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Currently Special Economic Consultant to the State Counsellor, Government of Myanmar, Sean Turnell has been a researcher of Myanmar's economy for over twenty-five years. Formerly at the Reserve Bank of Australia and a Professor at Macquarie University in Sydney, Sean has written widely on Myanmar's economy. In addition to the Myanmar government, he has been an advisor on Myanmar to the US State Department and other agencies, to USAID, to Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, to the World Bank, and many other international bodies.

In 2009 the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies published Sean's book on the history of the financial sector in Myanmar, *Fiery Dragons: Banks, Moneylenders and Microfinance in Burma*. Sean has been a visiting fellow at the University of Cambridge, Cornell University, Johns Hopkins, and the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, Singapore. In addition to his advisory role, he is also currently the Director of Research at the Myanmar Development Institute (MDI) in Naypyitaw.