

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape in Myanmar. The image shows a central town with a dense cluster of buildings, surrounded by a patchwork of green agricultural fields. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and the overall color palette is dominated by greens and purples, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The text 'VDB | Loi' is overlaid in the top left corner.

VDB | *Loi*

**THE NEW FRAMEWORK FOR LAND
ACQUISITION IN MYANMAR**

8.30AM - 12.00PM, 11 DECEMBER 2019

PAN PACIFIC HOTEL, YANGON

THE NEW FRAMEWORK FOR LAND ACQUISITION IN MYANMAR

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The brand new law on the Land Acquisition, Resettlement and Rehabilitation is poised to drastically reform the way land can be released by the government for public purposes such as infrastructure projects. How has the process been reformed? Which new institutions are created and what do they do? How can project affected persons object, and when? Who has the last word on the compensation paid? In this unique briefing, we do not offer a legal analysis but rather a practical examination of the new rules. Based on our experience assisting land acquisitions and transfers on the ground, how do our experts think their law will impact projects?

HIGHLIGHTS

- Who determines the compensation and how?
- How is the process supposed to work under the new law?
- When are the public announcements made?
- Who can start a land acquisition process? The government or the company?
- Voluntary transfer of compulsory acquisition: what is best?
- What happens if project affected person refuse the offer?
- Do you need to convert first and acquire second, or the other way around?
- Can the courts get involved under the new law?
- How does the new law compare with the World Bank performance standard No.5?

PROGRAM

TIME	PROGRAMS
8.30am - 9.00am	Registration
9.00am - 9.20am	How does the land acquisition process work? Theory v. Practice, 1894 v. 2019. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Comparing the process• How do the agencies involved change?• What about voluntary transfers?
9:20am - 9:50am	Hot issues in Myanmar Land acquisition compared to past <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Who is eligible for compensation? Does Myanmar Law have the same standards as PS5?• Who determines the compensation?• Calculating the compensation: comparing Myanmar Law with international standards• When should the cut-off date be? Differences between Myanmar Law and PS5?• Compensation in the form of other land: compulsory or up to negotiation?
9.50am - 10.00am	Break
10.00am - 10.20am	PS5 and Good International Practices Presented by IFC
10:20am - 11:00am	Case study: Example of how to carry out a land acquisition strategy. (Actual case example)
11:00am - 12:00pm	Panel Discussion: Does the new law make Land Acquisition smoother, or more difficult?

SPEAKERS



Edwin Vanderbruggen

Senior Partner, VDB Loi

Edwin is the senior partner of VDB Loi and a leading foreign legal advisor living in Myanmar since 2012. A frequent advisor to the Government on transactions and privatizations in energy, transportation and telecom, he is widely recognized for his “vast knowledge” (Legal 500) and his ability “to get difficult things through the bureaucracy” (Chambers, 2016). He advises international financial institutions on their largest Myanmar transactions, oil and gas supermajors, a greenfield multi- billion US\$ telecom project and the Japanese Government on the Thilawa SEZ. He assisted two newly licensed foreign banks setup in Myanmar, acted for the sponsor of an 800MUS\$ urban infrastructure PPP project and works on the vast majority of IPP deals in the country.



Dr. Eva Rossi

Environmental and Social Development Specialist, IFC

Eva Rossi is an Environmental and Social (E&S) Development Specialist with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), World Bank Group (WBG). Eva has 16 years of experience working in the private and public sector -- Oil & Gas, Infrastructure, Social protection -- in Eastern Europe, Central Asia, South East Asia and the Pacific. Thanks to her experience in 42 projects developed in more than 32 countries, she has had the opportunity to support clients in identifying and manage E&S risks and impacts in a way consistent with national legislations and WBG policies and standards. Eva holds a Ph.D. in Social Theory and Research, and a MA in Socio-Anthropology and Development Sociology from the University of Rome La Sapienza, followed by postdoctoral collaborations at the Asia-Europe Institute (AEI) in Malaysia and the European University Institute (EUI) in Italy.



Marc Maung

Manager, VDB Loi

Marc Maung is a Manager in VDB Loi’s Energy and Infrastructure team. He advises sponsors, government agencies and lenders on a wide range of local issues concerning their projects, including hydropower, thermal power, transport infrastructure and real estate. He has deep land acquisition project experience with development and regulatory issues and through his language skills and commercial experience, he is uniquely placed to liaise with government departments on a wide range of project matters.

PANELISTS



Mr. Myo Min Htun

*Assistant Director at the General Administration Department
Ministry of Union Government
Office, Shan State Government*



Ms. Vicky Bowman

*Director
Myanmar Center for responsible
Business*



Ms. Thyn Zar Oo

*Co-Founder & Program Director
Public Legal Aid Network (The
PLAN)*

Attendance at this workshop is free for VDB Loi clients. 30,000 kyats will be charged at the event to non-clients. Seats are limited and confirmation will be given on a first-come, first-served basis. To reserve your place, please contact Thiha Zaw at thiha.zaw@vdb-loi.com (+951 925 3752~756, +95 9 773 788 813)