



# DELTA IN TIMES OF CLIMATE CHANGE II INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

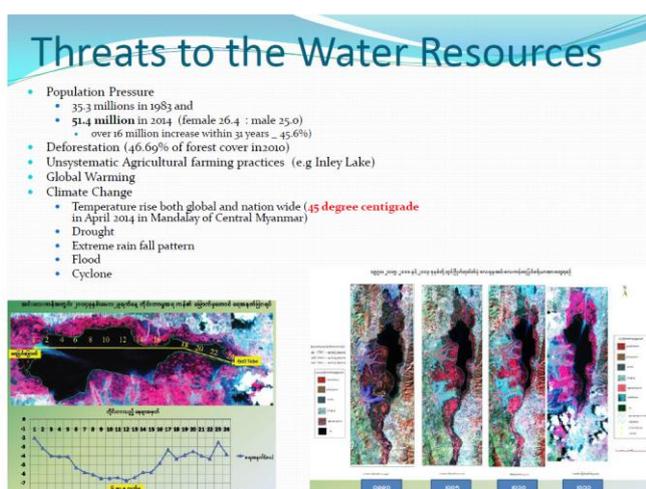
OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEOPLE, SCIENCE, CITIES AND BUSINESS  
ROTTERDAM THE NETHERLANDS, 24-26 SEPTEMBER 2014

<b>Delta Sessions</b>	
<b>DS 9 Myanmar: Developing an integrated water management plan in Myanmar</b>	
<b>Chair</b>	David Schaub-Jones, SeeSaw Group, South Africa, Paul van Koppen, NWP, the Netherlands; co chair: Cees Veerman
<b>Presentations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● U San Win, Myanmar Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry, Myanmar</li> <li>● U Aung Kyaw Hmuu, Myanmar Ministry of Transport, Myanmar, and Paul van Meel, Royal HaskoningDHV, the Netherlands</li> <li>● Tjitte Nauta, Deltares, the Netherlands, and U Kyaw Myint Hlaing, Myanmar Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Myanmar</li> </ul>

### ***'Lack of reliable data is a challenge'***

The very well attended session took place Friday Morning in the Van Leeuwenroom II, WTC, Rotterdam and was moderated by David Schaub-Jones, Seesaw Group, South Africa. Former Dutch minister Cees Veerman, asked by the Government of Myanmar to assist in drafting an Integrated Water Resource Management Plan for the country, emphasized in his opening speech that the lack of reliable data is a big challenge. He also stated the importance of capacity building and learning by doing, central theme in all the presentations.

U San Win from the Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry drew a picture of a country that is vulnerable to the effects of climate change due to geographical factors, like the long coastal line, population growth, deforestation and a high dependency on natural resources. According to San Win the agricultural sector is the biggest user of water for irrigation. To ensure that there is enough water available in the future the government established a National Water Resource Committee which represents amongst others 13 different ministries. Communication between all these parties is a big challenge, was one of the main messages.

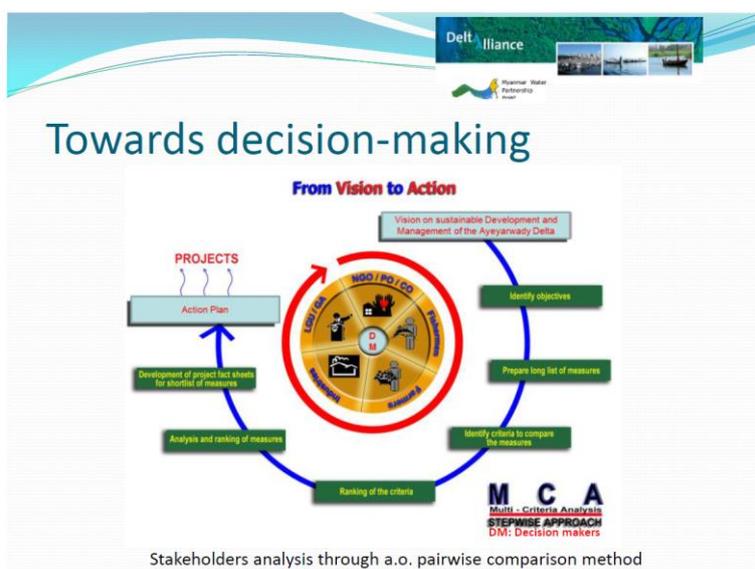




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Tjitte Nauta from Deltares talked about his several missions to Myanmar to help the country to develop an integrated water management plan. The past two years Deltares has developed multiple decision support tools which makes it possible to make the calculations needed to study measures and scenarios for the management of coastal zones and rivers. He emphasized the need of good monitoring programmes and the sharing of data. Because there is not enough reliable local data available Deltares used international data from several resources to develop the decision tools. Leapfrogging to the latest technology is the way to go and capacity building is crucial and needs urgent attention, according to Nauta. Training is also a crucial element for a successful implementation of the integrated water management plan.



During the session two case studies were presented. One by Aung Kyaw Hmuu, Directorate of Water Resources and Improvement of River Systems, who talked about a project to quantify the impact of rainfall and land-use change on the future stream flows to the Inle Lake. The other case study was presented by Zaw Lwin Tun, director of the Irrigation Department of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation. Main objectives of the project to restore the PanHlaing River are to achieve the original channel morphology of PanHlaing River especially in the manner of drainage purpose and navigation and to supply the fresh water for agricultural development scheme and Industrial zone. Furthermore the project focuses on the prevention of sea water intrusion (saline water).

### Building blocks for a delta approach

This Session is part of nine sessions, where the 'Delta Approach' in nine deltas was discussed. Also, the twelve 'Building Blocks' for a delta approach were introduced; preconditions for sustainable delta management. The building blocks are essential for a delta approach and can be applied in all deltas. For the twelve building blocks and the online magazine and video 'The Delta Approach' see: [www.dutchwatersector.com/delta](http://www.dutchwatersector.com/delta)

