

# ANNUAL REPORT

2021 – 2022



Over the last financial year, we have witnessed unprecedented challenges for children and young people and their families. Two waves of COVID-19 ravaged the country, claiming lives, disrupting families, and harming the economy.

The ongoing political crisis also compounded these impacts. Working within these challenges and constraints, ChildFund Myanmar and its partners continued to serve the communities we work in.

When the COVID-19 virus struck in 2020, we supported local health volunteer groups with COVID-19 preventive measures, so that they were protected and could continue to provide the basic health care related services to their communities. In some communities, we also provided information about COVID-19 prevention and also provided the most vulnerable families with food and other support. In addition, youth in the community were trained on providing care at COVID-19 treatment centres and educating their communities about the illness and vaccines.

Over the last year, children have also faced many children protection issues. ChildFund and our partners have focused on strengthening community-based child protection mechanisms. Our education program has supported children with the opportunity to continue to learn.

We can only undertake this work with the support and commitment of our staff and local partners. The efforts are sustained with the steadfast support from our donors and the ChildFund community. I would also like to thank the children and young people that we work with for their ongoing dedication to building better communities.

With the combined economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the political crisis, many Myanmar families have fallen back into poverty.

According to World Bank Myanmar Economic Monitor of 2022, the share of Myanmar's population living in poverty is expected to have more than doubled compared to levels before COVID-19 hit.

The future looks set to be full of challenges for children and young people in Myanmar, but ChildFund and our partners are more committed than ever to support them in accessing a safer, healthier, and stronger future for themselves and their communities.

**Win May Htway**  
Country Director



## FEATURE STORY: I AM SAFE

### PYAE IS LEADING CHILD PROTECTION IN HER COMMUNITY

"I have decided to contribute my time to child protection activity implementation in my village as well as at my school in the future as much as I can with the support of the key actors and my group members."

Pyae (pictured above), aged 14, is a youth leader in her community. She is respected by her peers for her knowledge and expertise on child protection. She shared her experiences listening to her peers about child protection and representing the children's group in her village.

Pyae worked with key actors to have more ideas for better child protection services, keeping herself and her peers safe.

With the ongoing political instability, many children are facing increased risks of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence.

These risks are further increased when families and communities face the mental and economic strain that comes with social instability.

ChildFund Myanmar continued to work with local partners to empower them and the children in their community with knowledge about child protection and established a peer support group for youth facing unsafe circumstances.

We worked with key actors who delivered awareness sessions about how to prevent children from being harmed. At all sessions, relevant child protection materials were provided to parents and community leaders.

They also shared information about how they could access the right services for support on child protection.

Because of the program, there is greater knowledge of child protection in these communities. Children and their families now know where to seek support and how to build a safe, healthy home.

# I AM EDUCATED

## SAFELY RETURNING TO THE CLASSROOM

Every child has the right to access education. Ever since the COVID-19 pandemic began in 2020, there has been a significant impact on children's ability to access education. With subsequent lockdowns and school closures, it is estimated that children have lost a full academic year worth of learning. This impacts their long-term education and social development. A core focus for ChildFund is on providing quality education to the most vulnerable children and so we

worked with a local partner to implement an online education program. This ensured that children could continue to learn online during school closures.

The program trained community volunteers to become teachers.

"Since our teacher is very good at teaching, I improved my general knowledge, and could recall about the lessons I'd forgotten. The lessons we are studying now are different to the lessons we learnt before at school. We learn to read and learn the lessons by playing – I think the lessons we study are better," said one student.

They also set up informal classrooms (pictured left) in the community and provided children with face masks and shields so they could safely learn face to face. "The teacher also gave us school bags, pencils, exercise books, drawing crayons, erasers, face shield, mask, and hand sanitisers. We are also taught through playing, and I am so happy to learn in this way."

This program completed its support in May to more than 1,300 students and 40 teachers from eight different Regions and States.



# I CONTRIBUTE

## YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORTING THE PANDEMIC RESPONSE



"We provided more than COVID-19 related services to our community. We provide counselling services to some family members who were faced with social and other health problems due to the current country situation," said nineteen-year-old Nyo. She is proud that she can contribute to caring for her community in this way.

Children and young people are the future of our country. Many of our projects have worked to empower and enable young people to become contributing and responsible members of their communities.

The young people who took part in our projects were trained on community mobilisation, COVID-19 prevention and care, and basic counselling. At the start, some communities were sceptical of their capacity. But after witnessing their passion for caring for the community, they are now requesting young people to continue their work.

## KEEPING CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE HEALTHY THROUGH A PANDEMIC

In mid-2021, the third wave of COVID-19 spread across the country – and with limited access to basic health care services, the number of positive cases rose. The number of fatalities also increased. Many people were confined to their homes because of the lockdown measures and out of fear of contracting the virus.

This meant that there were fewer volunteers to support their community. The price of COVID preventative materials, such as masks and hand sanitiser, increased significantly due to high demand and limited supply.

Youth volunteers (pictured right) working together with social community groups continued to share information on how to stay safe from the virus and share hygiene kits including face masks, personal protective equipment (PPE) and hand sanitiser.

ChildFund Myanmar supported these volunteer groups in Yangon and Mandalay, two cities that were most impacted by COVID-19. Using their own PPE the volunteers were able to support in transporting people to and from hospitals and health centres, keeping the children and the families safe and healthy.



# I HAVE A FUTURE

## CHILD-FRIENDLY SPACES SUPPORTING CHILDREN THROUGH COVID-19

Over the last year, child protections in Myanmar have become increasingly prominent. Many children have been confined to their homes where families are facing increased economic pressures. This has meant that there has been an increase in domestic violence.

When COVID-19 restrictions began to ease, ChildFund began to hold face to face meetings (pictured left) and gatherings with children and their families to understand which families were facing violence.

They then responded with appropriate measures. Child-friendly spaces were organised so that children could come together and socialise and learn about child protection. Child protection awareness knowledge and skills were delivered through trainings and using a peer to peer approach.

Children worked with their family members to create solutions to child protection issues in the home. Through these activities, children are enabled to be an important and contributing asset for their future.





Students are returning to the classroom.

## COLLABORATING TO ACHIEVE CHANGE



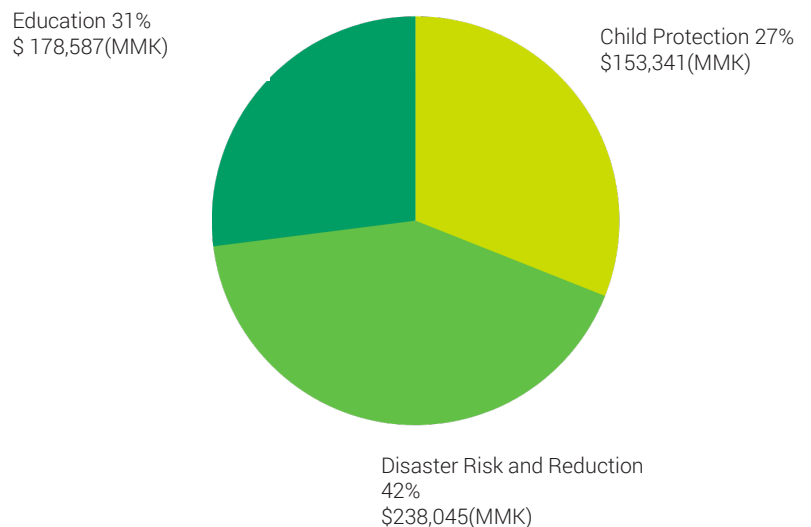
Authorities and Department officials of Mandalay Region, Tanintharyi Region and Yangon Region  
 • CFN: Child Development Association • Future Light (FL) • Hope for Shining Stars (H4SS) • Monastic Education Development Group (MEDG) • Ratana Metta Organization (RMO) • SPECTRUM (SDKN) • ChildFund Myanmar Team

## FINANCIAL REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

REVENUE	FY21 (MMK'000)	FY22 (MMK'000)
Donation	100,994	299,727
Grants	1,115,167	497,591
Other income	61,548	33
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>1,277,709</b>	<b>797,351</b>

EXPENDITURE	FY21 (MMK'000)	FY22 (MMK'000)
Program and projects	1,135,106	569,973
Program support	143,844	147,714
Accountability and administration	101,730	79,155
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>1,380,680</b>	<b>796,842</b>

PROGRAM EXPENDITURE FY2022 (MMK'000)



ChildFund Myanmar is the representative office of ChildFund Australia – an independent international development organisation that works to reduce poverty for children in developing communities.

ChildFund Australia is a member of the ChildFund Alliance – a global network of 11 organisations which assists almost 23 million children and their families in 70 countries. ChildFund Australia is a registered charity, a member of the Australian Council for International Development, and fully accredited by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade which manages the Australian Government's overseas aid program.

ChildFund Australia began working in Myanmar (formerly known as Burma) in 2012 and works in partnership to create community and systems change which enables vulnerable children and young people, in all their diversity, to assert and realise their rights.

Projects are implemented with a range of local civil society organisations, and focus on child protection, access to quality education, and increasing youth resilience, both in urban and rural areas. Disaster risk response and gender equity are mainstreamed across all activities.

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EVERY CHILD  
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