

Kachin Uniting for a Future Without Drug Use

Report from the May 2019 Whole System in the Room Workshop



May 5-7, 2019

Agape Hall, Myitkyina, Kachin, Burma

In Support of the USAID/Burma Local Works effort to address the Kachin State HIV/AIDS and Opioid Drug Epidemic



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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**Kachin Uniting for a Future Free of Drug Use
Whole System in the Room Workshop**
May 7 - 9, 2019

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Whole System in the Room Workshop Participants



For More Information

USAID/Missions and OUs seeking information about the Whole System in the Room or incorporating innovative design methodologies in their project or activities, please contact: labinnovation@usaid.gov

For more information on the Local Works program please contact localworks@usaid.gov.

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WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Background

Myanmar is the second largest opium producer in the world, and perhaps the world's largest methamphetamine producer. In Kachin State, the easy availability of cheap, strong heroin has fueled addiction, particularly among underemployed young people and migrant laborers. Sharing needles for heroin use has resulted in very high levels of HIV and hepatitis infection.

Methodology

To stimulate local action and help coordinate ongoing efforts to address the drug and HIV/AIDS epidemic in Kachin, the USAID/Burma Local Works Program and the Kachin-based Steering Committee organized a three-day multi-stakeholder-driven workshop on May 7 through 9 in Myitkyina, Kachin. Organizers used the Whole System in the Room workshop methodology, a participatory and highly interactive approach to developed by FHI 360 and the USAID Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade (EGAT) Bureau, to promote cross-sectoral collaboration.

Specific goals of the WSR workshop were to:

- Develop a common vision for addressing the opioid drug and related-HIV/AIDS epidemic in Kachin;
- Analyze the current reality and collectively decide what needs to change;
- Generate ideas and initial work plans about how and what to change; and
- Commit to short-term (three months) and long-term (five years) implementation plans towards the common vision.

More than 100 participants came together over the three days to reflect on the past, map and prioritize present trends affecting drug abuse in Kachin, envision a desired future, find common ground to start moving and develop several action plans to get underway.

See Annex A, for the list of participants and invitees.

This report starts with the culmination of the groups' work by featuring Common Ground and Action Plans in the first two sections. The last three sections provide summaries and notes of the self-managed exercises examining the past, present and future of drug abuse in Kachin.

COMMON GROUND – THE AGENDA FOR ADDRESSING DRUG ABUSE AND ADDICTION IN KACHIN

Common ground refers to the articulated goals and collective will of the participants that convened for the WSR workshop in Kachin. The elements of Common Ground include only those statements and objectives that every participant agreed to include. Other statements were set aside.

At the end of Day 2, participants **developed six areas of Common Ground** to stand on for future work to address drug abuse in Kachin. Through a self-organized narrowing and refining process, the participants developed **three Value and Policy Statements**, and **three objective statements** for action. The statements are the following:

Values and Policy

“WE, the people of Kachin united in our commitment to addressing drug abuse, place the highest possible value on the: fulfillment of human rights, healthy and prosperous human development of our citizens, elimination of discrimination particularly among those affected by drug abuse, and establishment of a drug-free society and Kachin state committed to the rule of law.

WE intend to establish a common educational curriculum that promotes all communities of Kachin working together towards a drug-free society. The policy action shall be founded in human rights and evidence and enable Kachin’s citizens to exercise their rights.

WE plan to amend existing laws in order to reduce the use and production of drugs. We highlight the promotion of crop substitution for farmers growing opium poppy as an initial effective approach.”



Common Ground are the core elements that all stakeholders agreed on to move forward to address drug abuse in Kachin.

Projects and Actions

“Rehabilitation. In order to achieve a well-developed society and promote healthy lifestyles, people, especially current and former drug users, need access to physical and mental support and treatment. WE intend to provide access to these services as well as vocational training to promote improved family livelihoods and incomes so that rehabilitating drug users can work toward the economic prosperity of their families.

Prevention for non-drug users: OUR drug prevention curriculum will use social media platforms to educate youth, adults, parents, and all communities about the harm of drug use. In this way, WE hope all people will participate in drug prevention activities and youth will build their self-esteem, be physically fit, and families will have warmth/love that they need. WE plan to create job opportunities for the drug users to be able to escape the perils of drug addiction.

Health Services: WE aim to provide health services equally to all drug users without discrimination. In this way, WE hope to reduce drug use consequences and work together towards universal health coverage.”

ACTION PLANS

On Day 3 of the workshop, after confirming Common Ground, participants broke into **six volunteer-led committees** to develop initial short-term and long-term action plans designed to support the intentions established in Common Ground. The initial work plans, along with committee membership and resource needs, of each of these committees are presented here:



Volunteer teams articulated the short-term and long-term actions to support the elements contained in Common Ground

1. Values & Policy Committee

Short-term Plans: Engage a diverse set of public and religious institutions to develop an educational campaign to raise awareness about the effects of drug abuse as well as the human rights that rehabilitating users inherently hold.

Long-term Plans: Conduct a series of workshops and other outreach actions with the intention of creating more receptive treatment centers and support conditions for rehabilitating users.

Key Advocates/Committee Members: Fr. Mung Mai (R.C.M), Lasang Brang Aung, Sr. Mung Lawt (M.D.M), Bishop Hkawng Ze, Sr. Zau Doi (R.C.M), L Hkawn Nan (KWU), Sr. Jelody (A.G.D.C 1), Hpaw Tsen Tang Gun (J.W.H), Pht. Htoi Bawk (W.M.R), Hkang Du Brang Shawng (K.B.C), Seng Awng, Htu Bu (Tanai R.C), Sr. Nhkang Pawlu (R.C), Sr. Min Seng (Putao), Sann Ra (K.W.U), Htoo Htoo Mung (M.D.H), Ngetident (MAM), Mg Tu (LW), Kyaw Li (MAM), Brang Shawng, Bawm Swang, Tan Lin (MAM)

Resources Needed: Funding, technical assistance (TA), involvement of religious institutions, building(s)/physical locations for treatment center

2. Rehabilitation Committee

Short-term Plans: Assess the current level of rehabilitation resources (centers/patient, qualified technicians, physical therapy, vocational training opportunities, and peer-to-peer support programs) available for drug users seeking support.

Long-term Plans: Establish vocational training center(s) for rehabilitating drug users supported by mental health facilities that include training in agriculture and husbandry, mechanics, carpentry and trade as well as community integration. Work with potential employers to establish a labor market for reintegrating users.

Key Advocates/Partners: Sr. Labang Gam Awng, Sr. Ting Ying, Sr. Hkun Naw, Sr. Ja Yaw, Srn. Hkawn Tawng, Sr. Zau Bawk, Rev. Drn Thein Oo, Rev. Zahkung Yaw Ting, Lahtaw Seng Myu, Hkawn Zau Jat, Nchyaw Naw Seng

Resources Needed: Authorization, physical location/building, technicians and experts, funding for educational materials and staff, vocational machinery and implements

3. Prevention Committee

Short-term Plans: Determine the target area and conduct an assessment on the number of opium farmers and drug processors, dealers, and users in Kachin. Use the information to organize prevention task forces (by neighborhood, village, township, etc) and develop an eradication strategy.

Long-term Plans: Adopt top-down and bottom-up communications strategies to raise awareness and change public attitudes about drugs by identifying and promoting champions. Mobilize arts and culture programs related to prevention, and social marketing to discourage drug use and production.

Key Advocates/Partners: Htu Raw(RCM), Ja Roi (RCM), Mary Lu Pan (RCM), Ja Bu (RCM), Nu Nu Aung (AKYU), Tu Mai (DPI), Lamai Ja Li Awng, Indawgyi, Rev. Ndu Zau Awn, Rev. Zatang Lum Ze, Naw Awng, Rev. Hkaw Bawm, Bp Fohn Zau Lai, Khan Mai, Slg Maran Gum Ja Naw

Resources Needed: Technical assistance, partnership with media and communications experts, funding for staffing, communications materials

4. Fight Against Drugs Committee

Short-term Plans: Conduct a fact finding mission on the extent of opium poppy farming and a political economy analysis on opium poppy crop substitution. Engage farmers and the government in a forum/dialogue on crop substitution.

Long-term Plans: Launch a government advocacy/engagement strategy that includes research, media outreach, and religious leader support for legal reforms.

Key Advocates/Partners: Sr. Nhkum Tang Gun, Sr. Lashu Brang Lat, Sr. Hpawnat Brang Nan, Sr. Laha Hkawng Lum, Sr. Galau Sau Bawm, Sr. James Zung Ding, Rev. Hpala Lum Hkawng, Shy. Chaw Zang Lum Naw, Shy. Hpau Dut Lu htoi.

Resources Needed: NA

5. Treatment Committee

Short-term Plans: Conduct an awareness raising campaign on the effects of drug abuse and engage government and other authorities in dialogue to prevent activities related to drug cultivation, production and trade. Assess current level and quality of counseling services available for drug users and their families. Promote peer support programs among drug users.

Long-term Plans: Establish a health center in every township and mobile clinics in remote areas of Kachin supported by health committees. Make direct links



between displacement camps and medical services. Integrate the effects of drugs into the school curriculum. Stimulate a market for the products of crop substitution programs.

Teams shared their action plans with others to build support and awareness of everyone's plans and ideas.

Key Advocates/Partners: Sumlut Gam Ze, Aung Kyaw Zin, Seng Nu Pan, Seng Nu Pan, Lum Dai, Marip Aung, Sr. Naw Iar, Dee Yaw Sar, Justina, Seng Nu Pan, Ko Mung Hkon, Sr. Tu Lum, Sr. Monica, Lu Aawn.

Resources Needed: Staffing, medical supplies, training/capacity strengthening, data/evidence and monitoring support, food and nutritional supplies, venue

6. Drug Education Committee

Short-term Plans: Generate interest and buy-in among teachers and donors about incorporating drug education content into the school curriculum. Assess the opportunity and develop a strategy and supporting materials to engage the government with a proposal.

Long-term Plans: Gather information, insights and perspectives from doctors, rehabilitated drug users and others to develop content on the effects of drug use, life in rehabilitation centers, and reflections from users. Involve teachers, doctors from rehabilitation centers and drug users in the development of the content.

Key Advocates/Partners: Joseph (Light Mission)

Resources Needed: NA

These action plans are nascent. The small actions initiated by the WSR Meeting participants can grow into bigger ventures, and inspire related initiatives by other actors seeking to address drug use Kachin.

SELF-MANAGED EXERCISES

This section includes details from the workshop proceedings examining the past, present and future of drug abuse in Kachin.

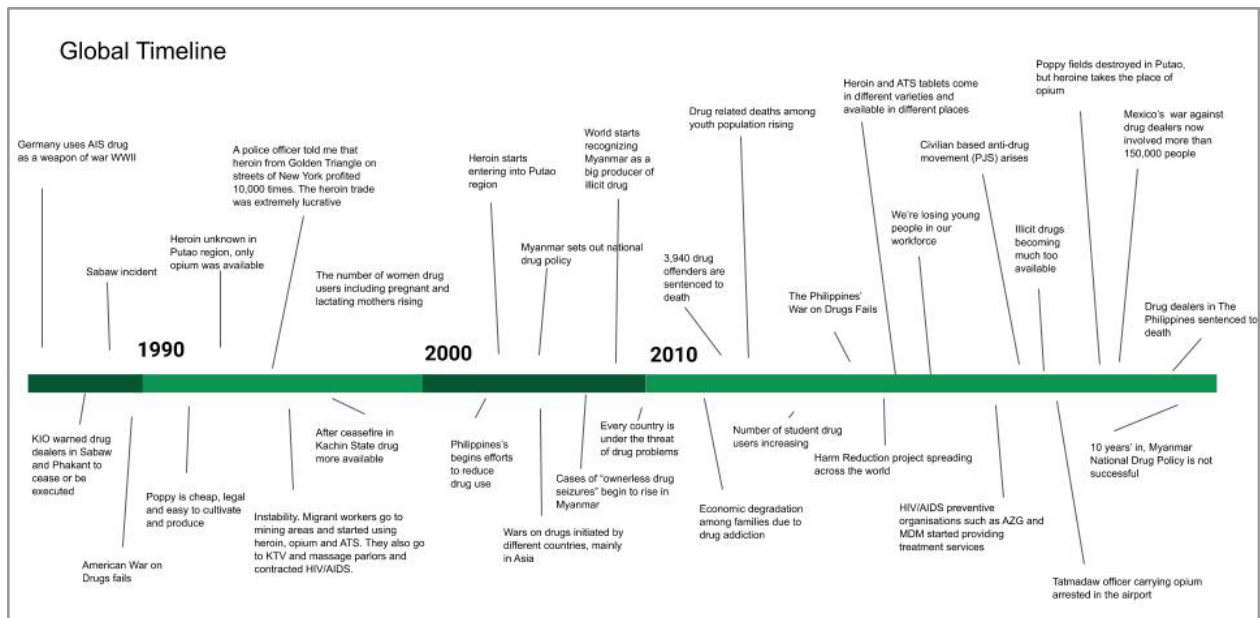
Focus on the Past: Timeline (Day 1)

Participants created three timelines of events and milestones to establish a common understanding of drug abuse in Kachin, the global context of drug abuse, and the personal lives of participants themselves. Mixed groups (one participant from each stakeholder group) engaged with this information to craft narratives describing the context and people convened.

On the **Global Timeline**, participants listed key events and milestones affecting drug abuse.

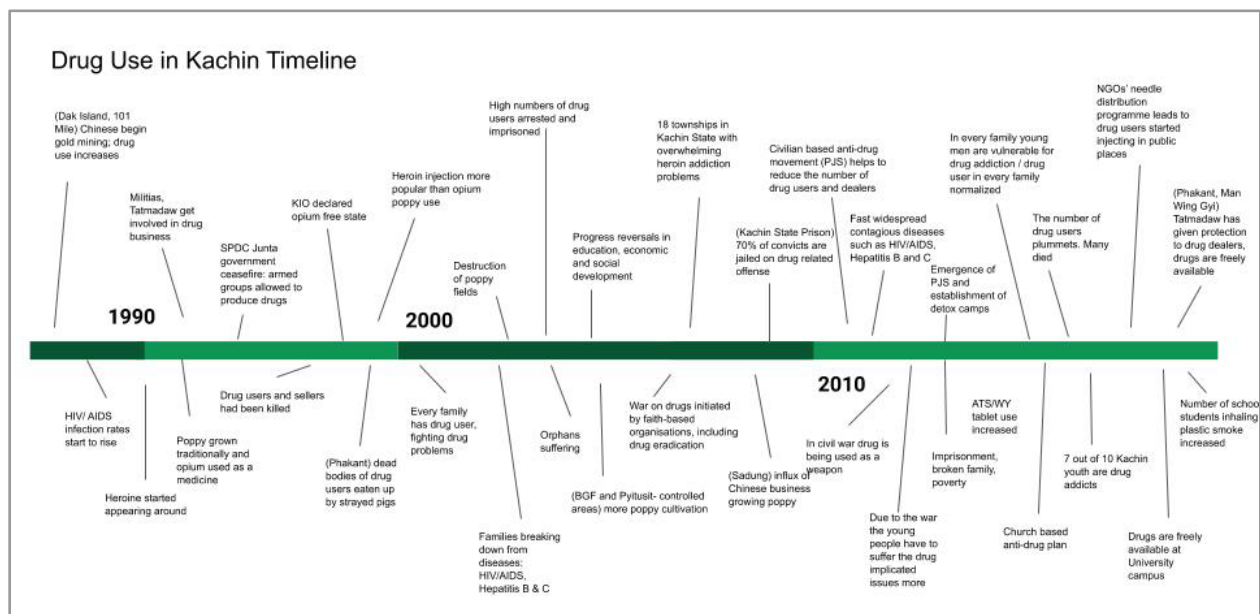


Participants recorded significant events from their personal lives, the global context and the context of drug use in Kachin.



In their review, mixed groups highlighted a growing availability of illicit drugs as well as the proliferation of state responses to drug abuse.

The **Drug Abuse in Kachin Timeline** includes the key events and milestones related to drug abuse in Kachin State.

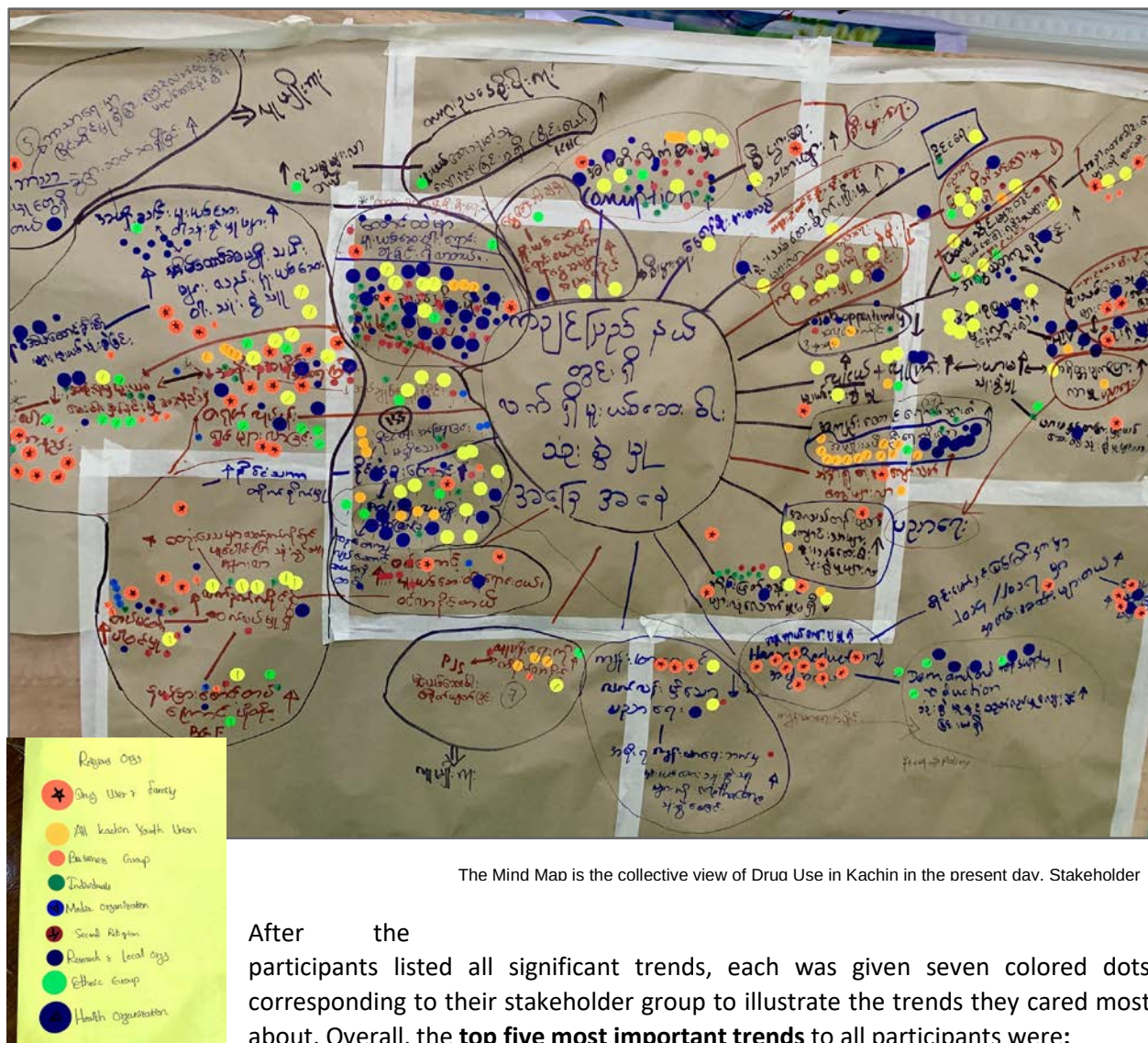


Teams highlighted the transition of opium as a traditional healing drug grown locally to supplement household income to one replaced by stronger, more concentrated versions (including heroin). They observed how the more dangerous version has been used as a treatment for coping with difficult conditions and contains many dangerous addictive properties with cascading destructive effects on families and communities.

The **Personal Timeline** is provided in Annex B. This provided the space for participants to get to know each other by sharing personal stories of key events in their lives between roughly 1990 to present. This allowed them to build connection by creating a common narrative of the history (globally and locally) they share.

Focus on the Present: Mind Map and Key Trends (Day 1)

Participants gathered in an amphitheatre-style seating arrangement to conduct a brainstorming on the current trends affecting drug abuse in Kachin. Participants were asked to state trends and give examples. All ideas were accepted. The trends were recorded on a large diagram that was later referred to as the “Mind Map”. A list of all the trends is provided in Annex C.



The Mind Map is the collective view of Drug Use in Kachin in the present day. Stakeholder

After the participants listed all significant trends, each was given seven colored dots corresponding to their stakeholder group to illustrate the trends they cared most about. Overall, the **top five most important trends** to all participants were:

1. Declining commitment to the rule of law in Kachin (receiving 14% of all dots)
2. Increasing corruption among public officials (8%)
3. Declining quality of governance and public administration (8%)
4. Rise in the incarceration of female prisoners (5%)

5. Growing perception drugs are part of genocidal policy by national government (5%)

The **most important trends by stakeholder group:**

Stakeholder Group	Trends
Faith-based Groups (146 dots)	Declining commitment to the rule of law (21) Growth of corruption (18) Decline in quality of administration (13)
Drug users and families (65 dots)	Expansion of harm reduction programs (10) Declining involvement of police in drug eradication efforts (7) Declining quality of governance and public administration (6)
Kachin Youth (41 dots)	Rise in the incarceration of female prisoners (12) Decline in the quality of governance and public administration (7) Growing perception that drugs are part of a genocidal policy by the national government (6)
Business Groups (14 dots)	Declining involvement of government in drug eradication efforts (3) Reduction in the number of potential future leaders (2) Increasing involvement of the Tatmadaw in drug trade (2)
Kachin Citizens (52 dots)	Decline in the commitment to the rule of law (14) Increasing corruption among public officials (7) Declining number of rehabilitation centers (6)
Researchers and Local CSOs (67 dots)	Decline in the commitment to the rule of law (15) Rising number of female drug use (9) Increasing corruption among public officials (7)
Media (16 dots)	Increasing involvement of the Tatmadaw in drug trade (5) Rise in the number of drug users that are also heads of families (2) Shrinking amount of political solutions to the crisis (2)

Ethnic Groups (33 dots)	Increasing influence of Chinese businesses (4) Declining involvement of government in drug eradication efforts (4) Declining number of efforts aimed at reducing drug supply and demand (4)
Health Services Groups (75 dots)	Decline in the commitment to the rule of law (16) Growing perception that drugs are part of a genocidal policy by the national government (8) Rise in the instance of HIV/AIDS cases related to drug use (8)

Focus on the Present: Key Trends (Day 2)

After generating the mind map, stakeholder groups created a list of the trends most important to their group. The purpose of this exercise was to help the participants discover the core concerns of the different stakeholder groups and find out what they were doing now and what they wanted to do in the future to address these trends.

Focus on the Future: Scenario Planning (Day 2)

The Facilitator told the participants to imagine it was the year 2029 and look back to the WSR. Much work has been going on in the last



ten years to improve drug abuse in Kachin. The

progress achieved in that time and challenges surpassed was up to the mixed groups to decide and experience. Their goals of eliminating drug abuse and supporting survivors achieved. Each group was now to discuss and come to consensus on just exactly what had been done to arrive at this point.

What had been done that was new, creative, and different from the way they used to work in the past? They were told to “dream big, think new, think outside the box, and think creatively”. Several groups developed a presentation (skit, interview, drama, song, radio show, etc.) to share their experience.

Following future scenarios, the workshop moved to Common Ground and Action Planning. Results from those sessions are provided earlier in this report.



Stakeholder groups developed reports outlining what they are currently doing, what they are not doing and what they wish they could do to

ANNEXES

A. Participant List and Contact Information

	Name	Organization	Phone #	Email
	Media, Politics, Lawyer			
1	M. Gum Ja Naw	Kachin Democratic Institute	09-793407092	nawmein@yahoo.com
2	M Khum Mai	Kachin Democratic Institute	09-793486277	
3	L.Brang Lat	Tang Hpre RCM	09-259426055	
4	Mr. Gannes	GNA Legal service Ltd		gannestiasnet123@gmail
5	Mr Soe Win	Gurkha Youth		
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8	Sr Naw Lar	RC	09-47005500	
9	Hpt Htoi Bauk	WMR	09-259710624	
10	Hpaw Tsen Tang Gum	JWH (Ma Deng). NK	09-9765432706	
11	La Wawm	Myitkyina ginwary	09-9792072620	
	Religious Organizations			
12	Jelody	AG0DC(1)	09-43022039	
13	Deyow SA	AG-DC (1)	09-258163120	
14	Marylapan	R.C	09-770816173	
15	Ja Gu	R.C	09-456604772	
16	Paul Tu Rawl	R.C	09-43116970	
17	Rev.Hpala Lun Hkawng	KBC	09-788695268	
18	Rev Hkaung DaBrang Shawng	KBC	09-790762035	
19	Bishop Khaung Ze	COG	09-43022448	

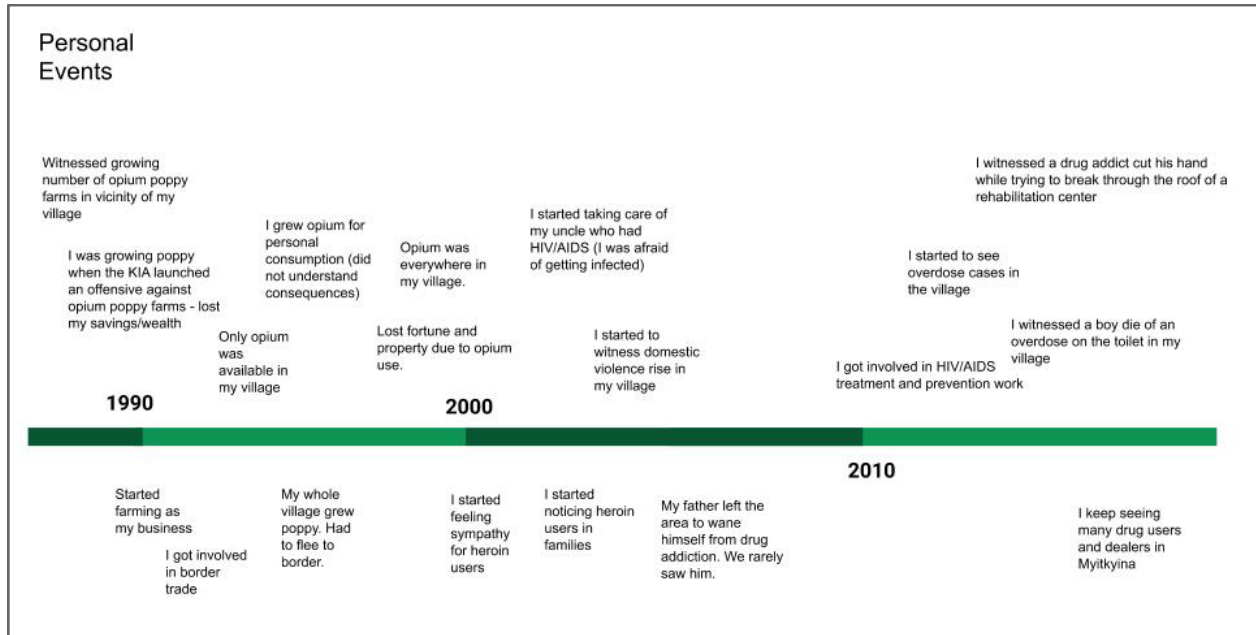
20	Joseph	Light Missison	09-253357404	
21	Hpt. Gawlu Htu Lun	WMR	09-400039851	
22	Hpt Sum Lut Gan Ze	KBBC	09-770300126	
	Research and Local NGOs			
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	Kachin Citizens			

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45	Rev. Q Dau Hkawng	KBC	09-793907153	ngabaid1975@gmail.com
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50	Bawm Sau	RC	09-791150121	
51	Nchyaw Naw Seng	WMR	09-36067969	
	Religious Organizations			
52	Sr. monica	Hope center (RCM	09-760585407	
53	G. Hkawn Tawng	Hope center (RCM	09-400046083	
54	Sara Naw Awng	R.C	09-458416481	
55	Sr, Kareng Brang Shawng	KBC	09-265706572	
56	Laha Hkawng Lum	WMR	09-790322612	
57	Labang Gam Awng	WMR	09-771448606	
58	Rev. Ohn Thein Oo	KBC	09-62197245	
59	Rev. Dau Lum	AOG	09-440225709	
60	Rev. Lum Dau	AOG	09-400036268	
61	Rev. Zahkung Yaw Ting	WMR	09-47005510	
62	Sr. Hpaunat Brang Nan	KBC	09-770025029	
63	Sara Nhkum Tang Gum	WMR		
64	Bawn Hkaw	Bawathit center	09-791797793	
	Ethnic and Cultural Groups			
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66	U Zung Bawn	Lachid Culural	09-2402308	
67	U Lum Ze	Lhavo cultural	094710 4994	
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70	Rev. Dr Zaw Tu	ICM	09-440000624	
71	Bishop Set Nawng	ICM	09-793071746	
72	Bishop John Zauli	Anglican	09-777429338	johnzauli@gmail.com
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74	Rev Nbu Zau Awng	Anglican	09-781662867	
75	SLg. Marip Awng	Anglican	09-400004156	
76	Lamai ja Li Awng	Anglican	09-401547309	
77	Ngagyang Seng Awng	KBC	09-400046486	
78	Htu Bu	R.C	09-440006387	
	Youth and Women Groups			
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80	Fr.John Mung Mai	Myitkyina Diocese	09-401797311	mungmai18@gmail.com
81	Myu Jat Awng	Akyu	09-766730459	
82	Ja Yaw	Ram Hkye Shalat	09-427254688	shahoiJaYa@gmail.com
83	Ja Awng	Htoi Gender	09-265539489	jaawng92@gmail.com
84	Lu Awn	Htoi Gender	09-786163958	Luawng21@gmail.com
85	Kyang Ze	Akyu	09-777894151	luksingahze@gmail.com
86	Lum Naw	Akyu	09-696170843	lumnawchawzang@gmail.com
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88	Nyein Chan Thu	YMCA	09-790730923	Inyeinchan@gmail.com
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91	Htoo Htoo Maung		09-894969429	

92	Shwe Zin Aye		09-26659288	
93	Tu Mai	AHRN		
94	Myo Thu Kyaw	AHRN		
95	Dr. Aung Kyaw Lin	MAM	09-972656925	
96	Jaw Li	MAM	09-9681180581	
97	Ngwa Ti Duet	MAM	09-458423394	
	Health Organizations			
98	Than Lin	MDM	09-404016032	thanlin.star@gmail.com
99	Mohn Lodd	MDM	09-400058324	cmo.hopin.com
100	Hkwan Zet	Metta Development Foundation	09-400037170	
101	Seng Nu Re	Metta Development Foundation	09-790415094	
102	Hpala Lum Dai	Metta Development Foundation	09-779534001	
103	Seng Nu Pan	MDM	09-400026511	cmo.mkn.mdmmyanmar@gmail.com
104	Seng Nu NU Pan	Metta Development Foundation	09-445863727	
105	Ja Roi	RCM	09-400031594	sdmyjroi@gmail.com
106	Htu Raw	RCM	09-400050899	kjhturaw@gmail.com
107	Awng Lat	RCM	09-440000266	
108	Kyaw Min Thant	AHRN	09-450543989	kyawminthant1991@gmail.com
109	Hpawdaw Naw Htoi	HI	09-793810994	mulinaw.mhk@gmail.com

B. Personal Timeline



C. Spreadsheet of Trends from Mind Map

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ZRmb6jTFBmufCkkROKFnI5l41t5RVakD8aXPtiCHlcY/edit?usp=sharing>

D. Workshop Agenda

Kachin Uniting for a Future without Drug Use

Whole-System-in-the-Room -- Agenda (*Subject to Change*)

May 7-9, 2019 | Agape Hall, Myitkyina, Kachin

The Whole System in the Room is designed to create space and encourage forward-looking deliberation and collaboration across the full range of system actors to create strategies to eradicate opioid drug abuse and associated diseases.

Tuesday, May 7, 2019

1PM - 2PM **Welcome, orientation and procedures**-- *Robert Kelly USAID/Burma, Wa Ma Ra Kachin Advisory Committee Member, Riley Abbott and local facilitator*

2PM - 4PM **Session 1: Focus on the Past** -- *Mixed group activity*
Purpose: Appreciate our shared history and examine what the past means for our work on addressing drug use in Kachin

4PM *Break*

4:15PM - 6PM **Session 2: Focus on the Present** (Mind Mapping) -- *Whole group activity*
Purpose: Understand the forces affecting drug use in Kachin, help everyone to speak about the same world

6PM *End of Day 1*

Wednesday, May 8, 2019

8:30AM - 12:00PM **Focus on the Present** (continued)

10:15AM - 10:30AM *Break*

12PM **Session 3: Focus on the Future** -- *Mixed group activity*
Purpose: Imagine a desired future for Kachin

12:30PM - 1:30PM *Lunch*

4PM *Break*

4:15PM - 6PM **Session 4: Discover Common Ground** -- *Mixed group activity*
Purpose: Discover what everyone wants in addressing drug use in Kachin

5:30 - 6PM

End of Day 2

Thursday, May 9, 2019

8:30AM - 10AM

Confirm Common Ground -- *Whole group activity*

Purpose: Confirm what everyone wants in addressing drug use in Kachin

10:00AM - 10:15AM

Break

10:15AM - 11:30PM

Session 5: Action Planning -- *Breakout group activity*

Purpose: Make short- and long-term action plans

11:30PM - 12:00PM

Next Steps and Closing -- *Robert Kelly*

12:00PM - 1:00PM

Closing Lunch