

# Study trip for green economy in Europe

## *Account of the visit of a Myanmar delegation, from 1st to 7th December 2014, in France and Great-Britain, on the occasion of Pollutec fair*

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### Introduction

Green Lotus NGO works on every topic related to sustainable development and green economy in Myanmar for 3 years. This is how Green Lotus founded and currently animates the main multistakeholders platform for the promotion of green economy in this country (« Myanmar National Platform for Dialogue on Green Growth »), launched in July 2014.

From this platform came the idea to organize a both legitimate and diverse delegation, to discover Europe's way to do green economy, during the Pollutec fair, main fair for eco-activities in Europe (and among the world's most famous ones) held in Lyon (France).

The Myanmar delegation gathered ten distinguished personalities, such as members of the Myanmar administration (ministries or big cities), company directors, civil society leaders ... They arrived in Paris on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November for an entire week of meetings and visits.

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### **PARIS**

Green Lotus welcomed the delegation on **Sunday 30th November**. This day was a great opportunity to discover the themes of the program.

The visit of the **Orsay Museum**, from the inside and the outside, is a great example of successful renovation, using long-term conservation materials. A link can be made with the stake of the patrimonial conservation of Yangon. Moreover, the visit of the City of Sciences of the La Villette neighborhood showed the delegation exhibits about robotics, climate change and public transport all over the world.

During the dinner, U Tun Lwin, Burmese specialist on climate change, dedicated his speech to the work of Green Lotus NGO.

The week started on **Monday 1st December** with the visit of the **Halle Pajol**, opened on the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2014. This positive-energy building houses a library, the biggest youth hostel of Paris, shops and a garden. The Hall is covered with 3500 m<sup>2</sup> of photovoltaics solar panels, to allow it to produce its own electricity.

The coffee break has been the occasion to discuss France's energy policy, and its repercussions on the solar field. Nowadays, a solar industry without subsidies struggles to survive. The link between the electric network of the Halle Pajol and the

EDF network (France's main electricity distributor) was noted, also with the long-lasting issue of electricity storage, and the low use of off-grid electricity production.

The delegation then went to the **Cité de l'Architecture** (museum of French architecture), where they focused on the model apartment from the architect Le Corbusier. It represents the standardization of the apartments in the context of an important urban development. Its proportions and its space saving goal are interesting topics for Myanmar, as it gives a concrete example of environment-friendly infrastructure. This visit was also the opportunity to discover the infrastructure of Paris and the great projects of the last twenty years.

The end of the day have been dedicated to the visit of the **Cité Régionale de l'Environnement** (headquarters of several environmental agencies), to meet up with three agencies working on several topics. The ORDIF, regional observatory for waste management in Ile-de-France region, presented the stakes of the waste management in the region, and discussed with the delegation about the potential application of their methods to Yangon and Mandalay. It appeared that the custom of the "waste pickers" in Yangon was necessary, and is a good base for future evolutions. The visit of the SEM "Energies Positif", energy efficiency upgrading company, led to discussions about investments in renewable energy projects in France. It brought up many issues about the financing mechanism and the leverage effect. The delegation then visited the ARENE Ile-de-France, which has been guiding for twenty years the territories of the Ile-de-France region in their sustainable development process, especially about energy and climate. The ARENE team presented its activities and launched a debate about the necessary connections between decentralized cooperation and ecological stakes.

This first day ended at the **gala evening** organized with Abitio, a consultancy firm about international mobility. Among the invited guests were His Excellency Ambassador of Myanmar in France, Han Thu, Pierre Serne, Vice-president in charge of transport at the regional council of Ile-de-France, and the MP and president of the France-Myanmar friendship group, François-Michel Lambert. Company directors currently investing in Myanmar were also present, such as EGIS and SAFEGE (from the Suez company). The evening provided an opportunity for the Burmese delegates to meet committed individuals in France-Myanmar diplomatic relations and sustainable development.

Click on the links below for further information:

Egis : <http://www.egis.fr/>

SAFEGE: <http://www.safege.com/>

Abitio: <http://www.abitio-international.com/>

ORDIF: <http://www.ordif.com/public/ordif/>

ARENE IDF: <http://www.areneidf.org/>

Sem Energies Positif : <http://www.energiespositif.fr/>

Museum of Architecture and Heritage, Paris: <http://www.citechailot.fr/fr/>

## LYON

The Burmese delegation arrived in Lyon on **Tuesday 2d December** for the **opening day of the Pollutec fair, international and professional fair for environment and energy**.

Sylvie Fourn, Pollutec organizer, welcomed the delegation just before a first **guided tour** of the fair, with Marie Lalanne.

The lunch provided the opportunity to **meet with the regional council of the Rhône-Alpes**, represented by Alain Chabrolle, vice-president in charge of environment, and with Nathalie Col, currently working on the topic of decentralized cooperation.

During the afternoon, Green Lotus, with the help of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce (BCC) and UK Trade & Investment (UKTI), organized a reception to **bring together the delegation and British entrepreneurs**. Tim Hughes, from the French-British chamber of commerce, Hannah Davies from the BCC and Wendy Atkinson from UKTI attended the reception.

At the end of this first day on the fair was held a conference entitled « Myanmar, a new Eldorado for environmental activities? », by Green Lotus with the help of UKTI. Several speakers, including members of the delegation, have succeeded one another: Daw Khine Khine New, Secretary General of the Chambers of Commerce Union of Myanmar (UMFCCI), in charge of the Corporate social responsibility, explained the environmental stakes Myanmar is facing. SAFEGE, a Suez Environnement subsidiary, presented its vision of the water issues in Mandalay. Hugh Swire, from Papapump, told the audience about his (great!) experience in Myanmar as a foreign investor.

Click on the links below for further information:

Pollutec fair: <http://www.pollutec.com/>

UK Trade & Investment: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-trade-investment>

UMFCCI : <http://www.umfcci.net/umfcci/index.php>

Suez Environnement : <http://www.suez-environnement.fr/>

On **Wednesday**, the delegation had the opportunity to **visit several booths on every theme**: Water treatment and access, waste management and recovery, renewable energies, energy savings, sustainable cities, public transports, environmentally friendly vehicles, environmental management, renewable materials  
...

On this occasion, the delegation also discovered consulting and engineering activities in several fields, and met many companies, such as Biogaz, Ademe International, BlueSet, and especially Armor, whose marketing manager François

Barreau introduced its flexible photovoltaic films, one of the great innovations of this year's fair.

During the afternoon, UKTI and BCC organized a reception on their booth, where the delegation could **meet British entrepreneurs to discuss their projects in Myanmar**.

The **gala evening**, held by Suez Environnement at La Sucrière in Lyon, was the occasion for the delegation to meet Jean-Louis Chaussade, General Manager of Suez Environnement.

Click on the links below for further information:

Biogaz : <http://www.france-biogaz.fr/>

Ademe International: <http://www.clubinternational.ademe.fr/>

Blueset: <http://www.blue-set.com/>

Armor: <http://www.armor-group.com/>

Birmingham Chamber of Commerce:  
<http://www.bebirmingham.org.uk/page.php?id=29>

Papapump: <http://www.waterpoweredtechnologies.com/papapump>

On **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> December**, after a **last booth visits** focused on energy and waste management, the **Danish company Grundfos, specialized in hydraulic pumps, invited the delegation in its office** to introduce its projects in Myanmar. Frédéric Levallois, international director, and Olivier Hemar, commercial director, welcomed the delegation. During lunchtime, discussions started about the water treatment at Inle Lake.

During the afternoon, the delegation visited the **new water treatment plant Aqualyon, close to La Feysine**. Sewage are treated with the "free culture" process, and then evacuated in the Rhone river. This station opened in March 2011 and is environmentally-friendly.

The day ended with the visit – model size – of the brand new Confluences area in Lyon, at the **Maison de la Confluence (House of Confluence)**. The gradual development and management of this fluvial area will allow the city to double the size of its center. The delegation and the team at the Maison discussed the arrangement negotiation process and environmental questions. U Than Lwin Oo, head of the urban planning and territorial administration Department, at YCDC, got interested in the issues regarding the management of the inhabitants and the mandatory negotiations when building new parts of the city.

Click on the links below for further information:

Grundfos : <http://fr.grundfos.com/>

Aqualyon : <http://www.grandlyon.com/Aqualyon-la-station-d-epuration-de-La-Feyssine.4252.0.html>

Confluence Area: <http://www.lyon-confluence.fr/fr/index.html>

## LONDON

The delegation arrived on **Friday 5th December** to London. Inside the office of British Expertise, they watched a presentation **about the activities of British Expertise regarding “Smart Cities – Low Carbon Infrastructures”**, and **Green Lotus then spoke about the current state of Myanmar economy and the prospects regarding green economy**. A question-and-answer session took place between the British companies in place (IMC Worldwide Limited, Mott MacDonald, Space Syntax Limited, Resurgence ...) and the members of the delegation. The lunch at British Expertise was the occasion to improve the networking, regarding projects in urban architecture, masterplan and communication infrastructures.

During the afternoon, the delegation took the train to **the BRE Innovation Park Watford**, to be welcomed by Richard Hardy, General Director at BRE (Building Research Establishment), and Orivaldo Barros, Director of BRE International. Mr. Barros showed the park and its buildings among the most environmentally-friendly in the world, and hundreds of low-carbon materials and technologies.

The aim of this park is to demonstrate the efficiency of these methods of ecological building, and to give the opportunity for companies to try their technologies and skills in a collaborative way. BRE is also the world leader of **environmental certification**, regarding building, with its label **BREEAM (BRE Environmental Assessment Method)**. Green Lotus and the delegation discussed the possible venue of Orivaldo Barros in Myanmar to develop BRE and work on potential demonstrators.

The Burmese delegation then flew back to Myanmar on the 7th December, and Green Lotus is in touch with its every member regarding the lessons and new projects selected during this week.

Click to the links below for further information:

British Expertise : <http://www.britishexpertise.org/bx/pages/bx.php>

Mott MacDonald: <https://www.mottmac.com/>

BRE Innovation Park Watford: <http://www.bre.co.uk/innovationpark/>

## APPENDIX 1: Members of the delegation

- U WIN KHAING MOE, Director-General of Myanmar Scientific and Technological Research Department at the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST). U Win Khaing Moe is in charge of the development of renewable energy in the country. He has been occupying his post since November 2012.
- U TINT LWIN OO, Deputy Director, Department of Hydropower Planning at Ministry of Electric Power. This Ministry is in charge of developing the electricity network in the country, especially in big cities, and the implementation of hydroelectric dams.
- U KHANT ZAW, Head of Rural Department at Ministry of Livestock, Fishery and Rural Development (MLFRD). U Khant Zaw is in charge of the funding of off-grid renewable energy projects, within 30 MW.
- U SAN OO, Director at Environmental Conservation Department, Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry (MOECAF). This department is in charge of sustainable development projects in the interministerial coordination (including climate change).
- U THAN LWIN OO, Head of Department, City Planning & Land Administration Department, Yangon City Development committee (YCDC). U Than Lwin Oo guided the writing of Yangon masterplan, and will ensure its implementation. He is the head of his department since April 2014.
- U TUN KYI, Committee Member, Mandalay City Development Committee (MCDC). U Tun Kyi is a specialist of water management issues.
- DAW KHINE KHINE NWE, Joint Secretary of the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce (UMFCCI) in charge of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Social entrepreneur in the garment industry, Daw Khine Khine Nwe is a member of the ASEAN's RSE network board of directors.
- U MIN KUN HTAW, Executive Director of GIS (The Global Integrated Service Group Of Companies).
- U AUNG MYINT, General secretary of the Renewable Energy Association Myanmar (REAM). U Aung Myint represents the civil society during the consulting procedures to define the energetic policy of the country.
- U TUN LWIN, Chairman of Myanmar Climate change watch, Former DG of Meteorology Department in Ministry of Transport. U Tun Lwin is considered the best climate specialist in Myanmar, and he currently presides over the Renewable energy Comity in the Green Growth Platform created by Green Lotus.

## APPENDIX 2 : Planning of the visit

### 30th November :

- Orsay Museum : patrimonial renovation + Science center “Cité des Sciences de La Villette”

### 1st December :

- Visit of the positive energy building “La Halle Pajol” (Paris, 18th district) + Architecture museum “Cité de l'Architecture” + Environmental agencies in the “Cité Régionale de l'Environnement”
- Gala evening (with the Myanmar ambassador, french parliamentarians, regional elected representatives, company directors, Burmese citizens)

### 2d December :

- Pollutec fair in Lyon :
- Welcome by the Pollutec direction, and the Rhône-Alpes region council
- Booths visit
- UK-Myanmar reception
- Conference « Myanmar, a new eldorado for environmental activities? »

### 3rd December:

- Booths and specialized spaces visit : Water, Waste management, Energies, Sustainable cities, Environmental politics
- Meeting with the presidency of Suez Environnement

### 4<sup>th</sup> December:

- Booths visit
- Visit of Grundfos's showroom about water distribution system
- Visit of the water treatment station of Lyon
- Visit of the new Confluences neighbourhood
- Meeting with the local elected representatives and associations

### 5<sup>th</sup> December (London):

- Meeting and conferences with UKTI and British Expertise
- Visit of the Watford Innovation Park (BRE)