Cyber Security In Myanmar: Increasing Role of the Private Sector

By

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Since 2014, Myanmar’s ICT sector has been expanding at an unprecedented rate led by mobile and broadband internet market.

Lower prices and the availability of cheap smartphones have made access to mobile Internet easier for all.

Myanmar society is being exposed to a wide variety of new e-commerce products and an expanding technology start-up environment.
Significant growth in SIM penetration has been reported in the last five years:

- 10-12% in 2013
- 86.2% in 2016
- 105% in 2019
Mobile, Internet and Social Media Use
(as of January 2019)

Total Population: 54.10 million
Urbanisation: 31%

Mobile Subscriptions: 56.57 million
Penetration vs. Population: 105%

Internet Users: 21.00 million
Penetration: 39%

Active Social Media Users: 21.00 million
Penetration: 39%

Mobile Social Media Users: 21.00 million
Penetration: 39%
Annual Digital Growth (2018-2019)

- **Total Population**: +0.9%
  - Jan 2018 – Jan 2019: +487 Thousand

- **Mobile Subscriptions**: +7.2%
  - Jan 2018 – Jan 2019: +4 Million

- **Internet Users**: +17%
  - Jan 2018 – Jan 2019: +3 Million

- **Active Social Media Users**: +17%
  - Jan 2018 – Jan 2019: +3 Million

- **Mobile Social Media Users**: +31%
  - Jan 2018 – Jan 2019: +5 Million
Internet Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Number of Active Internet Users</th>
<th>Internet Users as a Percentage of Total Population</th>
<th>Total Number of Active Mobile Internet Users</th>
<th>Mobile Internet Users as a Percentage of Total Population</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21.00 Million</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>20.79 Million</td>
<td>38%</td>
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(Images of icons and percentages are not included in the text representation.)
Mobile Connection by Type

- **Total Number of Mobile Connections**: 56.57 million
- **Mobile Connections as a Percentage of Total Population**: 105%
- **Percentage of Mobile Connections that are Pre-paid**: 98%
- **Percentage of Mobile Connections that are Post-paid**: 2%
- **Percentage of Mobile Connections that are Broadband (3G & 4G)**: 74%
Use of Social Media

- Total number of active social media users: 21.00 million
- Active social media users as a percentage of the total population: 39%
- Total number of active social users accessing via mobile devices: 21.00 million
- Active mobile social users as a percentage of the total population: 39%
- Fixed line internet penetration has also increased

  - 2010 - 130,000 (0.3% of population)
  - 2016 - 17 million (26% of population)
  - 2018 - 18 million (33.1% of population)

- Mobile technology is integral in widening financial inclusion and establishing a digital economy
Investment in Digital Market

$ 270 million for FY 2018/2019
$ 901.6 million for FY 2017/2018

Service providers
- MPT
- Telenor
- Ooredoo
- MyTel
- Ananda Infinity
Mobile Operators’ Competitive Landscape
(Q3 2019)
The Rise of Tech Start-up in Myanmar

- Rapid growth of local start-ups and their role in educating about using technology for efficiency and security
- 150 active tech start-up firms in 2018
- ICT sector has the power to enable growth across all other sectors
- 9 Myanmar entrepreneurs have been featured in Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia – 5 are women entrepreneurs
The Rise of Tech Start-up in Myanmar

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Cyber crime and cyber security

It is impossible to prevent all cyber attacks

Cyber security requires **technical approach** to securing computer systems from attack and failure

Cyber crime requires **criminal law approach** to take action against specified criminal acts carried out using computer systems.

Good cyber security policies put people and their rights at the centre; strengthen and protect human rights
- Lack of ICT skills and awareness about online safety and spending more time on internet put people at risk

- Reported cyber crime cases increased

- The most common types of cyber crime are online fraud, attack on government websites and sextortion

- Women become victims of online sexual defamation
“extortion, threatening, or defaming someone by using any telecommunications network” is a criminal offense punishable by imprisonment of three years (298 Section 66(d) of Myanmar’s Telecommunication Law)

Cyber law is being drafted. Three inclusive consultations with CSOs, technical experts and ICT firms have been made- all of which are facilitated by the tech firms and CSOs
- Launch of cyber security awareness campaign called *Cyber Bay Kin* in July 2018

- Tripartite collaboration between Kerlellix Co.Ltd. Of Myanmar, Monash University of Australia and Ministry of Transport and Communication (MoTC)

- Culturally relevant animated characters in a series of videos and comics addressing different cyber security threats for the general public especially women and girls

- 18 topics for cyber safety are featured including phishing, hacking, identify theft, cyber bullying, cyber stalking and sextortion
Cyber Security Awareness Campaign

Cyberbaykin
@CyberBayKin

Myanmar Cyber Security Awareness Campaign

MONASH University

Australian Aid

KaseyConf

While Myanmar is one of the fastest growing mobile markets it also stands out for its lack of famili ...
See more
On Twitter: https://twitter.com/cyberbaykin
In Myanmar language
- Establishment of Myanmar Information Security Association (MISA) in October 2019

- Private sector organization and consortium of ICT firms and technical experts

- Aims to teach the public how to use social media safely and responsibly; support and advise security related matters to businesses
Private sector especially tech firms

- Promote harmony, good governance, empowerment and gender equality, equitable socio-economic development and growth, respect for vulnerable groups, access to education and skills
- Instill a culture of resilience and prevention
- Develop and enhance capacity through inclusive partnership, consultation, collaboration and innovation (CoP # 2, #3, and #4)
- Support and participate in the drafting of cyber law and comprehensive cyber security strategy
Thank you for your kind attention.