

Beat: Local

Convergences is bringing together actors for sustainable Development in Myanmar

Zero Exclusion Zero Carbon Zero Poverty

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USPA NEWS - Convergences' first international edition of its World Forum, "Strengthening cooperation towards sustainable development in Myanmar"^[1], was held in Yangon, Myanmar on March 10th 2017. This project of a Convergences Myanmar Forum originates from the participation of the French Embassy to Myanmar in the 9th edition of the Convergences World Forum in Paris in September 2016, where it co-organised a session on "The transition in Myanmar: Emerging new actors"^[2]. H.E. Olivier Richard, French Ambassador to Myanmar participated in this session, which was moderated by Charles Bonhomme, Head of the French Institute in Yangon.

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Enthusiastic about the Forum, the Burmese delegation coming to Paris wished to organize a similar event in Myanmar to bring together public, private and civil society organisation committed for sustainable development in the country. As a result, Convergences started working on organising this Myanmar Forum with the support of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the French Embassy to Myanmar.-----

By doing so, Convergences aims at building a wide-scale gathering project to debate ideas, to advocate for economic alternatives, and to frame innovative action plans in order to co-construct a "Zero Exclusion, Zero Carbon, Zero Poverty"^[3] Myanmar and thus contribute to the achievement of the SDGs.-----

This one-day meeting gathered more than 250 experts and professionals, representing the public, private, academic, NGO and civil society sectors. Together they addressed development challenges and identified potential solutions and concrete projects to achieve the "Zero Exclusion, Zero Carbon, Zero Poverty"^[3] goal together, in the Myanmar context. With the objective to strengthen cooperation towards sustainable development, the Myanmar Forum allowed dialogue, debates, and co-construction between all actors involved towards a more inclusive and responsible economy.-----

The Forum also saw the launch of the Global Alliance for a Zero exclusion, Zero carbon & Zero poverty world ("3Zero Global Alliance"^[4]) by NGO ACTED. Frédéric Roussel, Founder and Development Director of NGO ACTED, and President of Convergences defended the vision of a "Zero exclusion, Zero carbon, Zero poverty"^[3] world that calls all individuals and organizations to think and act together as to respond to the duty of achieving a world without exclusion, carbon and poverty.

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