

Mote Oo

Aims to promote social change through context appropriate materials and services for the non-formal education sector



Myanmar update

Myanmar has made dramatic changes in the past two years. With growing investment and assistance from the outside world, its people are now given the possibility of a better future. Companies from around the world are jumping on the bandwagon, looking for business opportunities in a country dubbed the globe's final frontier. The latest population figures for refugee camps on the Thailand-Myanmar border show that the net population decreased by 9,044 or 7.1% in 2013. However, it must be noted that much of this decrease is due to refugee resettlement to third countries and not repatriation. Despite all the changes in Myanmar's capital and in some major cities, education in the rural areas remains the same. There are still huge numbers of Myanmar citizens venturing to Thailand and other countries to seek better education and employment, thereby also in need of protection from exploitation.

Mote Oo overview

Mote Oo conducts teacher training and produces curriculum and class materials for non-formal community schools in Myanmar and along the Thai-Myanmar border. Former CP (Curriculum Project) staff started Mote Oo by continuing what they had been doing for years; addressing the curriculum needs of schools in Myanmar and refugee schools in the Thai-Myanmar border area. The organisation has a main office in Yangon, Myanmar, and a small field office in Mae Sot, Thailand.

Objectives

- ✓ To produce learning materials relevant to the Myanmar context
- ✓ To produce learning materials to build knowledge and skills to enable students to address a range of social issues and inequalities in Myanmar society
- ✓ To produce resources to support the training and development of teachers in the Myanmar context
- ✓ To conduct general skills and content-specific training workshops to introduce teachers to the concept of student-centred pedagogy and/or reinforce their understanding of it
- ✓ To provide training and curriculum support to partner organisations in Thailand and Myanmar
- ✓ To source volunteers, as needed, to supplement local schools/organisations
- ✓ To distribute materials to schools in need

Recent learning materials from Mote Oo include

- ✓ **Active Citizenship:** *Active Citizenship is a unique and exciting civics book for non-formal adult education classes in Myanmar*
- ✓ **Gender:** *Issues and Perspectives is an exciting introduction to the field of gender studies*
- ✓ **Histories of Burma:** *A source-based approach to Burma's history*

The three courses are available in English and are currently being translated into Myanmar language

Contact us:

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Why Mote Oo is needed

Mote Oo has vast experiences with both refugee and migrant communities, unchallenged by any other educational organisation in the area. The main issue that Mote Oo addresses is the relevance of materials to the local population. In Myanmar, materials have been censored by the government with the effect of making many subjects taboo (and therefore illegal to write about); on the other hand, many internationally written materials are not locally comprehensible due to cultural differences and language usage in those materials. Mote Oo addresses these issues by creating and adapting student and teacher materials and training, in both English and Myanmar for post-high school level organisations in refugee and migrant populations in Myanmar and Thailand.

How Mote Oo works

Mote Oo utilises its staff together with specialised volunteers to adapt and create materials and training, which are then reviewed and critiqued by local schools. The final products are then requested by schools and organisations. Child's Dream fully funds the Mote Oo budget annually and disburses quarterly after we receive the regular narrative reports, photo reports, and financial reconciliations. Site visits are easily arranged throughout the year. We also obtain feedback from recipients directly during our many school visits.

Budget & Reporting

The annual budget covers printing and distribution of materials as well as visits to schools and training costs; training is to build capacity in schools and organisations, not Mote Oo itself. The total annual budget, including our monitoring and overhead costs, is USD 185,000. This programme runs yearly from January to December and reporting to donors will be provided twice a year.

Main Activities

- ✓ Conducting pre-service training for new teachers or trainers
- ✓ Producing, implementing and evaluating context-appropriate teaching materials and student modules
- ✓ Running area workshops to plan curricula and discuss subject-specific teaching methodology
- ✓ Undertake survey of IDP, refugee camp, and migrant post-high school schools and organisations
- ✓ Recruiting and supporting volunteer teachers for schools and organisations as well as for Mote Oo module creation and training delivery

Workflow Process

- 1 Needs Assessment
- 2 Material Drafting
- 3 Feedback
- 4 Revision
- 5 Final Version

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