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COVER PHOTO

This months cover photo is of Daw N Lum Bawk Mai from ELS2 project. Photo: © 2021 ADRA Myanmar Hkawn Din

Editorial

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Daw N Lum Bawk Mai's Story: Cash **Assistance Provides Education Support to IDP Families**

43 year old Daw N Lum Bawk Mai is mother to 4 children.

When conflict broke out in June 2011, Daw N Lum Bawk Mai, her husband, and their 4 children left their property and belongings behind to escape to the Chinese border with their parents in law.

For 3 days and 2 nights they took shelter in the jungle eating the food they could carry and with only a few changes of clothes for the children, the youngest being less than 6 months old. With no money, they fled to Hka Shang in China where other relatives were living.

In 2012, Daw N Lum Bawk Mai become very sick for months on end. During this time, they relocated to Maina.

Once famers, their family owned two orange orchards and rice paddies, raising pigs, cows and chickens to earn 30 lahks each year. It was a simple life but they were happy.

Now as IDPs, they have primarily relied on support from organizations to as Daw N Lum Bawk Mai's husband finds

limited opportunities to work as a daily labourer.

With one daughter now married, the other 3 children continue studies in the government school, but cash is limited.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and ADRA Czech Republic funded ELS2 project has been providing cash assistance for education to vulnerable IDP families in Kachin State.

Though living in an IDP camp has been difficult for Daw N Lum Bawk Mai and her husband, the education opportunities for their children have been positive. Daw N Lum Bawk Mai also volunteers as an accountant in the camp office and has supported the ELS2 project in many ways.

66 I am so thankful for your support at this difficult time. We can use this cash assistance for our children's education. computer training, school fees and school uniforms

HKAWN DIN | Education Officer, ELS2

REFLECTIONS



BRIGHT



It is well documented and widely accepted that education provides a pathway out of poverty and protects girls from early marriage, child labour, and violence. Our new education project, BRIGHT, primarily funded by the Canadian Government, plans to help girls and boys in remote areas like Shan State who cannot attend school. These children often have to walk long distances to get to school, which poses risks. These risks are particularly high for girls who are already more vulnerable due to early and forced marriage practices, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), and human trafficking issues.

BRIGHT aims to dismantle barriers and improve the quality of education for women and girls in fragile, conflict, and crisis situations. It contributes to SDGoals #5, through the prevention of and response to SGBV, by addressing key barriers for girls' access to education, providing a gender-responsive education curriculum, and preventing Child Early and Forced Marriage (CEFM). It also contributes to SDGoal #4 by delivering localized and inclusive education to out of school children (OOSC) from the most fragile areas.

I have personally experienced the struggle to keep girls in school within my own family. Girls struggle against cultural beliefs that see them as dependents and men as breadwinners. But I was blessed because my mother fought for my right to an education. What vulnerable women and girls need is an enabling environment where they can be educated, empowered, and supported to claim their rights, so they can meet their needs and make their dreams come true.

NAN CHO CHO THEL | Senior Project Manager: BRIGHT, ADRA Canada

IN THE MEDIA



Due to the situation in Myanmar with the blockage of social media, this section is currently unavailable.



NAW TAMALAR PAW Field Assistant | AEON

- What Race/Country are you from? Kayin, Myanmar
- What is your favourite food/s to eat? Karen Traditional Food

What is your favourite colour? White

What do you like to do for fun?
Reading Stories and Cooking

- **5 What Place/Country** would you like to visit? Kachin, Myanmar and Norway
- In one word, what would define you? Kind Heart & Helpful Mind
- What year did you join ADRA? July, 2013
- What do you love most about working in ADRA? ADRA is family-minded







AEON

This month, the AEON 1% Club Foundation and ADRA Japan funded AEON5 project completed the following 2 activities.

1. The planned school construction is now 25% complete

2. 60% of the planned school furniture has been constructed

Target villages include Par Yee, Htee Blu Hta, Kaw Hpar Doe, Pa Yar Kone Kaw Ka Dar and Mu Wah in Kayin State.

Due to the current situation in Myanmar, there has been no School Management Committee meetings or Education Awareness Workshops this month.

There have been disruptions in all our projects due to the current situation with internet blackouts, travel restrictions, and other disruptions to primary services. ADRA Myanmar however remains committed to the people we serve and continues to work to the best of our abilities as restrictions and the current environment allows.



PHOTO COMPETITION

THIS MONTHS WINNING PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER:

Ko Ko Han Driver/Logistic Assistant VESI

ABOUT THE PHOTO:

A student repairs a motorbike during training in Lashio, Shan State as a part of the LIFT funded VESI project in partnership with FRC and AVSI.

WILL YOU BE NEXT?

Want to see your photo in the next volume of 'Mingalaba'? Please send in your photos by 29 March 2021

The winning photo will not only be featured here, but also advertised on ADRA Myanmar's social media (Facebook & Instagram) and featured as the background image of the ADRA Myanmar web portal.

PHOTO GUIDELINES

For your photo to be eligible to win, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be a Staff Member, Partner or Donor of ADRA Myanmar
- Taken a Photo of a Beneficiary, Staff and/or Activity in an ADRA Myanmar Project
- High-res (preferable at 300ppi: 2480 x 3508 pixels)
- Landscape or portrait accepted
- In focus and exposed correctly
- JPEG or RAW files accepted
- Unedited, original photo only Brief description of photo provided



*Visit adramyanmar.org/jobs/ to learn more about the below positions and how to apply. Applications submitted through Facebook will not be accepted.

There are no vacancies or tenders this month



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ADRA Myanmar has a zero tolerance policy against cases of Fraud & Corruption, Child Abuse and Harrassment. To make a report, please visit: adramyanmar.org/report/

