Child Online Protection Related Effort in Myanmar

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According to the rapid growth of internet usage and mobile technology in Myanmar, the challenges of poor digital literacy and weak online safety knowledge of people are increasing. As the social risk concerning cyberbullying, fake news, online frauds and hate speech are affecting to children and youth, it is obviously known that child online protection is important to our Myanmar people.

However, Myanmar has very few activities to adapt the international guidelines on child online protection. The following are child online protection activities had been carrying out recent years in collaboration with government, international non-government organizations and private companies.

Legal Measure

Myanmar acceded to the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) on 16, July 1991. On 15 August 1991, Myanmar became a State Party to the CRC.

In line with the CRC, "the Child Law"^[1] was enacted under The State Law and Order Restoration Council Law 9/93 of 2003 on 14, July 1993 and followed by a promulgation of rules of procedure on 21 December 2001.

The National Committee on the Rights of the Child and its Working Committee were formed in line with the Child Law in 1993 for effective implementation of provisions of the Child Law.

Myanmar National Plan of Action for Children (2006 – 2015)^[2], which consists of plans based on the MDGs will take measures for implementation in 4 focused areas – Health and Nutrition, Water and Sanitation, Education and Child Development and Child Protection.

Dedicated Government Hotline

Since 2016, Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Department of Social Welfare had established the dedicated government hotline on 067-404999 or 067-404222 for sexual abuse and violence against children.^[3]

Cooperation (Government, INGO and Private)

Ministry of Education, Telenor Myanmar and Plan International collaboratively launched "Digital Literacy, Online Safety and Resilience program"^[4] in 2019 August. This two-year program aims to integrate online safety digital modules into the national education curriculum to prepare youth for a digital Myanmar. Through this program, 740,000 students and youths aged between 10 to 18 in all states and regions of Myanmar are aimed to educate about the Digital Literacy, Online Safety and responsible use of internet as well as develop their digital skills.^[4]



Awareness Raising Activities

(a) Publication

The localized Myanmar version of the parent guide book "How to Talk to Your Children about the Internet" covers introduction to the Internet, why should parents talk to their kids about the Internet, what should parents say, and some real-life stories of kids and the Internet.^[5]

(b) Awareness Videos

Since 2017, Telenor Myanmar introduced "Be Smart, Use Heart" series video clips which provide children and parents with information on how to stay safe online and keep mobile devices secure, personal information theft, how to cope with cyberbullying, cyber-grooming, hate speech, sexting, fake news and online empathy. [6],[7],[8],[9],[10]

(c) Child Online Safety Program (School Outreach Program)









Telenor Myanmar, one of Myanmar's Internet Service Provider, launched child online safety programs from 2016 June to 2019 June. Through this school outreach program, 450,000 students were successfully trained by collaborating with expert organizations and providing parents and teachers the tools to discuss safer use of internet with children. [11]

DigiWorld Curriculum

Incorporation with Plan International Myanmar and Telenor Myanmar, Digiworld [12][13] is a curriculum designed in Myanmar Language to help children, aged between 5 and 16, to develop the knowledge and skills they need to navigate the online world in a safer and more enjoyable way.



Fun online quizzes, a digital library full of challenges and downloadable worksheets are available in localized version and that allow children to explore at their own pace and progress through different levels depending on their age, experience and ability. Certificates are awarded at each level to enable children to demonstrate their new understanding and to recognize their achievements.

ဒစ်ဂျစ်တယ်ကမ္ဘာ

ဒစ်ဂျစ်တယ်ကမ္ဘာ သင်ရိုးညွှန်းတမ်းကို ကလေးငယ်များ၊ မိသားစုများ နှင့် ကျောင်းများအတွက် တယ်လီနောလုပ်ငန်းစုနှင့် ဒစ်ဂျစ်တယ်နည်းပညာသုံးစွဲမှုနဲ့ပတ်သက်ပြီး ကလေးတွေကို အုပ်ထိန်းရာ မှာ ကျွမ်းကျင်တဲ့ Parent Zone တို့က ပူးပေါင်းလက်တွဲပြီး ဖန်တီးထားပါသည်။



ဒစ်ဂျစ်တယ်ကမ္ဘာ သင်ရိုးညွှန်းတမ်း ကို အင်္ဂလိပ်ဘာသာဖြင့်လေ့လာလိုပါက http://digiworldmy.parentzone.org.uk/ တွင်ဝင်ရောက်ကြည့်ရှုပါ။

Plan International Myanmar ၏ပံ့ပိုးမှုဖြင့် ဒစ်ဂျစ်တယ်ကမ္ဘာ သင်ရိုးညွှန်းတမ်းကို မြန်မာနိုင်ငံရှိ ကလေးငယ်များ၊ မိဘများနှင့် ဆရာ၊ဆရာမများအတွက် မြန်မာဘာသာဖြင့် ဘာသာပြန်ဆိုထား ပါသည်။ ပျော်ရွှင်စရာ အွန်လိုင်းဉာဏ်စမ်းပဟေဠိ၊ လက်တွေ့လေ့ကျင့်ခန်းများနှင့် ဒေါင်းလုပ်ဆွဲနိုင် သည့် လေ့ကျင့်ခန်း များက ကလေးငယ်များကို သူတို့၏အသက်အရွယ်၊ အွန်လိုင်းအတွေ့အကြုံ၊ စွမ်း ဆောင်ရည် ပေါ်မူတည်ပြီး သူတို့အဆင်ပြေသည့်သင်ယူမှုနှုန်းဖြင့် တစ်ဆင့်ပြီးတစ်ဆင့်လေ့လာ တိုးတက်စေပါသည်။ ကလေးများ၏ အသိအမြင်အသစ်များနှင့် စွမ်းဆောင်ရရှိမှုများကို အသိအမှတ်ပြုနိုင်ရန် အောင်လက်မှတ်များကို အဆင့်တိုင်း၌ ချီးမြှင့်ပေးမှာဖြစ်ပါသည်။

The supporting guides help parents and teachers to play and learn alongside their children and to actively support them in developing their digital understanding and resilience. By completing the Digiworld curriculum children can:

- develop their understanding of the digital world.
- explore the positive behaviors needed to be kind and respectful online.
- examine online risks, negative behavior, hate speech and fake news.
- learn how to seek help, and recover, when things go wrong.
- [1] https://www.refworld.org/docid/3efb0e5b7.html
- [2] https://ovcsupport.org/wpcontent/uploads/Documents/Myanmar National Plan of Action for Children 2006 2015 1.pdf
- [3] https://www.mmtimes.com/national-news/24015-government-opens-hotline-to-fight-child-sex-abuse.html
- [4] https://www.telenor.com.mm/en/about/safe-internet
- [5] https://www.telenor.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/SAFE-BOOK-MYANMAR-Safe-Internet-Parent-Guidebook.pdf
- [6] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l_o5KNxlJUU
- [7] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DqPLuFHGK3w
- [8] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V4rF0dZ5orc
- [9] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UkhwkH__C0s
- [10] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TYQPZoMxH3g
- [11] https://www.telenor.com.mm/en/about/safe-internet
- [12] https://www.telenor.com.mm/my/about/digiworld
- [13] https://digiworld-mm.parentzone.org.uk