



STUDER TRUST
Respect the Spirit of Helping



2024 Annual Report

What's Inside

**What We
Achieved**



**Who
We Are**



**Financials
pulse**



FUNDING

**What We
Envision**



**Contact
Us/ Donation
Opportunities**



Chairman's Chat!

Greetings to all Supporters of the Studer Trust.

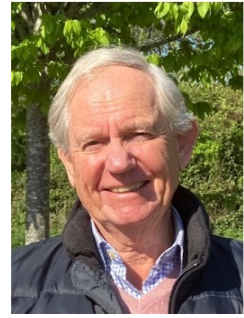
This somewhat delayed Annual Report is written in the shadow of the devastating earthquake that hit Myanmar on 28th March, and from which aftershocks still continue. The Myanmar New Year (Thingyan) was celebrated only a few days ago and was understandably somewhat muted.

The loss of lives approaches 4,000 and the damage to the infrastructure and homes is significant. Happily our staff are all safe and well. We are investigating ways in which we can contribute to reconstruction – and looking specifically at damaged schools. If we can raise the necessary funding this would play well to our core strengths .

Before the earthquake struck, last year had proven what can still be achieved in the adverse circumstances we were already facing. Despite having to avoid conflict areas , many communities in 'safe' areas have a very visible need for adequate facilities and better trained teachers. The Delta, where our efforts will be focussed in 2025, has long been neglected. I visited Agga Parami School in January and was hugely impressed with the difference our intervention has made - under the guidance of an inspirational Abbot. Our Teacher Training also goes from strength to strength at a time that government training of teachers is under considerable pressure – and we intend to run all three courses this year – despite the consequences of the earthquake.

My recent visit also gave me the opportunity to spend time with our dedicated staff and I am delighted to report that they are extremely well motivated , thoughtful and contribute constructively to every aspect of how we achieve our objectives. I would also commend their remarkable resilience in dealing with the recent earthquake – in which many of their homes were badly damaged.

To all doubters about funding into Myanmar - please spread the word about the Studer Trust - we can and do make a difference. We are now focussed on doing all we can to get children back to safe schools after the earthquake . A huge thank you to all our funding partners!



With my best wishes,

Christopher Lavender

Chairman, Studer Trust

Executive Director's Report

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This year, resilience has been the cornerstone of our journey. With your unwavering support, we achieved remarkable milestones: completing eight school buildings and constructing three libraries, while introducing eleven schools to library programs that nurture a lifelong love for reading. We also ran three teacher training courses to empower educators and inspire young minds. Beyond academics, we prioritized essential needs by providing clean water through new storage tanks and purification systems and creating playgrounds where children can thrive and grow.

These achievements are a testament to the power of community and shared commitment to education—even in the face of adversity. The recent earthquake in Myanmar caused widespread fear and displacement, affecting schools, homes, and thousands of lives. Yet, even amid uncertainty and tremors, our work has not stopped. Your support has been a beacon of hope, helping us respond swiftly while continuing to provide safe learning spaces for children.

Despite facing significant obstacles, including security challenges in many areas and escalating costs, our mission remains steadfast: ensuring every child has access to quality education. These difficulties remind us that education is not just a right but a lifeline for children in vulnerable communities. Often, what makes the difference is a helping hand offered at the right moment. That moment is now. Your generosity enables us to overcome barriers and reach those who need us most, transforming lives one school, one library, and one child at a time.

Looking ahead, our journey is far from over. The work we do together sparks opportunities and drives lasting change. Every contribution—no matter how small—helps build a brighter future for children who dream of a better tomorrow. Your continued support empowers us to expand access to a better standard of education, offering the opportunity to break out of the cycle of poverty. I invite you to move forward with us, with courage, determination, and the shared belief that education has the power to transform lives.



With heartfelt gratitude,
Kyaw Soe

What We Achieved



Eight School Buildings



Three Teacher Training Courses



Three New Library Buildings



Three Playgrounds



Three Water Storage Tanks



Seven Purified Water Systems



Two Sanitation Improvements



Twelve Scholarships

Who we are!

The Studer Trust, officially the Margaretha Studer Charitable Trust in Myanmar, was founded in 2002 by Peter Gautschi, a hotelier with five decades of experience, including 30 years managing the Peninsula Hotel in Hong Kong. In 2007, STUDER LIMITED, the Trust's Trustee, was registered in Hong Kong. After Peter's passing in 2013, he left an endowment fund covering operational costs, ensuring 100% of donations directly support donor-intended projects. Recognized as a Charitable Institution in Hong Kong, the Trust has been tax-exempt under Section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance since 3 March 2004.

Our Mission: To Educate Children in Myanmar and elsewhere in SE Asia

Our Objectives:

- To provide school buildings, infrastructure, and equipment to rural schools.
- To train teachers to deliver the best in motivational teaching
- To remain aware of, and implement, the best educational standards

Our Programs

The Studer Trust constructs school buildings where most needed in Myanmar and runs a Teacher's Training Centre in Mandalay, Myanmar. It is a holistic approach that provides safe learning environments for the students including playgrounds, libraries, toilets, home gardens, etc while constantly improving the skills of the teachers.

New Programs

In 2024, we introduced our library project, constructing three new library buildings and refurbishing six libraries in our affiliated schools. This effort has brought the concept of school libraries to a total of twelve schools, reinforcing our commitment to fostering a love of reading and lifelong learning.

Our libraries now offer greater access to local authors and illustrators, ensuring that students can engage with culturally relevant stories that reflect their own experiences and heritage. Additionally, we are integrating tablets into our libraries, equipping students with digital learning tools that enhance their education and broaden their exposure to the world beyond their communities.

In 2025, we will also focus on home gardens, which will serve as both a source of nutrition and a hands-on learning opportunity. In schools where land is available, we will be guiding students and teachers in cultivating productive and nutritious crops, helping them learn about sustainable agriculture while improving their daily nutrition. These gardens will not only supplement school meals but also teach valuable life skills that students can take home to benefit their families and communities.

By investing in libraries and home gardens, we will nurture both minds and bodies, ensuring that children receive a well-rounded education that fosters intellectual curiosity, practical skills, and long-term well-being.



Our Year in Pictures and Words

School Construction

Agga Parami Monastic Middle School



In Kyaung Su Village, Htantabin Township, Yangon Region, Agga Parami Monastic Middle School stands as a testament to the vision of Venerable Badanna Agga. After graduating from the University of Buddhism in India, he returned to Myanmar with a dream of serving his people. With a follower's donation, he purchased land, built a temple, and soon, a community formed around it.

As families settled, the need for education became clear. In 2017, the Abbot opened the school, which now serves 275 students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 across four villages with a combined population of 60,000. Initially operating with three modest buildings, the school faced an urgent need for expansion. Thanks to a generous donor, a new building with four classrooms, a library, toilets, and a water purification system was completed, transforming the learning environment.

More than a school, Agga Parami Monastic School is a pillar of the community, where Buddhist, Islamic, and Christian children learn together in harmony.



Mya Kan Thar Monastic Middle School



Nestled in Mya Kan Thar Village, Patheingyi Township, Mya Kan Thar Monastic Middle School stands as a pillar of opportunity and learning for the surrounding villages. Located 22 kilometers north of Mandalay, the school serves a community of 10,700 people, where families rely on gardening and selling fresh produce for their livelihood.

Founded in 2004 by Abbot U Winnathire, the school was established to provide free education to children with limited access to schooling. Today, it is a lifeline for students from eight villages, some walking up to 3 kilometers daily to attend. With 483 students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 and 13 dedicated teachers, the school offers more than just education—it is a safe haven where children receive knowledge, discipline, and care under the leadership of Abbot U Winnathiri.



Nga Pi Chaung Government High School



Tucked away in Nga Pi Chaung Village, Bogalay Township, Ayeyarwady, Nga Pi Chaung Government High School is an education hub in this remote delta region. Reaching Bogalay requires a two-hour boat ride, while Yangon is 164 kilometers away, a four-hour drive.

The community thrives on fishing, gardening, and rice farming, sustaining families for generations. Serving 10 villages with 3,700 residents, some students travel up to 5 kilometers daily for their education.

Established in 1983 by the Ministry of Education, the school ensures local children—many from farming and fishing families—can access education without leaving their village. Today, it supports 392 students from Kindergarten to Grade 11, guided by 16 dedicated teachers under the leadership of Principal Daw Thin Thin Myat.

Thukha Yeik Monastic Middle School

Located in Pan Set Quarter, Patheingyi Town, Ayeyarwady Region, Thukha Yeik Monastic Middle School is a sanctuary of education for children with limited learning opportunities. Situated 432 kilometers from Yangon, it serves a hardworking community of shoppers and vendors striving to sustain their livelihoods.



The school welcomes students from three nearby villages, home to 12,800 people, with some traveling up to 3 kilometers daily to attend.

Founded in 2016 by the monastery's Abbot, the school was built on the belief that every child deserves an education, regardless of financial barriers. Today, it provides 120 students from Kindergarten to Grade 8 with academic and moral guidance, led by Principal U Oakzawta and nine dedicated teachers.



Aung Myay Oo Monastic School

Aung Myay Oo Monastic School stands at the foot of Sagaing Hill in Thaw Thar Pan Ward, Sagaing, just 26 km from Mandalay. It serves a diverse community of shoppers, masons, carpenters, farmers, and laborers, but its impact stretches far beyond the region.

With over 90% of students coming from conflict-affected areas, many families send their children here for safety and stability. Some live on campus, while others find refuge in nearby monasteries and nunnery schools.

Founded in 2003 by Abbot U Wilatha, Aung Myay Oo Monastic School has grown into a thriving educational community. In the last academic year alone, it provided learning opportunities to 7,152 students, from kindergarten to Grade 12, under the guidance of 98 dedicated teachers. More than just a school, it serves as a refuge and security for displaced children, offering them a path to a brighter future.

Kyauk Sayit Kone Monastic School

Kyauk Sayit Kone Monastic School is a vital support for children in Kyauk Sayit Kone Village, Tat Kone Township, Naypyitaw Region. Located 75 km (1.5-hour drive) from Naypyitaw and 300 km from Yangon, it serves a rural community of farmers growing rice, beans, and vegetables.

Founded in 1998 by the village monastery's Abbot, the school provides education and stability for 373 students from KG to Grade 12, including

Naung Kham Aung Hsu Pan Monastic School

Naung Kham Aung Hsu Pan Monastic School stands in Yan Aung Myay (2) Quarter, Par Lyan, Tarchileik, a border town with Thailand in Shan State. Located 930 km from Mandalay (20-hour drive or 70-minute flight), it serves a diverse community of farmers, gardeners, government workers, and migrant laborers.

Founded in 2011 by the monastery's abbot, the school provides education and stability for 794 students (KG to Grade 8) from seven villages, some traveling up to 6 km daily. Led by Abbot U Kaw Thanla and 27 dedicated teachers, it is a lifeline for children in this remote border region.



40% from conflict-affected Shan State. Some travel up to 2 km daily to attend.

Led by Abbot U Htay Rainda and 17 dedicated teachers, Kyauk Sayit Kone Monastic School is more than a place of learning—it is a safe haven, empowering children's futures.



Kham Pawt Government School

Kham Pawt Government School is a place for education in Kham Pawt Village, Mongping Township, Shan State. Located 26 km (45 minutes) from Mongping and 670 km (14 hours) from Mandalay, it serves a small, farming community of 480 people.

Founded in 1986 by the Ministry of Education, the school provides 118 students (KG to Grade 8) with a rare opportunity for learning in this remote area. With only three teachers, including Acting Principal Daw Thaw Thaw Zin.

For these children, education isn't just about lessons—it's a path to a brighter future beyond the mountains that surround them.



Teacher Training Center (TTC)



In 2024, our TTC team launched several impactful educational initiatives to enhance teaching quality, engage students, and promote sustainability. These efforts included:

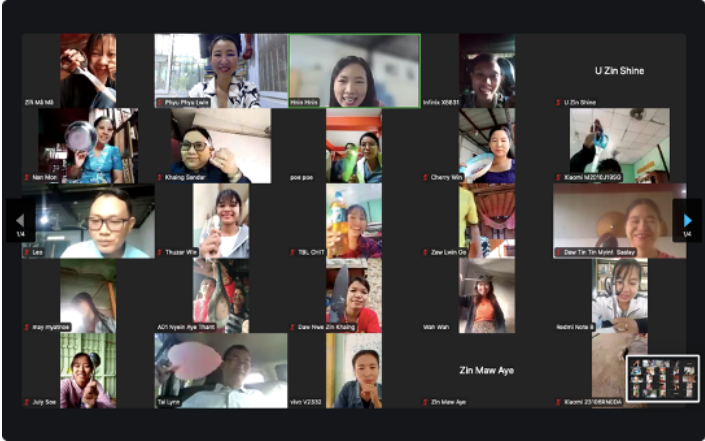
- 2 Cohort Teacher Training
- 1 English Teacher Training (ETT-5)
- 6 Summer Workshops
- Online Alumni Gathering
- 10 School Visits
- Library Projects

Our Teacher Training team excels at empowering monastic teachers—enhancing their teaching skills, building confidence, and igniting a passion for lifelong learning.





These initiatives collectively impacted 460 teachers and over 9,200 students, reinforcing TTC’s commitment to transforming education in Myanmar. Despite challenges, progress and innovation continue to shape a brighter future for teachers and students alike.



Our Impact in Numbers

33,286

Students

Reaching 33,286 students has strengthened communities, empowered teachers, and brightened children's futures. This achievement showcases education's transformative power, setting a benchmark for scalable, community-driven solutions and shaping future leaders.

Our projects have impacted 1,169 teachers, equipping them to inspire and guide thousands of students. Their improved skills and confidence enhance classrooms and uplift entire communities.

1,169

Teachers

5

**New Partnerships
Forged**

This year, we successfully established 5 strategic partnerships, amplifying our capacity to deliver impactful education programs. These collaborations brought together resources, expertise, and shared goals, enabling us to achieve more than we could alone.



Our Impact in Words



Teacher Training Alumni Cohort-16

"This training transformed my teaching—I now use effective methods, manage my classroom better, and plan with confidence to improve learning for my students and myself."



Htet Htet Wai, Grade 9 student

"With over 60 students in one overcrowded classroom, focusing was a challenge. Thanks to the Wai Yin Association's donation of a new five-classroom building, class sizes are now reduced to 30, creating a much better learning environment. We are deeply grateful for your generous support in shaping our future."



A grade 5th student

"I always dreamed of reading more to improve my skills, but we never had a library at our school. It felt like that dream was out of reach. Now, with our new library filled with so many books, it's like a whole new world has opened up for me. I can finally lose myself in stories, learn new things, and enjoy the joy of reading every day. It's a gift I'll cherish forever."

Financial Pulse

Financials in our Annual Report 2024

(as of December 31, 2024, in USD 1,000)

Donations and Investments

Year	Donations	Investments
2005	259	258
2006	104	106
2007	297	143
2008	317	285
2009	402	368
2010	153	230
2011	347	203
2012	351	372
2013	361	215
2014	325	362
2015	279	226
2016	349	268
2017	355	394
2018	221	317
2019	436	288
2020	262	258
2021	255	217
2022	22	257
2023	292	298
2024	547	484
Total	5,935	5,547

Investment by Country

Myanmar	4,322	78%
China	1,124	20%
Philippines	57	1%
Others	44	1%
Total	5,547	100%

Nature of Investments

Schools	3,046	55%
Education	1,160	21%
Maintenance	458	8%
Scholarships	232	4%
Water	207	4%
Rescue	143	3%
Medical	67	1%
Library	61	1%
Vocational	53	1%
Others	49	1%
Walkways	44	1%
Aged Homes	27	0%

Total	5,547	100%
-------	-------	------

What We Envision

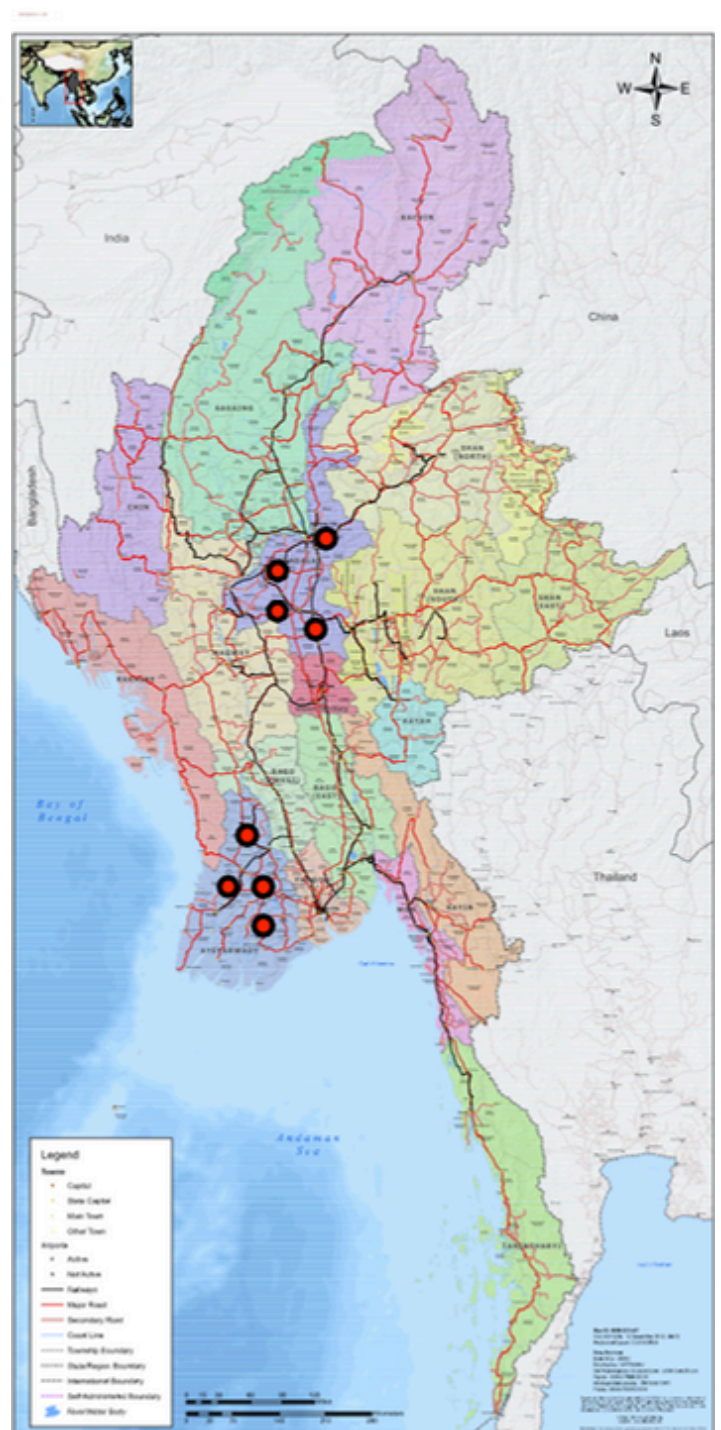
Looking Ahead: Building a Stronger Future

As we reflect on a year of impactful growth, we turn our sights to an even more promising future. In the coming year, we are committed to expanding educational access, strengthening teacher training, and enhancing school environments to create lasting change.

Our key initiatives for the year ahead include:

- Constructing Eight new school buildings, providing safe and supportive learning spaces.
- Training Three new cohorts of teachers at TTC, equipping them with essential skills and confidence.
- Scholarship Program for students who have financial challenges.
- Expanding our school support program, ensuring ongoing classroom and facilities improvements.
- Strengthening alumni engagement through online gatherings and collaborative opportunities.
- Conducting school visits for M&E, refining our programs based on real-time insights.
- Expanding library projects, fostering a love for reading and learning.
- Home garden project, which serves as both a source of nutrition and a hands-on learning opportunity

Tentative new School locations



Contact Us

For further information, please reach out to us at www.studertrust.org

For Donation

HOW TO DONATE

DONATIONS IN HONG KONG

Beneficiary: Studer Trust

Local transfer:

Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

Bank code: 004

US Dollar Account: 808-049431-274

HK Dollar Account: 808-049431-001

local Hong Kong FPS identifier for HKD amounts:

donations@studertrust.org

Overseas bank transfer:

Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

No.1 Queen's Road Central, Central, Hong Kong

SWIFT Code: HSBCHKHCHK

US Dollar Account: 808-049431-274

HK Dollar Account: 808-049431-001

DONATIONS IN SWITZERLAND

Beneficiary: Studer Trust Switzerland

Local transfer:

Luzerner Kantonalbank AG

Pilatusstrasse 12

Postfach

CH-6002 Luzern

IBAN: CH08 0077 8210 5918 0200 1

BIC/ SWIFT Code: LUKBCH2260A

Currency: CHF – Swiss Francs

If you have any questions about our projects, please contact us at info@studertrust.org

Website: [About Us - Studer Trust](#)



**Thank you for MAKING A
DIFFERENCE!**

