

Environmental Justice and Rare Earth Mining in Kachin State

 **Date: September 26, 2025 (Friday)**

 **Time: 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM (Myanmar Time/ GMT + 06:30)**

 **Online: [Join Zoom Meeting](#)**

Meeting ID: 873 0136 1914

Passcode: 637734

 **Language: English**

 **Register [here](#). (For Reminders and Calendar Invitation)**

Event Description

The issue of an already much underregulated, decade-long, rampant extraction of rare earth elements (REE) has even more compounded in the post-coup Kachin State. Escalating human, social and environmental will impact generations to come while today's conflict dynamics dictate the governance of extraction. The consequence of inaction is severe, yet policy research struggles to keep pace with unchecked abuse of the environment and communities in Kachin State.

PMND researchers Khin Khin, Nan Yin Yin Tun and Ar Lo Zar will explore the issue from very interesting aspects in their policy briefs: collective actions of local communities, women laborers' situations and human rights, and discuss policy implications as well as recommendations to mitigate and cure the resource curse. You are cordially invited to join our 9th monthly research seminar of the series 'Exploring Contemporary Issues in Myanmar' by the YRI. Policy brief presentations will be followed by a moderated discussion and a Q&A session.

Researchers' Profile

Hnin Wut Yee got a master in public policy, MPP from Lee Kuan Yew School of public policy in 2009 and a master in Human Rights and Democratization, MHRD from University of Sydney in 2012. Hnin has experience and expertise in business and human rights issues including labour rights, land rights and indigenous rights. Hnin's research articles have been published in some media outlets such as the Irrawaddy, Mizzima and academic outlets such as Tea Circle under pseudonym name.

Nan Yin Yin Htun is currently pursuing her studies in the Law Program at President University, Indonesia. Her research interests include international law, criminal law, human rights, and gender equality. She has presented her paper *"Exploring Social Inequalities and Challenges Faced by Women in a Rare Earth Elements Mining Area: A Study of Kachin State, Myanmar"*, which reflects her dedication to addressing pressing social and legal issues affecting marginalized communities.

Ar Lo Zar is a dedicated lecturer with nearly ten years of teaching and research experience in conflict-affected areas, along the Myanmar-China border. He has worked with community colleges and institutes serving internally displaced persons (IDPs) and marginalized communities in Kachin state. His work reflects a strong commitment to education and community development under challenging circumstances.

Event Agenda

2:30 PM	Greetings and Introduction	Strategy and Communication Adviser
2:35 PM	Keynote Speech	Senior Research Adviser
2:40 PM	Introduction to the Researchers	Strategy and Communications Adviser
2:45 PM	Research Presentation	Researchers



3:45 PM	Discussion Session with moderated questions	Researchers moderated by SCA
4:15 PM	Break Time (5 minutes)	
4:20 PM	Plenary discussion with participants	Participants, led by SCA and researchers
4:30 PM	Evaluation	YRI