

THE WOMEN ARE READY

An opportunity to transform peace in Myanmar

"The on-going exclusion of women and omission of gender analyses poses a substantial risk to achieving sustainable peace in Myanmar."

Discussion Paper No. 1, January 2016



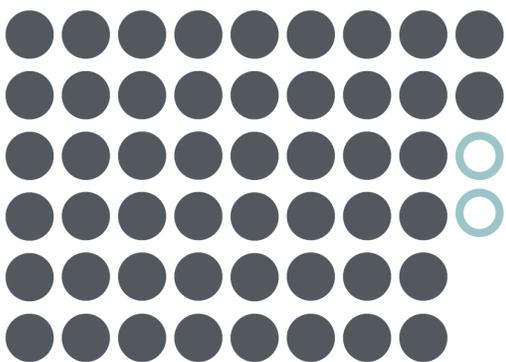
INCLUSION OF WOMEN IN THE NATIONWIDE CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT NEGOTIATIONS



GOVERNMENT OF MYANMAR

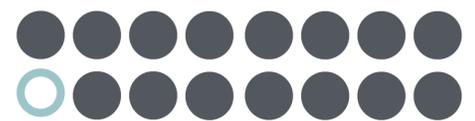


0%
Union Peacemaking
Central Committee
(UPCC)



4%
Union Peacemaking
Working Committee
(UPWC)

ETHNIC ARMED ORGANISATIONS



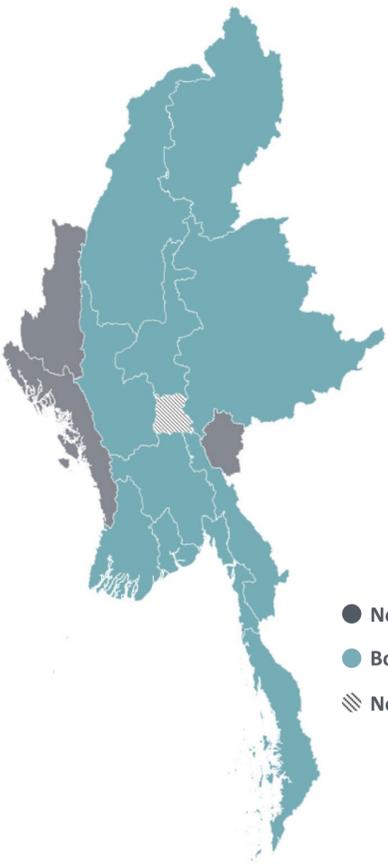
6%
Nationwide Ceasefire
Coordination Team
(NCCT)



13%
Senior Delegation
(SD)



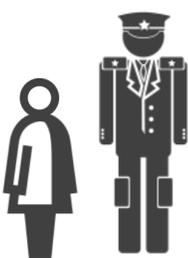
POLITICS & SECURITY



3 of 14
States and Regions
have no elected
women in
parliament
in 2016.

- No female inclusion
- Both male and female inclusion
- ▨ No sub-national inclusion

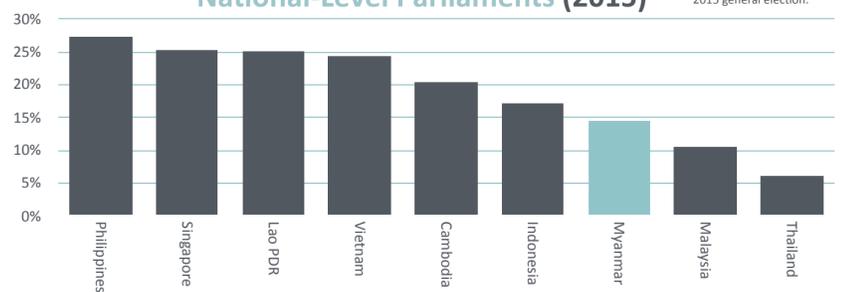
Currently no reliable data available on the number of women in the Tatmadaw.



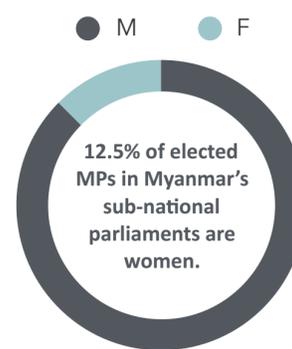
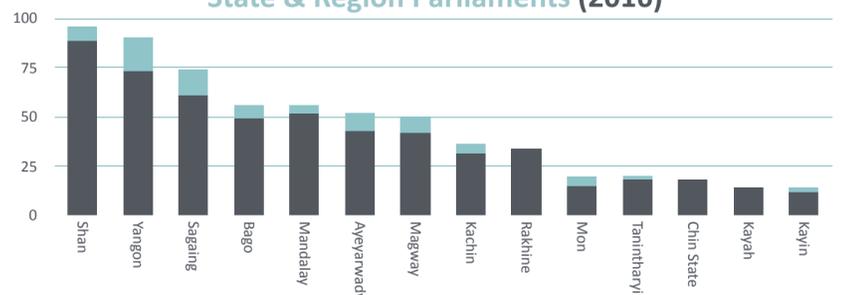
3.4%
of police
officials are
women in the
Myanmar Police
Force (2015).

Women's Inclusion in ASEAN National-Level Parliaments (2015)*

* Figures for Myanmar reflect outcomes from November 2015 general election.



Women's Inclusion in Myanmar's State & Region Parliaments (2016)



At 14.5%, Myanmar has one of the lowest levels of women's inclusion in National-level parliaments in the ASEAN region.

Icons courtesy of:

- <https://thenounproject.com/samymenai/>
- <https://thenounproject.com/hunotika/>
- <https://thenounproject.com/jcoico/>
- <https://thenounproject.com/ochaavmu/>
- <https://thenounproject.com/jmkeuning/>
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- <https://thenounproject.com/edward/collection/aiga/>



PEACE SUPPORT FUND

The Peace Support Fund
No. 135, A1, Than Lwin Road,
Kamaryut Township, Yangon
Myanmar

info@peacesupportfund.org

PRACTICAL STEPS TO TAKE NOW

"A failure to include women is a waste of resources and a wasted opportunity to use all possible factors to create sustainable peace."

OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier

To the Government of Myanmar, EAOs, NGOs, INGOs, and donors:

1. Challenge and transform the views and behaviours of men which are a barrier to the participation of women in the peace process and gender equality in Myanmar by:
 - a. Implementing programs and activities that seek to transform the views and behaviours of men and boys.
 - b. Ensuring that peace process programming, support and technical advice is inclusive of gender perspectives.
2. Provide funding for childcare and/or salary support to ensure that women who are expected to be the primary care givers for family and children have the time and opportunity to participate in the peace process events, meetings and conventions.
3. Ensure that women and girls are not constructed as victims of conflict by assuring that protection frameworks empower women rather than silence them.
4. Ensure that gender-based violence (GBV) response programs address *all forms* of GBV based on international standards and are not limited to 'sexual violence in conflict'.

To the Government of Myanmar and EAOs:

5. Implement the *Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)*, ratified by Myanmar in 1997, and adopt gender inclusion policies and quotas to guarantee the participation of women in the peace process and political entities by:
 - a. Creating a quota to guarantee a *minimum of 30%* of women in peace process entities (Joint Monitoring Committees, Union Peace Dialogue Joint Committee, EAO coordination bodies and in political entities (Upper/Lower House).
 - b. Creating a formal space for women's peace forums and organisations to regularly input policy recommendations into the peace process.

To the Government of Myanmar:

6. Build system-wide and non-discriminatory health and justice systems to prevent and respond to GBV by:
 - a. Passing the Prevention and Protection of Violence Against Women Bill.
 - b. Improving sex-disaggregated data collection systems to enhance understanding of the causes of GBV.
 - c. Using data, analysis and international best practise to improve GBV prevention and response services.
 - d. Ensuring services build on the experience and expertise women's organisations in responding to GBV.

To donors, multi-donor trust funds, and international non-governmental organisations:

7. Ensure that a *minimum of 15%* of all funding (UN policy standard) is directed to projects whose main objective is to 'address women's specific needs, advance gender equality, or empower women'.
8. Make funding of all peace process activities contingent on the: a) participation of girls and women; and b) integration of gender perspectives across all project activities.
9. Support the development of local organisations by:
 - a. Providing longer-term and core-funding support to local organisations.
 - b. Creating reporting requirements/structures that are user-friendly and accessible.
 - c. Funding the secondment of Gender, Peace and Security Advisors.

These recommendations reflect findings of the research in "The women are ready: an opportunity to transform peace in Myanmar" (January 2016). Please submit comments to caitlin.williscroft@peacesupportfund.org



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