

# LOOKING BACK ON 2025

Burma's Political Crisis and Key  
Highlights from the Women's League of  
Burma and Its Member Organizations



FEBRUARY 2026



The Women's League of Burma (WLB), founded on 9 December 1999, is an umbrella organization comprising 12 women's organizations representing diverse ethnic, political, and historical backgrounds. WLB envisions building a federal democratic union grounded in justice, peace, gender equality, political participation, and ethnic equality. Declared a political organization in 2002, its mission includes dismantling dictatorial systems to achieve peace, reconciliation, and federal democracy.

Fostering a peaceful and just society, WLB's objectives are to empower women and to advance their status, promote meaningful participation of women in politics and decision-making processes at all levels, and eliminate violence and all forms of discrimination against women.

Guided by the values of peace, justice, equality, and respect, as well as principles of unity in diversity, accountability, and responsibility, WLB continues working toward a federal democratic union in Burma, ensuring women play a vital role in shaping the nation's future.

[www.womenofburma.org](http://www.womenofburma.org)

[@wlbpower](https://www.facebook.com/wlbpower)

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# Overview

Nearly five years after the February 2021 military coup, Burma/Myanmar remains engulfed in a deepening political, economic, and humanitarian crisis. People across the country continue to experience widespread and long-lasting hardship as the economy deteriorates and inflation drives the cost of basic necessities beyond the reach of most households. Daily life is marked by frequent power outages, internet blackouts, corruption, poor transportation infrastructure, and widespread unemployment. Ongoing armed conflict—particularly in ethnic and rural areas—has created pervasive insecurity, forcing communities to live in constant fear amid airstrikes, artillery attacks, and ground offensives.

The conflict has resulted in mass displacement on an unprecedented scale. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), more than 3.6 million people are currently displaced.<sup>1</sup> Internally displaced persons (IDPs) face severe stress and anxiety due to food shortages, limited livelihood opportunities, disrupted education, and restricted access to healthcare, including life-saving treatment for civilians injured in ongoing junta attacks. Children are among the most affected: many lack safe access to education as schools are repeatedly targeted by airstrikes and shelling, while food and water shortages and inadequate nutrition continue to undermine their well-being and development.

Natural disasters have compounded civilian suffering. The devastating earthquake on March 28, 2025 was felt across the country, with the worst impacts in Mandalay, Sagaing and Magwe Regions, further displacing already vulnerable communities and overwhelming limited coping capacities. At the same time, landmines pose an ongoing and deadly threat. Burma/Myanmar continues to record some of the highest landmine casualty rates globally; in 2023 alone, 1,003 people were killed by landmines.<sup>2</sup> The military junta routinely deploys landmines in active conflict areas, including farmland, placing returning farmers and civilians at constant risk of life-threatening injury.

1 Myanmar Crisis Situation Analysis: 22/12/25 – 28/12/25

2 Landmine Monitor 2024

The military junta continues to commit widespread and systematic human rights violations while survivors are denied access to justice. Humanitarian conditions have further deteriorated as the junta weaponizes aid, obstructs assistance, and restricts access to emergency relief. Both IDPs and earthquake-affected communities lack sufficient support and struggle to survive amid shrinking humanitarian space.

Forced conscription has created additional and severe challenges for families and communities. Under the People's Military Service Law—actively enforced since 2024—young men aged 18–35 and women aged 18–27 are being compelled into military service. This has generated profound fear, particularly among women, who face extreme risks in any form of detention or custody under the junta. Forced recruitment has torn families apart and pushed women—especially mothers and elderly women—into deeper poverty and uncertainty. As many young women serve as primary earners or caregivers, their conscription has intensified household financial strain, forcing families into debt, fear, and despair.<sup>3</sup>

The economic collapse has had a disproportionate impact on women. Soaring prices for essential commodities such as rice and cooking oil have rendered daily survival increasingly difficult. Many women are forced to leave their homes to seek work, take on multiple jobs, or borrow money to sustain their families. Families whose children refuse conscription are often compelled to pay exorbitant bribes, reinforcing a vicious cycle of debt and economic insecurity.

The most vulnerable groups—including women, pregnant women, children, youth, persons with disabilities, and the elderly—continue to bear the heaviest burden of the crisis. Women face heightened exposure to multiple forms of violence, including domestic abuse, sexual harassment, rape, unemployment, and chronic insecurity, often relying on community-based and women-led organizations for protection and support. In displacement camps, fear is pervasive. Civilians seeking shelter have been repeatedly targeted by junta attacks, including mortar fire and airstrikes. While men are frequently accused of supporting resistance forces, women collecting food and supplies are often caught in indiscriminate shelling, reinforcing the reality that no space—public or private—is safe.

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<sup>3</sup> The Enlistment of Women: Gendered Impacts of Forced Conscription by the Military Junta, The Network for Human Rights Documentation-Burma, 23 April 2025

Humanitarian needs continue to escalate. The UN's 2026 Humanitarian Needs and Response Plan estimates that more than 16 million people, including five million children, will require life-saving assistance and protection. Food insecurity remains among the most urgent concerns, with over 400,000 children and mothers already suffering from acute malnutrition.<sup>4</sup> These needs are further exacerbated by shrinking donor support, including the collapse of United States funding, resulting in severe shortages of medicines and essential awareness-raising programmes and depriving displaced populations of life-saving aid.

Ethnic communities—long subjected to persecution, scorched-earth campaigns, and systematic violence—remain disproportionately affected. The majority of displaced people belong to ethnic groups, and the crisis continues to deepen as military violence persists. In this context, cross-border humanitarian assistance remains the most effective and reliable means of delivering aid. Locally led, often women-led organizations possess the trust, contextual knowledge, and networks necessary to reach conflict-affected populations and deliver assistance without junta interference. Strengthening these local systems is essential to meeting immediate needs while supporting community resilience, rights awareness, and long-term recovery.

Politically, the junta has attempted to consolidate power through a tightly controlled and widely condemned electoral process. Elections announced for late 2025—following the lifting of the State of Emergency—were conducted amid active conflict and under severe repression, including laws imposing prison sentences of up to ten years for alleged interference in the electoral process.<sup>5</sup> The polls were heavily militarized, geographically selective, and marked by widespread disenfranchisement, suppression of opposition, and media restrictions. With limited voter participation and the military-backed Union Solidarity and Development Party dominating the outcome.

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4 Almost invisible crisis': UN urges world not to look away from Myanmar

5 Myanmar military government sets long prison terms for election protests, Al Jazeera, 30 July 2025



# Impact on Women in Conflict Areas

Women and girls constitute the majority of victims of the junta's violence. In conflict zones, they are often forced to flee the fighting between the military junta and revolutionary armed groups. Those living in temporary shelters and refugee camps face unsafe conditions and a lack of healthcare services. Breastfeeding women are not getting enough nutrition and depend on local women's organizations to provide hygiene kits for themselves and their children. The environment in the IDP camps is also insecure, and with most camp leaders being men, women's security needs are often overlooked. As a result, many do not feel safe and face unfamiliar, sometimes non-existent, pathways to file a case.

The alarming increase in reports of sexual violence against women and girls indicates the expanding scope of conflict across Burma/Myanmar, especially in areas where the junta has targeted opposition forces in northern Shan State, Rakhine State, Karen State, and Kachin State, and Sagaing Region. The Burmese Army uses rape as a weapon of war and is largely protected by the 2008 military-drafted Constitution, which shields soldiers from due process and trials in civilian courts. Instead, they are tried in military-run, closed-door hearings where survivors rarely see justice served.

# Impact on the WLB's Member Organizations (MOs)

The extremely complex and fragile environment, shaped by ongoing political instability and armed conflict, has challenged WLB member organizations in numerous ways. Rapidly shifting political and military conditions—including the regime's actions and contested territorial control—have created persistent security risks for the members of each MO, partners, and the communities they serve. Surveillance, threats, and movement restrictions are common, while frequent displacement of civilians and emergency situations make it difficult to plan and implement activities consistently or safely.

Operationally, access remains a major challenge. Travel is often restricted due to checkpoints, insecurity, and poor road conditions, forcing the members of the MOs to rely on alternative routes such as forest and river paths. This not only delays program implementation but also significantly increases costs. Workplaces and project locations must be relocated frequently in response to security concerns, while communication disruptions and the lack of real-time information from the ground further hinder timely decision-making.

Financial and resource constraints compound these challenges. The MOs face ongoing funding shortages, limited access to donors, banking difficulties, and rising operational costs driven by inflation, disrupted supply chains, and currency devaluation. As a result, available resources are insufficient to meet the growing needs of internally displaced persons, survivors of gender-based violence, and communities requiring livelihood and protection support.

Human resource challenges are also significant. The shortage of workforce, high turnover, and difficulties in recruiting and retaining qualified personnel place heavy pressure on existing teams. Many staff members are required to manage multiple responsibilities while working under constant security threats, leading to physical and psychological stress. Access to consultants, trainers, and facilitators for organizational development, policy work, and program design remains limited.

Communication and infrastructure weaknesses further constrain operations. Frequent internet and phone outages, unreliable power supply, dependence on unstable internet connections, and poor transportation infrastructure slow coordination and delay responses, particularly during emergencies.

At the community level, social protection risks are increasing. Economic hardship, unemployment, drug trafficking, human trafficking, and violence are on the rise, while the number of survivors in need of safe spaces, protection, and essential services far exceeds the organization's current capacity. Additionally, documenting human rights violations and engaging with survivors exposes team members to intimidation and threats from perpetrators within both the regime's military forces and some armed groups.

These challenges are exacerbated by weak and fragile administrative systems, limited access to justice, and delayed legislative processes. Together, these interconnected constraints significantly limit the organization's ability to operate safely, strengthen institutional capacity, and deliver effective, timely, and sustainable support to affected communities.

Amid the many challenges on the ground, the shocking earthquake on March 28, 2025 and airstrikes conducted by the military junta caused further distress.<sup>6</sup> The earthquake-displaced communities faced severe shortages of shelter, food, and clean water. The restrictions placed on earthquake-affected regions were immediately enforced by the junta, which quickly sought to manipulate humanitarian relief for its benefit. As a result, a shelter crisis developed as survivors without homes, amidst heavy monsoon rains, were forced to sleep wherever they could.

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<sup>6</sup> Over 740 Airstrikes Conducted After the Major Earthquake, Institute of Strategy and Policy – Myanmar (ISP – Myanmar), 15 May 2025

**Member organizations of the Women's League of Burma noted the extreme toll the circumstances following the earthquake had on local communities:**

**WOMEN FOR JUSTICE (WJ) REPORTED THAT**

***“Villagers are afraid to stay in their homes, and some have lost their houses entirely. As a result, they are seeking refuge in football fields, paddy fields, monasteries, or along roads without proper shelter.”***

**THE PA-O WOMEN'S UNION (PWU) ALSO NOTED THAT**

***“People in Southern Shan State, with no other shelter options, have been forced to stay in the ruins of destroyed buildings. They also shared that due to significant damage in Southern Shan State, there was a delayed aid response due to a lack of strong mobile and Internet connections.”***

**THE KUKI WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION (KWHRO) REPORTED THAT,**

***“The ecosystem is being destroyed, and with the rainy season beginning, people are facing challenges accessing drinking water, as many sources have been contaminated.”***

THE KAYAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION (KYWO) HIGHLIGHTED THAT

***in Karen State, people also faced a severe drinking water shortage following the earthquake. Additionally, landslides, collapsed mountains, and damaged roads led to further displacement of communities. There remained an urgent need to relocate people to safe areas, and they are in immediate need of food, water, shelter, and medical supplies.***

THE KARENNI NATIONAL WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION (KNWO) ALSO REPORTED THAT

***two pregnant women lost their children immediately after the earthquake. One pregnant woman's child died inside her womb on the due date, and another woman, who was two to three months pregnant, had an abortion due to the earthquake.***

Women and girls reported a serious lack of safe and sufficient toilets and bathing spaces, which makes it difficult to maintain hygiene, especially during menstruation and pregnancy. Among these, people with disabilities face even greater challenges due to the absence of accessible washrooms and toilets. According to Honest Information (Hi News), one disabled woman shared: "Since the earthquake, we are afraid to stay at home. As a person with disability, I struggle with inadequate toilets and bathing facilities. In emergencies, having to move in and out of the house causes me physical pain and discomfort."

There were additional challenges beyond the housing crisis, as deceased bodies remained trapped in buildings, posing respiratory health risks to rescue workers and residents in the affected areas. There was also a severe shortage of medicine to treat the injured. Women for Justice (WJ) worked alongside local rescue teams to assist the injured and retrieve bodies from the collapsed building. Early on, WJ and teams in the area transported the wounded to Amarapura General Hospital in Mandalay Region, but some patients unfortunately died because hospital staff refused to admit them. There was also a significant shortage of rescue equipment and human resources, which further hindered efforts to assist those in need. Additionally, children separated from their families and living in overcrowded shelters faced increased mental insecurity.

**"Since the earthquake, we are afraid to stay at home. As a person with disability, I struggle with inadequate toilets and bathing facilities. In emergencies, having to move in and out of the house causes me physical pain and discomfort."**

HONEST INFORMATION  
(HI NEWS), BY THE BURMESE WOMEN'S UNION (BWU)



# Activities of WLB Member Organizations Across Burma/Myanmar in 2025

Despite all these challenges faced, WLB member organizations implemented a wide range of integrated activities focused on empowerment and protection of women, humanitarian assistance, and community resilience in conflict-affected areas in 2025. Their work combined political engagement, capacity building, awareness raising, and advocacy to address both immediate social changes and long-term structural challenges, while also providing essential service delivery for their communities.

Key activities of MOs include political representation and mobilization to strengthen women's participation in decision-making processes at local, regional/state and national levels. MOs actively support women's leadership development through leadership schools, political empowerment trainings, exchanges, and dialogues, while also nurturing young women leaders and interns to contribute to their communities. Women's political awareness, collective organizing, and participation in resistance and democratic movements are central to this work.



Protection and survivor-centered services form a core pillar of activities. MOs undertake prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV), and other human rights violations through documentation, legal aid, counseling, psychosocial support, safe shelter provision, and emergency assistance. Survivors of unsafe migration, human trafficking, and violence—including women, children, and human rights defenders—receive health services, SRHR (Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights) awareness and care, and livelihood support to restore safety and dignity.

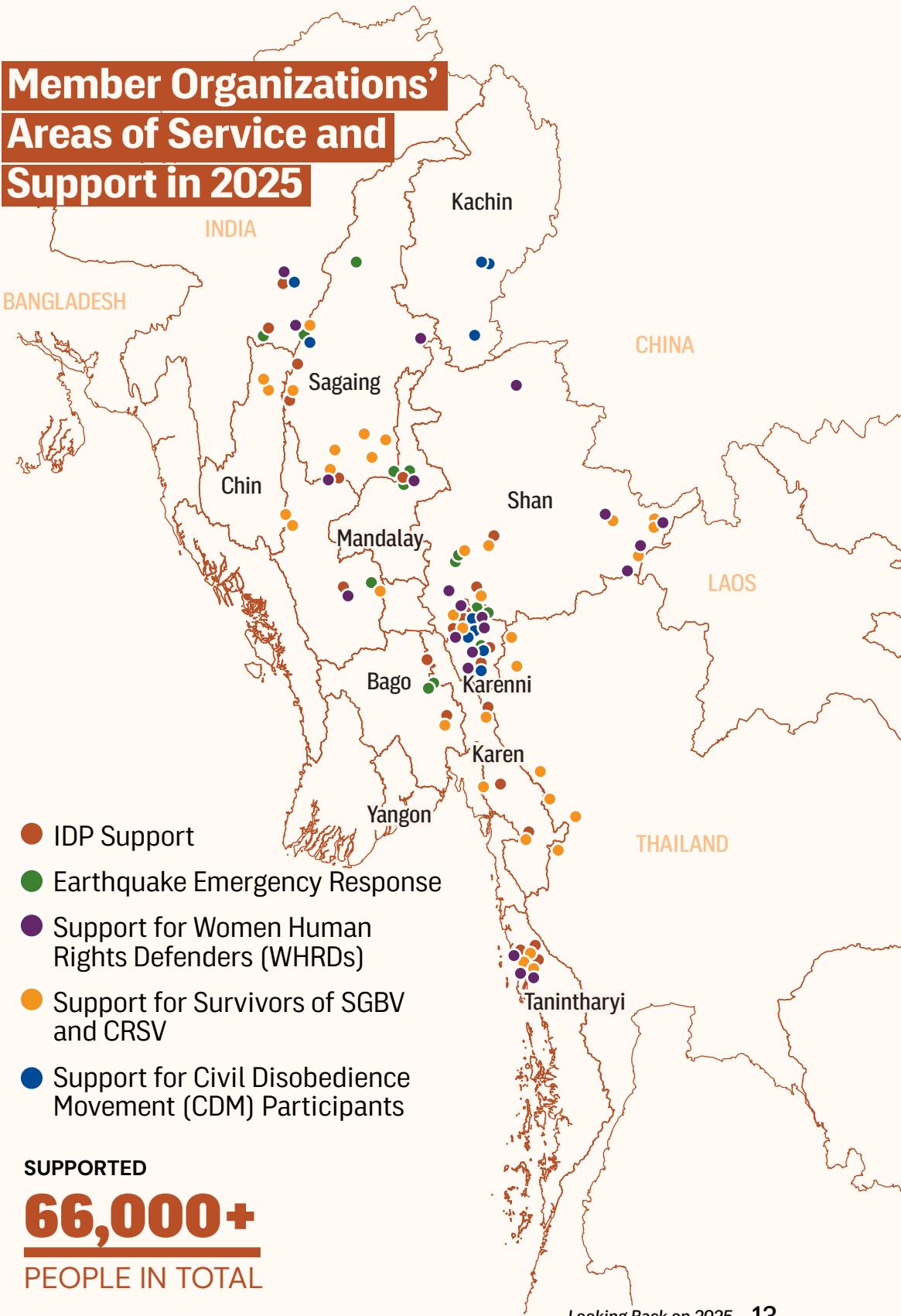
Humanitarian assistance is provided to internally displaced persons, refugees, and crisis-affected communities, including emergency food, hygiene kits, shelter, medicine, nutrition, and disaster response for conflict and earthquake-affected areas. MOs also support the survivors of CRSV and SGBV, victims of landmines and explosive remnants of war and provide emergency relocation and assistance for WHRDs (Women’s Human Rights Defender), HRDs (Human Rights Defender), CDM members, and political prisoners’ families.

Community development and livelihoods support are implemented to enhance resilience, particularly for women. These include vocational and livelihood projects such as tailoring, mechanics, phone repair, agriculture, livestock, small business grants, and infrastructure support in remote villages, including water systems, bridges, and community facilities. Education initiatives include school support, scholarships, mother-tongue education, child nutrition, and parental awareness.

Research, documentation, and advocacy are key cross-cutting activities. MOs systematically document SGBV, CRSV, and human rights violations for accountability and transitional justice purposes, conducts research and analysis, and publishes reports and awareness materials. Information is disseminated through multimedia platforms, including social media, video, radio, podcasts, and briefings, sometimes in collaboration with allied organizations.

In addition, MOs strengthen community capacity through public education on human rights, gender equality, legal awareness, and international frameworks such as CEDAW, UDHR, and UNSCR 1325. They work closely with humanitarian networks, local stakeholders, and community leaders to coordinate responses, build trust, and ensure locally led initiatives. Collectively, these activities reflect a holistic approach that links humanitarian response, protection, women’s empowerment, and rights-based advocacy in highly challenging contexts.

# Member Organizations' Areas of Service and Support in 2025



**In 2025, WLB member organizations provided assistance across multiple areas, including displacement, movement support, human rights protection, and emergency response.**



**54,311+**  
Internally Displaced  
Persons (IDPs) supported  
FEMALE: 31,382+ | MALE: 22,929+



**10,202**  
people affected by the March  
2025 earthquake received  
emergency assistance

**Areas covered:**

Bago, Sagaing, Tanintharyi regions; Karen, Karenni (Kayah), Mon, and Shan states; Manipur State (India border); and the Thailand–Burma/Myanmar border area



**108**  
Women Civil Disobedience  
Movement (CDM) members  
supported



**310**  
Women Human Rights  
Defenders (WHRDs)  
supported

**Areas covered:**

Kachin and Karenni (Kayah) states, and Manipur State (India border)

**Areas covered:**

Sagaing and Tanintharyi regions; Karenni (Kayah) and Shan states; and Manipur State (India border)



**1,212**  
Women Survivors of  
Sexual and Gender-Based  
Violence supported

**Areas covered:**

Bago, Sagaing, Tanintharyi regions; Chin, Kachin, Karen, Karenni (Kayah), Mon, and Shan states; and the Thailand–Burma/Myanmar border area

**209**

Sexual and Gender-Based  
Violence cases documented

Domestic Violence

Rape

Sexual Violence/  
Assault/Harrasment

Trafficking

Force Married

Cyber Bullying

# Reports, Briefings, and Publications Published by Member Organizations (MOs) in 2025



Burmese Women's Union  
September 2025

## The plight of women amid military coup attempts, natural disasters, and vicious cycles

[www.facebook.com/share/  
p/17kN91tExc/?mibextid=wwXlfr](https://www.facebook.com/share/p/17kN91tExc/?mibextid=wwXlfr)



Burmese Women's Union  
May 2025

## Women's Information Fact Sheet

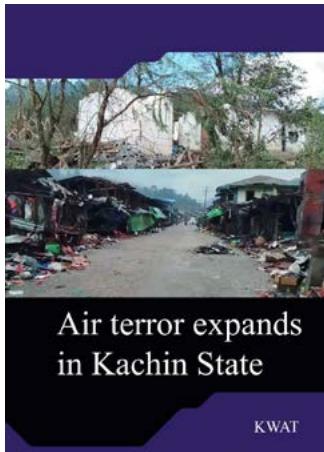
[burmesewomensunion.org/?p=4805](https://burmesewomensunion.org/?p=4805)



Kachin Women's Association Thailand  
August 2025

## Ethnic demographic and health survey (EDHS) Report and Factsheet

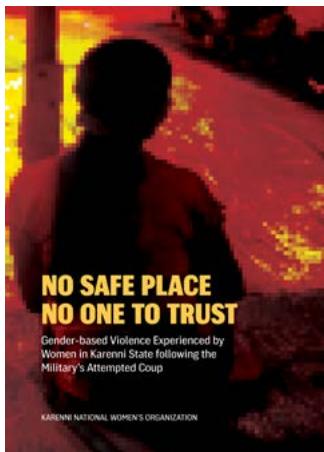
<https://shorturl.at/hOray>



**Kachin Women's Association Thailand**  
December 2025

### **Air terror expands in Kachin State**

<https://kachinwomen.org/2025/12/25/air-terror-expands-in-kachin-state/>

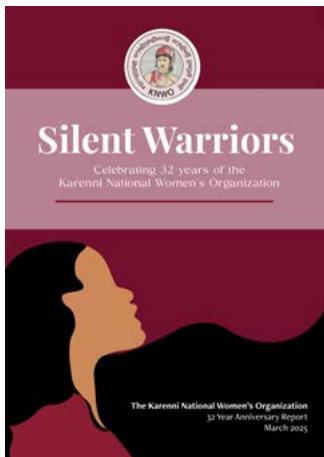


**Karen National Women's Organization**  
December 2025

### **No safe place, No one to trust**

*Gender-based Violence Experienced by Women in Karen State following the Military's Attempted Coup*

<https://shorturl.at/viWDd>



**Karen National Women's Organization**  
March 2025

### **Silent Warriors**

[www.facebook.com/share/p/1APUGraEzL/](https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1APUGraEzL/)



# Kuki Women's Human Rights Organization

## May 2025

## **The Political condition and Human Rights violations in Kuki Areas/ Tamu**

<https://shorturl.at/ERqh9>

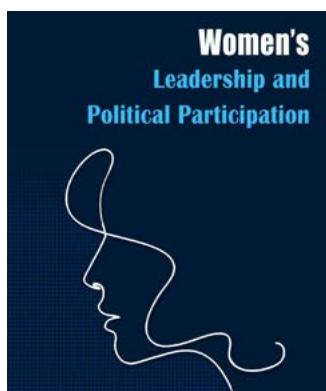
## သုဒ္ဓရိသနရိန်းစွဲက



## **Karen Women's Organization**

## Fifty Percent Everywhere

<https://shorturl.at/pha5R>



## Kayan Women's Organization

## **Women's Leadership and Political Participation**

[www.facebook.com/share/p/1H8yE4xAeB/](http://www.facebook.com/share/p/1H8yE4xAeB/)

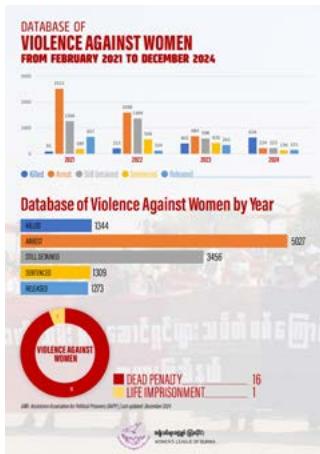


## **Women for Justice**

## **Situation Updates in Chin State and Sagaing Region (October)**

<https://bit.ly/WIOcthoerupdate>

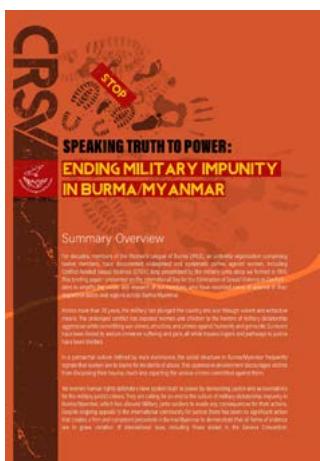
## Reports Published by Women's League of Burma in 2025



January 2025

## Database of Violence Against Women (2021–2024)

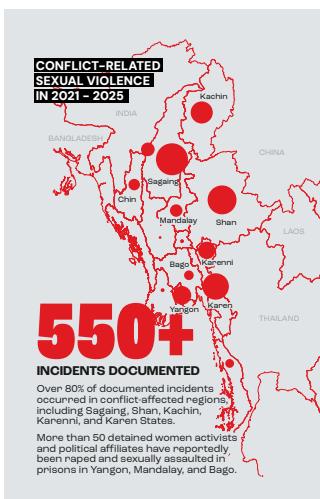
[www.womenofburma.org/reports/  
database-violence-against-  
women-2021-2024](http://www.womenofburma.org/reports/database-violence-against-women-2021-2024)



June 2025

## **Speaking Truth To Power: Ending Military Impunity In Burma/ Myanmar**

[www.womenofburma.org/reports/  
speaking-truth-power-ending-military-  
impunity-burmamyanmar](http://www.womenofburma.org/reports/speaking-truth-power-ending-military-impunity-burmamyanmar)



November 2025

## Seeking Justice and Accountability

[www.womenofburma.org/reports/seeking-justice-and-accountability](http://www.womenofburma.org/reports/seeking-justice-and-accountability)

## Videos Produced By Member Organizations in 2025

MO	Date published	Title	Link
BWU	Mar 14, 2025	"Revolutionary chant that reflects the times"	<a href="#">CLICK TO VIEW</a>
KNWO	Dec 27, 2025	Challenges faced due to USAID funding cut	<a href="#">CLICK TO VIEW</a>
KyWO	Aug 19, 2025	World Humanitarian Day	<a href="#">CLICK TO VIEW</a>
	Dec 16, 2025	Women political prisoners under army boots	<a href="#">CLICK TO VIEW</a>
SWAN	Mar 27, 2025	26th Anniversary	<a href="#">CLICK TO VIEW</a>
	Nov 25, 2025	'Is this right?': A short film on violence against women to raise awareness and spark conversation	<a href="#">CLICK TO VIEW</a>
WJ	Feb 17, 2025	30th Anniversary	<a href="#">CLICK TO VIEW</a>

## By Women's League of Burma

Date published	Title	Link
June 2025	Conflict-related sexual violence in a conflict zone	<a href="#">CLICK TO VIEW</a>
June 2025	Speaking Truth to Power: Ending Military Impunity in Burma/Myanmar	<a href="#">CLICK TO VIEW</a>

# Political Advocacy and Collaboration with Political Alliances

## WLB as an active drafting member of the Articles of Federal Transitional Arrangement (AFTA)

WLB, as a member of the [National Unity Consultative Council \(NUCC\)](#), contributed to drafting the Articles of Federal Transitional Arrangement (AFTA). This work was carried out under the Transitional Constitution Working Group (TCWG), which was formed to draft transitional arrangements during the transition period. The process of drafting AFTA started in November 2024.

In the process, TCWG focused primarily on key components that should be included in AFTA, namely transitional governance, the legislative branch, the judiciary, and human rights. WLB took responsibility for presenting and discussing human rights provisions from a gender perspective, ensuring that fundamental human rights were addressed through a gender lens.

One of the key achievements in 2025 was that the WLB, together with other women's allied organizations, successfully advocated for the inclusion of provisions on gender equality, women's rights, and special temporary measures in the governance document. These provisions stipulate that at least 30 percent women's participation is required at all levels of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, as well as in the formation of commissions.

In addition, the document includes provisions for the establishment of independent commissions, specifically a Commission on the Elimination of Gender-Based Violence and a Women's Affairs Commission.

## **WLB as an active member of the Multi-Ethnic Federal Council (MEC)**

The Multi-Ethnic Federal Council (MEC) was formed in late 2024 with the aim of working collectively to strengthen state and federal units. It was also established to support the drafting of the Articles of Federal Transitional Arrangement (AFTA), which is currently being prepared by the TCWG. The Women's League of Burma (WLB) is a founding member of the MEC.

Following the meeting held in May 2025, a Working Committee of the MEC was formed, and a representative from the Women's League of Burma (WLB) is a member of this committee.

Initially, the Multi-Ethnic Federal Council consisted of ten member organizations. Of these, nine were male-led ethnic armed organizations, federal units, and state-level consultative councils. Some revolutionary groups are participating in and observing MEC meetings and discussions, and some are applying to join as MEC members. In late 2025, federal units from various regions also became involved in the MEC.

# 2025 International Advocacy



MARCH 9-15, 2025

## **The 69th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69) – Beijing+30**

- *Beijing Platform for action 30 years and beyond: A critical review and future direction for Burma/Myanmar*
- *Peace Building From The Perspective Of Women Affected By Armed Conflict*
- *Grassroots Feminist Organizing in Times of Crisis*
- *Joint press conference with Women's Rights Caucus*



31 MAY – 8 JUNE 2025

## **International conference on Justice denied: fighting widespread impunity for CRSV international conference**

- *Plenary session Panalist: the State of CRSV in the Indo-Pacific: Perspectives and Insights*
- *Empowering Voices: ending impunity for CRSV in Burma/Myanmar*
- *Closed door Myanmar Focused Workshop with CEVAW*



**28 – 30 JULY 2025**

**Regional Consultation with UN Special Procedures Mandate Holders on Financing Peace in South Korea**



**15 – 19 AND 29 SEPTEMBER 2025**

**The 80th Session of UNGA**

- GIWPS at UNGA 80: Women Advancing Peace, Security and Climate Action
- Prospects and strategies for Gender Equal Justice and Accountability for Rohingya and other minorities in Myanmar.
- Resilience, Resistance and Solidarity: Voices of Myanmar Women and Minorities



23 – 30 OCTOBER 2025

### **Women, Peace and Security (WPS) week**

- *Intervention at the Forum on Financing Peace*
- *Women's groups of Burma/Myanmar meeting with UNSR Tom Andrew*
- *Roundtable Discussion with Nicholas Koumjian, Head of the United Nations Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar (IIMM)*



3 – 12 NOVEMBER 2025

### **Advocacy and lobby trip to Germany and EU**

- **3-7 November:** *Advocacy and lobby trip to Germany*
- **11 – 12 November 2025:** *Meetings with EU parliamentarians; the European Commission; the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO); the European External Action Service (EEAS, Service européen pour l'action extérieure – SEAE); International Partnerships; the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade; the Subcommittee on Human Rights; and INGOs in Brussels.*

# Conclusion

In 2025, Burma/Myanmar remained trapped in a deepening, multidimensional crisis in which armed conflict, economic collapse, and systematic human rights violations have created one of the world's most severe humanitarian emergencies. The military junta continued holding onto power through its sham election and relentless violence, committing war crimes across the country.

Despite operating in such an extremely volatile and insecure environment, WLB has continued working to dismantle systems of oppression and challenge militarization and patriarchy by asserting women's rightful place within political life, peacebuilding, and social transformation. We have also expanded our roles within the federal democratic movement, human rights advocacy, and humanitarian response—filling critical service gaps and sustaining communities under siege while ensuring that women's voices remain central to resistance and recovery efforts.



# Recommendations

To end the ongoing conflict and severe and protracted crisis in Burma/Myanmar, we reiterate our calls to the international community to:

## **REJECT THE SHAM ELECTION:**

Clearly reject the junta-led election and refuse to recognize it as a legitimate governing process or authority. Support efforts to restore democratic governance and legitimate representation.

## **REFER THE SITUATION TO THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC):**

Advocate for the ICC to investigate and prosecute those responsible for crimes against humanity committed by the military junta. Accountability is essential to justice, deterrence, and lasting peace.

## **IMPLEMENT A GLOBAL ARMS EMBARGO:**

Enforce a comprehensive arms embargo to prevent the junta from acquiring weapons and military resources. Cutting off access to aviation fuel is critical to halting aerial attacks on civilians.

## **SUPPORT LOCAL RIGHTS**

## **DEFENDERS AND SAFE HOUSES:**

Provide sustained financial and logistical support to local civil society organizations and women's rights defenders operating safe houses and shelters for peaceful protesters, particularly those at heightened risk, including women human rights defenders.

## **ENSURE POLITICAL SPACE FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS:**

Advocate for and facilitate the meaningful inclusion of women's rights organizations and civil society groups in political dialogue and decision-making processes. Their participation is essential for effective advocacy and the development of gender-responsive policies.

## **COMBAT IMPUNITY FOR VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS:**

Support efforts to end impunity for all forms of violence against women and girls, including conflict-related sexual violence and sexual harassment in detention and custody. This must include advocacy for legal reforms and the provision of survivor-centered support and resources.



YTZ Design Solutions

*By Ying Tzarm*



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# WOMEN'S LEAGUE OF BURMA

The Women's League of Burma is an umbrella organization comprising 12 women's organizations of different ethnic and political backgrounds. WLB was founded on 9 December 1999.

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Sigar Women's Action Network  
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