New Light Learning Centre (NLLC)
Vocational and Skills Training - Shan State, Myanmar
New Light Learning Centre - Overview

Through multi-stage development from a modest monastic school in 1996 to a nationally-registered NGO known as the Centre for Rural Education and Development (CRED) in 2017, New Light Learning Centre (NLLC) has been established as one of CRED’s main capacity-building projects to promote in Shan State’s youth knowledge and professional skills through interdisciplinary curriculum for social mobility and life-long learning towards the communities’ sustainable development.

Shan State, east of Myanmar, is a largely rural area where its people are extremely disadvantaged by large social and economic disparities between urban and rural regions, and are threatened by constant hostility and life constraints from the military dictatorship government.

As a result, many people have been denied their fundamental rights to learning opportunities with as little as 4% are able to attend primary school. Educational infrastructure such as schools and training centres are very limited, if not non-existent, exacerbated by out-of-date instructions and basic facilities.
How It Works

NLLC employs 4 highly qualified and resourceful trainers to offer one-year intensive training programme to beneficiaries of indiscriminate ethnicities.

Main activities offered are:

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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
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<tr>
<td>English Language (Beginner – Intermediate)</td>
<td>250-300 direct student beneficiaries, including some teachers from monastic/community schools</td>
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<td>Basic and Advanced Computer Skills</td>
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<td>Teacher Training (teaching methodology, classroom management, teacher roles &amp; responsibilities, etc.)</td>
<td>20-30 direct teacher beneficiaries from 21 monastic schools. 500-800 indirect student beneficiaries</td>
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<td>Basic Plumbing and Electrical Training</td>
<td>100 direct student beneficiaries</td>
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<td>Critical Thinking and Creative Thinking (Elective)</td>
<td>20 direct student beneficiaries</td>
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<td>Mobile Training Unit (mobile English classes among the monastic schools)</td>
<td>200-250 direct student beneficiaries from 12 targeted schools</td>
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Student Selection Criteria

✓ Possess strong interest, motivation and commitment in learning
✓ Willing to work for the community
✓ At least middle-school qualifications (9 years of education). Vast majority are youth and young adults
✓ From low socioeconomic status with proven insufficient educational funding
✓ Committed to working for community support after graduation
✓ Must speak Burmese and Shan languages

The centre provides stationery, learning materials and computer units to enrolled students. There is also a boarding house to accommodate students from remote areas and unable to commute home daily.
Objectives

- To create life-long learning opportunities for people in Shan State and increase the much needed human capacity among Myanmar’s youth
- To educate youth and provide them with valuable skills for employment
- To improve teachers’ qualifications and the quality of education in Myanmar
- To enhance solidarity in community development and promote knowledge of good/active citizenship towards peaceful, harmonious existence through civic education

The programme’s mission is to train, empower and equip young people in rendering service to their communities and to promote development within the context of their local environments.
Budget

The total annual budget is **USD 15,000** for the academic year of 2017-2018 (July – June)

Fund transfers from Child’s Dream to NLLC are made in quarterly instalments during the academic year: Jul-Sept, Oct-Dec, Jan-Mar and Apr-Jun.

Monitoring and Reporting

Payment is proceeded quarterly at reception of narrative and photo reports as well as monthly financial & activity reports. Feedback is also obtained directly during regular visits by our Yangon based team.

We report to donor(s) on a semester basis.