

Myanmar



Context

Myanmar faces poverty, insecurity and ethnic-based conflict. The recent military takeover has exacerbated the vulnerability of poor families.

Rural-urban migration puts pressure on urban centres' infrastructure and has led to the growth of informal settlements, where lack of education, health and protection services put children at risk of neglect, abuse, violence and trafficking.

The number of children in contact with the justice system and children in street situations is alarming.

Intervention map



General overview

Terre des hommes (Tdh) has been working in Myanmar since 2008, improving children's well-being through the provision of services and by strengthening local capacities. We implement a wide range of complementary programmes, including health, child protection, family reintegration and alternative care, access to justice, education, and social protection.

Despite the challenges followed by the military coup (volatile security, restrictions, widespread crimes, and fights), Tdh supported a total of 376.863 beneficiaries in 2023.

Our impact in 2023

Health Programme

- 37,878 people in marginalized communities received COVID-19 prevention and essential health services
- 47,591 individuals, including pregnant women and mothers with under two years children, directly benefited through the Maternal and Child Cash Transfer (MCCT) programme
- 14,187 individuals in camps for internally displaced people (IDP) in conflictaffected areas received emergency basic needs support
- 20,570 individuals access water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) and related infrastructures.

Access to justice programme

- 1028 children successfully reunited with their families
- 25 children were placed with foster parents
- 112 cases were provided formal legal representation.

Migration programme

- 20,649 children joined the Bring Back Learning and quality basic education programme
- 802 members of civil society organisations (CSOs) have received training to strengthen their capacity of technical and organisational performance.

Our thematic priorities

Migration programme

Education: We create safe spaces for learning and provide targeted girls and boys, aged 5 to 18 years old, who have been out of learning and have not yet started or completed a primary level education, with catch-up and remedial education opportunities within their community, with a particular focus on literacy, numeracy, life skills, and social and emotional learning.

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs): With a focus on localization, grassroots CSOs are empowered to independently spearhead local development activities, enabling them to contribute more effectively to positive child survival and development. This project aims to support communities, including migrants, displaced people, and host communities.

Access to justice programme

Family reintegration: We encourage the de-institutionalization process by providing quality family reintegration efforts to ensure children can return to a safe and supportive family environment from the training schools, camps and other settings.

Alternative care: We support quality foster placement for the children who are separated from the family for various reasons to have a safe place for them. We offer protection services to children in emergency settings. We engage in community sensitization, collaboration with stakeholders, advocacy, and networking.

Juvenile justice: We strengthen access to justice for children in conflict with the law, both offenders and victims, through improved access to legal advice and representation for children. We enhance community and national level child protection systems to improve the juvenile justice system and better serve and protect children.

Health programme

Mother and child health: We aim to enhance access to life-saving essential health, WASH, and nutrition services, thereby reducing morbidity and mortality rates, and the prevalence of acute malnutrition among children aged 0-59 months and pregnant and lactating women in peri-urban townships of Yangon.

Cash assistance: In the largest industrial hubs and peri-urban townships of Yangon, Tdh implemented the "maternal and child cash transfer" programme with the aim of enhancing access to basic needs and strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities against negative coping mechanisms, as well as to promote positive health-seeking behaviors among the targeted communities.

Highlight project: Reintegration and Alternative Care

Tdh implemented the "Reintegration and Alternative Care" programme aiming to provide support to children who are in training schools and camps and are temporarily separated from their parents and urgently require emergency placements across the country. The programme places a strong emphasis on the wellbeing and successful reintegration of foster children, those in detention centres, and children residing in camps for internally displaced people (IDP). In 2023, the programme managed 25 foster placements, 1028 cases of family reintegration, including follow-ups on over 100 previous foster placements.

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Outlook

In 2024, in addition to scaling up its existing projects in urban settings, Tdh also prioritizes establishing operations in the camps for internally displaced people and host communities of conflict-affected states - working through consortia with local and international NGOs and focusing on integrating and adapting current interventions to emergency settings, as well as cross border migration and child trafficking.

Main partners and donors

Local partners: CFN; Child Development Association, Candle Light, ChildFund Myanmar, WON-KAYIN, Tawwin Waddy, Radana Mitta Organisation, Hlaing Tharya Development Network, Karen Ethnic Health Organisations Consortium, Karen Return & Reestablishment Committee

State partners: Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement

Donors: European Union, UNICEF, WFP, Gebauer Foundation, UNOPS (NRM and LIFT Fund), Myanmar **Humanitarian Fund**



"I am so happy to take care of him. Since he came to my home, he has shown he is very smart and listens well. As an elderly widow, I feel great joy in looking after him until he can join his family in the IDP camps in Kachin State. This foster care programme has been a big help for people who need foster parents and for those who want to be foster parents."

A foster mother of a 9-year-old foster child

Contact

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