



Our
Story

Why We Do This Work: Meet Ying

As a Partnership Lead on the ground, Yingcharm “Ying” Khampan emphasizes what our partners have in common: commitment



What do you do at Partners Asia?

My role is to connect partner organizations and Partners Asia’s US office on proposals, reports, and financial information. I manage over 60 grants for more than 30 organizations. I listen carefully to what our partners need, and I coordinate between them and the Partners Asia team. I go on one field visit each month to a new area and visit many partners each time—that is my favorite part of this job.

What is your personal connection to this work?

I am an ethnic Shan person from Burma. I moved to Thailand when I was 16. My childhood was hard. I had difficulties accessing education, and I could never finish an academic year in school, because of conflict. I would have to drop out and start again. It took time for me to graduate. Many ethnic people from Burma have struggled with human rights violations and abuses; this kind of situation has been happening since I was young. When I had an opportunity to work with Partners Asia, this was a chance for me to help my people, and all ethnic people. From my own experience, I know that this funding and this support helps the people a lot.

What is the toughest part of this job, and how do you cope with that?

What’s difficult for me is knowing the challenges our partners are facing but knowing that there is limited funding. I have learned that it is so important for donors to support people in the ways they need, not only in the ways they had planned. When we face a crisis, I always think, how can I help these groups? I turn to our team for support and solutions. This helps me to keep moving forward.

What do you want people to know about our partners?

Our partners are diverse, but their strength is their commitment. That’s true for every group I meet. Even with little funding, their priority is their community. Their administrative costs are low, and they manage their budgets effectively and make sure the money they get benefits the community. I want more donors to give community-based groups the opportunity and resources to do their work. They are already doing it, we just need to support them.

What are your hopes for 2026?

I hope we remain thoughtful and grounded in our work. I want us to keep strengthening relationships with our partners and our support for their communities. Trust and relationships, those are the most important things donors can build with their partners.

