

## Monthly Activities Report for September

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> Oct 2020

Township: Loikaw and Demawsoe

Village: Daw Ta Ma Gyi Village and Pa Laung Village

Country: Myanmar

The staffs of KEG are facing difficulties to go to the fields trip due to the COVID-19 situation is getting worse day by days in Myanmar. Only some villages are able to go in with the connection of the KnPP township administrators. In doing Kayah State community forestry profile, the KEG staff went to the Daw Ta Ma Gyi village group and Pa Laung Village group on doing survey and questioning about the forestry management and customary forest management system.

The villagers from Daw Ta Ma Gyi village found very interesting in doing community forest areas. Even before the conflict times, those villagers are very interested in maintaining the community forestry. As before, this village had very deep forest surrounding areas however the poor maintaining system from the villagers, every year they faced shifting cultivation problems because the people are did not aware of the environmental issue and also could not able to control to each other's.

After 2012, with the cooperation of KEG, KSWDC and KNPP township administrator went to the fields and giving capacities building training about the environment issue and also sent the villagers to the excursion trip to get general knowledge. Currently, the Daw Ta Ma Gyi village group are maintaining the forestry based on their knowledge. And also, they have the forest committee members to do forestry management as the township levels and villagers' levels. In some of the village have very few of forest committee member, they are facing illegal logging from the other village and face shifting cultivating at the forest areas each year.

Sometime the forest committee did the inspection in the forest areas and if they see illegal logging the committee asked them to pay penalties. Moreover, the community's people are doing on the mapping about the "Kay" and "Kay Htoy" traditionally land and forestry management system such in doing traditional and holy festival because they are more actively to maintain community forest as before.

At Su Pae village that is located in Par Laung village group has community forest areas but they are facing problem because they don't have the forest committee yet. The village head

and old age people are only taken care of the forest. Because of the weak of forest management system, other villagers are coming in to those forest and taking the woods every day.

Due to that reasons, the KEG and KNPP township officers are planning to go there on October and will give the training on the environmental awareness and the advantage of having the community forest committee in their village. And also, we are planning to do the measuring of their community forest areas.

