

## Monthly Activities Report for Feb

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Village: Mawchi

Country: Myanmar

On the month of Feb and till now are the nightmare for all the citizen of Myanmar because of the military coup. However, as a KEG's staffs went to the Phar Saung township, Mawchi at Bu Kho, Khaw Ki village in giving awareness about the beneficial of community forest and giving training about GPS.

Mawchi is the mining areas and located in the hilly areas. Mostly Karen people are living there. In those areas majority of the villagers are doing hill side cultivation and planting cardamom for their livelihood. They are facing lack of education, health care system and also transportation system. They got support from KNPP government for their education and health care. From Mawchi to Boe Kho village took 5 hour drive due to the very lack of transportation.

During the awareness training, one of the villagers said, "we would like to protect our forest as soon as possible because of the Vacant and Virgin Lands Act 2018 and also 2012 land law has been very complicated for most of the areas and we are worry that Laws might apply in our area soon. Before those administration came in to our place we need to protect our holy place and forest by ourselves".

We also got the suggestion from the KNPP township administrator suggested that "we should do water shatter areas, community forest areas, community wildlife forest areas for each village."

Moreover, the villagers are also willing to cooperated in doing of community forest areas, water shade areas and making forest protection rule and regulation for them. Currently, our KEG staffs are able to contacted with the villagers only though phone because of the military coup we are not able to go to their place due to the security issue. As an ethnic people we want federal democracy and we reject military coup.

