

## Building Hope Through Water



Rakhine State, Myanmar



Water

Budget Year 2: \$25,800

Project Timeline

FULLY FUNDED

JUNE 21

JUNE 23

### Overview

This project focuses on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) programs in the Rakhine State, which is plagued by civil conflict and poverty. With the backing of experienced partners, the project targets a population of 12,939, made up of 10 villages - 5 Muslim and 5 Buddhist - which have no access to clean water. It works alongside peace-building activities in the area, which is being driven into deeper poverty and neglect by the military coup and the after-effects of COVID-19. 500 bio-sand filters (BSFs) will be made and distributed to families together with WASH training, delivering clean water for the first time to these areas. What an opportunity!

### Impact for July - Dec 22



#### 5 Water and Sanitation Training (WASH)

continued to be provided by five paid WASH facilitators who are also responsible for coordinating the manufacture and distribution of BSFs and for liaising with local authorities to "get them on board".

#### 4 new villages received training in WASH and biosand filter construction

Two villages are Rakhine Buddhist and the other two Rohingya Muslim. 1,796 villagers participated in WASH training and now also have the skills to maintain the filters.



#### 149 To date 459 bio-sand filters (BSFs)

have been manufactured (\$59 per unit) by the local communities. Despite some delays due to escalating conflict, travel restrictions and wet weather, another 149 BSFs were completed, taking the total for the project to 459. These have been distributed to families with sessions on health, use and maintenance.

#### Civil conflict is taking a huge toll

on local community members. Despite this, our partners are creative in working around conflicts, helping all faiths - Muslims and Buddhists with community peace-building initiatives through clean water and working together.



- Community members contributed a further 22 BSFs - great effort!
- 930 villagers from four other nearby villages also indirectly benefitted from WASH education
- Local villagers are involved in construction of BSFs and maintaining them - teaching each other. Each family contributes \$1 to their BSF.



### Kyaw Zin Tun's Story

Here I am proudly showing off the bio-sand filter in my house. I am from Rindar village and we are very poor in this village and there is fighting around us all the time. We now have safe and clean drinking water because of the BSF. My family is not only using it for drinking but for cooking rice and curry. The water quality is very good and it makes a huge difference to our health. I understand the importance of clean water through the training and I can see the results. I am encouraging our neighboring villages to get the access to clean water and use it confidently. I really am thankful this came to our village.



Thank you for making a difference