



PRESS RELEASE

U . S . E M B A S S Y R A N G O O N

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Embassy Yangon Small Grants Signing Ceremony

Yangon, Myanmar - The U.S. Embassy, Yangon, hosted a Small Grants Program signing ceremony on November 23 to award grants to eight organizations after a competitive selection process. The Small Grants Program promotes the development of a vibrant, representative civil society in Myanmar by supporting local organizations that identify, respond to, and advocate for the needs of their communities to broaden citizen participation and democratic governance.

Htoi Gender and Development Foundation received \$20,000 to conduct a year-long women's empowerment program in Kachin State; Civic Education for Youth received \$12,125 to host a networking and outreach seminar on human rights, environmental awareness and civic education for Chin youths; Arakan Youth Network Group received \$11,700 to conduct mobile human rights trainings and youth dialogues in villages throughout Kyauk Phyu and Ramray Townships in Rakhine State; Kachin Women's Association Thailand) received \$20,105 to research, document and raise awareness of human trafficking in Kachin; Chin Education Center received \$18,345 to conduct rule of law and human rights trainings in Sagaing Region and Chin State; Women in Action Group received \$18,184 to conduct research on the use of customary laws in northern Chin State and to create a community led advocacy plan for addressing customary laws which limit or violate women's rights; Mawk Kon Local Development Organization received \$20,000 to conduct a women's empowerment and village development initiative throughout 10 villages in Kaingtong Township, eastern Shan State; Gender Equality Network received \$20,600 to support the advocacy stage of an ongoing gender needs assessment in Rakhine, Chin, Sagaing, and Magway areas affected by the recent flooding.

Since its inception in 2005, the Embassy Small Grants Program has provided over \$2.5 million to Myanmar civil society organizations.

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