

# [The 4<sup>th</sup> ERI-PARI Joint Workshop] Interim Result: Social Survey

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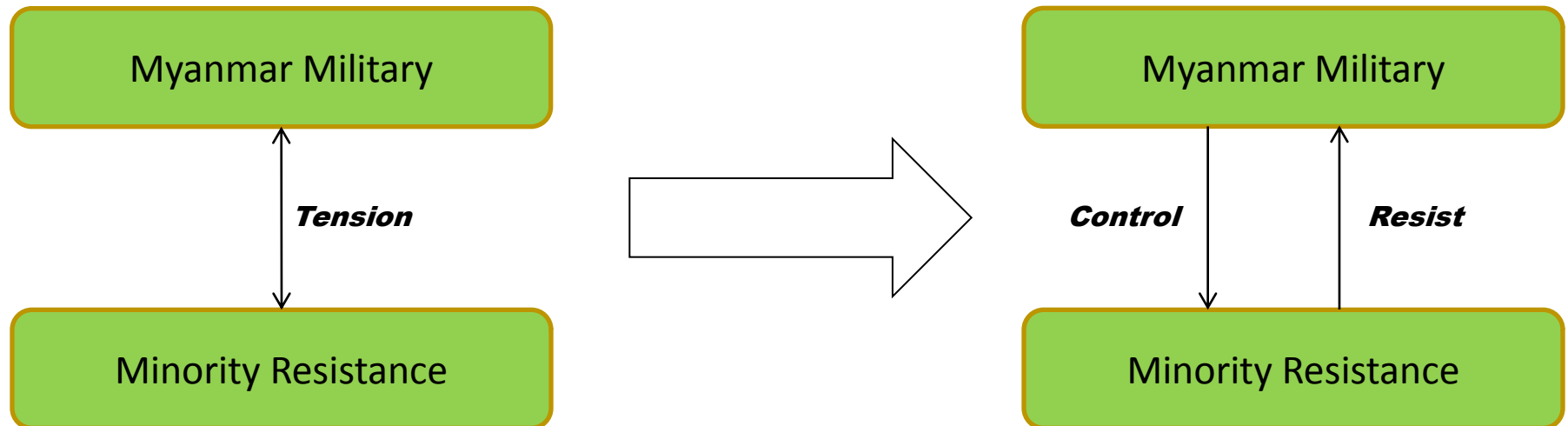
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# A certain narrative

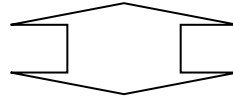
- ① Dam site are located where the serious tension exists between the national army and minority's armed group.
- ② When the dam is cited in such an area, local villagers are relocated and employed as a forced labor, sometimes expelling the political refugees from Myanmar.
- ③ Then, the peace process between the national military and minority resistance is hampered.



# Echoed by Stakeholders

- The dam plans are seen by many as being one of the **strategies used by the military regime to gain foreign support and funding for its ongoing war effort**. It is also viewed as a **strategy to increase and maintain its control over areas of ethnic land after many decades of brutal conflict** (Salween Watch).
- The Burma Rivers Network (BRN) is holding a press conference in Yangon today to urge the Burmese government as well as Chinese and Thai investors to immediately stop plans to build dams on the Salween River, **as this is causing conflict and directly undermining the peace process** (OCT29, 2013, Burma River Network).

# Real Concern by Locals



**GAP?**



**Support**

**Support**

**NGOs:  
to stop dams**

**Minority's armed group:  
to resist the central  
government**

*What are the community's "real" concerns?*

# Mongton Hydropower

## ■ Mong Ton

- Mong Hsat District, Shan State

## ■ Capacity

- 7,000 MW, biggest in SE Asia

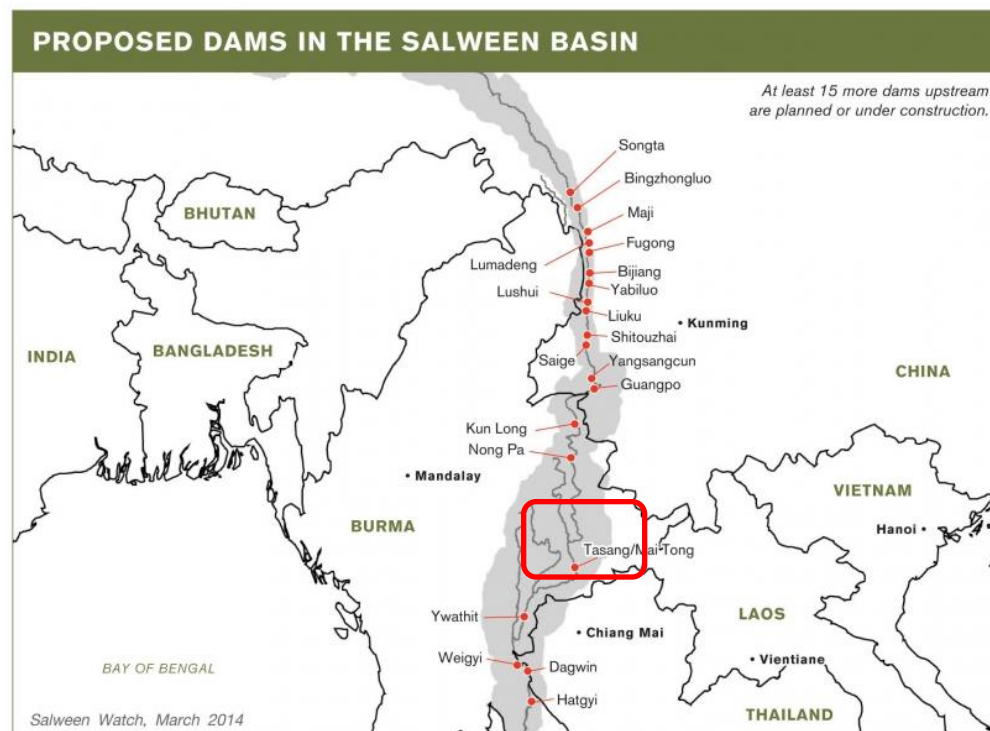
## ■ Developer

- IGE Co.

- Owner: Nay Aung, Son of Former Industry Ministry

- Three Gorges Corporation (Builder)

- It was created in 1993 to construct the Three Gorges Project



## ✂ Tasang?...

- The project formerly named Tasang led by Thai investors has been stalled since 2007.
- As a reincarnation, in Sep 2014, Maw Thar Htwe, the Deputy Minister for Electric Power announced Mongton by IGE and Three Gorges had been approved. (September 19, *The Nation*)

# Approach

## ■ Sample

- Community close to Mongton Hydropower.
- Khun Hein Township, Loilem District, Shan State. 5 villages from 3 village tracts were selected.
- 67 Households, randomly selected, were interviewed with questionnaire.



Village Tract	Village	Total Number of Population (No)	Total Number of Household (No)	Distance from Kali Sub Township (mile)
Tar Kaw	Phan Lann	627	121	14
Tar Kaw	Mat Kat	75	21	19
Woe Lone	Woe Lone	534	177	37
Kyaing Khan	Kyaing Khan	183	38	40
Tar Kaw	Wan Inn	155	28	22

Source\* Household Survey 2015

\* Research is conducted by Myo Zaw Shein, a partner of Eight-Japan Engineering Consultants Inc. in Myanmar 7



# Questionnaire

## Potential Concerns

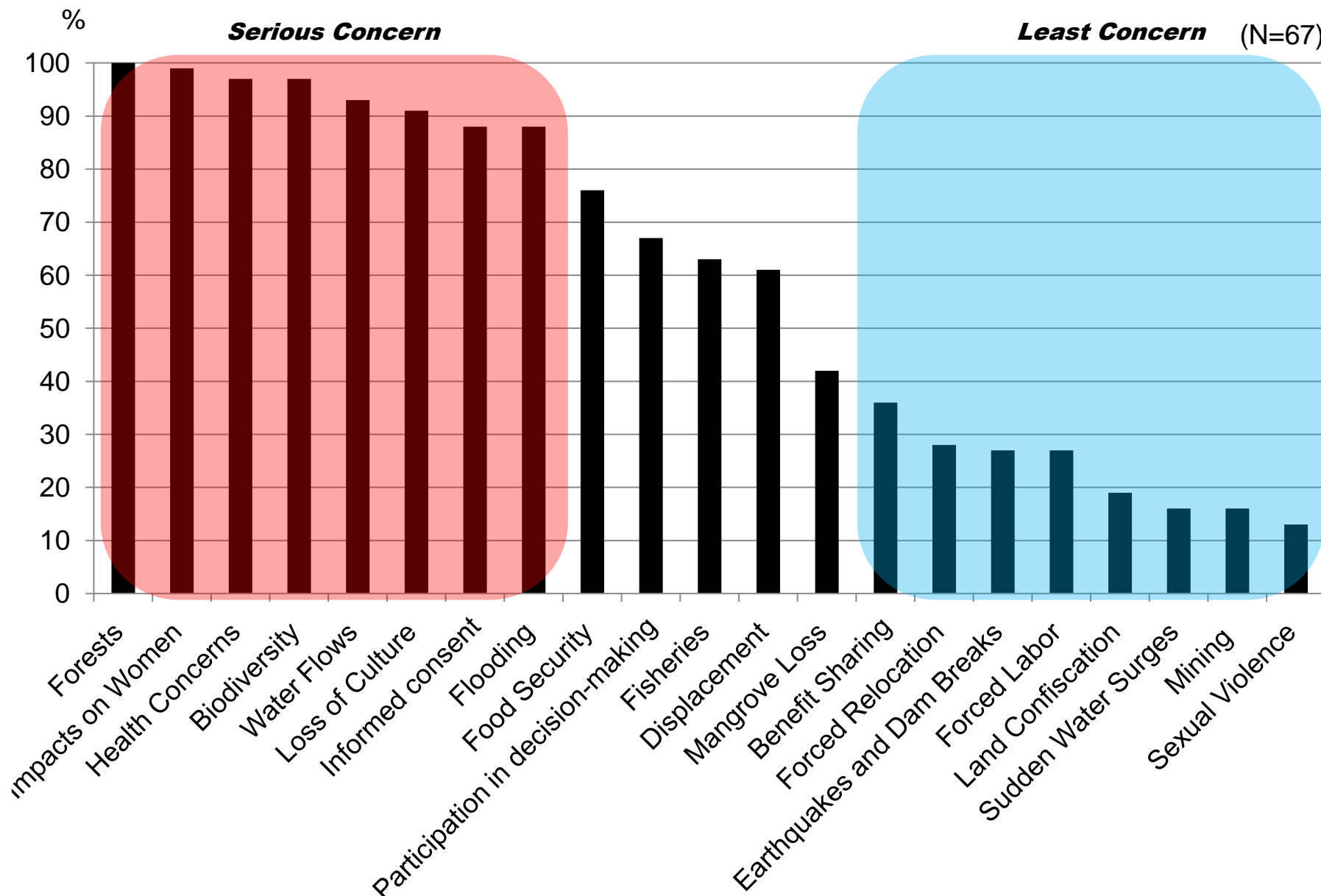
I. Transparency		III-3	Fisheries
I-1	Participation in decision-making	III-4	Water Flows
I-2	Informed consent	IV. Dam Safety	
I-3	Benefit Sharing	IV-1	Earthquakes and Dam Breaks
II. Social Impact of Dams		IV-2	Flooding
II-1	Displacement	IV-3	Sudden Water Surges
II-2	Food Security	V. Militarization	
II-3	Health Concerns	V-1	Forced Relocation
II-4	Impacts on Women	V-2	Forced Labor
II-5	Loss of Culture	V-3	Land Confiscation
III. Environmental Impact		V-4	Sexual Violence
III-1	Biodiversity	VI. Mining	
III-2	Forests	VII. Mangrove Loss	



# What's the result?



# Community's concern of hydro-development



# Conclusion

## ■ Serious Concern

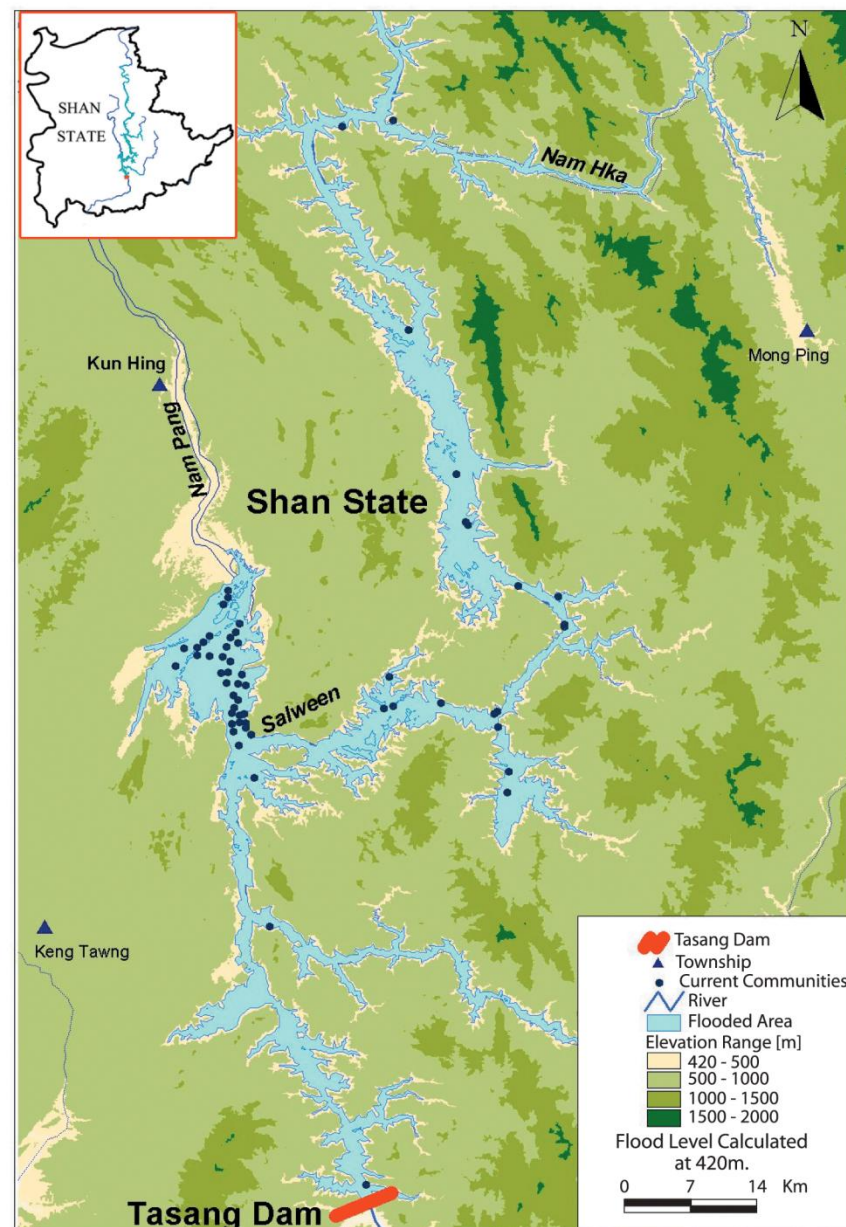
- ☐ Forests Loss, Biodiversity, Water Flows, Flooding
- ☐ Impacts of Woman, Loss of Culture
- ☐ The environmental and societal Impact are perceived as a serious concern.

## ■ Least Concern

- ☐ Forced Labor, Land Confiscation, Forced Relocation, Sexual Violence
- ☐ Benefit sharing, participation in decision-making
- ☐ Human rights issue / active participatory process is not so seriously concerned as in a certain narrative

# Implications

- Against the narrative, human-rights issue is not perceived as a serious concern. This point must always be reconfirmed with governmental officers.
- On the other hand, community concerns the adverse impact on natural resources, on which they depend for their livelihood. Scientific evidence is important to dispel this concern.
- Through an evidence-sharing process, community's participation might be activated. A constructive dialogue including benefit-sharing should begin for more inclusive development.



**Expected Impact of Tasan Dam**