

A Model for Building Youth Capacity on Interfaith: Youth Interfaith Training and Conference

PROJECT VENUE

University of Mandalay,
Mandalay, Myanmar

GROUP MEMBERS

Huyen Hoàng, I Gusti Agung Putra Trisnajaya,
Jyuri Michino, Thippaphone Xayavong

ABSTRACT

Religious conflict constitutes a large portion of conflicts all over the world. Recently, the role of youth has been emphasized as peacemaking agents. There is a lack of youth's interfaith initiatives in Myanmar. The project team conducted a training and conference in the hopes of developing young interfaith leaders.

The project was designed specifically for university students to increase the youths' interest in interfaith. The training and conference were done in collaboration with International Relations and Political Science master students from the University of Mandalay, PMI, a project consultant, and a volunteer. Based on the Better Together Framework, there are three essential aspects of the design of interfaith activity: voice, engage, and act. In the project design, voice and engage components are employed as a part of the training. The act component is incorporated into the conference. The training is composed of three interfaith dialogues. Thus, the youth can voice and understand themselves, others, and the community, and engage through developing a tool to promote the values of interfaith. The conference was held on the last day with religious and community leaders for the students to act upon their interfaith values. Changes in interfaith values and leadership skills after the training and conference are considered to be statistically significant.

