of the MPT towers are found in urban areas and along the country’s main transport routes; provision is much poorer in the rural, mountain and peripheral regions. This is reflected in the low level of household mobile phone ownership, but it is also noticeable that the number of households with mobile phones in border regions (especially to China and Thailand) is very high along stretches with higher population densities. As regards the distribution of the towers owned by private providers (Telenor and Ooredoo), it is noticeable that preference was given first to urban and densely populated areas.

MOBILE COMMUNICATION

The use of mobile communications shows Myanmar-specific traits:

- The main user group is the young and educated population, particularly the 18-34 age group and university graduates (Thaw Tar Min/Fife/Bohlin 2014: 15).
- Many users share a mobile phone with family members and friends, largely on account of the high purchase costs of handsets and expensive phone tariffs.
- The main motive for having a mobile phone is for use in emergencies (96%), convenience (95%), communication (94%), time-saving (92%) and direct access to information (90%) (Thaw Tar Min/Fife/Bohlin 2014: 11).
- The predominant forms of use are voice calling (83%), texting (52%) and social network-