## **Untapped opportunities in Kayin State**

A fair regulatory framework, a favorable investment climate, peace and stability, infrastructure development and attractive tax incentives under the Myanmar Investment Law, provide many opportunities for investment, according to the Kayin State Investment Opportunity Survey.

Seventy percent of business people surveyed believe that Kayin State will have good business prospects in the next three years due to peace and stability, higher market demand, electricity supply and improved services. Fifty percent of interviewees said that productivity has increased even though labor costs were higher in Kayin State.

The Kayin State Investment Opportunity Survey was conducted by the Myanmar Marketing Research and Development (MMRD) and a summary of the survey was released at the Kayin State Investment Fair on 24 November.

The survey found opportunities in many areas of agriculture, including rubber, coffee, tea and spices, and in the tourism, manufacturing and electricity sectors.

In terms of electricity, Union Minister for Planning and Finance, U Kyaw Win said that all people in Kayin State will have access to electricity within one and a half years.

The Kayin State Chief Minister, Daw Nan Khin Htwe Myint told the investment fair that peace and stability is at the heart of economic development. The survey agreed saying "Kayin State enjoys the fruits of peace and stability".

The survey also said that "the current investment environment in Kayin State is fair and it is to be improved with investment incentives".

Full details of the survey – which was commissioned by the Directorate of Investment and Company Administration and conducted by MMRD with the support of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) – will be published shortly on DICA's website.

The Kayin State Investment Fair was organized and co-hosted by the Kayin State Government, the Myanmar Investment Commission and JICA.