



April Update

MEINHARDT IN FOCUS

The impact of the current Covid-19 situation on the economic growth of Myanmar in 2019/20 is expected to be severe according to the World Bank. Approximately 30% of construction sites in Yangon have temporarily suspended work. Fortunately, none of Meinhardt's projects have thus far been affected.

These are certainly challenging times. However, whilst it is only too easy to dwell on the negative aspects of the current crisis, construction is one sector that we would expect to make a strong early recovery. As construction provides much employment, governments are expected to spend big on infrastructure once we are on the other side of the pandemic.

The Yangon office with its 40 staff, continues to operate and service projects – be it sometimes remotely with some of the expat staff now repatriated to their home countries. **We would like to thank both our clients and staff for the strong spirit of cooperation and understanding during these difficult times.**

*John S. Anderson
Managing Director - Meinhardt Myanmar*



PROJECT IN FOCUS

Construction is well underway on **Yoma Central**, an integrated mixed-use development located in the heart of Downtown Yangon. Occupying a prime 10-acre site, the project has a total GFA of 2,440,000 sq.ft. and will feature The Peninsula Yangon, Westin Yangon – luxury business hotel, two grade A office towers, luxury retail podium and The Peninsula Residences Yangon. Together with the preservation of the iconic former Myanmar Railways Building, Yoma Central will set the new benchmark for real estate development in Myanmar upon its completion.

Both Meinhardt's Bangkok and Yangon offices have been collaborating to provide our design expertise to the project. Services include **Civil and Structural engineering design, Traffic engineering and Specialist Lighting design services.**

Yoma Central is scheduled to be completed in late 2021.

STAFF IN FOCUS

Senior Structural Engineer, **Nawaporn Leesutthipornchai** holds over 7 years of experience in structural engineering design and project coordination working on a wide range of developments. She obtained an M. Eng. in Structural Engineering and B. Eng. in Civil Engineering from Thammasat University, Thailand.

She has worked on many large developments including this month's featured project "Yoma Central". In 2019, Nawaporn spent 8 months working in the clients' office in Myanmar to assist with the structural design coordination and to help ensure smooth execution through the construction period.



*Nawaporn Leesutthipornchai
Senior Structural Engineer*

FACT IN FOCUS

Underpinning can be used to help stabilise and strengthen a foundation of an existing building. It involves the installation of temporary supports to hold up the existing foundation whilst the new permanent structure is installed. Underpinning can take a variety of forms from Piers, to Needle beams and various Pile systems underpinning. Underpinning was used at the "Peninsula Yangon" – part of Yoma Central development - this month's featured project. There it was used to not only give the building new piled foundations, but also enabled a new basement to be constructed below the existing building.

(+66) 2207 0568
thai@meinhardt.net
+95 (9) 262239842
myanmar@meinhardt.net

www.meinhardt.net