On April 28 2014, the Aspen Institute, the Richardson Center for Global Engagement, and the US Department of State will co-lead a Partnership Opportunity Delegation (POD) to Myanmar, where participants will engage in meetings and conversations around impact investing, economic development, and social entrepreneurship.

In response to political and economic reforms being undertaken by the ruling party, major U.S. sanctions on trade and investment in Myanmar have been suspended. President Thein Sein is committed to a transition toward democracy, but in order for these efforts to succeed, benefits of liberal democracy and reform need to be felt at the individual level. Investment in citizen-friendly efforts such as small-scale farming and other labor-intensive business is, according to Aung San Suu Kyi, of the highest priority.

Myanmar's investment and entrepreneurial ecosystems remain nascent as compared to other regions in Southeast Asia. Nevertheless, the country is brimming with talented human capital, magnificent land, an abundance of natural and agricultural resources, and the political and cultural will to make significant economic strides.

Organizing Partners

Who

✓ Social entrepreneurs with relevant & scalable business models
✓ Impact investors & philanthropists
✓ Global business executives
✓ State Department leadership

Where

✓ Yangon
✓ Naypyidaw
✓ Mandalay

What

✓ Meet with political leaders from both ruling and opposition parties to gain a deeper understanding of the country’s transition
✓ Engage with Myanmar’s private sector leaders exploring potential projects, partnerships, and business opportunities
✓ Visit with the local communities, farmers, and small business owners

Pricing

The cost of participation is $5,000 per delegate. This price covers: hotels, meals, ground transportation, translation and domestic flights. International flights are not included.