



ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

2023



KACHIN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION THAILAND

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

On 9 September 1999, four pioneering women founded the Kachin Women's Association of Thailand (KWAT). The organization aimed to create a peaceful and safe Kachin society, focusing on women and children. The desire to create a better community arose as these women observed how Myanmar's central government ignored the Kachin community and its basic needs and rights. KWAT was established and is now an important component of a benevolent civil society network, which currently provides fundamental services for many communities.

An example of our work has been through our highly successful empowerment and capacity-building programs. KWAT supported and nurtured women and youth leaders serving their communities through these initiatives. KWAT's workload has grown exponentially over the years, reflecting the growing importance of the essential services and guidance we deliver daily. This would not be possible without the extraordinary work of our staff and the indispensable aid and assistance our supporters (and readers like you) provide. We desire to continue performing this vital work for succeeding generations, now and into the future.

We thank you for standing with us as we work towards justice in an equal society led by feminist values, and we are grateful for your support. We are thrilled to share with you this Annual Activity Report of 2023.

Vision: The Kachin Women's Association Thailand envisions a peaceful and developed society rooted in gender and social equality, free of discrimination and oppression.

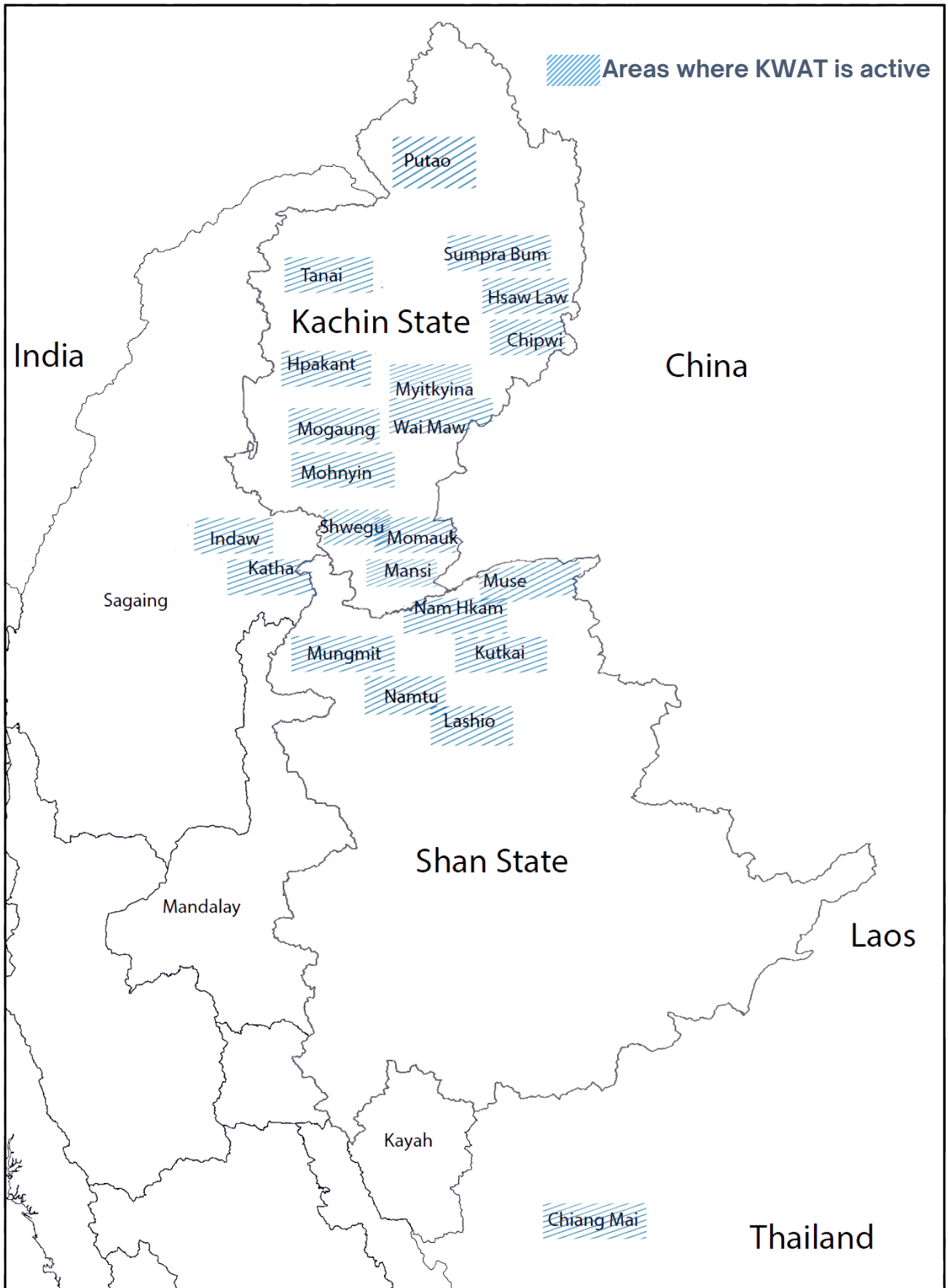
Mission: The Kachin Women's Association Thailand is a non-profit organization that works to eliminate discrimination and violence against women. It does so by enhancing women's living standards, enabling them to participate in decision-making at all levels, and strengthening the quest for social justice, peace, and development in the Kachin region.

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Acronyms

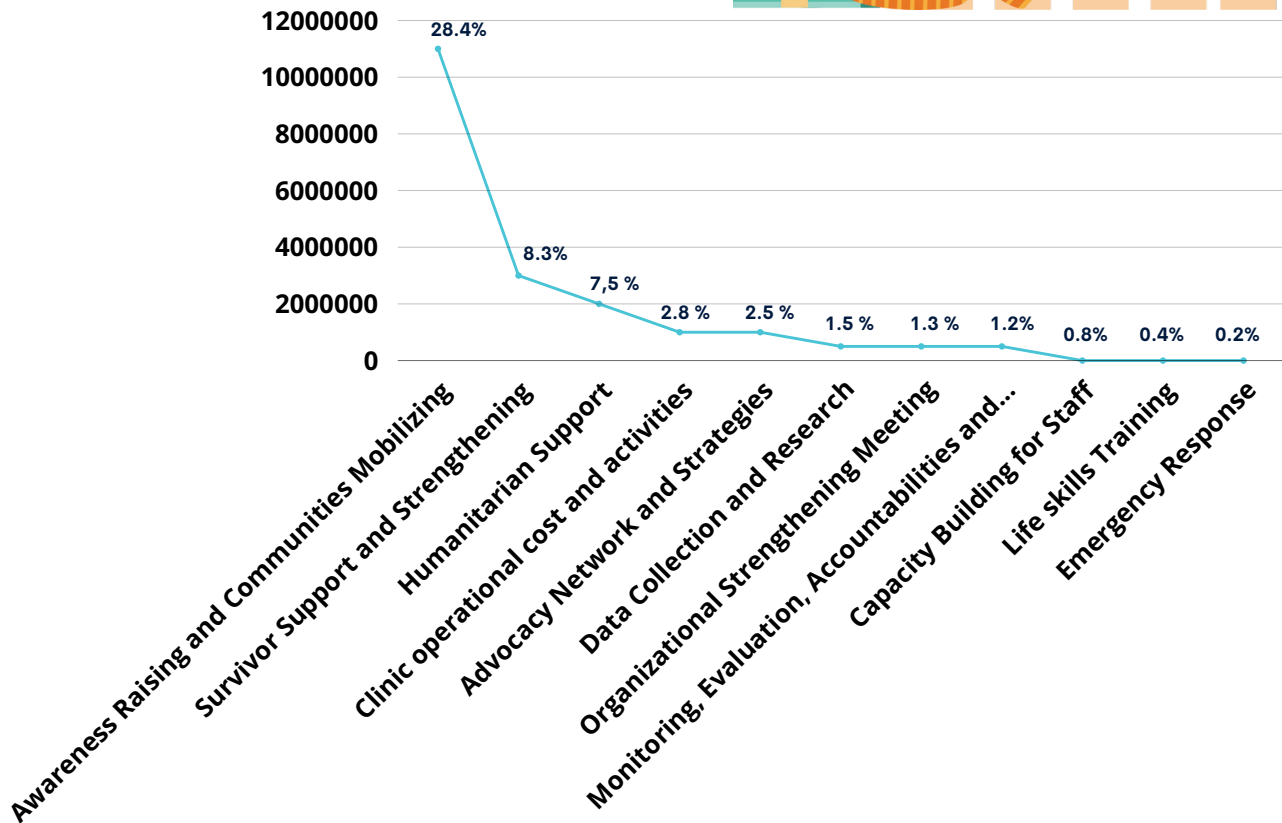
KWAT:	Kachin Women's Association Thailand
HRVs:	Human Right Violations
HRDs:	Human Rights Defenders
IDPs:	Internally Displaced Persons
GBV:	Gender-Based Violence
SRHR:	Sexual Reproductive Health Rights



ANNUAL FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS



EXPENDITURE OF PROGRAM COST



Administrative Cost
45%



Program Cost
55%

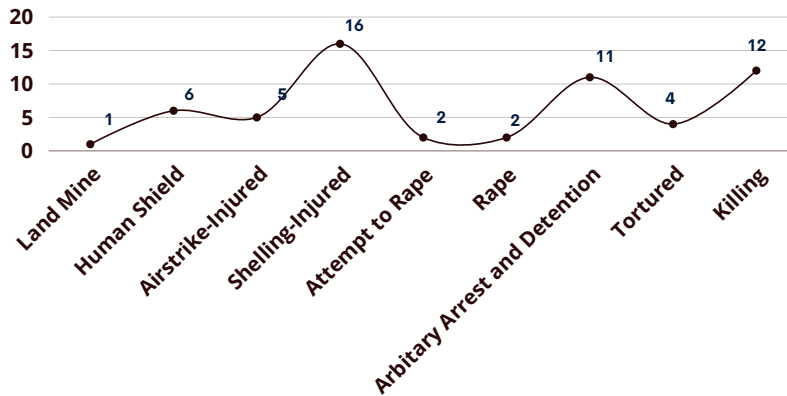
CONCLUSIONS
EXPENDITURE

Achievement Highlights



Data Collection on Human Rights violation and report publication

Human Right Violation Data Collection



Emergency Support

- HRV Survivors
120 Cases
Health Care
- HR Defenders
92 Cases
Food allowance & Relocation

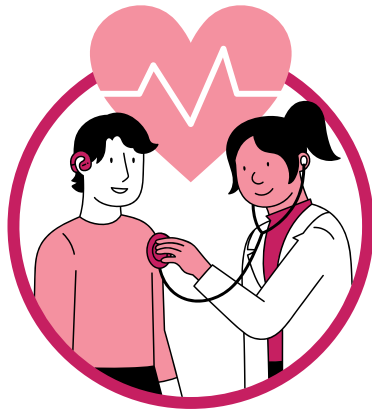
Our Documentation and Research Program has enabled us to undertake evidence-based advocacy and, more importantly, organize immediate support for survivors and their family members, who have been injured and traumatized by the abuse they have suffered. There are two HRSV survivors' groups formed by KWAT and they are empowered to speak their cases, advocate for their justice, and to connect with others who have gone through similar experiences. During 2023, KWAT has collected **59 human rights violation (HRV) cases** and have provided emergency support to **212 human rights violation survivors and defenders**. For data collection, we collaborate with around **111 community leaders** from various areas of Kachin and Northern Shan states. We have trained them in documentation techniques, human rights, transitional justices and digital security knowledge. Together, we followed up on HRV cases, provided emergency support to the communities and sharing ground situation updates. International Rule of Law training was provided to **140 community members, comprising 109 females, and 31 males**.

Women empowerment and communities awareness-raising

The Political Empowerment Program has been providing political and leadership knowledge to the young women and youth in Kachin and Northern Shan states. During 2023, we have provided in-house training to **11 young women** for 6 months, providing political knowledge, human rights knowledge and other general knowledge to be ready to work for the peace and community development in Kachin region. Among them, 6 young women have joined as 3-months interns at KWAT's different programs and departments. Depending on their interests, 2 young women have joined KWAT's as staff. Moreover, we have also provided awareness training on gender, human rights and federal training to **673 local people** and advanced training to **10 young women**.



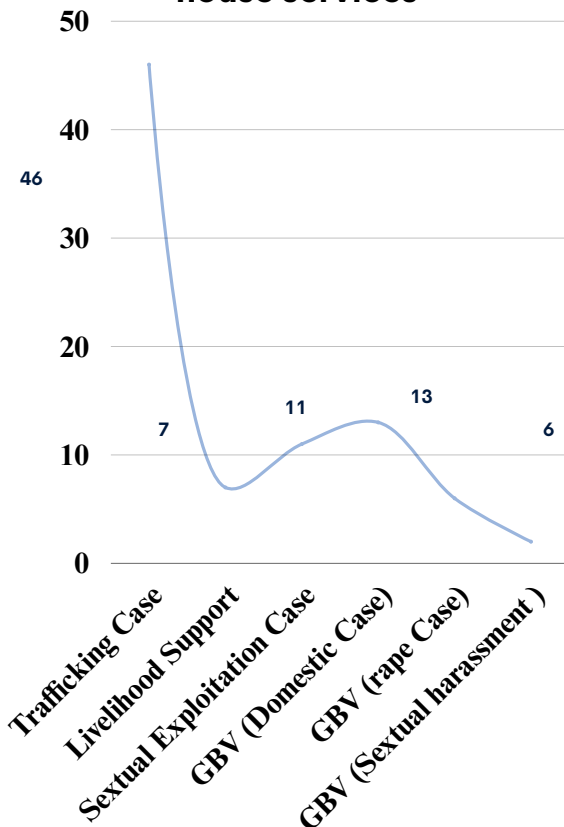
Providing Health Service to the most vulnerable communities



KWAT's Health Program team have been providing health service and health education to the disadvantaged communities. KWAT runs three clinics in the Mai Ja Yang and Loi Je-Seng Ja IDP Camps in Kachin State, and also in Kut Kai-Hu Hupyek, Northern Shan State by providing several services such as general medical treatment, maternal and child health care, laboratory services, and encompass adolescent reproductive health training and sexual reproductive health rights across 60 schools.

Approximately at least **16,033 patients** have been benefited from our clinical health services in 2023. Health education awareness training were reached to **10,967 participants**. Through our health knowledge promotion and services, most of the community members are practicing good behaviors of healthy lifestyle in their families and community.

Emergency assistance and safe house services



Combating Human Trafficking and Safe Migration

During 2023, KWAT's Anti-Trafficking Program has provided emergency assistance and safe house services to **85 survivors** from (3) safehouses. The (3) safe houses were located in Muse, Myitkyina, and Lweje. There are types of cases included such as **7 trafficking cases, 13 domestic violence cases, 46 vulnerable migrant cases, 11 Labor exploitation case, 2 sexual harassment case, and 6 rape cases. We have conducted survivors empowerment and capacity strengthening training to 17 Survivors.** Livelihood support was provided to 2 survivors. 29 cases were received via hotline/helpline contact. Trafficking, Gender-Based Violence and safe migration awareness raising training was provided to **6,166 participants**.





KWAT provided essential services such as safe houses, food and clothes, transportation costs, psychological support, and assistance for safe return and reintegration to the trafficked survivors. On the other hand, we are providing community awareness raising on human trafficking, gender-based violence, and safe migration issues. The current political crises and economic hardship are causing high poverty in Myanmar which is a high threat for the vulnerable group to be in great danger and fall into trap by the traffickers. According to KWAT's record, the ages between 14 to 50 of girls and females are faced the sexual violation, child bearing, forced marriage, and other forms of GBV cases. The ages between 20 to 57 of males are faced labor exploitation cases in China.

Providing humanitarian support to the IDPs and conflict-affected communities

Moreover, in 2023, KWAT responded to urgent humanitarian needs arising from armed conflicts in the Kachin areas by providing support to approximately **757 new displaced households**, totaling **2,497 individuals**. The support included cash support and basic food.

The ongoing intensified armed conflicts and Human Rights violations often leads to increase a number of displacement, leaving families and individuals in urgent need of essential resources to survive. KWAT's timely intervention aimed to alleviate immediate hardships faced by those affected, ensuring they had access to assistance and basic nutrition during this challenging period.



Success Story



“ *Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) knowledge is important and valuable, for not only our children but also for parents.*

As a village head and parents, we have known how to take care of our young children and reduce SRHR problems which usually occur among adolescent age.

If we understand and practice SRHR knowledge, we could reduce the consequences of SRHR problems in our community and we will have a happy and healthy community in the future. **”**

Maran Gam



“ *I learned how to collect and keep the data if there was a human rights violation case happening.*

I have more self-confidence than before and dare to speak. **”** **Ah Ra**



“ *I was able to analyze the current administration and politics well.*

I understand that it is necessary to have an administrative system that can include all ethnic groups. **”**

Ji Pan



“ *After studying the federal system and the democratic system, I was able to analyze the current administration and politics well.*

I believe that women must be included in the constitution once to be able to participate equally in politics. **”**

Mrs.Kwa Ja

Advocacy

KWAT engages with international and local stakeholders for human rights advocacy, focusing on sexual violence in conflict areas, internally displaced people, cross-border funding, justice, trafficking, and human rights violations by the Burmese army.

KWAT works closely with the Women's League of Burma and ND-Burma and local Kachin human rights organizations for transitional justice work which involves several key aspects such as collaborative planning to ensure a shared understanding of the goals and objectives of transitional justice work through meetings, workshops, and consultations. Moreover, it includes continued documentation and investigations, awareness raising and advocacy, capacity building, and victim support and rehabilitation process.

KWAT has been able to raise awareness raising on human rights situations on the ground to the international and local stakeholders to be able to pressure the military regime. By raising awareness, advocating for change, and supporting marginalized communities, we believe that this advocacy work contributes towards a greater collaboration towards democratic change in Burma.



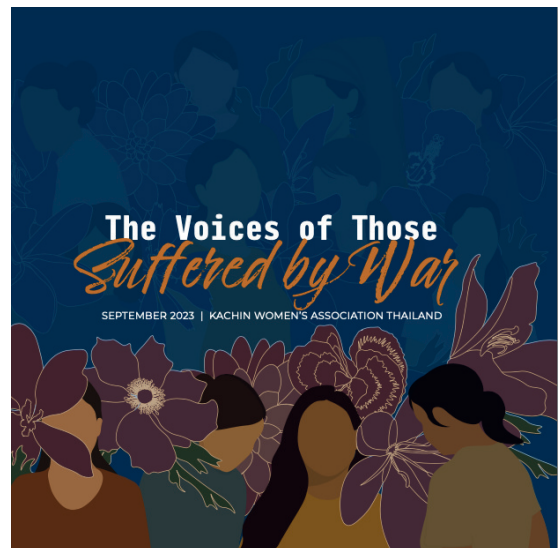
at a Research Conference in London

In October 2023, KWAT released a report called “Bloodstained Gateways” which highlight the link escalating abuse by the military junta in Kachin areas attempts to secure transport route for expansion of China’s Belt and Road initiative. At the same time, the KWAT developed the “Kachin Women Survivor Life Stories Book which is “The Voices of Those Suffered by War”.

Another one is a joint report with ND-Burma and Spring Archive that is “Myanmar’s junta targets IDP camp without warning” highlighting the deadly airstrike by Myanmar Junta to the Mung Lai Hkyet IDP camp near Laiza City, resulting in the deaths of 29 people and 11 children and 79 people injured. These reports are used as a tool for KWAT’s advocacy to the national and international communities about human rights violation situation happening in Myanmar for pressuring military junta’s action to the civilian and seek necessary support for the victims and vulnerable groups.



BLOODSTAINED GATEWAYS



The Voices of Those Suffered by War



Joint Report: Skyfalls Myanmar's junta targets IDP camp without



HPAWNG SENG VILLAGE - NEW IDPS SUPPORT



**BASIC FOOD SUPPORTING
25 APRIL 2023**

PHOTOS SESSION



LAIZA IDPS - EMERGENCY SUPPORT



HPAWNG SENG VILLAGE - NEW IDPS SUPPORT



2023 WLT CLOSING CEREMONY



DIGNITY KIT DISTRIBUTION AT PA KAHTAWNG CAMP



EMERGENCY FIRST AID TRAINING

PHOTOS SESSION



SCHOOL HEALTH ACTIVITY-MAI KUNG SCHOOL



**TRAFFICKING NETWORKING MEETING
MONITORING AND EVALUATION**



3 DAYS GBV AND TRAFFICKING TRAINING_NAWNG ANG



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