

LWF Myanmar holds Project Launching Ceremony for Education Assistance to Children in Rakhine State

On 4th February 2015, LWF Myanmar launched the EU Education project, in Sittwe Township, Rakhine State to inform the project activities and modalities of implementation and to be transparent and accountable to the stakeholders.



EU Education Project Launching Ceremony in Sittwe on 4th February 2015

A total of 109 attendees included 6 people from local media, the Chief Minister of Rakhine State, the Minister for Social Affairs, respective monks, representatives from Rakhine State Government, Township Education Officers from Sittwe, Pauk Taw, Mrauk U and Ann, the EU Ambassador to Myanmar, the ECHO Director of Operations, respective staffs from UN/NGOs, Sittwe based organizations, and town elders attended the ceremony.

His Excellency U Maung Maung Ohn, Chief Minister of Rakhine State delivered the opening speech, emphasizing on the improvement of the education status of children in Rakhine State. He also encouraged and invited other education partners to work with children in the whole Rakhine State. Followed by his speech, the EU Ambassador to Myanmar, Mr. Roland Kobia, highlighted the projects engaged with State Government to support education activities in Rakhine State.

The project is funded by the European Union, co-funded by Church of Sweden and implemented by The Lutheran World Federation in collaboration with respective Township Education Offices, Rakhine State Education Department.

Well-experienced Trainers provide Teaching Methodologies and Lesson Planning Training

With the financial support from the European Union, the LWF Myanmar, Rakhine Project provided a 5 day Training on Teaching Methodologies and Lesson Planning for government school teachers in 4 townships; Sittwe, Pauk Taw, Mrauk U and Ann during May. The aim is to improve the quality of teaching and learning in formal schools. The training was provided to a total of 84 (64 female) teachers from 8 government schools and facilitated by the lecturers, who used to be trainers and lectures of Education University, and are currently working in Myanmar Literacy and Resource Center (MLRC), in Yangon.

The training provided by LWF was a refresher on teaching methodologies and lesson training. During their teaching services in the school, they hardly received any further programs. So it was absolutely necessary for them to receive this kind of capacity building opportunity for the improvement of teaching skills and profession.



Teaching Methodologies and Lesson Planning Training at Basic Education Middle School No.6, Sin Ku Lan, Sittwe Township, Rakhine State.



EU Contractual Compliance Workshop for LWF Staff

Mr. Allan Jensen, LWF Global Funding Officer, Geneva Head Office facilitated the EU Contractual Compliance Workshop for LWF staff from 17th to 19th March 2015 at the LWF Rakhine Project Office in Sittwe. It aims to ensure donor compliance, ensure that expenditure is eligible, optimal use of budget, proper reporting, documentation in order, prepare for expenditure verification and to know the EuropeAid procedures and where to get information. A total of 18 (7 female) staffs including all unit officers, (finance, logistics, procurement) Project Coordinator and Program Manger participated in the training.

The workshop was held in a participatory way as each session began by initiating an open and constructive critical discussion, prediction of the meaning of the contents and peer discussion. Several group works and exercises with presentation were organized during the workshop.

Training helps the participants to understand key learning points, in particular, contract preparation, financial rules and eligibility of expenditure, EU-communication and visibility, contract changes and amendments, reporting and payments, grant closure and expenditure verification, supporting documents.



LWF Global Funding Officer, Geneva Office, explaining the illegible and non-illegible costs during the training/workshop on 18 March 2015.

Life skills class has improved the morality of adolescents



Saw Thandar Khine, NFE Facilitator

Saw Thandar Khine, 22, is a first-year student majored in Myanmar language. She has been working as a Non

Formal Education (NFE) Facilitator for over one year, since Literacy and Numeracy class has been provided by LWF with the support of EUCoPI, in Sat Roe Kya 2 camp, Sittwe Township. After the class was completed, she continued teaching Life skills education to students aged 11- 17, in Extended and Continuous Education and Learning (EXCEL) class with the support of LWF and EU.

"I have noticed that after Learning in EXCEL, the behavior and morality of my students in my class has changed. One of my students is becoming polite and harmonic with friends and neighbors after she has learned the lesson of empathy and mutual relationship in the EXCEL class," said Saw Thandar Khine.



Life Skills Class in Sat Roe Kya 2 Camp, Sittwe Township

She continued explaining the changes of her students' attitude before and after joining the class. "When she started joining the class, the way she spoke and treated elders, teachers and friends was inappropriate and rude. Now her attitude, manner and behavior have



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improved to some extent. She speaks nicely in a polite way, treats elders with respect and she helps her friend as needed."

Life skills include self awareness, expectation, the most essential thing in life, physical and emotional changes in teens, identifying risks in the community, drug abuse, protection and personal safety, friends, empathy, transmission of diseases caused by HIV and positive thinking.

"Life skills class is targeted for those who are in the age group of 11-17 years. My students found interest in transmission of diseases such as HIV/AIDS and human trafficking. I feel that they know the right knowledge, learn the right things and the right education at the right age." Saw Thandar Khine said.

With the support from EUCoPI/European Commission and the EU, LWF has been supporting NFE classes of Literacy and Numeracy and Life skills for extended and continuous education and learning (EXCEL) class aiming at IDP children in Sittwe, since June 2014.

Training Makes the Way I Teach More Effective

"Teaching Methodologies and Lesson Planning Training I received from LWF makes me teach the students in an effective way"



Daw Aye Than Nu, Junior Assistant Teacher

said Daw Aye Than Nu, 46-year-old Junior Assistant Teacher of No (6) Basic Education Middle School in Sin Ku Lan Quarter, Sittwe Township, Rakhine State. She has been a teacher for 28 years. Currently she is teaching Myanmar and English languages to Grade 8 and 9 students.

She is very helpful and open to fellow teachers and students.

"Since I have received this training, I started to change my traditional teaching method, a teacher centered approach. Teaching and learning through interaction



Daw Aye Than Nu teaching Grade (8) students in No (6) Basic Education Middle School in Sin Ku Lan Quarter, Sittwe Township

with students by asking them questions make students more interested in lessons they are learning. Now two thirds of my students respond quickly, as soon as I ask them questions," she added.

She explained how she taught before. " Before I attended this training, I always refer to books which include answers of every exercise for my lecture. Now I do not use those books anymore. I find the right answers myself and teach students how to reach the answer. From the training, I have learned how to develop a good lesson plan with specific objectives. I realized that the lesson plan I used to make reaches only general objectives without goals. It should be prepared depending on the understanding level of students. "

After the training, she feels that her prior knowledge was not enough to create a good teaching and learning environment. She wishes that she could have received this training long ago. She feels very much satisfied with the training. She understood the changes of the education system in Myanmar. She is thankful to LWF, MLRC trainers, and the EU for providing an opportunity to attend training.

For more information, please contact **Mya Yadanar Khine**, Communication and Reporting Officer, LWF Sittwe Office.
Address: House No. 278, Thit Sar Street, North San Pya Ward, Pyi Taw Thar Quarter, Sittwe Township, Rakhine State, Myanmar. Office Phone: 043- 22924.
Website - www.lwfmyanmar.org Facebook www.facebook.com/pages/LWF-Myanmar

