



GraceWorks
M Y A N M A R

2018/2019 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.

**Hope is being able to see that there is light
despite all the darkness.**





Feeding program for children at GWM community centre

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Ben Muller

Chairman

The 2018/2019 year has been a year of change for GWM.

Most importantly Grace Works Myanmar (GWM) have successfully moved further down the path in its objective to achieve

DFAT accreditation. It has achieved ACFID status, which is the first step, however there is now a long journey ahead for all involved in GWM to structure, support and deliver to these new criteria.

The GWM partnership with Grace Works Company Limited (GWCL) in Myanmar is a critical in these future steps. None of what GWM has achieved would be at all possible without our partnerships in Myanmar (and Australia) and our volunteers who all assist to outwork the GWM mission to improve the wellbeing of Myanmar's people, however, GWM now need to support and work even closer with GWCL to help outwork the organisations mission.

The alignment with GWCL and the team is very apparent, and I am confident that GWM and GWCL will be successful in outworking the governance criteria essential for DFAT accreditation.

Thank you to our Board and Volunteers for your commitment, service and passion over the last 12 months as without your efforts, the grassroots impact for the people in Myanmar would not be possible.

Looking forward to 2019/2020, GWM will continue to pursue the DFAT process and this will also be the year that we farewell Cam Burgess from the board, and I want to personally thank Cam for his spirit, leadership, passion and commitment to GWM.

Thankyou once again for all your prayers and support throughout the year, and we encourage you to again partner with us next year as we join hands and join hearts with the people in Myanmar.

Ben Muller



Peter Simmons

Founder and CEO

The past year has been one of dramatic contrasts, as our work in difficult and fragile environments has caused us to reflect, take action and prepare for the future.

Through our community development education and everyday peacebuilding programs we have seen lives and livelihoods restored and communities coming together in the countries poorest region. I have seen economic and social transformation happening as a result of innovative programming. To me, this is evidence that it was right to plan and build for the long term, as we have done.

Our development programs and responses to the fall out of ongoing conflict gives me enormous hope, a reassurance that in the face of trouble and tragedy, it is always possible to do something and have a real impact.

There is a sense of optimism and hope that enables these communities to flourish in the face of overwhelming odds that despite a lack of resources they find a way through.

We must not forget the GWM leaders and on the ground facilitators who lead these communities as it is their commitment and passion to overcome every adversity that inspires others.

Looking back on all this there is one thing that stands out to me and that is possibility. Early in the year I spent time visiting people impacted by our past programs and many are now in positions of influence through their jobs, some in business, a result of creating possibilities.

I have spent a great deal of time seeking out new donors working with government to provide funds to enable our work to continue. Funding our programs remains our biggest challenge.

Finally, let me extend my sincere thanks to all our supporters, board members and team leaders. Every year, in spite of setbacks and disasters, I stand in wonder at the difference you make to the hundreds of lives through your loyal commitment to the people of Myanmar.

Peter Simmons

Corporate Governance

The Board

The board comprises of five members - Des Collinson, Ben Muller, Peter Simmons, Natasha Allitt and Cameron Burgess 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).



Dental clinic at GWM community centre

Board of Directors



Ben Muller - Chairman

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: 3 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: 8 years



Peter Simmons - CEO and Founder

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

Duration: 16 years



Natashia Allitt

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: 2 years



Cameron Burgess

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

Duration: 7 years

Claire Henning - Secretary to the Board

Duration: 1 year

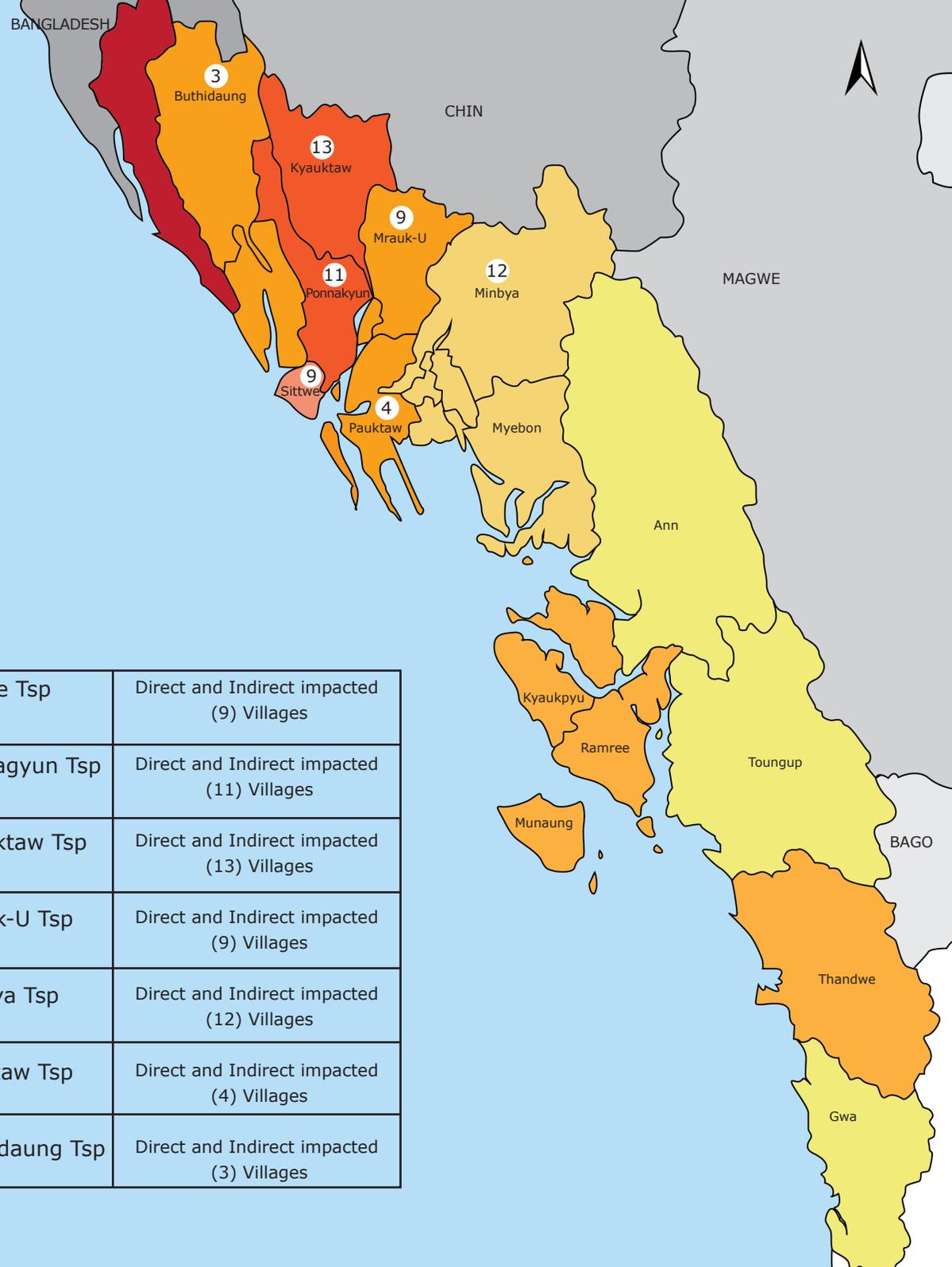
Where We Impact

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

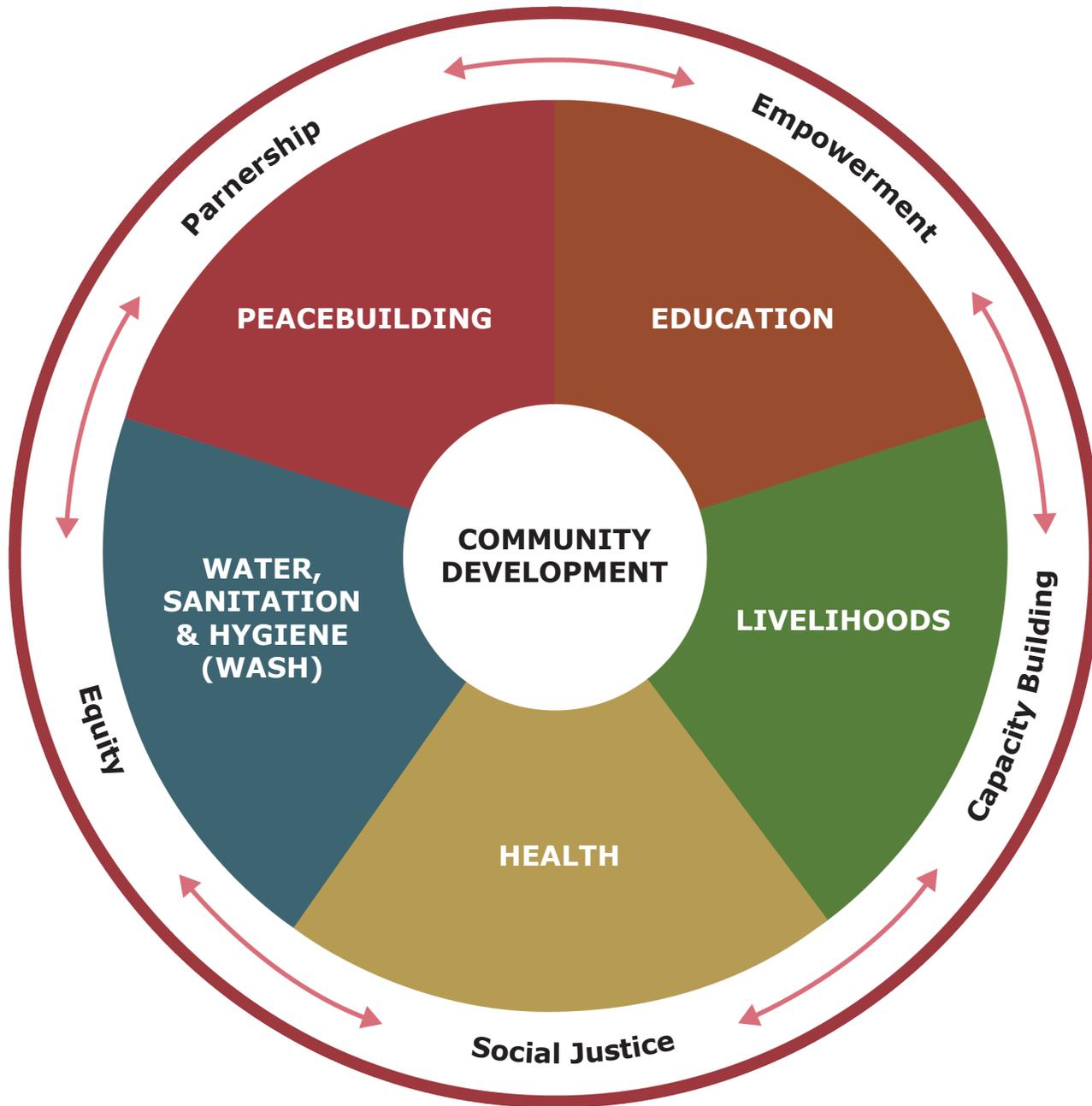
We intentionally work within five key focus areas of education; health, livelihoods, WASH and peacebuilding.

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.

WM'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.



CDE facilitator training.





Bio sand filter manufacturing.



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.

HEALTH

Projects & Impacts

The GraceWorks Myanmar health sector has continued to provide free pregnancy ultrasounds to many of the women living in the low medical resourced townships on the outskirts of Yangon. These ultrasound clinics were performed to detect high risk pregnancies so that the women can be referred on to a hospital for further assessment and to give birth in a safer environment than in their village where there is little or no medical help. The clinics were run with a trained Community Health Worker or local doctor assisting the Australian trained Medical Sonographer. Five high risk pregnancies were discovered that were subsequently referred to the Yangon Central Women's Hospital.

There were times when women came to the clinics with other complaints, essentially pain- both gynecological in nature and abdominal. This led to abdominal studies being performed, resulting in a number of symptomatic women being diagnosed with issues that needed surgical intervention and consequently referred on to the closest hospital for treatment.

The opportunity to invest in the training of young Myanmar Radiologists in obstetric ultrasound during these clinics has resulted in some of these doctors realizing a desire to help more often and to invest their spare time in the future in clinics like these when they qualify.

It has always been the plan that the clinics will be run from within the communities so that they are more sustainable. It is hoped that in the coming year GraceWorks Myanmar will be successful in gaining a grant to provide training and ultrasound equipment to a number of Community Health Workers so that they can take ownership of this in their communities and to also reach out to surrounding villages.

Challenges with the quality and availability of electricity has yet again demonstrated that the GE Vscan Access portable ultrasound

machine is second to none with its dependability, quality of images and ease of use for the basic scanning that was generally only required. Times when more advanced assessments were needed, a larger unit with printer was utilized but technical problems often occurred with the printer all due to the low electricity voltage.



Above: Ultrasound being performed at a Maternity Health Clinic on Seikkyi Island





Bio sand filter manufacturing.

LIVELIHOODS

Projects & Impacts

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.



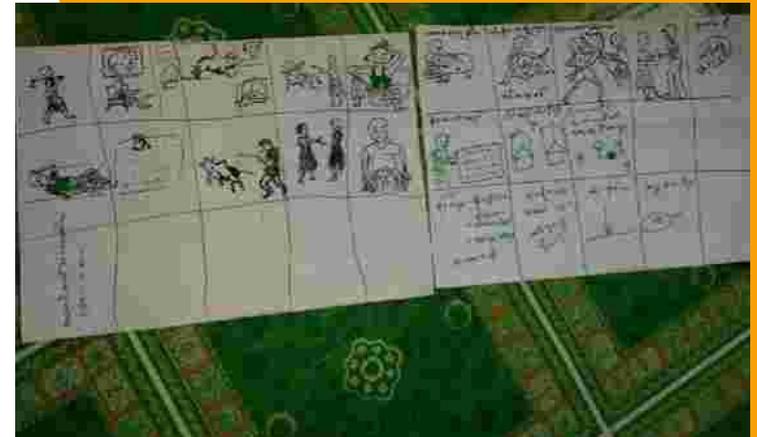
PEACEBUILDING

Strengthening formation of 'everyday peace' through arts programming

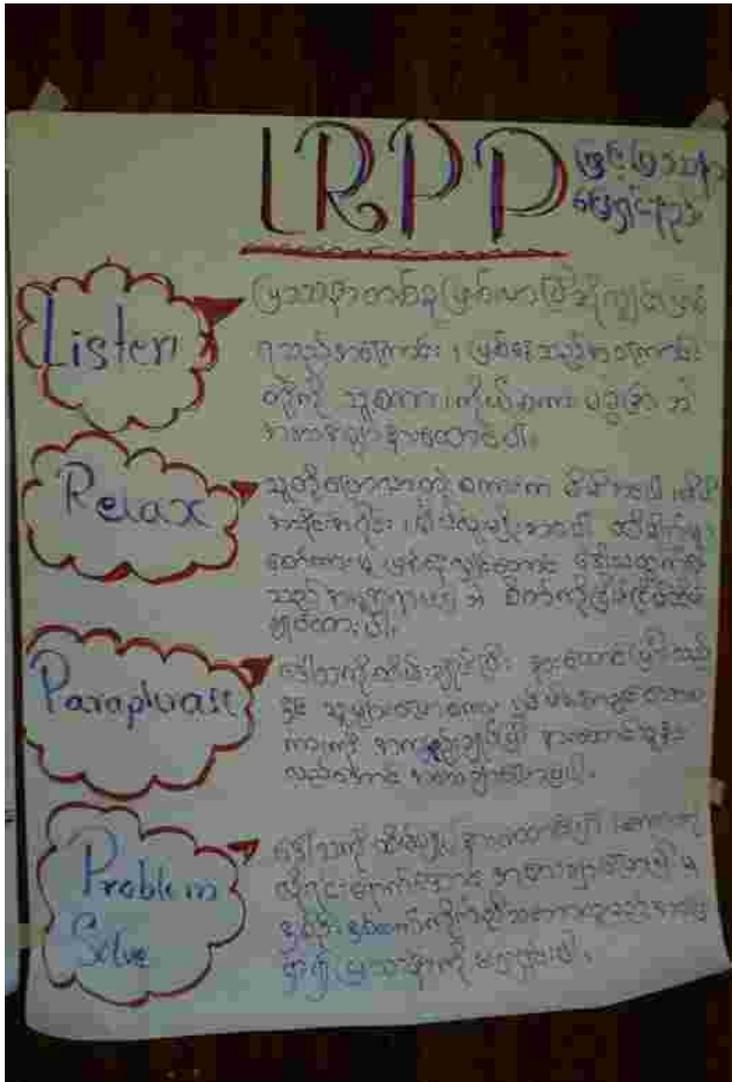
GWM's recently completed 2016-2019 community development programme in Rakhine State (Community Development Education, or CDE) incorporated a strong component of arts-based peacebuilding. Approximately every 6 months, Dr Vicki Ware (Deakin University) provided arts-based training to CD facilitators around: widening narrowed, hardened conflict-identities towards more inclusive frameworks; augmenting agency around what they can influence; and engaging them in the difficult work of promoting social harmony.

Arts form an integral part of everyday human life, providing both pleasure and space outside the routine in which we learn, explore, reflect and grow. Thus, arts activities are a crucial part of community development: they ensure development incorporates enhanced quality of life across all domains, while teaching important skills like creative problem-solving, cooperative communal negotiation of sensitive issues, and critical thinking. Evidence collected from Vicki's research demonstrated small but highly significant shifts in attitudes and reported behaviour among the majority of facilitators, along with creative application of newfound knowledge and skills in resolving conflicts both within and between communities.

Further research conducted by Vicki and Dr Anthony Ware (Deakin University), identified several instances of villages reaching out to Muslim neighbours to re-establish inter-communal ties (cut off during the August 2017 violence). One facilitator reported conducting peacebuilding training in his community. One businesswoman became excited, realising universal human rights also apply to her Muslim neighbours. Doing business with them is therefore not only legitimate, but important for protecting their



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.



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

human rights. She committed to engaging them directly in future trade relationships. Another project village reported villagers had already re-opened a marketplace shared with their Muslim neighbours, while a third community reported Buddhist and Muslim youth playing sport together each evening.

These two research projects plus research into Myanmar's Rohingya conflict (by Anthony and Deakin colleague Dr Costas Laoutides) culminated in the preparation of:

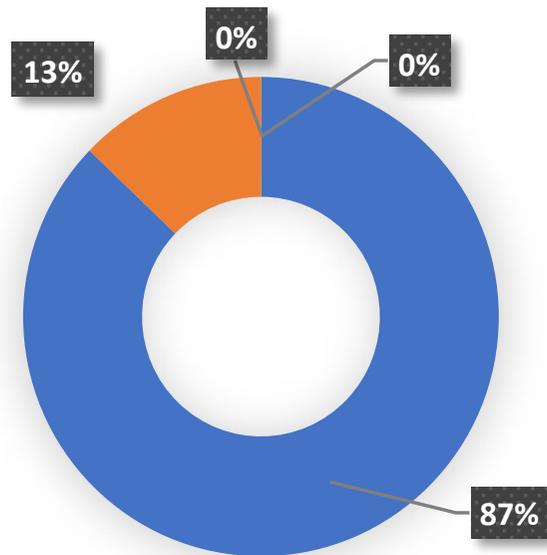
Understanding & Responding to Conflict in Rakhine State: Conflict analysis & conflict sensitive strategic program advice for GraceWorks Myanmar (GWM)

It also contributed to adaptation of the CDE programme to incorporate the strengthening of 'everyday peace' formation. Over the past several years, Anthony has adapted leading UK academic Professor Roger MacGinty's theoretical concepts of everyday peace, into a world first application for practical training. Going forward, CDE will actively promote the strengthening 'everyday peace' formation, through a refined and integrated programme of arts activities.

Traditional peacebuilding approaches focus on the tiny minority of the population who visibly promote harmony, ignoring the potential impacts of supporting those who may lack the confidence to openly promote non-violence. By refusing to actively join in violence, these people are contributing to a preliminary form of peace. In making CDE facilitators aware of ways they can promote non-violence, and networking facilitators' efforts to do so, CDE has the potential to contribute to more sustainable forms of inter-communal engagement and cooperation. Networking communities via our training, for example, highlights they are not alone, strengthening their empowerment to model peace in local contexts.

Financial Report

2018/2019 Expenditure on Revenue



- Projects
- Administration
- Fundraising
- Community Education

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.

Ben Muller
Chair

Peter Simmons
CEO

Des Collinson
Treasurer

INCOME STATEMENT FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

	2019 (\$)	2018
REVENUE		
Donations & Gifts	36,357	38,800
Members Fees	500	-
Grants	344,083	263,154
Other Income	-	-
TOTAL REVENUE	380,940	301,954
EXPENSES		
Program Expense		
Funds to International Programs	145,105	207,712
Program to Support Costs	119,233	64,802
Community Education Expense	-	11,372
Fundraising Expense	-	-
Accountability & Administration Expense	48,717	58,085
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	313,055	341,971
Excess/(Shortfall) Of Revenue Over Expenditure	67,885	(40,017)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2019

	2019 (\$)	2018
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	75,055	4,718
Trade and other receivable	5,349	3,320
Other	569	871
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	80,973	8,909
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment	7,500	7,500
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	7,500	7,500
TOTAL ASSETS	88,473	16,409
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payable	9,712	5,532
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	9,712	5,532
TOTAL LIABILITIES	9,712	5,532
NET ASSETS	78,761	10,877
EQUITY		
Retained Surpluses/(Deficits)	78,761	10,877
TOTAL EQUITY	78,761	10,877

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GraceWorks Myanmar

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GraceWorks
M Y A N M A R

