



ADRA

# Mingalabga

## မင်္ဂလာပါ

116 | JUL21



### *U Saw's Story*

ADRA Supports School Construction in Kayin State

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## U Saw's Story: ADRA Supports School Construction in Kayin State

My name is U Saw, and I am the headmaster of a primary school in Kayin State. When I graduated from college, I couldn't find a job, so I moved to Yangon where I worked at an ice-cream shop for 8 months.

Soon after I applied for a teaching position working at a primary school for 3 years before moving to my current school in 2018.

When I arrived at the school, there was not enough teachers or furniture, and the villagers didn't hold school management (SMC) meetings. I tried to foster good relationships with the villagers, but the students had difficulties learning the Burmese language. Because the school was old and rundown, I requested support for funds to renovate the school.

I was happy when the AEON project came to this village as I heard ADRA had built many schools in areas nearby. The school was in desperate need of new furniture and more classrooms. In the summer months, the classrooms were so hot for both teachers and students alike.

It took 4 months for school construction to be finalised with the

support of the villagers including exterior work such as fencing, school signboard, water tank, toilet and school gate. I helped the workers obtain local materials such as sand, brick and stone. Whenever there were issues with the construction process, I always called the AEON project engineer for support.

Soon, I was able to establish SMC meetings once a month and encourage parents to attend education awareness events causing them to be more active in their children's education. The children are happy and want to attend school. My aim is to expand the school into a Middle level and continue to work with villagers to maintain our new school building.

“ Since the school construction was finished, it has been very helpful for me in teaching and increased safety for the children. Now we have sufficient rooms and enough furniture.”

SAW MAUNG AUNG | Field Assistant



### COVER PHOTO

This month's cover photo is of U Saw from the AEON project. Photo: © 2021 ADRA Myanmar | Saw Kaung Sue

### Editorial

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# REFLECTIONS



## Importance of Kindness and Compassion

Have you ever heard the expression “a little bit of kindness goes a long way”? This is not just merely a statement, it’s true. Science has proven that if you do something good to someone or if somebody else does something good to you, your body releases feel-good hormones such as Serotonin and Oxytocin. These are neurotransmitters that make you feel satisfied, happy, and loved. Therefore, by helping someone you are making yourself and someone else happy.

At times, we tend to be kind only towards the people we know, but it’s also important to be kind towards the people that we don’t know and to practice random acts of kindness very often. Kindness is not merely something that we should display to each other. We ought to be kind to our surroundings as well. Caring for the environment, its animals and plants is also equally important.

Kindness has a ripple effect. The more you practice it, the more you inspire others to do the same. It also defines who you are, it reflects your character and what type of person you are. It’s crucial to be kind and compassionate to each other especially during these difficult times, as the COVID-19 pandemic has affected all of us in numerous ways.

This is what ADRA does, and this is the message that ADRA conveys. As the humanitarian arm of the Seventh-day Adventist church, ADRA serves vulnerable people in 118 countries around the world. Through our work, we inspire people to be kind and compassionate.

**SHENAL HETTIARACHCHI** | PR & Communications Officer, ADRA Sri Lanka

## IN THE MEDIA



[www.adramyanmar.org](http://www.adramyanmar.org)

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## MEET OUR STAFF



### TUN TUN OO

Admin/Finance Assistant | VESI

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Q1</b> What Race/Country are you from?<br>Myanmar                        | <b>Q5</b> What Place/Country would you like to visit?<br>Beach                                     |
| <b>Q2</b> What is your favourite food/s to eat?<br>Thai Food                | <b>Q6</b> In one word, what would define you?<br>Honest  |
| <b>Q3</b> What is your favourite colour?<br>White                           | <b>Q7</b> What year did you join ADRA?<br>November, 2019   |
| <b>Q4</b> What do you like to do for fun?<br>Reading and listening to music | <b>Q8</b> What do you love most about working in ADRA?<br>Greater career advancement opportunities |

# PROJECT UPDATES



## AEON

With the closure of the AEON 1% Club and ADRA Japan funded AEON project this month, the project team ensured that all project activities were completed.

The last SMC meetings were held, and action plans laid out. During these meetings, the AEON project ensured that SMC members will continue to maintain the school buildings and furniture.

Handover of books will also be provided to SMC members once finalised.

Lastly, villagers agreed to implement and finalise the schools water tanks, basins, gardens, drainage system and electricity.



## CASE2Learn

The European Union funded CASE2Learn project in partnership with RISE conducted several activities this month.

Out-of-school children information was collected from TEES schools, stipends were distributed to teachers for the remaining 145 teachers in the 2020-21 academic year, planning for the distribution of COVID-19 kits to TEES schools and 51 ECCD schools was conducted, 15 TEES teachers were sent to new schools, and meetings with communities on the reopening of schools in project implementation areas were conducted.

Data was also collected as to the number of students who are retained, have dropped out of school or transferred from 157 TEES schools in various project implementation areas.



# PROJECT UPDATES



## SEAQE2

The Norad and ADRA Norway funded SEAQE2 project conducted a Business Linkage Program in Hpa-An, Kayin State.

The program was conducted at Hotel Perfect with 16 business owners in attendance along with staff from ADRA Myanmar.

The business owners are local business owners and designers including from beauty salons, barber shops, tailoring shops, and welding workshops.

The program ran for 2 hours with 6 main items including; registration, welcome remarks, self-introductions, sharing of project activities and thank you remarks from SEAQE2 Project Manager, honouring the business owners and refreshments.



## VESI

The LIFT funded VESI project in partnership with AVSI and FRC, conducted a closing ceremony for batch 4 of the Digital Blended Training on Motorbike Repair.

7 practitioners and 35 students attended the event which was held on July 15 in Shan State.

Speeches and remarks were made by several attendees including the VESI Project Manager. Graduated students were provided with certificates during the ceremony with one student providing a thank you speech.

In a practitioner's speech, he said thank you to ADRA for providing opportunities in vocational training to students in remote areas.



# PHOTO COMPETITION



## THIS MONTHS WINNING PHOTO

### PHOTOGRAPHER:

Ko Ko Han  
Driver/Logistic Assistant  
VESI

### ABOUT THE PHOTO:

Students from the Motorbike Repair Short course under the LIFT funded VESI project receive financial support in Shan State

### WILL YOU BE NEXT?

Want to see your photo in the next volume of 'Mingalaba'? Send in your photo with a brief description by **27 August 2021**.

The winning photo will not only be featured here, but also 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

## VACANCIES & TENDERS

\*Applications through our website are currently unavailable. Applications submitted through Facebook will not be accepted.

There are no vacancies or tenders currently available.

## CONTACT US

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