# Meeting Minutes

ICT4D Working Group, September 23, 2015

Chair: Jade Lamb, Pact

Organizations Attending: Pact, JSI, MCRB, PSI, Myanmarwatch.org, MIMU, Opportunities NOW, UNESCO, One World, UNICEF, Ooredoo

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| Activity | Follow up |
| 1. Myanmarwatch.org/Rhys Thompson
* Myanmar Watch is a platform for sharing incidents and events
* Information is out there, but not always accessible, even in Myanmar language
* The intent of the site is not to replicate stories, but to be a place where people can share what’s going on—report protests, demonstrations, traffic, crime
* The site is free but requires registration
* People enter basic information about events/incidents. Others can flag that they also witnessed the event, giving it more credibility. Users can also see a snapshot of a reporter’s reporting history to judge for themselves if the report is credible.
* For protests and conflict, there are fixed fields to limit the amount of information reported and therefore try and limit the site’s ability to increase tensions.
* Possible to use the site to report events in advance, such as protests and rallies, to advertise it.
* Events come down 14 days after they happen. Archives will not be public, but de-identified reports might be made available as a dataset upon request for legitimate research uses.
* Rhys moderates the site to look for abuse.
* Election events will be locked shortly following the elections, but made available on a permanent part of the site for the general public.
* The site uses Zawgyi, but the font is embedded in the site so Unicode users shouldn’t have problems.
* Have reached out to some groups to publicize the site among their members and get reporting on election events and protests started.
* If the site really takes off, traffic is most likely to spin off on its own site.
* You can play around with the demo site here: <http://myanmar-watch2.demo5.mspiral.net/en>. Note that this is a demo site and data in the site are not accurate, nor will any incidents reported be saved when the real site rolls out.
* The site launches next week.
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| 1. Results from Feedback Survey/Jade Lamb
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| * Objective of survey was to get feedback from the group both on the logistics of group management and content for the future
* 17 people responded, which is a pretty good response rate (the email list has 122 members, but 17 represents a large proportion of people who are currently attending semi-regularly)
* People preferred Phandeeyar to MIMU for meeting locations 41% to 24%
* The group validated 10 as a start time, which was what the survey results said as well
* 31% of members were interested in seeing the email list used more frequently (everyone was too polite to tell me to stop sending so many emails), so members are encouraged to use the email list to disseminate events, articles, and other relevant materials. If this gets out of hand, we will reassess.
* Presentations were the most valued WG aspect.
* The top three preferences for presentations (research, implementation strategies/lessons learned, platforms/tools) were cross-cutting. Health was number 4. All 4 have been the subject of many past presentations (research has been the subject of 2 presentations, but this also represents the most relevant research on ICTs in Myanmar that has come out in 2015).
* In the middle of people’s preferences were three sectors that have been underserved by presentations: civil society/governance, mobile money, and agriculture.
* People were interested in knowing more about what other organizations are doing. Though this is the purpose of the presentations, clearly there is room to make this more explicit and contact information more available.

Action items based on survey findings:* No change in meeting location, time or frequency
* People are encouraged to use the email list more frequently
* Upcoming presentations will respond to this feedback, hoping for an mAgri-focused meeting in November, donor panel in early 2016 to hear the donor perspective on ICT4D projects (suggestions for speakers welcome), and maybe something related to the elections next month (suggestions for speakers welcome)
* Jade will resend the [list of which organizations are doing what in ICT4D](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1crW8PttcDwv7CSmsyPiAw95nM-dgDQ26H7xP-EkbNx0/edit#gid=0) and try to update more frequently. The group updated this list together during the meeting.
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| 1. Upcoming Meeting: October 28, 2015
* Expecting a presentation from FERD on the Mohinga (formerly AIMS/Aid Information Management System) site
 | Let Jade know if you have a proposed presentation for an upcoming meeting |

Attendance

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| # | Name | Organization | Email |
| 1 | Aung Htun Oo | JSI | aunghtun\_oo@mm.jsi.com |
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| 4 | Nilar Khaing | Freelancer | Khaing717@gmail.com |
| 5 | Rhys Thompson | Myanmarwatch.org | rhysjthompson@gmail.com  |
| 6 | Phyo Kyi | MIMU | Phyo.kyi@undp.org |
| 7 | Johnny Knox | Opportunities NOW | johnny@opportunitiesnow.org |
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| 17 | Jade Lamb | Pact | jlamb@pactworld.org  |