Mindful Action:
COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund
April 2020 - March 2021
With Gratitude

The International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB) extends our heartfelt thanks to everyone that contributed to the Mindful Action: COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund.

We recognize the members of our global network, all the donors, and the Mindful Action partners in 5 countries that worked tirelessly to distribute emergency relief under difficult conditions.

We appreciate that this endeavor was actually carried on the shoulders of many local people to ensure that their communities had food and other relief supplies to sustain them during this crisis.

Donors

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Executive Summary

How INEB’s Mindful Action Fund Came About
By mid-April 2020, the International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB) had issued a statement regarding the COVID-19 pandemic calling for compassionate action around the world. INEB’s universal appeal was to maintain communal harmony and offer loving kindness to all human beings everywhere. INEB, in close collaboration with its members and partners designed a process to respond to the emerging situation which included setting up an emergency relief fund as a resource to help the most vulnerable communities from affected countries in INEB’s network.

Where the Emergency Relief Activities Took Place
INEB’s partners and members were spontaneous and generous when setting up the Mindful Action COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund that has directly benefitted persons in 5 countries in the South and Southeast Asia region. Originally the relief activities took place in 4 countries – Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, and Nepal. Cambodia was added in response to the extreme flooding conditions taking place in Battambong province which further exacerbated the pandemic.

The Mindful Action Fund made small grants (between 1,000 and 5,000 USD) available immediately after applications were reviewed and approved. All applicants conducted needs assessment which helped them to prioritize their relief efforts. Most funds were awarded in May and June 2020; some organizations applied for a second phase of funds based on decisions by a group of INEB’s Executive Committee members. Most applicants were from INEB partner organizations where they were already working with local communities. Funds were also awarded to some organizations outside INEB’s network for the first time based on recommendations from our Executive Committee members.

Who Benefitted from the Emergency Response?
A total of 31,628 persons directly benefited from receiving emergency assistance provided by 16 country partners. Overall, the actual number of direct beneficiaries and households exceeded the estimates from proposals by 62%. The numbers of indirect beneficiaries are believed to be much higher. Please refer to the Mindful Action country partner pages for more details and the summary table on page 30.

The medical materials and COVID-19 tests donated by JST Korea were distributed to two locations in Yangon which has been the epicenter of the second phase of COVID-19. The donations directly benefitted 1,070 patients, 431 medical staff (doctors, nurses and other staff) and 204 volunteers. Again, many more persons will indirectly benefit from these materials and tests which ensure that the health care workers, volunteers and patients health and safety has been addressed.

All the Mindful Action partners’ relief activities focused on addressing the most needy and vulnerable communities in the areas where they were working. Many partners helped persons that had no safety nets, or social and economic support system, who had lost their livelihoods or had no income that were living in containment areas, or otherwise were confined to their homes. Emergency activities were prioritized to support: women led-households; extremely poor persons living on the margins of society; migrant workers; persons vulnerable to domestic and gender-based violence; Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Chin and Rakhine states of Myanmar; students and teachers confined on campuses of monastic schools; orphans; persons displaced by flooding conditions in Bangladesh, India and Cambodia; children at risk of gender-based violence and sexual exploitation; and more.

The relief activities, in some situations, could be implemented more efficiently because the partners had a local presence with access to communities where they were known and trusted. They also had relationships with local authorities through which they requested and received necessary authorization and permits needed to access communities to distribute relief assistance.

Distribution was strategic and varied depending on the situation. Some activities and supplies were distributed in central locations with social distancing in...
place. In other situations, staff and volunteers distributing relief supplies went to people’s homes where visits were made by boat, on foot, by car and motorbike.

The partners also were aware of the psycho-social impact of the pandemic in local communities. Their reports included observations of how local people were coping and their general wellbeing. They also commented on how people’s spirits were lifted when they received food which relieved some of their stress. Some partners did provide telephone counseling, medical transportation and basic medical assistance which addressed physical and some psychological needs.

Some donors designated funds that were to be used to address specific populations’ needs. Arigatou International provided funds for IDP children in Rakhine and Chin state who were at risk of gender-based violence and sexual harassment. JTS Korea provided more than 110,000 medical materials (six types of PPE and COVID-19 test kits) to Myanmar with a shipment arriving at the Yangon seaport from Korea late in December 2020.

The partners’ matching funds and in-kind donations included reusable cloth masks, clothing and household items, blankets, public awareness about COVID-19. Ultimately, the partners’ additional resources of matching funds and in-kind expanded the entire relief effort and reached more people in need. The Mindful Action Fund contributed to a larger scale relief effort which made every dollar go further in each of the five countries.

Challenges and Risks
The pandemic, in most locations, made living situations that were already difficult, much worse. The situation was fluid, sometimes the locations where supplies were to be distributed had to be changed because the conditions changed. Having difficulties with logistics and communication were common themes. The partners faced many challenges including: delays distributing relief supplies while waiting for required authorizations; extreme weather conditions during the rainy season where roads were wiped out and flood waters were high; unavailability of supplies and fluctuating prices of supplies, in addition to increased transportation costs which doubled in some locations; police blocking access to communities; volunteers and staff were more at risk of the virus when distributing supplies; and people’s resistance to wearing masks. Chin and Rakhine states of Myanmar were still experiencing an internet blackout that began in June 2019, making communication in and out of the refugee camps nearly impossible, in addition to armed conflict that displaced the local population.

Sometimes there was tension within communities when some families received relief supplies, while others did not. The reality for the staff and volunteers delivering the emergency supplies was that the need was always greater than the emergency relief provided. A quote from Nagajunar’s report captures this the best: “There is no glorious or extremist needs of the communities. The communities only need the basic food to survive to feed their children and old people.”

Medical materials and COVID-19 tests distributed in two locations in Yangon, Myanmar, had unique challenges, most of which were securing the requisite permits from government authorities.

Report
The report covers the period of April 2020 through March 2021 and is organized by country within which each partner’s activities are described. The Mindful Action Country Partner Maps shows the partner organizations’ locations and where relief activities took place. Each Mindful Action partner relied on their extensive networks which included civil society organizations, religious groups, and government officials among many others.

This was a first experience for INEB to collaborate on an emergency relief effort of this size which was possible through the trust, strength and responsiveness of its entire network.
Bangladesh Partner Organizations

1. Atish Dipankar Society (ADS)
   Chattogram, Bangladesh

2. Parbatya Bouddha Mission (PBM)
   Khagrachari, Bangladesh
Atish Dipankar Society – ADS

PHASE 1
Project Area
12 villages in 4 districts: Chittagong Metro area, Dhaka City, Chittagong Hill Tracts and Munshiganj

Emergency Relief Activities
- Food: rice, salt, cooking oil, potato, wheat, onion
- Hygiene supplies – masks, gloves, hand sanitizer and soap
- Hygiene & sanitation activities
- Emergency medical – medicine, transportation, oxygen cylinders & tubing, hospital beds, 3 PPP sets

Direct Beneficiaries
✓ 2,470 Persons
✓ 250 HH
✓ 100 Buddhist monks
✓ 60 Persons received emergency medical support

PHASE 2
Project Area
Interfaith communities in Chittagong Hill Tracks. Project theme Promoting Interfaith Community Love and Compassion during COVID-19. Solidarity visits are made with religious leaders and actors, also humanitarian relief aid cooperation to families of interfaith communities.

Emergency Relief Activities
- Food: rice, dal, potatoes, salt, cooking oil, apples and biscuits
- Hygiene & sanitary supplies: masks, liquid soap and bar soap
- Solidarity visits
- 1,000 copies of COVID-19 Peace Appeal printed to give during Solidarity Visits

Direct Beneficiaries
✓ 720 Persons
✓ 107 HH
✓ 6 Religious leaders (Solidarity Visits with 4 Muslim leaders and 2 Hindu priests)

During Phase 2, ADS estimates their activities will reach:
✓ 1,150 Persons
✓ 150 HH
✓ 50 Religious leaders & community members

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BANGLADESH

Atish Dipankar Society (ADS)

ATISH DIPANKAR SOCIETY (ADS) is a humanitarian Buddhist organization named after the greatest Bangle (also Indian) Buddhist saint scholar monk Achariya Atisha Dipankar Srigyan (982-1052) AD. The organization was established in 1993 to promote and preserve Buddhism, Bangle Buddhist cultures and civilization in the context of new century and services to humanity with the collective efforts of new generation members of Bangladeshi Buddhist community.

Emergency Relief Response
The Atish Dipankar Society continues to provide emergency relief aid to poor local Buddhists, as well as to people in Muslim and Hindu neighborhoods who have lost daily livelihoods and income due to the COVID-19 pandemic and government lockdown. The corona virus is spreading rapidly among Bangladesh’s dense population, where now millions are without work and food.

ADS received funds for two separate phases of emergency relief. They did not need government permission to distribute the emergency relief and followed the public health guidelines during the pandemic. They did have to change some locations where the relief supplies were to be distributed due to the changing conditions. ADS prioritized reaching the most vulnerable people living in remote areas with few resources including daily laborers, wage workers, small traders and other who live hand to mouth.

Phase 1 – During the first phase, families received food and hygiene supplies. ADS also provided some emergency medical support that included hospital beds and medicine and oxygen, and medical transportation. The emergency relief response also included sanitizing areas by helping spray inside and outside homes, and other buildings. During Phase 1, ADS exceeded their estimates by 147% which provided 1,470 additional persons with food and hygiene supplies.

Phase 2 – ADS second emergency response is for the interfaith community with the project theme ‘Promoting Interfaith Community LOVE and COMPASSION during COVID-19 pandemic period.’ Their focus is on making ‘Solidarity Visit’ with various religious leaders and actors and ‘Humanitarian Relief Aid Cooperation’ to 150 interfaith community families and 50 religious leaders and actors living in both rural Chittagong and metropolitan areas. Currently, 22 Muslin families have received relief aid, and solidarity visits have been made with 4 Muslim leaders and 2 Hindu priests.
Parbatya Bouddha Mission (PBM)

Project Area
10 villages of Khagrachari district and other areas in 2 sub-districts of the Chittagong Hill tracks

Emergency Relief Activities
- Food: rice, potatoes, pulses/lentils, cooking oil, salt, snack
- Masks
- Body soap and laundry detergent

Direct Beneficiaries
✓ 1,500 Persons
✓ 244 HH
✓ 300 Children in a Buddhist orphanage

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BANGLADESH

Parbatya Bouddha Mission (PBM)

Parbatya Bouddha Mission (PBM) is a non-profit, non-government, socio-economic, humanitarian and religious (Buddhism) development organization. PBM was established in 1983 to empower disadvantaged indigenous minority people, especially women and children. Currently, PBM focuses their work in the Khagrachari and Rangamati Hill District of the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

Emergency Relief Response
PBM collaborated with its partners and volunteers to ensure the relief activities were successful. They focused on reaching the most vulnerable and marginalized families and individuals in remote areas who were primarily daily laborers and unemployed.

Some of the challenges and risks PBM faced delayed the distribution when misunderstandings occurred with the partner organizations, when communication could not take place in many areas, in addition to a shortage of human resources, and unstable information management.

Despite their difficulties, PBM’s emergency relief activities provided persons with food, masks and hygiene supplies. They also helped to increase awareness of the pandemic situation so that people were better informed about how to stay healthy and safe. PBM also exceeded their estimates of individuals who were direct beneficiaries by nearly 80 percent or 665 persons.
Cambodia Partner Organization

1. Preah Sihanouk Raja Buddhist University, Battambang Branch - SBUBB
   Battambang, Cambodia
SBUBB provides higher education to both monastics and lay students. SBUBB has been engaged in many social work projects through its communities at the grassroots level, in addition to humanitarian projects. Staff and students are expected to help poor persons and older people.

CAMBODIA
Preah Sihanouk Raja Buddhist University, Battambang Branch (SBUBB)

SBUBB's emergency relief activities took place in Battambang province where food and supplies were distributed.

Emergency Relief Response
As the worst flooding in about a decade inundated large areas of Cambodia, already reeling from the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Buddhist community has been at the forefront of efforts to reach out to vulnerable communities to offer relief aid and comfort to those most affected.

SBUBB’s emergency relief activities took place in Battambang province where food and supplies were distributed.

Preah Sihanouk Raja Buddhist University, Battambang Branch - SBUBB

Project Area
Some districts affected by floods in Battambang province

Emergency Relief Activities
- Food: rice, salt, cooking oil, sugar, onion, soy sauce, fish sauce and canned fish
- Laundry powder

Direct Beneficiaries
✓ 512 Persons
✓ 100 HH

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India Partner Organizations

1. ADECOM Network
   Puducherry, India
   Area of emergency response: Tamil Nadu

2. All Manipur Buddhist Association
   Manipur, India
   Area of emergency response: 5 districts – Bishnupur, Imphal East, Kakching, Kangpoki and Urkral

3. EAGL Livelihood Foundation
   Mumbai, India
   Area of emergency response: Maharashtra

4. Foundation of His Sacred Majesty
   Chennai, India
   Area of emergency response: Tamil Nadu

5. Kriti
   New Delhi, India
   Area of emergency response: Bhatola, Faridabad District, Haryana

6. Manuski Trust
   Pune, Maharashtra, India

7. Nagarjuna Training Institute
   Nagpur, India
   Area of emergency response: Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Orissa and Telangana

8. Siddhartha’s Intent Society
   In coordination with Youth Buddhist Society of India (YBS)
   Kangra, Himachal Pradesh, India
   Area of emergency response: Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Delhi

The Indian partners are indicated by their corresponding numbers on the map. Please note that the partners conducted emergency activities in more than one location which is indicated by the heart symbols on the map. Some of the partners were working in the same districts, but in different locations.
ADECOM is an NGO that works to empower women in India. Based in Puducherry, ADECOM has been successfully organizing and agitating for women’s rights and children in the region for over 28 years. They collaborate in partnership with communities, civil society and government to keep women’s rights at the top of the agenda. Their constant focus on create self-awareness and self-confidence, improve social, environmental and economic conditions of oppressed communities.

Emergency Relief Response
ADECOM used a holistic approach to their relief activities which integrated providing food and hygiene supplies, distributing accurate information about COVID-19, counseling and strengthening people’s immune systems. ADECOM’s focused their emergency relief activities in 30 villages in 3 districts of Tamil Nadu. Funds were provided in 2 phases.

Phase 1 – People targeted were very poor, daily wage earners, women affected by domestic violence and one parent families. During the first phase persons received food baskets with 16 items (enough food for one week), emergency kits of health care supplies, and had access to psycho-social counseling via cell phones. ADECOM also raised awareness in camps and rural villages about COVID-19 with support from central and state government officials, as well as about siddha and homeopathy.

Phase 2 - ADECOM’s second phase was in the same geographic area where their emergency relief activities distributed siddha and homeopathic medicines to persons to strengthen their immune systems and minimize the risk of infection. Each family received 4 masks. They conducted a mass campaign in 3 separate locations on 3 dates that provided information on a range of public health issues three times in separate locations. During the mass campaign a drink (Kabasurakudineer) was available to boost people’s immune systems and information about food to strengthen immune systems, plus healthy daily practices such as yoga and meditation. Community leaders also were given awareness training about COVID-19 and preventing infection. Information about COVID-19 was translated into the Tamil language and distributed. Many people indirectly benefited from ADECOM’s mass campaigns.
All Manipur Buddhist Association – AMBA

AMBA is the only active Buddhist organization in northeast India’s Manipur state. AMBA advocates on behalf of minority and Buddhists in addition to spreading the teachings and philosophy of Buddhism.

Emergency Relief Response
AMBA’s emergency relief activities focused in rural areas where there were food shortages and communities received limited help from the Government. Many migrant workers and students began returning home to Manipur.

Factors such as increased transportation costs, fluctuation prices for food supplies and lack of their availability were some of the challenges. AMBA volunteers coordinated with Government doctors posted in these areas, as well as local leaders to distribute food, masks, soap and sanitary supplies. AMBA's relief activities helped to raise local people’s spirits by providing food and health supplies.

All Manipur Buddhist Association – AMBA

Project Area
6 villages in 5 districts of Manipur:
✓ Bishnupur
✓ Imphal East
✓ Kakching
✓ Kangpoki
✓ Urkrul

Emergency Relief Activities
- Food: fermented fish, dal, onions, potatoes, cooking oil, salt, etc.
- Soap, masks, sanitary supplies

Direct Beneficiaries
✓ 1,025 persons
✓ 205 HH

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EAGL Livelihood Foundation

Project Area
Maharashtra: 6 villages in Shahapur block of Thane District

Emergency Relief Activities
Food: rice, pulses, salt, vegetables, sugar and oil

Direct Beneficiaries
✓ 661 Persons
✓ 140 HH

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EAGL is a registered not for profit organization in India. They focus on improving education, health, creating livelihoods, reducing poverty and eradicating hunger, environmental sustainability, water conservation and disaster relief interventions.

Emergency Relief Response

EAGL’s emergency relief activities focused on 6 hamlets of the Shahapur block of Maharashtra’s Thane District. People from the most vulnerable tribal groups, including Katkaries, did not have a safety net ensuring food security that prevented hunger and starvation.

EAGL distributed food to people from the most vulnerable tribal groups and communities. Most people from these groups also did not have food ration cards that would have given them access to food grains available through the public distribution system. However, the grocery distribution system program ensured access to food, and provided food security that reduced chronic hunger and prevented starvation.
Foundation of His Sacred Majesty - FHSM

PHASE 1
Project Area
3 villages:
1. Thiruchitrambalam, Villipuram District, Tamil Nadu
2. Sembakkam, Chengalpet District, Tamil Nadu
3. Pullepady, Kochi, Ernakulam, Kerala

Emergency Relief Activities
Food: rice, dal, salt, sugar, oil and vegetables

Direct Beneficiaries
✔️ 975 Persons
✔️ 150 HH

PHASE 2
Project Area
Tyenampet village, central Chennai, Chennai District, Tamil Nadu.

Emergency Relief Activities
Food: rice, dal, salt, sugar, oil and vegetables

Estimated Direct Beneficiaries
✔️ 750 Persons
✔️ 150 HH

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INDIA

Foundation of His Sacred Majesty – FHSM

FHSM is a registered non-profit organization which envisages to achieve social transformation, and render possible assistance. FHSM supports services to poor, deserving and needy communities without a profit motive, and without any distinction of caste, creed, race, nationality, sex or religion. This social transformation that FHSM has undertaken to develop a society is based upon liberty, equality, fraternity, and social justice as envisioned by the father of India’s constitution, Babasaheb Dr. B.R. Ambedkar.

Emergency Relief Response
FHSM’s strategized how to support the poorest families in various parts of Tamil Nadu. The COVID-19 Emergency Relief activities of FHSM were intended to address the needs of the most vulnerable communities of Dalits, tribal persons, nomadic communities, transgender persons and migrant workers. FHSM is also helped stranded migrant students.

FHSM received Mindful Action: COVID-19 Emergency Relief funds to support 2 phases.

Phase One – During Phase One, persons received basic food items. Relief aid was distributed through relief clusters with the help of government-registered professional volunteers.

Phase Two – FHSM continued distributing food and exceeded their estimates by 105 persons or 16%.
Project Area
Bhatola village, Faridabad District, Haryana (borders New Delhi)

Emergency Relief Activities
- Food: rice, dal, wheat flour, dalia, soy protein, cooking oil, garam masala, kala chana, jeera, dhania, haldi, red chili, sugar, salt and tea
- Hygiene supplies: bar soap, laundry and household soap, sanitary pads, sanitizer
- Match: 350 cloth masks distributed

Direct Beneficiaries
- 350 Persons
- 70 HH

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Emergency Relief Response
Although Kriti has been working in the village of Bhatola, of Faridabad district in Haryana for some time, they had not been directly involved in emergency relief efforts. However, recognizing that the situation was unprecedented, especially since people’s livelihoods had come to a halt. So, they began to strategize how support the most vulnerable families in Bhatola.

Kriti has been working with marginalized women and former street children around livelihood intervention for more than 10 years. Their needs assessment identified 70 families in the most urgent need. The relief activities were made possible through Kriti’s coordination with young men who were former street survivors and were running enterprises that made small bags with Kriti. The relief activities included distributing food for one month (or approximately 10,000 individual meals), hygiene and sanitary supplies to the identified families.
The Manuski Trust registered in 2007, and focuses on transcending caste barriers and establishing channels for conveying change is central to all their programs. Manushi, meaning humanity, is run by young professionals from Scheduled Caste & Tribes backgrounds who know from their own experiences the ground realities of caste and untouchability. Their emphasis is on responses to caste atrocities and improving access to Dalit Adivasi Component Plan through networking with other Dalit organizations working at the national and international levels.

Pune has experienced the highest number of COVID-19 cases after Mumbai which is especially challenging to address in densely populated slum communities. The situation of persons from DeNotifed Tribe (DNT) and Scheduled Caste (SC) was more vulnerable due to the outbreak of COVID-19. Most of the people from the community were working as laborers (daily wage, construction, brick kiln, sugar cane, etc.), in addition to fishing, selling utility items, or flowers on the roadside. Some of them were working as laborers at nearby MIDC, and few are beggars.

Many people from the targeted groups generally did not have citizenship or residence documents which would have given them access to government programs. Consequently, persons from the DNT community did not have ration cards which would have given them access to India’s public distribution shops. People from the SC communities did not have access to relief materials. The situation for persons from both DTS and SC was further exacerbated because they were living in a containment zone which they were not allowed to leave.

Manuski Trust's emergency activities include distributing food rations and hygiene supplies to the most vulnerable groups reached persons mentioned previously. Distribution was challenging because areas were sealed, so a systematic distribution was planned by either visiting homes or meeting families on an individual basis in a common area. Manuski also received an in-kind donation 2,500 ration kits from Action Aid that benefitted 400 families.

Manuski exceeded their estimates by 76% and reached an additional 390 persons who were direct beneficiaries.
The Nagarjuna Institute and Nagaloka are based in Nagpur which is a major centre for the revival of Buddhism in India today. The Nagarjuna Institute provides training and conference facilities for Buddhists and social activists from India and around the world. Dr. Ambedkar has inspired millions of young people to understand how Buddhism can help them transform their individual and social lives. The Nagarjuna Institute was started to respond to this need.

Emergency Relief Response

The Nagaloka team, the alumni of the Nagarjuna Training Institute, and their partner organization, the Manuski Trust, responded to the COVID 19 calamity, by helping distressed people wherever possible all over India. The Nagarjuna Training Institute alumni along with the Nagaloka team identified 21 districts of India where they were working on the ground and were coordinating with private and government authorities to ensure the relief effort reaches the most needy families. While distributing relief supplies, many people would surround the volunteers asking for help. This also increased the volunteers’ risk of exposure to the virus. Yet, their extensive network mobilized to distribute food rations, soap, masks, and increased awareness about the crisis, as well as help provide emotional support to those who are suffering.

The Nagarjuna Training Institute received funds for two phases of emergency relief activities through INEB's Mindful Action fund. Groups targeted to receive emergency relief varied from region to region. Their relief was delayed for several reasons including heavy rain and power outages. This further complicated and delayed the emergency response because government authorizations had to be requested again.

Phase 1 – Most families receiving emergency relief were very poor, had no masks or hygiene supplies as these could not be afforded, especially when food was the priority. The emergency assistance consisted of food and hygiene supplies. They were distributed to persons such as daily wage earners, migrant laborers, poor families, widows, vegetable sellers and poor farmers, rickshaw pullers, domestic workers, cobblers and some Scheduled Caste communities (Ambedkarite Buddhists and cobblers, Satnami people) living in 4 states: Rajasthan, Arunachal Pradesh, Telangana and Chhattisgarh.

Phase 2 – During the second phase more food was delivered to persons living in 5 states: Andra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, and Orissa.
Siddhartha’s Intent Society – SI is a registered educational society that was formed in March 2006 by Dzongsar Jamyang Khyentse Rinpoche. They are deeply honored to receive the patronage of His Holiness the Dalai Lama. Siddhartha’s Intent Society collaborated with its partner Youth Buddhist Society India (YBS) based in Uttar Pradesh, India. YBS was the only organization in Sankissa that provided emergency support since the lockdown began.

Emergency Relief Response
Siddhartha’s Intent in collaboration with YBS’s extensive network distributed food kits and masks to persons and families in need, such as day laborers, blacksmiths, snake charmers, migrant workers, nomads who live by roadside in huts and very poor people with no source of income since the lockdown began. Since most local people were not aware of COVID-19, the volunteers shared basic information about the virus and basic hygiene practices about keeping clean and healthy with local people.

Their relief effort exceeded reaching the number of direct beneficiaries by more than 100%.
The INEB Institute’s School of English for Engaged Social Service (SENS) course has been conducted annually for the past 6 years in Thailand. Both international and Thai participants are drawn to enroll in the courses because of its unique mission through which the English language program is a model for:

- A cooperative and experiential learning environment
- Developing socially conscious language learning
- Supporting rapid, enjoyable and successful mastery of language skills
- Nurturing personal growth and social engagement
- Contributing to worldwide peace, justice, understanding and sustainability

The 2020 SENS 12-week course was scheduled for January 12 – April 8. This Course was impacted by the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic during week 9 when travel restrictions became imminent. Then one week later, the in-person part of the course was closed. This caused one tutor and some students from India to temporarily remain in Thailand. Eventually, food, lodging and social support were coordinated for the tutor and one student to stay until September when they returned home to India.

Tong pang Kumzuk Longchar, a SENS graduate and tutor from Nagaland, India, and Raj Kumar from Chhattisgarh, India, appreciated the hospitality and generosity of Thai people throughout their time in the Bangkok area. The Mindful Action Funds helped to support their food costs. Their time was spent volunteering with a local Thai organization that was reaching out to isolated elderly persons. Finally, during the week of September 21 both Raj and Tongpang arrived at home in India where they were welcomed by family and loved ones.

Mindful Action Funds Supported Stranded Participants from India Attending School of English for Engaged Social Service Course (SENS) in Thailand

Hello everyone!
My name is Raj Kumar and I’m from Chhattisgarh, India.
Now I’m working with Manuski NGO, part of the Nagarjuna Training Institute. I always wanted to work with community-social work - it is not my job, it’s my passion, because India has multiple problems, social, cultural, religious, caste, ethnic, gender, and many types of discrimination.
Due to my experiences, I decided to work for change in our society, I chose social work as the subject for my education.

What I learned from the Thailand experience?
- That every language is very important to communicate with people.
- How we can prevent problems like social and religious discrimination, inequality, gender discrimination and climate change.
- About love, compassion, humanity, happiness, the importance of respecting different cultures and religion.
- That we have similar problems all over the world, and we need to come together to change our societies.

Why I went to the Thailand?
I went to the Thailand to join INEB (International Network of Engaged Buddhist) program. Due to the Covid19 pandemic SENS suddenly decided to close the program before trave became restricted, because the Thai government decided to announce nation-wide health emergency. After that we prepared everything to leave Thailand, but we couldn’t get any flights because India and Vietnam had already closed their borders.

When one SENS classmate Pi Oranuch knew about it, and then she offered for me to stay with her till a better situation in India, and during my stay with her I learned lot of things.

What I achieved during the Covid19 in Thailand?
During the Covid19 pandemic I was stuck in Thailand due to the travel restrictions, but it was a wonderful time for me because I achieved a lot of things. I traveled to the rural Thailand with my friends and I learned about the Thai farming system. How they are using modern technology to grow rice grain, fruits, vegetables, fish farming and many other activities. It was a good to know more about Thai organic farming and many times I tried to learn how people make products. One time I tried to make shampoo and bar shop.

Tongpang Kumzuk Longchar
Covid lockdown was unexpected, I was little worried on how and when I would be able to go home. The cancellation of flights affected 4 participants from SENS course, 3 from India and 1 Vietnamese lady.

I was quite optimistic about my return at the beginning, as the flight agents allotted a different date for our safe return, but i became weary as my extended stay at Bangkok crossed a month. I stayed with Raj for over 6 months volunteering at one of our Thai friend’s NGO ‘ForOldy.’ I am very grateful to INEB and Pi Nuch for supporting our rations and stay.

During our volunteering activities, we met a journalist who was curious about our stay. Ultimately, the journalist made a video featuring us, and somehow these events led to meeting interesting people who took time to ask about our needs and even took out time to meet us. Things were very homely; I wasn’t feeling alone.

Apart from my volunteering, I had a good time marketing for groceries, ate local food from vendors, learnt to cook better, joined online events, travelled to see places around Bangkok, joined the protest for elderly pensions, started an online web series to engage with indigenous youths and even found time to hold mini lunch gatherings with friends.

Though things seem good, not everything was colorful, there were times I felt down and sad. One of such sad moments were with our friend Priyanka, losing her mother when we are all stranded and fear of my weak financial status. I was quite frustrated with Indian Embassy communications and started to worry more about my re-entry to India which had the 2nd largest COVID-19 cases. I felt quite stressed, fearful of my travel back to Nagaland as I would be landing only at Delhi and had to undertake medical clearances.

Overall, I felt warm and I am still overwhelmed for all the support from Topsi, Ted, Rita, Cindy, Toshi, Pi Bampen, Pi Preecha, Pi Cheiw, Pi Mam, Pi Nuch and elderly members of ‘forOldy.’
Please note that the Myanmar partners conducted emergency activities in more than one location which is indicated by their number on the map. For example, 1 KMF is based in Yangon and coordinated the emergency response in Chin and Rakhine states.
**Kalyana Mitta Development Foundation (KMF)**

**Phase 1 - Emergency Relief to Chin and Rakhine states**

**Project Area**
Internally displaced persons (IDPs) living in Chin and Rakhine states

**Emergency Relief Activities**
- Food: rice
- Health and hygiene supplies: masks, hand sanitizers and soap, thermometers, blankets and mosquito nets

**Direct Beneficiaries**
- 8,005 Persons
- 746 HH Chin state
- 1,091 HH Rakhine state

**Phase 2 - Protecting IDP Children in Chin and Rakhine States**

**Project Area**
Focusing on children and other internally displaced persons (IDPs) living in Chin and Rakhine states

**Emergency Relief**
- Educational materials about COVID-19, story books about preventing sexual violence,
- Raincoats for protection during the rainy season
- Awareness sessions with parents and camp leaders about gender-based violence

**Direct Beneficiaries**
- 1,080 children

**Indirect Beneficiaries**
- 3,378 persons including parents and camp officials

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**Kalyana Mitta Development Foundation (KMF)**

Kalyana Mitta Development Foundation (KMF) registered as a Myanmar NGO in 2008, that focuses on youth empowerment and social change movements via youth leadership programs across the country. KMF has both peacebuilding and green programs based on engaged Buddhist approaches.

**Emergency Relief Response**

KMF received funds for 2 separate emergency relief initiatives that both supported internally displaced persons (IDPs) – adults and children, living in refugee camps in Chin and Rakhine states.

KMF coordinated the COVID-19 emergency relief effort with its local partners, Third Eye and the Rakhine Youth New Generation (RYNG) and its network. Third Eye and RYNG worked directly with local volunteer youth and local people which made accessing the camps possible.

Both Chin and Rakhine states have the worst health care services which increases the IDPs health risks. Among the most pressing health concerns in the IDP camps during the rainy season was the increased likelihood of having diarrhea and dengue fever. The situation in northern Rakhine state was further complicated by the internet blackout by the government since June 2019. The ceasefire agreement that was extended also did not include Rakhine state and at least one township in Chin state. Tensions between the Myanmar army and the ethnic armed groups also created barriers to accessing the camps. Under these conditions, KMF collaboration with the local volunteer groups in both states was critical to ensuring that the relief effort was successful.

Third Eye is composed of youth based in Mindat, Chin State, and its civil society organization (CSOs) partners there. They have experience working with the IDP children in Kachin state. They also raise awareness about the environment, consumerism, human rights and Gender Based Violence in Mindat. Its volunteers focused on increasing the awareness of COVID-19 among the children living in the IDPs camp in Samee.

The Rakhine Youth New Generation (RYNG) and its network are based in Sittwe, Rakhine state. They have experience working with the IDP children (storytelling, edutainment, movie classes and psychosocial support activities) various locations of Rakhine state.

**Emergency Relief for IDPs in Chin and Rakhine states** - KMF prioritized supporting the most vulnerable IDPs living in Chin and Rakhine states who needed food (rice), hygiene supplies (masks, hand sanitizers and soap), thermometers, blankets, and mosquito nets, as well as more accurate information about COVID-19.

KMF received many donations which supported their relief activities and made the Mindful Action funds go further. This made it possible for the number of direct beneficiaries to be exceeded by 7,605 persons (3,220 persons in Chin state and 4,285 persons in Rakhine state) or 19 times the original estimate.

**Protecting IDP children’s health and well-being** - The children have arrived at the camps under various conditions, including some who are on their own because they were separated from their parents for various reasons during the ongoing armed conflict. The IDP children have had their lives disrupted on many levels and have multiple needs including health care, food, education and more. In addition to the children directly benefitting from the emergency activities, parents and camp officials in both states indirectly benefited from learning about protecting their children from sexual exploitation and gender-based violence.
Phaung Daw Oo Monastic School

Project Area
Students and staff living on school campuses in Mandalay

Emergency Relief Activities
- Food
- Hygiene supplies: masks, soap and laundry detergent
- Sanitation activity to set up hand-washing stands with basins and soap on their campuses

Direct Beneficiaries
296 Persons – students, staff, novices and monks

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https://pdoeducation.org/
https://www.facebook.com/phaungdawooschool/

MYANMAR

Phaung Daw Oo Monastic School

Students of all religions and ethnicities are welcomed at Phaung Daw Oo Monastic School in Mandalay, where more than 8,000 students (boys and girls) are enrolled. This “monastic” school offers a secular curriculum, as well as classes in Buddhism and Pali for novice monks and any secular students.

Emergency Relief Response

Initially, the school did not receive emergency relief funding from external organizations and could not go on the early morning alms walks when they usually received food from the community. However, some local people did make small donations of food supplies for hand-washing stands.

Although most students and teachers had returned to their home communities, 150 students living in dormitories including novices and monks living on campus urgently needed food and hygiene supplies.

Phaung Daw Oo Monastic School’s emergency relief activities helped stranded students, staff, novices and monks, by providing them with food, hygiene supplies (masks, soap and laundry detergent). Their sanitation activity involved setting up hand-washing stands with basins on their campuses. They felt safer as a school community after learning more about COVID-19, having essential food and hygiene supplies, plus the Ministry of health and Sports sprayed around the campus.
Spirit in Education Movement – SEM

Project Area
Hua Hin District, Prachuabkirikan province and Petchaburi province of Thailand

Emergency Relief Activities
- Food: rice
- Public awareness about COVID

Direct Beneficiaries
✔ 826 Persons – unemployed migrant workers from Myanmar remaining in Thailand
✔ 325 HH

Contact
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http://www.sem-edu.org/

The Spirit in Education Movement – SEM, provides trainings and workshops based around themes of wellbeing and sustainable living, including subjects such as meditation and social action, conflict resolution, leadership skills, social analysis, and deep ecology. These trainings are rooted in participatory and experiential learning techniques and engaged spirituality, which build values that strengthen wellbeing of people and the environment, rather than materialistic and narrow intellectual definitions of education. SEM also initiates longer term projects in the region for empowering marginalised people and strengthening civil society.

Emergency Relief Response
SEM focused on coordinating emergency relief to Burmese migrant workers who have been out of work since March 2020. Many of whom are illegal migrants that had difficulties accessing emergency relief by the Thai government or Thai public groups. Some of them were living in very poor temporary conditions in construction sites with no health care or livelihood. They have been stranded in Thailand with no work, income or savings as they lived from day to day as daily wage earners.

SEM continues to collaborate with various groups such as Thai Volunteer Services (TVS), LPN, Raks Thai Foundation, which is a member of the Migrant Working Group Network (MWG) on migration issues during the pandemic. Their combined efforts have a greater impact as they reach across local communities to the national level. SEM provided information, connecting different individuals and organizations, including fund raising and public awareness campaigns. Local volunteers distributed relief supplies, such as food.

Raising public awareness about COVID-19 in Hua Hin District, Prachuabkirikan province and Petchaburi province of Thailand was also a priority. Materials were translated into Burmese for the migrant workers. Many local people also indirectly benefitted from the public awareness campaigns about COVID-19.
**NEPAL**

### Mindful Action Partner Map

#### Nepal Partner Organizations

1. **Bikalpa Gyan Tatha Bikas Kendra**
   Kathmandu, Nepal

2. **Chokgyur Lingpa Foundation - CGLF**
   Kathmandu, Nepal
   Area of emergency response:
   Villages near Chapagaon

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*Please note that the Nepal partners conducted emergency activities in more than one location which is indicated by their number on the map.*
Bikalpa Gyan Tatha Bikas Kendra

Project Area
Jagritinagar, Sinamangal area of Kathmandu

Emergency Relief Activities
- Food: rice, lentils, salt, cooking oil
- Bath soap

Match – Mobile awareness program on COVID-19

Direct Beneficiaries
✓ 960 Persons
✓ 192 HH

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Emergency Relief Response
The COVID-19 situation has left many families from the slum communities with no livelihoods or the ability to earn a living. Among Bilkapa’s biggest challenges were the government restrictions on travel, organizing group activities, and enforcing curfews. Another serious challenge was the risk volunteers had working in highly populated slum areas where maintaining social distance was impossible and people were not willing to wear masks. The distribution area had to be properly cleaned and sanitized before and after the emergency relief activities took place.

Bikalpa provided basic food and bath soap to families that were primarily daily wage earners living in the Jagritinagar, Sinamangal area of Kathmandu. Bikalpa has been working in this slum community for some time, and also organized a mobile awareness program on COVID-19 awareness which was their contribution to the relief activities. Bikalpa also organized a Free Metta Shop with reusable clothing, shoes, utensils, and other items for women, men and children to take what they needed.

Bikalpa exceeded the estimates of direct beneficiaries by 335 persons or 54%.
The Chokgyur Lingpa Foundation (CGLF), was first founded in USA in 2006 by His Eminence Tsikey Chokling Rinpoche together with Kyabgön Phakchok Rinpoche. Since then, CGLF has expanded its presence, and is now represented in Nepal, USA and Hong Kong. CGLF supports: the preservation and proliferation of the dharma; monastic and secular education; providing low-cost and free healthcare; and providing emergency response relief in Nepal, such as the emergency relief following the 2015 earthquake.

NEPAL

Chokgyur Lingpa Foundation CGLF

Project Area
Godawari municipality of Lalitpur district

Emergency Relief Activities
- Food: rice, dal, masala, cooking oil
- Bath soap

Match – distributed food for an additional month; CGLF also provided money to some persons to prevent them from being evicted from their homes

Direct Beneficiaries
✓ 750 Persons
✓ 125 HH

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https://www.cglf.org/
https://www.facebook.com/
chokgyurlingpafoundation/
https://www.youtube.com/user/
ChokgyurLingpa

Emergency Relief Response

The countrywide lockdown in Nepal brought many new challenges which impacted many people’s incomes and livelihoods, among them daily wage workers and others are facing economic difficulties and uncertainty. The Foundation’s network in the Chapagaon area near one of their monasteries responded to the local communities’ needs. The Mindrol Norbuling Monastery in Chapagaon coordinated the relief response that involved receiving local government permission, ordering emergency supplies, and reaching out to its local network to help with the relief activities.

In order to honor social distancing and safeguard people’s health and welfare, the distribution was organized so that only a few people at a time came to the monastery where they were greeted by volunteers and the team of monks. Some relief supplies were delivered by motorbike or car to those persons who had no means of traveling to the monastery. Among CGLF’s particular challenges were having special permits for vehicles gathering food and the risk of exposure of the virus at the monastery.

People living in the Godawari municipality of Lalitpur district received food and soap. The Foundation also matched funds received through INEB’s Mindful Action: COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund which extended the emergency relief by distributing food for an additional month. Their match included providing rent money to some persons who would have been evicted from their homes. Also, the area receiving matching support was extended to provide more food relief and reach elderly persons.
Overview

Yangon has been, and continues to be, the epicenter of the COVID-19 pandemic in Myanmar. JTS Korea generously donated more than 110,000 medical materials worth $130,000 USD to support health workers and medical professionals working in the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic in Myanmar. This distribution was the first emergency response funded through Mindful Action involving a shipment which traveled across international waters. We acknowledge and respect JTS Korea’s and Kalyana Mitta Development Foundation’s (KMF) ability to make this possible through their dedication and commitment to the emergency response effort.

KMF coordinated the multi-step process of receiving materials at the seaport and distributing them. The process involved acquiring necessary authorizations through the Myanmar Ministry of Health and Sports (MOHS) and other relevant ministries. Additionally, KMF assisted JTS by purchasing COVID-19 Antigen Test Devices in Yangon, Myanmar. The distribution activities involved KMF collaborating with the Myanmar Council of Churches (MCC) and its volunteers to deliver the medical materials to the Phaung Gyi COVID-19 Treatment Center (Phaung Gyi MTC) and South Okkalar Specialist Hospital in Yangon. MCC has been providing volunteer services to COVID-19 treatment centres and hospitals in Myanmar during the pandemic.

Distribution Process

After being notified by JTS Korea in October 2020, KMF conducted a rapid survey with its partner MCC. The Phaung Gyi MTC and the South Okkalar Specialist Hospital were selected to receive the medical materials based on the survey’s results.

Various approvals from Myanmar authorities were needed to receive the items from Korea. Separate approvals were needed to purchase the COVID-19 test kits. KMF coordinated primarily with MOHS to receive the required permission. MOHS also facilitated the process with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), National Health Laboratory (NHL) and the Central Medical Store Depot (CMSD).

FDA checked the list of donated items, of which 6 items were approved, but the NHL did not approve the Genedia W COVID-19 Ag test kits JTS wanted to donate. Consequently, JTS decided to buy the PANBIOTM COVID-19 Ag Test Rapid Devices in Yangon. KMF coordinated with the Sea Lion Company to purchase these tests, and contacted FDA and MOHS for the (one time) importation permission. MOHS contacted the Ministry of Planning Finance and Industry for the tax exemption, otherwise the tax may have cost 4,600 USD on the 6 types of imported items. CMSD assisted by providing their import license and making all the clearances at the Yangon Seaport. CMSD worked with Ministry of Transports and Communications and Customs for all the logistics, clearances, and other processes at the Yangon seaport. CMSD further helped KMF receive the distribution permission from their Clearance Department and Distribution Department to assure the distribution was carried out as planned. MCC contacted the Phaung Gyi MTC and South Okkalar Specialist Hospital about the donation process and provided necessary information for the distribution plan.

The cargo ship from Korea took 4 weeks before arriving at Yangon’s seaport on 19 December 2020. On December, 30 and 31, 2020, MCC assisted KMF with their volunteers and the Myanmar Red Cross delivered the boxes to the Phaung Gyi COVID-19 MTC and South Okkalar Specialist Hospital. Only designated medical persons were allowed to receive the test kits. More than 110,000 individual items were donated.

The successful distribution was made possible with the cooperation and collaboration of JTS, KMF, INEB, MCC (and its volunteers), and MOHS and all government agencies, in addition to the frontline healthcare workers and volunteers at the two locations.
Beneficiaries

Since Yangon is the epicenter during the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic, most people received treatment at the Phaung Gyi COVID-19 MTC which opened in April 2020. Their medical staff were from Yangon, as well as from hospitals in other states and regions. Since August 2020, Phaung Gyi MTC had approximately 1,000 patients, which were more serious cases. South Okkalar Specialist Hospital had approximately 70 COVID-19 patients, as well as other patients. MCC coordinated with Christian youth from various parts of Myanmar to volunteer at both locations since April 2020.

Persons that directly benefited from the donated medical materials included: 1,070 patients, 431 doctors, nurses and other staff, in addition to 204 volunteers. Many more persons indirectly benefitted from the donated medical materials which include the families of all the direct beneficiaries and the general population of Yangon,

Challenges

Although, the bureaucratic government system was complex, time consuming and stressful, the government employees’ proactive assistance helped the distribution to be successful. KMF and MCC also prepared to address challenges and any subsequent waves of COVID-19 when developing the distribution plan. KMF and MCC staff and volunteers were at risk of becoming infected. In fact, between April and December, 13 youth among the volunteers did become infected with the virus.

Summary of Beneficiaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2 Locations</th>
<th>Direct Beneficiaries</th>
<th>Indirect Beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phaung Gyi COVID-19 MTC</td>
<td>- 1,000 Patients</td>
<td>- The families of the patients</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yangon</td>
<td>- 400 Doctors, nurses and other staff</td>
<td>- The families of medical staff &amp; volunteers</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 180 Volunteers</td>
<td>- Yangon general population</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Okkalar Specialist Hospital</td>
<td>- 70 Patients</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Yangon</td>
<td>- 31 Doctors, nurses &amp; other staff</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 24 Volunteers</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- 1,070 Patients</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 431 Doctors, nurses &amp; other staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>- 204 Volunteers</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Summary Overview

The International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB) awarded 22 proposals to 16 organizations in 5 countries: Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Myanmar and Nepal. These organizations received a total of 63,700 USD to conduct emergency relief activities through INEB’s Mindful Action: COVID-19 Emergency Relief Fund. At total of 31,628 persons are direct beneficiaries who have received support provided by the local organizations.

The following tables include information about each country and the organizations that received funds. Most organizations have completed their relief activities except for one in Bangladesh. This information will be included in a future report. Some organizations’ activities were delayed for various reasons including weather and receiving permission to access the targeted communities. The actual direct beneficiaries have exceeded the estimated beneficiaries by 10,041 persons or 47%. The second table of Summary Table of Organizations by Country Receiving Mindful Action Funds shows the details about each organization. Please note that the information about the Medical Materials donated by JTS Korea to for front line health care workers is shown on pages 28 and 29.

Summary Overview by Country
29 March 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5 Countries</th>
<th>22 Proposals</th>
<th>Actual &amp; Estimated Direct Beneficiaries</th>
<th>Target Group - Most Vulnerable &amp; Marginalized Persons</th>
<th>Relief Activities</th>
<th>Funds Distributed USD</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4,140 Actual 2,985 Estimated</td>
<td>Families Inter-faith religious leaders</td>
<td>- Food</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Hygiene supplies</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Emergency medical supplies &amp; transportation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Solidarity visits</td>
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<td>- Print COVID-19 Peace Appeal</td>
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<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>512 Actual 300 Estimated</td>
<td>Families</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Laundry powder, hand sanitizer, masks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Raised awareness of COVID</td>
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<td>India</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>14,527 Actual 12,211 Estimated</td>
<td>- Families</td>
<td>- Food</td>
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<td>- Women</td>
<td>- Hygiene supplies</td>
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<td>- Dalits, tribal groups &amp; other marginalized groups</td>
<td>- Sanitary supplies</td>
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<td>- Psycho-social counseling</td>
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<td>- COVID-19 awareness campaign &amp; training for</td>
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<td>community leaders</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Traditional medicine</td>
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<td>Myanmar</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10,207 Actual 2,572 Estimated</td>
<td>- Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and children living in camps</td>
<td>- Food</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- Migrant workers</td>
<td>- Hygiene supplies</td>
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<td>- Sangha &amp; students</td>
<td>- Sanitation activities</td>
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<td>- Blankets, mosquito nets</td>
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<td>- COVID information</td>
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<td>- Materials regarding protecting children from sexual violence</td>
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<td>Nepal</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1,710 Actual 1,375 Estimated</td>
<td>Families</td>
<td>- Food</td>
<td>6,000</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Hygiene supplies</td>
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Operation & Publication Costs
6,290
Sub-Total
69,990 USD
INEB Admin Cost 10%
7,245 USD
TOTAL
31,628 Actual Direct Beneficiaries
19,587 Estimated Direct Beneficiaries
77,235 USD
History and Formation
In 1989, the International Network of Engaged Buddhists (INEB) was established in Siam (Thailand) by Sulak Sivaraksa and a group of Buddhist and non-Buddhist thinkers and social activists. Over the years the network has expanded to include members, both individuals and organizations, from more than 25 countries across Asia, Europe, North America and Australia. From this diverse member base, an understanding of socially engaged Buddhism has emerged which integrates the practice of Buddhism with social action for a healthy, just, and peaceful world. INEB operates as an autonomous organization under the Sathirakoses-Nagapradeepa Foundation (SNF), Thai NGO, established 1968.

Vision and Objectives
INEB’s overall vision is to develop the perspective and practice of socially engaged Buddhism that:

1. Promotes understanding, cooperation, and networking among inter-Buddhist and inter-religious social action groups, as well as a variety of secular civil society organizations.
2. Acts as an information resource related to areas of social concern
3. Facilitates conferences, education, and training based on Buddhist values and practices that support and strengthen socially active individuals and groups

INEB’s Cultivation and Practice of Engaged Buddhism
Celebrating 30+ Years of Kalyanamitra and Activism
INEB is distinctive for its autonomous and rather anarchic network structure that emphasizes human relationships and shared values over organizational structure and ideology. As an autonomous network, the partners located in many countries guide their own organizations within both their unique country contexts and from their application of engaged Buddhist activism. The Secretariat, based in Bangkok, supports the partners and does not promote an official ideology or policy to the network. Rather, it acts to circulate knowledge and understanding throughout the entire network.

The Way Forward: INEB’s Strategic Road Map for the Next Decade
INEB’s philosophy and practice is based on compassion, social justice, non-violence, and harmonious co-existence as put forth by Gautama the Buddha. The core mission is to confront and end suffering using critical analysis and action guided by the Four Noble Truths.

Areas of Social Engagement include:
- Convening international conferences
- Peacebuilding and Reconciliation
- Inter-religious dialogue
- Human rights and social justice
- Alternative education
- Gender equity and women’s empowerment
- Protecting child rights
- Environment and climate change
- Youth and spiritual leadership development

How to support INEB
We welcome your support for INEB by making a donation to any project in any amount you chose. Your donation will strengthen INEB’s activities that help socially engaged Buddhists in several countries.

Donations can be made through the following means:

Donate via Bank Account
Your donation can be transferred to INEB’s bank accounts as follow:

Bank name: Siam Commercial Bank Plc.
Branch: Charoen Nakorn
Bank address: 674 Charoen Nakorn Road, Banglumpulang, Klong San, Bangkok 10600 Siam (Thailand)
Account type: Savings
Account number: 024-2-62146-8
Account name: INEB (by Sathirakoses-Nagapradipa Foundation)
SWIFT code: SICOTHBK
We have come to see happy and peaceful communities as a long walk which one doesn’t walk alone. We thank you for continuing to walk with us. Now and in the days ahead.

Your most generous support will truly be remembered at our communities.

May wisdom and compassion continue to guide your steps in the days ahead. Only blessings on your path.

Venerable Tola, Cambodia