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Roundtable Meeting, 06 April 2016, 09.00 AM to 01.00 PM

Local Elections in Myanmar

Venue: International Relations Department, Yangon University.

In January around 100.000 candidates across Myanmar contested for the 16,785 seats as Ward and Village Tract administrators. These elections are crucially important: local administrators play key roles in development, law and order, dispute resolution and land administration. In most situations they are the primary point of contact between the state and citizens. Nevertheless, this exercise in local democracy has remained largely undebated in national academic, policy and donor circles, and has received scant attention in the media. This roundtable meeting brings together scholars, consultants and civil society representatives who have followed the recent local elections in different localities. We will discuss experiences with the election process and the results, as well as reflect on the future role of the Ward and Village tract administrators in the current political transition of Myanmar.

Programme

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| 09:00 – 09:15 | Welcome Professor Chaw Chaw Sein, International Relations, Yangon University |
| 09:15 – 10:00 | The local election system and experiences from the field Susanne Kempel, Independent consultant |
| 10:00 – 13:00 | Roundtable debate All participants with experiences from the field provide short presentations. |
| 13:00 – 14:00 | Lunch |

The meeting will be held in English. Please inform about your attendance to hmk@diis.dk by *04 April 2016*.