

YANGON UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS
MASTER OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES PROGRAMME

**ROLE OF VILLAGE VOLUNTEER GROUPS FOR
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN HTAN TABIN
TOWNSHIP**

AUNG LWIN TOE

EMDevS – 1 (16th BATCH)

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MASTER OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES PROGRAMME

**ROLE OF VILLAGE VOLUNTEER GROUPS FOR COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT IN HTAN TABIN TOWNSHIP**

**A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment towards requirements for the
MASTER OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES (MDevS)**

Supervised by

Daw Yi Yi Win

Associate Professor

Department of Economics

Yangon University of Economics

Submitted by

Aung Lwin Toe

Roll No. 1

EMDevS 16th Batch

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MASTER OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

This is to certify that this dissertation entitled “**Role of Village Volunteer Groups for Community Development in Htan Tabin Township**” submitted as the requirement for the Degree of Master of Development Studies has been accepted by the Board of Examiners.

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(Examiner)

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Department of Economics

Yangon University of Economics

Dr. Tha Pye Nyo

(Examiner)

Professor

Department of Economics

Yangon University of Economics

Daw Yi Yi Win

(Supervisor)

Associate Professor

Department of Economics

Yangon University of Economics

ABSTRACT

Village Volunteer Groups were local non-profit organizations. After the exit of the donor agencies, the roles of the VVGs have become very important for the sustainability of community development in the communities. This study aims to identify the role of Village Volunteer Groups (VVGs) and their community development activities and to examine the challenges and opportunities of VVGs. Primary data were collected from (206) VVG members, using the Simple Random Sampling method with a structured questionnaire from 15 villages out of 51 villages in the township of Htan Tabin. VVGs were the main players of all development projects. Community leading VVG formation process was good practice because it can promote ownership sense. The contribution and participation of the community were one of the motivating factors in the sense of ownership. The activities of the VVGs focused on the village revolving fund because it was very effective and efficient for the villages. VVGs should themselves projects income generating activities in order to reduce dependency on the donors. VVGs members improved the level of knowledge, the level of skills, increased self-confidence and family decision-making following participation in VVGs activities. Htan Tabin Township can go to sustainable development in the future.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ABSTRACT	i
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	ii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iii
LIST OF TABLES	v
LIST OF FIGURES	vii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	viii
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	
1.1 Rationale of the Study	1
1.2 Objective of the Study	4
1.3 Method of Study	4
1.4 Scope and Limitations of the Study	5
1.5 Organization of the Study	5
CHAPTER II LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1 Village Volunteer Groups	6
2.2 Community Development	9
2.3 The importance of Community Participation for Community Development through VVGs	16
2.4 Review on Previous Studies	19

CHAPTER III OVERVIEW OF VILLAGE VOLUNTEER GROUPS IN MYANMAR

3.1	Background of Village Volunteer Groups in Myanmar	24
3.2	Formation of VVGs and Passion	27
3.3	Profile of Htan Tabin Township	31
3.4	Formation of Village Volunteer Groups in Htan Tabin Township	33
3.5	Profile of VVGs in 15 Villages	37

CHAPTER IV SURVEY ANALYSIS

4.1	Profile of Survey Area	41
4.2	Survey Design	42
4.3	Survey Results	43
4.4	Analysis on Qualitative Result	60
4.5	Challenges of VVGs	67

CHAPTER V CONCLUSION

5.1	Findings	69
5.2	Suggestions	73

REFERENCES

APPENDIX

LIST OF TABLES

Table No.		Page
Table 2.1	Community development themes	11
Table 3.1	UN agencies in Yangon	29
Table 3.2	Sector-wise INGOs in Yangon	30
Table 3.3	Sector-wise NGOs/CBOs in Yangon	31
Table 3.4	Htan Tabin Township Figures	32
Table 3.5	Status of 56 VVGs in Htan Tabin Township	34
Table 3.6	Profile of Village Development Committee	37
Table 3.7	Profile of Agriculture Group	37
Table 3.8	Profile of Livestock Group	38
Table 3.9	Profile of Self-Reliance Group	38
Table 3.10	Profile of Rice Bank	39
Table 3.11	Profile of Small Loan Group	39
Table 3.12	Existing VVGs in 15 villages	40
Table 4.1	Survey Village Tracts and Villages	41
Table 4.2	Characteristic of Respondents	45
Table 4.3	Formation of VVGs	47
Table 4.4	Existence in the villages of VVGs	48
Table 4.5	State the VVG Constitution	49
Table 4.6	Organize Meetings	49
Table 4.7	Meeting Attendance	50
Table 4.8	Source of Funding the revolving fund of VVGs	51
Table 4.9	Decision making in VVGs	52
Table 4.10	Type of Beneficiaries	52
Table 4.11	Beneficiaries of VVGs	53

Table 4.12	Supporting the villages activities	53
Table 4.13	Social Support the VVGs to village	54
Table 4.14	Education Support the VVGs to villages	55
Table 4.15	Assist to village activities in Covid-19 pandemic	55
Table 4.16	Increased in knowledge of the respondents	57
Table 4.17	Increased in skill of the respondents	57
Table 4.18	Increased in self-confidence of the respondents	58
Table 4.19	Increased in networking with others of the respondents	59
Table 4.20	Increased in family decision-making of the respondents	59
Table 4.21	Summary of Average Mean Values for increasing level of the respondents	60

LIST OF FIGURES

Figures No.		Page
Figure 3.1	Organizations Structure of VVGs	36\

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	-	Asia Development Bank
ASEAN	-	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
CBOs	-	Community-Based Organizations
CDUs	-	Community Development Units
CSOs	-	Civil Society Organizations
GDP	-	Gross Domestic Product
HIV	-	<i>Human Immunodeficiency Virus</i>
INGOs	-	International Non-Government Organizations
LNGOs	-	Local Nongovernment Organizations
NGOs	-	Non-Government Organizations
UK	-	United Kingdom
UN	-	United Nations
UNDP	-	United Nations Development Programme
VVGs	-	Village Volunteer Groups

CHAPTER 1

INTROUDCTION

1.1 Rationale of the Study

Community, as grassroots level cannot establish development activity on its own, as most of the people in the community are low-educated, poor knowledge and relevant techniques and do not have enough funding for the community. Organizations such as non-governmental organizations in villages with volunteers were involved in starting up community activities in the local area. The communities were becoming a major part of the development of the community.

Village Volunteer Groups were non-profit groups that work at the local level to improve community life. VVG was a primary level organization formed at the village/community level of the target area. Activities may include health care, the environment, the quality of education, access to technology and other key areas of development. In fact, VVGs were formed as a way to respond to weak government interventions, particularly in remote areas. Access to government assistance in rural areas was limited where people have to rely on their own resources to solve their own problems. The lack of resources in remote communities led VVGs to organize its own response to resolve community concerns. In addition, the VVGs were the main requirement for the implementation of the development programme for the aid agencies. VVGs were widely recognized among donor agencies as voluntary, non-profit, non-governmental and highly localized or neighborhood institutions whose members were on an equal footing and whose main objective was to improve the social and economic well-being of each member (Albert, May 2009).

As a developing country, 70 percent of people live in rural areas and 30 percent live in urban areas such as other developing countries around the world. Most of the poor were facing poor transport and infrastructure, poor access to education and health services, lack of economic opportunities, and so on. Village Volunteer Groups were presented to mobilize and organize local communities to participate in the development of their own communities.

Village Volunteer Groups (VVGs) were a local non-profit organization within a local and informal group. VVGs were key players when development agencies come to the villages for development. VVGs can give time to communicate with development agencies and to carry out community-based activities. In developing countries, 'bottom-up' organizations were more effective for community development. If the participation of the community was low, the success of development projects will also be slow and weak. VVGs contribute to national social and economic development in the communities. Effective community development programmes increase the capacity of families to improve their economic status through their own efforts. Community participation in social and economic decision-making has an impact on their lifestyle.

Volunteers play a key role in different kind of life activities; volunteering makes a significant contribution to the social, economic and psychological well-being of human beings around the world. Until this time, the very basic concept of volunteerism has been understood as a free and willing contribution of individuals to important social and economic activities within a given society (Johnnie, 2006).

Volunteers also work as important knowledge providers for development programmes. By free will and active participation in volunteering, people can be empowered with the credibility, knowledge and skills necessary to change in their respective communities. The sector also plays a key role in creating conditions where the economy can grow by investing in people through training, skills and improving people's chances of getting a job on the margins of the labor market (Huiting, Aug 2011).

Volunteer groups will help to expand civic engagement opportunities. Governments, civil society, the private sector and international organizations all have a role to play in encouraging and facilitating the involvement of people in the environment. Volunteers were individuals and groups that contribute to the process of community development by making time and energy available to society and the community. It was carried out freely and without any concern for financial gain (Ababanesh, June 2015).

Contrary to the perceptions and stereotypes held by some people, it was clear that volunteers were not just rich people who help those with less capacity and less economic impact. Many volunteers live in poverty themselves or face other challenges

but are taking action to improve the conditions of their own lives and those of the communities in which they live (World Alliance for Citizen Participation, 2008).

Village Volunteer Groups, Community-Based Organizations, Civil Society Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations in Myanmar were main collaborators in Myanmar's growth and social change with special social resources. They play a key role in community development and bridge the gaps for individuals to gain access to basic education, health care, economic development and natural resource management. Social volunteerism was a necessary driving force of Village Volunteer Groups, Community-Based Organizations, Civil Society Organizations and Non-Governmental Organizations in Myanmar to bring about social change in both rural and urban communities. Organizations have worked as networks, working groups and sectoral commitments create success and to implement developed. Village Volunteer Groups, Community-based Organizations, Civil Society Organizations and Non-Government Organizations in Myanmar have also functioned as networks. These networks have played vital roles in bringing about change through advocacy, capacity building, networking and coordination, communication and targeted monitoring. Every network has a huge impact on community growth and engagement to state-building, federal-democratic institutions. The new Government of Myanmar also clearly focuses on sustainable development and encourages UN agencies and NGOs to carry out more community development activities (Asia Development Bank, Feb 2015).

Community development can be seen as an approach to rural development strategy. Community development focuses more on human interaction within a geographical boundary, while rural development has a more ecological perspective. Human settlements were found in both rural and urban areas, but rural development programmes were designed to affect rural people. Rural poverty, illiteracy, ill health, regional disparity, unequal power of the other are the issues most commonly addressed. Rural development seeks to improve the poverty levels of rural people (Kailash, 2014).

Development was a challenging process, because many agents need to coordinate actions and often fail to do so. Agents were simply unable to coordinate their actions resulting in an outcome that leaves all agents worse off than in an alternative situation. This may be due to lack of information, inadequate institutional rules, inefficiencies or a lack of expectations. In certain situations, such as integrated rural

development projects, coordination problems have been so common that the entire class of projects has been dropped. However, all proposed new ways of doing "development work" require a high level of cooperation and coordination between government, development agents (UN/INGOs/NGOs) and Village Volunteer Groups. If, in the past, coordination issues have been a major problem in many complex projects, and project designs are stand-alone, coordination was bound to be an even more critical issue in the design and implementation of new forms of intervention and public-private partnerships that were emerging and becoming more common because potential collaborators were numerous but also tend to have very different approaches.

Community organizations were important in large community areas. In Myanmar, there were many community organizations in each state and region. Coordinating failure between government and INGOs, NGOs, VVGs were one of the most important parts of the development project in the current situation, and the Htan Tabin Township was also the least developed and poverty-stricken township to work for a long-term development project. The community of Htan Tabin Township was well-organized and formed the Village Volunteer Groups (VVGs) which were essential in performing various aspects for community development. The VVGs have faced the challenges and opportunities through the implementation of development activities such as support for health care, educational, elderly care, and borrowing the loan with a low interest rate to the members and other development activities. Therefore, this study was trying to focus for understanding the roles of volunteers in community development and will present how VVGs support the community to develop in Htan Tabin Township.

1.2 Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study were to identify the role of Village Volunteer Groups (VVGs) and their activities for community development and to examine the challenges and opportunities of VVGs.

1.3 Method of Study

The method of study is descriptive and analyzed by both quantitative and qualitative approaches. The structured questionnaire was developed and face to face interview was done to responsible person from each Village Volunteer Groups (VVGs). The structured questionnaire was used to conduct (15) Key Informant Interviews (KII)

for qualitative study. Primary data were collected from (206) members of VVGs, selected by using Simple Random Sampling method in 15 villages out of 51 villages in the Htan Tabin Township. Secondary data were obtained from Village Voluntary Groups (VVGs), MIMU website and the Township General Administration Office of Htan Tabin Township, other information sources and related previous studies.

1.4 Scope and Limitations of the Study

This study was focusing among the villages in Htan Tabin Township, 206 VVG members were targeted who from 15 villages of the 51 VVG villages and who will be covered the characteristic of the Village Volunteer Groups' (VVGs) age, gender ratio, education, employment status, activities of VVGs in the community development program, management of VVGs and challenges and opportunities of the VVGs can be described in this study. The study would not much represent the information for the whole Htan Tabin Township due to some villages were not formed Village Volunteer Groups (VVGs).

1.5 Organization of the Study

The study is organized into five chapters, Chapter (1) presents the introduction parts of the study which includes the rationale of the study, objectives, method of study, scope and limitation of the study and organization of the study. Chapter (2) presents on literature review of village volunteer groups, community development, the importance of community participation for community development through VVGs and review on previous studies. Chapter (3) describe the overview of Village Volunteer Groups in Myanmar. Chapter (4) presents the survey profile, survey data analysis and opportunities and challenges of VVGs in Htan Tabin Township. Chapter (5) presents conclusion with the findings and suggestions of the study.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Village Volunteer Groups

Following the American Civil War, there was a rapid rise in the number of charitable agencies designed to lend assistance to those displaced, disabled, or impoverished by the war. Many of these organizations were progressive in philosophy, even by the standards of the early twenty-first century, and they provided services to, or activities for, children and teens. The late 1800s also saw an expansion of the public-school system, along with the creation of hundreds of orphanages, hospitals, settlement houses, and other charity services. Due to the rapid rise of such organizations, and a lack of government oversight, the distribution and coordination of services soon became problematic. The term community organization was coined by social workers in this era to address the problem of coordinating charity-based services, thus reflecting the structural perspective of community.

The next phase in the evolution of community organization stressed cooperative planning among privately run community-service agencies. Efforts were geared toward specialization of services and centralization of decisions regarding these services. By the late 1940s, community organization became professionalized in the field of social work. Community organization theory stressed organizing as a process where a professional organizer worked with communities to help develop leadership within a community.

In the 1960s, new realizations about the context of American communities—particularly the vast social and economic underclass and the inability of the welfare bureaucracy to adequately address the needs of the poor—influenced the orientation of community organization efforts to deal more closely with community organizing. It was during this period that the concepts of community organization and community organizing became more interconnected. The emphasis on organizing, rather than organization, led to an emphasis on citizen participation and empowerment.

During the 1980s and 1990s, community organizations expanded to the point of being referred to as a movement, and the process of community organizing expanded into many community organizations. One struggle that emerged in this period was the awareness of power shifting from local communities to regions, nations, and international corporations. The process of globalization has raised new questions about the efficacy of local organizations in addressing problems caused by large-scale economic forces (Speer & Perkins, 2002).

Village Volunteer Groups (VVGs) were defined as voluntary association or organizations of community members who reflect the interests of a broader constituency. They were generally small, informal organizations, often membership fees, initiated by residents and located within the communities they serve. Village Volunteer Groups were usually membership organizations made up of a group of individuals in a self-defined community who have come together to further specific interests. They consist of people who live close to one another in a community or village.

A village volunteer groups were a small organization that does not have the registered status of an NGO but was structured group of civil society, non-profits that operate within a single local community. They were a wider group of non-profits usually run on voluntary basis are self-funded. Within community organizations, there were many variations in term of size and organizational structure. Some were formally developed with written constitutions and board of members or committees; others were much smaller and informal. VVGs were not profit groups that work at a local level to improve life for resident. They focus to build equality across society in all streams of health care, environment, education, access to technology, care to disabled etc (Naw Phaw Hser, Aug 2018).

Identifying volunteers also means that they can more easily access support and guidance from the volunteering with regarding the effective volunteer management, implying recruitment, selection, support, management and dealing with legal issues around involving volunteers. According to the (David, (1994), the following reason were advanced to why people volunteer;

1. to help others and contribute to the community
2. to use skills in a new setting

3. to find new friends and new relationships
4. to develop a sense of accomplishment and self-worth
5. to learn new skills
6. to meet requirements of a course or program
7. to challenge themselves
8. to work for a cause
9. to gain recognition for their abilities
10. to help improve the quality of community life

According to the (Frank, (2003), there are various forms of volunteering. Five of which include;

1. Self-help and mutual aid - people with shared problems, challenges, and conditions working together to address or ameliorate them.
2. Philanthropy and service to others - it typically involves an organization recruiting volunteers to provide some kind of service to others and is the type of activity which most people recognize as volunteering.
3. Governance - volunteers who provide leadership and direction to groups or organizations.
4. Advocacy or campaigning- a collective action aimed at securing or preventing change which includes campaigning against developments seen to be damaging to the environment.
5. Expressive Behaviors - expressing their interest and passion in a particular field through volunteering

Voluntary organizations were key players in the economy in their own right as employers and service providers, adding to the overall social and economic development of communities and reducing the burden on government spending. Social development was a process which results in the transformation of social structures in a manner which improves the capacity of the society to fulfill its aspirations. In 2001, the United Nations Economic and Social Council's Commission for Social Development held detailed discussions for the first time, on the role of volunteerism in the promotion of social development. Among its resolutions, recognition of the valuable contributions of traditional forms of mutual aid and self-help, service delivery and other forms of

civic participation to economic and social development and the recognition of volunteerism as an important component of any strategy aimed at poverty reduction, sustainable development and social integration, in particular overcoming social exclusion and discrimination were noteworthy (Martin & Powell, 2016).

Several village volunteer group and grassroots social actions groups were gaining grounds in local communities. This has not come about without some challenges to community development practice. Their emergence was largely the result of a growing collective awareness that a small elite class was unjustly exploiting the general population. These elites dominate the social, economic, and political scene were perceived as contributing to the growth in mass poverty, unemployment and inequality (Narayan, 2002). Community-based groups, which were found across a wide variety of socio-economic issues, pursue various strategies to empower themselves, with the goal of changing the country's dynamics at the grass roots level.

Some NGOs and Church groups emphasized the need for personal development, stressing that the first step towards empowerment must be when the competencies of individuals as members of community change. In this light, several training programmes in life skills and leadership were introduced (Christine, 1997)

2.2 Community Development

Community Development has been an important and effective concept to cooling off the heat and drudgery that the people in the rural communities and urban slums go through. It was about the beliefs and practices of people that play an important role in overcoming poverty and providing safety nets for them, especially the vulnerable. Community Development was “viewed as a means for mobilizing communities to join states or institutional initiatives that are aimed at alleviating poverty, solving social problems, strengthening families, fostering democracy and achieving modernization and socio-economic development” (Hubert, 1999). The focus of Community Development as the organization of community agencies, the development of local competences, and political action for change (Alan, 1994). Community development is the “employment of community structures to address social needs and empower groups of people”. It is a prime mover of people because it gets people to actively participate in issues that affect them (Phillip, April 2009). To support this position, (Barry, Feb 1997) argues that “joining together in solidarity facilitates

community members' understanding that their individual problems have social causes and collective solutions.”

In other words, social capital plays a crucial role in Community Development because families, groups and communities remain stronger through cooperation and cordiality. Social capital was “an instantiated informal norm that promotes cooperation between two or more individuals”. He added that social capital “must lead to cooperation in groups and therefore are related to traditional virtues like honesty, the keeping of commitments, reliable performance of duties, reciprocity and the like” (Ronald & William, 2011). Therefore, social capital was part and partial of Community Development since its virtues enable traditional structures to be formed to address community social needs and empower them.

Generally, Community Development practice was either externally or internally driven or both. In so far as State and non-State actors may have interest in the development of communities, they will influence Community Development in the terms of capacity building and resource flows in those communities. (Hubert, 1999) in this sense, argues that Community Development's “sponsorship may emanate from an organized citizens' group, a particular profession, an NGO, an institution, or a state agency, or any combination of these”. It was based on this diverse input that sees the work of Community Development as collective problem solving, self-help, empowerment and participation.

On the other hand, the origin of community development was traceable to certain occurrences and periods in history. The roots of community development to the experiences of community improvement and social welfare in the US and United Kingdom (UK) in the 1930s. In the US at that time, community development focused on improving the welfare of rural communities, while the social welfare programmes in the UK were geared towards poverty relief and focused on urban areas (Frik & Swanepoel, 2001). Providing a helpful timeline that identifies and helps to explain the dominant and subsidiary themes that allow for the cross-sectoral and multi-occupational character of community development (Frank, (2003). Table 2.1 below summarizes the concepts.

Table 2.1 Community development themes

1950s	1960s	1970s
Modernization dual economy model, “backward” agriculture, community development, lazy peasants.	Transformation approach, technology transfer, mechanization, and agricultural extension. Growth role of agriculture, green revolution starts.	Redistribution of growth, basic needs and integrated rural development. State agricultural policies, state-led credit, and urban bias-induced innovation. Green revolution continues. Rural growth linkages.
1980s	1990s	2000s
Structural adjustments, free markets ‘getting process right’, retreat of the state and the rise of NGOs, rapid rural appraisals farming systems research food security and famine analysis, Rural development as a process and not a product and women in development.	Micro-credit, participatory rural appraisal, actor oriented rural development, stakeholder analysis, rural safety nets, gender and development, environment and sustainability and poverty reduction.	Sustainable livelihoods, good governance, decentralization, critique of participation, sector wide approaches, social protection and poverty alleviation.

Source adopted by (Frank, (2003)

Community development can be referred to as efforts to improve the economic or structural conditions of a community. Such efforts may focus on business or job creation and physical or infrastructure development (Jeffery & Luloff, 2003). Points out that community development in general was a social learning process that serves to empower individuals and involve them in collective activities aimed at socio-economic development (Pauline, 2013). However, views community development as a process by which the efforts of the people at grassroots level are united with those of government to improve the economic, social and cultural conditions of the community

(Mzilela, 2014). Defines community development as actions that seek to build social capital, promote interaction and empower community residents to affect their living conditions (Quentin, 2001). Identifies two community development models, which this study calls the alternative models. One model refers to efforts that develop from within the community and led by community members. In the second, efforts were instigated and run by professionals from outside the community (Jan, 2001).

This study proposes that community development was a process and social action in which the people at district, area and village level organize for planning and action beyond mere material changes in human attitudes to an enhanced self-help spirit and citizen participation in the decision-making process. Community development requires the collective effort of various institutions, including the district council and NGOs (Mustafa, 2010).

And the next was, community was defined such as a group of people living in a local area. Therefore, community development was also defined as development of people living in local area. Community development can be both an occupation (such as a community development worker in a local community) and a way of working with communities. Its key purpose is to build communities based on justice, equality and mutual respect (Ghazala & Vijayendra, Feb 2004).

The distinctive feature of community development was the participation by the people themselves in effort to improve their levels of living with reliance as much as possible on their own initiative, and the provision of technical and other services in ways which encourage initiative, self-help and mutual help and make them more effective. The principal advantage cited by champions of the self-help type of community development program was the involvement of the people themselves in the decision and program implementation process. Such involvement secures participation and germinates the feeling of being involved in one's destiny. Another advantage, frequently cited, was that local persons were known about the problems and this lessens the risk of objectives being jeopardized because of the ignorance of local beliefs and customs which characterize outside agents.

Very few problems can be solved with only local resources, communities seek and need governmental and non-governmental assistance in varying degrees in

obtaining essential expert advice, economic resources, and technological items. This involvement tends to negate idea of self-help to a certain extent (Kailash, 2014).

Community development was a process where community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems. Community wellbeing (economic, social, environmental and cultural) often evolves from this type of collective action being taken at a grassroots level. Community development ranges from small initiatives within a small group to large initiatives that involve the broader community.

Effective Community Development

Community development as working with people in communities to help and work together to address the issues that the communities faced. The theoretical basic is to deal with issues of self-esteem and basic skills.

Effective community development should be:

1. a long-term endeavor
2. well-planned
3. inclusive and equitable
4. holistic and integrated into the bigger picture
5. initiated and supported by community members
6. of benefit to the community
7. grounded in experience that leads to best practices

Community development was a grassroots process by which communities:

1. become more responsible
2. organize and plan together
3. develop healthy lifestyle options
4. empower themselves
5. reduce poverty and suffering
6. create employment and economic opportunities
7. achieve social, economic, cultural and environmental goals

Community development seeks to improve quality of life. Effective community development results in mutual benefit and shared responsibility among community members. Such development recognizes:

1. the connection between social, cultural, environmental and economic matters
2. the diversity of interests within a community
3. its relationship to building capacity

Community development helps to build community capacity in order to address issues and take advantage of opportunities, find common ground and balance competing interests. Capacity building requires both a conscious and a conscientious effort to do something or many things to improve the community.

(i) Character and Appearance

While some may think that focusing on the physical appearance of something can be rather shallow, principles of character and appearance are actually important components of community development. Many communities and neighborhoods have a distinct appearance and sensory association that are clear identifiers for them. These features set the tone within the community and were a strong influence for the community's public reputation. Since many people who were active participants in community development have a clear visualization of what they want for their community, things like character and appearance are incredibly important.

The overall sense of a community was typically set and introduced through the appearance of the community. It's an ingrained habit or an instinct, in some instances for people to judge or come to a conclusion about something based on a quick observation. A community will have a positive or a negative association attached to it based on what people perceive about it, and that can impact things like how residents and members view or care about it, the resources available, and what influences those resources to be there in the first place. Resources, like new businesses, are not going to make themselves available in communities that have a poor sense of character where they may not be able to sustain themselves long enough to have an impact.

(ii) Collaboration and Participation

Community development is not really something that is done at the individual level or by a single person. In order for it to actually accomplish something, the members of the community itself need to get involved and work together. It can take a lot of work to implement the desired improvements through community development so it's best not to do it alone. Collaboration helps bring together people of different backgrounds who may have access to different resources that can be of benefit to the

community. Each person also has a role that they play within the community, thus it is likely that they will each have a role to play in the process of community development. The interactions that occur through the collaborative efforts of community development can help bolster leaders and the skills they are using to guide the community through the process.

Participation, on its own, is a necessary component of community development in that it helps support the community members involved as they make decisions. It's not just their peers and leaders that they're supporting during the process by participating, but their own decisions as a member of the community. Participation allows a person to exert any influence they have in that moment during the process and they're able to offer input and provide feedback on things that are going to directly impact them as a member of the community. This can tie together with empowerment as well, as the two principles will often feed into one another during the process.

(iii) Awareness

Awareness is a key principle of community development because it allows communities to identify things like resources and needs within their own space. A potential issue that's causing harm to a community and/or its members isn't going to have a giant sign saying, "FIX THIS!" with an arrow pointing at it. Most likely, the problems may not even be initially recognized as problematic until there's a significant enough impact on the community at large. Actively paying attention to things in the community and how they are affecting the community can help catch those issues early on and allow the community development process to handle them effectively. It allows the community to take ownership of their problems when they are aware of it, which can prompt them to take action on their own.

Awareness in the community development process can do more than just identify problems, it can also monitor the progress of the process and the improvements that are implemented. The same can be said for the solution to the problem. If the improvement or solution that has been put in place by the process isn't working as it should cause more problems, it's not affecting the right people, that can be caught before it causes further issue if the community is actively aware of it.

(iv) Transparency and Trust

For anything to work in a community of any type, there needs to be some level of trust and transparency between those involved. This applies to the leadership, those who are participating in the community development process, those who are being directly impacted by improvements, and anyone else in the community who may be indirectly affected. The process can result in major changes in a community, so there can be significant backlash if those implementing the changes are not completely honest about what is being done and why. People become comfortable and use to how things are when that's been the norm for so long, some resistance is going to be expected as people acclimate to the new circumstances, even if it's to their benefit.

As not everyone in the community is going to be able to fully participate or have their say in the community development process, there's going to be a degree of trust placed on those who are actively making decisions. Those leadership and decision-making positions during the process will need to be transparent in their actions or risk losing that trust. Especially if the actions taken are not universally beneficial for community members or if they are done in bad faith, can generate more problems in the community and make it difficult for future improvements to be made (Basic Fundamentals and Principles of Community Development, 2017).

2.3 The Importance of Community Participation for Community Development through VVGs

Community Development relates with Village Volunteer Groups' activities because capacity well-built organizations can help providing essential needs of community together with organization in community such as physical infrastructure, social welfare, disaster mitigation, and basic health access to mothers and children, primary education accessibility for children and micro economic opportunity in developing country to get sustainable development. VVGs were key players between communities and development agencies.

Without community participation, sustainable development of community may never occur as the sense of ownership only can make community, as a host, to long term participation in development activities called sustainable development. Community's willingness to participate in development activities becomes the ownership sense of their participation in development. Effort to speed up sustainable

development activities, it requires actions at multiple levels and a mix of institutional, technical and financial solutions these included the providing community with development technical know that how and skills through village volunteer groups, and increasing the activities of VVGs for community development such as establishment of community development projects, understanding on assessment, monitoring and evaluation.

Community participation was one of the key ingredients of an empowered community. Participation was the heart that pumps the community's life blood, its citizens, into the community's business. It was a principle so important that should make active citizen involvement in all aspects of strategic plan development and implementation a condition for continued participation in its empowerment programs. Studies have documented that communities that engage their citizens and partners deeply in the work of community development raise more resources, achieve more results and develop in a more holistic and ultimately more beneficial way (Olukotun, Oct 2017).

Community development programmes were processes in which efforts of the people were united with those of government authorities and development aid agencies to improve the economic, social and cultural conditions of communities, so as to integrate them into the life of the nations and to enable their people to contribute fully to national progress. VVGs were formed to respond to the needs of poor in addressing the socio-economic and development challenges facing in the communities.

Mostly, the members of VVGs in communities were the volunteers who can spend their time and effort in development activities without or with small income from it because most community people were busy with their daily struggling for survival. After forming VVG in community, it was supplied with relevant knowledge, practices and technics of development activities on various issues such as health, education, livelihood, microfinance, disaster risk reduction and social welfare. Well-developed VVG can lead community in development activities to improve the status of community in various sectors than the community with VVG. Therefore, VVG can represent the community in development issues.

The VVG which was born from community volunteers and the role of VVG in community development was the bridge between community and development workers

from various agencies and institutions. VVGs know the real situations of its community needs and resources they have. At the same time, after preparing the developmental management knowledge, VVGs know that what development workers want to support community and how to do it. When development activities were implemented with well-prepared VVG participate that was the main role of implementation to support community directly hand in hand.

The qualified development workers know how to train and prepare VVG to get awareness that the development activities in community were only for the community, not for development workers. When VVG and community get the same ownership sense, VVG can led the community to submit the proposal which describe the needs in community to development organizations applying the technics got from the development training. The development organizations such as INGOs, NGOs accept the proposal and discuss with VVG members in financial, technical and materials to support. They may provide full for project submitted in proposal but if possible, INGOs, NGOs provide partial parts of project and let VVG and community contribute the left partial and manage the project until the project was accomplished in order to get the community participation based on their ownership sense. “Communities with high rates of participation apply for and receive more funding than communities with less participation. In addition, participation communities achieve greater citizens satisfaction with their community” (Reid, June 2000).

The study of Community Development Units, (Ann & Walsh, Feb 2013) demonstrates that VVGs are good creating network and relationship between local people, groups, private and voluntary organizations. However, this takes time and resource which may be difficult for the VVGs to find because these rural people have little source of information that can help them in the day to day running of these organizations. Since VVGs are non-profit groups that work at local levels to improve life at the community level, the focus is to build equity across communities in all streams, among which is access to information (Francis & Evelyn, 2012). The local members should experience first-hand information on the needs within the neighborhood. Besides being connected geographically, the only link between community members and their interest of desire and willingness to develop their skills and improve their livelihood is how well information is disseminated among the inhabitants of the community. VVGs are faced with challenges of sustainability partly

because the responsibility to drive these projects is in the hands of staffs, trustees and volunteers.

VVGs drive the purpose of government towards the people in terms of poverty alleviation and to improve the social and cultural conditions of the community. VVGs integrate the rural dwellers into the national life of the country and enable them to contribute fully to the gross domestic products and progress of the country. VVGs also provide avenue for the people to organize themselves for planning process, define their common and individual needs and challenges, solicit popular enthusiasm and public cooperation to execute the plan actions with maximum reliance on community resource and receive aid from the government and non-government organizations only when necessary. (Ann & Walsh, Feb 2013).

2.4 Review on Previous Studies

The following studies were observed as parts of the literature review.

Mark A. Hager & Jeffrey L. Brudney (June 2004) “Volunteer Management Practice and Retention of Volunteers” described that Volunteers are valuable human resources. Most organizations could not get by without volunteers, and they certainly would be less productive and responsive without them. There are agencies that organize and mobilize volunteer services which aim to solicited resources to address the needs of individuals groups and ultimately solve poverty. The focus of those agencies that organize and mobilize voluntary services is to develop sustainable resource base in order to support their beneficiaries and benefit the society at large. Currently, the volunteer service has been supported and promoted by different sectors. Non-government organizations (NGOs), the community and government agencies have played active and roles to stimulate and strengthen volunteerism in order to support citizens to become self-sustained and lead quality of life from the care by local resources. Additionally, mentioned that volunteerism is human centered that the main role players are the people themselves. People from all of life including students, professionals, elderly, young man and women including housewives actively participate in volunteer services. The practices under study are supervision and communication with volunteers, liability coverage for volunteers, screening and matching volunteers to jobs, regular collection of information on volunteer involvement, written policies and job descriptions for volunteers, recognition activities,

annual measurement of volunteer impact, training and professional development for volunteers, and training for paid staff in working with volunteers. The volunteer management capacity study is based on surveys of separate populations of U.S. charities and congregations. The motivations of the study and invited participation, and then called each organization up to 30 times to collect study information. Interviews averaging 20 minutes were conducted with organizational representatives familiar with volunteer management.

Albert Ayorinde Abegunde (May 2009) described at the International NGO Journal, “The Role of Community Based Organizations in economic development in Nigeria: The case of Oshogbo, Osun State, Nigeria”, that Village Volunteer Groups otherwise known as local organizations have been given different names in different places. These include ‘community development association’, ‘neighborhood councils’ and united community among others. Village Volunteer Groups open ways for participation at grassroots level. It involves the local people and indigenous people in the identification of their local needs and conception formulation and implementation of any project in order to develop the necessary self-reliance and self-confidence. They are non-profit and non-governmental because all members contribute economically towards the fulfillment of their responsibilities to the immediate environment and not depend on government before fulfilling these. They serve as wheels for the vehicle of grassroot participation in indigenous programmes and projects to satisfy local needs. The study assesses the role of community-based organizations (CBOs) in economic development of Osogbo, Nigeria. This is with a view to establish the economic impact of CBOs on local economy and their significance in national economic development. It uses primary data collected from all the heads of 140 CBOs that have registered with the 2 local government councils in the study area as at the time of this study. Both descriptive and inferential analytical techniques are used to analyses data collected on the study.

Soe Min (Feb 2013) studied the “Role of Community Participation in Socioeconomic Development”, cased studied in Amarapura Township was found that INGO started to advocate authority and village leaders to form community-based organizations with community development volunteers at the beginning. Then, CBO members are capacity built in the fields of project cycle management in order to decide and manage development activities themselves. Those capacity well-built CBO

members mobilized community and implemented development activities in children education, under five children and their mothers' health caring, farmers, livestock breeders and weavers together with government staff and community members. Forming more CBOs and implementing better development activities together with government departments, INGO and NGO through community participation can go to sustainable development in future. This thesis aims to evaluate achievement of socioeconomic development activities participated by community with ownership sense. World Vision Amarpura baseline and evaluation data is special referred to show development of community. Descriptive method is used by using both primary and secondary data. As secondary data, information was got from World Vision Amarpura's Mid-year operation management report, baseline report and Amarpura government departments' reports.

Abebanesh Asnake Mengstie (June 2015) the thesis "the Role of Volunteers in Community Development: The Case of Volunteers who are working at LIVE-Addis Ethiopian Resident Charity an Addis Ababa" that the contribution of Volunteers is vital to the delivery of services to people in need. Volunteers can help by mobilizing local services provision, becoming involved in income generation, delivering cost effective response to need, ensuring of community representation. Volunteers can contribute to general community wellbeing and solidity. The agencies are being effective in Volunteering and developing volunteers. Successful Volunteer program will attract positive and active engaged volunteers and enable the agency to achieve its mission with less stress and confusion. Besides volunteers have a great role in community development. Community development seeks to empower individuals and groups of people by providing them with the skills they need change within their communities. These skills are often created through the formation of large social groups working for a common goal. Community development involves changing the relationships between ordinary people and people in positions of power, so that everyone can take part in the issues that affect their lives. Volunteers create opportunities for the community to learn new skills and by enabling people to act together, community development workers help to foster social inclusion and equality. Volunteerism refers to helping groups, individuals and communities without financial gain. This research is aimed at exploring the roles and significant contribution of Volunteers in community development and their motivational factors at Livelihood Improvement for Vulnerable Ethiopia (LIVE)-

Addis Ethiopian Resident Charity. The study participants of this research were nine Volunteer and two key informants from LIVE -Addis.

Thein Thein Shwe (Sep 2017) studied on “Effectiveness of Community Based Organization in Kyaikhto Township”. The study found that among the CBOs formed under UNDP projects, CBO in Kyaikhto Township has been performing better than other townships. Working with CBOs is seen by development aid agencies as a guarantee of sustainability of community development initiatives. However, due to ineffective internal management practices, low capacity for resource mobilization, poor governance practices and questionable CBO formation process their effectiveness remain low. Some CBO members are still did not understand the mission and vision of their organization and CBO governance need stronger implications. The CBOs have strong internal management, but still lack of resources to lead the CBO. CBO have strong self-sufficient and demonstrate successful funding through CBO effort. CBO satisfaction has been not satisfied by all members and inclusion of revolving loan to all beneficiaries are very important for high satisfaction. The objective of the study is to analyze the functions of the Community Development Programme in Kyaikhto Township and provide suggestions based on the findings. This research set out to study the effectiveness of CBOs in community development programmes in Kyaikhto Township, Mon State, Myanmar. The research design used for this study is descriptive survey that explored the effectiveness of CBOs in development programmes. The simple random sampling procedure was used to ensure a representative sample was obtained.

Naw Phaw Hser (Aug 2018) studied on the “Role of Community Based Organizations in the Community Development (Case Study of Hlaing Thar Yar Development Network)”. The findings of the study showed that some CBOs are self-reliance, well-functioning, functioning and less functioning at recent time. Out of 28 CBOs, 15 CBOs are well functioning and actively support to the beneficiaries in the study areas. Most of the CBOs were re-established depending on the capacity of their financial status, human resource and interesting to get concrete set up when implementing the community development activities. Some CBOs are implemented the activities and some CBOs are not implemented due to the requirement of the community. Most of the CBOs perform fund raising activities for sustainability because NGOs cannot support in the long run. This study assumed that CBOs should be

conducted capacity building activities like team building and financial management training. CBOs should focus on the most interested activities rather than implementing many activities. The rapid of population in the township, community are not well organized, it becomes the barrier of the community development and it caused the effect such as increasing criminal cases including child abuse, increasing public health problems, low quality of education status and unstable of economics status. Descriptive method was used and based on primary data and secondary data. The quantitative and qualitative approaches were applied in this study.

CHAPTER III

OVERVIEW OF VILLAGE VOLUNTEER GROUPS IN MYANMAR

3.1 Background of Village Volunteer Groups in Myanmar

Myanmar was the largest country in mainland Southeast Asia, with a land area of 676,000 square kilometers. Myanmar was divided administratively into seven state and seven regions. Nay Pyi Taw is the capital, with an official population of almost 1 million people and located 320 kilometers north of Yangon, the previous capital. According to the provisional results from the 2014 census, Myanmar now has a population of 51.4 million, with a diverse ethnic and religious makeup, including 135 officially recognized nationally groups, divided into eight national ethnic races.

Civil Society in Myanmar was virtually non-existent in the late 1990s due to the tight political from 1962 to 2010. It gradually re-emerged in the early 2000s and made exponential progress following the large-scale response to the devastation caused by the Cyclone Nargis in 2008. Since then, led to more favorable environment for CSO/CBO to operate. As a result of rapid political changes, Myanmar civil society has been expending and exploring new issues.

CBOs, CSOs, NGOs in Myanmar are important stakeholders who have unique social capitals to building the state and social development in Myanmar. They play vital role for community development and bridging the gaps for the people to access basic education, health care, economic development and natural resources management. The social volunteerism spirit was a fundamental driven factor of CBOs, CSOs, NGOs in Myanmar to carry out social changes in both rural and urban communities. The social concerns of individuals and institutions have been emerged in the time of crises and disasters in last three decades such as cyclones, floods, civil wars and inter-communal conflicts to see the people as human beings and they deserve basic needs of foods, shelters and clothing. (Thura Tun, Sep, 2018).

In 2010s, numbers and engagements of social organizations has grown and broadly engaged not only in development sectors but also in peace and conflict transformation with challenging environments, transition from military government to

civic government. Later on, these organizations have been working as networks, working groups, thematic groups, and sector-wise engagements to influence to develop effective policies and implementing them. In 2011, there were 120 organizations which worked for social development, peace building and civic engagement. In 2016, there were about 500 organizations worked for social development, civic engagement, advocacy and peace building. Now a day, studies have counted community-based organization in Myanmar is more than 214,000 which always fill service-delivery roles. CBOs, CSOs, NGOs in Myanmar have also been working as the forms of networks which are HIV-relate networks (2000s), Post-Nargis networks (2008), Policy advocacy networks, Gender and women's networks, Civil society umbrella networks, consortium and partnerships, media networks, producers' networks, and alliances. These networks played key roles to make changing through advocacy, capacity building, networking and coordination, communications, monitoring, learning and research on thematic focused. Each network has significant distinctiveness of influencing policy development and engagement in state building, federal-democratic institutions (Steven, Choo, & La, Oct 2016).

Village Volunteer Groups in Myanmar traditionally existed at the local level within religious groups, emerging from Buddhist and Christian-led social welfare activities and focusing on poverty, health and the daily needs of communities. Particularly in areas of weak central government control and armed conflict, civil society often filled the state's service-delivery role. There are many types of civil society organizations in Myanmar such as Village Volunteer Groups, Community-Based Organizations, Local Nongovernment Organizations (LNGOs) and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs).

Village Volunteer Groups are informal or voluntary associations formed at the village level to perform social and religious functions, including health, education and social services. Many of them are religious-based and provide support for funerals and family or community emergencies. They do not normally have paid staff and members are typically beneficiaries. Although there are no government or other statistics on these groups, one estimate puts the number of Community-Based Organizations in Myanmar at 214,000 (Brian, 2006).

During the colonial period in the early part of the 1900s, community organizations were created, and formal associations emerged. Toward the end of the 20th century, these associations focused on religious and cultural dimensions of society, some later evolved into ethnic and political movements. By independence in 1948, professional, trade, and voluntary organizations and associations flourished.

Local NGOs typically originate from cities, townships or population centers and maintain connections with communities. These groups are usually unregistered with the government, often have paid and skilled staff and connected to regional and national NGO networks and international NGOs. In ethnic areas, many local NGOs have links to ethnic armed groups. Several large NGOs are registered with government ministries and at times work with the government and development agencies to implement projects in diverse sectors, including health care, rural development, education and agriculture.

Civil society can trace its origins in Myanmar back to village-level religious organizations, an early way in which local people came together and organized social or religious activities. Historically, these were informal arrangements, without any official registration or membership. Since then, religious organizations (Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Muslim, and others) have set up social welfare and development programs, active locally and outside their communities.

Community-based organizations and NGOs proliferated from within ethnic communities, especially in areas of weak central government control and across a range of issues and sectors. Youth groups women's organizations, environmental and sustainable development-focused groups, among others, arose to meet community needs and address critical social issues. By 2000, civil society organizations proliferated in both ethnic areas and central Myanmar, as it was called then, due to the deteriorating socioeconomic conditions and the lack of basic services provided by the state. These organizations included the religious, educational, and social welfare organizations, and civil society groups focusing on environmental issues and community development.

An article claimed more than 10,000 such groups, while another study conducted in 2003 by Save the Children - the first detailed look at civil society in Myanmar estimated there were 270 local NGOs at that time. Regardless of the number, there is a vibrant and growing nongovernment sector encompassing a range of interests

and approaches throughout the country. In 2011, there were 120 organizations which worked for social development, peace building and civic engagement. In 2016, there were about 500 organizations worked for social development, civic engagement, advocacy and peace building. Now a day, studies have counted community-based organization in Myanmar is more than 214,000 which always fill service-delivery roles. In 2014, more than 250 local organizations in Myanmar have met and urged the government to take account of actions on law reform and enforcement, peace building and conflict management, media freedom, governance and accountability, economic reform and effectiveness of international development assistance. Later on, CSOs in Myanmar conducted series of consultations to promote peace building and democratic governance through People's Forums, Peace Forms and CSOs Forums (Asia Development Bank, Feb 2015).

There are six main types of community organizations such as village development committee, social organizations, religious organizations, political organizations, maternal and child welfare organizations and militia (being non-state military organizations). The typology corresponds well to known categories in rural Myanmar. There is frequently considerable slippage between religious and social organizations in some areas, where religious organizations assume many social functions. Nearly half of all communities are having a social organization, with rates highest in Yangon, Eastern Shan, Tanintharyi, and Sagaing. Nearly one-quarter of all communities are having a religious organization, with rates highest in Yangon, Tanintharyi, Eastern Shan, Kayin, and Kachin (Mike, May 2016).

3.2 Formation of VVGs and Passion

In recent years, new policy interests in community-based development has emerged. The interest is based on the concept of community participation, and the planning and implementation of policy interventions leads to more efficient and equitable development. Community based interventions are frequent through Community-Based Organizations. VVGs are appear and play an important role of providing public goods and solving the problems when legal entities are insufficient. They are especially important in rural areas where the government is unable to provide much need social services. If VVGs are formed with local group who are having the most power and influence in a society, intervening through them, may reflect their priorities and interests. Similarly, VVGs, if gender sensitive, reflect the interest of

gender or ethnic group rather than the interests of the community as a whole. If existing socio-economic separation are reflected in the structure of VVGs, it may conflict affect social cohesion and unity. Without VVGs are emerging in the rural areas, they may be missed an important development opportunity by the most in need of assistance. Poor households expect not only overcome the integrated effects of agricultural inputs on their own but also to be more in need informal insurance out of risk. Therefore, in the community households to have different interest in VVGs. The benefits associated with establishing VVGs also depend on the availability of alternative mechanism for addressing collective problems (Abigail, Marleen, & Marcel, 2014).

Village Volunteer Groups (VVGs) were not for profit, organizations on a local and national level, facilitating community efforts for community development. VVGs works through people-centered modes of development such as availability of micro-finance, community participation in development ensuring community health education and infrastructure improves over time. The purpose of VVGs was to plan, implement, and monitor social and economic development programs and provide technical and financial help to the communities. VVGs positively affects the process of rural change i.e. increase in income, improvement in health, nutrition and literacy status of the populations. Some of the programs that can ensure bring changes in the rural communities are availability of micro-finance for micro-enterprise, health and education, sustainable agriculture, animal husbandry, safe water and sanitation. The community organizations make in national social and economic development in general and rural communities in particular. Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) were viewed as non-for-profit organizations that were involved at grass roots to empower the disadvantaged segments of the population. Similarly, the role of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) in the planning and management of rural development projects has been analyzed. Many of the rural poor are locked into a circle involving lack of money, inadequate equipment, time consuming and transportation, lack of flexibility and exploitation by transporters and middleman (Anwar, Naeem, & Abdul, 2008).

Yangon was not only the Commercial city but also many working UN, INGOs and NGOs. And also, most of the donors of head office were situated in Yangon and they implement many types of development activities in around Myanmar. Some of these organizations were officially registered with the government, though most were not.

Table 3.1 UN agencies in Yangon

Sr	Organization Acronym	Organization Name	Sector
1	WFP	World Food Programme	Non-Agricultural Livelihoods/Infrastructure
2	ILO	International Labour Organization	Protection, Others
3	IOM	International Organization for Migration	Multi-sector
4	UNAIDS	United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS	Health
5	MIMU	Myanmar Information Management Unit	Coordination, Others
6	UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund	Coordination, Health, Nutrition, WASH, Protection, Education
7	UNIC	United Nations Information Centre	Others
8	UNOCHA	United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	Coordination
9	UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime	Others
10	UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund	Health, Others
11	UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	Protection
12	UNDP	United Nations Development Programme	Multi-sectors
13	UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	Education
14	WHO	World Health Organization	Health

Source: (Myanmar Information Management Unit, 2020)

According to the table (3.1), among the 28 UN agencies, 14 agencies were based in Yangon. The agencies were implementing like that agricultural, livelihood, infrastructure, health, nutrition, water and sanitation, education, coordination and multi sectors.

Table 3.2 Sector-wise INGOs in Yangon

Sr	Sector-wise	Number of Organizations
1	Agriculture, Non-Agricultural, Livelihoods/ Infrastructure, WASH	8
2	Coordination, Peace Building/Conflict Prevention	4
3	Disability and Inclusive Development	1
4	Disaster Risk Reduction, Agriculture, Food Security and Livelihoods, Others	5
5	Education and Protection	9
6	Environment	5
7	Governance, Security, Peace Building/Conflict Prevention	7
8	Health, WASH, Emergency Response, MNCH & Nutrition	13
9	Women empowerment	1
10	Macroeconomic and Financial sectors	1
11	Media Development	1
12	Mine Action	3
13	Multi-sectors	23

Source: (Myanmar Information Management Unit, 2020)

In the table (3.2), 81 INGOs were based in Yangon out of the 167 INGOs operating in Myanmar. The INGOs were operating such as agriculture, livelihoods, infrastructure, coordination, disability and inclusive, disaster risk reduction, emergence response, governance, education, health, water and sanitation, women empowerment, peace building, macroeconomic, media development, mine actions and multi sectoral sectors.

Table 3.3 Sector-wise NGOs/CBOs in Yangon

Sr	Sector-wise	Number of Organizations
1	Agriculture, Livelihoods, Education, Food, Health, Infrastructure, Non-Food Items	29
2	Capacity building	12
3	Disaster Risk Reduction, Environment, Mine Action, Shelter, WASH, Camp Coordination and Camp Management	11
4	Food Security and Livelihoods, Environment, Gender & Feminism	16
5	Private Sector Development, Media and Research Agency	31
6	Governance, Peace Building/Conflict Prevention, Social Protection	27
7	Multi-sectors	52

Source: (Myanmar Information Management Unit, 2020)

With the reference table (3.3), agriculture, livelihoods, education, health, infrastructure, capacity building, disaster risk reduction, water and sanitation, environment, gender and feminism, private sector development, media and research agency, governance, peace building and multi sectors were implemented by 178 NGOs/CBOs in Yangon region.

3.3 Profile of Htan Tabin Township

Htan Tabin Township was located in Yangon North District, Yangon Region. Its administrative seat was Htan Tabin which was the south of the confluence between the Kokkowa River and Hlaing River. It was located on the western bank of the Hlaing River. The township was partially urbanized, it was not part of the city of Yangon. The majority of the land was still in agriculture. In addition to agriculture work on the farms, the main sources of employment were as factory workers, temporary manual labor, as civil servants and work in a variety of small to medium-size business.

The township's eastern border was formed by the Hlaing River. Its southwestern boundary was formed by the Panhlaing River and part of its western border was formed by the Bawle River. Htan Tabin Township surrounded by Zalun Township, Ayeyarwady Region to the northwest, Taikkyi Township to the northeast and east, Hmawbi Township and Shwepyitha Towship to the east, Hlaingthaya Township to the

southeast, Twante Township to the southwest and Nyaugdon and Danubyu Township, Ayeyarwady Region to the west (Htan Tabin Township, 2014).

According to the 1907 of the Cities Act, Act-4 of the Myanmar gazette section (2), Htan Tabin was designated as a city. Htan Tabin was a lowland area with many rivers. Most of the water sources in the river were fresh water and can be used for agriculture. Htan Tabin Township was located in Yangon Region and was a commercially located township. Local people were mainly engaged in agriculture. Htan Tabin Township was built on the Yangon-Pathain expressway and was directly connected to Yangon. The main output of the township was paddy, which was mainly exported to Yangon and other areas (Township General Administration Office, Oct 2018).

The area of Htan Tabin Township was 234.34 square miles (0.77 is city square miles and village square mile is 233.57). There was 54 village tracts and 5 wards.

Table 3.4 Htan Tabin Township Figures

Sr.	Description	Indicators
1	Number of Wards	5
2	Number of Village Tracts	54
3	Number of Villages	233
4	Total Population	145,792
5	Population Male	71,807 (49.3%)
6	Population Female	73,985 (50.7%)
7	Number of households	34,211
8	Percentage of households urban	6.20%
9	Percentage of female headed households	16.20%
10	Children (0 – 14 years)	29.60%
11	Economically productive (15 – 64 years)	65.60%
12	Elderly population (65+ years)	4.80%
13	Sex ratio	97 males per 100 females
14	Literacy rate (persons aged 15 years and over)	95.60%
15	Total dependency ratio	52.4
16	Child dependency ratio	45.2
17	Old dependency ratio	7.2
18	Labour Force (aged 15 – 64) for both sex	64.60%
19	Unemployment rate for both sex	2.30%

Source: (Ministry of Labour Immigration and Population, 2017)

The population of Htan Tabin was 145,792 (Male is 71,807 and Female is 73,985), the number of population 0-14 years were 43,224 (29.6%), 95,635 (65.6%) were 15-64 years and 6,933 (4.8%) were 65 and over 65 years. The sex ratio was 97. Total household was 143,791 (urban is 8,870 and rural is 134,921), Total dependency ratio was 52.4 which include 45.2 was child dependency ratio and 7.2 was old dependency ratio. Literacy rate (persons aged 15 and over) was 95.6%. Labour force participation rate (aged 15 – 64) for both sexes were 64.6% and unemployment rate for both was 2.3% (Ministry of Labour Immigration and Population, 2017).

3.4 Formation of Village Volunteer Groups in Htan Tabin Township

Village Volunteer Groups were a key and specific component of the development agencies. VVGs were formed either as ad hoc, temporary entities to address a specific task (e.g. related to social infrastructure), or as a group that was supported to have additionally lasting presence.

VVGs were funded through a revolving fund modality for sustaining the development activities. That is, the beneficiaries borrow what they need and payback to the VVGs with interest. The benefit gained from such revolving funds contributes to the increase of the community fund overall and use for the various activities undertaken by the VVGs such as community infrastructure maintenance, health, education and social initiatives of the communities.

VVGs were formed as a group that is supported to have a more lasting presence. Based on needs and interest there can be a variety of groups within a village; ranging from VVGs related to livelihood or asset maintenance, to community managed the activities. Thus, while the development agencies support under the infrastructure may have been used up for creating the asset, the project support under the livelihood sector recovered or in other words “revolve” for future investment. The project delivered its funds to the communities as a grant, while within the group the funds were loaned out to members and revolving. A VVG was formed by all or portion of the community members themselves to achieve one or more common objectives of benefiting themselves. VVGs were formed to satisfy a particular set of recurring type of human needs which was shared by a significant number of individuals from within a community. There was a total of 148 VVGs were established with total members of 4,619 with male 1,524 (33 %) and female 3,095 (67 %).

3.4.1 Status of VVGs in Htan Tabin Township

There was 148 VVGs in the 51 villages at the Htan Tabin Township according to the discussion with communities' members of Htan Tabin Township. Village Development Committee, Agriculture Group, Livestock Group, Self-Reliance Group, Rice Bank, Small Loan and other committee and groups were formed as VVGs in the community.

According to the situation of financial availability, some VVGs were well functioning, some were functioning, and some were less function at recent time. Table (3.5) shows the list of VVGs in community. Out of 56 VVGs, 22 VVGs were well-functioning and actively support to the beneficiaries in Htan Tabin Township. Well-functioning means the members were attending the regular meeting and held the annual meeting, regular repayment the loan, more supporting the village development activities. Self-reliance group means that it was a small group (15-20 members) and voluntary group of poor people and the same socio-economic background. The members come together for the purpose of solving the common problems through the self-reliance group and mutual help. It was a group whose members practice savings, credit and village social activities, sharing responsibility and authority between members.

Table 3.5 Status of 56 VVGs in Htan Tabin Township

Sr.	Village Name	Name of VVGs	Situation
1	Nyaung Pin Kone	Shwe Yaung Hlwan Agriculture Group	Well-Functioning
	Nyaung Pin Kone	Small Loan Group	Functioning
	Nyaung Pin Kone	Rice Bank Committee	Functioning
	Nyaung Pin Kone	Village Development Committee	Well-Functioning
2	Hsat Kalay	Small Loan Group	Well-Functioning
	Hsat Kalay	Village Development Committee	Well-Functioning
3	Nyaung Kone	Aung Naing Thu Rice Bank Committee	Well-Functioning
	Nyaung Kone	Shal Htake Tan Small Loan Group	Well-Functioning
	Nyaung Kone	Village Development Committee	Well-Functioning
4	Kyi Su	Small Loan Group	Functioning
	Kyi Su	Doe Laethamar Rice Bank Committee	Well-Functioning
	Kyi Su	Padamyar Yay Kyi	Self-Reliance Group
	Kyi Su	Livestock Group	Functioning

Source: Village Volunteer Groups of Htan Tabin Township (2020)

Table 3.5 Status of 56 VVGs in Htan Tabin Township (Cont'd)

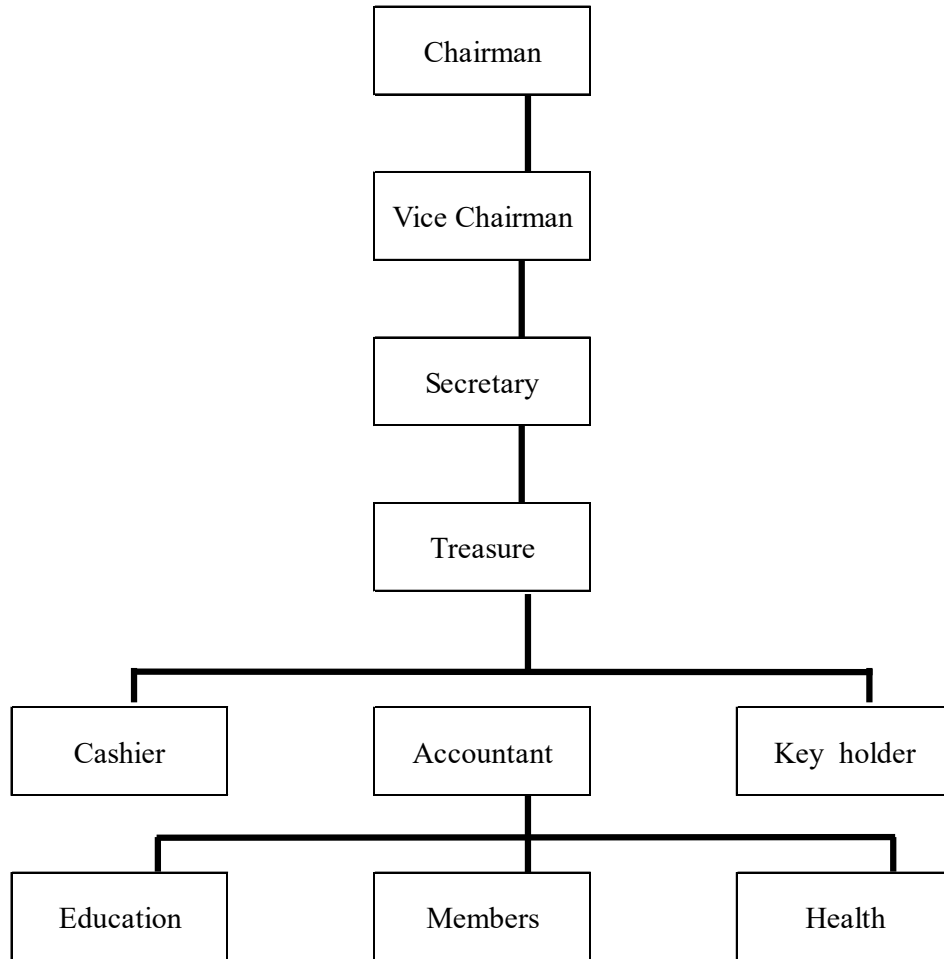
Sr.	Village Name	Name of VVGs	Situation
5	Nghet Thike	Rice Bank Committee	Functioning
	Nghet Thike	Livestock Group	Functioning
	Nghet Thike	Lin Yaung Chi	Self-Reliance Group
6	Kalain	Livestock Group	Well-Functioning
	Kalain	Linn Yaung Chi Oo Agriculture Group	Well-Functioning
	Kalain	Small Loan Group	Well-Functioning
7	Pat Inn Lay	Livestock Group	Functioning
	Pat Inn Lay	Yaung Chi Sat Won Small Loan Group	Functioning
	Pat Inn Lay	Yadanar Toe Rice Bank Committee	Functioning
	Pat Inn Lay	Village Development Committee	Functioning
	Pat Inn Lay	Shwe Yaung Win	Self-Reliance Group
	Pat Inn Lay	Lin Lat Kyel	Self-Reliance Group
8	Kyain Paike East	Village Development Committee	Functioning
	Kyain Paike East	Livestock Group	Less-Functioning
	Kyain Paike East	Rice Bank Committee	Functioning
	Kyain Paike East	Small Loan Group	Functioning
	Kyain Paike East	Pyae Sone Chan Thar	Self-Reliance Group
9	Eain Lay Lone	Rice Bank Committee	Well-Functioning
	Eain Lay Lone	Village Development Committee	Well-Functioning
	Eain Lay Lone	Livestock Group	Well-Functioning
	Eain Lay Lone	Toe Tat Aung	Self-Reliance Group
10	Tapon	Pyae Toe Aung	Self-Reliance Group
	Tapon	Small Loan Group	Functioning
	Tapon	Toe Tat Aung	Self-Reliance Group
	Tapon	Village Development Committee	Well-Functioning
	Tapon	Shwe War Win Rice Bank Committee	Functioning
11	Sandar Yaw	Livestock Group	Functioning
	Sandar Yaw	Village Development Committee	Well-Functioning
	Sandar Yaw	Myitta Shin	Self-Reliance Group
	Sandar Yaw	Rice Bank Committee	Functioning
	Sandar Yaw	Small Loan Group	Well-Functioning
12	Phoe Wae Kyi Su	Small Loan Group	Well-Functioning
	Phoe Wae Kyi Su	Livestock Group	Well-Functioning
13	Htoo Lay Su	Village Development Committee	Functioning
	Htoo Lay Su	Small Loan Group	Functioning
	Htoo Lay Su	Livestock Group	Functioning
14	Sin Kuu	Village Development Committee	Functioning
	Sin Kuu	Small Loan Group	Functioning
	Sin Kuu	Livestock Group	Functioning
15	Kyain Paike West	Village Development Committee	Well-Functioning
	Kyain Paike West	Livestock Group	Functioning
	Kyain Paike West	Rice Bank Committee	Well-Functioning
	Kyain Paike West	Small Loan Group	Well-Functioning

Source: Village Volunteer Groups of Htan Tabin Township (2020)

3.4.2 Organizational Structure of VVGs

Organizational structures were generally very similar in (15) villages of (56) VVGs. Figure 3.1 was the organizational structure of VVGs.

Figure 3.1 Organizational Structure of VVGs



Source: Village Volunteer Groups of Htan Tabin Township (2020)

With the reference of figure (3.1), generally most of the organizational structure of VVGs were included with Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasure, Cashier, Accountant, Key holder and members. Some VVGs members were separately for implementing health and education sectors.

3.5 Profile of VVGs in 15 Villages

VVGs were formed either ad hoc, temporary entities to address a specific task or as a group supported by a more permanent presence. There may be a variety of groups within a village based on needs and interest. Htan Tabin Township has six main types of VVGs, which are shown in the following tables.

Table 3.6 Profile of Village Development Committee

Sr	Village Name	Male	Female	Total	Date Formed
1	Nyaung Pin Kone	11	15	26	Sep-15-2011
2	Hsat Kalay	13	12	25	Nov-16-2011
3	Nyaung Kone	12	11	23	Oct-16-2014
4	Pat Inn Lay	11	14	25	Oct-16-2014
5	Kyain Paiké East	17	12	29	Sep-14-2014
6	Eain Lay Lone	11	10	21	Jun-24-2011
7	Tapon	11	12	23	Sep-26-2014
8	Sandar Yaw	23	13	36	Aug-6-2011
9	Htoo Lay Su	22	26	48	Jun-11-2015
10	Sin Kuu	16	13	29	Mar-19-2015
11	Kyain Paiké West	19	12	31	Sep-19-2014

Source: Village Volunteer Groups of Htan Tabin Township (2020)

According to the table (3.6), Village development committees have been formed in 11 villages. Some the committees were formed by the donor and some were formed by the members. The main purpose of this group was to support the situation of health, social and economic status of family and elderly care and educational support.

Table 3.7 Profile of Agriculture Group

Sr	Village Name	Male	Female	Total	Date Formed
1	Nyaung Pin Kone	18	14	32	Sep-15-2011
2	Kalain	13	10	23	Jan-15-2016

Source: Village Volunteer Groups of Htan Tabin Township (2020)

With the reference table (3.7), out of 15 villages, only 2 villages formed an agriculture group. According to interesting the communities who were formed the groups. The main purpose was to credit the loan for buying fertilizers and pesticide for the farms.

Table 3.8 Profile of Livestock Group

Sr	Village Name	Male	Female	Total	Date Formed
1	Kyi Su	13	3	16	Jun-26-2011
2	Nghet Thike	14	24	38	Jul-20-2008
3	Kalain	16	13	29	Jan-15-2016
4	Pat Inn Lay	27	28	55	Oct-16-2014
5	Kyain Paike East	25	27	52	Sep-14-2014
6	Eain Lay Lone	12	9	21	Jun-24-2011
7	Sandar Yaw	17	13	30	Aug-6-2011
8	Phoe Wae Kyi Su	23	27	50	Jul-23-2014
9	Htoo Lay Su	22	15	37	Jun-11-2015
10	Sin Kuu	13	12	25	Mar-19-2015
11	Kyain Paike West	15	19	34	Sep-19-2014

Source: Village Volunteer Groups of Htan Tabin Township (2020)

Regarding the table (3.8), Only 11 villages have formed the livestock group. Some groups have been formed by the assistance of the donor and some have been formed after exiting the donor. Its purpose was to credit the loan for livestock breeding such as poultry farming, pig farming and an animal husbandry by the members.

Table 3.9 Profile of Self-Reliance Group

Sr	Village Name	Male	Female	Total	Date Formed
1	Kyi Su	11	17	28	Jun-26-2011
2	Nghet Thike	13	17	30	Jul-20-2008
3	Pat Inn Lay	2	10	12	Oct-16-2014
4	Pat Inn Lay	3	9	12	Oct-16-2014
5	Kyain Paike East	27	38	65	Sep-14-2014
6	Eain Lay Lone	15	13	28	Jun-24-2011
7	Tapon	11	17	28	Sep-26-2014
8	Tapon	10	9	19	Sep-26-2014
9	Sandar Yaw	12	13	25	Aug-6-2011

Source: Village Volunteer Groups of Htan Tabin Township (2020)

In the table (3.9) state that Self-Reliance Groups were formed in the 9 villages and most of the members were female because females were more interesting than males on this group. In this group were the members come together for the purpose of solving the common problems through the self-reliance group and mutual help. It was a group whose members practice savings, credit and village social activities, sharing responsibility and authority between members.

Table 3.10 Profile of Rice Bank

Sr	Village Name	Male	Female	Total	Date Formed
1	Nyaung Pin Kone	17	12	29	Sep-15-2011
2	Nyaung Kone	16	13	29	Oct-16-2014
3	Kyi Su	10	13	23	Jun-26-2011
4	Nghet Thike	17	17	34	Jul-20-2008
5	Pat Inn Lay	17	11	28	Oct-16-2014
6	Kyain Paik East	10	5	15	Sep-14-2014
7	Eain Lay Lone	12	3	15	Jun-24-2011
8	Tapon	11	14	25	Sep-26-2014
9	Sandar Yaw	16	11	27	Aug-6-2011
10	Kyain Paik West	7	11	18	Sep-19-2014

Source: Village Volunteer Groups of Htan Tabin Township (2020)

With reference table (3.10), out of 15 villages, 10 villages formed the rice bank committee. The rice banks were in operation, but some of the banks needed to be renovated. Its purpose that the members were borrowed the paddy varieties for the cultivation. After one year, the members repaid the paddy and collected at the rice bank.

Table 3.11 Profile of Small Loan Group

Sr	Village Name	Male	Female	Total	Date Formed
1	Nyaung Pin Kone	11	20	31	Sep-15-2011
2	Hsat Kalay	18	26	44	Nov-16-2011
3	Nyaung Kone	12	10	22	Oct-16-2014
4	Kyi Su	10	31	41	Jun-26-2011
5	Kalain	14	32	46	Jan-15-2016
6	Pat Inn Lay	18	13	31	Oct-16-2014
7	Kyain Paik East	27	38	65	Sep-14-2014
8	Tapon	11	28	39	Sep-26-2014
9	Sandar Yaw	15	27	42	Aug-6-2011
10	Phoe Wae Kyi Su	25	33	58	Jul-23-2014
11	Htoo Lay Su	11	13	24	Jun-11-2015
12	Sin Kuu	15	17	32	Mar-19-2015
13	Kyain Paik West	17	8	25	Sep-19-2014

Source: Village Volunteer Groups of Htan Tabin Township (2020)

In accordance with table (3.11), the groups were formed in 13 villages out of 15 villages, and the communities were more interested in this group. This group was many types of members such as housewife, casual labor, dealer, fisheries and others. The member borrowed the loan for their personal business.

Table 3.12 Existing VVGs in 15 villages

Sr	Village Name	Village Development Committee	Agriculture Group	Livestock Group	Self-reliance Group	Rice Bank	Small Loan Group
1	Nyaung Pin Kone	√	√			√	√
2	Hsat Kalay	√					√
3	Nyaung Kone	√				√	√
4	Kyi Su			√	√	√	√
5	Nghet Thike			√	√	√	
6	Kalain		√	√			√
7	Pat Inn Lay	√		√	√	√	√
8	Kyain Paik East	√		√	√	√	√
9	Eain Lay Lone	√		√	√	√	
10	Tapon	√			√	√	√
11	Sandar Yaw	√		√	√	√	√
12	Phoe Wae Kyi Su			√			√
13	Htoo Lay Su	√		√			√
14	Sin Kuu	√		√			√
15	Kyain Paik West	√		√		√	√

Source: Village Volunteer Groups of Htan Tabin Township (2020)

According to the table (3.12), 3 or 4 groups were formed in some of the villages and the purpose of the groups were different. Some aims were to support the health care, social and economic status of the family and the elderly, some have been to support the educational status of school-aged children, and to support students who have honored in basic education.

CHAPTER IV
SURVEY ANALYSIS

4.1 Profile of Survey Area

Htan Tabin Township has 5 wards, 54 village tracts and 233 villages and 143,791 households and total population was 145,792 (Male 71,807 and Female 73,985). Total area was 234.34 square miles and population density was 93 person per square miles.

Among the villages in Htan Tabin Township, 206 VVG members who were from 15 villages out of 51 VVG villages in Htan Tabin Township were selected for the data collection in this study. Table (4.1) shows the indication of the study area.

Table 4.1 Survey Village Tracts and Villages

Sr.	Village Tract	Village Name	Household	Male	Female
1	Hsat Kalay	Nyaung Pin Kone	118	283	289
2	Hsat Kalay	Hsat Kalay	211	511	538
3	Pat Inn Lay	Nyaung Kone	48	105	108
4	Sandar Yaw	Kyi Su	108	454	425
5	Nghet Thike	Nghet Thike	117	228	213
6	Kalain	Kalain	291	636	644
7	Pat Inn Lay	Pat Inn Lay	42	106	106
8	Kyain Paike	Kyain Paike East	80	160	186
9	Hsat Kalay	Eain Lay Lone	29	100	74
10	Pat Inn Lay	Tapon	65	153	156
11	Sandar Yaw	Sandar Yaw	350	740	818
12	Sandar Yaw	Phoe Wae Kyi Su	71	201	208
13	Nghet Thike	Htoo Lay Su	77	193	187
14	Pa Ywut	Sin Kuu	23	57	56
15	Kyain Paike	Kyain Paike West	147	320	328

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

The main reasons for selection of villages under this study were the existing of VVGs and geographical distribution of cluster wide location. In particular, data were

presented through the survey data of interviewing and the structure questionnaires were developed to responsible person from each village volunteer groups (VVGs).

4.2 Survey Design

This study was mainly based on primary data collected from the individual members. Questionnaire surveys and observations, key informant interview was used to collect primary data. Both data from primary and secondary sources were collected during August and September 2020, secondary data were collected from Htan Tabin Township General Administration Office and VVG members. According to the sample size amount (5%) of the total VVGs members, the target population of this study was total 206 participants of 56 VVGs from Htan Tabin Township. The structured questionnaire included the reviewing of the effective community development, such as character and appearance of respondents, collaboration and participation of the members, awareness to the constitution of VVGs and transparency and trust of each member. The KII questionnaire was structured with a five-point Likert scale, values were calculated based on frequency of respondents.

This study employed a descriptive analysis and presented the results in tables and explanations of the results. A simple random sampling method with a structured questionnaire was used to provide a representative sample. An empirical field research as survey was conducted among the rural poor VVGs members who have already round about 2 to 6 years old membership in VVGs by using questionnaire survey under this study area. 206 respondents were asked the structured questionnaire from 22nd August to 11st September 2020. The data was collected from 206 respondents for quantitative results and 5-Key Informant Interview for both quantitative and qualitative in-depth interview with VVG's leaders who know what was going on in the community. Details of questionnaire are attached as Appendix.

4.2.1 Questionnaire Design

The research used both qualitative and quantitative data analysis methods and data was collected through a structured questionnaire as a main tool for the study. The survey questionnaire contained three sections. Section one, which included five questions, related to the demographic characteristics of the respondents in areas such as age, gender, marital status, education, and employment status. Section two included 37 questions about information on VVGs and village development activities,

respondent's VVGs activity data, respondents were wellbeing of participating in VVGs and economic and social aspect through VVGs activities including key informant interviews (KII). Section three of the five questions included social impacts on the Likert 5-point scale, ranging from very high, high, medium, low and very low.

The purpose of the questionnaire was to know the type of VVG forming, gender, youth, adult, source of funding, organization and attendance meetings, constitutions, successes, challenges and opportunities in the implementation of development activities, group decision-making, networking with others. The closed-ended questions were accompanied by a list of possible alternatives from which respondents chose the answer that best describes their situation. Since it was not possible to exhaust all categories of possible answers, a category for 'others' was included in some of the questions. The closed-ended questions were accepted as the respondents were easier to analyze and immediately usable, easier to manage and more economical to use in terms of time and money. The open-ended questions gave the respondents complete freedom of response in their own words. The structured questionnaire hoped to gain greater depth of response from these open-ended questions, as the responses could provide insight into the feelings, background, hidden motivation, interests and decisions.

The survey questionnaires were adopted from the role of self-reliance group in poverty reduction in Myitkyina Township by Khin Mya Yi (EMDevS-8th Batch, Aug 2013), the effectiveness of Community Based Organization in Kyaikhto Township by Thein Thein Shwe (EMDevS-12nd Batch, Sep 2017), the role of community-based organizations in the community development of Hlaing Tharyar Township (EMDevS-13rd Batch, Aug 2018).

There was some limitation as follows; collection of a group of people in their available time and long-time travel for some villages and at this time, the respondents were asked the questions and not enough time for interviewing and data collection because the Covid-19 pandemic second wave was affecting in Myanmar.

4.3 Survey Results

Data analysis under this study were both quantitative and qualitative approached. The quantitative analysis was applied for characteristics of individual respondents. The qualitative analysis ways of interviewing and key informant interview with the respective person were applied under this study. For quantitative analysis that

frequency and percentage were used to analyze various respondents' indicators such as respondents' social characteristics of the age distribution, gender, marital status, level of education and occupations. As part from that the respondents' participation in Village Volunteer Groups' activities of the membership, savings, loans and repayment of the loan were also studied. The questionnaire contained a closed and open-ended, predetermined and standardized set of questions. These closed-ended questions were adopted since they were easier to analyze as they were in an immediately usable form, were easier to administer and were economical to use in terms of time and money. The open-ended questions gave the respondents complete freedom of response in one's own words.

4.3.1 Demographic characteristics of the respondents

This study to find out the age, gender, marital status, education and occupation of the respondents who were involved in the VVGs. The questionnaires included sex, age, households and current employment.

Table 4.2 Characteristic of Respondents

		No of Respondents	
		Frequency	Percentage (%)
Age			
	Between 20 and 30	21	10
	Between 31 and 40	60	29
	Between 41 and 50	72	35
	Above 51	53	26
Total		206	100
Gender			
	Male	64	31
	Female	142	69
Total		206	100
Marital Status			
	Married	162	79
	Single	29	14
	Divorce	15	7
Total		206	100
Size of Household			
	Male	4,247	49
	Female	4,336	51
Total		8,583	100
Education			
	Can't read at all	13	6
	Can Read and Write	26	13
	Primary School	119	58
	Middle School	29	14
	High School	17	8
	University	2	1
Total		206	100
Employment status			
	Housewife	20	10
	Casual labor	19	9
	Dealer	14	7
	Agricultural	69	33
	Livestock	55	27
	Fisheries	5	2
	Others	24	12
Total		206	100

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

In term of age of the participants, 10 percent were between 20 and 30 years, 29 percent were between 31 and 40 years, 35 percent were between 41 and 50 and 26 percent were above 51 years of age. According to the age category, 74 % of adults were

participate in VVGs. Many young and adults were involving and taking role in the VVGs for community development activities. As the above table, VVGs were interested by all age in communities. According to this table (4.2), the age of between 41 and 50 was the most in this group.

Table (4.2) shows the type of gender of the respondents. Among them 69 percent were female, and 31 percent were male. Still male was taking more dominant role or decision-making roles while female was involved as member in the VVGs. Most of the female are respondents who were participating in VVGs.

The marital status of the households describe that the household heads 79 percent were married, 14 percent were single, and 7 percent were divorce. As the above table, all marital status was interested and involved in the VVGs especially married.

According to the survey results, there were more female than male in the households. Female were composed of 51 percent of total family members of respondents' households.

The level of education among the respondents, 8 percent went to the high school, while 58 percent only went to the primary school, but some did not finish. Only two members had got a degree from University. 14 percent went to the middle school and 13 percent was only read and write which included 6 percent were cannot read at all. The lack of capability to satisfy the standards to be utilized in the government middle-class works. Along these lines, this outcome demonstrates that the member of VVGs can be a small business or employees in the job who do not need high capabilities.

According to the table (4.2) indicates that 33 % of respondents were farmers and agricultural who practiced with paddy and cultivation and 27% respondents were livestock breeding especially cattle, pig and poultry farming. 10% were housewife, 9 % were casual labor, 7 % were dealer, 2% were fisheries and 12 % were others such as grocery store, homemade crafts and home industry and no one has a staff. As the result survey, VVG members were including the diverse categories of employment status.

4.3.2 Forming and situation of VVGs

Collaboration helps bring together people of different backgrounds who may have access to different resources that can be beneficial to the community. Each person also has a role that the person participate within the community, thus it is likely that the

person will have a role to play in the process of community development. This study to find out the formation and existing the VVGs in villages. The study findings were presented figures as below.

Table 4.3 Formation of VVGs

VVG formation	Total Respondents	Percentage
Local Community	68	33
Government	0	0
Donor Agency	138	67
Total	206	100

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

The respondents were asked a question that who formed the VVGs in villages. The questions were a critical element in the ownership and sustainability of the VVGs where main fundamental elements of the VVGs. A total of 67 percent of the respondent stated that VVGs were formed by the donor agency (Welthungerhilfe) and 33 percent described that by community members.

The Welfhungerhilfe was one of the largest private aid organizations in Germany and the project was started in Myanmar since 2002 for supporting a local partner, focusing on animal husbandry and drinking water supply for communities in Kachin and Northern Shan State. The Welfhungerhilfe project was started on 16 July 2007 and terminating on 15 April 2010, with a total budget of 786,000 Euro out of which 85% was funded by the European Commission in Htan Tabin Township.

All the respondents stated that the VVGs were not formed by the Government. In this result, donor agency initiated to form the VVGs because the communities do not know that how to initiate the forming of VVGs in the villages. While the donor agency implementing the development activities in the villages and formed the VVGs to carry out development work in the villages with the communities. The community members were leading the VVGs formation process was the best practice because members could get the ownership sense and need to sustain the VVGs. VVGs were important the roles because VVGs members will lead the development activities in the villages when the donor agencies were exited after the implementation period. At that time, the role of VVGs become very important to be sustainable in project continuation in the community. VVGs have become the special and the significant person in the community to be sustainable and connect with the donors for community development.

Community development was about organizing people and resources to accomplish the common goals and objectives.

Table 4.4 Existence in the villages of VVG

Existing the VVGs	Total Respondents	Percentage
Between 1 and 3 years	11	5
Between 4 and 5 years	75	37
Above 6 years	120	58
Total	206	100

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

Time was essential for working development activities of VVGs by giving enough time to form. This will need to have a public conversation, the appointment of individuals, and preparing of the part to build their ability. In term of the table (4.4), fifty-eight percent of the group has been in the villages for more than six years and only 5 percent said it was between 1 and 3 years. It means that 58 percent of the respondents were involved more than six years in the VVGs.

In addition, the respondents were asked that it was necessary for forming the VVGs in villages. All the respondents of 100 percent agree that VVGs were essentially formed and supported the community and working the development activities in the villages. VVGs were accepted by the community and also 88 percent response that the members were own the VVG. 6 percent accepting that the decision makers were own the VVG and villagers also.

4.3.3 Constitution, organize meeting and attendance

The mission, vision and formulation, membership and participation of individuals in decision-making, responsibility to individuals, constitution and adherence to the constitution, administration structure and body or committee and voting practices. Rules and regulations are also important for VVGs to be sustainable.

The study was to find out constitution, organize meeting and attendance. Constitution and meeting attendance were very important of the VVGs for community development. In the meetings, the members can discuss the issues and find out the problem for each and how to proper make the decision for future. The constitution was very important between the members who must follow the constitution. The findings were presented in the tables as below.

Table 4.5 State the VVG Constitution

State Constitution	Total Respondents	Percentage
No, I have not seen a copy	14	7
Yes, it has been read	150	73
Yes, I have had a copy	23	11
Yes, I have not seen a copy	19	9
Total	206	100

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

Of the 206 respondents, 93% said they knew the VVGs had an objective and vision, and only 7% said they don't know a vision and an objective set. The objective and vision were important for the implementation to reach set the goals.

In relation to the VVG constitution, 100 percent of the respondents said that VVGs have the constitution and all agree that all the members adhere with the constitution. Table (4.5) stated that 11 percent respondents have read and received a copy of the constitution, and 73 percent were read, 9 percent members have not a copy but have been read and only 7 percent respondents have not seen the constitution.

The leadership of the VVG has been relied on the management committee, and most VVG did not have board or advisory board to support their works. The leadership of the members were selected through the election process but did not specify details on the selection of the member. Most respondents agreed that due to lack of resources available to lead the VVGs, there were quite repeating among oldest member, to re-elect in the new terms. VVGs have a constitution that guides their internal and external relationships. The VVGs have written a constitution and the members know that what was stated in the constitution. The leadership of VVGs need to ensure that the VVG members understand and actually can state the VVGs' constitution.

Table 4.6 Organize Meetings

Organize meeting	Total Respondents	Percentage
Twice a month	11	6
Monthly	178	86
Once every six months	17	8
Total	206	100

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

According the survey result, table (4.6) shows that the VVGs were hold the meetings that 86% were monthly, 8% were once every six months and 6% were twice a month. In this result, the VVGs meetings were hold monthly was the high percent and

it was a good practice. All the members can exchange ideas, information and knowledge in there, and the members were closer friendly.

Table 4.7 Meeting Attendance

Meeting Attendance	Total Respondents	Percentage
100% attendance	44	21
Between 50-90%	135	66
Below 50%	27	13
Total	206	100

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

With reference the table (4.7), the results that VVGs held the meeting attendance was 66 percent mentioned that 50-90 percent regular attended the meetings, 21 percent said that fully percent members were attended the meetings and remaining 13 percent said poor attendance. As 135 respondents (66 percent) participate in regular attendance the meetings, the VVG members were interested on VVG and VVGs were well functioning in communities. All the members should organize to attend the meetings regularly because each member could share the knowledge and discuss the difficulties and issues in there. And then all members can be helping hands to each other. Some of the members cannot give the time for attending the meeting and disappointed in a long-time meeting because the members shared in the personal business.

4.3.4 Source of Fund

This study was to know about the fund sourcing and to find out the fund for supporting the members. The VVGs could get the revolving funds not only the donor but also membership fees and monthly savings. The findings were represented in the following tables;

Table 4.8 Source of Funding for the revolving fund of VVGs

Membership fees	Total Respondents	Percentage
Yes	176	85
No	30	15
Total	206	100
Monthly savings		
Yes	110	53
No	96	47
Total	206	100
Funding Source		
Government	0	0
Donor Agency	139	67
Members + Donor Agency	67	33
Total	206	100

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

All the respondents described that the VVGs have the revolving fund and it was using each member. Regarding the table (4.8), 85 percent respondents stated that if a person wants to participate in the VVG, the VVG collected the membership fees for revolving fund with not high amount, and it will be support for the sustainability of the VVGs and 15 percent mentioned that some of the VVGs did not collect the membership fees. 47 % of the VVGs have no monthly savings and 53 % of the VVGs collected the monthly savings. The monthly savings was one of the resources and revolving fund for the VVGs.

67 percent of the organization was supported from donor agency (Welfhungerhilfe) (external resources) who were more important for the resource mobilization, 33 percent stated that members (internal resources) contributed for resources by villagers' money for some portion to implement the development activities together with donor support fund. Due to the members were contributed for resources, the members have been getting the ownership sense that is supportive of sustainability.

According to the collected the membership fees, monthly savings, supported from donor agencies and portion contributed by the members, the revolving fund would be increased, and the members could be loaned for their personal business and the VVGs were implemented the village development activities.

The main challenges of VVGs were the resources and most of the VVGs were depending the donor agency for fund resources. The respondents mentioned that

contributions from donors and members were sources of financing of VVGs. Some of the VVGs have the membership contributions, the reality was the members' contributions were small and unable to support the members needed.

Table 4.9 Decision making in VVGs

Decision making	Total Respondents	Percentage
Government	0	0
Members	193	94
Decision makers	13	6
Total	206	100

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

Leadership and decision-making positions during the process will need to be transparent in the actions with trust. In the relation with table (4.9), decision makers who were the group leaders such as chairman, vice-chairman, secretary made the decisions in 6% and the members made the decisions in 94% of the VVG for the implementation. Donor agencies have not responded to the VVGs because the donors have already exited from the selected villages of the study. The donor agencies were many influences in all steps of the village activities. When decision-making needs to be made, each member consult with each other and make decisions. It was the best practice and the VVGs were not depending on the donors. Villagers/communities were the main actors for all development activities and the VVGs were strongly organized and encouraged with each organization in the villages.

Table 4.10 Type of Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries type	Total Respondents	Percentage
Members	176	85
Community	30	15
Total	206	100

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

In the table (4.10) stated that according to 15% of the respondents, the communities also benefited and the remaining 85% benefited from VVG members. Beneficiaries of the communities means that the VVGs' revolving fund was used for infrastructure such as maintain the village road, repairing the school, health care and education support and other social activities. The remaining percentage received benefits from the participating in VVGs, such as low-interest loans, health support, education and other social benefits.

In this study, school children, elderly care, the general population and youth were supported as the target beneficiaries through the VVGs activities. These results were shown in Table 4.11.

Table 4.11 Beneficiaries of VVGs

Sr.	Village Name	School children	Elderly care	General population	Youth
1	Nyaung Pin Kone	-	√	√	√
2	Hsat Kalay	√	-	√	√
3	Nyaung Kone	-	√	√	√
4	Kyi Su	-	√	√	√
5	Nghet Thike	-	-	√	√
6	Kalain	-	-	√	√
7	Pat Inn Lay	-	√	√	√
8	Kyain Paike East	√	√	√	√
9	Eain Lay Lone	-	-	√	√
10	Tapon	-	-	√	√
11	Sandar Yaw	√	-	√	√
12	Phoe Wae Kyi Su	√	-	√	√
13	Htoo Lay Su	-	-	√	√
14	Sin Kuu	-	√	√	√
15	Kyain Paike West	-	√	√	√

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

Based on the results of Table (4.11), it was found that the beneficiaries of VVGs are not the same because the purpose and activities of VVGs were different.

4.3.5 Key Activities of VVGs in Htan Tabin Township

Community development has recognized social, economic, educational, health and poverty reduction. Among the VVGs in the Htan Tabin Township, the activities were not entirely the same between the groups. Major activities included support for education, health support, care for the elderly and social support.

Table 4.12 Supporting the village activities

Activities	Total Respondents	Percentage
Education	99	48
Health	52	25
Others	55	27
Total	206	100

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

In the represented table (4.12), the revolving fund of VVGs supported in village activities stated that 48 percent respondents mentioned in the educational support, 25

percent said that the health support and the remaining 27 percent support of others such as assist with funeral, old aged care and maintain the infrastructures. The VVGs were many supported to education sector and the members encouraged this activity. The education sector was very important and need to more support the members already known and the members were supported the prioritized this activity.

Community development and public health were also coming together to ensure that urban redevelopment actually benefits local people. Among public health, maternal and child health was important when considering the development of the country. Out of 56 VVGs, 31 VVGs in 8 villages support health care support for people. Some VVGs were supported and some were not supported due to the requirement of community.

Social support was a powerful predictor of a healthy and long life. Large, well-controlled prospective studies show that social support has an impact on the health of older adults, regardless of potential confounded factors such as socio-economic status, health-risk behavior, use of health services and personality. 29 VVGs in 7 villages implement social support activities which include funeral support and support for elderly care. These were shown in Table 4.13.

Table 4.13 Social Support the VVGs to village

Sr.	Village Name	Funeral Support	Support for elderly care
1	Nyaung Pin Kone	√	√
2	Nyaung Kone	√	√
3	Kyi Su	√	√
4	Pat Inn Lay	√	√
5	Kyain Paike East	√	√
6	Sin Kuu	√	√
7	Kyain Paike West	√	√

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

VVGs provide social support such as funeral support and elderly care support because these activities were not the strange for every volunteer and can implement without funding. For example, volunteer can provide psychological support to the elderly who stay alone.

Education was crucial to many of the policy outcomes that citizens and politicians care about. At the individual level, education affects earnings, employability, and the chance of a successful life in a disadvantaged neighborhood. The educational supported by the VVGs as shown in below table (4.14).

Table 4.14 Education Support the VVGs to villages

Sr.	Village Name	School support	Non-formal	Honored
1	Nyaung Pin Kone	-	-	-
2	Hsat Kalay	√	√	√
3	Nyaung Kone	-	-	-
4	Kyi Su	-	-	-
5	Nghet Thike	-	-	-
6	Kalain	-	-	-
7	Pat Inn Lay	-	-	-
8	Kyain Paike East	√	√	√
9	Eain Lay Lone	-	-	-
10	Tapon	-	-	-
11	Sandar Yaw	√	√	√
12	Phoe Wae Kyi Su	√	√	√
13	Htoo Lay Su	-	-	-
14	Sin Kuu	-	-	-
15	Kyain Paike West	-	-	-

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

According to the table (4.14), VVGs in Htan Tabin Township implemented education activities which include school support, non-formal education and honored to the person who would pass the matriculation.

Table 4.15 Assist to village activities in Covid-19 pandemic

Activities	Total Respondents	Percentage
Education	10	5
Health	142	69
Others	12	6
Couldn't assist	42	20
Total	206	100

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

With the reference of table (4.15), the VVGs supported with the revolving fund in Covid-19 pandemic, 69 percent respondents said to health support such as installation of hand wash basin at the entrance of the village and monitor the stranger person who would be enter to village, pesticide spray in the village, delivered the masks and soap to communities, sharing health knowledge and installed awareness signboard. 5 percent of members mentioned to education support like that the donation rubbish bin and bench to school and installed the electricity. 6 percent of respondents mentioned that the delivering the rice, oil, onion and bean to the communities, seedlings were distributed free of charge to farmers and paddy seeds could be sold on credit. 20 percent

of respondents represented that any support to the communities because the lack of revolving fund.

4.3.6 Increased level of VVGs members

In this study measured, increased levels of knowledge by membership like family health, children's education, village development concept and family vocational knowledge, increased levels of skills by membership such as leadership in village activities, manage in village activities, livelihood knowledge and family business management, increased level of self-confidence by membership such as becoming a representative of the group, ability to speak at the meetings, village affairs and village leadership section, increase social network and affinity among members social network with other members, social supporting from other members, increase decision making power in the family income generation and family matters. Increasing levels of individual members have been assessed through questionnaire survey of respondents' perception of the statement's questions.

Percent of the respondents answered that the overall level of knowledge has been increased being VVG membership. The members were increasing level of knowledge through VVG activities. The responses were analyzed by a five-point Likert scale, values were calculated based on frequency of responses, divided into five scales: Very High=1, High=2, Medium=3, Low=4 and Very Low=5 respectively.

Very High	High	Medium	Low	Very Low
1.00-1.80	1.81-2.60	2.61-3.40	3.41-4.20	4.21-5.00

(Amal, 2016).

Standard deviation can be difficult to interpret as a single number on its own. Basically, a small standard deviation means that the values in a statistical data set are close to the mean of the data set, on average, and a large standard deviation means that the values in the data set are farther away from the mean, on average. In statistics, the mean is the mathematical average of a set of numbers. The average is calculated by adding up two or more scores and dividing the total by the number of scores.

The following table (4.18) presents the findings of both the very high and very low of the increasing level of indicated by the respondents.

Table 4.16 Increased in knowledge of the respondents

Indicators	Mean	Std. Deviation	Level
As a member of the Village Volunteer Group, knowledge has increased.			
Family health	1.95	0.66	High
Children education	2.28	0.66	High
Village Development Concept	2.15	0.71	High
Family vocational knowledge	2.07	0.72	High
Average Mean Value	2.11		High

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

In table (4.16) stated that the members gain much more knowledge increased by the membership. Among four kinds of increasing level of knowledge, the mean value of knowledge on family health was 1.95, child's education was 2.28, village development concept was 2.15 and family vocational knowledge was 2.07. It means that the VVG members have a high result in a child's education increased and low result in family health. All the respondents mentioned that the level of knowledge was being increased, especially in child's education through VVGs activities. All the knowledge level was increased but this is the significant in high level because the high level was between 1.81 and 2.60.

Table 4.17 Increased in skill of the respondents

Indicators	Mean	Std. Deviation	Level
As a member of the Village Volunteer Group, skill has increased.			
Leadership in village activities	2.20	0.67	High
Manage in village activities	2.33	0.67	High
Livelihood knowledge	2.22	0.67	High
Family business management	2.06	0.65	High
Average Mean Value	2.20		High

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

Among the four kinds of increasing the level of skills, the mean value of leadership in village activities was 2.20, manage in village activities was 2.33, livelihood knowledge was 2.22 and family business management was 2.06. Manage in village activities was 2.33 and family business management was 2.06. It meant that the VVG members gain the highest result is the managing of village activities and the lowest result was the managing of family business. The second highest result was the livelihood knowledge that was the good practice and the members need to more participate in leadership in village activities. The skills of managing in village activities

were high due to the organizational management and responsibilities of members in which all members have to make sure the annual rotation of the representative. The respondents get more on the family business management skill which were related to the household income generating activities through the attending the vocational trainings conducted by the project. All the results were existing between 1.81 and 2.60, so the level of increasing skill is still in high.

Table 4.18 Increased in self-confidence of the respondents

Indicators	Mean	Std. Deviation	Level
As a member of the Village Volunteer Group, self-confidence has increased.			
Becoming a representative of the group	2.30	0.74	High
Ability to speak at the meetings	2.51	0.72	High
Ability to speak in village affairs	2.43	0.79	High
Ability to speak in village leadership section	2.55	0.74	High
Average Mean Value	2.45		High

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

All the respondents agree on increasing the status of self-confidence skills through the VVGs activities. The level status of self-confidence consists of the becoming a representative of the group, ability to speak at the meetings, ability to speak in village affairs and ability to speak in village leadership section. According the increased the self-confidence level, mean value of becoming a representative of the group was 2.30, ability to speak at the meetings was 2.51, ability to speak in village affairs was 2.43 and ability to speak in village leadership section was 2.55. The mean value of the ability to speak in village leadership section was 2.55 and becoming a representative of the group was 2.30. It described that the members have a high result in the ability to speak in village leadership section and the low result is becoming a representative of the group. All the results were stilling between 1.81 and 2.60 so the level of self-confidence is high.

Table 4.19 Increased in networking with others of the respondents

Indicators	Mean	Std. Deviation	Level
As a member of the Village Volunteer Group, networking with others has increased.			
Involvement of members in social activities	2.20	0.72	High
Participation in village social activities	2.21	0.67	High
Collaborate with other social organizations in the village	2.27	0.72	High
Average Mean Value	2.23		High

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

The findings out the result of table (4.19), In spite of creasing the networking with others, the mean value of involvement of members in social activities was 2.20, participation in village social activities was 2.21 and collaborate with other social organizations in the village was 2.27. It means that all members receive social support from other members and groups through the networking activities. The affinity among group member was perceived with the high because all members belong to the same society, united and trust, show mutual respect and share common needs. Overall satisfaction level was in high level with the mean value between 1.81 and 2.60.

Table 4.20 Increased in family decision-making of the respondents

Indicators	Respondents	Mean	Std. Deviation	Level
As a member of the Village Volunteer Group, improved family decision-making ability.				
Decision making on family income generation	206	1.95	0.63	High
Decision making on family matters (Social)	206	2.12	0.65	High
Average Mean Value		2.04		High

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

Specific variables for level of decision-making, both decision making on family income generation and family matters was being increased after joining to VVGs in accordance with mean value of 1.95 and 2.12. In the mean value of decision making on family matters (social) was a high result with 2.12. It means that the members were more improved on decision on family matters (social) means the family health, childbearing, children's education and housework, etc. Both were high mean value of between 1.81 and 2.60 that member of VVGs was taking responsibilities on household

income generation work and handling and discussed the family's social issues in ones' household.

Table 4.21 Summary of Average Mean Values for increasing level of the respondents

Sr.	Increasing Level	Average Mean Value
1	Knowledge	2.11
2	Skills	2.20
3	Self-confidence	2.45
4	Networking	2.23
5	Decision-making	2.04
Average		2.21

Source: Field Survey results (2020)

Table (4.21) shows the summary of the average mean values for the increasing level of the respondents. The average mean value was 2.21. It means that the level of VVGs members (the respondents) has been increased through the activities of VVGs.

4.4 Analysis on Qualitative Result

The study approached to members have been assessed through a qualitative survey questionnaire of respondents' perception of statements questions. In the studied (15) villages where has (6) types of VVGs such as agriculture group, livestock group, rick bank committee, small loan group, self-reliance group and village development committee each in village. Some of the villages have all VVGs and some were (2) or (3) groups. The respondents were selected based on factors such as people who live and work in village and know details of the village, and who was helping the village development activities.

For the KII session, 15 VVGs leaders were selected as follow; 1) U Hla Myo Aung, Chairman of the Rice Bank Committee of Nyaung Pin Kone Village, 2) U Sein Win who was retired, Chairman of the Village Development Committee of Hsat Kalay Village, 3) Daw Aye San, Secretary of the Village Development Committee of Nyaung Kone Village, 4) Daw Myint Myint Htay, Chairman of the Small Loan Group of Kyi Su Village, 5) U Tin Nwe who was retired, Secretary of the Rice Bank Committee of Nghet Thike Village, 6) U Thein Min, Chairman of the Small Loan Group of Kalain Village, 7) U Sein Thaug, Chairman of the Village Development Committee of Pat

Inn Lay Village, 8) U Hla Myint, Chairman of the Village Development Committee of Kyain Paiké East Village, 9) U Saw Hla Nwet, Chairman of the Rice Bank Committee of Eain Lay Lone Village, 10) U Maung Aye, Chairman of the Village Development Committee of Tapon Village, 11) U Myint Ngwe, Vice-Chairman of the Village Development Committee of Sandar Yaw Village, 12) U Naing Tun, Chairman of the Small Loan Group of Phoe Wae Kyi Su Village, 13) Daw New Nwe Win, Secretary of the Self-reliance group of Htoo Lay Su Village, 14) Daw Hnin Aye, Secretary of the Small Loan Group of Kyain Paiké West Village and 15) U Aung Maung, Chairman of the Rice Bank Committee of Sin Kuu Village who have known exactly what the VVGs' activities are all about.

In this study, all the respondents were accepted and agreed the existing the VVGs in the villages. The questionnaires aim to highlight that the activities of VVGs in the villages and to study the challenges and opportunities of VVGs through the VVGs member. The results of qualitative questionnaires were presented along with the related questions in the following.

According to the answers from key informant interviews, mostly were the VVGs members in study areas. The answers of details about the VVGs' members were summarized. The chairman of rice bank of Nyaung Pin Kone village, U Hla Myo Aung said that *“Nyaung Pin Kone village has formed four VVG which were the Shwe Yaung Hlwan Agriculture Group, Small Loan Group, Rice Bank Committee and Village Development Committee. The members attended the regular meeting and repayment loan was regularly, particularly in an agriculture group and village development committee.”* As the result, all the members of VVGs need to attend the meeting regularly and the repayment must be regularly because the revolving fund was important for sustainability. And then, he also answered that *“Each member saved MMK 500 monthly and can borrow with the 3 % of interest rate from the revolving fund. As the members can borrow from the revolving fund with low interest rate, the members do not need to borrow from the outsider with the high interest rate. Rules and Regulations and decision making was important for the groups. The challenges of the village were the insufficient of revolving fund, the lack of education and the rice bank was needed to renovate.”* As the result, monthly saving was the source of funding of VVGs and the members followed the rules and regulations because it is the very important for the organization.

According to U Sein Win, retired of the Village Development Committee of Hsat Kalay Village, stated that *“The village has only two groups which were the Small Loan Group and Village Development Group. The groups were well-functioning and collaborative with each other when the implementation of village development activities. The members were improving the health and education knowledge. The loan repayment was not regular that was the challenges and in Covid-19 period, the groups delivered the masks to the communities from the revolving fund.”* Therefore, loan repayment was very important of the groups and the members also improving the knowledges through the activities as the VVGs members.

Daw Aye San, Secretary of the Village Development Committee of Nyaung Kone Village, described that *“The communities became the members because the members want to borrow with low interest rate from the group for income generation activities, interested to group work activities, more comfortable than others of living standard.”* These factors were the benefits of the members as the communities became the members of VVGs. And also said that *“Because of scarcity of jobs, the members faced the difficulties for repaying loans. But the members obeyed the disciplines of the group, so the revolving fund was increased than initiating stage. The groups were donated the rubbish bins to the school in this Covid-19 period.”* Therefore, the revolving fund was essential for sustainability of the groups and development activities.

Daw Myint Myint Htay, Chairman of the Small Loan Group of Kyi Su Village, stated that *“The people became a group member because the people want to borrow with low interest rate and also like rules and regulations of the group and transparency of between each member. And then, to be able to solve problems with transparency in our own strength. The members were also taking the accountability and responsibility. Although the revolving fund was increased, the group cannot support the village activities from it in Covid-19.”* As a result, the importance of the group was accountability and transparency. The members were increased self-confidence skills along the activities of VVGs.

U Tin Nwe who was retired, Secretary of the Rice Bank Committee of Nghet Thike Village, said that *“Our village has three groups such as the Rice Bank Committee, Livestock Group and Lin Yaung Chi Self-Reliance Group which were formed since 2008. All the members can borrow with low interest rate from the groups*

of revolving funds. Maintain the rice bank, unity, trust, transparency, statistics were important of the groups. Most the members want to be more comfortable than others, so the communities became the members of the groups. The members have been attending the vocational trainings by the donor agency such as sewing, bookkeeping, mechanic etc.” According to the answered, the members attended the capacity building trainings, so the members got an income generation because joined the VVGs. And also answered that *“The village road were renovated by the group of revolving funds because the revolving funds were increased. So, the groups were more support to the village development activities. And also, the hand wash basin was installed at the entrance of the village and pesticide sprayed in the village by the revolving fund in this Covid-19 period.”* As a result, the revolving fund became the core of the groups in the village and the revolving funds were maintained by the members to increase.

U Thein Min, Chairman of the Small Loan Group of Kalain Village, presented that *“The members borrowed the loan by once a year, once a month and once every three months according to the setup criteria of the groups. The village cannot cultivate the paddy because the land was floated every year and most of the land were deep mud. So, the communities were depending on the agricultural.”* And also, he said that *“Accountability, transparency, rules and regulations, mutual respect and collaboration with each other was important of the groups. The groups could not hold the regular meeting and the members also could not pay the repayment loan because the scarcity of the jobs in the Covid-19 period. But the groups installed the hand wash basin at the entrance of the village, delivered the mask to the members, fertilizers was supported by the members in the Covid-19 period.”* According to the answers, Covid-19 was very affecting in Myanmar especially in rural areas and this study found that this village could not cultivate paddy, so its factor is very important for the communities.

U Sein Thaung, Chairman of the Village Development Committee of Pat Inn Lay Village, described that *“Our village has six groups which were the Livestock Group, Yaung Chi Sat Won Small Loan Group, Yadanar Toe Rice Bank Committee, Village Development Committee, Shwe Yaung Win Self-reliance Group and Lin Lat Kyel Self-reliance Group. All the groups of revolving funds were increasing, village road was renovated by the revolving funds, increasing paddy yield and education was supported by the groups fund which are the success of the groups.”* It was found that the revolving funds were very important for the Village Volunteer Groups and the

development activities were implemented by the revolving funds. And he said that *“The members could not hold the meetings due to the Covid-19, difficulty and delay the repayment loan because of the jobless in this period, weakness of education and difficult the road transportation were the main challenges of the villages.”* According the answer, the communities were needed to access to education. And also, transportation was a significant factor in the rural communities.

U Hla Myint, Chairman of the Village Development Committee of Kyain Paiké East Village, he said that *“Most of the communities became the group members because some the members wanted easy to credit and borrowing with low interest rate. Some were needed the supporting such as education, health and social. Some wanted to attend the vocational trainings which were supported by the donor agency. Some group collect the membership fees and monthly saving for revolving funds. The groups were implemented the village development activities by the revolving funds and in this period, the groups delivered the soaps and masks to the members, pesticide spraying in the village, health knowledge sharing and borrowed the fertilizer to the members with low interest rate.”* Therefore, the revolving fund was significant for not only the member but also the development activities. So, the members should maintain for increasing more and more revolving fund.

U Saw Hla Nwet, Chairman of the Rice Bank Committee of Eain Lay Lone Village, he represented that *“Each member can borrow with low interest rate from the group of revolving funds and managing of the group, regular meeting, trust, unity, regular repayment, fund sources and rules and regulations were key marked of the groups. In the village, the groups of funds were increasing, repaired the village road, education and health support, elderly care, held the regular meeting, getting the livelihood knowledge, these factors were the success of the group members.”* So that, the communities were increasing knowledge and easy to credit with low interest rate through the VVGs’ members.

U Maung Aye, Chairman of the Village Development Committee of Tapon Village, responded that *“In the communities, weakness of education, insufficient fund, difficult the road transportation, delay the repayment loan which were the challenges of the groups in village. As the benefits, the group members got the knowledge such as development concept, networking with other members, self-confidence, easy to credit*

with low interest rate, better living standard, health support with cash and education support.” Thus, the communities have been getting the benefits as the group members.

U Myint Ngwe, Vice-Chairman of the Village Development Committee of Sandar Yaw Village, said that *“Livestock Group, Village Development Group, Myitta Shin Self-reliance group, Rice Bank Committee and Small Loan Group were formed in the village. Each member borrowed the loan with a different low interest rate in each group. All the members agree the existing group because the members wanted to implement the village development activities, liked the management, the leaderships management was the best, easy to credit, the members wanted to improve the self-confidence through the activities of group. Some of the group could not support the communities according to the lack of revolving funds in the Covid-19 period. Some the group were increasing the revolving funds, more support to education and health, the members followed the rules and regulation of the group, built the rice bank and repaired the village road these matters were the success of the groups in the village.”* With the reference of answered, the communities were becoming the members with different perspectives and desires. The VVGs were more supported to the communities if the revolving funds of the groups were increased.

U Naing Tun, Chairman of the Small Loan Group of Phoe Wae Kyi Su Village, answered that *“In the village, only two groups were formed that was the Small Loan Group and Livestock Group. The two groups were well-functioning means that the members were attending the regular and held the annual meeting, regular repayment the loan, more supported the village development activities and followed the discipline.”* And then he mentioned that *“In the groups, unity, transparency, follow the rules and regulations, accountability, gender equity, collaboration with each other, increasing the revolving fund were important of the group. And also, the groups were implemented the village activities such as installed the basin at the entrance of village, delivered the soaps and masks to the members, pesticide spraying in the village in this Covid-19 pandemic period.”* According to the answered, the groups most well-functioning in the village, set up criteria was important for the group and the development activities were more implemented if the revolving funds were increased.

Daw Nwe Nwe Win, Secretary of the Self-reliance group of Htoo Lay Su Village, mentioned that *“Our village was facing difficult especially the road*

transportation and most of the land were floated in the rainy season. Village Development Committee, Small Loan Group and Livestock Group were formed in village. Each member can borrow the loan with 2% or 3% with the interest rate for once a month. Challenges of the groups such as insufficient fund, lack of technics, weakness of education, seasonal migration, the members do not want to share the personal business time for attending the regular meeting of the groups.” As the mentioned that transportation was important for the rural development and the communities and the members should generate income activities.

Daw Hnin Aye, Secretary of the Small Loan Group of Kyain Paike West Village, stated that *“Village Development Committee, Livestock Group, Rice Bank Committee and Small Loan Group were formed, and the three groups were well-functioning except the Livestock Group. The communities became the members because the communities waned to work with the members, interesting in teamwork, collaboration with each other, the members needed the loans with low interest rate and the members desired to work the village development activities. The revolving fund increased because the members could hold the regular meeting and the repayment loans were regulars. So, the members implemented the development works a lot in the village.”* As stated, the regular meeting and repayment loan was important for the revolving fund of the group.

U Aung Maung, Chairman of the Rice Bank Committee of Sin Kuu Village, said that *“Village Development Committee, Small Loan Group and Livestock Group were formed in the village and the group were held the meeting by monthly and twice a month according to the constitution of the groups. Each member could borrow the loan from the revolving fund with low interest rate. The importance of the group were accountability, transparency, trust, mutual respect, collaboration with each other, networking with others, regular repayment and regular meeting. The revolving funds were depending on the regular repayment loan and the development activities were implemented by the revolving fund. Increasing the group fund was one of the significant success of the group. In Covid-19 period, the groups installed the basin wash at the entrance the village, delivered the soap and masks to the members, some fertilizer were delivered to farmers with free of charges and renovated the village school.”* As the result, the village was affected by the Covid-19 but the members could implement not only the development activities but also the supporting the communities and members

by revolving fund. So, the revolving fund was very effective for the communities and the members should more emphasize on the income generating activities.

4.5 Challenges and opportunities of VVGs

It was found out that, VVGs faced many challenges in implementing the development project as follows; limited support from the Government Department (sometimes not approved by the Government Department for certain activities), natural disasters (flooding) destroyed the community farms, weather disturbances, time constraints, constraint on funding, lack of training opportunities for member capacity. The members cannot make effective use of vocational training after participating in subsistence support, some of the revolving funds have disappeared due to lack of trust and poor management in the team, increasing private lending organizations were also a major challenge for the long-term stability of the village revolving fund circulation. Some VVG members without attending a meeting and do not know the exact information about the activities, some villagers were not willing to participate in volunteer work on the project because the communities cannot give the time to share the family's business times.

During the Covid-19 period, regular meetings could not be held and the members could not attend the meeting because the Ministry of Health and Sport restricted the gathering of people due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the member could not pay the regular repayment of the loan due to the lack of work. And also, VVGs faced the challenges such as the lack of credit of the revolving fund, the lack of education of the members, the safety of the paddy due to the condition of the rice bank, the members did not attend the meeting on a regular basis because the members did not want to share time from the personal business, no assistance from the Government, and the VVGs were unable to submit a proposal for funding to the donor agencies due to a lack of education and techniques.

Some VVGs were newly established and still have limited capacity for operational and organizational development. VVGs generally have weak leadership knowledge and skills, policy development, project management, financial management, administrative tasks, documentation, resource mobilization, weak communication and networking capabilities both internally and externally. Capacity building for VVGs was difficult due to the lack of functional literacy among members. In addition, most of the

current active VVGs have been established and supported by NGOs, which themselves may lack models and expertise to strengthen VVGs, as well as the issue of VVGs competing with NGOs for funding, lack of participation and commitment from members and stakeholders in some VVGs, and some were very dependent on NGO action/initiative and support.

As an opportunity, VVGs have got a strong relationship with the Ministry of Agriculture, Health department and Education department, the communities and the members have attended the vocational training by the donor agency such as sewing training, bookkeeping training, agricultural training, livestock breeding training, technical support from the donor, and high quality paddy seeds were provided by the donor.

It also noted that the members' paddy prices were higher than others as the members got the good quality of paddy varieties, increasing knowledge, no need to borrow from the outside with high interest rate, the members have received more support the health and education, and support to the village development activities through the revolving fund.

VVG members have gained a lot of experience and have been implementing a number of infrastructures such as school renovation, road renovation, schooling, generating VVG's low interest rate revolving funds, building self-reliance groups and providing training for member capacity building, etc. There have been some indirect impacts on the socio-economic status of communities with revolving funds and good village-to-village transport.

In some VVGs, the rice bank was well-functioning, promoting gender equality and building unity and strength collective work. Despite the fact that the donor agency had left the villages, the communities had increased the socio-economic status of the villagers, some vocational training for women, empowerment of women, increased knowledge, easy access to credit at a low interest rate, no specific loan criteria, improved financial management capacity, increased capacity, support the needs of the village from the revolving fund, increased knowledge and experience of development activities, the villagers can make a living investment from the VVG loan, emphasis on gender equality in many activities. These are the opportunities that came with being a member of the VVGs.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION

5.1 Findings

In the VVG process, most organizations were formed under the guidance of donor agencies and most of the critical decisions have been taken in accordance with their guidelines and framework. In this condition, some organizations have chosen a member through the chosen process, while some have been elected. Only a few organizations were formed on their own, not under the guidance of other organizations. VVG formation was more donor-driven than bottom-up approach was also known as demand-driven, where the community was interested in the organization to help with the development process.

All organizations have a structure, but almost half of the organizations have no criteria to be members of the VVG. In most cases, adult members were involved and play a leading role in organizations than younger members. There were many variations within community organizations in terms of size and organizational structure. Some were formally drawn up with written constitutions and boards of members or committees, others were very small and informal.

Village Volunteer Groups were informal or voluntary associations formed at the village level to carry out social and religious functions, including health, education and social services. Normally, the groups have not paid staff and members were usually beneficiaries. The aim of the VVGs was to plan, implement, monitor social and economic development programs and provide technical and financial assistance to the communities.

This study found that the practice of community members leading the VVG training process was good practice because it promotes ownership of the VVG and enhances the sustainability of the VVG activities. VVGs were self-reliance group, well-functioning, functioning and less functioning in recent times. In this study, out of 56 VVGs, 22 VVGs were well-functioning, 24 VVGs were functional, 9 VVGs were self-reliance group and the remaining VVG was less functional in the Htan Tabin Township.

Most of the VVGs have been re-established depending on the capacity of the financial status, the human resource and the value of putting in place concrete measures in the implementation of community development activities.

The member of the VVGs has a high interest in community welfare, and the members were willing and willing to act to change the situation. This was a good context for stimulating the formation of VVGs that address the needs felt by the community and have the support of the community. The communities were interested in participating in the VVG according to a total of 206 respondents at different ages of the VVGs. Most females were interested in involving VVGs, as female respondents were more likely to participate in the study than males. Most of the respondents were at the level of primary education, which was a major concern of the members of the VVGs and the families of the group. The VVGs have a constitution that guides the rules and regulations and the networking of internal and external relations. The VVGs have written a constitution, but all the members need to be well known and understood. It was found that not all the members were well known and read in the constitution. It was assumed that some members have been new and have not yet found time to learn the constitution. As a project village, most of the VVG automatically received funding from the donor agencies as a source of funding and a means of obtaining funding. Only a few VVGs have used funds from the Member Fees Collection and Monthly Savings, and some VVGs use funds from both the Village and the Donor Agency.

Members can borrow loans from VVGs very often and when members need the others, and credit needs can be easily accessed through VVGs. Increasing the loan amount of VVGs and decreasing the amount of defaulted loans by members also indicated that the loan transaction in VVGs was going smoothly and access to credit was very high. At the same time, debt outside the VVGs was declining as rural poor households can rely on the VVGs without borrowing from money lenders. Accessibility of credit services was fulfilled by the activities of the VVGs to the members.

It was found that 86% of the VVGs held the meeting almost monthly did not specifically highlight the actions they were taking during the monthly meetings. However, only 21 percent of the members attended the monthly meeting and the remaining per cent did not attend the meetings, which will be paid the fine, but most of the members did not have the time to attend the meetings as disappointed in the long-

term meeting because the members shared the personal business. The findings of the decision-making process do not indicate that this is because when the VVGs needed a decision-making process, all the members would be involved and discussed at the meeting and would take decisions in their entirety. Major activities of the VVGs include health support, educational support, social support that will lead to the development of the Htan Tabin Township community. Some VVGs carry out development activities and some VVGs were not implemented due to community requirements.

The revolving fund of the VVGs was important for sustainability, because donors cannot support it in the long term. A total of 206 respondents reported that the VVGs did not have paid staff. Donor agencies and the Government have been the main partners of community organizations. At the same time, the VVGs could have different partnerships with donors and the Government.

During the Covid-19 Pandemic Period, the VVGs supported not only the members but also the communities in a variety of ways. The finding was the Covid-19 period, with the majority of VVGs supporting members and communities through health, education and social support. However, some VVGs could not support this because of lack of a revolving fund. Before the pandemic period, the VVGs could support educational activities, and now the VVGs have been emphasized on health awareness. The donors did not support the VVGs in the study of the villages, but the members were very united and encouraged each other.

Each respondent improved the level of knowledge, the level of skills and self-confidence through VVG activities so that all members could build capacity at a high level. Members may expand the social network and social support of other members and groups through activities. The affinity between the members of the group was also high and decision-making within the family has increased following participation in the VVGs. It was therefore clear that the activities of the VVG have a positive social impact on the members.

Members have increased knowledge on the concept of village development and can send children to high school. Increased knowledge of family professional knowledge and family health was also on the rise. Members were also increasing the high level of leadership in village activities as well as in the management of family businesses. The high level of being a representative of the group was remarkable and

the ability to speak in village affairs and the ability to speak at meetings was increasing participation in the VVGs. Members have a high level of increasing affinity between members and the involvement of members in social activities. Decision making the generation of family income much more important than before VVG joined. Most of the groups have excellent rules and regulations and have a high level of participation in group discussions and decision-making. Overall, the increase in VVG activities by members was more or less the same as easy access to credit as emergency loans, improved family health, improved daily life through livestock and agricultural loans, donations to others and village development activities. However, there are no baseline data to compare with primary data. Members received vocational training from non-formal education and development agencies and a small loan from the VVG Revolving Fund to invest in small businesses.

Seasonal migration and the Covid-19 pandemic were the root of the problems and the main cause of the effects of irregular attendance, irregular repayment and unstable membership. The Covid-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the communities, and most of the members of the VVGs have had a scarcity of jobs, and members have faced many challenges, not only in terms of community development activities, but also in terms of personal business.

VVG has faced many challenges and opportunities in the implementation of development. As an opportunity, VVG members have gained a lot of experience and have been implementing a number of infrastructures such as school renovation, road renovation, schooling, generating VVG's low interest rate revolving funds, livelihoods, health, building self-reliance groups and providing training for member capacity building, etc. There have been some indirect impacts on the socio-economic status of communities with revolving funds, educational support and health support, and good village-to-village transport.

In some VVGs, the rice bank was well-functioning, promoting gender equality and building unity and strength collective work. Despite the fact that the donor agency had left the villages, the communities had increased the socio-economic status of the villagers, some vocational training for women, empowerment of women, a functioning rice bank, increased knowledge, easy access to credit at a low interest rate, no specific loan criteria, improved financial management capacity, increased capacity, support the

needs of the village from the revolving fund, knowledge and experience of development activities, villagers can make a living investment from the VVG loan, emphasis on gender equality in many activities.

As in the challenges, VVGs faced limited support from government departments, time limitation, funding constraint, need more training for member capacity without donor funding, some revolving funds have disappeared, repayment loans have been delayed, some of the members were disappointed and absent to attend a regular meeting, some villagers were not willing to participate in voluntary work in village development. VVGs usually emerge as a response to a specific and local issue and play a role in increasing citizens' awareness and participation in development processes. The VVGs still have limited capacity for operations and organizational development. VVGs generally have weak leadership knowledge and skills, policy development, financial management, administrative tasks, resource persons, weak communication and networking capabilities, both internally and externally, and need to improve the capacity of VVG members due to lack of functional literacy among members.

5.2 Suggestions

The community leading VVGs forming process was a good practice because it can promote the sense of ownership in VVG by extending the sustainability of the organization. With the reference of the VVGs formed, the VVG formation should allow the community members to identify their needs and challenges. Community members should be aware of this in order to understand the needs and challenges of the community before setting up the VVGs. Capacity building activities such as team building, financial management and proposal writing training should be carried out by all VVG members. The VVGs should focus on the activities and the revolving fund concerned rather than on the implementation of many activities. Communities should encourage local residents to participate more in the development of the community. The VVGs should promote networking activities in order to get a partner organization for each VVG. For each village development activity, the VVGs should try to recognize the Government in order to participate more and to obtain some training from the Government. It was a good practice and the suggested VVGs should be maintained.

Donor and government departmental staff should empower, support the necessary equipment and techniques and facilitate further development activities towards properly formed VVGs in order to lead development activities on their own. The donor and the government should provide loans and techniques to well-functioning VVGs to establish small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) for a sustainable existence. Following the exit of the donor agencies, the roles of the VVGs have become very important for the sustainability of community development in the communities. The contribution and participation of the Community were one of the motivating factors in the sense of ownership. In addition, the forming of the VVGs depended on the donor and the sustainability of the VVGs should be considered as having been abandoned by the donor agencies after the implementation period.

Whenever there was a new development activity of government departments and donors, explain it to the community first and let them participate in discussions, share roles and responsibilities and make decisions together with the VVGs in order to gain a sense of ownership and willingness to participate. Learning by doing was by far the most effective way to enhance sustainability and ownership in any community project.

While benefiting from donor funding, the VVGs need to explore income-generating projects that can be used to reduce donor dependency. The leadership of the VVGs must ensure that the members of the VVGs were well known and understand the constitution. This focuses on VVG activities and creates synergy for VVGs. Members of the VVG should also take responsibility for ensuring that members understand the constitution of the VVGs and hold the leadership of the VVGs accountable for ensuring that the VVG transaction was in line with the constitution. Members should organize to attend the meetings on a regular basis and should explain and encourage that the meetings were very important to each of them. The VVGs should work more on income-generating activities that ensure a sustained flow of funding for VVG activities and should try to improve and encourage the education sector in the communities. VVGs should focus more on the activities of the Village Revolving Fund because they are very effective and efficient activities for villages. It may have a long-term impact on the socio-economic status of the community, as these enhancements are being used

for the development of their villages. Self-reliance groups for money-saving and rice bank activities that are very effective for agriculture and livelihoods because of land-based agriculture.

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Yangon University of Economics

Master of Development Studies

Survey Questionnaire of Village Volunteer Groups for Community Development

Section (A)

1	Age	Between 20 and 30	
		Between 31 and 40	
		Between 41 and 50	
		Above 51	
2	Gender	Male	
		Female	
3	Marital Status	Yes	
		No	
		Divorce	
4	Level of Education	Can't read at all	
		Can Read and Write	
		Primary School	
		Middle School	
		High School	
		University	
5	Employment status	Housewife	
		Casual labor	
		Dealer	
		Agricultural	
		Livestock	
		Fisheries	
		Grocery store	
		Merchant	
		Homemade crafts	
		Home industry	
		Staff	

Section (B)

1	Who give the idea to join this VVGs?	Family	
		Myself	
		Friends/Community members	
		A group	
2	How long have you been a member?	Between 1 and 3 years	
		Between 4 and 5 years	
		Above 6 years	

3	What is your role in the group?	Write response here.	
4	How long has been existence in the village?	Between 1 and 3 years	
		Between 4 and 5 years	
		Above 6 years	
5	Does the group have an objective/ vision?	Yes	
		No	
		Don't know	
6	Does VVGs have the constitution?s?	Yes	
		No	
		Don't know	
7	Do you know what the VVGs's constitution says?	No, I have not seen a copy	
		Yes, It has been read	
		Yes, I have had a copy	
		Yes, I have not seen a copy	
8	Who formed the VVGs?	Local Community	
		Government	
		Donor Agency	
9	How long take a time for forming?	Under 1 month	
		Between 2 and 6 months	
		Above 7 months	
10	Who owns this VVGs?	Government	
		Community	
		Members	
		Decision makers	
11	Who makes the decisions?	Government	
		Community	
		Members	
		Decision makers	
12	How many member does the group have?	Write response here. Separate number of men and women.	
13	How regularly does the VVG hold meetings?	Once a week	
		Twice a month	
		Monthly	
		Once every six months	
14	How many members do they attending the meeting?	100%	
		Between 50-90%	
		Below 50%	
15	Does the group have paid staff?	Yes	
		No	
		Don't know	

16	Which activities do the VVG do in village?	Economy (Small loan, agriculture, livestocke, etc;)	
		Social (Education, WatSan, etc;)	
		Emergency (natural disastar, etc:)	
		Others	
17	Who are the beneficiaries?	Members	
		Community	
		Specific members	
18	Does the group have the connectively with others?	Yes	
		No	
19	Does the group have membership fees?	Yes	
		No	
20	Does the group have a monthly savings?	Yes	
		No	
21	How much does a member of the organization collect per month?	Write response here.	
22	Does the group have a revolving fund?	Yes	
		No	
23	Who do support the revolving fund?	Government	
		Local Community	
		Donor Agency	
		Members + Donor Agency	
		Decision makers	
24	Do you agree this group existing in the village?	Yes	
		No	
25	How do members spend the revolving fund?	Write response here.	
26	Why did you join the existed group in the village?	Write response here.	
27	Which sector is important in your group?	Write response here.	
28	What are the current oppourtunities in your group?	Write response here.	
29	What are the current challenges in your group?	Write response here.	
30	In your opinion, what the critical factors would determine the success of the group?	Write response here.	
31	What activities does this group do in the village with revolving funds?	Education	
		Health	
		Others	
32	What activities did the group prioritize during the Covid-19 pandemic?	Education	
		Health	
		Others	
		Couldn't assit	
33	Which activities did the group support during the Covid-19 pandemic?	Write response here.	

Section (C)

1	As a member of the Village Volunteer Group, knowledge has increased.	
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1.1	Family health	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	
1.2	Children education	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	
1.3	Village Development Concept	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	
1.4	Family vocational knowledge	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	
2	As a member of the Village Volunteer Grop, skill has increased.		
2.1	Leadership in village activities	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	
2.2	Manage in village activities	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	
2.3	Livelihood knowledge	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	
2.4	Family business management	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	
3	As a member of the Village Volunteer Group, self confidence has increased.		
3.1	Becoming a representative of the group	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	

		Low	
		Very Low	
3.2	Ability to speak at the meetings	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	
3.3	Ability to speak in village affairs	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	
3.4	Ability to speak in village leadership section	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	
4	As a member of the Village Volunteer Group, networking with others has increased.		
4.1	Involvement of members in social activities	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	
4.2	Participation in village social activities	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	
4.3	Collaborate with other social organizations in the village	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	

5	As a member of the Village Volunteer Group, improved family decision-making ability.		
5.1	Decision making on family income generation	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	
5.2	Decision making on family matters (Social)	Very High	
		High	
		Medium	
		Low	
		Very Low	