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BURMA

United States-Burma Partnership for Democracy, Peace, and Prosperity

2012



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OVERVIEW

The United States recognizes the ongoing reform efforts to build a modern, peaceful, and democratic country and welcomes the opportunity to deepen engagement with the people of Burma and their government. Consistent with the aspirations of the people of Burma, the United States Government is launching a joint partnership with the Government of Burma to advance democratic reform, and lay the groundwork for a peaceful and prosperous future.

The Partnership for Democracy, Peace, and Prosperity involves a three-step process:

1. Affirming a joint statement of principles in support of the democratic transition.
2. Working together to develop a joint action plan prioritizing key areas.
3. Honoring commitments made in the joint action plan to benefit the people of Burma.

JOINT STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES

Recognizing that the sustainability of Burma's democratic and economic transition depends on a fully consultative approach with the people of Burma, together the United States Government and the Government of Burma affirm the following principles to advance development and the democratic reform process:

- **Inclusivity:** Stakeholders throughout the country, including governmental and non-governmental parties, will be involved in the reform process and have an opportunity for meaningful participation in shaping the future of the country.
- **Transparency:** The public will have greater access to information as part of a broader effort to promote open society and open government.
- **Accountability:** The reform process and economic development will benefit all of the people of Burma, respond to their demands, and strengthen the checks and balances that will ensure government is responsive and accountable to its people.
- **Local Empowerment:** A primary goal will be to build human and institutional capacity at all levels to enable the people of Burma to play an active role in reform, development, and peace building.



FACT SHEET CONTINUED

AREAS OF COOPERATION

U.S. assistance builds on a long legacy of support to the people of Burma and focuses on new and expanded collaboration in the following priority areas.

- **Democracy, Human Rights, and the Rule of Law:** Supporting and accelerating the political and economic reform process through targeted assistance to promote: the rule-of-law, respect for human rights, a robust civil society, a vibrant Parliamentary system, independent media, effective measures to counter trafficking in persons, and preparations for a free and credible national election in 2015.
- **Transparent Governance:** Supporting a transparent, accountable government that is responsive to the needs of the people of Burma and civil society and committed to inclusive, equitable, and transparent economic growth
- **Peace and Reconciliation:** Supporting peace processes to ensure an equitable and inclusive approach that respects the human rights of all involved, providing humanitarian assistance to conflict-affected and vulnerable populations in border areas and the interior of the country, and working to address the root causes of long-running conflicts and ethnic tensions.
- **Prosperity:** Improving health, food security, economic opportunity, and livelihoods in support of the Millennium Development Goals.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUE

Consistent with the principles above and international standards of aid effectiveness, the United States and the Government of Burma commit to developing a joint action plan prioritizing steps each party will take to support the reform process. This Partnership will ensure that U.S. assistance in the above areas is met by commensurate Government of Burma actions. The U.S. is putting forward a new model of development, one in which we demand more from our partners but provide more in return and are able to leverage the private sector, academia, and other donor expertise to deliver results.