

Annual Report
01 April 2014 – 31 March 2015

Mission

To cooperate with local communities based on their culture, customs, and resources and shared values when implementing environmental conservation and community development activities across the country.

Uniqueness

To focus on the 20 million people living in the Ayeyarwaddy River basin by providing humanitarian, environmental and community mobilising agenda. Airavati values inclusion, embraces diversity, equality, and transparency, and promotes the rich cultures that define our identities across the different ethnic nationals that compose the mosiac of the Union of Myanmar.

ရောဂတီလူမှုရေးအသင်းအဖွဲ့ သည် ရောဂတီမြစ်ပှမ်းတလျောက် မှီတင်း နေထိုင်သော ပြည်သူ သန်း (၂၀) ကို ဦးတည်ကာ လူသားချင်းစာနာထောက် ထားမှုနှင့် သဘာဂဂန်းကျင်ဆိုင်ရာ အသိအမြင်ဖွင့်နှိုးကြားစေခြင်း လုပ်ငန်း များကို ရပ်ကျေးပြည်သူများနှင့်အတူ ဆောင်ရွက်သွားမည် ဖြစ်သည်။

ပြည်ထောင်စု မြန်မာနိုင်ငံရှိ များပြားစုံ လင်လှသော တိုင်းရင်းသားပြည်သူတို့ ၏ ပေါင်းစည်းအလှကို ပုံဖော်ပေး နေသော ပကတိ အရှိတရားများဖြစ် သည့် ကြွယ်းသောယဉ်ကျေးမှုများကို ရောဂတီ (Airavati) လူမှုရေးအသင်း အဖွဲ့ မှ တတ်အားသရွေ့ ထိန်းသိမ်းမြှင့် တင်သွားမည်ဖြစ်ပြီး၊ မတူကွဲပြားမှုကို လက်ခံခြင်း တန်းတူညီမှုမှုရှိခြင်း ပွင့်လင်းမြင်သာမှုရှိခြင်း တို့အား မြတ် နိုးတန်ဘိုးထားလုပ်ဆောင်သွားမည် ဖြစ်သည်။

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AIRAVATI REGISTRATION INFORMATION

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THANKS TO ALL

The Airavati thanks the first donors, especially the individual donors, and its partners that support local ownership, all of which have made programme implementation possible during the first year.

Executive Summary

The Airavati, a Sanskrit word for the elephant river, was formed in response to the emerging desire by the peoples of Myanmar that the Ayeyarwaddy River continues to flow far into the future. The Airavati's uniqueness is that it supports a lifeline of very diverse communities and 20 million people living in the river basin to continue earning a living in a natural environment that has supported them for generations.

Organisationally, the Airavati has a strategic advocacy focus that incorporates a humanitarian, environmental and community mobilising agenda. In order to accomplish this, the Airavati uses a sociocratic system instead of line or matrix management. Projects are implemented using holistic and inclusive approaches which support self-determination and peacebuilding. Its principles and practices are based on equality, effectiveness and transparency which are designed to support unity and respect for the individual. This system promotes consensual decision-making processes that ensure gender equality and inclusiveness of diverse ethnic and religious communities in the project areas. Ultimately, all activities are intended to be owned by local people and will reflect the interdependence and interconnectedness for all forms of life.

The first year of Airavati programme successfully ended on 31 March 2015, as its local projects increased visibility and awareness in their affected communities and had many accomplishments, as well as learned many lessons. Airavati's programme is comprised of six components which provides a coherent framework for the full range of inter-related project activities.

A total of USD 164,352.00 funds was received for the first year's budget that supported the programme components with the projects under the Community Resilience in the Confluence component receiving the largest portion of funds. In addition to funds received from individuals and donor organisations in-kind support included a camera, a vehicle and project and housing space was provided the Children Overcoming Conflict and Displacement through the Arts project. Direct beneficiaries include 729 persons in addition to many local people that attended training on land laws, civil society meetings and other project related meetings and training. The direct beneficiaries include 428 children from the Children Overcoming Conflict and Displacement through the Arts project and the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) project. Other direct beneficiaries included the ECCD teachers and

children's parents that initiated local projects to generate income that helps make it possible to send their children to school.

During the year a stakeholder's meeting and a workshop on organisational development were held that strengthened their resolve and purpose. Airavati is maximising its resources for programme activities in order to build community cohesion and unity which helps local people to support themselves while improving their quality of life for the long term. The overall focus on strengthening civil society is at the heart of Airavati's integrated approach as it specifically supports local non-governmental organisation (NGO) and community based organisation's (CBO) ability to become independent. We are honoured to be sharing resources with several communities in the delta region and in Kachin and northern Shan states, as well as with two local NGOs, Metta Development Foundation (Metta) and Network Activities Group (NAG).

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Introduction

An independent assessment in the Myitsone confluence area in November 2013, identified some of the local people's most critical needs which the Airavati is attempting to strategically address through six programme components that includes:

- Community Resilience in the Confluence;
- Community Resilience in the Delta Area;
- Tales of the Riverbank:
- Community-Led Watershed Advocacy;
- Social Information and Mobilisation (SIM); and
- Children Overcoming Conflict and Displacement through the Arts.

Projects are being initiated in 2 states (Kachin and northern Shan) and 2 divisions (Ayeyarwaddy and Yangon), and eventually areas in the dry zone which is located in 3 more divisions (Mandalay, Sagaing, and Magway). The Airavati staff complement includes 8 field personnel, 4 national coordination staff, and 6 partners/volunteers. Local staff are guiding the initiatives in the project areas that are taking place in two states and one region, and during the first year, are concentrating in the Myitsone River confluence area. The national coordination staff is based in Yangon.

During the Airavati's first year all six programme components had activities with Community Resilience in the Confluence, Social Information and Mobilisation (SIM) and Children Overcoming Conflict and Displacement through the Arts (Children's Art Project) being more fully implemented. The other three components includ-

ing Community Resilience in the Delta Area, Tales of the Riverbank and Community-Led Watershed Advocacy have taken steps to prepare for implementation in the second and third year. Actually, community members from one village involved in the delta project took their own initiative to form a savings and loan group using their own funds. On-site monitoring visits have been made by the board chairperson and secretary.

In spite of the ongoing armed conflict taking place in Kachin and northern Shan states, the projects under the programme components were determined to reach their goals. The Community Resilience in the Confluence programme component has more information because it received the largest proportion of funds and a programme management evaluation was conducted to measure its overall impact.

The Airavati uses a holistic integrated programme approach instead of an individual project approach which has a heavy administrative workload. Working with institutional funds or indirect funding that can be utilised beyond the project period is essential to maintain strategic long term planning and efficiency. The growing concern is the donors' need for individual separate reporting and without recognising the need for these essential institutional funds. These are the factors that challenge organisational development and sustainability.

The report is organised by programme component with a narrative description of accomplishments. There are also sections on organisational development and finances.

The Airavati's Vision and Mission

as Framed by its Founding Members



Vision

TO ENSURE THAT THE AYEYARWADDY
RIVER FLOWS FAR INTO THE FUTURE, AS
WELL AS PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT,
CULTURE AND WAY OF LIFE FOR THE MANY
COMMUNITIES SURROUNDING IT.

Mission

TO COOPERATE WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES BASED ON THEIR CULTURE, CUSTOMS, AND RESOURCES AND SHARED VALUES WHEN IMPLEMENTING ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE COUNTRY.

Summary of Accomplishments by Programme Component PROGRAMME COMPONENT AND GEOGRAPHIC AREA ACCOMPLISHMENTS **Community Resilience in the Confluence** Early Childhood Care & Development (ECCD) 4 villages Kachin state ■ 78 children enrolled in 3 ECCD centres 3 ECCD centre facilities renovated/repaired ■ Training for teachers, parents and community members ■ Village Management Committees (VMC) formed and received training Sustainable Livelihood Development Program (SLDP) ■ 78 HH began livelihood projects with 241 direct beneficiaries Micro credit union (MCU) of 47 members was formed ■ 124 HH from 2 villages received forest seeds and tools Training provided for VMCs and beneficiaries 2 VMCs formed and conducted regular meetings A programme monitoring evaluation (PME) was conducted **Community Resilience** One village formed a MCU in the Delta Area Yangon division with their own funds Tales of the Riverbank A workshop was held entitled Tales of the Riverbank with 20 participants Ayeyarwaddy and Yangon divisions Published announcement through newspapers and networks requesting written works including stories, essays and poems and received 15 responses. **Community-Led Watershed Advocacy** Airavati staff are building their skills and knowledge base Avevarwaddy division to facilitate training in year two Social Information and Mobilisation (SIM) SIM core group formed Kachin and N. Shan states Farmer network formed Project initiated to protect land and preserve cultural sites Public celebration for halting the Myitsone dam construction Land law awareness workshop conducted 8 civil society organisation meetings held **Children Overcoming Conflict & Displacement** Set up an office in Laiza and hiring 3 staff through the Arts Gathered baseline data on 2,927 students attending 3 schools Kachin state Selected 350 students to participate in the project Offered a painting class which produced 1,087 paintings by as many primary school students; one more painting and drawing class was offered in February with 120 students that produced as many paintings Initiated the first cross border exchange opportunity for 50 Kachin children using mud sculpture Gathered stories of how displacement and war has affected 9 community members and 20 students ■ 350 students have participated in the project to date exceeding their goal Raised project awareness on 5 occasions when groups of visitors came and viewed small exhibits of the children's art and listened to the impact of the project on student's lives

1. Community Resilience in the Confluence

Introduction

The results of a participatory needs assessment conducted in November 2013, 4 villages of the Myitsone confluence area highlighted the harsh living conditions families of displaced from their homes due to dam construction. Although many needs existed, two priorities stood out which were: not having access to children's education; and the absence of livelihood support. In response to these priorities, funding concentrated on adopting a highly participatory approach to community development using the PAR model where interventions empower communities to plan, manage, decide and monitor projects, and ultimately become self-reliant.

The education activities were based on the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) model which has been successfully implemented throughout many areas of Myanmar. ECCD activities focus on the holistic development and growth of children age 5 and younger in order to prepare them to enter primary school.

The Sustainable Livelihood Development Programme (SLDP) concentrated on providing start-up funds for local livelihood projects which have experienced severe setbacks when families are relocated and removed from their homeland.

Each of these programme areas are discussed separately with detailed information about their objectives, activities and accomplishments.

Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD)

The general objective of the ECCD programme component is to support young children's (birth to age 5 years) holistic and healthy development, and improved capacity to learn in the 4 targeted villages including the relocation area, Aung Myin Tha. However, only three villages initiated ECCD projects because the fourth village did not have enough children under 5 years of age to form a new ECCD and sends their children to two existing pre-school centres.

Development Interventions/Activities

The following development interventions have been identified in order to accomplish the specific objectives:

- **1.** Building capacity of teachers, parents, ECCD management committees and community leaders
- **2.** Providing basic teacher and children's educational materials
- 3. Improving existing ECCD centre facilities
- **4.** Providing food to supplement children's nutrition
- **5.** Subsidising teachers' salaries during the first year which will be phased out in year 2 when the income generating projects help increase household' economic security enabling them to support ECCD centre operations.



The activities and outcomes associated with the specific objectives are shown in the table.

SUMMARY OF DEGREE TO WHICH EACH OBJECTIVES | ACTIVITY SUMMARY OBJECTIVE AND ACTIVITY WAS ACHIEVED At least 50% of children o-5 years old (a total of 150) in 4 villages enrolled in ECCD centres ■ 78 children (m 44, f 34) enrolled in 3 ECCD centres ■ 130% of target children enrolled in 3 ECCD centres 6 teachers were hired for 3 ECCD centres ■ 100% of target teachers were hired for 3 ECCD centres Improved access to quality education for children 5 years old and below ECCD centres in 4 confluence villages were better equipped to provide a safe and conducive learning environment for children in 4 priority communities 2 ECCD centres received support for: ceiling, walling, and a kitchen playground facilities sanitation/toilet facilities furniture teaching and educational materials child friendly toys using indigenous materials The specific objectives for the One ECCD centre was provided with a water supply system, toilet ECCD centres were achieved. facilities, a floor mat and tovs 59 children from 2 ECCD centres were fed supplemental food 97% of the target ECCD children received supplemental food. Enhanced capacity of ECCD teachers, parents & community representatives/leaders to respond to children's needs Training included: 20 parents (m 3, f 17) received Parent Education Facilitators 250% target parents from 3 villages Develop capable teachers, parents, community leaders and residents, who (PEFs) training (The original goal was for 8 parents to attend training.) month long ECCD teachers training for 5 teachers understand and can provide appropriate 96 participants attended ECCD development awareness raising child care and nurturing practices for 96% of target community members children 5 years old and younger from 2 villages 14 parents (m 2, f 12) from 3 ECCD centres participated in a toy 175 % of target parents making workshop from 2 villages Improved capacity of ECCD Village Management Committees to manage ECCD centres 20 people (m 10, f 10) from 2 villages were selected for ECCD VMC; the VMCs from the remaining 2 villages will begin meeting **Establish functional ECCD Village** Management Committees (VMC) with in year 2 26 people (m 13, f 13) received ECCD VMC management enhanced organisational, operational All specific objectives were achieved. development training and financial management capacity to 2 ECCD VMCs conducted regular monthly meetings, implement and sustain early childhood supervisory and monitoring visits and prepared monthly reports interventions and inclusive education One annual review and planning session was conducted services with 4 villages

Summary of ECCD Accomplishments by Objective

ECCD ACCOMPLISHMENTS

PME - The programme monitoring and evaluation (PME) session which reviewed year one accomplishments showed that the parents, VMCs and villagers have already observed positive changes in the values, attitudes, skills and knowledge of key stakeholders. Various capacity building interventions have been observed to positively improve the parents' child care practices; the students' behaviour is better compared to non-ECCD children; and the teachers demonstrate commitment and patience while using a child friendly style of teaching. More specifically children are more actively engaged in the centre's activities, are more confident when appearing before an audience, are more respectful and disciplined, appear more knowledgeable and are healthier.

ENROLMENT & GRADUATION

During the 2014-2015 school year a total of 78 children were enrolled in the 3 ECCD centres. However, only 75 (57% boys and 43% girls) completed the school year. Three children dropped out when their families' moved out of the area and/or were having financial difficulties. Even so, the total number of ECCD children exceeded the first year's target of 60 children. This is due to adding Dawngpen village as it was not originally included for Year 1.

Twenty seven children or 36% completed the ECCD and are now ready to enrol in primary schools. The remaining 48 children will continue attending the ECCD centre, and enrolment is expected to increase with more new students from the villages. The table summarises enrolled and graduating children from the 3 ECCD centres.

ECCD Children Enrolled & Graduated from 3 Village ECCD Centres in the 2014-2015 School Year

Graduates	Current Students			Enrolled Children		
	Total	Girls	Boys	Total	Girls	Boys
27	75	32	43	78	34	44





CAPACITY BUILDING

Teachers, parents and community members/leaders participated in 5 types of trainings shown in the table. Building the capacity of community members and participants is essential for ensuring the project's success.

Summary of ECCD Training Participants from 3 Villages

Түре	of Training	PARTICIPANTS		
		Male	Female	Total
	ECCD Teacher		5	5
E	CCD Awareness	16	75	91
Par	ental Education	11	19	30
TOT for Par	ental Education	3	17	20
	Toy Making	2	12	14

Although not included in the capacity building activities, the ECCD VMS's regularly conduct monthly meetings with a majority of members in attendance; the VMCs were observed to be developing capacities in planning, decision making, monitoring and evaluation. The VMC's high participation at meetings is reflective of their very informative nature and in their personal leadership growth.

Other support provided to ECCD projects included:

- a regular monthly salary of MMK 50,000
- improving ECCD facilities by renovating them, building kitchens, playgrounds, toilets, water supplies and providing furniture
- providing teaching and learning materials
- giving children supplemental nutrition at the request of 2 villages

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

for each of the six teachers

Other ECCD related activities that were financially supported by the VMCs and the communities included an excursion trip; a Christmas celebration in 2 villages and a fund raising event.

The results of the PME revealed some initial benefits of ECCD by village which generally contributed to increased sense of village unity and improved children's behaviour.

Sustainable Livelihood Development Program SLDP

The overall objective of the SLDP is to improve and restore the livelihoods of 384 households with 2,130 population from the four most affected communities of the Myitsone dam construction: Tanghpre, Lahpre, Mazup and Dawngpen, 75% of whom were relocated in the new resettlement area, Aung Myin Tha. Programme support is expected to improve food security, increase income and sustain community-based livelihood projects using a participatory approach.

Specific support for new livelihood projects which cover on-farm-related interventions; crops, poultry and livestock, fruit trees; off-farm employment opportunities; and non-farm small enterprises are expected to improve the communities' overall quality of life through raising income, contributing to food security and increasing capacity and awareness.

SLDP Accomplishments

During the first year, SLDP supported two major activities in the two villages of Tangphre and Mazup:

- capacity building that focused on technologies of selected livelihoods, project management, financial literacy, recording, etc.,
- start-up funds for livelihood projects: purchasing animal stock, feed, seeds, farm tools, fishing nets, stock for small shops.

Direct support from the SLDP consisted of financial and/ or input support to priority livelihood and forestry projects. Preferred livelihood projects included poultry and livestock and small shops. During the first year support was focused on Tangphre, the most populous village. A total of MMK 17,010,000 was invested in 5 types of livelihood projects benefiting a total of 78 households population, an average support ranging from MMK 200,000 to 240,000 per beneficiary. Among the 5 activities, raising pigs received the largest allocation of funds amounting to MMK 10,130,000, and the most beneficiaries, 47, accounting for 60% of the total funds released and total number of livelihood beneficiaries. All beneficiaries selected and purchased animals of their choice, both the quantity and age, from local stock. These villages greatly appreciated receiving the start-up capital which helped them with their most pressing problem which was the lack of capital and low income.

The villagers also requested forest seeds and farm tools to preserve their environment and generate additional income. Seventy five (75) viss or 120 kilograms of iron wood and 15 viss or 24 kilograms of yemanay hard wood seeds and farm tools (bamboo hats, tarpaulin, chopping hoes, swords and spades) were distributed to a total of 124 households in the two villages of Tangphre (80 HH) and Mazup (44 HH). Ninety percent (90%) of the seeds survived and are now 3-4 feet in height. The high survival rate can be attributed to the beneficiaries regularly clearing weeds and debris from the surrounding areas where the seeds were planted.

The micro-credit union (MCU) in Mazup received a total of MMK 1,000,000 financial support which benefited 47 members who had contributed an initial seed fund amounting to MMK 224,000. Similar to Mazup, the VMCs in the other 3 villages plan to avail of capital support from the SLDP to support MCUs and mobilise group savings both for their own personal needs and for income generating purposes.

Specific outputs will increase productivity and the income of beneficiary households as they manage their livelihood projects as shown in the table.

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Objectives	SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES	ACCOMPLISHMENTS				
1	Capable Programme beneficiaries on development concepts, appropriate technologies and financial management of projects					
To increase productivity and income of beneficiary households (75% of total households in 4 priority communities of the	 206 people (m 75, f 131) from 4 villages participated in PAR training 120 people from 4 villages received MCU awareness 82 people (m 33, f 49) from Tangphre received basic training on animal husbandry and breeding livestock 	 103% of target people got PAR training 120% of target people got MCU awareness training 55% of target group received training about basic animal husbandry and breeding livestock 				
confluence or a total of 288) by providing diversified small-scale	Established profitable and viable livelihood projects					
livelihood opportunities	 78 HHs from Tangphre received livelihood support for projects: 47 HH raised pigs 10 HH raised poultry 10 HH raised goats 10 HH sett up small grocery shops 1 HH had a fishery One village (Mazup) received seed funds to form a MCU group with 47 members 	 52 % of target beneficiaries received livelihood support One village received MCU seed capital. 				
2	More capable and active SLDP VMCs in project management and organizational processes					
To improve the development knowledge and management skills of SLDP VMCs and communities through capacity building in order to achieve self-reliance and empowerment.	 36 VMC members (m 17, f 19) from 4 villages received leadership management development training 26 VMCS members (m 13, f 13) from Tangphre and Mazup received village management training 18 people (m 11, f 7) from 3 villages which are Tangphre, Mazup, Lahpre received basic financial management training 	 237 % of target VMC members from 4 villages received leadership training. (The original indicator was 14 VMC members in 2 villages.) 185 % of target VMC members from 2 villages received VMC training. (The original indicator was 14 VMC members in 2 villages.) 225 % of target VMC members from 3 villages received basic financial management training. (The original indicator was 8 VMC members in 2 villages.) 				
	VMCs and communities properly managed livelihood funds					
	 One year end review and planning workshop was conducted with 4 villages Finished establishing organizational operating and accounting systems and procedures for 2 villages (Tangphre and Mazup) 24 monthly report were submitted by 2 VMCs (one per month per VMC) 	All specific objectives were achieved.				
3	Improved capacity of ECCD Village Management Committees to manage ECC	CD centres				
To restore the environment and improve awareness of villages in preservation and restoration of environment	 35 participants (m 10, f 25) from 2 villages were trained and increased knowledge on environmental awareness and bio-fertilizer composition 124 HH from 2 villages received forest seeds and farm tools 	The specific objectives were achieved.				

Summary of SLDP Accomplishments by Objective

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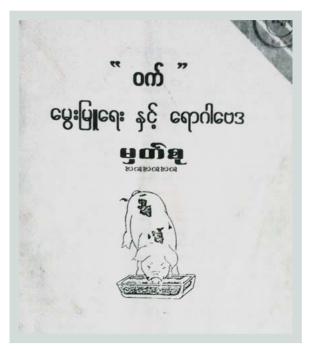
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SLDP Beneficiaries by Project Type **AMOUNT** PROJECT TYPE BENEFICIARIES VILLAGE RECEIVED Male Female Total Raising Livestock 10,130,000 33 47 Goats 2,360,000 2 Tangphre Chickens 2,000,000 Small Businesses/ Shops 2,280,000 240,000 Seeds and seedlings and farm tools Tangphre, Mazup 2,697,740 MCU seed funds 1,000,000 17 30 Mazup

20,707,740

159

241



Trainings/workshops

Building local people's knowledge and skill base by offering training was essential in order to ensure the SDLP project's success. Ten (10) trainings were conducted with 2/3 of the participants being women. Training topics included community development awareness, animal husbandry and raising livestock, VMC management, micro credit union, bookkeeping, and environmental awareness and bio-fertiliser compost. Participants were often mobilised following training, one example is that each of the 4 villages formed MCU groups with total of members 215.

Totals

Summary of SLDP Training Conducted

Type of Training	VILLAGES	Participan		PANTS
		Male	Female	Total
Community development awareness - PAR	4	75	131	206
Leadership and management	4 plus Aung Myin Tha	17	19	36
VMC training	plus Aung Mym ma	16	21	37
Animal husbandry and livestock	1	33	49	82
MCU Awareness	4	31	89	120
Basic financial management and bookkeeping	3	11	7	18
Environmental awareness and bio-fertilizer composting	2	12	25	37

Please note that totals are not shown because the count would duplicate participants attending more than one training session.

Status of SLDP Support

Funds Received, Expenses, and Sales - During the reporting period, MMK 17,010,000 or 93% or the funds released in May and June 2014, were reported as spent for 5 types of livelihood projects. Sales totaled MMK 10,383,000 because only 37 beneficiaries or 47% of total beneficiaries have sold their products. Among the 5 projects, raising pigs and small shops generated the highest sales amounting to MMK 5,982,000 and MMK 2,780,000, respectively. Project beneficiaries were given one year from the time the funds were released to repay 50% of the amount received and were repaying them regularly. The status of repayment can be reported in the second year report. Please refer to the following table for more information regarding each type of livelihood project.



SLDP Project Summary for Tangphre Village

Pro	ојест Түре	Beneficiaries	Funds Received MMK	Expenses MMK	Balance	Sales
Raising	Pigs	47	10,130,000	9,706,100	423,900	5,982,000
Livestock	Goats	10	2,360,000	2,360,000	0	165,000
	Chickens	10	2,000,000	2,000,000	0	956,000
	Shops	10	2,280,000	2,280,000	0	2,780,000
	Fishery	1	240,000	240,000		500,000
	Total	78	17,010,000	16,586,100	423,900	10,383,000



Status of Animals Raised

Considering that raising poultry and livestock raising were allocated the most funds with the most beneficiaries, an in-depth analysis was undertaken to capture the experiences and learning for the benefit of existing and future beneficiaries which covered the first 11 months of the project period.

In spite the number of animals sold (56) and those that died (107), still, inventory of poultry and livestock raised in Tangphre from May 2014 (297) to February 2015 (374) increased. However, chickens have the highest increase totalling 210, ranging from 5-60 chicks per beneficiary. The number of goats increased by 1-4 per beneficiary; and pigs, only 5 beneficiaries increased their inventory, ranging from 1-4 piglets or a total of 11.

Status of SLDP Animals in Livestock Projects

Livestock Project Type	Beneficiaries	Funds Received	Animals Bought	Births	Deaths	Animals Sold	Livestock Remaining
Goats	10	2,360,000	44	25	8	3	58
Chickens	10	2,000,000	135	210	84	36	225
Pigs	47	10,130,000	118	22	15	60	65
Total	67	14,490,000	297	257	107	99	348

DEATH RATE OF ANIMALS

The high death rate of animals purchased is of concern: 8 goats account for 18%; 84 chickens or 62%; and 15 pigs or 13%. The PME results show that the major causes of death are diarrhoea for goats, constipation for pigs, while chickens died of diseases brought by the market carrier and the chicks' deaths are caused by small insect bites. It seems that the major causes of death are related to proper nutrition and sanitation. It is advisable for Airavati staff, with the support of a veterinarian, to investigate this problem and determine its root causes to prevent the occurrence of similar problems in the future.

MARKETING ANIMALS

Poultry and livestock are generally bought and picked up by traders either from the village or adjacent villages. The sale is usually determined by weight and the current market price; however, since many beneficiaries are unaware of both the market price and their animal's weight, the buyers have the advantage. Although bringing the animals to market would result in higher prices, the high cost of transport and small number of animals to be sold hindered the beneficiaries from doing so.

Community Resilience in the Delta Area

The Community Resilience in the Delta Area programme component addresses the impact of climate change and reducing the risk of disasters in the Ayeyarwaddy river delta where activities are focused in Yangon region. The activities include setting up MCU projects, raising awareness of adverse weather conditions, as well as designing viable disaster risk reduction plans and piloting simple climate change adaptations for village houses. Four (4) villages that are comparable in size to those in the Community Resilience in the Confluence programme component.

Villagers from Aii Kha Luang (population of 218 HH; 911) were motivated to form a MCU beginning with 30 members that has grown to 48 members. They accomplished this by contributing their personal funds amounting to MMK 1,140,000. A steering committee of 9 members is guiding the project which is prioritising loans for small enterprises and agriculture activities. Their initial funds, in addition to interest earned, is likely to exceed MMK 1,200,000 allowing them to have adequate funds to fulfil more loan requests. The average amount per loan is MMK 50,000 which is to be repaid within 5 months. Members repay at an interest rate of 2% per MMK 100. This is a considerable savings for local people because the interest rate is higher at 8-10% when borrowing elsewhere. During the reporting period 37 loans were given to 37 beneficiaries to be used for: selling seasonal products (16); 7 for planting seasonal crops; 9 for breeding livestock especially pigs; and 5 for emergencies. The following table summarises the accomplishments for the MCU in the delta.

Summary of Accomplishments for Community Resilience in the Delta Area Aii Kha Luang Village

ACTIVITY | BENEFICIARIES / PARTICIPANTS

A MCU has formed | 48 HH

Loans approved 37 beneficiaries

3. Tales of the Riverbank

Communities from the river confluence, the delta and 2 other areas will share and learn from each other the impact of climate change, modernisation and the dam construction on their ways of life. This particular initiative has a peacebuilding focus as people from diverse groups (ethnic and religious) will share their appreciation of diversity while facing stereotypes as they consider social, cultural, economic and ecological impacts they are facing. At the same time they will be able to design strategies with eco-village solutions for mitigating these encroachments on their communities. The specific geographic areas this programme component is expected to reach includes Kachin state, Yangon and Ayeyarwaddy divisions, and areas in the dry zone within the Sagaing, Mandalay and Magway divisions. This component will begin in years 2 and 3.

Even though this programme component will be more fully initiated in the second and third years, some preparation for this took place in the first year. An announcement requesting written works including stories, essays, and poems was published in the government newspaper, other newspapers and journals. The announcement also was widely circulated through the Airavati network. The stories, essays and poems that were received have been shared with the selection committee for review and future publication.

A three day workshop entitled Tales of the River Banks was attended by 20 persons in November 2014. The workshop facilitated a dynamic planning process that involved the participants:

- Identified key issue areas including climate change, livelihood, modern development and government prioritising economic growth, each of which have several sub-issues
- Outlined next steps to ensure community resilience among the Myitsone confluence communities, especially focusing on those that have been relocated; climate change adaptation and mitigation; stopping dam construction; and ensuring community resilience in the delta area,
- Designed an action plan to specifically incorporate the next steps and all the issue areas identified, and
- Included work plan with a model for networking and collaborating in order to optimise working together. The work plan highlighted sharing information, river mapping, strengthening CBOs, advocacy, developing a master plan for the river, piloting community resilience activities, as well as incorporating celebrations, festivals and cultural events. This comprehensive planning process also recognised the significance of involving networks in the dry zone.



4. Community-Led Watershed Advocacy

Riverside action groups will be formed in 4 riverside areas to link with local, regional and national non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other stakeholders concerned with watershed management of the Ayeyarwaddy River. The advocacy efforts include launching a public awareness campaign that incorporates complex and interconnected issues that riverside communities are facing including climate change, dams, pollution, deforestation, social justice and so forth. Presenting sustainable harmfree solutions for preserving the natural ecosystem are also a significant part of the advocacy movement. The Airavati also supports Riverside Festival activities as part of the public awareness campaign. This component will begin in the second and third years.

Some preparation for this programme component took place in the first year. Airavati staff are building skills and their knowledge base in order to facilitate training. One staff person has attended one eco leadership training workshop that focused on the role of an activist and advocacy techniques. All education and training activities will be based on the concept of participatory learning.

5. Social Information and Mobilisation (SIM)

BACKGROUND

SIM stands for Social Information and Mobilisation. It is over four years since more space has been created for military and political negotiation. However, the voices of communities are rarely heard at the decision-making level. One of the channels for these voices is the work of community activists and mobilisers who are their key assets. These factors have also resulted in insufficient support for their work and for the struggle of communities (often unsuccessful) to articulate their interests in ways that impact on decision making.

SIM initiatives will be for any future scenario for areas, such as ongoing hostilities, or nationwide ceasefire, and the start of political negotiations. The interests of local communities must be central to all decision making.

ESTABLISHING A RESEARCH, DOCUMENTATION AND ARCHIVING PROJECT IN NORTHEAST MYANMAR

SIM programme component is being piloted in the Myitsone dam area as a research, documentation, archiving and publications project focused on community issues and community voices in matters of socio-economic development. SIM will make it possible for local community groups to raise their voices in solidarity in order to influence policy and also be heard at the negotiation table. Some activities will be initiated and conducted directly by the SIM Core Group and team. SIM will also provide support to communities and independent social researchers working in the same fields of community interest.

It includes stakeholder involvement in decision-making processes that affect local communities in Kachin and northern Shan states.

SIM aims to become a premier credible resource for equitable and beneficial socio-economic development in northeast Myanmar. It will act as a "voice-resource" and "voice support" for the people of Kachin and northern Shan states, and, over time, SIM may expand its geographic focus. Resources are being provided to support their efforts in the form of basic allowances, mentorship opportunities, networking and research costs to collect data for watershed advocacy campaigns. Activities identified include:

- conducting a current and accurate Social Impact
 Assessment (SIA) in the Myitsone dam area
- monitoring CPI's approach and its relationship with local people
- conducting an independent assessment of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) from the 4 target villages in the confluence
- assisting farmer networks and provide information on land law rights
- networking with national organisations that are facing similar challenges

ACTIVITIES AND OUTCOMES

Overall SIM field staff have observed that communities and organisations from various parts of the Ayeyarwaddy basin are developing strong relationships and networking together. Training participants express a high commitment

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and are collaborating to address the issues related to the river. Some outputs identified by the Myitsone movement include:

- the unity of local people has increased
- understanding of the environment's value has increased
- a network formed by local people is making more impact, especially helping to solve problems related to the dam
- information is being disseminated at local meetings in the form of posters, written documents and story telling

Specific activities included:

CSO Meetings – Eight (8) meetings with local civil society (CSO) groups were held in Kachin (7) and northern Shan (1) states where an average of 20 persons attended each meeting. The participants represented many groups and organisations from the areas.

Culture and literature associations meetings – At least 5 meetings took place with various culture and literature associations from the Lisu, Jinghpaw, Rawang and Shan ethnic groups. A multi-culture and literature association committee was formed to deal with land and cultural issues including drug use in the region. They have already identified at least one cultural site that is in danger of being destroyed and developed a restoration plan for it.

SIM Core Group – The SIM core group composed of representatives from local organisations in Kachin and northern Shan states coordinated with community leaders, especially farmer groups, to establish a farmer network. SIM also collaborated with a government lawyer to present

awareness sessions in 3 townships on development and land ownership. The core group's functions are:

- to provide strategic leadership and guidance
- to assure SIM's independence from political and economic interests, and ensure that SIM always works with its community mandate.
- to be accountable and representatives to government authorities, non-state actors and development partners
- appoint the SIM team.

Farmer Network – One farmer network group consisting of 15 farmers was formed in northern Shan state and have begun implementing their three year plan. The network's specific accomplishments include:

- Increasing local farmer's awareness about the land law and helping them register their land with the government
- Planting hardwood and fruit trees on their farmland which shows their strong commitment to owning their land.

TRIP-NET meeting – In October 2014, the Tenasserim River & Indigenous People Network (TRIP-NET) shared their research findings of the Kamawthway region, especially the Kamawthway river that is being affected by the Dawei deep port project. This is of particular interest to Airavati staff as they learned more about how local people can collect data and about the research process by having hands on experience in the field.

TRIP-NET's philosophy and approach is compatible with the Airavati's because they both believe that sustainable development can be achieved only when local people have the right to participate in development process, control and manage their natural resources due to

their tradition and culture. They also face similar challenges as the Airavati where economic activities supported by the state and private sector businesses are rapidly emerging in their area as well.

3rd Anniversary Celebration – Two hundred (200) persons celebrated the 3rd anniversary of "Halting Myitsone Dam Construction Day by President U Thein Sein." This celebration provided opportunities for people in the affected area to learn more about ongoing efforts through many exhibits, presentations and sharing stories. Events such as this instill unity among them and strengthen their ability to collaborate. The photo is of the celebration along the banks of the Myitsone River. The Airavati contributed some funds to support this event.



Land Law Awareness – The land law awareness workshop sharpened the participants understanding of the existing law, particularly farm law, as well as provided information about becoming the registered legal owner of their farms. Practical skills such as drawing maps of their farm boundaries and farm management were also helpful.

The table below summarises the achievements in the SIM programme component during the first year.

Summary of Achievements for the Social Information and Mobilisation (SIM) Program Component

ACTIVITIES	Area	PARTICIPANTS
Core group formed, met 3 times and made a 6-month plan with specific priorities and activities.	Kachin and N. Shan states	11 persons
Farmer network group formed	N. Shan state	15 farmers - 12 m; 3 f
The land protection and cultural site reservation project was initiated.	Kachin and N. Shan states	5 meetings with culture and literature associations. A multiculture and literature association committee was formed.
8 meetings of civil society organisation groups were held	3 villages in Kachin state, One village in N. Shan state	An average of 20 persons attended each meeting
Myitsone local community gathering to celebrate the 3rd anniversary of "Halting Myitsone Dam Construction Day by President U Thein Sein"	Myitsone	200 persons attended 90 m; 110 f
Press meeting hosted by TRIP Net	Yangon	3 Airavati staff
Land Law Awareness Workshop	2 villages in N. Shan state	39 participants – 21 m; 18 f

THE MYITSONE PEOPLE'S DESIRES

Posted at the 3rd Anniversary Celebration of Halting the Dam Construction

The Myitsone people's desires clearly reflect their deep commitment for the Ayeyarwaddy to flow far into the future are stated below:

1.

THE AYEYARWADDY CONFLUENCE WILL BE SUSTAINED FOREVER.

2.

THE AYEYARWADDY CONFLUENCE REGION AND ITS
PEOPLE WILL BE SUSTAINED FOREVER.

3.

Opposition to destroying the Ayeyarwaddy confluence will be sustained forever.

4.

OPPOSITION TO DESTROYING THE PEOPLE'S LIVELIHOOD LIVING IN THE CONFLUENCE WILL BE SUSTAINED FOREVER.

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6. Children Overcoming Conflict and Displacement Through the Arts

The Programme Component entitled Children Overcoming Conflict and Displacement Through the Arts (Children's Art Project) focuses on ethnic Kachin, also known as Jinghpaw in Myanmar, who have been effected by armed conflict since June 2011. Many of these persons have become Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) in the border line where they experience continuous trauma and instability after being separated from their homes and families, and being deprived of their cultural heritage.

The report for the Children's Art Project describes what has happened in its first 6 month as it began in October 2014. During the project's initial six months, the staff faced a complex and unstable political situation. Despite their safety and security concerns, project activities were held as planned. Many accomplishments have taken place beginning with friendships that were formed between the project staff and the children that initially learned about the project while staff was renovating the office. Friendships began while many children and youth volunteered to help paint and clean which provided a way to introduce them to the project. This time together facilitated an ease of relating before the project staff began approaching the schools about gathering baseline data.

GOAL

To creatively encourage the younger Kachin generation to overcome conflict and displacement through artistic expression, and engage them in reconstructing healthy peaceful societies in Myanmar.

OBJECTIVES

- To deepen their cultural understanding and build friendships through artistic expression and exchange opportunities.
- To provide psychosocial support and healing opportunities for children, youth and the wider Kachin communities by encouraging them to express their trauma creatively through the arts.
- To make a documentary film of the project, and share the film and the children's art creations in their communities, countries and abroad to demonstrate how the global impact of their personal and community narratives resonates around the world.







PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION

The project intends to involve at least 350 children and youth between the ages of 7 and 19 where villages and camps for IDPs have been established. The three participating schools located in Kachin state are: Je Yang IDP Camp Primary School, Hpum Lum Yang IDP camp primary school and Alen Bum IDP boarding high school in Laiza. Baseline data gathered from these schools found that a total of 2,927 students attended classes facilitated by 217 teachers, as well as whether classes in the arts were being offered and whether space was available to include new arts classes. In order to get to know the children, the Project conducted art classes with a total of 2,026 students from these 3 schools from October 2014 to March 2015. Three hundred and fifty (350) students were selected to participant in the project. The next task was to select children to participate in the project which involved talking with teachers and students. A total of 350 students from the 3 schools have participated in the Children's Art Project.

Painting is the primary artistic method being taught. Before beginning to paint, topics closely related to the children's lived experiences are discussed with them as this process helps stimulate their imagination and the images that emerge while painting. Mixing and choosing colours is encouraged when expressing emotions as shown in the children's paintings.

ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The project's painting classes involved three steps:

- 1. talking with students about mixing colours;
- 2. proposing a topic; and
- 3. encouraging students to find their own colours and lines.

In December, 1,877 children from the two participating IDP camp's primary schools attended the art classes. According to the signatures on the paintings, 902 girls and 943 boys attended this session. However, 32 paintings are without signatures and do not show the gender of the

The specific topics included:

- The Road of My Dream
- The Road Back to Hometown
- The Tree of My Life
- I miss you, but you are no longer here
- Our People









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Each of these topics is very poignant and evokes feelings, as well as deep memories. The staff talked with the children about the topics to stimulate ideas before painting began. A total of 1,877 paintings were made by as many children and displayed at sunrise in the morning light when they were photographed. The children are also learning to use a digital camera to document the project's activities.

In February, 29 primary school students (15 girls and 14 boys) from Je Yang IDP camp and 130 students (48 boys and 82 girls) from Alen Bum boarding high school attended the drawing and painting activities.

The topics were:

- We will all be on the way back home
- I miss you but you are no longer here
- The land where we have lived
- Be with yourself, at least
- Our People

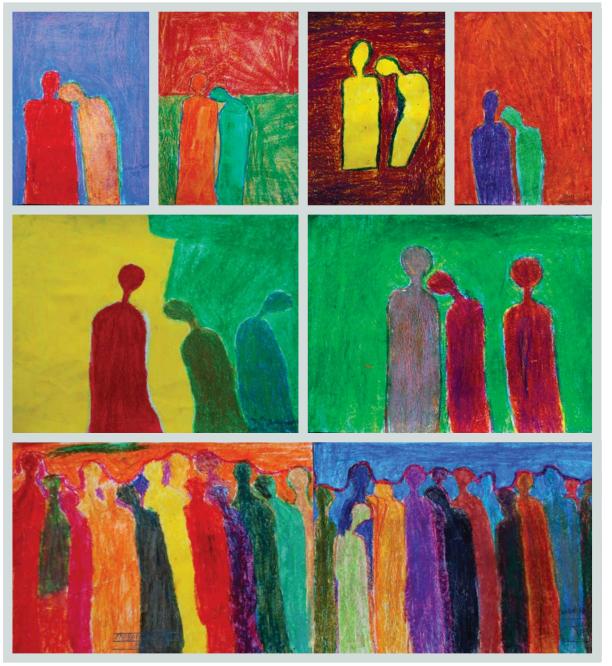
As with earlier topics, they were able to express powerful emotions and memories through their images and the colours they chose. The children said the art activities brought them "endless happiness" and satisfaction. They were able to express their feelings with the group and said that their bad feelings were released through the activities. A total of 120 paintings were created by the students. For the 29 primary school students from Je Yang, the February painting class was their second artistic experience with the project. The staff handed out the attendance list and asked the children to write down their feelings about that day's activity. A child wrote: "Today the painting teachers really came back to us as they promised. I painted, and I was happy." Another child wrote: "Today I wasn't feeling well. The painting teachers painted with us. After painting, I felt better and became happy."

During the reporting period a collaborative art activity between Kachin children in Myanmar and Kachin children living on the China side took place. School children in China made a hanging mud sculpture using mud, needles and thread that the project coordinator brought to Laiza to be finished by the Kachin children there. The school children in China were told that the children living the Laiza IDP camps had been waiting as long as four years to return to their hometowns and touch the soil/mud of their homeland. The children in Laiza eagerly painted the hanging sculpture, touched the dried mud and felt the colours. This activity was video recorded.









Gathering stories about how displacement and war has affected people's lives - Cultivating relationships with people in the community is also part of the project as it provides more understanding of student's, as well as gives more insight into community life. Project staff visited with several older women in Je Yang IDP camp in order to establish relationships with them, as well as photograph their movements. Twenty 20 students (10 boys and 10 girls) at Alen Bum boarding high school were interviewed about their experiences before and after the conflict situation. The interview questionnaires were saved to document this project component.

Increasing project awareness – Several groups of people that included representatives from Global Times, the People's Republic of China, Documentary Art Asia (DAA) and RANIR have visited the project. The children's art was exhibited during the 5 visits as the project staff discussed how making art was helping the students express their feelings of displacement, separation and war.

	Summary of Accomplishments in the Children's Arts Project for the 6 month period October 2014 through March 2015
Астіvіту	Оитсоме
Hire project staff	Hired 3 project staff including: a project manager, a project assistant and a cashier. An art teacher is expected to begin in June.
Set up project office	The Kachin Independence Organisation's (KIO) IDP and Refugee Relief Committee (IRRC) donated a house in Laiza, Kachin state, to use as an office and provide staff housing. A vehicle was donated to the project from an individual donor.
Gather baseline data from 3 schools	Baseline data identified 2,927 primary and high school students and 217 teachers
Select students to participate	350 students were selected from 3 schools in Kachin state
1 st collaborative art activity between Kachin children in Myanmar and China	Kachin children living on the China side made a mud sculpture which was painted by Kachin children in Myanmar – 50 Kachin children from the two sides of the border were involved.
Painting classes	December 2014 painting class – 1,877 primary school children participated in the class and produced 1,877 paintings on 5 separate topics that were exhibited at sunrise when they were viewed and photographed in the early morning light. This class was offered to all the students in order to select participants.
	February 2015 painting class – 29 students from Je Yang IDP camp primary school attended their second painting class and produced 29 paintings; 130 students from Alen Bum boarding high school produced paintings on 4 topic areas.
Forming relationships with older women in Je Yang IDP camp	Project staff visited 9 older women between the ages of 60 and 90 years living in the Je Yang IDP camp to establish relationships with them and ask them about their experience. Staff also photographed these women's movements.
Gathering stories about students affected by the war	Interviewed 20 students from Alen Bum boarding high school that were asked about their experiences before and after the war, as well as their families' current situations and how they reached the IDP camp
Raising project awareness	Visitors from Global Times, the People's Republic of China, Documentary Art Asia (DAA) and RANIR

learned about the project and viewed the children's art exhibited. This took place 5 times.

Organisational Development

During the first year, the Airavati's national coordination and programme field staff were hired and offices were set up in order to implement the 6 programme components in the target areas. The organisation relies heavily on its partners for resources and, in the beginning, was financially sustained with individual donations until after May 2015, when funds from two international donor's were received. The Airavati is officially registered as a non-profit organisation in Myanmar as approved by the Ministry of Home Affairs on 13 January 2015 and received its tax exemption status from the Ministry of Finance on 6 January 2015.

Staff and board members are deepening their knowledge and skill bases, and, in addition to training Airavati staff have attended, both the January 2015, board meeting and the two day workshop on organisational development in March 2015, have contributed to staff growth and involvement. Although much work lies ahead, at the end of the workshop, participants were more committed than ever to take responsibility for the work plan that emerged and complete tasks with the time frames indicated.

and shared how the experience of painting facilitated their ability to heal. Her presentation was compelling in that project's impact and significance was clearly helping the children to creatively express their experiences of displacement, separation and war. The project has successfully accomplished its goals to date regardless of the unstable situation in northern Shan state. The project has successfully accomplished its goals to date regardless of the unstable situation in northern Shan state. The project has successfully accomplished its goals to date regardless of the unstable situation in northern Shan state. The project has successfully accomplished its goals to date regardless of the unstable situation in northern Shan state. The project has successfully accomplished its goals to date regardless of the unstable situation in northern Shan state. The project has successfully accomplished its goals to date regardless of the unstable situation in northern Shan state. The project has successfully accomplished its goals to date regardless of the unstable situation in northern Shan state. The project has successfully accomplished its goals to date regardless of the unstable situation in northern Shan state. The project has successfully accomplished its goals to date regardless of the unstable situation in northern Shan state.

AIRAVATI STAKEHOLDER MEETING

The January 21, 2015, a stakeholder meeting was held to update board members, stakeholders and donors. The agenda included two sections with the first being a presentation by the board secretary updating the board about the Airavati's constitution and organisational structure, as well as how project components were operating. The second section was a presentation of the Children's Arts Project by Kaw Seng, project manager from Laiza. She presented an overview of the project's activities and explained how the participating children were selected. The project manager also showed the children's paintings and shared how the experience of painting facilitated their ability to heal. Her presentation was compelling in ing the children to creatively express their experiences of displacement, separation and war. The project has successfully accomplished its goals to date regardless of the unstable situation in northern Shan state. The project needed more funds for supplies and equipment such as a video camera. Over all, the presentation inspired the board and reinforced the value for arts projects and its ability to build friendships in a conflict zone. The 22 persons in attendance included board members, donors, partners and invited guests.

Finances

Project Fund Receipts and Payments Account 01 April 2014 to 31 March 2015*

	USD		USD
Opening Balance as at 01 April 2014	66,277.73		
		PAYMENTS	
RECEIPTS		Direct Assistance	24,643.51
Bank Interest & Other Income	5,364.01	Physical Infrastructure	4,675.08
		Training	4,605.73
		Meeting	8,187.48
		Forum	2,285.40
GRANT RECEIVED		Research, Survey, Advocacy, Movement Exchange Visit	9,326.59
Individual Donor Laphai Nang Seng Mai	37,600.46	Consultant Fees	4,645.77
EBO	48,676.36	Travel & Transport	6,089.92
Oxfam Novib (EUR 57,981.92)	74,837.26	Equipment	1,710.92
		Furniture & Fittings	537.15
		Local Logistics Cost	7,052.68
		Office Rent	7,905.22
		Office Repairs and Maintenance	11,378.34
		Personnel Salaries	32,665.31
		Kachin IDP Relief	14,434.55
		Administrative cost (Core Budget)	11,224.82
		FIXED ASSETS	
226		Equipment	3,907.00
		Furniture & Fittings	537.15
TOTAL RECEIPTS	166,478.09	Total Expenditure	155,812.62
ADVANCE REFUND	3,241.28	ADVANCE	9,324.10
		Exchange loss	1,285.71
TOTAL RECEIPTS	235,997.10	TOTAL PAYMENTS	166,422.43
	\sim	Closing balance as at 31 March 2015	69,574.67
		Project Fund	20,760.84
	5	Reserve Fund	48,813.83
			69,574.67
GRAND TOTAL	235,997.10	GRAND TOTAL	235,997.10

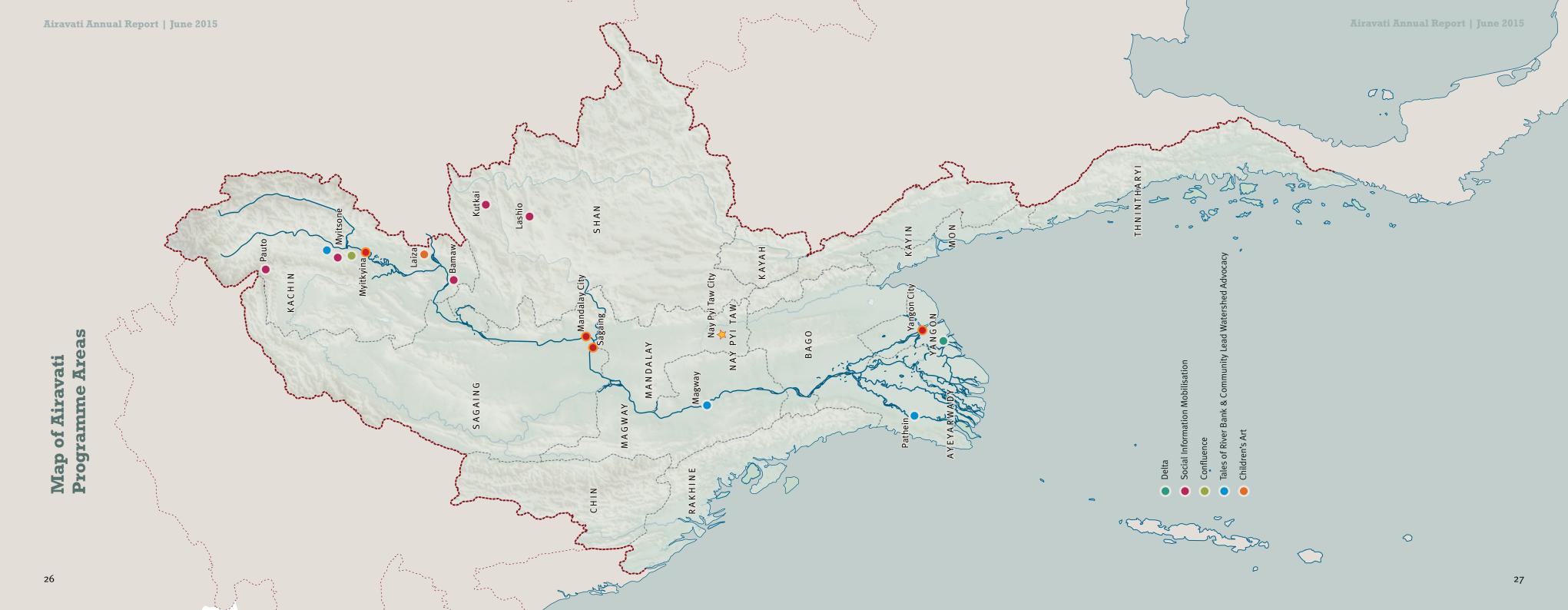
*ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Airavati is grateful to the following entities and individual for their kindly support:

Metta Development Foundation for project office space at Myitkyina,

KIO Education Department for project house for office at Laiza,
Rhoda for video camera for Laiza and the generous individual who has donated a vehicle for visual arts project in Laiza.

Full Fianancial Report for the fiscal year 2014-2015 audited by Khin Su Htay & Associates is available on request.



Founders and Board Members

The board members are unique because they are actively engaged in supporting the Airavati.

LAHPAI SENG RAW – Board chairperson, Seng Raw is the co-founder of the Metta Development Foundation (Metta) where she was the Executive Director until 2011. The Airavati's seed funds were donated from the monetary award she received as the recipient of the 2013 Ramon Magsaysay Award. Seng Raw is from Myitkyina in Kachin state where the Ayeyarwady River originates and has a strong connection to preserving the river.

DR NWET KAY KHAING is a researcher in the areas of migration, environment and media studies. Her international studies are in the areas of international development and human rights and peace building. She has also been a regular writer for newspapers and magazines, and currently, has been advocating for preserving indigenous knowledge for natural resource management as a crucial element of sustainable development. She is from the lower Ayeyarwady.

MYINT ZAW is a co-founder and program manager of Ju Foundation. He is also a former executive editor of International Eleven Weekly, and has focused on the area of environmental journalism for more than a decade. His international studies are in the area of international development. He is committed to advocacy initiatives for raising the international community's awareness about Myanmar's civil society.

MAUNG HLA THAUNG is an architect that focuses on natural buildings designed to complement the surrounding environment. He consults with many of Myanmar's local non-government organisations providing expertise in the areas of environmentally friendly designs, as well as integrating the use of recycled materials.

BEATRICE LU JA is one of the co-founders of Metta. As a large animal veterinarian, she mobilised people in the areas of agriculture and livestock in Alam village of Kachin state. Her strong leadership as a community worker led to the establishment of Metta's first living and learning centre - the Centre of Action Research and Demonstration. Another area of expertise is as an HIV and AIDS educator. Currently, she is Metta's Myitkyina Branch Office Coordinator.

SAW MIN NAING is one of Metta's co-founders and is part of Metta's leadership team. His background is in veterinary sciences and international development. Saw Min Naing is one of the first staff sent into areas to form relationships in new communities where Metta had not worked before. He is also known as a strong community mobiliser who has supported Metta from its beginning in a leadership role.

SAI SAM KHAM is currently Metta's executive director. He is from Shan state where he began volunteering for Metta and within six years became its second executive director in 2011.

NYI NYI ZAW is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) with vast experience in areas of business and finance and is currently Metta's Financial Controller. He is very committed to eliminating poverty throughout Myanmar and works in specific communities helping children improve their lives.

KYAW THU, a trained dentist, is the founder and current the director of the Paung Ku, a Myanmar NGO that is recognized for strengthening civil society as indicated by its name. Dr. Kyaw Thu with his deep commitment and vast experience is in the area of equitable environmentally sustainable development, together with peace and social justice across the nation.

OHNMAR KHAING, MD, is a professor with expertise in the area of agriculture. She is currently the coordinator for the Food Security Working Group that networks among local NGOs addressing agriculture and rural development policies in Myanmar.

MAW HTUN AUNG is Natural Resource Governance Institute as a Myanmar Officer. His experience is in the area of sustainable development and his educational background is in the areas computer science, social policy and social development, and public administration.

Contribute

The Airavati's work is made possible through collaborating with local and international partners.

Donations can be made by directly depositing funds into:

Myanmar Foreign Trade Bank

Bank Address: 80/86, Mahabandoola

Garden Street

Yangon, Myanmar

Swift Code: MFTBMMMY

Telex No: 21300 BANKFE BM

21348 BANKFE BM

USD Account

Account Name: Airavati Organisation

Hlaing Township

Account No: 1 DA - 03 - 00177

EUR Account

Account Name: Airavati Organisation

Hlaing Township

Account No: 1 EA - 03 - 00013

Kanbawza Bank Kamayut Branch

MMK Account

Account Name: Airavati Organisation

Hlaing Township

Account No: 0211230003068