

## Gender Equality in Myanmar

The DaNa Facility is a UK aid-funded private sector development programme that supports inclusive and responsible economic growth by working with government, businesses, and stakeholders through a combination of grants and technical assistance.

We believe equality between men and women is essential for a healthy society – a society in which everyone, regardless of gender, has equal access to resources and opportunities, and is treated with dignity and respect.

### CHALLENGES



Zero laws on domestic violence or sexual harassment <sup>1</sup>



Only 48.5% of women participate in the labour force compared to 77% of men <sup>2</sup>



For agricultural work, women are paid 500-2000 kyat per day less than men <sup>3</sup>



Women work up to 5 hours of unpaid care work per day compared to 1.5 hours for men <sup>4</sup>



38% of women have been bullied in the workplace; 17% have experienced sexual harassment <sup>5</sup>

### WHAT WE DO

#### INCREASING KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

As of December 2019, DaNa has supported training for 14,623 women on good agricultural practices (GAP), marketing, and business development. Training for business leaders includes courses on gender equality and respectful workplaces.

#### STRENGTHENING WOMEN'S NETWORKS

We support the development of new women's groups and work with existing groups at the village level to increase incomes through collective selling.

#### REDUCING BARRIERS TO WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

DaNa engages with community leaders to seek gender parity in community activities and works with financial institutions to increase women's access to agricultural finance.

#### POLICY ADVOCACY

DaNa advocates for gender-responsive policy-making. We supported gender integration into the Private Sector Development Framework Update, and are supporting implementation of the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women through our participation in the Women's' Participation Technical Working Group.

<sup>1</sup> World Bank Group – Women, Business and the Law – 2018

<sup>2</sup> International Labour Organisation – ILOSTAT - 2018

<sup>3</sup> DaNa Facility – Women's Economic Empowerment in Agribusiness in Myanmar - 2020

<sup>4</sup> UN Women – Gender Equality and Women's Rights in Myanmar - 2016

<sup>5</sup> IFC and the DaNa Facility – Respectful Workplaces - 2019

# Our Impact



Over **60%** of microfinance clients are women



**12** women-led startup companies supported



**2,884** women applying good agricultural practices (GAP)



A total of **397,992** women supported as of December 2019

**“Our women’s group set up the bakery business mainly for people in the village. We hope that this business will help our group become sustainable in the future.”**

**Ma Wai Mar**, participant of the Pulses, People, Planet, Profit (P4) Project, implemented in Yangon and Magway regions by DaNa grantee ICCO (Interchurch Organization for Development Cooperation).

**“Women have become more confident sharing experiences with each other. This year, five of the eight demonstration plots will be led by women.”**

**Daw Mie Nge**, participant of the “Improving Market Opportunities for Smallholder Farmers, Especially Women, in the Pa-O Self-Administered Zone” project, implemented by DaNa grantee the Myanmar Institute for Integrated Development.

**“I’ve learned improved planting techniques and obtained high quality seeds. My income has increased more than ten times.”**

**Ma Khaine Khaine Nyunt**, participant of the Transforming Rakhine Vegetable’s Market (TVeg) Project, implemented in Rakhine State by DaNa grantee East-West Seed.

## KNOWLEDGE AND RESEARCH

**Respectful Workplaces** explores the cost of bullying and sexual harassment to businesses in Myanmar. The study identifies common disrespectful behaviours and provides practical recommendations for how businesses can create respectful workplaces.

**Women’s Economic Empowerment in Agribusiness in Myanmar** explores agency, access, and decision-making for women working in the agribusiness sector in three DaNa-funded projects in Magway, Southern Shan, and Rakhine.

**Decent Work** identifies potential barriers and opportunities for better working conditions in the agricultural sector in Myanmar. The study focuses on the opportunities and challenges to address debt bondage, forced labour, and child labour.

