

Overview of Climate Change Efforts by Women's Grassroots Organizations in Myanmar

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Abstract

The presentation explores how women-led organizations are addressing climate change. Women-led organizations in Myanmar tend to work on gender-based violence, women's livelihood issues, and women's leadership. There are very few women's organizations working on the environment, let alone climate change. The study mapped existing women-led organizations to explore what they are working on and how many are working on climate change. There were difficulties identifying the organizations because the mapping was done after the coup, and some had ceased to exist or changed their names. With verification from various activists, the mapping has been conducted. The study has shown that even though they do not mention that they work on climate change issues, many of the problems that they are dealing with are climate change issues that are exacerbated by conflict or vice versa. That is, they work on health issues, agriculture and livelihood issues, and waste management. The community people are suffering from these more than before because of conflict, and also because of climate change. Addressing these needs in the community is pushing women-led organizations to work more closely on climate change issues.