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2020 ANNUAL REPORT GENDER EQUALITY NETWORK

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Publication Title

Annual Report of GEN 2020

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Abbreviation

GEN	- Gender Equality Network
PoVAW	- Prevention and Protection of Violence Against Women
PAC	- Post Abortion Care
NGO	- Non Governmental Organization
CSOs	- Civil Society Organizations
INGO	- International Non Governmental Organization
IWD	- International Women's Day
VCAT	- Values Clarification and Attitude Transformation
LRN	- LGBT Rights Network

GOAL

Myanmar is a society in which there is gender equality at all levels and in all sectors, and where human rights are respected, protected and fulfilled.

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To achieve gender equality and social justice by transforming discriminatory systems and structures, norms and practices.

SPECIFIC KEY OBJECTIVES

To achieve the overall objective, key objectives include strengthening a system-based approach with the intention of furthering gender mainstreaming across institutions and to ensure sustainability, effectiveness and efficiency of the network itself.

ighlights of GEN Strategic Plan, 2019-2021

The year 2020 marks the mid-year of GEN Strategic Plan, 2019-2021 that focuses on the main goal to ensure that Myanmar is a society in which there is gender equality at all levels and in all sectors, and where human rights are

respected, protected and fulfilled through facilitating the transformation of norms, systems, structures and practices. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic in Myanmar, GEN and its network members managed to implement many of the planned activities using innovative approaches via online trainings and meetings, talk shows, public campaigns, social media such as Facebook, etc. One main highlight during 2020 is the mid-term review of the Strategic Plan, 2019-2021, which was organized in two parts : (i) review the achievements and challenges of GEN's Strategic Plan with the Steering Committee members to discuss the new challenges to be considered for the remaining year including new operational areas to be considered for the revised Strategic Plan, 2022-2024; (ii) review and discuss the accomplishment and challenges of GEN in implementing the Strategic Plan, 2019-2021 with GEN members. Other highlights of GEN during 2020 include the strengthening of GEN as a network, as much efforts had been undertaken to engage an external consultant to assess GEN's work and to suggest ways to improve GEN as a network, including reforming of the Steering Committee. The report was shared with the members during the yearly Member Assembly of 2020 to brainstorm and obtain concurrence of the members on agreed action. GEN's achievements include the development and adoption of many significant policies to contribute to GEN as a strengthened network. These policies include Safeguarding Policy, Whistleblowing Policy, Gender Equality Policy, Complaint and Feedback Management Policy and Communications Policy. GEN is also forward looking about sustainability of GEN and has already developed a "Sustainability Index" to measure the possibility of sustaining GEN's activities as a network in the years to come.

Message from Director

With the global COVID-19 pandemic that invariably affected Myanmar starting in late February 2020, this year has been the most challenging year for GEN as with many other organizations and networks. GEN took the



challenge as an opportunity to expand its coverage to a wider audience nationwide through increased engagement with social media and other innovative channels of communication such as online meetings. GEN initiated COVID-19 response activities to protect the vulnerable population and to prevent amplifying effects including (i) increasing public awareness on COVID-19 through social media, online live panel discussions, online interviews, and IEC materials shared online, and (ii) distribution of COVID-19 protective items through partnership with stakeholders, especially the Department of Social Welfare and through GEN's members to reach the most vulnerable population. GEN's trademark being the "White Ribbon" campaign as part of the annual celebration of the 16 Days of Activism event promoting the theme "Prevent Violence Against Women by the Law" was celebrated through the use of social media as well as traditional media tools such as television and radio that attracted millions of viewers and participants. The year 2020 also marks the significant reform of GEN that aim to strengthen GEN through the mid-term review of the GEN Strategic Plan 2019-2021; preparation for the development of new Strategic Plan, 2022-2024 and further strengthening through development and adoption of many new internal policies to guide GEN CU and GEN as a network.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank each and every member of CU staff, Steering Committee members and GEN members for the excellent achievements. Last, but not the least, I wish to thank all the donors for your valuable technical and financial support and your continued interest in advancing gender equality and women empowerment in Myanmar.

May Sabe Phyu, Director, Gender Equality Network

Message from the Co-Chairs

As women leaders eager to promote gender equality and women's rights in Myanmar, we are most honored to serve as Co-Chairs in the Steering Committee of



Naw Thet Thet Htun (KWEG)

Khaing Zar Lin (ActionAid)

GEN on a voluntary basis, while we hold respective positions in our own organizations. The year 2020 has been remarkable but somewhat burdensome as all sectors in Myanmar needed to coordinate and cooperate to control and prevent COVID-19, including GEN that worked tirelessly to provide necessary support in terms of donating preventive items and developing gender sensitive messages in relation to COVID-19 prevention. It has been most encouraging to witness the accomplishment of GEN even during the COVID-19 pandemic which proved that GEN is truly dynamic and flexible to adjust to the New Normal environment. We are also very proud to witness many achievements of GEN through the dedications and commitments of GEN as a network, having demonstrated the use of innovative strategies to implement planned activities. We are also proud to be part of GEN during the transformative stage for GEN to become a more strengthened network to serve the needs of members more effectively and to ensure that GEN is truly a member-driven network.

As the year comes to an end, we wish to extend our deepest appreciation and gratefulness to all GEN members for the confidence they had shown in electing us and the continuous support they provided to the network. We also wish to thank the staff of GEN Coordination Unit for their endless support extended to us, as Co-Chairs of the Steering Committee.

Naw Thet Thet Htun (KWEG) and Khaing Zar Lin (ActionAid) Co-Chairs Gender Equality Network Messages From The Active Members of GEN



Myanmar Partners in Policy and Research (MPPR) is proud to receive the 2020 Active Member Award from GEN. MPPR is a local non-profit organization dedicated to gender equality and wellbeing of young women and men in Myanmar and work with local communities to trigger positive changes in social norms and practices that negatively impact women and girls to promote gender equality and women's rights including how socially constructed notions of masculinity and femininity affect our behaviors including gender-based violence.

Being an active member of GEN allows us to be in touch with other organizations in a variety of activities including promotion of gender equality in Myanmar, including ways to reduce the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on women such as Gender Based Violence. Working with GEN, MPPR also had opportunities to participate in global and national level campaigns such as 16-Days of Activism.



Dr. Rika Morioka



Dr. Phyo Thet Lwin



Ngwe Zin Han



2020 Winner of Active Member (INGO category)

Ipas's broad vision is to help bring about a world where every woman and girl has the right and ability to determine her own sexuality and reproductive health (SRH). Since 2014, Ipas has been the only organization in Myanmar working to improve provision of high-quality woman-centered post abortion care (PAC) in the public health system in Kachin, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine, Shan States, and Ayeyarwady Region.

As a member of GEN, Ipas has been able to learn and contribute to advancing the rights of women in Myanmar, and has participated in the development of the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women (NSPAW) and in advocating for the realization of the SRH and rights of women and girls including the "Prevention and Protection of Violence Against Women (PoVAW) Law.



Dr. Ni Ni



Kyawt Kyawt Khaing

2020 Winner of Active Member (Individual Member category)

As an individual member (formerly Technical Resource Person) of GEN and with the collective effort of the members and partners, I have many opportunities to contribute and promote gender equality, non-discrimination and inclusiveness and forming a dynamic network of skilled and confident members; striving towards women's participation in leadership and public life; eliminating gender-based violence; and eradicating social practices and cultural norms that prevents the development and leadership of women's lives. Through working with the network members and other organizations, I gained not only inspiration, technical exchange, learning opportunities but also was able to participate as a working group member in providing technical support in promoting women's rights.



2.1 GEN's contribution in the Technical Working Groups of MNCW

GEN is a member of the Myanmar National Committee for Women (MNCW), providing recommendations to the interministerial committee and helping to implement the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women (NSPAW), 2013-2022, through four Technical Working Groups (TWGs) namely (i) Women, Peace and Security; (ii) Violence Against Women and Girls; (iii) Women and Participation; and (iv) Gender Mainstreaming. During 2020, GEN served as Alternate Co-Chairs for two TWGs; (i) Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG); and (ii) Gender Mainstreaming (GM). During 2020, due to COVID-19 pandemic, virtual meetings were organized with respective TWGs to review the work plan for the year and the status of implementation of planned activities. Additionally, two virtual meetings of the Myanmar National Committee for Women were organized with the leadership of the Department of Social Welfare of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, with all the members of four TWGs to discuss about the various COVID-19 response and prevention activities as well as the implementation of planned activities of all Technical Working Groups.



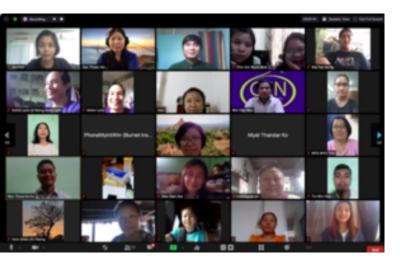
2.2 GEN's participation in Gender Equality and Women Empowerment

GEN also continues to serve in the Gender Equality and Women Empowerment Development Partners Group (GEWE DPG) which provides technical support on gender issues to the four Technical Working Groups of the MNCW and contributes to the work of the Development Assistance Coordination Unit (DACU). GEN, together with all the stakeholders, continue advocacy efforts for passage of a comprehensive "Prevention and Protection of Violence Against Women Law", the draft of which was submitted to the Parliament in 2020 for review and adoption.

2.3 A powerful collective effort for encouraging the government to pass the PoVAW law

In 2020, GEN put its utmost efforts to advocate passing of PoVAW law in Myanmar. As a significant achievement, GEN collected suggestions and comments from more than 60 international and national NGOs for PoVAW bill and submitted to Myanmar Union Parliament for further consideration by the Hluttaw before enacting into a law.





2.4 A synergistic partnership between the two networks to advance LGBT inclusion

GEN partners with the LGBT Rights Network (LRN) in promoting the rights of the LGBT community in Myanmar. GEN, together with the LRN, developed a first-

draft version of the policy brief for amending the Penal Code 377, expected to be finalized soon, and to be used as a tool by both networks to advocate the new government in 2021. GEN and LRN successfully collaborated in organizing online interview and panel discussions to discuss about Penal Code 377 and impact of Covid-19 on LGBT community, as well as online campaign activities for the LGBT Pride Month, providing a SOGIESC training to GEN's members, sharing motivation quotes for LGBT community, organizing online quiz programs, photo contest, producing a cover music video entitled "This is me", and organizing a panel discussion on the topic "Pride for Own Identity".

2.5 International and National Level Meetings and Conferences

Daw May Sabe Phyu, Director of GEN participated in the Women's Coalition Workshop hosted by the Coalition for Religious Equality and Inclusive Development (CREID), with participation of representatives from Egypt, Pakistan,



Iraq, and Nigeria. She discussed about marginalized ethnic and religious women in Myanmar jointly with Daw Katheleen Thein from "Ingyinmay Hindu Women Association". Daw May Sabe Phyu, also participated as a panelist at the, Seminar Series on "Religious inequalities in development: What about us?". The four-day workshop, 21 January to 24 January 2020 resulted in identifying commonalities among the countries.



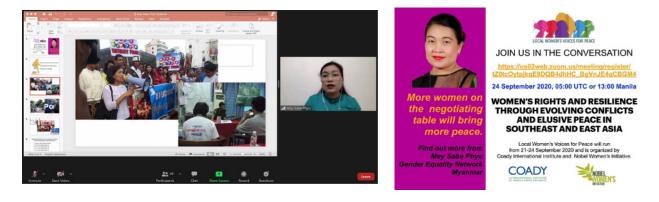
2.5.1 Beijing +25 Virtual Summit

Director of GEN participated in the "Beijing +25 Virtual Summit" jointly launched by The Rockefeller Foundation Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security and Secretory Hillary Rodham Clinton. The virtual summit was attended by 25 former presidents, foreign ministers, and leading activists and declared bold recommendations to accelerate progress for women and girls worldwide with a media statement made on on 23 June 2020. Director of GEN joined

the "Virtual Conversation with Hilary Clinton and Ambassador Melanne Verveer "as one of the women leaders to contribute to the objectives of the Summit.

2.5.2 Local Women's Voices for Peace

On 24 September 2020, GEN's Director participated in a panel discussion on Local Women's Voices for Peace organized by Coady Institute and Noble Women's Initiative via Zoom, sharing GEN's experiences on advancing women's participation in the peace process in Myanmar.



Seminar on Strengthening Gender Equality in the

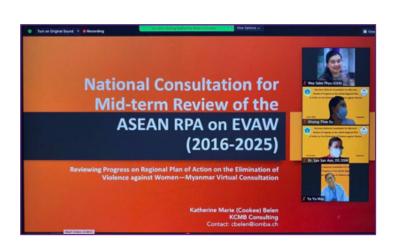
2.5.3 Seminar on Strengthening Gender Equality in the Delivery of Myanmar 20 February Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP)

Kempinski Hotel, Naypyitaw On 20 February 2020, GEN's Director participated in the "Seminar on Strengthening Gender Equality in the Delivery of Myanmar Sustainable Development Plan (MSDP)", held in Nay Pyi Taw, together with Daw Pansy Tun Thien, Advisor, and Daw Nang Phyu Phyu Lin, Steering Committee member. The seminar aimed to identify the role of parliamentarians in supporting and implementation of the MSDP and was joined by 30 MPs from Pyithu Hluttaw and 28 MPs from Amyotha Hluttaw.









2.5.4 ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on the Elimination of Violence Against Women Review Meeting

GEN Co-Chairs, Steering Committee, members and Coordination Unit staff participated and provided technical support in the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on the Elimination of Violence Against Women Review Meeting via zoom, organized by MSWRR, and reviewed the ASEAN Regional Plan of Action on the Elimination of Violence against Women.

3. Covid-19 Response

3.1 Support of emergency response kits and personal protection equipment (PPE)

In coordination with governmental departments (such as DSW, DDM, and MoHS), and non-governmental organizations (such as MILI, LGBT Rights Network, MFPWD, and MMOC), GEN distributed emergency response kits including PPEs to hospitals, quarantine centers, training centers and IDP camps in 13 different states/regions across the country: Yangon, Bago, Mandalay, Kachin, Kayin, Mon, Rakhine, Sagaing, Shan, Ayeyarwaddy, Magway, Chin, and Tanintharyi. Over 80,000 beneficiaries were reached (50% women; 4,000 people living with disabilities, and 400 LGBT).



3.2 Development of COVID – 19 and Gender Related Resources

GEN has organized many online live discussions and produced many informational videos (listed below), to raise public awareness on gender and Covid-19 and disseminated via GEN's website, Facebook and YouTube. (150,000 viewers recorded).



"COVID-19 and Gender Talk Show" was organized on 28 March 2020 via Mizzima Media focusing on 'how COVID -19 disease impacts on the lives of women and men differently in Health and livelihood areas in Myanmar', participated by panelists, Dr. Phio Thiha (Author/ Reproductive Health Specialist); Ma Phio Sandar Soe (General Secretary, CTUM) and Daw Nwe Zin Win (Co-chair of GEN).

3.2.1 COVID – 19 and Gender Impact Interview Video Series

- 1. COVID-19 and IDP
- 2. COVID-19 and Domestic Violence Part 1 and Part 2
- 3. COVID-19 and Female Healthcare Workers
- 4. COVID-19 and Person with Disability (Sign Language)
- 5. COVID-19 and Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights

- 6. COVID-19 and LGBT
- 7. COVID-19 and Female Sex Workers
- 8. COVID-19 and Women in Economy
- COVID-19 and Psychosocial Support Part 1 and Part 2
- 10. COVID-19 Response of DSW Part 1 and Part 2



3.2.2 COVID – 19 and Related Issues Live Discussion

- 1. Live Discussion: COVID-19 and Domestic Violence
- 2. Live Discussion: COVID-19 and LGBT
- 3. Live Discussion: Domestic Violence and Law (Q&A)
- 4. Live Discussion: COVID-19 Sexual Harassment

- 5. Live Discussion: COVID-19 Gender and Election
- Live Discussion: COVID-19
 Media and Gender
- Live Discussion: COVID-19
 Women and Politics
- 8. Live Discussion: COVID-19 and Women Parliamentarians



3.2.3 COVID-19 and Gender Related Publication and Video

GEN developed several COVID-19 related resources including advocacy brief and posters on gender implications of COVID-19 such as domestic violence and COVID-19, available in Burmese, Kachin, Poe-Kayin, S'gaw-Kayin, and Shan, also translated into sign language and braille. All those resources can be found at GEN's website and YouTube.

3.2.3.1 Covid-19 and Gender Advocacy Briefs

Highlights how Covid-19 have impact on women and girls Covid-19 impacts on Women and girls in South East Asia Countries. Due to Covid-19, women and girls have to carry out more domestic chores without income, increasing gender-based violence and protection issues and other impacts related to gender. To improve accessibility, the brie ing

paper was produced in five ethnic Languages, and illustration video with Sign language embedded was produced.



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3.2.3.2 Highlights how domestic violence is rising during Covid-19 pandemic and how to avoid

It mentioned about why domestic violence is rising in pandemic time and how to avoid. It provides 24 hours helpline and legal service phone numbers. To improve accessibility, the poster was produced in five ethnic Languages and illustration video with Sign language embedded was produced.



Advocacy and Campaign and Research

4.1 Evidence Based Advocacy: Research Activity

During 2020, GEN has initiated many valuable research studies that would be utilized towards evidence-based advocacy on gender-related issues. These studies are listed below:

1. Understanding Barriers and Working Pathways to Women's Political Participation in Myanmar.

Research funded by International Development Research Center (IDRC) to assess the extent and forms of women's participation in the political sphere, and explore barriers and enabling factors in Myanmar.

2. Women's Life Experiences Study

A nationwide study on violence against women in Myanmar funded by UNFPA. GEN has been leading the qualitative component with technical support from Melbourne University.

3. Access to rights and livelihood opportunities for deported migrant workers and returnees.

A market-based livelihood project (ARRIVE) for deported migrant workers and returnees in South East of Myanmar, funded by LIFT.



4 Voices Hard to be Heard

Funded by the Paung Sie Facility (PSF).

5. Election Campaign by Selected Media's Facebook pages: Analysis from gender perspective.



4.2 Media Engagement

On February 2020, Daw May Sabe Phyu, Director, participated in "MRTV's Current Affairs" Program at MRTV Studio, Yangon, discussing why PoVAW is an essential bill in Myanmar to ensure women's safety and empower women's potential in different sectors.

Ko Win Pike Myo, GEN Training Coordinator represented GEN in a round table discussion via Zoom on "Domestic Violence during COVID-19 pandemic", together with Daw Sandar Win (Director, Future Women Association), Daw Khin Hnin Phway (Psychosocial Supporter), Mi Kun Chan Non (Chair, Mon Women's Organisation). The event was organized by DVB Media as a special session on 22nd June 2020.



4.3 Public Campaigns

4.3.1 International Women's Day (IWD) (March 2020)

The Working Group of IWD planned and organized several online activities highlighting the 2020 theme of International Women's Day being "Each for Equal" which was disseminated through online public events, press conference and other online promotions through a number of discussion events, online photo competition, weekly quiz competitions, key message videos to increase public awareness.



A well-known debate session was organized using DVB media covering the topic "Can women make the decision?" and also broadcasted in the Khit Thit Pyo May TV show.

The Khit Thit Pyo May Program: https://bit.ly/3a65F0l

DVB Debate: https://www.facebook.com/DVBTVNews/videos/507164456623113 /UzpfSTkwMTIyMzY2NjU4MjQ3NjoyODcxMjc2MDQ2MjQzODg1/



4.3.2 Myanmar Women's Day (MWD) (July 2020)

GEN celebrated the Myanmar Women's Day individually and collaboratively with the Myanmar National Committee on Women (MNCW). A team of GEN including the Director and Steering Committee members planted trees at the community centre of Pyi Gyi Kin located in East Dagon on 25th June 2020 as a pre-celebration of Myanmar Women's Day.

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As part of the activity of honoring Myanmar Women's Day and to obtain public engagement, GEN held an essay competition on Facebook, with the suggested theme focusing on Myanmar women who have an impact on the writers in one way or another.



4.3.3 The Champion for Gender Equality Award (March - November)

GEN has been awarding the "Champion for Gender Equality Award" annually to individuals or organizations which are striving for gender equality in Myanmar. This winner for 2020 was Dr. Phio Thiha, wellknown author and social influencer.

PRIDE FOR OWN IDENTITY (ONLINE DISCUSSION) မိမိ၏ဖြစ်တည်မှုကို ဂုဏ်ယူခြင်း (စကားဝိုင်းဆွေးနွေးပွဲ)



4.3.4 Pride Month Campaign (July 2020)

GEN initiated the "Pride Month Campaign" in partnership with the LGBT Rights Network (LRN) with financial support of Christian Aid. On May 23, the LIVE DISCUSSION on COVID-19 and LGBT was organized with experts to explore the issues LGBT community are facing in Myanmar with regard to Section 377 of the Penal Code. LGBT Quiz Contest

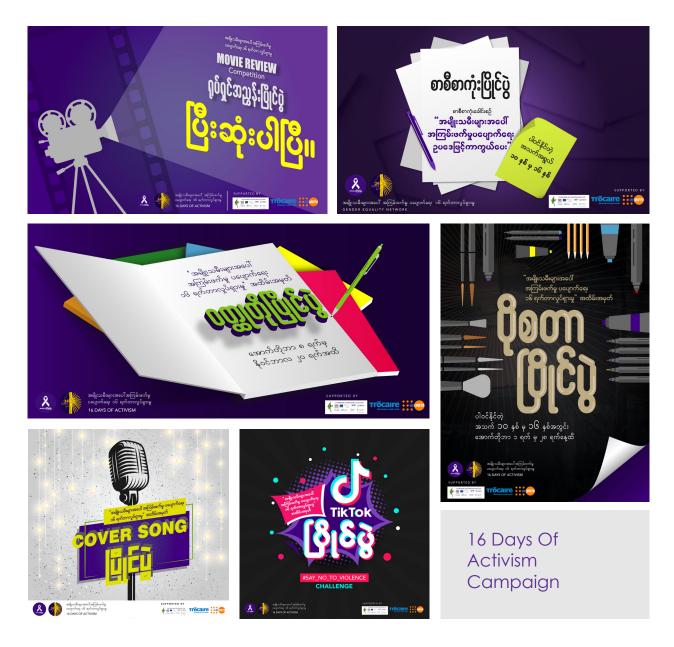
was part of the activity and gained 1.1 K viewers and 87 engagements. GEN developed 'This is me' cover song' on MTV focusing on the theme of LGBT rights.



Pride for own Identity https://www.fac ebook.com/lgbtrightsnetwork/videos/1706324299525165.

4.3.5 The 16 Days of Activism Campaign (October - December 2020)

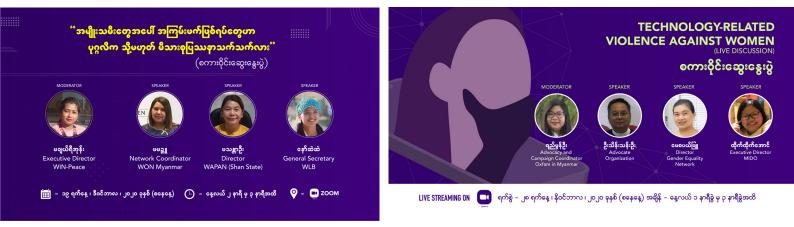
The 16 Days of Activism Working Group consisted of 52 organizations represented by GEN members and partners as well as 7 Individual members of GEN. The theme of the campaign was, "Prevent Violence Against Women by The Law" and along with the theme five key messages were selected by the working group. As a pre-activity of the campaign, weekly quiz and photo contest were carried out on the Forever White Ribbon Facebook Page. There were eight competitions; Poster, Essay, Short Story, Cover Song, Movie Review, Tik Tok, Facebook Frame and Article were carried out in the campaign period. The Forever Whit Ribbon Live Quiz Show was the major event of the campaign and it was carried out in partnership with Mizzima Media. GENDER EQUALITY NETWORK



As part of campaign, there were two Live Discussions organized via the 16 Days of Activism Facebook page; covering topics on "Technology-related Violence Against Women" and "Whether Violence Against Women is just a private or a family affair" conducted via zoom and broadcast live on Facebook. The sign language interpretation was made available to promote inclusivity and accessibility.



For awareness rising purpose, the shadow performance and the theme song were developed and launched on November 25 and December 10. The shadow performance was shown at the national level event of the 16 days of activism organized by the Myanmar National Committee on Women.



LIVE DISCUSSIONS



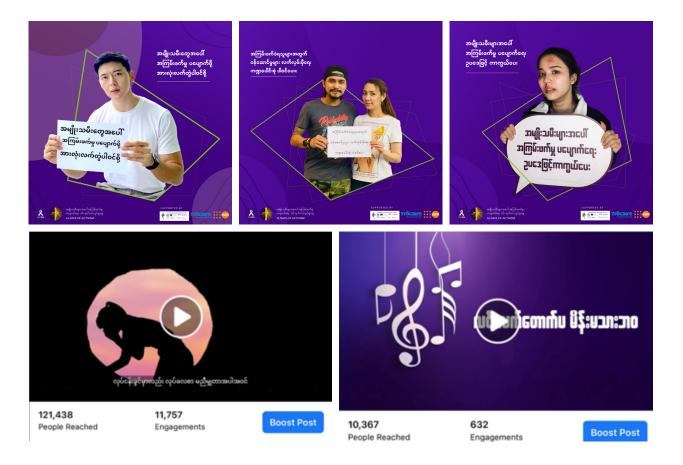


16 Days Campaign Mask

16 Days Campaign Hoodie



16 Days Campaign Pamphlet 16 Days Of Activism Campaign IECs





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4.4 Audience Engagement of Public Communication Channels of GEN

GEN uses Website, Facebook Pages, and YouTube as the communication channels to reach out to general public. In 2020, the audience engagement has increased in every channel of communication.

4.4.1 Website of GEN

In 2020, the new users of GEN's website increased 1,402 and the percentage of male visitors increased from 35% to 40%. Most of the website users were from outside of Myanmar and mainly visited to English site.

Years	Total Numbers of Users	Percentages of Female Users	Percentages of Male Users
2019	5229	64.19%	35.81%
2020	6631	59.01%	40.99%



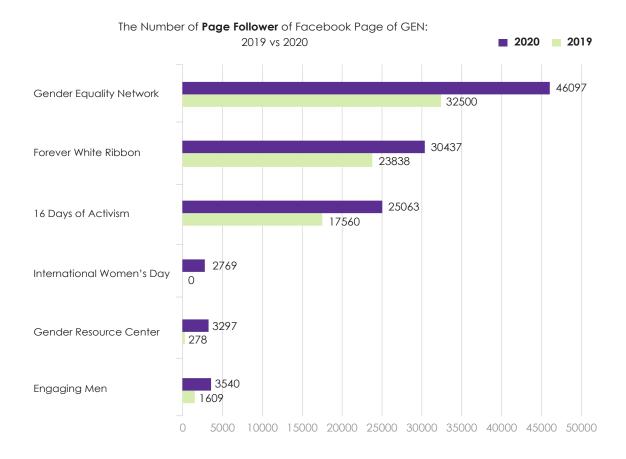


4.4.2 Facebook Pages of GEN

GEN has six Facebook Pages and out of which, four are campaign pages. Although the **Gender Equality Network** and **Gender Resource Center** Pages were active regularly year-round, the campaign pages; **Forever White Ribbon**, **16 Days of Activism, International Women's Day** and **Engaging Men** were mostly active during each campaign period. The **International Women's Day Page** was launched at the end of February 2020.

Peak Point of Reach &	Engagement	May - Sep	Oct - Dec	Oct - Dec	Mar	Jun - Sep	I
Pages Like	2020	43529	29083	23318	2762	3172	3354
Page	2019	31830	22925	15982	0	259	1594
Pages Follower	2020	46097	30437	25063	2769	3297	3540
Pages I	2019	32500	23838	17560	0	278	1609
Facebook Pages of GEN		Gender Equality Network	Forever White Ribbon	16 Days of Activism	International Women's Day	Gender Resource Center	Engaging Men

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



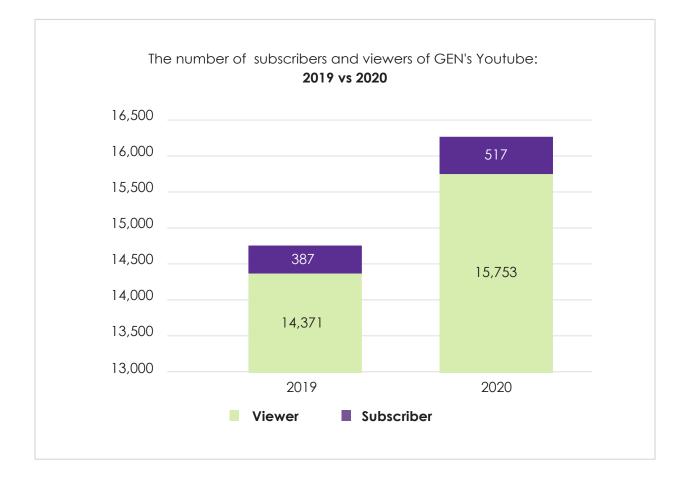
The Number of Page Like of Facebook Page of GEN: 2019 vs 2020 2020 2019 43529 Gender Equality Network 31830 29083 Forever White Ribbon 22925 23318 15982 16 Days of Activism 2762 International Women's Day 0 3172 Gender Resource Center 259 3354 Engaging Men 1594 5000 10000 15000 20000 25000 30000 35000 40000 45000 50000

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4.4.3 YouTube of GEN

Since GEN has produced variety of video resources, GEN uses YouTube platform for disseminating to general public. Although, this channel is targeted to local audience, not many local users use YouTube like Facebook. To get public engagement on GEN's YouTube, the videos were shared via GEN's Facebook pages and link with GEN's website.

GEN Youtube	Subscribers	Viewers
2019	367	14,371
2020	517	15,753





4.4.4 Mobile App of GEN

The Mobile Application of Gender Equality Network was developed and launched on google play store in June 2020 in order to access all of GEN's resources via mobile phones. According to the data from the google play store console, the total number of users who downloaded and installed our application was 22,931 and the average user rating was 4.4.

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Capacity Building and Network Strengthening

5.1 Gender Resource Center

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BASIC BOOKS

GEN has organized a public dialogue on issue of violence against women at Resource Center. Due to COVID-19 pandemic, these activities were arranged online. Similarly, physical operation of the library was also affected. Appropriate policies and procedures for resource center will be developed for more efficient operation. The resource center is financially supported by many donors including LIFT, EU and IDRC.

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5.2 Strengthening network's capacity and governance

GEN intensified its efforts on strengthe ning the network's capacity and governance structure in 2020. GEN organized a series of capacity development trainings such as Report Writing, Psychosocial Support, Project Cycle Management (PCM); and Sexual Orientation,



Gender Identity and Expression, and Sex Characteristics (SOGIESC). In November, GEN organized UNSCR 1325 Information Sharing Session which was attended by 60 GEN members and CU staff.

Gen continues to organize regular Steering Committee and member meetings virtually during 2020. The SC meetings are meant to make strategic decisions and guidance for CU to implement GEN's Strategic Plan in more effective ways. Through the member meetings, GEN shares the status of completion of activities and members share the updates of gender-related activities of their respective activities.



In November and December, GEN organized annual member assembly and Year End meeting. The assembly is to review previous activities; to plan future activities; and to make collective decision on changes of governance structure and other important issues of the network. The Year End meeting is to officially inform about key actions and decisions made in the member assembly, and to award outstanding members for the year 2020.





5.3 Enhancing gender-related capacity of public sector institutions

GEN organized trainings on gender and gender-based violence in Rakhine state with participation of MNCW members at township level. GEN supported Kayin regional government to organize a regional-level MNCW meeting aiming for strengthening of the MNCW structure.



In order to strengthen the capacity of CSOs, GEN provided financial support to 15 CSOs to implement their gender-related initiatives at their specific regions in collaboration with local authorities. GEN organized workshops in Kayin, Kachin, Shan, and Mandalay on Social Accountability and Governance, Policy Dialogue, and Gender integrated Political Economy Analysis. In October, GEN organized a training on Women's Political Participation and Leadership, to women leaders in Kayin, Kachin, Shan, and Mandalay regions.



5.4 Promoting engagement outside the network

GEN strengthened the engagement within and outside the network through organizing or participating in meetings and discussions:



GEN as Chair of AGIPP (Alliance for Gender Inclusion in the Peace Process) participated in "Seminar on the Role of Parliament in Peace Building Processes" and "Gender equality and inclusion of women, peace and security perspectives in the peace process and political dialogues". GEN participated as a panelist on "Why Inclusivity and Ensuring No-one is Left Behind in Building Durable Peace is important".

In commemoration of World Water Day 2020, WaterAid Myanmar hosted a round table dialogue in which GEN participated in the discussion on how water issues can put an additional burden on women. GEN also participated in the panel discussion of ICT Day event at the Yangon University of Education to empower girls and women's participation in the ICT sector of Myanmar. GEN participated in the research interview of Burmese Women Union on Women, Peace & Security as an interviewee and shared the current situation on Gender, Women's Rights, Peace, and Security in Myanmar.



There were regular coordination meetings among LIFT's strategic partners where GEN actively participated in. GEN also engaged with Business Coalition for Gender Equality (BCGE) by participating as a speaker in one of their webinar series named Gender Mainstreaming in COVID-19 to Economies. response save In

addition, GEN participated as a panelist in an online roundtable discussion organized by DVB TV channel on "Domestic Violence during COVID-19 period", and a panel discussion organized by ANFREL which focused on election and minority groups including People with Disabilities, LGBT, Women and Ethnic groups.



With the support of EU, DCA NCA and Gender Equality Network co-organized the "CSO Learning Forum" of the Empowered Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Local Authorities Promoting Gender Equality in Myanmar project on 27th and 28th February 2020. A total of 114 participants from CSOs from Mandalay, Myitkyinar, Taunggyi and Hpa An attended the forum. At the forum, attended representative of the CSOs mainly discussed on their current progress, challenges and achievements as well as the way forward. Moreover, the success stories were displayed and edutainment performance was delivered.



6 Highlight Resources & Media Program

6.1 Media Program

In 2020, GEN produced and broadcasted three media programs in partnership with the Mizzima Media. All the resources of GEN can be found on GEN's website and YouTube.



6.1.1 "Café Talk: Rape"

The Café Talk discussion series started since 2019 and the program aimed to raise public awareness through the discussion of experts on current gender issue. This is the second discussion of the program and the

discussion topic is "Rape" in Myanmar. As the experts, two lawyers and one gender experts involved in the discussion along with a host. Link of video: https:/ /youtu.be/ZVkNApTrfH4

6.1.2 "Street Interviews" Series

The Street Interviews program aimed to explore the community's opinion on the gender equality in relation to health, education, culture, sport, transportation and media. As the nature of street interviews, interviewees are randomly picked and asked on the street.



6.1.3 Short Documentary Series

The "Champion for Gender Equality" featured the inspiration lives of the champions who are working towards gender equality in Myanmar. Six episodes were produced in 2020.

Episode 1: Ma Nandar https://www.facebook.com/watch/?V=365573517790860 Episode 2: U Billy Kan Myat https://fb.watch/1znlcult7r/ Episode 3: Yaung Chi Thit Organization https://fb.watch/1znpgdr6wd/ Episode 4: Kings N Queens Organization https://fb.watch/1Taj7XlLhb/ Episode 5: Karenni Women Organization -https://fb.watch/1TakoSFYhF/ Episode 6: Mi Cherry Soe - https://fb.watch/2eLlvnGplr/



6.2 Resources



6.2.1 Video: Comprehensive Sexuality Education

The video introduces about the Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) with the general public which aim to increase awareness on the reproductive health rights, healthy lifestyle, and how to avoid sexual violence physically and virtually for adolescents and youth.

6.2.2 Booklet: NSPAW (5 Ethnic Languages)



The National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women (NSPAW) Booklet was produced in five ethnic languages; Kachin, Shan, Kayin (East Poe), Kayin (Sa Kaw), and Pa O.



6.2.2 Video: NSPAW

The National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women (NSPAW) was produced in Hand Drawn Whiteboard Video format that embedded sign language as well in order to wider accessibility for those who have disability in vision and hearing.



6.2.3 Briefing Paper: Hidden Blank to be Filled (6 Ethnic Languages)

The briefing paper highlighted the gaps needed to be addressed in the "Prevention and protection of Violence Against Women (PoVAW)" bill, GEN pro duced in six ethnic languages; Kachin, Kayin (Sa Kaw), Kayin (East Poe), Pa O, Shan and Myanmar.

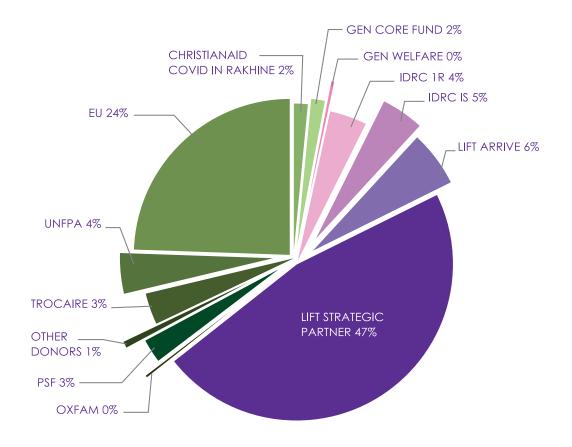
6.2.3 Poster: Violence Against Women and Law

Even though the causes of violence against women are happening in home, work place and public areas, very few people know that violence and sexual harassment are considered criminal act that should have legal protection. To fill the niche, GEN reproduced the poster that provide the information on law relating to violence against women along with 24 hours help line phone numbers. GEN printed the poster by the permission of CARE Myanmar and Legal Clinic Myanmar who hold copy rights.





Total Income In USD (2020)



Donor	Sum of Amount
ChristianAid Covid in Rakhine	22,870
GEN Core Fund	23,378
GEN Welfare	4,599
IDRC 1R	61,350
IDRC IS	69,565
LIFT Arrive	91,289
LIFT Strategic Partner	722,119
Oxfam	5,000
PSF	38,854
Other Donors	11,842
Trocaire	51,022
UNFPA	65,621
EU	378,703
Grand Total	1,546,213

