



GraceWorks
M Y A N M A R



2017/2018 Annual Report

Joining Hands, Joining Hearts

Who We Are

Our Mission

Empowering sustainable development for improved quality of life and holistic wellbeing of Myanmar's people.

Our Purpose

Providing vital connections and promoting opportunities by building capacity and partnering for long-term value to enable personal empowerment and community-based development.

Our Values

Social Justice

People have inherent value and capacity. We work alongside people in Myanmar to support them in gaining the freedoms they need to achieve the quality of life they desire. Integrity is at the heart of everything we do as we seek to address injustices with positive, long-term development that contributes to breaking the cycle of poverty.

Empowerment

People don't live in sectors. Only Non Government Organisations (NGOs) do. That's why we approach everything from a holistic perspective. We aim for sustainable outcomes that empower people through processes and results. We are more interested in enabling the good ideas of local people than simply delivering our own.

Equity

We emphasise respect and inclusivity for all, regardless of gender, religion, ethnicity, age or background, and seek to address marginalisation and exclusion based on these factors. We are driven by compassion and cultural sensitivity. We invest in building understanding and challenging our own thinking so that we are part of long-term change rather than band-aid solutions.

Partnership

Genuine two-way partnerships that emphasise self-sustainability are central to our contribution in Myanmar. We focus on grassroots partners and projects founded in mutual accountability and transparency.

Capacity Building

We work to increase the capacity of our partners, rather than creating dependency on us. Success in the long-term will mean we've done ourselves out of a job. Participatory processes give us the opportunity for mutual learning. They make the journey as important as the destination so that we contribute to home-grown development capacity.

Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.





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Cameron Burgess

Chairman

This past year has been a highly productive one for Graceworks Myanmar (GWM). Our Community Development Education program has continued to spread

to new communities experiencing disadvantage, resulting in noticeable social change. Importantly, this change is driven by local people for the benefit of their local communities. This model of sustainable development gives us hope that village by village, poverty is being, and can be addressed.

As a board, we have been working through the important process of ACFID accreditation, which has assisted us in further refining our models and methods of delivery. It has also served as a reminder of the unique role we occupy within Myanmar's development landscape as an agile, grassroots organisation. None of this would be possible without our partnerships in Myanmar and Australia, and volunteers who outwork our mission to improve the wellbeing of Myanmar's people.

Thank you to our Board and volunteers for your commitment and passion over the last 12 months. After 3 years as Board Chair, I am handing the reigns over to fellow Board member Ben Muller, who will continue to guide us in governing the affairs of GWM. Ben will do an excellent job, and I will remain a member of the board. We are also privileged to be led by our CEO Peter Simmons, whose expertise, leadership and innovative spirit enable others to contribute to the work of GWM. These strengths were recently confirmed through a board review of Peter's leadership which confirmed his capability to lead GWM into the next season of organisational growth.

Once again, thank you for your ongoing support of the life-changing work of personal empowerment and community-based development.

Cameron Burgess



Peter Simmons

Founder & CEO

I had the privilege of visiting some of GWM's community development projects during the past year and I was amazed at the impact and influence this work has had within displaced and marginalised communities.

I met children who were full of hope for the future, and parents who spoke with optimism and pride in their achievements. Extreme poverty not only stops people from reaching their full potential; it is a blight on the human spirit. It's an unnecessary condition that the world should not tolerate, and the good news is that overall, despite setbacks, great progress is being made.

Hope is found in the most unlikely and desperate places where the smallest of opportunities can be the catalyst for something great. Even when people are facing poverty and hunger, the belief that a better life is possible sustains the human spirit. It is this spirit that rises above the lack of funds and resources and facilitates the critical link with GWM projects and opportunities which have inspired extraordinary outcomes.

The GWM community development program has seen infrastructure projects where roads, dams, water systems, school and health clinic buildings have been constructed through an education program delivered by local GWM community based facilitators and leaders.

While practical infrastructure projects transform community life, we are observing that it is the social change that is the most empowering, as communities learn to live in harmony and to think creatively while addressing traditional thinking that change is not possible.

These are changes that cannot be measured easily through traditional key performance indicators (KPI's) as entrenched behavioural patterns are addressed through peacebuilding initiatives to avoid conflict and disharmony, while focussing on creating an environment to build peaceful relationships.

It is these changes that are the measure of success and while funds are important the bigger picture can be found in our mission statement and values. We need more funds as they sustain our work and we are grateful and appreciative of the financial support of our donors.

With your support, GWM will continue to be excellent and effective in the field so that more and more vulnerable communities will be empowered to rise out of extreme poverty and experience the reality of long awaited hope irrespective of age, gender, ethnicity or religion.

Development work is often referred to in terms of practical outcomes and numbers but increasingly within the context of where GWM operate, we see a bigger picture emerging in terms of social change and attitudes reflecting broader thinking in terms of community harmony and cooperation. Looking back on all of this, there is one thing which stands out to me and that is “possibility”.

Both our development programs and our humanitarian responses give me enormous hope, reassuring, that in the face of trouble and tragedy, it is always possible to do something positive.

Although Myanmar is changing and our programs and strategies need to evolve accordingly, at its heart GWM is about hope for the future for the marginalised and poor and if we stay focused on this goal, we will be making real the simple and timeless command to love one another.

With enhanced monitoring and evaluation disciplines in place and long-term tracking of the quality of people’s lives now improved, we are set to be more effective than ever.

Thank you to all our staff and workers in the field without you there would be no stories to tell and no-one to make our initiatives the success that they have become.

To our Board, I want to say thank you for your support and encouragement – I could not do this on my own.

To our supporters, thank you for your belief and your generous giving. I hope this Annual Report demonstrates the value of all of our contributions as we work to empower sustainable development for improved quality of life and holistic wellbeing of Myanmar’s people.

Peter Simmons

2017-2018 Overview

Membership Renewals

Renewed – 22

Governance

Board meetings

2017

8th October (AGM)

9th October

22nd November

2018

26th February

29th May



Community Development Education project – a new raised cement walk way providing access in rainy season.

September - October 2017

- 4 - 7 September: Community Water and Sanitation for Health (WASH) Promotion training conducted by WASH partner Center for Affordable Water and Sanitation Techniques (CAWST) in Yangon. The training focused on building the capacity of potential community WASH facilitators, and it was attended by people from Northern Rakhine State, Seikkyi Island and Yangon.
- Board member and Deakin strategic partner, Dr Anthony Ware, spent 6 weeks as a Visiting Professor at Manchester University's Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute, exploring collaboration around 'everyday peacebuilding' in Myanmar, much of which will be of direct benefit to Graceworks Myanmar (GWM).
- Dr Vicki Ware attended two peace and conflict studies conferences in the UK, hosted at the University of Manchester and at Oxford University. She presented on two related topics – arts-based programming for peacebuilding, and the importance of linking such programming to community development.

November 2017

- Donor visit to Rakhine State led by GWM CEO Peter Simmons and Country Director Dr Peter Thein. Visits were made to several outlying villages where Community Development Education (CDE) community projects were inspected.
- Village leaders and facilitators were briefed by the donor and GWM CEO on their work and achievements in bringing change to their communities.

December 2017

- CDE training and research conducted in Rakhine State, by Deakin University: Dr Anthony Ware, Dr Vicki Ware, Dr Costas Laoutides.

March 2018

- 13 - 16 March: WASH training conducted by CAWST. CDE facilitators were trained in Yangon and Sittwe, Rakhine State.
- 18 - 21 March: Bio-sand filter manufacturing workshop conducted by CAWST in Sittwe, Rakhine State, attended by CDE facilitators and representatives of partner organisations. The participants gained the technical skills required to manufacture, install and maintain concrete bio-sand filters, while learning about hygiene and the importance of clean drinking water.
- 23 - 24 March: WASH Program Mapping workshop conducted by CAWST, attended by the GWM team and representatives of implementing partner CDE from Rakhine State. The objective was to integrate WASH in the overall strategies and operations of GWM and CDE.

May 2018

- Deakin University published - Understanding & Responding to Conflict in Rakhine State: Conflict analysis & conflict sensitive strategic program advice for GWM responding to the Rohingya–Rakhine State–Burman conflict.

June 2018

- CDE conflict resolution and everyday peacebuilding training conducted in Rakhine State, by Deakin University: Dr Anthony Ware and Dr Vicki Ware.

Corporate Governance

The Board

The board comprises of six members - Cameron Burgess, Peter Simmons, Des Collinson, Dr Anthony Ware, Ben Muller and Natasha Allitt (interim member) who are all standing for re-election at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

Audit

The Treasurer will ensure that an external financial audit is undertaken once every 12 months and the audit report and accounts will be forwarded to the Chairman and Board Members.

Annual General Meeting

The end of the financial year for Graceworks Myanmar (GWM) is June 30.

The board may determine the date, time and place of the GWM AGM.

The notice convening the AGM must specify that the meeting is an Annual General Meeting.

The ordinary business of the AGM shall be:

- a) To confirm the minutes of the previous annual general meeting and of any general meeting held since that meeting;
- and
- b) To receive from the Board Member reports upon the transactions of the GWM Inc. during the last preceding financial year.

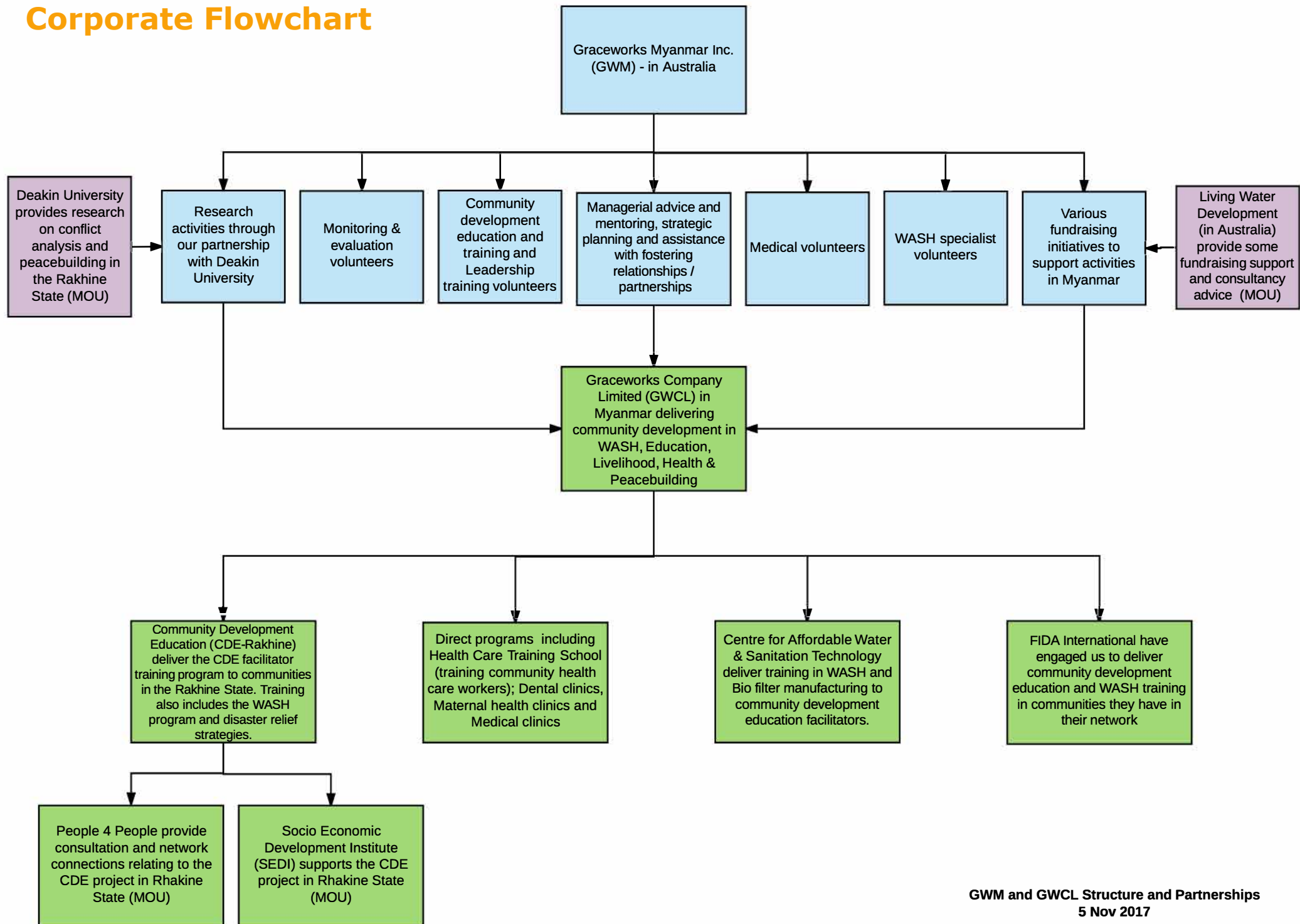
In the event of a Board Member position becoming vacant, a vote (2/3 majority of quorum present) will be taken during the AGM to appoint a replacement board member, as nominated by current Board and GWM members prior to the AGM.

Corporate Flowchart

The following Corporate Flowchart shows the structure of GWM, and how the two arms of GWM relate to one another within Australia and Myanmar.

The two arms of GWM are Graceworks Myanmar Inc. (GWM) in Australia and Graceworks Company Limited in Myanmar (GWCL).

Corporate Flowchart





Clean water is a major focus of the WASH program. Villagers often carry water bowls long distances to maintain supplies. GWM is working on projects to provide more accessible fresh water for local communities.

Board of Directors



Cameron Burgess - Chairman

Qualifications: Honours degree in Social Work, 15 years working in management and community development roles in the Not for Profit Sector.

Duration: 6 years



Peter Simmons - Founder & CEO

Qualifications: Company Director, Fellow Australian Institute of Management, Master of International and Community Development

Duration: 15 years



Des Collinson - Treasurer

Qualifications: Founding partner of a chartered accountancy business and has been practicing for 40 years, Director of Australia Medic Alert Foundation and a Fellow of the institute of Chartered Accountants.

Duration: 7 years



Dr Anthony Ware - Board Member

Qualifications: Senior Lecturer in International and Community Development at Deakin University. Acting Director of the Australian Myanmar Institute.

Duration: 3 years



Ben Muller - Board Member

Qualifications: Degree in Civil Engineering and MBA from Deakin University. 15 year in Projects, Operations and Senior Management roles in the Construction and Material supply sector, as well as recent project management in the Water Industry. Chairman of his local school Board.

Duration: 2 years



Natashia Allitt - Interim Board Member

Qualifications: Bachelor of Economics from ANU, Grad Diploma in International and Community Development from Deakin University, Diploma in Theology, Alliance College of Australia. 20 years experience in government and community development, and international development.

Duration: 1 year



Zoe Solomon - Secretary to the Board

Qualifications: Bachelor of Psychology, completing a Masters of International and Community Development.

Duration: 5 years

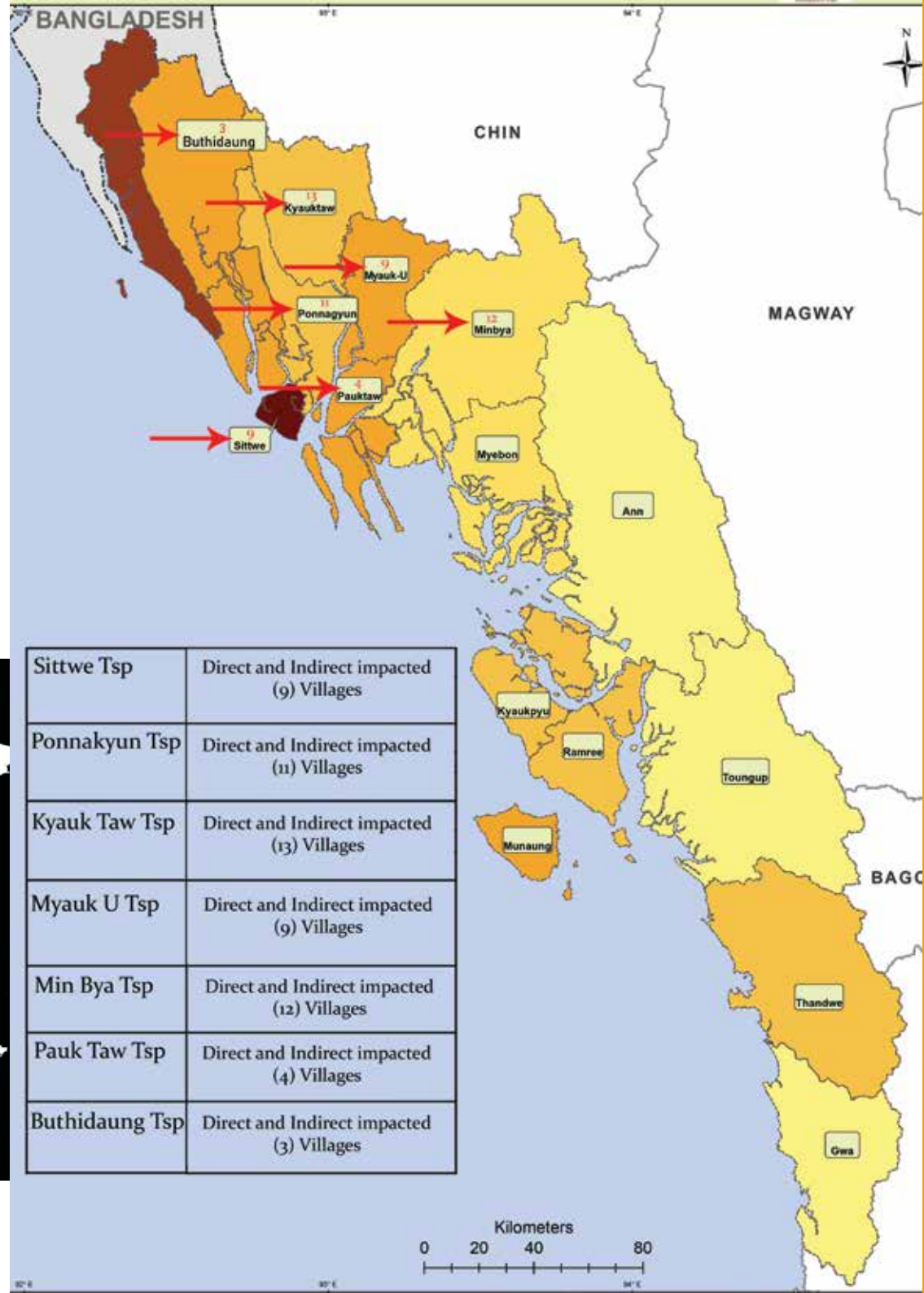
Where We Impact

Graceworks Myanmar (GWM) is a grassroots organisation focused on delivering lasting development support to local partner organisations and sustainability to local communities in Myanmar.

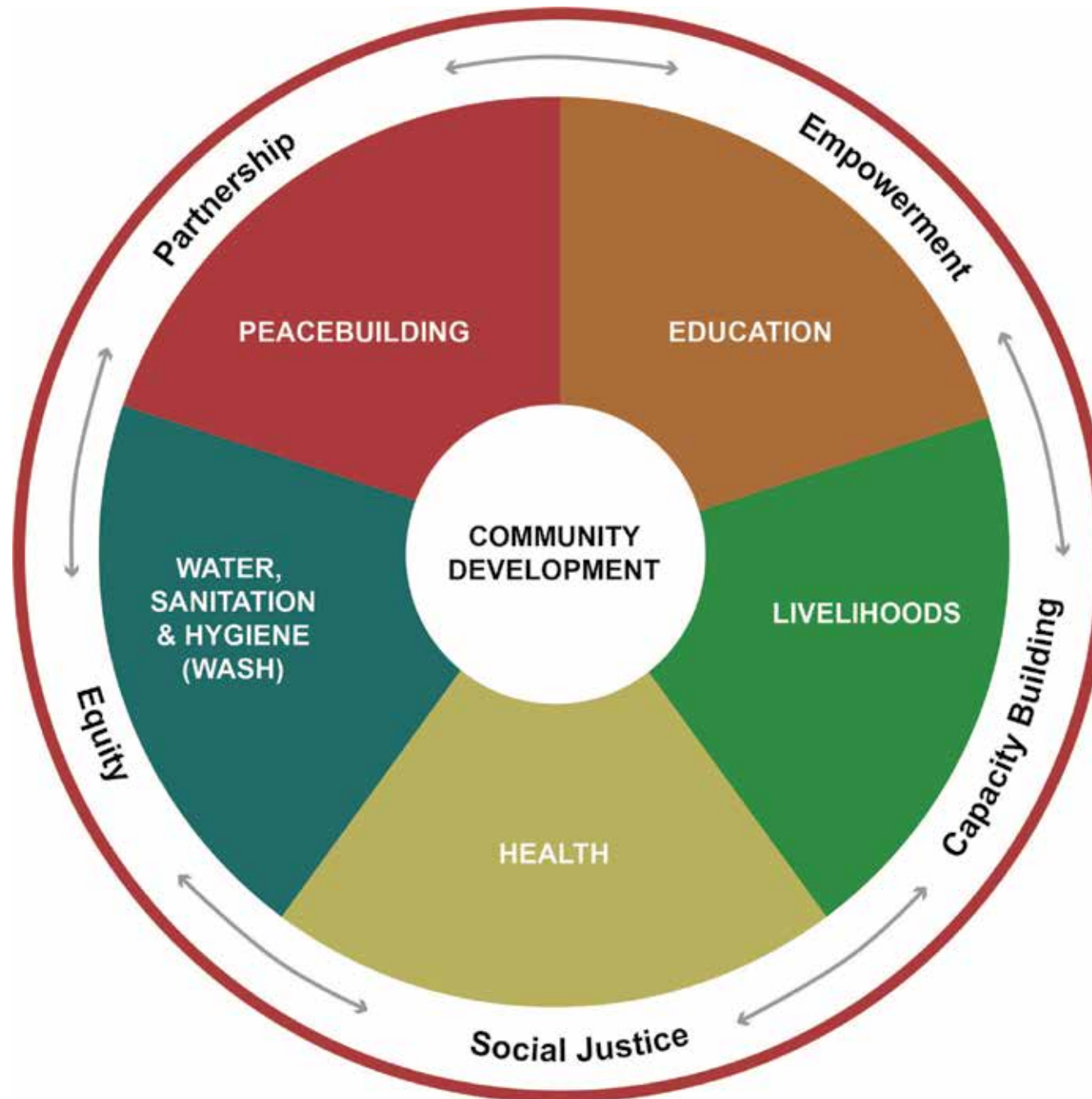
We intentionally work within five key focus areas of education, health, livelihoods, WASH and peacebuilding.

GWM currently has programs or projects in Yangon Division, Mandalay Division, Rakhine State (primary), Chin State and Magway Division.

The adjoining map highlights the current locations where GWM has full time community development education (CDE) facilitators in the Rakhine State.



Areas Of Impact Diagram



WASH



Education



Health



Peacebuilding



Livelihoods

Water and Sanitation for Health - WASH

Projects

Graceworks Myanmar (GWM) operates primarily in remote, under-developed communities, where people express a strong need for clean drinking water, hygiene awareness and proper sanitation. This will prevent disease, improve public health, and make people less dependent on hard-to-reach, expensive health care services.

GWM's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Program currently constitutes a combination of deliverables, including software (training and consultation), and hardware (bio-sand filters and water pipes). The program is being implemented in partnership with Canadian WASH expert Center for Affordable Water and Sanitation Techniques (CAWST). It includes training in basic hygiene, the importance of clean drinking water and safe sanitation, and training and support in how to manufacture, install and distribute concrete bio-sand filters (BSF's). In the future it will also include water infrastructure and the manufacturing and installation of toilets/latrines.

After having implemented and piloted the WASH program in Seikkyi Island, across the river from Yangon, in 2016, in collaboration with former WASH partner Living Water Development (LWD), GWM through its partner GWCL is now implementing the program in Northern Rakhine State, as part of the Community Development Education (CDE) program.

This project started in September 2017 in partnership with CAWST and is based on the most recent research within WASH. Since its commencement, CAWST has conducted the following trainings/workshops:

- **Two Community WASH Promotion trainings** focused on building the capacity of potential community WASH facilitators in promoting water, sanitation and hygiene initiatives in their communities. The trainings were attended by people from Seikkyi Island, Northern Rakhine State and Yangon.
- **A concrete BSF manufacturing workshop** conducted in Sittwe, Rakhine State, and attended by CDE facilitators and representatives of partner organisations. The participants gained the technical skills required to manufacture, install and maintain concrete BSF's, using locally available materials. They also learnt about hygiene and the importance of clean drinking water. All participants showed very strong enthusiasm and engagement.
- **A WASH Program Mapping workshop** attended by the GWM team and representatives of implementing partner Community Development Education (CDE) from Rakhine State. The objective was to integrate WASH in the overall strategies and operations of GWM and CDE.

WASH program – manufacturing of bio sand filters at the GWM compound in Sittwe, Rakhine State.





Impacts



The WASH program has been successfully introduced in 47 communities in Northern/Central Rakhine State, all of which have one or more BSF's. Most of the BSF's are made of concrete that is locally available, produced in one of the manufacturing units (located in multiple locations) by CDE facilitators. The program in Seikkyi Island has been finalised and is now being maintained by Living Water Development (LWD). Apart from hygiene awareness training, BSF's have been placed throughout the community with many families and individuals receiving the benefits of life changing clean water.

Altogether, 280 BSF's have been manufactured and distributed (20 on Seikkyi Island and the remaining in Rakhine State). While most of the facilitators now have the skills required to manufacture the BSF's, all of them know how to maintain the filters, and are able to pass on their knowledge about basic hygiene. The next step will be for the other villagers to learn to maintain the BSF's themselves, so as to avoid dependence on the facilitator.

The impact of BSF's: a concrete BSF installed in a large household can benefit the entire family, as well as neighbouring households. The different layers of sand and gravel filter the water and make it safe to drink. The concrete then keeps it cool. But it does require maintenance.

In 2016, the WASH program was also introduced in the Muslim Internally Displaced People (IDP) camp in Sittwe, which included the installation of concrete BSF's. Unfortunately, due to the conflict, it was not possible to install more BSF's in the camp during 2017. Hopefully, this will become possible at a later stage, when the political climate allows for it.

The BSF manufacturing units in Sittwe and Minpya townships are managed by the CDE facilitators, and they have successfully been producing BSF's for the 47 communities. After making the communities aware of the benefits of having a BSF, the intention is to make the manufacturing and distribution an income-generating, sustainable livelihood for the facilitators. The next step for GWM is to start focusing on sanitation, which will also include manufacturing and distribution of hardware.

Education

Projects

The Community Development Education (CDE) program in the Kaladan River area of Northern/Central Rakhine State is gradually growing stronger and including more villages, thanks to the support from our donors. This makes it possible to reach and improve the living conditions of disadvantaged people living in one of the least developed areas of Myanmar.

Together with our local implementing partners, Community Development Education (CDE), Socio-Economic Development Institute (SEDI) and People4People, Graceworks Myanmar (GWM) now have a strong network of 23 competent CDE facilitators, and community committees, covering 58+ communities. The facilitators are responsible for engaging and mobilising their local communities in planning and implementing community-based development projects.

The program currently covers Mrauk-U, Kyauktaw, Sittwe, Ponna Gyun, Minbya and Pauktaw Townships. Together with CDE, we are in the process of expanding to three more villages in Buthidaung township, strategically targeting areas where Buddhists and Muslims live side by side.

During the past year, the CDE facilitators have received quarterly Training of the Trainers (TOT), providing them with the tools required to mobilise their communities and facilitate community-led development projects. This includes training in participatory, arts-based peace building activities (focusing on identities and peace building through music), and advocacy (how to apply for money from outside).

As part of our Water and Sanitation for Health (WASH) Program, the facilitators have also received training in hygiene, sanitation, clean water and the construction of bio-sand filters, conducted by members of our Canadian WASH partner, CAWST.

GWM has a mobile maternal health care training program which is operative in the Yangon region specifically in poor areas where there is little support for pregnant mothers. This initiative has been supported with 2 new portable sonography machines and staff from a major hospital in Yangon.

The sector is managed by qualified Australian sonographer Allison Swinkells who also trains local staff in sonography. For more information about the maternal health program go to page 20.

Bio sand filter manufacturing.





CDE facilitator training.

Impacts

The CDE program is starting to have the anticipated impact. The communities involved are gradually showing a stronger commitment to the program, and expressing a better understanding of the importance of working together, and finding solutions by utilising local human and natural resources.

Through the planning and implementation of community-based development projects, Community Development Education (CDE) is today helping more than 70,000 people meet their most basic needs. These projects include:

- improved village infrastructure (construction of roads, bridges and drains preventing flooding), enabling trade and business, interaction between communities, and access to remote schools and healthcare – even during rainy season.
- manufacturing and installation of bio-sand filters, providing clean drinking water, hygiene awareness training, and building fences protecting water ponds from animals.
- construction or repair of school buildings and provision of education materials, creating a strong foundation for improved education

The facilitation of community-based projects has inspired and mobilised villagers to become more proactive and continue planning and implementing similar projects – on their own. In some cases, the community-based projects have even been a source of inspiration beyond the village, as they have attracted the attention of the local government. This will hopefully result in increased government funding.

These developments meet some of the most basic needs of the villagers, and provides the foundation for them to start focusing on how to address other challenges; such as gaining access to quality healthcare inside their own villages, creating livelihood/job training opportunities, and advocating for the government to provide school teachers.

Through training and advice from our Canadian WASH partner, the CDE facilitators have gained the skills required to manufacture, install and maintain bio-sand filters in their communities. For more information about our WASH program see page 16.



Projects & Impacts

Graceworks Myanmar (GWM) funds a Health Care Training School (HCTS) in Yangon, where students are taught basic health care. They are also trained to a level where they have the ability and resources to deliver a baby. In August, 21 Community Health Workers graduated from the school. Of those, 10 students returned to their townships outside of Yangon as community health care workers.

A Vscan Access- ultrasound machine was purchased with funds raised by GWM to be used to compliment the training at the HCTS.

This ultrasound scanner is a portable battery and AC powered unit, designed by GE Healthcare to specifically meet the needs of poor and remote communities. Assessment of potential life threatening conditions for the mother and baby can be easily and quickly detected prior to delivery with ultrasound, thereby saving lives.

A Maternity Health Clinic was held on Seikkyi Island where pregnant women were given the opportunity to have an ultrasound. Women living on the island often do not have the financial means to travel across the river for healthcare in downtown Yangon. This results in them potentially having no access to an ultrasound throughout their pregnancy.

Three newly graduated Community Healthcare workers returned to Yangon from their villages where they had been working, after graduating from the HCTS to assist in this pre-natal clinic. The Healthcare workers had an opportunity to try their hand at scanning. A basic level of obstetric ultrasound scanning skill is easily taught with the Vscan Access and it is planned to form part of the future training of Health Care Workers who originate from areas where GWM Community Development Education (CDE) initiatives occur. A Health Care Worker when trained in basic obstetric ultrasound and equipped with a Vscan ultrasound machine, will provide a lifesaving resource for these communities.

By invitation, GWM had the opportunity to apply for a grant resulting in the donation of another ultrasound unit for more detailed assessment of pregnancy related concerns as well as to expand the resources available for medical clinics.



Ultrasound being performed at a Maternity Health Clinic on Seikkyi Island.



Livelihoods

Projects & Impact

The major focus for our livelihood sector is the manufacturing of bio-sand filters for the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene program (WASH) which is conducted on the GWM compound in Sittwe, Rakhine State.

WASH is a vital element of the CDE program and our facilitators have been trained in WASH by Centre for Affordable Water and Sanitation Technology (CAWST), a Canadian based organisation with a footprint around the world.

GWM has set-up a consultancy arm in Sittwe for the WASH program where outside agencies and organisations can receive information and training, and ultimately purchase bio-sand filters from GWM.

Further training is planned for the hygiene element of WASH where toilets will be installed in villages.

Village communities conduct various livelihood projects, primarily focusing on agriculture and animal husbandry.

These initiatives are maintained by local communities and provide the income and food supply that sustains the growth for local economies.



Bio sand filter manufacturing.





Arts-based Peacebuilding Action Research

The arts can often create a space outside everyday life where people take the time to reflect on issues and devise creative solutions. It is also a powerful marker of cultural, communal and personal identities, which in turn are core issues in the current conflict. This project seeks to utilise arts-based activities with the villages in the Community Development Education (CDE) program, to explore the nature of the conflict and ways that they can actively support and promote peace.

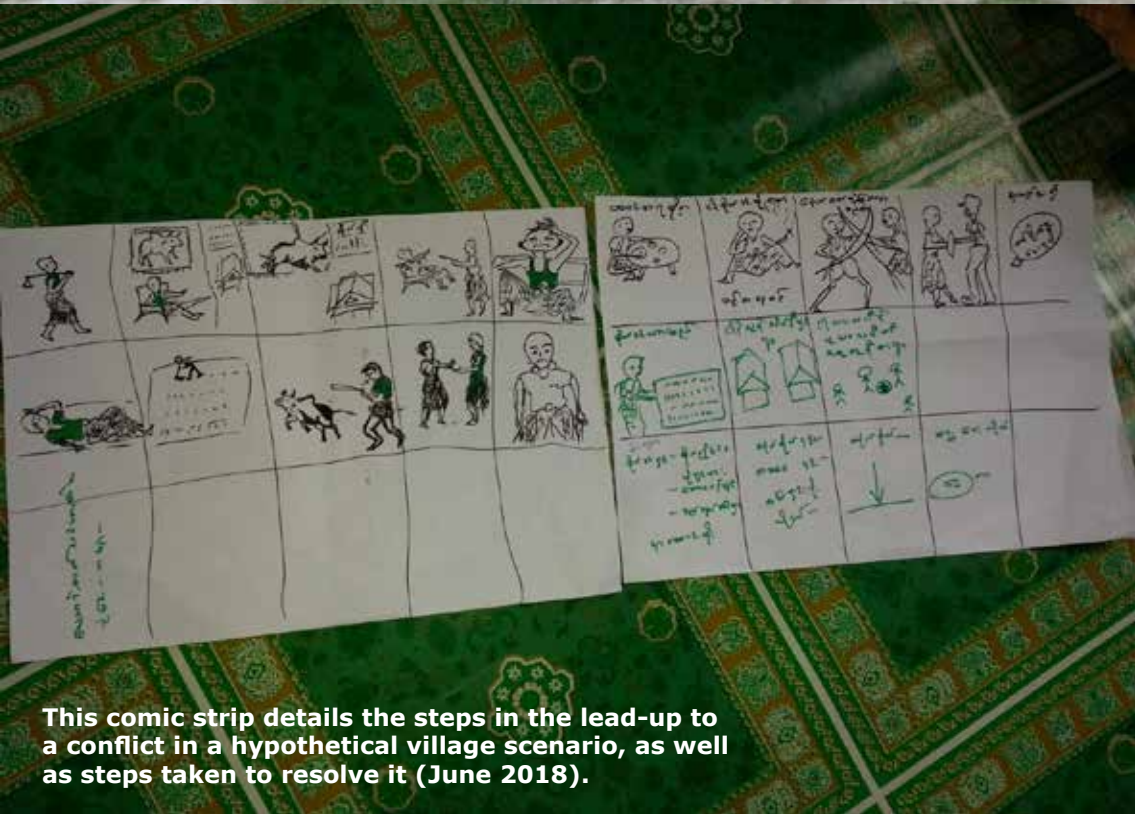
Dr Vicki Ware (Deakin University) has been working with the CDE facilitators since early-2016 in a series of twice-yearly arts-based workshops that explore the nature of conflict in Rakhine State, envisioning a more peaceful future and practical skills needed to resolve conflicts. In December 2017, the group spent time using reflective writing, poetry and storytelling to work through the psycho-social impacts of the August 2017 intercommunal violence and ensuing refugee crisis. We then rebuilt a sense of urgency by exploring their ability to control their own responses to conflict, and choosing to be peace-oriented.

At the start of the workshop several people expressed their deep fear of Muslim terrorism and violence, going so far as to say they wished to see Muslims driven out of the state altogether. One man angrily stated that he wanted to see all the Muslims killed. The workshop followed an arts-based process of exploring what they could and could not control, what their real fears were and how they could be addressed, and building empathy towards the Muslims. By the end of the workshop, the angry man said not only did he now realise the need to show Muslims mercy and compassion, but his whole expression had changed and he was almost in tears as he spoke. Others explained that they realised they could control their own attitudes and reactions.

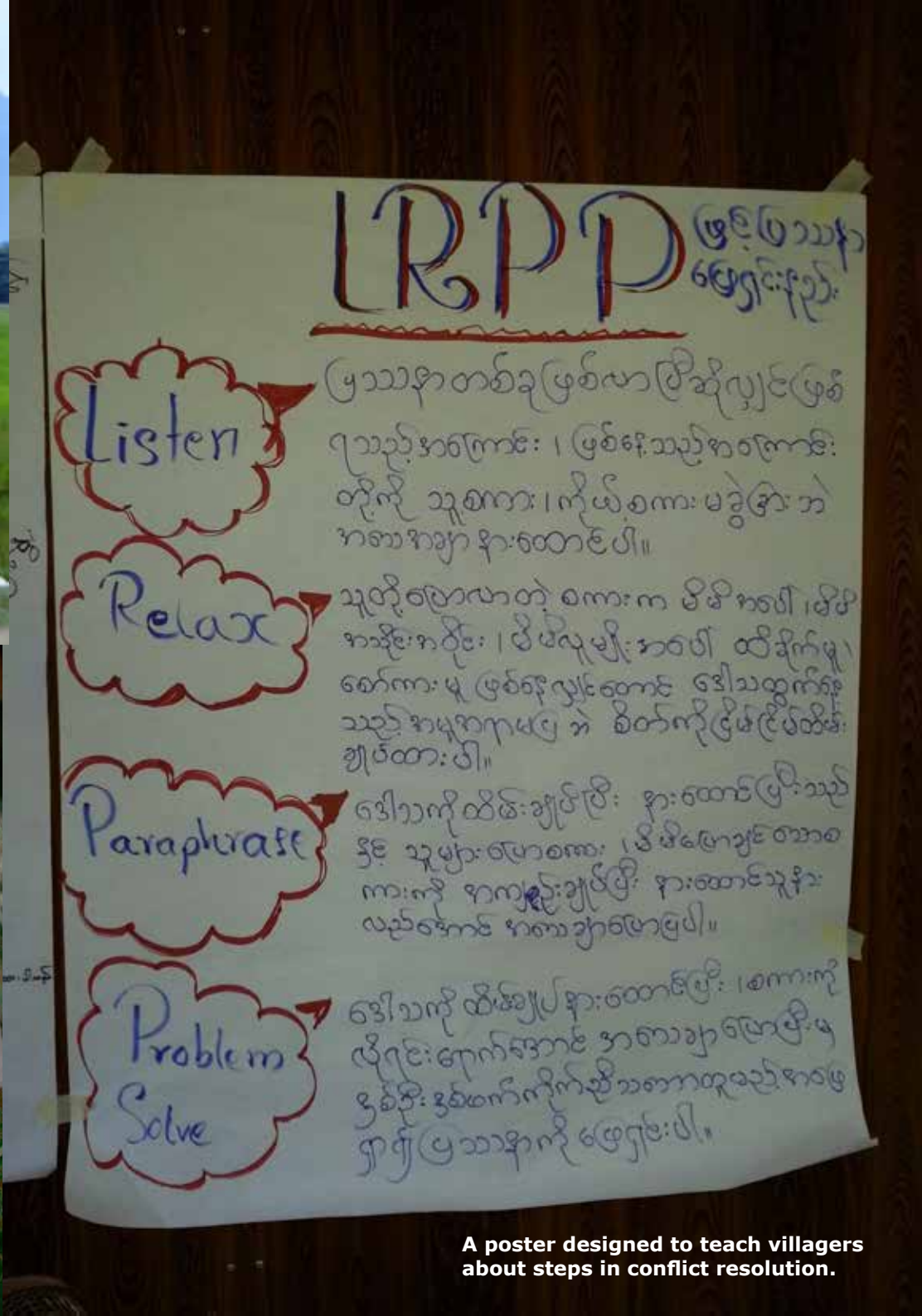
They also talked about having changed their attitudes and wanting to change their behaviour towards others, in their village and beyond, leading to improved relationships.

Another workshop held in June 2018 built on this, delving into practical conflict resolution skills that could be used within families, in their villages and beyond. Participants reported appreciating the opportunity to role play hypothetical conflicts to test their newfound resolution and mediation skills.

Research data collected from the workshops continues to demonstrate small but highly significant shifts in attitudes towards the other side of the conflict, a willingness to show mercy and compassion to people regardless of ethnicity or religious orientation, and a range of other positive personal outcomes. For example, one facilitator used a story we had told about how to approach difficult personalities wisely and sensitively to help him work out a way of gaining the cooperation of villagers in installing solar panels. Another talked about using stories about good and bad in every person to encourage family members with alcohol abuse issues to stop drinking. A third facilitator talked about using stories to teach children in the village to be more respectful and cooperative.



This comic strip details the steps in the lead-up to a conflict in a hypothetical village scenario, as well as steps taken to resolve it (June 2018).



A poster designed to teach villagers about steps in conflict resolution.

Conflict Research

2017 saw the conflict in Rakhine State take a horrific turn. Militant attacks and military operations in August 2017 resulted in a massive refugee crisis. Some 671,500 Muslim Rohingya fled to Bangladesh in a matter of months. This takes the total number of Muslims displaced from Rakhine State to Bangladesh to almost 1.1 million. Tens of thousands of people also fled east and south.

Graceworks Myanmars (GWM) Community Development Education (CDE) program operates in 60 villages in northern central Rakhine State. None have been directly exposed to the violence, but all have been deeply traumatised. Thousands of people have been killed, and hundreds of villages burned, all not far from our CDE villages. Most, but not all, have been Muslims, but atrocities have been committed by all sides. Fear and anger run deep. Many of our Rakhine State Buddhist communities are terrified that Islamic jihadism might now gain a foothold in their area, and are thus desperate to see their families, villages and way of life defended.

In the midst of this, our local partner organisation has delivered humanitarian aid to Muslims, Hindus and Buddhists without distinction. Remarkably, many of our facilitators are at the forefront of rebuilding intercommunal relations with the Muslims who remain in Rakhine State, despite their deep fears.

Only 500,000 – 600,000 Muslims now remain in Rakhine State, amongst 2 million Buddhist. About 250,000 live in villages in Northern Rakhine State. Another 200,000 or so live in villages in northern Central Rakhine State, where GWM's CDE program is strongest. In addition, 97% of the Muslims now in Bangladesh want to return to Myanmar when conditions are right, meaning there is likely to be a large return of Muslims in the years to come.

The effectiveness and size of GWM's CDE program gives us a very serious responsibility, but also means we are well-placed to do a lot. The CDE program has been pioneering arts-based peacebuilding for more than a year, and this is now being up-scaled. In addition, we are now incorporating 'everyday peacebuilding' into the core of CDE.

To facilitate this, in May 2017 GWM's partner, Deakin University, released a detailed conflict analysis and strategic advice for GWM, on how to best respond to the Rakhine State crisis. Entitled Understanding & Responding to Conflict in Rakhine State, it is freely available on the GWM website.

GWM is in a strategic position to implement programs to help bring transformation to the relations between Muslim and Buddhist communities, and work to lay a foundation for a more prosperous and harmonious shared future. The approach recommended by Deakin, and being adopted by GWM, relies on 'everyday peacebuilding'. Traditionally, most peacebuilding has revolved around elite discussions. High-level peace negotiations are essential, but cannot succeed on their own, and Rakhine State does not currently allow groups of Buddhists and Muslims to be brought together for peace discussions anyway.

Everyday peacebuilding focuses on everyday discussions within communities, and contact between the different communities, it works to change the attitudes towards 'the other', ensure the numerous everyday encounters with the other group remain peaceful, and increase the frequency of small actions, encounters and activities between groups. Our goal is to create safe spaces for locals to openly discuss sensitive issues, reimagine a better future, and seek positive encounters between different ethnic groups, rebuilding trust and opening the lines of communication for non-violent resolution of issues when tensions inevitably arise.



No Man's Land - Looking out across a security checkpoint at Aung Mingalar, the Rohingya Muslim ghetto in Sittwe, in which Muslims remain trapped.

We have 2 key approaches to achieve this:

1. Training in and utilising participatory arts, such as song-writing, poetry and story-telling, to creatively open safe spaces for sensitive issues to be discussed.
2. Supporting inter-communal encounters (encounters between communities) by training community facilitators in planning ways to ensure incidental encounters between communities remain peaceful, and assist communities plan for additional, positive everyday encounters with their neighbours in the course of doing shared livelihood/business activities, such as agriculture, markets, etc.

MYANMAR'S 'ROHYINGA' CONFLICT is the most recent book on the conflict by Dr Anthony Ware and Dr Costas Laoutides. It has been widely acclaimed for its detail analysis and factual commentary, complimented by a comprehensive historical narrative of the conflict.

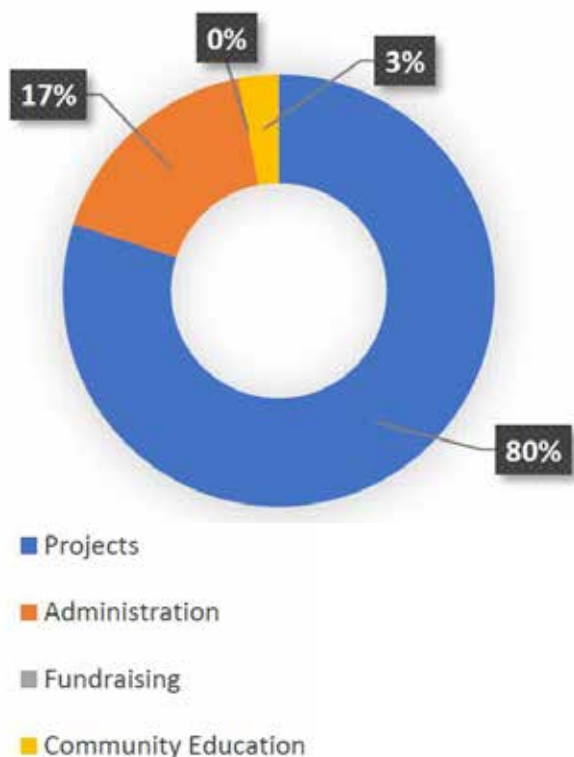
Dr Anthony Ware is Senior Lecturer in Development Studies at Deakin University, Melbourne, and Director of the Australia Myanmar Institute. He specialises in international development in conflict situations, and sociopolitical dynamics of community-led development.

Dr Costas Laoutides is Senior Lecturer in International Relations at Deakin University, Melbourne. He specialises in separatist conflicts, particularly relationships between negotiated settlements and modes of political accommodation

Online sales: www.specialtybooks.com.au

Financial Report

2017/2018 Expenditure on Revenue



Board Declaration

The Board of Graceworks Myanmar Inc. states that the accompanying concise financial report is presented fairly in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards and is consistent with the Associations 30 June 2018 financial report.

In respect to the 30 June 2018 financial report of Graceworks Myanmar Inc. the board declares that:

1. The financial statements are special purpose financial statements prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirement of the Associations Incorporations Act of Victoria and the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission.
2. The board has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.
3. The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historic costs and do not take in to account changing money values or, except where stated specifically, current valuations of non current assets.

4. The financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2018 and performances of the association for the year then ended.
5. In the Board's opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that Graceworks Myanmar Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This statement has been made in accordance with a resolution of the Board

Cameron Burgess
Chair

Peter Simmons
CEO

Des Collinson
Treasurer

INCOME STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	2018 (\$)	2017
REVENUE		
Donations & Gifts	38,800	30,829
Members Fees	-	150
Grants	263,154	241,665
Other Income	-	56,140
TOTAL REVENUE	301,954	328,784
EXPENSES		
Program Expense		
Funds to International Programs	207,712	280,938
Program to Support Costs	64,802	47,180
Community Education Expense	11,372	5,385
Fundraising Expense	-	9,169
Accountability & Administration Expense	58,085	46,920
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	341,971	389,592
Excess/(Shortfall) Of Revenue Over Expenditure	(40,017)	(60,808)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2018

	2018 (\$)	2017
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	4,718	45,581
Trade and other receivables	3,320	2,996
Other	871	2,131
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	8,909	50,708
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment	7,500	1,340
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	7,500	1,340
TOTAL ASSETS	16,409	52,048
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	5,532	1,155
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	5,532	1,155
TOTAL LIABILITIES	5,532	1,155
NET ASSETS	10,877	50,893
EQUITY		
Retained Surpluses/(Deficits)	10,877	50,893
TOTAL EQUITY	10,877	50,893



Flooding is a huge problem in the Rakhine State and disaster relief training is part of GWM's Community Development Education program.

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Report produced by: Emma Hull - Content Marketer, Mb 0438 381 979

Report printed by: Deakin University, proud supporters of GraceWorks Myanmar Inc.

Photography Credit: Marie Ditlevsen, Dr Anthony Ware and Margaret Simmons

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