



Health

Project Overview

Project Nourish

Empowering Populations in South East Myanmar Through Improved Nutrition and WASH

With funding support from the Livelihoods and Food Security Trust (LIFT) Fund, Community Partners International (CPI) is partnering with ethnic and community-based health organizations (ECBHOs) and Myanmar's Department of Social Welfare (DSW) in Kayin State, Myanmar, to implement Project Nourish: Empowering Populations in South East Myanmar Through Improved Nutrition and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH).

Project Nourish is supporting the expansion of the DSW's Maternal and Child Cash Transfer (MCCT) program in 600 villages in all seven townships in Kayin State, covering both government-controlled areas (GCA) and non-government-controlled areas (NGCA).

With a core emphasis on women's empowerment, Project Nourish is integrating nutrition and WASH-focused social and behavioral change communication (SBCC) into the MCCT program, and helping to enhance WASH-related knowledge, attitudes, practice and accessibility for mothers, children in the first 1,000 days of life, women, adolescent girls and women-led households.

At a Glance

Donor(s):

The Livelihoods and Food Security Trust (LIFT) Fund

Project Duration:

September 2020 – August 2023

Geographic Coverage:

Kayin State – Hlaingbwe, Hpa-An, Hpapun, Kawkaik, Kyainseikgyi, Myawaddy and Thandaunggyi townships

Population Coverage:

305,979 people from 63,159 households

Target Population Profile:

Mothers and children within the first 1,000-days period, women and women-led households, and adolescent girls and young people in conflict-affected and hard-to-reach communities.

Impact Focus:

Nutrition | Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

Implementing Partner(s):

Karen Department for Health and Welfare, Karen Ethnic Health Organizations Consortium, Yoma Social Development Association, Committee for Internally Displaced Karen People

Strategy and Activities

Project Nourish aims to empower women in Kayin State to attain improved nutrition and WASH by:

- Increasing access to a national MCCT social safety net for mothers and children during the first 1,000 days of life.
- Enhancing knowledge, attitudes, and practices around, and access to, nutrition and WASH.
- Generating evidence to inform data-driven decision making for effective nutrition, WASH and MCCT programming.

Key activities include:

- Financial, technical and operational support to the DSW, MOHS and ECBHOs to assist coverage expansion of the MCCT program and the Multi-Sectoral National Plan of Action on Nutrition (MS-NPAN) in GCA and NGCA.
- Strengthening of MCCT community feedback and response mechanisms.
- Recruitment and training of Voluntary Community Social Workers (VCSWs) for Nutrition, WASH SBCC and community mobilization.
- Establishment and strengthening of Mothers Support Groups promoting women's participation and empowerment.
- Community-level nutrition and food preparation training to promote nutritious diets and food safety.
- Use of mass media to raise awareness of good nutrition and WASH practices.
- Participatory needs assessment and community-led construction of female-friendly WASH facilities.
- Community-level WASH education with a focus on children, families and caregivers.
- Research and policy engagement to improve the availability of health WASH and MCCT data in GCA and NGCA areas.



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