

# PRESS RELEASE

## Myanmar Innovative Life Sciences (MILS) Enters Into Partnership with Feed the Future Burma Agriculture and Food Systems Development Activity

*Aiming to strengthen the market linkages for Myanmar agri-food sector by offering food safety and quality improvement solutions.*

**Yangon, December 23, 2020:** Myanmar Innovative Life Sciences (MILS) announced today that it will be initiating a project named "The Feed the Future Burma Agriculture and Food Systems Development Activity and Myanmar Innovative Life Sciences (MILS) Partnership" with the generous support of the American people.

The project will focus on Food System Quality Infrastructure (FSQI) and is the very first collaborative action between a private sector company and an international development agency aimed to technologically intervene the agri-food value chains for improvement of food safety and quality of Myanmar agriculture and food systems in order to strengthen the market linkages.

Together, the partners will invest nearly US\$ 600,000 in the project within the next 3 years to achieve the project objectives. Additionally, Feed the Future Burma Agriculture and Food Systems Development Activity provides technical assistance for ISO17025 accreditation process for their central laboratory. The Partnership will increase testing capabilities and capacity of the central food testing laboratory in Yangon, accredit the central laboratory with ISO/IEC 17025 certification, and extend its technical services in Mandalay, Shan, Magway and Sagaing Divisions to serve closer to food processors and farmers in these regions.

" At MILS, we believe we can help food producers and farmers improve and expand access to markets with safe and quality products by providing them with necessary laboratory services. We are committed to working with all farmers and food producers regardless of ethnic background. We believe that by accepting this assistance from the American people, and working together with the Feed the Future Burma Agriculture and Food Systems Development Activity, we can increase peace and prosperity through agriculture." U Kyaw Thu Htet, CEO of MILS noted.

By the end of partnership in June 2024, MILS expects to expand into new locations throughout Southern and Northern Shan State, Magway, Mandalay and Sagaing regions, the central laboratory will achieve ISO17025 accreditation and add five new testing capabilities in 2021, the client base will expand from 97 to 1276, farmers' incomes will increase by an estimated 20% per hectare in 2022, and MILS will employ another 19 individuals (40% women, 80% youth) on a full-time basis to manage the additional service provision starting in 2020.



**About Myanmar Innovative Life Sciences – MILS** is a company helping food producers including farmers produce safer, more sustainable, higher value products and improve market access with its innovative solutions. For more information about MILS, please visit [www.milsciences.com](http://www.milsciences.com) or [www.facebook.com/milsciences](https://www.facebook.com/milsciences).

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