



**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

2017 - 2018

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 more than 14 million children and families in over 60 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 with children, their communities and local organisations to create lasting change, respond to humanitarian emergencies and promote children’s rights. Projects are implemented in partnership 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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**Photography:** ChildFund and partners staff

**Front cover:** Shae, age 10, Myanmar

## FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR



It has been a unique year for ChildFund Myanmar. We marked our fifth year working with children and their families in disadvantaged communities. Since starting our operations in 2013, our

work has adapted and evolved each year to meet the needs of the children with whom we work, and we have expanded the reach of our programs. Though we are a young organisation, we have made significant changes to the lives of many children and communities over the past five years.

Our vision – a global community free from poverty where children are protected and have the opportunity to reach their full potential – has served as a beacon to our team’s daily work. It has kept us focused on creating lasting and meaningful change for vulnerable children and their communities.

However, there is still a lot of work to do to address the challenges that children and youth in Myanmar face, which include access to quality education, protection from harm and abuse, and a lack of opportunities for development.

ChildFund Myanmar has been working with schools to develop safe and supportive environments for children to learn and grow, by improving school infrastructure and governance practices, and training teachers.

We have also been working with communities to create and promote safe environments for children and youth.

Young people account for about 28 per cent of Myanmar’s total population. In early 2018 the first Myanmar Youth Policy was launched. We are proud that our country strategic approaches and projects in the areas of protection, education, and adolescent and youth resilience, support this new policy.

All of our achievements over the past year would not have been possible without the commitment and support of many people.

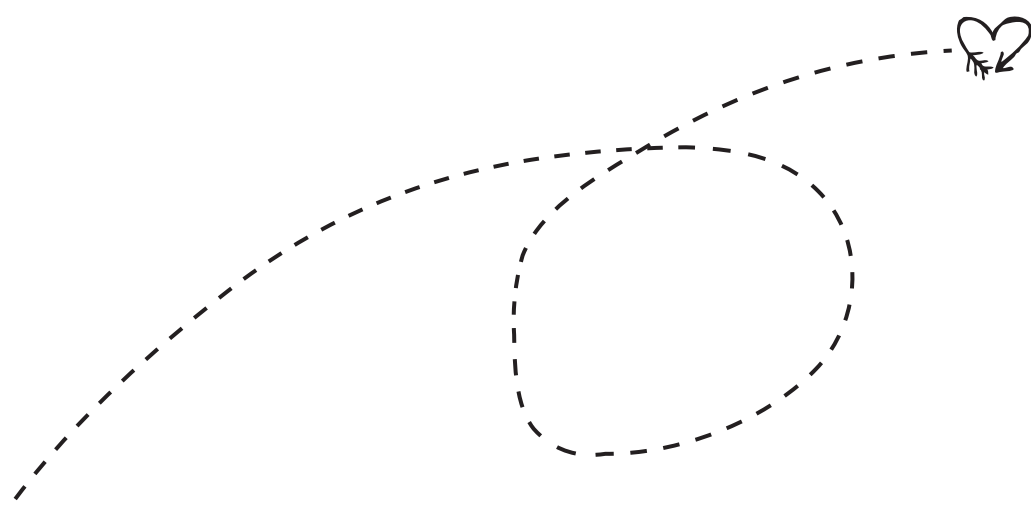
I would like to thank all the children and communities with whom we work, our national and local governments, and our partner organisations for their hard work. I would also like to mention our dedicated staff; it is their enthusiasm and tireless efforts that ensure our programs continue to create positive change for vulnerable children.

Finally, I would like to express a heartfelt thank you to all the donors who have supported our work year after year.

We are looking forward to continuing our commitment to working with the children and youth of Myanmar to ensure they are safe, educated, heard, and have the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Yours sincerely,

**Win May Htway**  
Country Director  
ChildFund Myanmar





# I AM SAFE



## MAPPING THE DANGER ZONES

For children living in poverty in remote communities, weak child protection systems and services can exacerbate their vulnerability.

ChildFund Myanmar has been working with a partner organisation to establish Children's Groups and Child Protection Groups to strengthen child protection systems and services in vulnerable communities in Dawei district.

Children in these groups have been working with their peers and other community members to identify and address child protection issues, such as violence and abuse. As part of the group activities, members have also been developing risk maps to identify unsafe spaces for children in their communities.

Paing, 12, a leader of one of the groups, says: "Although we notice improvements in the community, we still need to provide awareness and inform the elders about our needs."

## ACTIVE STUDENTS, ACTIVE LEARNING

In Kayah State, in eastern Myanmar, poverty is widespread and many children in remote areas are unable to access basic education. More than a quarter of children aged between three and five do not attend preschool and a greater number do not attend primary school.

ChildFund Myanmar is working with partner organisations and 20 villages to improve the quality of, and access to, education for vulnerable children in Kayah State by building and renovating school buildings and toilets, training teachers, and providing schools with a diverse range of learning resources such as books and sports equipment.

Daw Lowra, the principal at one of the primary schools supported by ChildFund, says the sports kits her school received, which included soccer balls, skipping ropes and badminton sets, have helped build students' confidence and communication skills, and made learning more enjoyable.

"Before we got the sports kits, the only activity was learning in the classroom," she says. "The children got really bored. After receiving the sports kits, the children are now more enthusiastic about learning."



# I AM EDUCATED



## CREATING PLATFORMS FOR CHILDREN'S VOICES

Promoting children's rights and increasing child participation in communities are some of ChildFund Myanmar's key focus areas.

Over the past year, ChildFund has supported children's forums, where children come together to share and discuss their opinions with their peers and local authorities, and supported Universal Children's Day celebrations.

More than 450 children under the age of 14, across eight villages in Kayah State, took part in children's day events this year.

ChildFund supported dozens of children aged between five to 10, from 13 schools in Hpruso township, to take part in the activities, which aimed to raise awareness of children's rights and the importance of child participation. Children took part in activities such as sports games, quizzes, plays and singing.



I AM  
HEARD



## UPSKILLING YOUNG TEACHERS

Many young people who become teachers in remote communities in Myanmar have limited opportunities to upskill and access new teaching and educational resources.

ChildFund Myanmar is providing these teachers with new skills to develop their careers and improve the quality of education for children in their classes.

Teachers participating in the training (pictured) have learnt how to make learning in classrooms more stimulating and interesting using readily available and non-expensive materials.

See, a teacher from Hpruso township, says her lesson plans are now more creative,



child-friendly and resourceful. "For example, I now use simple materials such as newspapers, magazines and exercise books as teaching-learning materials," See says.



I HAVE A  
FUTURE



# I HAVE A FUTURE



## YU CAN DO IT

Like many other girls in her village, 18-year-old Yu (above) left school after Grade 8 as her parents did not support her education. She helped her family at home with chores, such as cleaning and cooking. Without having finished her education, Yu felt she had few job opportunities.

Youth represent nearly one-third of the population in Myanmar. ChildFund Myanmar is helping build the resilience of adolescents and youth, such as Yu, in vulnerable communities by giving them opportunities to voice and discuss their opinions and ideas, and build their confidence, so they can take control of their lives and futures.

ChildFund's youth empowerment project is also enabling children and young people, especially girls, to become active participants in their

communities. Since ChildFund Myanmar helped implement a youth empowerment project in Yu's village in 2017, Yu has become excited and hopeful about her future. She developed leadership skills through training sessions and is now a youth leader in her village, helping implement community development projects and events.

Yu's newfound confidence, enthusiasm and leadership skills have earned her the trust of village elders.

"I have never experienced this before," she says. "I used to doubt myself; now I have the confidence to work with the community leaders to meet our needs."

THANK YOU

## COLLABORATING TO ACHIEVE CHANGE

Thank you to the following organisations and individuals whose generous support and assistance is vital to the work of ChildFund Myanmar:



Authorities and Department officials of Kayah State (Hpruso), Mandalay Region (MahaAungMyay, Pyigyitagon), Taninthayi Region (Dawei, Launglon, ThaYetChaung, YePhyu), and Yangon Region (East Dagon, North Dagon, ShwePyiTha) • CFN: Child Development Association • Future Light (FL) • Girl Determined • Jackson Foundation • Local Development Network (LDN) • Monastic Education Development Group (MEDG) • Precious Stones (PS)

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## FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial report for year ended 30 June 2018

| STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME | 2018<br>(MMK'000) | 2017<br>(MMK'000) |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Income                            | 1,414,752         | 1,206,744         |
| Expenditure                       | 1,433,654         | 1,205,747         |
| Total Comprehensive (Loss)/Income | (18,902)          | 997               |

| STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION | 30 JUNE 2018<br>(MMK'000) | 30 JUNE 2017<br>(MMK'000) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Total Assets                    | 312,230                   | 172,045                   |
| Total Liabilities               | 288,600                   | 129,513                   |
| Net Assets                      | 23,630                    | 42,532                    |

**BECAUSE  
EVERY CHILD  
NEEDS A  
CHILDHOOD**

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