

Scholar Institute

EVERY YOUTH DESERVES
A QUALITY EDUCATION

Vision

A democratic society that embraces rule of law, peace, justice, rights and responsibilities

Mission

Building an enabling environment for youths and women in consolidating democratic principles and practices

Description

In 2004, a group of young energetic people decided to organize a conversation club to create a space for youths where they can practice English, share news and information, and prepare for pursuing a quality education abroad, if possible. The members of the conversation club considered that their knowledge and learning need to be shared with other young people. So, they opened the Scholar English Language Center (SELC) in 2006 and the members of the club teach English classes and some capacity building courses at the center voluntarily.

After one year of teaching at the English Language Center in Yangon, the teachers of the center decided to teach English and the capacity building courses in rural areas. Thus, the program called (Rural Educational Development Program-Summer) was launched in 2007. Before 2007, the conversation club has been named differently, but in 2007, it took the name “Youth Development Initiative Network (YDIN)” with basic organizational structure such as Director, Secretary, and Central Executive Committee (CEC).

In the name of the program “Scholar English Language Center”, the organization became known to a lot of people as “Scholar”, and to better reflect the current situation, all members of the organization decided to change its name to “Scholar Institute” in (2012). Under the name of the organization, Scholar Institute, the organizational structure was also modified into much concrete one with (Board of Directors, Management Team, and Members). For almost ten years, the organization was based on volunteerism-all the members work for the organization voluntarily. Starting from the beginning of 2014, the organization was developed into a professional one but not losing the volunteer spirit with full time and part time staff, volunteers, organizers based on the four different pillars of developing the organization sustainably- Human Resources, Financial Capacity, Management System, and Networking.

Therefore, from 2014, Scholar Institute has been standing as a civil society organization (non-profit) with four main concrete programs: Scholar Education Learning Center, Civic Education Program, Governance Program and Rural Education Development Program. Through these four main programs, Scholar Institute has been fulfilling its mission.



Scholar Education Learning Center (SELC)

SELC is one of the four main programs of Scholar Institute. SELC provides the students with English courses and Social Science courses. SELC is a non-profit-making center which is offering the classes with all affordable prices so that all students can study English and Social Science courses for their further steps. (Scholarship opportunities are available for those students who are eager to learn but have difficult financial condition). Since the program was started from 2006, SELC has produced a lot of students who had studied a wide range of subjects at different universities around the world, and many other students from SELC have finished the trainings provided by different international organizations. As the slogan of Scholar Institute says “Every Youth Deserves a Quality Education”, SELC is standing as a gateway to quality education for the students.



English Classes

SELC is offering different English courses such as (Starter), (Elementary), (Pre-intermediate), (Intermediate), (IELTS) to provide the students with the foundation of English language.

Social Science Course

Furthermore, SELC also provides Social Science course which is designed to offer the students both academic knowledge and practical skills. The course includes three main parts - lecture, discussion and field trip. After the fulfillment of the course, the students will be ready to grab the study opportunities and job prospects around Myanmar.

Seminar

Beside the Social Science courses, Seminars are occasionally held at SELC inviting guest speakers and alumni on relative topics aiming to share knowledge among the students, teachers, club organizers and alumni, and to strengthen the network among the students, teachers, club-organizers and alumni.

Library

To support the students studying at SELC, library service is also offered at SELC. The Library is offering a wide range of books (Education, English, History, Politics, etc.). Library membership fee is 3000 kyats per year. Application form is available at Scholar Education Learning Centre or can be requested from sclc@scholarinstitute.org. Library is open Monday through Sunday from 09:00 AM to 05:00 PM.

Civic Education Program (CEP)

Civic Education Program is one of the four main programs of Scholar Institute. This program is designed to promote the civic competency and responsibilities among young people. Civic Education Program has been intensively training the youths to become active and engaged citizens for many years. It provides the space for youths to develop their skills and capacities step by step through conversation clubs and other relevant activities. The program also provides the capacity building trainings such as youth empowerment training, training of trainers, and other necessary trainings for club organizers and responsible persons of the activities. CEP is composed of two main components- Youth Empowerment Projects and Civic Education Projects.



Youth Empowerment Projects are comprised of different clubs:

Youth Dialogue (YD)

Let's Speak English (LSE)

Capacity Upgrading Club (CUC)

Debate Club (DC)



Under the Civic Education Projects, the project focuses on providing awareness trainings on voter education, active citizenship, human rights and those civic education related fields.



Governance Program

Governance Program is one of the four main programs of Scholar Institute. This program is designed to promote good governance, and social accountabilities in government sector, private sector, and public sectors by fostering multi-stakeholders' involvement and accountability in livelihood development. The program is designed to promote dialogues, and effective communications and engagement between the mentioned three sectors for the overall welfare of the people in natural disaster affected areas. Through this program, we organize capacity building trainings, advocacy trainings, stakeholders' workshops, and other related activities in close coordination with other Implementation partners.

TatLan Project

Scholar Institute in partnership with Oxfam in Myanmar to support the governance component of Tat Lan, ensuring strong engagement between state and township governments with the programs, and supporting the ownership of the program by both communities and government officials.

Tat Lan I

Tat Lan I was implemented with the purpose of improving the livelihoods of 214 severely and moderately cyclone affected communities in the townships of Myebon, Pauk Taw, KyaukPhyu and Min Bya in Rakhine State. The activities of Tat Lan fall under the following technical areas: Infrastructure, Fisheries/Aquaculture, Agriculture, Financial Services, Information Management, Village-based planning process, Cash for Work Programme, Governance component, and Gender component

Tat Lan II

The project contributes to the Tat Lan goal which is: to sustainably increase the food and nutritional security and incomes of residents in 62 villages of Kyauk Phyu Township, Rakhine State. The project will deliver against outcome 6 within the overall Tat Lan framework- Community Development and sustainable livelihood opportunities are supported through more socially accountable government.



Rural Education Development Program (REDP)

Rural Education Development Program REDP is an annual community-outreach program, designed to build a bridge between rural community and Yangon-based education centers. This program aims to make international education opportunities possible for the marginalized communities. REDP focuses on providing English courses for community youths, especially those from the extremely low income areas and those from the socially and politically excluded societies. It is expected that through providing English programs to the community youths, it will be possible to have a direct and positive effect on the well-being of the youth of the communities.

The members from scholar Institute and the partner organizations are the main teachers of the project. Those teachers contribute 15-20 hours each week for a period of two and half months (summer). During this period, they try to assess the other needs of the communities besides teaching English; for example, the discussion groups are organized to serve as the forum for sharing aspiration and ideas through discussing the issues which are affecting people in the communities, the book clubs are arranged to introduce the reading habit among the youth, and mobile libraries are established with the support from the communities in different rural areas. REDP has been run since 2007 around different local areas in Chin State, Rakhine State, and Irrawaddy Division.

Scholar Institute is now trying to run the program the whole year. The courses will include General English Courses, Grammar, other English Language Courses, Basic Computer and Internet Courses, Capacity-Building Courses, and other courses based on the demand of the local communities.



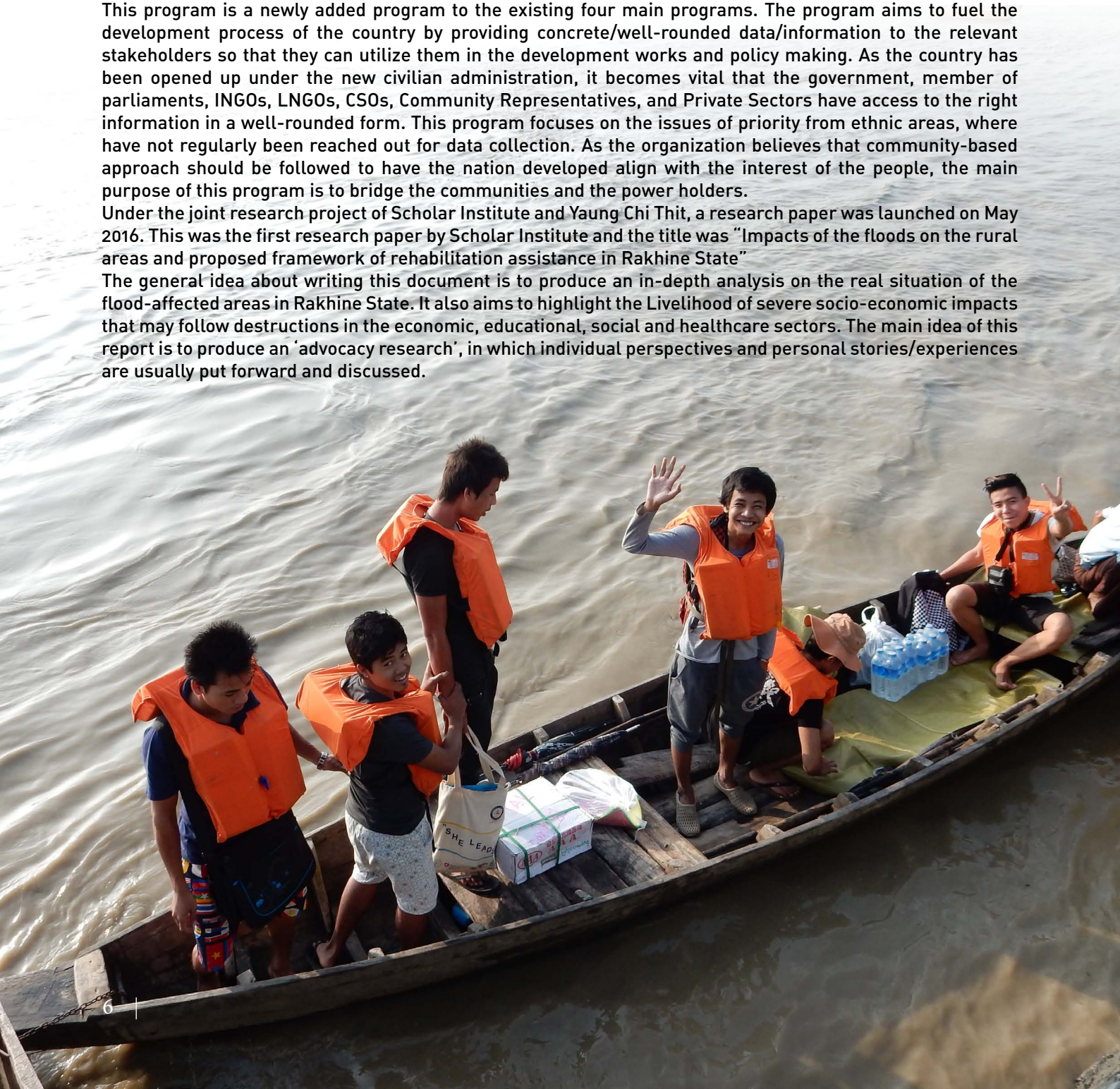


Research Program

This program is a newly added program to the existing four main programs. The program aims to fuel the development process of the country by providing concrete/well-rounded data/information to the relevant stakeholders so that they can utilize them in the development works and policy making. As the country has been opened up under the new civilian administration, it becomes vital that the government, member of parliaments, INGOs, LNGOs, CSOs, Community Representatives, and Private Sectors have access to the right information in a well-rounded form. This program focuses on the issues of priority from ethnic areas, where have not regularly been reached out for data collection. As the organization believes that community-based approach should be followed to have the nation developed align with the interest of the people, the main purpose of this program is to bridge the communities and the power holders.

Under the joint research project of Scholar Institute and Yaung Chi Thit, a research paper was launched on May 2016. This was the first research paper by Scholar Institute and the title was "Impacts of the floods on the rural areas and proposed framework of rehabilitation assistance in Rakhine State"

The general idea about writing this document is to produce an in-depth analysis on the real situation of the flood-affected areas in Rakhine State. It also aims to highlight the Livelihood of severe socio-economic impacts that may follow destructions in the economic, educational, social and healthcare sectors. The main idea of this report is to produce an 'advocacy research', in which individual perspectives and personal stories/experiences are usually put forward and discussed.



Outdoor Activities

Scholar Institute organizes annual excursion trips around Myanmar for students, teachers, club members, and alumni.



Debaters from SI's Debate Club are practicing their skills in different debate competitions.



Gathering activities are also arranged for club members, teachers, students, and alumni.



Volunteer Spirit is our value.

Partnership

Scholar Institute (SI) in coordination with international/local organizations has been implementing many projects and activities around Myanmar in the best interest of its citizens. As SI values the strength of the collaboration, it has the ultimate willing to work with different stakeholders from various sectors so that it can serve the people at the maximum capacity. Therefore, SI welcomes any potential local or international organizations to work with us under the common framework of our visions and objectives.

Volunteer and Internship Opportunities

Scholar Institute welcomes volunteers and interns. We are looking for active and enthusiastic volunteers and interns. Scholar Institute wants self-reliant, open-minded and flexible people who are adaptable with the new challenging environment. Basically, we want at least 2 months commitment as a volunteer or an intern. The applicants will be contacted if the skills and availability are met with the organization's request. For those, who did not succeed this time, we will keep your file for future consideration.



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