

COUNTRY FACTSHEETS

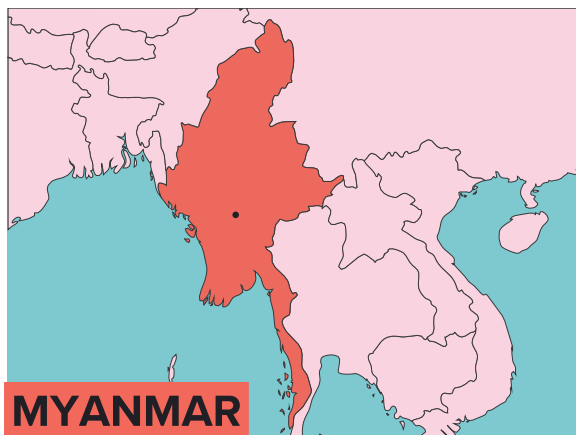
We work with remote and marginalised communities where providing education is most challenging but most needed.



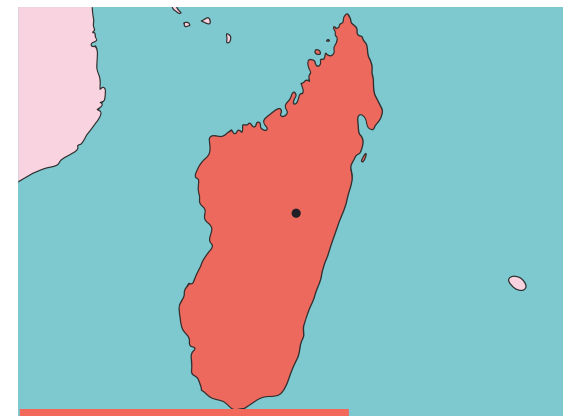
NEPAL
EST. 2016



CAMBODIA
EST. 2008



MYANMAR
EST. 2015



MADAGASCAR
EST. 2021

NEPAL

UWS operates in challenging and isolated regions of rural Nepal, focusing on Sankhuwasabha, Taplejung, and Gulmi districts. These areas face limited access to education, perpetuating cycles of poverty and illiteracy. In 2015, a 7.8 Richter Scale Earthquake struck Nepal and UWS started its operations in 2016 in Nepal. The situation looked extremely bleak:

- 770,000 Out of School Children
- 22% of 4-year old children out of primary school
- 11% married by 18 (8th highest figure in the world)
- 29% who enrol in Grade 1 drop out before Grade 8
- Nepal ranked 4th, 11th and 30th in terms of climate change, earthquake and flood risk respectively.

Challenges faced in Nepal

- Limited access to education in remote regions
- Economic constraints leading to low school enrolment
- Lack of awareness about education's significance
- High dropout rates due to distance and lack of interest
- Vulnerability to climate change and natural disasters

UWS Achievements

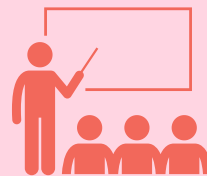
- Over 11,641 students provided educational opportunities in remote communities.
- 100% student progression after the last grade in schools.
- 59 communities positively impacted by UWS interventions.
- 41 fellows placed through the teaching fellowship program, building a skilled workforce for the education sector.
- 131 disaster drills conducted in 2022, enhancing disaster preparedness in UWS schools.



4996 Children
attending



63 Schools
developed



374 local and government
Teachers
employed

DID YOU KNOW?

That there are 123
languages reported as the
mother tongue in Nepal!

CAMBODIA

UWS works predominantly in North East Cambodia near the Lao, Vietnam borders in the Provinces of Ratanakiri, Mondulakiri, Stung Treng, Koh Kong, Kratie, Preh Vihear and Oddar Meanchey. We work in the most remote and challenging areas supporting the indigenous tribal peoples who have never had the opportunity to go to school. The region suffered the aftermath of the Vietnam War and the Khmer Rouge regime, severely impacting education infrastructure. Cambodia is rebuilding its education system, with substantial improvements needed in quality and accessibility. National education budget is only 2% of GDP (World Bank, 2018).

Challenges faced in Cambodia

- Limited access to education, especially for indigenous children
- Poor infrastructure, health services, and basic amenities in rural communities
- Low literacy and enrolments rates among students
- Vulnerability to climate change and extreme weather events
- Language barriers in a multilingual society

UWS Achievements

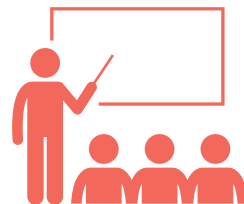
- 136 primary schools and 13 Kindergarten schools built, impacting over 30,606 students since 2008.
- Successful transition of 40 schools to local authorities, contributing to sustainable education management.
- Enhanced enrolment and attendance, particularly among girls.
- Improved transferable life skills, socio-emotional development, and confidence among students.
- Established 89 School Retention Teams, mother groups, and girl clubs
- Enhanced awareness of child protection and safeguarding policies among teachers and communities



10,763 Children
attending



136 Schools
developed



555 local and government
Teachers
employed

DID YOU KNOW?

That Buddhism is
the official religion -
96.9% of the country
identify as Buddhist!

MYANMAR

UWS operates in Myanmar's remote Shan State, addressing the highest population of out-of-school children and one of the lowest literacy rates in the country. We focus on marginalised communities, where access to quality education is limited or nonexistent. Through our dedicated efforts, UWS is transforming education accessibility and quality in Myanmar's marginalised communities, fostering brighter futures for children and empowering local communities.

Challenges faced in Myanmar

- High out-of-school children population due to extreme remoteness and poverty
- Literacy rate of 0% in Shan State, limited national language knowledge
- Prevalent child marriages at a young age (12-13 years)

UWS Achievements

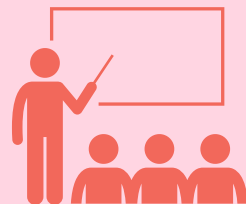
- UWS started in Myanmar in 2016 and has built 77 schools by 2023, with 15 schools successfully transitioning. Children, including the most at risk, attended schools regularly and completed primary level education.
- Children gained literacy and numeracy skills, and developed and improved life and social skills.
- Local education capacity to support, develop and sustain schools increased and local communities gained capacity to govern their schools.



3549 Children
attending



77 Schools
developed



179 local and government
Teachers
employed

DID YOU KNOW?

Those chalky swirls you see on the cheeks of women and children is thanaka – a cosmetic paste made from the bark of selected trees. It is said to protect against Sun damage

MADAGASCAR

UWS operates in the remote South West of Madagascar, where access to quality education is non-existent. We work to address the significant challenges hindering quality education, striving to provide opportunities for all children without discrimination. Through our commitment, UWS is transforming education accessibility and quality in Madagascar's remote regions, nurturing brighter futures for children and strengthening the fabric of local communities.

Challenges faced in Myanmar

- 50% of children lack access to education, and 3 out of 5 do not complete primary school.
- 80% of government teachers face irregular pay and lack proper training.
- Absence of school infrastructure, furniture, and materials in existing schools.

UWS Achievements

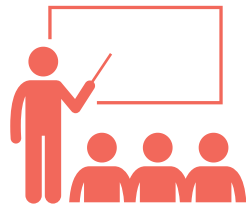
- UWS launched its first Madagascar schools in September 2022
- Schools developed to national standard
- 11 schools developed and 7 new schools constructed



2195 Children
attending



11 Schools
developed



65 local and government
Teachers
employed

DID YOU KNOW?

Madagascar is the
world's fourth largest
island