Land pollution		
5.1.1. Agricultural (agricultural inputs)		
5.2.2. solid wastes		
5.2.3. Commercial/Industrial		
5.2.4. Others, specify _____		
5.2. Water pollution		
5.2.1. Agricultural		
5.2.2. Domestic		
5.2.3. Commercial/Industrial		
5.2.4. Oil slicks		
5.2.5. Sediment and Silt		
5.2.6. Sewage		

5.2.7. Marine litter		
5.3 Air Pollution		
Socio-economic Activity/Feature	Check if present	Describe location, condition, magnitude, severity, observed impacts, etc
5.4. Other forms of pollution, specify_____		
6. Natural Disasters		
6.1. Typhoons/storms		
6.2. Flooding		
6.3. Drought		
6.4. Wildfire		
6.5. Volcanoes		
6.6. Local landslides		
6.7 High precipitation		
6.8 Damage to properties and infrastructures due to disasters		
6.9 Ship groundings		
6.10. Other disasters, specify_____		
7. Climate Change Impacts/Hazards		
7.1 Bleaching of coral reefs		
7.2 Wave surges		
7.3 Storm surges		
7.4 Coastal beach erosion / shoreline change		
7.5 Saltwater intrusion		
7.6 Rise in sea level		
8. Natural Resources		
8.1.River		
8.2. Wind		
8.3. Waves		
8.4. Solar		
8.5. natural vegetation		
8.6. lakes/springs		
8.7 Spring		
8.8 Others		
9. Others		
9.10. Cultural heritage		
9.11. National monuments		
9.12. Artifacts		
9.13. Protected Areas, Critical habitats, Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA)		
10. Others Notes/Observations - specify:		

Threats list adapted from IUCN-SSC, <http://intranet.iucn.org/webfiles/doc/SSC/RedList/AuthorityF/threats.rtf>, accessed 18 October 2012.

B. Supplemental Key Informant Interview

Questions for an accompanying informant while observing around the area

Coastal Erosion (Shoreline Change)

1. Have you noticed change(s) in the position(s) of shoreline? _____

2. If yes, describe if nearer or further away from a fixed land reference. _____

Siltation

1. Have you noticed that the river courses become murky or colored brown/black during periods of heavy rains? _____

2. If yes, what are the reasons for this discoloration? _____

3. What do you think are the impacts of such siltation to the coastal marine waters?

Groundwater contamination

1. Are there cases when people have become sick and/or have died due to drinking from groundwater sources? When and where? _____

Saltwater intrusion

1. Do you think saltwater has intruded into freshwater sources such as groundwater?

Alternative/Renewal source of energy

1. Is the wind blow strong in the coastal area? (Wind energy) _____

2. Is the river flow strong? (hydroelectric energy) _____

3. Do you have strong waves in the coast? (Wave energy) _____

4. Do you have hot springs in your village? (Geothermal energy) _____

5. Do you have waterfalls? (hydroelectric energy) _____

Other Observation Notes: _____
